

Welcome to University USA



The Loeb Fountain with University Hall in the background at Purdue University. (Courtesy of Purdue Marketing and Media)

Welcome to University USA

Statistics are from *Open Doors 2011*, a publication of the Institute of International Education (IIE), online at opendoors.iienetwork.org.

Published by Bureau of International Information Programs,
United States Department of State

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Welcome to University USA



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton meets with students in an English language school in Ramallah. (Dept. of State)

“I’ve always believed that diplomacy does not just happen between government officials. It also happens between individuals through people to people connections. And student exchanges are some of the most important people to people connections we can have. For hundreds of thousands of students each year, exchanges promote mutual understanding and bring people of different nations together to share ideas and compare values.”

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
November 2010

Welcome to University USA



Secretary of Education Arne Duncan attends the first International Summit on the Teaching Profession in New York in March 2011. (Dept. of Education)

“A complete education in the 21st century must teach our children about their interdependent world, and it must prepare them to be good leaders and good global citizens. International awareness and knowledge can help our children build the skills needed to communicate and cooperate with those from other nations and other cultures.”

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan
November 2010

Welcome to University USA



Photo by Getty Images

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Contents

- Types of Institutions
- How the System Works
- International Students in the U.S.
- Coming to the United States

Types of Institutions



This Brown University professor instructs his class on campus in Providence, Rhode Island. (AP Images)

- Types of Institutions
- Public Universities
- Community Colleges
- Independent Colleges and Universities
- Minority-Serving Institutions
- Religiously Affiliated Colleges

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Types of Institutions



- Public Universities

Public, or state, universities typically enroll tens of thousands of students and offer degrees in hundreds of subject areas.

University of Arizona engineering students work on their award-winning robotic airplane. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Types of Institutions



A student at Owens Community College in Ohio works on a drawing of house plans for an art class. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- **Community Colleges**

Two-year colleges offer students the chance to begin higher education in a small, community-based environment, often at lower cost than a four-year institution.

In addition to being a gateway to four-year institutions, they also offer certificate and professional programs.

Types of Institutions



- Independent Colleges & Universities

Private, four-year colleges provide diverse educational experiences, primarily to undergraduate students.

Students at Wellesley College in Massachusetts join their professor in a 24-hour Shakespeare reading event.

(AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Types of Institutions



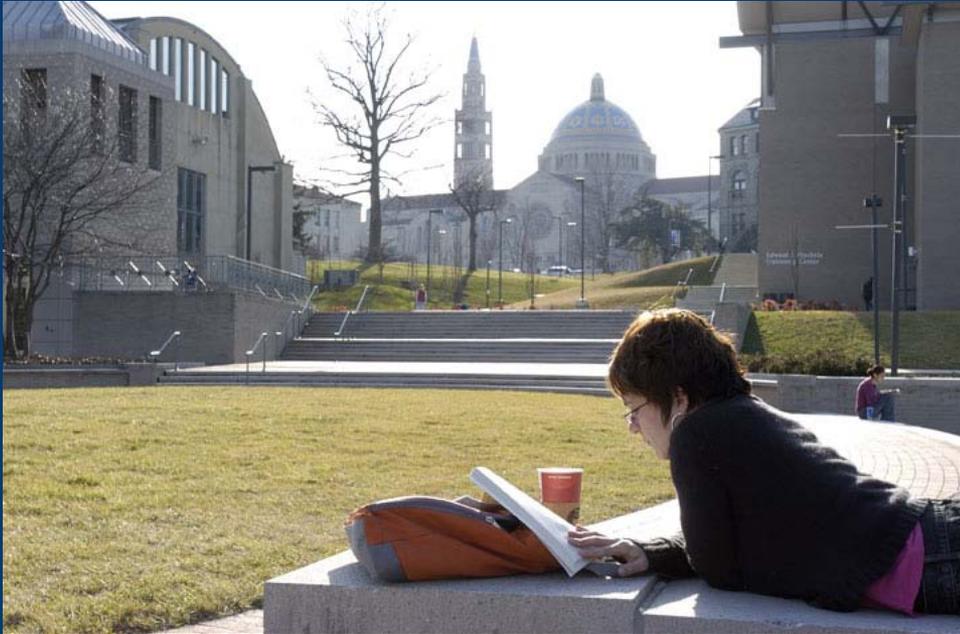
- **Minority-Serving Institutions**

Colleges and universities with an historical tradition or mandate to serve a specific demographic of student, but often serve non-minority students as well.

