

PROMOTING U.S. EDUCATION ABROAD

<http://www.educationusa.state.gov>



EducationUSA Advising Centers

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) promotes U.S. higher education opportunities for foreign students and scholars and works with U.S. institutions to strengthen international educational exchange. ECA supports a network of over 400 EducationUSA advising centers in approximately 170 countries around the world, providing vital reference materials, equipment, and training opportunities, as well as some operational support to the centers.

These advising centers operate within a wide variety of institutions, including U.S. embassies, Fulbright Commissions, U.S. non-profit organizations with overseas operations, binational centers, local universities, and private foundations. At the advising centers, prospective international students receive up-to-date, accurate and impartial information about opportunities to study in the United States. Reference materials provide objective information about application procedures, standardized test requirements, student visas, financial aid, and a full range of accredited U.S. higher education institutions.

Thirteen ECA-funded **Regional Educational Advising Coordinators** (REACs) based around the world contribute vital expertise and field-based knowledge to develop and strengthen the EducationUSA advising network. Additionally, the EducationUSA website enables advising centers, prospective students, and U.S. universities to share the latest information and resources on U.S. academic opportunities.

"I have had the privilege of studying in America for almost five and a half years. I internalized a lot, [especially] the need for freedom."

— Wangari Maathai Nobel Peace Prize Winner from Kenya (M.S. University of Pittsburgh)

IMPACT OF EDUCATIONUSA

- Nearly 672,000 international students were enrolled in U.S. academic institutions during the 2008-2009 academic year, contributing \$17.8 billion to the U.S. economy.
- 25 million prospective students receive assistance from advisors via email, telephone, in person, or the Internet each year.
- An estimated 1 out of every 2 international students who study in the United States contacts an EducationUSA advising center.
- 13 Regional Educational Advising Coordinators (REACs) facilitate the activities of over 400 local advising centers.



Yesterday's Foreign Exchange Students, Tomorrow's Foreign Leaders

Many of the world's top government officials and leaders of private industry studied or received higher education degrees from U.S. institutions.

- ★ Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia (Webster University)
- ★ King Abdullah of Jordan (Georgetown University)
- ★ Ricardo Martinelli Berrocal, President of Panama (University of Arkansas)
- ★ John Atta Mills, President of Ghana (Stanford University)

Supporting Internationalism in American Universities

ECA supports research on international education, including the annual *Open Doors* report, a statistical survey of foreign students and scholars in the United States, as well as U.S. students studying abroad. The *Open Doors* report provides comprehensive information about the country of origin of foreign students, their fields of study, host institutions, and other important data on international educational exchange. The Bureau also supports International Education Week, a joint initiative between the U.S. Department of Education and Department of State to recognize the importance of international educational exchanges.

Educational and Cultural Programs

Through its range of academic, cultural, and professional exchanges and activities, the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs fosters mutual understanding and exchange between the United States and our global partners.

Annually, over 40,000 participants take part in exchanges such as the Fulbright Program, the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program, the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, and the International Visitor Leadership Program. For more information, please visit our website: www.exchanges.state.gov