Students work with a fitness instructor at the College of Santa Fe, an Hispanic Serving Institution in New Mexico. (Courtesy College of Santa Fe)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Types of Institutions



- Religiously Affiliated Colleges

These private colleges and universities choose their own manner of combining the religious and the academic.

Admission is usually open to students of other religions, and the level of religious influence on campus life varies greatly.

This student has found a peaceful place to study at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. (Courtesy Catholic University of America)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

How the System Works



First-year students at Harvard University in Massachusetts enjoy eating in this grand dining hall. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- The Academic Year

Most bachelor degrees are completed in four academic years of full-time study.

The academic year usually begins in August or September and finishes in May or June with a short winter break, usually in December or January.

How the System Works



- The Academic Year

Freshman: 1st year

Sophomore: 2nd year

Junior: 3rd year

Senior: 4th year

Students work in a lounge area at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Nebraska. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

How the System Works



A student makes a point during class discussion at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. (Courtesy Spelman College)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- Choosing a Major

A **major** is the field in which you choose to specialize during your undergraduate study, such as business, engineering, or history.

Students often have until the end of their sophomore year to choose their major.

How the System Works



A student at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, combines study with fresh air. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- **Choosing a Major**

Most bachelor's degrees consist of 120 semester hours of credit.

Undergraduate students enrolled full time generally take 30 credits per year.

How the System Works



- Choosing a Major

Upon successful completion of the major requirements and university requirements, the student receives a bachelor's degree.

Students prepare for the graduation ceremony at Queens University in Charlotte, North Carolina. (Courtesy Queens University of Charlotte)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

How the System Works



- The Undergraduate Classroom Experience

In general, colleges require students to participate in class discussions and activities, and to do assignments throughout the course.

Lively discussions in class are part of undergraduate life.
(AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

How the System Works



- The Undergraduate Classroom Experience

The most common grading scale in the U.S. is the A - F / 0 - 4 scale:

A = 4

B = 3

C = 2

D = 1

F = 0 (failure)

These business students at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte are attending a lecture in an amphitheater-style hall, one of many types of classrooms at U.S. colleges.

(Wade Bruton/UNC Charlotte) **(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)**

International Students in the U.S.



A group of international students at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, are studying together on the lawn. (Courtesy of Eastern Mennonite University)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- How many are there?
More than 723,000 international students studied in the U.S. in 2010/11, including 214,490 new enrollments.

Year	Students
2006/07	582,984
2007/08	623,805
2008/09	671,616
2009/10	690,923
2010/11	723,277

International Students in the U.S.



Jawad Joya from Afghanistan and Kenya's Yvette Issar attend Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. (Tom Strickland)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- Where are they from?
Top 5 places of origin for the 2010/11 school year:

Country	Students
China	157,558
India	103,895
South Korea	73,351
Canada	27,546
Taiwan	24,818

International Students in the U.S.



Students walk to class at Owens Community College in Toledo, Ohio. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- Where do they study?
Top 5 Host Institutions 2010/11 school year

1	University of Southern California
2	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign
3	New York University
4	Purdue University - Main Campus
5	Columbia University

International Students in the U.S.



At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, international students work on a robotics project, testing for strength and agility. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- What do they study?
Top 5 fields of study for 2010/11

Subject	Students
Business and Management	155,769
Engineering	135,592
Computer Science, Math	64,588
Physical, Life Sciences	63,471
Social Sciences	63,347

International Students in the U.S.



- On average, international students pay between \$18,000 and \$40,000.

Moussa Dao of Côte d'Ivoire studies at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

International Students in the U.S.



Sri Lankan sisters Tharanga and Eranga Goonetilleke are shown on the set of the opera *La Boheme* at Converse College in South Carolina. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- Where does the money come from?

Top 4 sources of funds for 2010/11

Source of funds	%
Personal and Family	63.4
U.S. College or University	22.9
Foreign Government or University	5.2
Current Employment	4.6

International Students in the U.S.

- The Fulbright Program

More than 1,800 new Fulbright Foreign Students enter U.S. academic programs each year.



Fulbright foreign language teaching assistants from Thailand and Nigeria exhibit teaching aids at conference in Washington. (Courtesy of U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

International Students in the U.S.



- **The Fulbright Foreign Student Program** is for graduate students, young professionals and artists.
- **The Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program** is for teachers of English as a foreign language.

Jose Hernandez-Rebollar, a Fulbright Program graduate student from Mexico, demonstrates an electronic glove that translates sign language into written and spoken form.

(AP images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Coming to the United States



Students from South Korea participate in international student orientation at the University of Mississippi.
(AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

- International students are welcome in the United States. Last year, more than 723,000 students from all over the world studied in the United States.
- More than 80 percent of all student visa applications are approved.

Coming to the United States



The screenshot shows the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement website. The header includes the department's logo and name, along with navigation links for 'Skip Navigation | Home | Site Map | Español' and a search bar. A secondary navigation bar contains links for 'About Us', 'Partners', 'International Students', 'Public Information', and 'Careers'. Below this, a green banner highlights 'ICE Operations | Leadership | FAQs | Contact Us'. The main content area is titled 'International Students' and features a sub-header 'Student and Exchange Visitor Program'. The text explains that SEVP acts as a bridge for government organizations and uses the SEVIS system to track and monitor students and exchange visitors. It also mentions that SEVIS collects and provides information for legitimate foreign students and exchange visitors. A section titled 'SEVIS By The Numbers' provides a statistical breakdown of the system's performance. A 'Privacy Impact Assessment' link is also present, with a note that both the assessment and a System of Records Notice for SEVIS are available for review.

- All incoming international students must be registered by their host institutions in **SEVIS**, a database of information on students and exchange visitors in the United States.
- **SEVIS** stands for Student and Exchange Visitor Information System.

<http://www.ice.gov/sevis/>

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Coming to the United States



- All non-immigrant visitors between the ages of 14 and 79 holding visas participate in the **US-VISIT** program, which gathers biometric data on visitors.
- **US-VISIT** stands for United States Visitor and Immigration Status Indicator Technology.

The US-VISIT program collects biometric data on visitors. (AP Images)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Coming to the United States



Pavel Repyeuski found the **EducationUSA** advising center in Gomel, Belarus, “very useful to me. I could easily retrieve information ... as well as get practical advice on how to prepare for the international exams.” **(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)**

- Begin your journey to a college or university in the United States with a visit to your nearest **Education USA** center.
- These centers advise prospective international students and other audiences on higher education and study opportunities in the United States.

Coming to the United States

The screenshot shows the educationUSA website. At the top left is the U.S. Department of State seal and the text "educationUSA | your guide to U.S. higher education". To the right is a search bar with "enter keyword" and a "GO" button. Below this is a navigation menu with links: "About Us | Accreditation | Find a School | Visa Information | Financial Assistance | Educational and Cultural Affairs | Fulbright Scholarships". A central banner features a map of the U.S. and the text: "Find your advising center! Contact an adviser near you for guidance on finding and applying to an accredited U.S. college or university!". Below the banner is a grid of content blocks: "Getting a U.S. visa" (with a photo of three women), "Attend an Educational Fair in your Country" (with a photo of a man and a woman), "If you want to study in the United States" (with a photo of a man and a woman), "Frequently Asked Questions" (with a photo of a man), and "Financial Assistance" (with a photo of a man). A sidebar on the left lists study options: "Undergraduate Study", "Graduate Study", "Specialized Professional Study", "Opportunities for Scholars", "Short-Term Study", "Predeparture Information", and "Living in the U.S.". At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text: "This site is managed by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State. External links to other internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views contained therein. Copyright Information | Disclaimers | Privacy Notice".

To find your Education USA center, contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate, or visit:

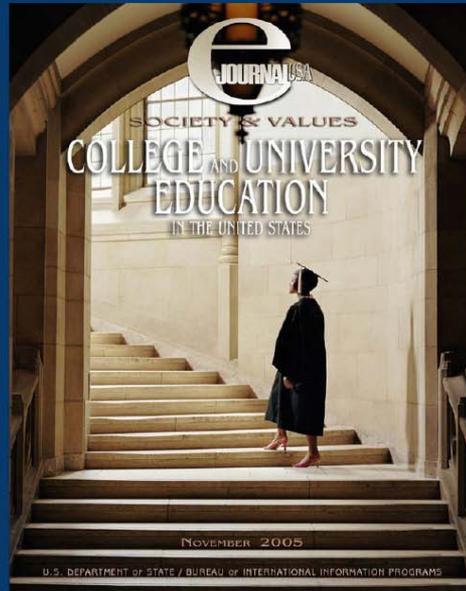
educationusa.state.gov



<http://educationusa.state.gov>

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

Welcome to University USA



Adapted from the
electronic journals
See You in the U.S.A.
and
College and University
Education in the
United States
and the annual report
Open Doors 2011
from the Institute of
International
Education (IIE).

Published by IIP PUBS, Bureau of International Information
Programs, United States Department of State

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)

(NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION)