

The Bangladeshis Beyond Border Group Files

Compiled Book

Written by the

Admins

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General

Labib Tazwar Rahman

Admin 路 October 22, 2017 路 Stanford, CA, United States

ASK US ANYTHING

Hello everybody and you DO NOT want to miss this.

I'm [Labib Tazwar Rahman](#), a proud Bangladeshi 馃唴馃唴 and a first-year undergraduate student at [Stanford University](#) 馃仸 in the US. A lot of you are scared, maybe don't know how/where to start or are trying to navigate through the application processes of different universities all around the world. As someone who has been in your position just a year ago, this stress+confusion is TOO familiar to me.

DON'T WORRY, FRIEND! WE GOT YOU. We are a team of Bangladeshi students from different universities in the world. And you can pour all your questions on us, and we'll be happy to help you.

HOW IS THIS GOING TO WORK?

- Ask us ANYTHING related to essays, other parts of the application, choosing universities, choosing majors, visa issues, work-study, financial aid and scholarships, homesickness, food, adjusting to new life, dorm life, the lack of bodna...literally ANYTHING!
- We'll be expecting questions for 2 weeks. COMMENT your questions below. If you have multiple questions, write them INDIVIDUALLY so that it's convenient for us to get back them. In the meantime, TELL YOUR FRIENDS about this and ask them to comment their confusions away.
- If you are too shy or reluctant to ask questions, or if you have a question that has ALREADY BEEN ASKED, just REACT to that comment. Pro Tip: Control + F to find keywords. Please try to not repeat questions. loveU. ❤<3
- If any answer confuses you, or if you think the answer was not understandable/correct, PLEASE comment again.

- Don't worry if you miss it, InShaaAllah I will compile a document which will be saved in the file section of this group that you can access anytime.

WHO AM I?

I gave my SSC from St. Joseph Higher Secondary School in 2015 and A-level from Academia School Dhaka in 2017 (I'm young, y'all 😊). I debate, two science fairs - NASA Conrad Challenge (Florida) and Stockholm Junior Water Prize (Stockholm) - have seen my pretty face. And in 2015, we started an organization called [InclusionX](#) that works with the integration of people with intellectual disabilities into the mainstream. Our most famous project is InclusionX Joy of Computing which teaches basic computing to people with down syndrome and autism. More about me: I love my eye-wear, I did poorly in my first SAT, and I cry here sometimes listening to Bangla songs and Azan. OK I am more but let's get to the point.

THE TEAM:

Some LOVELY people (a few of whom have also helped me during my application) have agreed to answer your questions. As [Bristy Sikder](#) said, there isn't any particular category of students who get into nice universities. And to prove it, here are some people who did olympiads and some who did NOT (like meee). We study Engineering, Arts, Humanities, Law, Medicine, and so much more. We are as diverse as you can (or cannot) imagine. So let me introduce you to the people who will be conducting this:

USA:

[Avoy Datta](#), [Fahim Tajwar Swachchha](#) and Labib Tazwar Rahman (Stanford), [Seeam Shahid Noor](#) (Harvard), Suhiba Fariha Firuz (Duke), [Navid Haider](#) (Washington and Lee), [Numaya Shahriar](#) (Northwestern), [Asir Abrar](#) (Minerva School) [Emazuddin Alif](#) (Vanderbilt), [Warish Zaman](#) (UofRochester), [Wasee Haque](#) (UB) [Intekhab Hossain](#) (Williams College), [Tahmid Munat](#) (Columbia), [Debopriyo Biswas](#), [Mayisha Mahdiya](#) (Princeton), [Saiti Srabonti Halder](#) (Columbia), [Amlan Sinha](#), [Sakib Jamal](#), [Ming Khan](#), [Tarannum Sarwat Sahar](#) (Cornell). Tahamid Siam, [Faiyaz Rahman](#) and [Saraf Nawar](#) know a LOT about the US application.

Canada:

[Amritabha Guha](#), [Shehzad Noor Taus](#), and [Khadiza Karim Chowdhury Rodella](#) (University of British Columbia), [Abrar Ahsan](#) (Ryerson)

UK:

[Zaid Idris](#) and [Nazmus Saadat](#) (Oxford), [Arif Jawad](#) (UCL). [Saraf Nawar](#) and I know about UK too.

Europe:

[Saraf Nawar](#) (TUDelft)

Asia:

[Mashiat Lamisa](#) (HKUST), [Fahriza Islam](#) (Yale-NUS), [Saif Uddin Mahmud](#) (NUS)

Australia:

[Nahian Al Hasan](#) and [Fahim Hasan](#) (University of Sydney), [Asif Akram](#) (UNSW), [Al-Ahsan Ayon](#) (Griffith)

Note to people who have been tagged: Thank you so much for doing this
❤<3 I adore you guys. Please try to ensure each person gets
his/her/their question(s) answered.

Note to everyone: If there's a country you want to apply to or want to know about, but the representative is missing, kindly comment the names of the countries below.

Ask questions. Ask ANYTHING. React to comments if you're shy, or if your question has been already asked. Tag your friends to ask. You'll all do great things in life InShaaAllah. May Allah bless you.

Love.

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ #□: FEE WAIVERS | USA

Labib Tazwar Rahman-Thursday, September 7, 2017

Applying to US universities is perhaps WAY cheaper than you think. You can save HUNDREDS of US Dollars by reading this post. I had so much confusion regarding this issue which were later resolved by the lovely and kind people of this group (I'm looking at you, Saraf) when I applied. I've recently noticed that a lot of people are concerned about the impact of asking for waivers on their chances of getting admitted to a university. So I thought it would be great to share the little knowledge I have acquired throughout my journey.

There are 3 types of fee waivers you can avail: i. Common App (the application through which you can apply to US universities) fee waiver, ii. CSS (the application through which you apply for college scholarships) fee waiver, and iii. Standardized Tests (SAT/ACT/TOEFL/IELTS) fee waivers.

About Common App, most schools give Common App fee waivers. Some give CSS waivers. Very few give waivers on sending SAT/ACT/TOEFL/IELTS scores.

Now about me: I used Common App fee waiver for ALL universities. Only UMass Amherst didn't allow it, so I didn't progress further with their application.

About CSS, I used CSS for 8 universities (6 with CSS waivers, of which I got into Duke, URoch, and Amherst). Even the ones which don't give CSS waivers (like Stanford, UPenn) allowed me to send an International Student Financial Aid Application (ISFAA: the free alternative to CSS). I was accepted into 3 universities that took ISFAA instead of CSS - Stanford, UPenn, and Colby. How to get this waiver? Ask for a CSS fee waiver from any university by emailing their financial aid office.

About Standardized Tests, I paid to send my SAT to every university. You can send your scores to 4 colleges for FREE anyway. However, I didn't pay to send TOEFL to ANY university (I'm not sure if this impacted university decisions). Furthermore, a lot of universities will waive your TOEFL if your SAT/ACT Reading score is above a certain threshold. So maybe you DO need to send TOEFL electronically (or maybe you DO NOT). I just described my condition to universities, and most accepted it. You might be able to send SAT/ACT scores through your counselor's email address to a few universities too. This way you can save some money. How to get this waiver? Again, simply explain your situation (as well as SAT/ACT Reading and English score) to your universities over e-mail to check for eligibility. (Also, a good exercise is to take the TOEFL test after you've taken the SAT/ACT.)

Paying these fees would've taken a hefty toll on my parents. Universities had my bank statements, and they knew this. NOT ALL COLLEGES ARE THE SAME, AND "PERHAPS" FOR A VERY FEW COLLEGES YOUR ASKING FOR WAIVERS WILL HURT YOUR APPLICATION (this might not be for asking waivers. but due to applying for financial aid). But colleges that will assess you differently if you ask for a waiver (that covers 12 to 90 US Dollars) will probably be less inclined to give you financial aid or need-based scholarships anyway. So there's that. ☺

The best thing to do to find out if you're eligible for these waivers is to send an email to a university with the following information:

- a. Country of residence:
- b. The number of family members who live in parents' household:
- c. Family's total 2016 income from all sources in U.S. dollars:
- d. The equity (value minus debt) of family's assets in U.S. dollars:
- e. The exchange rate used to convert your currency to U.S. dollars:

If you are eligible, it's probably a good idea to not pay for something when you can get it for free!

TAKEAWAY:

1. E-MAIL UNIVERSITIES ALL. THE. TIME. IF YOU DON'T ASK YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU MIGHT GET.
2. ASK FOR THESE WAIVERS A FEW MONTHS BEFORE DEADLINE. MANY UNIVERSITIES OFFER FINITE AMOUNT WAIVERS.

I hope InShaaAllah this post was helpful for prospective applicants. It was an attempt to show that except a VERY few universities, you probably won't be at a disadvantage by applying for these waivers. May Allah grant success to everyone who will apply to the US this year or in the future.

And remember to get these waivers - and to get them well in advance!

#GottaCatchEmAll.

Labib Tazwar Rahman

Admin 1. September 5, 2018

Improving English

Recently, I have noticed a lot of people in this group (especially from underprivileged backgrounds) asking how to learn and further develop their English proficiency and, sadly, being targets of ridicule and trolls by a lot of privileged people like us for the trivial grammatical mistakes in their posts. 😢:(We should all ensure that our actions never discourage anyone who wants to improve themselves. Also, I felt the need to attempt to answer that question by sharing a personal transformation story in case it helps even one person for SAT, TOEFL/IELTS or simply in their daily life.

MY STORY:

After relying on the NCTB English for Today book for years, I realized in Class 11 that my grip of English was nowhere near what it needs to be if I want to read hard news articles or to study abroad. This awareness was further cemented in January, 2016 when I winged my first SAT in which I couldn't even finish reading through 2/4 passages - yes, that's how unskilled I was at reading.

I cried 😢:(and quickly resolved to better myself 💪. For the next 10 months, I took a number of measures that eventually gave me a 750/800 in SAT Reading+Writing in December, 2016 when I took SAT for a second time. It was a huge improvement from my January SAT's 530/800 in Reading section. I got 114/120 in TOEFL, which I would have never imagined even in the beginning of the year 2016.

Here's what worked for me:

1. Opening a Quora account:

I daily spent about half an hour on the website [quora.com](https://www.quora.com), which is, unsurprisingly, something I recommend to all of my friends now. It is a social networking site where people ask questions which can be answered by excellent writers. I could subscribe to any number of topics as I wanted and it didn't feel like I was "studying English" in this site because it is SO much fun.

2. Improving reading by ... *drum rolls* ... reading:

Sorry. I wish there was a shortcut around this, but (un)fortunately there isn't one. The good news is, there is something fun to read about almost everything you can possibly think about. So something as simple as embracing the mindset that reading English is way to learn about new

things in Google can be extremely useful! Moreover, instead of reading newspapers in Bangla, I switched to English. And started carefully reading a few short stories from newyorker.com (HIGHLY recommend).

3. Talking in English (and ACTUALLY doing it):

Up until 2016, I almost never spoke in English with my friends and family. Reason: I was shy to do so. Speaking English was a rare occurrence and I knew I had to change that.

Baby steps: First, I just started chatting in English more and more often. Once I became comfortable thinking about mundane matters in English, I initiated English conversations with one or two friends. It made me very embarrassed, though. 😢:(But if we're all so comfy in spoken Bangla despite making so many mistakes in it, why should we treat spoken English differently? The more I spoke in English, the more fluent and confident I got in it huehue.

4. Advanced reading steps::

This is what really stepped up my game dramatically. I mustered the courage to pick up English articles from websites like the economist.com, project-syndicate.org, and nytimes.com on one hand and a dictionary on the other. At first, it took me a lot of time to just understand one paragraph properly. But soon from I could comprehend half of the article and then eventually the entirety of it. Consistently reading just 1 article per day went a longer way than I could have thought. If you can grasp articles of this difficulty, even SAT Reading passages become easy.

5. Utilizing good practice materials:

Getting as comfortable with the exams (such as SAT/TOEFL/IELT) as possible is a crucial test-taking strategy. And toward that goal, I used the following resources to practice:

[khanacademy.org/sat](https://www.khanacademy.org/sat) (HIGHLY recommend)

blog.prepscholar.com/how-to-get-800-on-sat-reading-10-strategies

cracksat.net (lots of question papers)

Furthermore, let's talk a little about the reading section of these tests. The format is as such that there is one (or more) passages and a few questions based on those passages. Some suggest to skim through the lines and then go to answering the questions, whereas there are others who recommend directly seeing the questions first and coming back to the necessary portions of the passage(s) accordingly.

While you should practice different strategies by timing yourself to find out what works best for you, I personally benefitted from reading the passage first (read, not skim) with the intention of understanding it, and then going to answering the questions. This is because sometimes skimming first doesn't help comprehend anything so you spend more time going back to the passage(s) than you would have spent actually reading the passage(s) thoroughly. And I discourage the question-first-passage-second strategy because sometimes the questions will throw in some words that might be present in some lines of the passage(s) which are totally irrelevant to the question and thus might confuse you.

Hence, I like the method of understanding the passage first and then going to questions. This could seem like time-consuming, but you can take a lot of practice tests and increase your speed.

7. Learning vocabulary

I used the book Wordsmart. You can Google and download this book. There are a lot of apps for GRE/TOEFL vocabulary on the Android Play Store which I highly recommend. More about these apps here: huffingtonpost.com/7-helpful-study-apps-for-b_6174330.html

Try to use these words while chatting with your friends to retain the new knowledge.

P.S. I want to clarify that this is, by no means, necessarily the best method. Maybe it is, maybe it isn't. I was just telling a story of what worked for me.

I hope InShaaAllah this post was helpful to some prospective applicants or anyone interested in learning English. May Allah grant success to everyone in their journeys. ❤️<3

FAQ Part 1: Before You Start Applying

Tarik Adnan Moon·Saturday, July 7, 2012

(This list of the frequently asked questions (FAQ) is not complete by any mean. However, we'll try to list and answer all of your common questions and compile them here. So start asking questions-- it will help everyone)

Before You Start Applying

(Timeline: Preferably one/two year(s) before you end your high school, or NOW if you have passed that time!)

1. Where can I apply outside Bangladesh?

Ans: Pretty much anywhere! However, in the recent years Bangladeshi students were mostly interested in applying to the universities in the USA, UK, Canada, Singapore, Australia, and Japan for their undergrad degrees. So in this FAQs and group we'll discuss mostly about these places.

2. What is a college, am I not in a college already? Am I not applying to a university?

Ans: In the US (and most of the countries in the world) pre-university level educational institutes are regarded as high schools. So for the Bangla medium upto HSC level (class 12) is high school (though we call it college).

On a similar note many universities for undergraduate education are called colleges.

3. When can I apply?

Ans: In the US most of the students start applying before the year they graduate. So if you are completing your HSC/A-level in 2013 you should start applying in 2012 and complete the process by the deadline set by the universities (usually by the end of December 2012 or early 2013). **HOWEVER**, many successful Bangladeshi candidates have applied after completing high school. (Mostly because for Bangla Med. the HSC result is published late in July/August.) In that case the colleges will consider that you have taken a gap year and as long as you don't waste your time.

4. Can I apply if I am already a student in a university in Bangladesh?

Ans: Yes and no. First of all, in most cases if you have done one semester in a university you can't apply as a freshman, but you can apply as a transfer student. However, I personally think that it is very hard to get into a good colleges as a transfer (at least from Bangladesh). So I'll probably suggest you to complete your undergraduate study in Bangladesh (with a good result, some sort of work with professors etc.) and then apply for masters/PhD degree abroad. It is much more easier to get admission/funding as a graduate student than an undergrad.

And if you do want to apply (and if you are already studying in a small college in the US) then you can try to apply. The process is pretty much similar to the process for regular admission. However, you need to be able to explain why you are trying to transfer and your grades should be very good. Please check the website of the college you are interested in and talk to the admission office of that college. You can check an interesting post too :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/permalink/474119849283167/>

A last comment on this-- if you think that you can get into a US college and then get easily(!) into a top college as a transfer by gaming the system then you are just fooling yourself.

5. Can you help me with grad/PhD admission and funding?

Ans: No. We'd love to, but none of our admins have experience with that and our group is only for the undergrad admission process

FAQ Part 2: What to do next

By Tarik Adnan Moon on Saturday, July 7, 2012 at 8:40 PM

(This list of the frequently asked questions (FAQ) is not complete by any mean. However, we'll try to list and answer all of your common questions and compile them here. So start asking questions-- it will help everyone)

Step 1: Before You Start Applying to Colleges

First steps:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/doc/474075152620970/>

1. How much do A level grades, i mean percentages, number of subjects matter. What is the relative weighing of SAT and A levels?

-A level grades does not matter as much as it seems but of course your education record should show a minimum level of your merit and consistency of results. I believe there is no definite relative weighting for scores. The admission process is a holistic process so there is nothing absolutely certain. Many high SAT scorers get rejected, lower ones get accepted but keep it in mind that you must pass a minimum level which is about 600 in reading and 700 in Maths. Writing is not so important as there are the essays. But yes, your writing style in SAT should match that of the essays. In other words, you should write your own essays.

2. Apart from SAT do i need TOEFL?

-Yes, you do. Although there are a few colleges which do not require a TOEFL score, most of them do require. So, just take it.

**3. When they ask "what defines you" what exactly are they asking for??
What defines you?**

-Not much, just the things that define you. In other words, they want to know about the 'real you' which can be smart, generous, weird, stupid, adventurous and any thing at all but whatever you write must be authentic. Often they look for the passion and determination for learning but only write what really is a feature of yours. They will look for a evidence for the truthfulness in you claim. Interviews and other questions' answers reflect your nature so be honest. May be they are looking for the honesty, you never know. ;)

4. Is it wrong to ask previous applicants for sample essays or ideas about essays?

-Nope not wrong at all but resist plagiarism (although I believe, you won't...just a precautionary measure). Often reading others' essays preoccupy your mind with their ideas and writing styles preventing you to 'show up' in the essays. Got my point, I hope. :)

5. What exactly do they look for in a person?

-There is no single requirement. For schools looking for diversity and multiple types of talent, there is no single criteria of picking students, I guess. For more, see answer 3.

6. Which universities offer financial aid?

-You have to check their individual websites and collegeboard college search portal for this information. Look at their policy of providing aid. Need-blind (=need doesn't affect admission decision), need-based (=your full need will be met if you get admitted).. I am unsure about other policies that exist. Someone else may want to help.

7. How to prepare for that SAT and TOEFL? Can i take these exams after my HSC/A-level?

-Different schools have different deadlines for when you can take your SATs/ TOEFL. Check the specific school's website and go by it.

Usually you have to take them by the December of your application cycle. Like if you are entering school in 2013, you have to take them by December of 2012.

As for preparation, look at some preparatory books (Barron's/ Princeton Review) at first. Look at some of the sample questions. Decide which sections you need help with. Read those sections from the book and practise! Practice is the most important thing for these standardized tests. So if you are applying after HSC (you have to take a gap year in that case, which is perfectly ok), you can take those tests after HSC. I'll repeat, taking a gap year does not harm your admission at all.

8. How should we seal our envelopes?

-Either get A4 size envelopes or the envelopes for sending letters. Inside the envelope put your documents and for a more organized method, make a list of documents inside the envelope and attach it above all the papers using paper clips. Use of paper clips are appreciated to avoid wear and tear of the papers which will be scanned in the admission offices. You can make 3-4 envelopes of different purposes and put it in a larger envelope.

The envelope that contains your school records, other letters from guidance counselor and transcripts should have the seal of your school and signature of guidance counselor after it is closed. I recommend that the envelope of other recommendation letters are also sealed and signed. On the final envelope put your name, address, birthdate and the address and phone number of recipient on the envelope clearly and you are done.

9. I have never attended an international competition: Am I doomed from elite US universities?

-This question came up because there seemed to be a rumour going on that you need international exposure to get into elite US universities. This is absolutely baseless. While it is true that you need to be an exceptionally good candidate, do not think that excellence can only be achieved in International events. Get good grades, get good test scores, make best use of the resources available to you, be honest and sincere in whatever you do, and hope for the best.

10. Should we send only SSC/HSC/O-levels/A-level results or do we need to send transcripts of internal exams?

-You'll hear different opinions on this one, but it depends on whether the internal exam results will hurt you or help you. If you never took the school exams seriously (a lot of people don't) but got all A's in your O-level/A+ in your SSC, do not confuse the admissions office by sending some abysmal grades that do not reflect your true capability. On the other hand, if your school grades are consistent with or better than your external grades, it's a pretty good idea to send them: They can only boost your chances.

A couple of notes: First, Some schools do not give you a choice about whether you can send your school grades or not. I was at Notre Dame College and the school transcript was included with the guidance counselor recommendation; it was very hard to opt out. In that case the best you can do is to add a note explaining why the school exams do not show your true strength. Second, if you want to apply before your A-levels/HSC are over (which you have to do if you don't want to take a gap year), you need "predicted grades" from school and predicted grades usually need grades of some actual exams with it, in this case which would be grades of internal exams.

To sum up: First see if you have a choice. If you do, then do whatever makes your application stronger.

11. What do you mean by "Class of 2015"?

- In the US, it is customary to call a class by the year they graduate and leave university, not by the year they enter university. This is different from the custom in Bangladesh, where a class (more commonly known as "batch") is called by the year they enter. So the class or batch that entered BUET last year is called Batch 2011 or Class of 2011, but the batch that entered MIT last year is known as Class of 2015, since it usually takes four years to graduate and most of the students will graduate in April 2015.

FAQs about recommendation letters

Who will write the recommendation letters?

- Teachers who know the applicant well and teachers who the applicant knows well.

How many letters should I send?

- In general schools ask for three letters- one from the 'guidance counselor', one from a science teacher, and one from a humanities teacher. You can request for more recommendation letters as well. But remember, do that if and only if the extra recommendation letter adds significant information to what the others already say about you. For example, my IMO coach knew me much much better than my school teachers, so I got an extra letter from him.

Who is a 'guidance counselor'?

- You can designate any teacher of your choice to be your guidance counselor, if your school has no special assignment. However, in some cases, schools assign a specific teacher to be your 'guidance counselor'.

What should be on the letters?

For teachers

- Qualities that make the student unique. Suppose, don't go talking about how the student gets all As in his/ her school work. The AdCom can see that from his/ her transcripts. Tell the AdCom how the student is good at understanding poetry for example, or how the student comes up with beautiful interpretations of numbers/ physics equations. Tell stories- May be once the student impressed you by proposing a novel chemical production; maybe he/ she solved a problem after trying persistently for days; maybe he/ she wrote a nice article which touched your heart. Talk about incidents which demonstrate the student's presence of mind, perseverance, and passion.
- Focus on the student's humane qualities as well. Again, tell the AdCom life-stories. Maybe the student once helped a peer who became sick in the middle of an exam, or he/she ran a free school for local kids, or how he/ she never gave up despite struggling through family problems. If the student is helpful, open-minded, hard-working, if he/she does not give up easily, if he/she can get up after failing once twice or even several times, if he/ she does even small things to improve lives for other people, let the AdCom know!

For students

Compile a list of anecdotes which demonstrate the qualities mentioned above and whatever you want your teachers to address on your recommendation letters. Meet with the teachers several times and talk to them about what you want them to write. Give them the information packet two/ three months before the due date. Tell them about the postmark deadline and keep reminding them.

Any sample recommendation letters?

Please google. However, we recommend going through the MIT admissions website as they have a number of samples, ranging from excellent to poor recommendation letters. Here is the link:
<http://mitadmissions.org/apply/prepare/writingrecs>

How should I send in the recommendation letters?

-Some universities allow their applicants to submit recommendation letters online. In that case, give your teachers the URL of the posting site.

If you decide to mail them, give your teachers envelopes and the addresses of the schools' admission offices. If they want, they can use your high school's seal on the envelopes. It is not required.

You can send in your recommendation letters for your teachers as well. In that case, collect SEALED envelopes containing your recommendation letters from your teachers. Put the SEALED envelopes in a bigger envelope and send them in. Remember, if you are sending in your recommendation letters, it is important that the envelopes containing the letters are absolutely sealed.

What carrier should be used for sending recommendation letters?

-Personally I prefer DHL (2000 taka/ package). Your letters will be in safe hands and you don't have to worry about them getting lost. But DHL is expensive. In that case, you can use the EMS service of Bangladesh Post office (tk 700/package). However, it might take a long time for the package to arrive if you use EMS. So post them early. There is a better way, if you have relatives/acquaintances in the US. You can put all your envelopes in a big package and send them to your relatives. Then they can post them using US postal service. It is much more cheaper and safer way to deal with your package. However, remember that if any university does not receive your package, they will send you emails reminding you to send those materials.

Things to be careful about-

Plagiarizing (even copying a few sentences) from online recommendation letter samples or recommendation letters of previous applicants will tell upon your admission. AdComs have ways of detecting these things, trust us. You and your teachers should be careful about that

For the Bangladeshi curriculum students! (a few words on the USA application process)

SHIFTI KAMAL TANNA·THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016

Application process for the undergraduate studies at the USA is a hectic process (oh yes, trust me). But it gets a little easier if you can get useful suggestions from the experienced seniors, the relevant websites, or even this group! Well, there is just one slight problem. There is a limited amount of information for the students who are from the Bangladeshi curriculum/national curriculum/NCTB. Am I right or am I right? *Sobs a bit*

Well, I am really not an expert but since I have a little or so experience with this and many of you asked me for help *flattered*, I thought of uploading this document. It will be worth it even if it helps a few! :)

If you go through the file section of this group properly, you should already have a very good idea about WHAT GOES ON in the application process. In this document, I will basically be telling you how to do them from our position(as NCTB kids). This document is dedicated to the ones from the national curriculum :)

So, hi! Let's get started!

#When do you start planning?

- Right now! Are you in class 9? 10? Enjoying the 3 months long SSC vacation? Any time is fine. It's never too early! But make sure to get to work when you start your HSC 1st year. It's never too early but it does

get really late at times. I started mine when I got to the 12th grade, and it wasn't easy. PLAN AHEAD- always works out fine! You have a gap year? No worries. Make sure you make that year/ those years count!

#Know what to do. Make a checklist.

- I know, checklist rarely comes in handy. But I would suggest you really make one. It's easy to skip important things at this time especially when you are dealing with the admissions, HSC, practical, labs, social life and whatnot together. By "knowing what to do", I mean to have a clear about what is SAT/ACT, when to and why to sit for them, why do you need TOEFL/ IELTS, how important are transcripts and essays.

#Making list of colleges to apply to.

- Always a yes. This is indeed very necessary. Do your research wisely (Check the other documents for more info)

#TRANSCRIPTS!! TRANSCRIPTS!! Report cards?

- For the USA undergraduate studies, you need to submit your school(SSC level)/college(HSC level) transcripts/ report cards. If you are not taking a gap year, you need to submit all your transcripts from class 9 till hsc 2nd year (12th class). Yes, you can include your SSC transcript. In case you are taking a gap year, you are most welcome to submit your HSC transcript with the rest. ALWAYS REMEMBER, not all colleges work the same way. Some might waive your mid-reports, some might not. The world is cruel. Yes.

In case you need to attest them, just ask your school authority for it. It should be easy.

****ADDED question- Are Board exam transcripts sufficient for most top ranked institutions or do they require high school internal examination transcripts as well?**

- They are not sufficient. Aforementioned, you have to submit all your transcripts from 9-12th. Only SSC/HSC grades wouldn't work in MOST

cases because the colleges want to see your consistency and improvement in the past 4 years. Transcripts are very important. If you submit your board exam grades, you will only be submitting 2 report cards. Whereas, another student competing for the same spot has many more than that. For lower/medium ranked, emailing the colleges with this question is suggested. But I would highly advice to send in everything I mentioned.

#Counselor? WE NEED A COUNSELOR?! *panics*

- Chill! The USA colleges know that not all countries work the same way. They are well aware of those schools that do not have any guidance counselor. So, what you do is, regard one of your teachers as your guidance counselor. You will be needing 1-3 more teachers who would be your recommenders besides your counselor.

In case you ARE applying through the common app, your counselor and other recommender teachers need to also have common app accounts. I realise this is extremely difficult for us because our teachers have no idea whatsoever about this, but we have no choice. Here is what I did - Fortunately, the teachers I was really close with were quite used to using the internet and stuff. I helped them opening the accounts. I know, this may sound unethical but I had no choice! Neither do you. Since our side of the story is not considered anywhere, we have to find our suitable way. Guide your teachers through the process BUT try not to see what they write about you or how they rate you.

FOR this, you need to invite your counselor/teacher from your common app account providing his/her email address. He will receive an email with a link in it. That link will direct him to the recommender's common

app account sign up. Make him understand how to and what to do AND ALSO HOW BIG OF A DEAL THIS IS, and I am sure he will be able to do the rest by himself. It's mostly just ticking and uploading documents.

In case you ARE NOT applying through the common app but through the colleges' individual websites, they will probably be asking your counselor to email all the documents directly to the colleges. Each college has its own method. Regardless, you will need counselors and teachers who have email addresses. ELECTRONICALLY SENT TRANSCRIPTS ARE NOT CONSIDERED OFFICIAL UNLESS THEY ARE SENT DIRECTLY FROM THE COUNSELORS.

***A word of advice-** Honestly, no offence but the process and also the educational/institutional systems in our country are in many ways unfair to us. So be wise and tricky with your works.

#Extracurricular activities

- Don't let this get you. Go for the ECAs that genuinely interest you. IN CASE you don't have any passion whatsoever (not judging, promise!) or never could go for it due to *Society*, make yourself involved with something that is 1) Meaningful and helpful to the society 2) You can invest enough time on 3) You can have quite a big contribution in. Utilize the time you have. The colleges want to see your diligence. I know that our schools don't offer us much opportunities. But FIGHT for yourself. Let this *going against the tide* be your first fight. Your dreams are worth it. MAKE SURE TO TALK ABOUT THIS FIGHT IN YOUR APPLICATION though.

#Remember, your personality matters

- Express yourself in your application. Reflect who you are. Talk about yourself, pour your heart out. You will have enough opportunities to do that in your application (through your essays, additional information, portfolios) WHY, you ask? Because it matters ohhh-so-much! The colleges look for reasons to take you. Give them a lot, or only one VERY good one. They want to see what makes YOU different. And your different personality and unique passion can do the work for you. Be

honest, always. These might even compensate for your bad grades or lack of good-enough ECAs.

#Research a lot

- Research a lot, now, tomorrow, every day. If you have any question, try finding out the answer yourself first with the help of the internet or any books before taking anyone's help. That way, you will learn things you never planned to in the first place.

If you are an HSC student(11-12th grade), this will be a very tough time for you. You and I both know why. So start ahead, be wise, stay determined, and don't let the demons win.

**** I must have missed many many things which are very important and are needed to be discussed. Please leave your questions in the comment, I will be happy to answer them and add those topics to this document. BUT, please don't ask the questions you will be finding the answers to in the other documents of the file section. Also, Please be relevant.

Sat 1(The Writings in this section are based on the old SAT(Total marks was 2400 instead of 1600)even than you may use this part as a guideline)

NB:The last part of this section contains a few words about new sat from Seeam Shaheed Noor

Updated by Mushfiqur Rahman Air

SAT: General FAQ

Deepanjan Roy·Tuesday, July 10, 2012

1. What is the SAT?

Read this: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SAT>

You can also buy any SAT Preparatory Book and read the first few pages.

2. What is SAT II or the SAT Subject Test?

Wikipedia to the rescue again:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SAT_Subject_Tests

3. How important is SAT? How much is it weighed in the admission process?

It depends. If you have an otherwise extremely strong application, you can feel less queasy about your just-about-okay SAT score. If the rest of your application is just-about-okay, you better make sure your SAT score is flashy enough to draw attention.

It also depends on what sort of university you are applying to. No SAT score can impress Harvard and Stanford - they have a few hundred perfect scorers applying every year. (That doesn't mean a poor score can't get you rejected.) On the contrary, a near-perfect SAT score will almost certainly get you into Purdue University or University of Texas at Austin. Although these are both very good universities (for the record, Sheldon Cooper did his bachelors from UT Austin), their class size is several times bigger and they just don't have 100 valedictorians fighting for every spot. (Compare

<http://collegeapps.about.com/od/GPA-SAT-ACT-Graphs/ss/ut-austin-admission-gpa-sat-act.htm> and

<http://collegeapps.about.com/od/GPA-SAT-ACT-Graphs/ss/harvard-admission-gpa-sat-act.htm>

4. Should I go to a SAT test prep center (coaching center)?

This is debatable. Take a full length practice test at home with all the time limits and score yourself. If you're getting below 1600 out of 2400, go to a coaching center; you will benefit from it. If you get above 1900, stay home and study hard; you'll do much better this way. If you score somewhere between 1600 and 1900, I can't say for sure unless I know you personally.

However, I stress that going to a coaching center is by no means "necessary" for a good score in SAT. With the mind-numbing amount of resources available for this test, it is perfectly possible to practice a lot at home and get a great score. But you need to a certain level of self-motivation for that. If you feel that you can maintain a regular practice schedule and see steady improvements in your performance, then you absolutely do not need coaching. But if you feel that you just cannot motivate yourself to work at home, going to a coaching center cannot hurt.

Bear in mind though that while the coaching centers can help you to improve your score from 1500 to 1900, they cannot take your score from 1900 to 2300. I went to Mentor's SAT prep program, and most of the advice I received were not so bad if you're aiming for an 1800, but they were absolutely horrible for anyone aiming for the 2200-2400 range. If you are a top student, coaching centers can largely be a waste of time.

[I must confess that we did have a good writing teacher at Mentor's. It was nice to have someone look over your essays and teach you the grammar on whiteboard.]

5. How many words should I memorize for the English part of the test?

Let me clear a very serious misconception: SAT IS NOT AN ENGLISH TEST. Your success in SAT does NOT depend on how well you can memorize that atrocious list of 3500 words in Barron's. SAT is designed to be a reasoning test, an aptitude test, an intelligence test, a test that predicts how well you can learn new concepts. The only problem is, since the test is in English, it puts people whose first language is not English at a very serious disadvantage. How are you supposed to critically analyze an article if you don't understand half of it? SAT tends to use fairly advanced English words, and high school students in Bangladesh, especially the ones in Bengali Medium who learned English from our glorious English For Today book, have an extremely difficult time understanding the articles. This is probably how the myth of memorizing words started off. Realizing that they simply don't understand most of the test, students in Bangladesh and many non-English-speaking countries thought that if only they knew the meaning of every word they could get a perfect score.

I stress again that SAT is a reasoning test, and critically evaluating an article and understanding the meaning of every sentence are two entirely different things. You will make far more mistakes in your test just because you reasoned incorrectly rather than because you didn't understand the meaning of something. But does that mean you don't need to learn new words? Of course not. You will need to learn new words, but a) don't make memorizing words your first priority and b) do not set out to memorize a 3500-word list. If you want to memorize something, the best thing to learn would be the direct hits word list uploaded in the group, and then try learning the Hit Parade in The Princeton Review book, and then the hot prospect and high frequency words in Barron's. Taking overlaps into account, you should need to learn about 800-900 words to get a decent score in SAT.

Unfortunately, if you're aiming for a near perfect score, you will need to learn more words. Please read my advice on Critical Reading for suggestions on how to handle the completing sentences section.

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/doc/477074002321085/>)

I still believe memorizing a long word list is not the best approach to vocabs (Come on man, it's boring and uncool!) but if you're exceptionally good at tedious memorization and enjoy tormenting yourself, you can go ahead and do it.

6. Any advice for the Math Section?

With enough practice, Math is probably the easiest to score high. Take some practice tests and see where you have weakness. Then pick up any decent SAT prep book (Barron's/Princeton Review/Gruber's/Kaplan), learn those concepts and do a lot of practice questions.

If you are very confident about your Math skills and think that it's very possible to get a perfect 800 in Math for you, you should practice the art and craft of solving tons of easy problems fast and correctly. The Math section of SAT is often curved very harshly – just one single mistake can sometimes drop your score by 40 points to 760. This will be gruelingly boring and tedious, but if you practice 10 Math sections (with about 20 questions per section, that's about 200 questions) the last 3 days before your exam, your chance of getting a perfect score will be significantly higher. You will also learn to notice the silly little errors you make, and in the actual exam you will be able to spot those errors more easily and correct them.

7. How should I prepare for Critical Reading and Writing?

I've written two separate long posts about these: (Critical Reading

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/doc/477074002321085/> and Writing

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/doc/477434618951690/>

These posts are written with the perspective that you're not already scoring more than 700 in these sections, but want to improve and get as close as possible to a perfect 800.

A small disclaimer: First, I had 760 in CR and 740 in Writing. None of these are perfect scores, and I do not expect my advice to be perfect; they are just one humble man's opinion. Second, I took the SAT nearly two years ago. I have tried to recollect my memories as far as possible, but I may have forgotten many of the specifics.

8. How should I prepare for SAT Subject Tests (SAT II)?

Both HSC and A-level syllabus are excellent preparation for the Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry Subject Tests. In addition, you should get yourself at least one standard SAT prep book like Barron's or Princeton Review to supplement your studies and to make sure you don't miss anything just because it wasn't in your school syllabus. In my experience, the Princeton Review books have the same difficulty level as

the actual tests, and Barron's books tend to be slightly more difficult. But both of them should prepare you well enough for the test.

As for the Biology Subject Test, the HSC Textbooks are not very helpful. We suggest you take a look at the A-level textbooks and use one or two prep books.

I cannot speak for the other subject tests. Try to find people who have taken them in the past (you can post in our group), look through some prep books, and take some practice tests.

9. Where do I find the books?

Most of the SAT preparatory books (Collegeboard Official SAT Study Guide/Barron's/The Princeton Review/Gruber's/Kaplan/McGraw-Hill - you name it) can be found in Nilkhet and New Market. If you look online you can get pdf copies of a lot of books, but it's illegal for us to post the links here; you have to find them yourselves.

The American Center also has an excellent library with tons of SAT Prep books and it's free for everyone to use. This is their website:

<http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/advising.html> and they're located at "Plot No -1, Progati Sharani J-Block, Baridhara, Dhaka (Opposite from the U.S. Embassy Dhaka, next to Notun Bazar by the Maa O Shishu Clinic)" as quoted on their web page.

10. How do I register for the SAT?

You can go to the SAT website (sat.collegeboard.org) and register there. I believe you need an international credit card to pay the fees (I used the credit card of one of my Dad's friends who lived in the US.) I heard that Bangladeshi foreign policies regarding international credit cards changed recently and you might somehow be able to pay using a Bangladeshi credit card, but I don't know the details. If any of you know something about it please let me know and I will update the answer.

If you don't want to use a credit card you can get a paper registration form from American Center (<http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/advising.html>) and register by mailing the form and a bank draft to the USA. Please visit the American Center in person if you're interested and they would let you know the details.

If you're planning to go abroad, you'll soon be paying lots of different fees for different purposes. I recommend you make an arrangement with one of your relatives or friends or friends of parents living abroad to use his/her international credit card to pay these fees. Your life will be so much easier and you will save a lot of money by not having to mail bank drafts to North America every time.

Addendum: There seems to be a new system of paying these fees now using a virtual credit card. (Courtesy: Please see comments.) I'm not entirely sure how it works, but it looks like DDBL lets you have one for Tk.100 per deposit and you can use it for online transactions like paying all the test fees and application fees. I encourage you to look into it.

VERY IMPORTANT POINT: In Bangladesh the only valid ID for SAT and TOEFL is your passport. School IDs, Driving License, and National ID Cards are not accepted as far as I remember (if the rules have changed now someone please let me know.) Make sure you have your passport early enough; with all the security clearances it can take up to two months to get a new passport issued.

11. I need more resources!

Read my other two advice posts. Please.

Also, I found a pretty cool collection of websites in the HigherStudyAbroad™ facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HigherStudyAbroad/doc/217895114938844/>

Say thanks to them.

Uploaded by

Nabil Rahman

SAT(Part 1): Advice for Critical Reading

By Deepanjan Roy on Sunday, July 15, 2012 at 12:06 AM

Hi, before you jump into my really long advice post I just want you to know that there is no one way to succeed in SAT. Different strategies work for different people, and it's very possible that some other advice might work much better for you. I encourage you to try out all the advice you receive from different sources. This advice post is therefore not so much of an advice-post-you-must-follow-religiously-to-succeed-in-SAT, but rather things-I-did-to-get-760-in-critical-reading.

Also, some people are really natural at Critical Reading. I know a friend who got a perfect 800 without breaking a sweat. But then again, he was an avid reader and he has read more books than I will ever read in my lifetime. I recommend you take a practice test and see how much you score. If you're already scoring more than 700, I doubt this post would be of much help to you.

I apologize for the length.

Completing Sentences:

For vocabs, the best way to prepare is to start early. About a year or so before your exam. And get in the habit of using a dictionary. Make a dictionary easily accessible everywhere. If you use a smartphone, get a dictionary app that you can easily use (I used this one:

http://rapidshare.com/files/73259729/MsDict_Concise_Oxford_English

[Dictionary.jar](#) because it's one of the few that could run on my clunky old phone. If you find a better one, by all means use it.) Get a dictionary extension or add-on on your web browser. Make absolutely sure that if you come across a new word, you can access its meaning in less than 15 seconds. Realize that in English a lot of words have more than one meaning, and make sure you understand which of meanings makes sense in the context. Also, if you see a word you know but it just isn't making sense, look it up in a dictionary. There is a very good chance that the word has a different meaning that you never knew.

Start reading books. If you have books you really like, you can reread them, now with a dictionary. I remember I read all my Harry Potter books again, but this time instead of skipping over new words and guessing their meanings, I looked up the meaning of every single new word I saw. I was startled to find how incredibly many words I did not know. And start keeping a list of all the new words you see. Keep a diary of new words. If a paper diary is too old-fashioned for you, write it down in your smartphone. Make creative sentences with them. Write down the sentences with the words. If you have a friend named Titin who can't stand dirty clothes, write down something like "Titin was so fastidious today about getting her shoes dirty!" Whatever helps you to remember.

Start reading good articles on the internet. I loved to read the op-ed of New York Times. You can read The Daily Star, The Reader's Digest, and some good blogs. Get in the habit of reading widely, and get in the habit of looking up words (did you know that "look up" a word means to find a word in a reference book or dictionary? A lot of words have very special meanings when used in a phrase; look out for them.) Use sticky notes to stick tough words around in your room. Use the sticky notes application in windows to put new words on your desktop so them you see them Every time you minimize a window. Use flash cards. Draw pictures. Use colors. The third or fourth time you see a word in an article, you will get

a feeling about its personality and which rhetorical situation it's good for. That's what you're trying to achieve here.

Start describing the world around you with the words you learn. Make a list of 5 words that is troubling you and try to find these words in everything that you see for a couple of days. Your teacher is loquacious. There was a cornucopia of cars in the roads. Students are remonstrating at BUET. Try it. It's fun. When you do practice tests from the Official SAT Study Guide by Collegeboard, circle any word you don't know: either in the completing passage section or in the comprehension passages. Give these words max priority. Since these are the words used by Collegeboard, they are most most most likely to show up on your exam.

I liked the "Word Smart I" and "Word Smart II" books by Princeton Review. It had some pretty cool tips about how to remember words, and the example sentences were funny. Try learning roots of the words. Every word has a history, and you will remember it much better if you know the etymology. A lot of the complicated words are derived from relatively simple and everyday words. For example, gubernatorial is derived from governor, and once you know that the word becomes so much easier to remember. Seek out new and fun sources to learn words. Do you know about Sparknotes SAT novels? <http://www.sparknotes.com/satfiction/> Take a look. The Sparknotes website has some other great stuff in there as well. Look around. Look around other places on the Internet. There are lots of other cool sites that can help you learn new words in a fun way. Sign up for some word of the day service on the Collegeboard website (or anywhere else.) They will send you one word every day and it's much less intimidating to learn just one word every morning when you check your email.

Once in the while I would look through the Barron's hot prospect and high frequency word list and the The Princeton Review's hit parade, and

mark off words that I already know. As time went by, the number of words that I don't know started to go down pretty fast, and about a month before the exam, I just sat down and learned about the 150ish words that were left. Then there were the direct hits words list, and by this time, there were very very few words on that list that I did not know, and I went ahead and learned them. It took me about a couple of hours. Seriously, not much was left. And 3 days before the test, I went to the American center and picked up Barron's SAT 2400. This book had a special vocabulary list that was intended for students only aiming for a perfect score. (And this book also has some unique strategies aimed at people wanting to score really really high. You can take a look. I couldn't find this book at nilkhet (maybe it's available now but I just couldn't find it.) There's a copy at the American Center library.) After crossing off the words I know, I figured out that I still had about 100 new words. So I spent the whole day learning those words. And when I said I learned the words, I don't mean I read the words and their meanings aloud till I memorized them. I dissected the words, looked at the roots to see if they relate to something I know already, wrote down small memorable sentences whenever I could, tried to see if they rhymed with something funny, drew pictures, went for lunch to have biriyani and tried to find the words in the world around me, came back and found out which words were particularly troubling to remember, put them on a special list, made flashcards with them, and played with those flashcards on my one-and-half-hour ride back home. And there you go: I knew I had done all I could to prepare for the vocabs.

Even after you do all of these, there will inevitably be some words on the test that you just don't know. That's fine; don't flip out. Cross out the options that you know are certainly wrong. (This process has a fancy name - The Process of Elimination.) Among the ones that are left, pick the first one, and move along. If two options are equally likely (for example you don't know the meaning of either of them) do NOT waste time trying to "get a feeling" for which is right and deliberating and

questioning your choice. Pick the first one. You do not have time to waste.

Do not leave a question blank. Pick and option randomly but answer something. Let me show you the math: You get -0.25 for every wrong answer, and +1.0 for every correct answer. Now on average, by rules of probability, for every five question you guess, you are going to get one right answer and four wrong answers, and your score will add up to a net 0. Now here's the best part: if you use the process of elimination, you will more often find yourself stranded between two or three choices instead of five. Let's say three. Now for every three questions, you will get one right and two wrong, and your net gain is $1.0 - 0.25 - 0.25 = +0.5$. There's an even better part. Do you know that your raw score gets rounded? That means if you get a 48.75 or 48.5, your score will be rounded up to 49. Even if you make up to two incorrect guesses, you will not be penalized at all. All the subtracted marks will just get rounded up.

[The only situation where it makes sense to leave a question blank is when you know with ruthless confidence that you answered every other question right except for two and you know that getting a third question wrong would get your score to 48.25. If you know how the SAT score works, you probably know that 48.25 gets rounded down to 48 instead of getting rounded up to 49. But there's only a 25% possibility that your score will be rounded down, and from a probabilistic perspective, it's still more logical to guess as long as you can't say for sure that you got EXACTLY two other questions wrong.]

Another point about guessing that's extremely important: When I said "guess", I did not mean, "Hm, well I have to choose between B, C, and E, but C just 'feels right.' Deepanjan told me to not leave a question blank, so I'll just bubble in C." If you do this, you will most certainly get the question wrong. The questions in SAT are designed very carefully so that

the answer that "feels right" is very often wrong. If you go by your gut feelings, you are just walking into Collegeboard's trap. The correct way to guess is to first eliminate the answer choices that you're absolutely sure are wrong, and then pick a choice randomly from the remaining choices. Do not think. Have a strategy like you'll always pick the first one or you'll always pick the last one or you'll always pick the middle one and stick to it. Remember, the laws of probability only work as long as the choices are random.

Reading Comprehension:

Now this is the tougher part of Critical Reading. Listen carefully:

Somewhere along my preparations, I realized that every question on SAT has one correct answer and four definitely wrong answer. Now this is an important realization, because there were many cases where I answered D but the correct answer was C and I wanted to argue, "Hey, D makes sense too! SAT is just SO arbitrary." My score failed to improve as long as I kept thinking like that, and the situation changed only when I finally convinced myself that I was really wrong when picked D, and I understood why I was wrong.

I digress again here, but only because it's so important that you understand this. When Collegeboard makes an SAT question, they have to make sure that there is never any ambiguity about the correct answer. In other words, there can be no doubt whatsoever that C is correct, and what is more important, A, B, D, and E are incorrect. Why? Because if someone ever claimed that their answer was more correct than Collegeboard's, they could sue them and Collegeboard would have to fight an annoying lawsuit and may even have to pay millions of dollar in compensation if they're proved wrong by experts. That is why, although

many questions in the reading comprehension section sound subjective on the surface (e.g- "What did the author mean in line 81?"), they're really not. Even if you may disagree about the correctness of C, if you think logically, you will have no doubts about the incorrectness of A, B, D, and E.

Now when you understand what I'm trying to say here you'll understand that it's suicidal to practice reading comprehension question from any other sources other than the Collegeboard itself. Barron's and Princeton Review simply do not have the impetus to make their questions so perfect, so fool-proof. You'll often encounter questions where you'll never understand why the answer is D and not C. What then usually happens is you start making up some sort of bad explanations. And once you damage your reasoning capability, you guarantee a low score in Critical Reading.

So what are you supposed to do? Practice only with questions made by Collegeboard. Where do you get questions made by collegeboard? The best source is to buy the official SAT Study Guide by Collegeboard (The book with the blue cover). You can download the explanations of all the Study guide questions here:

<http://www.mediafire.com/?t2qcnpf3f83b3ik>

The file that you download here also contains a book called Grammatix SAT Strategy Guide. This is a really cool book and I highly recommend you read it.

After you do a critical reading section, please look up the explanations of all the questions. This is important: Do not search explanations for only the questions that you got wrong; make sure you also look at the explanations of the questions you got right. Remember, you are learning

how to reason here. You are learning the logical line of thinking you must follow to hack the SAT system. And it takes time. It takes months of practice. It takes patience. The explanation files I gave have thorough and detailed explanations, and you will learn a lot if you can work through them.

After you run out of these tests, you can search for more online. It is illegal for me to provide you these tests here, but if you look hard enough on the Internet, you'll find them somewhere.

After you've reached the stage where you can see the answer of a question and understand why the answer is correct, you can move on to optimizing your test-taking strategies. I always felt there was never enough time for the Critical Reading section, especially when I was doing the double passages, or the really long passages. I suggest you read plenty of SAT strategy book like Barron's or Princeton Review or Kaplan and see what tricks they can teach you. (Remember, it's alright to learn strategies from these books; just don't do practice questions from them.) I used to first read the small blurb of text in the beginning (the part about the author and where the passage was published) and then quickly skip through the questions and find mentions of line numbers. I then drew small lines beside those lines in the passage, and when I started reading the passage I would slow down whenever I approached these small lines, read the part and then answer the corresponding line reference questions. After I was done answering these questions, I would go back and answer global questions like "What does the passage primarily concern?" or "Which of the following statements do you think the author would agree to?"

Again, these strategies were only personal strategies to save time. I suggest you look around the Internet and read a lot of books (Barron's SAT 2400 had some awesome advice) and find the strategy that works

best for you. I found these advice threads particularly useful; you can take a look:

<http://talk.collegeconfidential.com/sat-preparation/750399-how-attack-sat-critical-reading-section-effectively.html>

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/36528170/Xiggi-Advice> (Not explicitly about Critical Reading but has some good general advice.)

<http://talk.collegeconfidential.com/sat-preparation/955109-silverturtles-guide-sat-admissions-success.html> (A somewhat "scholarly" post on SAT and US Admissions system.)

I conclude this post by disclosing the biggest secret of success in SAT: Practice. You can know all the tactics and strategies of Messi, but that won't make you play like him.

If you have more questions, please ask in the comments section below.

2. SAT(Part-2): Advice for Writing

By Deepanjan Roy on Sunday, July 15, 2012 at 10:47 PM

The writing section of SAT is fairly straight-forward. Regardless of your educational background, there will be a few grammar rules of American English that you would not know. Pick up a SAT Prep Book and read the grammar section. If I recall correctly, there were no single book that covered everything that showed up on SAT, so it's always better if you look through multiple books to see if you learn anything new. You don't have to buy all the books; often you can find a copy online, or you can go to the American Center Library where they almost have every single SAT prep book imaginable free for everyone to use. Also, you can look at this website: <http://www.grammarbook.com/> It's a good reference source for most of the grammar that you will need.

I highly recommend that you do all the questions on the Official SAT Study Guide and work through the explanations (and this recommendation goes for all the sections, not just writing.) But unlike critical reading, writing can also be practiced from any other book. The biggest problem in Critical Reading with non-Collegeboard books was that they provided poor explanations. This is not the case with Grammar, because there is little scope for subjectivity in identifying a grammar mistake. I practiced with Barron's and The Princeton Review and both of them did a decent job at explaining.

Although it sounds really simple, you do need to practice a lot to do well in the writing section. The SAT questions are very subtle and it takes considerable training before you can identify the errors every single time.

The "Improving Sentences" questions were slightly more troublesome. The secret of acing them is similar to the strategies for Critical Reading: It's more important to understand why the incorrect answer choices are incorrect than understanding why the correct answer choice is correct. Read the answer explanations from whichever book you study until you're confident enough. I took the SAT almost two years ago and I don't remember very well what strategies I used, but I do remember that preparation for SAT writing was mostly solving tons of practice questions to train your eye to quickly identify the errors.

About the essay:

Learn to write well; there is no alternative. By good writing, I do not mean you have to fill up your essay with words like "cornucopia" or "loquacious". Make sure your writing is coherent, you make paragraphs in the right place, you back up your arguments with concrete examples, you have a nice introduction that clearly contains your thesis statement and a short conclusion that wraps up the essay, and you don't make too obvious grammatical errors.

If you're not used to writing argumentative essays, try writing at least one essay per week when you're preparing for the test. It's just 25 minutes; don't fuss over it. Pick your prompt from places where sample answers are provided afterwards. There are several in the Official Study Guide, and some available online (use google - if you find something share with your friends in the comment section below.) After you write your essay try comparing it with the sample essays. You'll be in a better position to evaluate the quality of your essay after you have seen some other samples.

Read these two strategy guides:

<http://www.sparknotes.com/testprep/books/newsat/chapter6.rhtml>

The Sparknotes site has some excellent essay advice.

<http://sheng.illusion.com/wp-content/uploads/2006/11/sat.pdf>

The Grammatix Guide has some somewhat unconventional but surprisingly useful advice. Essay advice starts from page 26.

Let me address three general issues:

Do you need to read Shakespeare or Jane Austen to score high in this section?

No. I realize that a lot of sample essays you see contain examples from classic English literature, but that's simply because American High School students have to read them as part of their school work. The examples you use can literally be from anywhere. You can use examples from history (Bangladeshi history is perfectly fine - I often used examples from our liberation war only because I knew so much about it), from Harry Potter, from Bengali books you've read, from movies, and even from your personal life.

Don't get me wrong: I encourage you to read a lot of books, and yes, it's even better if you enjoy classic literature. They are excellent sources of examples, and well-written prose inspires good writing. But if you're hard-pressed for time, do not think that it is absolutely essential to read

a lot of books just for the sake of examples. The only book I read in 2010 was The Life of Mahatma Gandhi and that's only because it was a birthday present from my Dad. I still got a perfect 12 in the essay.

Can you make up examples in SAT?

Yes, but use caution.

The purpose of SAT essay is to check whether you can gather arguments and write coherently to support a certain point of view. Since you're not being given access to Internet or a library and have only 25 minutes, factual accuracy is not of prime importance. If you cannot think of examples from history or widely-known books or movies, try looking for examples in your personal life. If you really cannot find an example, make something up. It's okay.

BUT, remember: The universities you apply to can access your SAT essay.

(See here:

<http://professionals.collegeboard.com/testing/sat-reasoning/scores/online-essay-viewing>) Do not write something that will reflect badly on your file. And also, do not write something obviously false like "A study conducted by a group of Harvard sociologists indicate that 67% of the children with divorced parents become prone to substance abuse at some point before the age of 30." I do not believe that you memorized all the studies conducted by all the professors, and I will look it up. If it's false, your score will plummet faster than Dhaka Stock Market Index.

How long should my essay be?

I highly highly highly recommend that you fill up the entire two pages with regular sized hand-writing. People have conducted actual studies that shows a direct correlation between a high SAT essay score and number of words. Furthermore, I felt that two pages were hardly enough to fully demonstrate my point of view, and one and half page would leave my essays under-developed. I do not have massive hand-writing.

But once again, I must admit that many 1-and-a-half-page essays get perfect scores, and if you are an excellent writer you can take the risk. But writing whole two pages is always much safer and significantly raises your probability to get a higher score.

Once again, if you have more questions, ask in the comments section. I'll try my best to address them. Good luck on your test!

Sat 2

SAT subject test ebook/Prep Guide

Chowdhury Jawad Mujtoba·Thursday, February 15, 2018

Google Drive link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0B3_B0RsBU51mbnBvNjEzanYtSEk

ACING THE NEW SAT

Seeam Shahid Noor

The limited resources for the new SAT and the fact that most guides available are rather broad and not precise inspired me to write this. At the very beginning I must warn you that this guide doesn't contain fool-proof techniques which will ensure you higher scores but rather directions which, in my opinion, should help you face the new SAT exam with ease. The guidelines that I have mentioned here are the ones that I found really useful and implementing them helped me obtain 99th percentile scores in all individual sections, and I believe that following them can help you get your desired score as well, if not the perfect one. I have tried to mention the things you need to cover or the approach required in each section for a strong prep. And finally, I have added extra notes for students of the NCTB curriculum since some concepts of the SAT have been used in an unfamiliar way and might be new to them in particular (just problems I faced during my time). Some terms I used here might seem difficult, but you will realize they are actually simple once you start practicing. Hope this helps!

INTRODUCTION

The SAT exam is NOT a measure of your intelligence or academic merit. It's only an exam which tests particular concepts and that's it. So in order to beat this exam (I use the word 'beat' since the exam tests the same concepts every time which one can outwit with efficient practice), one has to PRACTICE a lot in order to improve. I am stressing on this since the concepts never came to me naturally and the way I improved on them was by practice. One must REALLY WANT a high score in the first place otherwise one might not find him/herself practicing sincerely. The SAT does play a huge role in the admission decisions and so higher the score, the better the chances. Do follow a PRACTICE ROUTINE, it helps a lot. And finally, as cliché as it may sound, BELIEVE in yourself, confidence does wonders, trust me.

Format:

The new exam format is provided below:

Sections	Reading	Writing	Math (No Calculator)	Math (Calculator)
Questions	52	44	20	38
Raw marks	52	44	20	38
Scaled marks	400	400	400	400
Time (minutes)	65	35	25	55

Must: At the very beginning OPEN A KHAN ACADEMY ACCOUNT. The Khan Academy is the best resource for the new SAT and the content is SUFFICIENT for getting a perfect score. The link has been provided: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

The books I have mentioned can also be purchased from Nilkhet.

Note: I didn't cover the ESSAY PART of the SAT in this guide. Since it is optional and I never practiced it, I believe I don't have the right resources to provide the necessary guidelines

The guidelines of other sections have been described in details below:

MATH

Resource needed: KHAN ACADEMY only.

Tips for NCTB: The following are simple concepts that can be learned with a little study. All of them have been covered by KHAN ACADEMY. But if problems still arise, learn the following from the new Barron's SAT/ Princeton Review SAT

1. Learn '**How Graph Shifts**' with changes in its equation
2. Learn the '**Circle Formulas**' (How degrees of a circle's sector can be used to find out the area/circumference it covers)
3. Learn how a '**Parabolic equation**' can be converted into its '**Vertex form**' and what the variables mean.
4. Learn how '**Standard Deviation/Mean**' are represented in scatterplot, graph etc.
5. Names of various '**Data Collection Methods**' and what they mean
6. The basic '**Linear and Exponential growth functions**' and what they mean

General Guidelines:

1. Go to Khan Academy, and go to the 'Topic wise-section' of Math.
2. Practice each topic individually.
3. Practice until you get to 4-skill-level of each topic.
4. Then try each topic at 4-skill-level without errors (5 in a row)
5. Always note down the mistakes you made and then learn the concepts. The EXACT concepts are always tested.
6. Always time yourself.
7. Learn the basic uses of a scientific calculator (solving linear/quadratic equations etc.)

This should take a few days only. After that just start giving the mini overall Math test and keep up the practice. Try to not have any errors. And INSTANTLY learn a concept the moment you do any mistake

Extra Tip: Always UNDERLINE what the question wants. Most of the math errors are not because of LACK OF KNOWLEDGE but are SILLY mistakes. Underlining that specific part of a question minimizes that.

E.g. $2X+6=12$, find out $3X+6$. Our brains usually lead us to find X and to choose the value of X from the choices. Underlining the QUESTION REQUIREMENT stops this error.

Finally, with enough practice, getting a decent score shouldn't be tough.

WRITING

Resources: I highly recommend **new SAT Princeton Review** for the **grammar rules**. They are to the point and sufficient to cover the SAT syllabus. In this case, use **Khan Academy** for **only practice** (mainly the questions which ask for passage improvement). The link has been provided here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3MarER47imQaHIHSk50bkZyeGc/view>

Tips for NCTB: Learn the grammar rules from Princeton Review. They are bound to test these rules every year and knowing them will earn you 50% of the marks in Writing.

1. Learn the rules of Punctuation (semi colon, colon and comma usage etc.)
2. Learn about parallel structure.
3. Learn about dangling modifiers and run on sentences
4. Be careful about Subject-Verb agreements and Pronoun references.

General Guidelines:

1. Learn the concepts clearly from Princeton Review. I can't stress this enough.
2. Go to Khan Academy and practice the Mini-tests. This is the ONLY efficient way of practicing Writing as far as I know.
3. Identify your mistakes and use the 'Topic-wise section' to hone those skills.
4. Sections like 'Conventional expressions', 'Frequently Confused Words', 'Precision and Concision', 'Style and Tone' **don't fall under** specific grammar rules and have to be understood for accuracy. But fortunately, practicing from the 'Topic-wise section' a few times gives you a clear understanding and should be sufficient to tackle all sorts of derivations.
5. Always time yourself.
6. TIME is a SERIOUS ENEMY in this section.

Extra Tip: REMEMBER, ALL the basic grammar rules WILL BE TESTED for sure in the exam. Be vigilant to score those solid marks allotted to questions testing every rule.

And with a clear understanding and timed practice, a good score shouldn't be that tough.

READING

Resources: I highly recommend that you DO NOT FOLLOW any other source EXCEPT KHAN ACADEMY. ONLY Khan Academy provides accurate Reading Passages similar to the real SAT. *Barron's* and *Princeton Review* are highly INCONSISTENT with the original test and its questions, and should NOT be used for practice.

I found this article from *PrepScholar* really detailed. It clearly shows how to APPROACH a passage and how to efficiently use the LIMITED PRACTICE MATERIALS. The link has been provided: <http://blog.prepscholar.com/how-to-get-800-on-sat-reading-10-strategies-by-a-perfect-scorer>

The article mentioned above contains the perfect advices for tackling the reading section.

Tips for NCTB:

1. Although vocabulary isn't a core issue in this new format of SAT, a strong vocabulary is essential for a high score. For good vocabulary, learn from the OLD BARRON's SAT book. Start with the 'High Frequency and Hot Prospect' words for an initial foundation. Keep practicing them by maintaining a notebook. Write down any new word you find. This will not only help you in the SAT but for a required English Proficiency in your whole life.

2. Practice a lot of reading. Long passages like those in the SAT will feel like a massive boulder thrown at you if you don't have prior habits of reading, and by reading I mean reading any English book any general, be it academic or literary. Read as many books as you can. Try reading novels, because the ones that suit your tastes will give you the pleasure of a lifetime all the while preparing you for the SAT boulders as well.

Steps:

1. Practice the individual mini-tests from Khan Academy, I repeat, it's the ONLY reliable source for reading.
2. When reading a passage, keep in mind that YOU WILL BE ASKED some similar questions, so read accordingly and be prepared to form an answer in mind. Some similar question examples are:

Single passage

- *The main purpose of the paragraph is to*
- *Over the passage the author's focus shifts from*
- *The word 'abcd' most nearly means*
- *Which statement best summarizes the passage*
- *The quote 'abcd efghi' was used to infer*

Double passage

- *Which choice best describes the relationship between passage 1 and 2*
- *The difference between passage 1 and 2 is*
- *To which statement will authors of both passage agree*

3. In case of Paired Questions:

E.g. *Question 1: 'ABCD' can be characterized as*

Question 2: Which choice provides the best evidence as answer to the previous question?

Sometimes I used this approach where I first noted the options of the 2nd question and tried to see if an option of the 1st question directly matched with the concept of a particular option in the 2nd question. This approach allowed me to answer almost all paired questions correctly and in less time.

4. Time is a serious enemy in this sector as well.
5. Always time yourself. I can't stress this enough
6. This is crucial in reading. Don't ponder on any question for more than 25 seconds. Skip it and return to it at the end. The question ALWAYS seems easier when you return. Trust me.
7. There is always a correct answer. Don't guess, eliminate other answers first.

8. Deduce from the EXACT words of the passage. I recommend you do not bring your prior knowledge on the subject matter into action.

Extra tip: After every paragraph of a passage, write down a mini-summary beside it. If possible, write down the connection between two consequent paragraphs. Just doing this can help you answer 4-5 questions of every passage. And this saves time as well.

And with a clear understanding of the question patterns and timed practice, a good score shouldn't be that tough.

USING PRACTICE MATERIALS

I must remind you that the 6 Practice Tests available at Khan Academy are the only RELIABLE materials and should be used wisely so that you improve radically after every one.

1. ALWAYS maintain proper timing. Create the perfect exam-environment for practice.
2. When giving a practice test, do it EXACTLY like the exam format, at a stretch, with gaps of only 10 minutes. The SAT is designed to hit on the fatigue that comes from continuous exam-taking. So the MATH section that comes after the ENGLISH section might seem tougher when given continuously than when given separately.
3. After every exam, analyze EVERY answer:
 - Skip it if you were correct without hesitation.
 - If you were correct with hesitation/wrong, note down the correct answer without looking at the explanation and solve it again. Try to eliminate all wrong answers before looking at the explanation.
 - Once you are done, know the answer, note down the reason for your mistake and hone the relevant concept.
 - Remember the SAT always HAS ONE CORRECT answer and CLUES required to ELIMINATE the wrong answers. Be sure to find them.
4. Only once you have revised and corrected all concepts of one exam should you move on to the next one.
5. Your scores might not improve drastically after a certain range or might even deteriorate, don't get demotivated. Keep on practicing.
6. Analyzing and improving on 6 tests with sincerity will surely take you to the top score ranges.

CONCLUSION

The guidelines provided above are by no chance restrictive or fault-proof. These are just personal suggestions I believe can be useful. One can improve or practice by other methods, or from other resources and can get perfect scores in their own methods as well. This guide serves a simple purpose of providing a precise direction to those who are pondering over how to start preparing for this exam. Hope it helped.

Finally, the SAT isn't the only criteria deciding your chances of admission. So despite the attention it requires, it shouldn't be one's only area of prioritization. So, good luck for your SATs, good luck for your applications. May the odds be ever in your favor!

USA

USA Undergraduate Universities Admission Process

by Bristy Sikder

Massachusetts Institute of Technology(MIT) Class of 2018

Step 1: University Search Process:

Search for universities suitable for you major. Apply to (9-12) universities, out of which 3-4 should be “Dream Universities”, 3-4 should be “Match Universities” and 3-4 should be safety universities.

Useful Resource:

1. Join this Facebook group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/>
 and Look in the University List to get a list of colleges.
2. Search Google in this way : “Best undergraduate US universities in Computer Science”
3. To find out the college profile and to decide whether you are a match for the college or not, Google “Harvard university profile” and use this website : <http://collegeapps.about.com> to find out the SAT scores of the students, the amount of financial aid that they provide etc.
4. To find out about the requirements, deadlines about application to a specific university for example Stanford University, Google “Stanford University Undergraduate Admissions”.

Generally, people apply to colleges via CommonApp (URL :
<https://www.commonapp.org/>)

But, for MIT, there is a separate Website : (URL my.mit.edu)

2 types of Deadlines:

Early Decision : Around 1 November (Varies depending on universities)

Regular Decision : Around 31 December (Varies depending upon universities)

Step 2: Additional Testing

SAT

Official Website: <http://sat.collegeboard.org/home>

You have to create an account here to register for the Tests. The tests are held from October to March. Both SAT and SAT Subject tests take place, but REMEMBER, you can only give either SAT or the SAT 2 Subject Tests each month.

3 sections : Critical reading, Writing, Mathematics (May change the format within a year or two) . Each section carries 800 marks. A total of 2400.

SAT books and Resources:

The Official SAT guide (blue book), Barrons SAT, Barrons SAT 2400, Barrons SAT Writing, Barrons SAT Critical Reading, Kaplan SAT, Princeton Review SAT. (You can get all these books from Nilkhel, Dhaka)

Website: www.sparknotes.com

Check the file section in the Facebook group:

(URL : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/>)

Deadline : For each admission cycle, the last month for taking the SAT test is December or January for Regular Decision and November for Early Decision. Confirm with the University Website.

SAT Subject Tests

Official Website: <http://sat.collegeboard.org/home>

People generally appear for SAT Subject Tests in Mathematics 2, Physics and Chemistry. Generally easier or as hard as HSC/ A level subjects.

SAT Subject Test books and Resources:

Barrons SAT Chemistry, Barrons SAT Mathematics, Barrons SAT Physics, Kaplans, Princeton Review. (You can find the books at Nilkhet or EMK Center at Dhanmondi, American Center in Baridhara)

Website: www.sparknotes.com

Check the file section in the Facebook group:

(URL : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/>)

Deadline : For each admission cycle, the last month for taking the SAT Subject test is December or January for Regular Decision and November for Early Decision. Confirm with the University Website.

TOEFL

There are 2 versions, but people usually give the Internet based TOEFL : TOEFL iBT test.

Official Website : <https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/about>

TOEFL has 4 sections: Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening. Some universities require 90+ TOEFL score to apply, so require 100+, some may require 80+, so you should check with the university website.

Books: Barrons TOEFL

Deadline : For each admission cycle, the last month for taking the TOEFL test is December or January for Regular Decision and November for Early Decision. Confirm with the University Website.

Step 3: Recommendation letters and Transcripts

High School Transcripts:

These basically refer to your O level/ SSC results and A level/HSC results. If your school results are good, the you should include them aswell.

Recommendation Letter:

Generally 3 Recommendation letters are needed : 1 from Principal / Counselor, 1 from Mathematics / Science teacher, 1 from Humanities/ Arts teacher.

If you have a special coach from an Olympiad or Sport or someone whom you worked as an assistant teacher or for Community Service, you should take a recommendation letter from them as well.

Step 4: ECA and Essays

ECA:

ECAs, any Leadership position and Initiatives matter a lot. There are a lot of things that you can do, but whatever you do, do them passionately. You can do things such as:

Mathematical Olympiad, Informatics Olympiad, Physics Olympiad, Earth Science Olympiad, Biology Olympiad, Chemistry Olympiad, Biochemistry Olympiad, Painting, Music, Debate, Sports, Community Service, Photography, Leadership Trainings. Also Online courses from EdX, Coursera and extensive reading in any subject matter a lot.

Remember that US Universities really value Online Courses, Olympiads, Extensive Research because they depict deep interest and passion for a subject. They also value Community Service and Leadership Initiatives a lot!

Essays:

From the File section of (URL :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/>) read the sample essays and the 50 successful Ivy League Application Essays.

Or Google and Download “50 successful Ivy League Application Essays”

Step 5: Financial Matters

Submit the required Financial documentations like Income Tax Returns, Business Supplements and CSS profile by The Deadline (Check the deadline from the Respective University Website)

CSS Profile to be filled from:

<https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>

Step 6: Decisions!!

Most universities release their Early Decision by December and the Regular decisions Starting from mid-March to mid-April!

May the Odds be Forever in Your Favour!

USA: Criteria for searching college

By Tamanna Islam Urmi on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 2:20 PM

First step to applying in the US in choosing colleges that suits you the most. Among many criteria for colleges, there are some that concern students of this part of the globe the most. Below are those most important criteria for searching college:

1. Financial aid

Discuss with your parents in detail about it and get an estimate of the amount they can provide you for your education abroad. When you search for colleges, try to find out whether their admission process is need-blind or need-based (Please read the document that explains the US need based financial aid system

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BdBeyondBorder/doc/475295069165645/>), and how generous they are to international students.

2. Academics

Almost all universities have a large number of departments which covers most of your desired subjects. But still, you should check the list of subjects they offer to know if your most favorite one is in the list or not.

3. Location

America is a huge nation with very diverse weather pattern. In some areas temperature may fall many degrees below the freezing point during winter while in some areas it can go intolerably high in summer. Even in the same location the temperature can reach both extremes at different portions of the year. If you have issues with tolerating extreme weather then check weather pattern of the college location; if you don't mind dealing with these then you can just ignore. You will most likely be accommodated in housing with facilities to save you from too high or too low temperature.

Setting can also be a factor for some people. If you prefer living in a busy city with lot of cars on the road, high rise buildings nearby and all that, go for the colleges in urban area. There are also colleges in suburban and rural areas for people with other preferred environment.

4. Type

Public and private universities in USA have a few differences. Public universities have relatively lower funding for students, i.e. low financial aid, than private universities.

There are all women colleges, all men colleges and co-ed colleges. You can also take this matter under consideration if you need to.

5. Size

You might want to live in a small community with few students and small class size or large community and huge class rooms. Each has its own features that has both advantages and disadvantages. In school of small student size, there is a possibility that you will get relatively more attention from professors and learn more from classroom but on the other hand, you will not have the opportunity to mingle with very diverse a community and also can not be part of a big campus. Caltech is a college with small student number and they tend to be inclined to students with specialized interest. The school size of MIT is about 1600, it falls under the 'larger' criteria but they have learning communities where student can join to do classes with fewer students. So, despite student size, the institute offer both the kind of class for the benefit of students. Students can join small classes, medium classes or large classes. Many other universities have the same policy.

6. Housing

Managing to find an accommodation if the university itself doesn't provide you with one, can be a stressful job in the US. Many universities provide accommodation to 100% of the students while some universities do not. Some universities have both single-sex dorms and co-ed dorms while other have any one type of dorm. To many students this is also a matter of concern.

This is a great place to search colleges :

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

The link provided at the top is a very nice and detailed college search tool. It contains search filters for all the criteria I mentioned above in addition to many other criteria. Don't forget to check the link after reading the document...

USA: Things to note before you start applying

Tarannum Sarwat Sahar·Monday, June 1, 2015

Hey guys! Now that you are about to begin a new journey and try to realize your dreams, the task will definitely seem daunting to you. But trust me, it will be an extremely interesting experience if you do it right.

I remember searching through some web articles before I applied and often, I came across this phrase: you will discover yourself. Not once did I fail to roll my eyes at that time, but honestly, I have never seen all my positive and few negative attributes so distinctly expressed in just a few pages. Initially, it seemed painful with so many essays to finish and tasks to complete but eventually, as I made progress I started to enjoy it. As you embark on this task, keep in mind the following things:

START EARLY. Read that two words again. There will NEVER be a 'perfect time' when you can sit down and instantly write the essays. You just have to keep the prompts on your mind and ideas will automatically evolve as you occasionally delve into the topic or while you are doing something completely random. It will take time. So don't keep it for tomorrow and then postpone it again and again or don't keep it for the 'few' days that you will get after completing that class assignment.

Make a list of the schools you are going to apply to and jot down the requirements and deadlines. It is 'very' important that you have a combination of both safety and reach schools on your list. Do not 'only' apply to the top schools. And also, if you have a dream school and that smug kid from your class says, 'Oh, YOU are going to apply to MIT? Hoho, good luck man!' do NOT be discouraged. If you have a particular

fondness for a certain school, then you must try. Regrets are not healthy and plus, you never know what might click for you.

Some schools have early deadlines for scholarships. After you make that list, write down the deadline for scholarships. For example, for you to qualify for Boston University's Trustee or Presidential scholarship, you have to apply before December 1 even though the Regular Decision deadline is January 1. I came to know about this just a day before so try not to make the same mistake.

Most US schools have early action, early decision and regular decision options. Here is the difference:

<http://admissions.vanderbilt.edu/.../early-action-early-deci.../> EA and ED deadlines are usually November 1. I applied to two schools in early action and hence, all my essays, transcripts, recommendation and common application were prepared by November 1. I had 2 months before the regular decision deadline and I could give all my time to further work on my essays. Also, if you apply early to one or two schools, you get decisions early and the stress level decreases significantly.

Ask for recommendations early. As you know you will need around two recommendations, don't go to your teachers just a week or two before the deadline. You can ask them about 1 month before your deadline or the date that you intend to submit your application. This is because 1 month is neither too early that your teacher will put off the task for later and eventually forget about it, nor too late that your teacher will refuse to write the letter for lack of time. Also when you talk to a teacher about it, remind him about that project or assignment that he liked or that award that you got in the relevant subject. Most schools

here have 50-100 students in each class, so it is not really likely for a teacher to remember all your distinguished work, right?

Lastly, enjoy the task. Yes, you have a lot to do and I asked you to start early, but don't take too much stress. Starting early means doing a little at a time so that all the stress doesn't drown you later.

I hope this helps you and do NOT procrastinate. Wishing you all the very best!

Further Tips:

Saraf Nawar: While searching for scholarships and financial aid opportunities, make sure you are looking at the proper opportunities and facilities available to your status: international students and US/Canadian citizens have different requirements and sometimes different deadlines for Scholarship application or Financial Aid Applications. Also, some schools have ED II opportunities. Make sure to check which ones do and which ones don't. If anyone plans to apply to Texas, then remember, the deadline for the application is December 1 usually and those universities are usually not under Common App. Also, deadline to apply for all the campuses of UCal is usually within November I guess. Make sure you check on all that before starting the process! MOST IMPORTANTLY, in the Files section, there is a pdf named "BOOK - 50 Successful Ivy League Application Essays.pdf" Make sure you read this CAREFULLY and ATTENTIVELY regardless of whether you are applying or not applying to IVYs- the essays are pretty helpful! Hope you find this helpful smile emoticon

Zuhayr Reaz: If you know your grades or more than 2-3 aspects of your application are weak, and there is a school that you think will suit your personality then applying early will definitely give you an edge over everyone else.

USA: Applying to US Universities 101

Ming Khan·Thursday, September 18, 2014

APPLYING TO US COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

The application period is one of the most stressful times of every teenager's life. This post is aimed mostly at students of The Aga Khan School, Dhaka, but it applies to other applicants as well. I know this is not in time for those applying to the Class of 2018 but from Class of 2019 onwards this should be an effective guide. Do note that this is not a hard and fast guideline but rather what I personally suggest in order to set up a complete admissions package.

Grade 12 is not the time to look up universities. Start from **Grade 11** - the earlier, the better. This gives you enough time to research colleges and universities, find out their requirements, and decide generally which college is good for you. Keep in mind that selecting universities based on ranks is NOT the best way to find places that would cater to your needs.

I have been researching universities since I was in Grade 6. I had initially set my sights on The University of Oxford but I have had to shift my focus to the USA for financial reasons. (I'll write an applying to Oxford post sometime soon as well.)

This is how, in my opinion, a well planned application should go:

Grade 11

Look for universities that you believe you can do well in. It is not necessary to make a final list now, but a longlist helps sort things out in the future.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED: Take the SAT -

<https://sat.collegeboard.org/home> -- (previously known as the Scholastic Aptitude Test). The SAT I has three sections: Critical Reading; Writing; and Math. This need not be your final SAT appearance. Taking it in Grade 11 makes the test easier for you since you have JUST passed your IGCSEs in First Language English and are still in the habit of writing essays and reading long passages. It also helps you prepare better for your next SAT I appearance since you know what to expect from the test. I wish I had done this myself since I found the test quite difficult when I took it for the first time in Grade 12. I recommended taking this in the October, November, or December test dates of your 11th year.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED: Take the SAT Subject Tests. I appeared for my SAT Subject Tests in June of my Grade 11, around the same time that I appeared for my Advanced Subsidiary exams. I appeared for Biology Molecular and Chemistry and found that the knowledge that I had acquired for my AS exam was enough to achieve a very good score. Not all universities require the SAT Subject Tests for admission but most competitive colleges do. Taking the tests early means that you can apply under the Early Decision I option to your first choice university in time for your scores to be considered (more on this later).

RECOMMENDED: Write a rough draft of your Common Application essay (<http://www.commonapp.org/>) . All your schools will receive this essay. The Common App changed its essay prompts for the 2013-2014 application cycle and you can reasonably expect the prompts to remain the same for the next few years, so writing a draft a year earlier than

when you need it is a considerable advantage because you are still used to writing essays. Show it to your teachers and friends and ask for their opinion. You can also email them to me, I would be glad to read them.

Grade 12

In August of your 12th year, begin filling out your Common Application. Start writing your essays if you have not already done so. You will also need to write Supplemental essays which are specific to each college you apply to.

In October of your 12th year, take the SAT I test again if you think you can increase your scores.

Start collecting recommendation letters as early as possible so you don't overburden your teachers at the last minute. Ask teachers (nicely) who know you the best both academically and personally. Admissions officers want to know more about you and your interactions as a human being from these letters - your grades will appear elsewhere. Do not pick a teacher simply because he or she has good English but because they know YOU. You can always politely offer to proofread and correct their English, and in my experience most teachers ask you to do it without you offering anyway. You will need at least two teacher recommendations.

Make sure your counselor knows who you are. For AKS,D students, this will be Moushumi Miss who has not had the opportunity to observe you over the 6 years you were in Senior Section. You will need one counselor recommendation from which admission officers will learn about your academic potential, ECA experience (very important that Miss knows about what you're doing outside of class) and personal characteristics.

Collect your transcript. Your academic transcript will show every grade you achieved each term from 9th through 12th grade. Ask the office to prepare it, you should be able to pick it up within a week. Scan it, put it in a PDF file less than 500 KB in size and submit it to your counselor.

Scan your IGCSE and AS LEVEL certificates. Compress it to a PDF file less than 500 KB in size and submit it to your counselor.

Collect a copy of your parents' tax returns and income statements. You will need to fill out, as an international student, the CSS PROFILE and/or the International Student Financial Aid Application. Both these forms will want the previously mentioned documents to verify the information you provide. Remember to submit the Business Supplement if your parents own a business.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED: Consider applying Early Decision. If you choose to apply early, like I did, all of the above points need to be completed before November 1. It makes October a very stressful month for you but if your application is successful (you'll know in mid December) you can spend the rest of Grade 12 focusing on your A2s and not have to worry about applications. All universities will receive your October SAT and any previously taken tests in time to affect your ED I decision but there is no guarantee, unless explicitly stated that your November score will reach universities in time. Since most competitive schools want both the SAT I and SAT II, I previously recommended taking both tests at least once in Grade 11.

If you are applying for Regular Decision, the deadline for most universities will be January 1st. All of the above steps need to be completed before then.

To sum up: A complete application has 4 or 5 components to it:

Common Application and Supplement essays (extremely important)

The SAT I and SAT II scores/only SAT I scores/none (SAT-optional schools)

Your transcript

Extracurricular activities

Letters of recommendation

The American dream yes we can

by

Fahad Dewan

What sets colleges (universities) in USA apart from those in other countries is that many of them

provide BOTH need-based and merit-based financial aid for International Students like you and me.

While merit-based aid can be thought of as a “scholarship”, need-based aid tends to depend solely on

your/your family's ability to PAY for a US education.

Basically, while universities in many other countries don't need you to present financial documentation

AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICATIONS, most in USA do. As a result, the admissions committee will be

aware of your financial condition during the admissions process. It is your responsibility to APPLY for a

need-based financial aid if you believe that you do not possess the resources to afford the full Cost of

Attendance (Tuition fees, room and board etc.) of a particular US university. Once you've done that, the

admissions committee and the Office of Financial Aid will decide on the amount of aid they feel is

appropriate for you. This need-based aid/ award is usually a portion (or all) of the difference between

the Cost of Attendance and your/ your family's expected annual contribution. The amount of needbased financial aid you receive will also depend on several other factors, including whether the school is need-blind, need-aware or need-sensitive.

1. Need-blind: These universities do not really 'care' what your financial status is; they will admit you

solely on the basis of your educational and intellectual qualifications. There are only a few colleges that

are need-blind for INTERNATIONAL students. They are Amherst, MIT, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton

and Yale. In other words, MIT will take you in AND waive the portion of the CoA you cannot pay, if they

like. Seems optimistic right? I was too, until I checked the acceptance rates at these universities.

2. Need-aware: These universities will put anyone applying for financial aid in an entirely different pool

of applicants. Competition tends to be relatively intense in that pool. SOME of these need-aware

universities have policies to meet "100% of an admitted student's needs". This means that if you stand

out in that competitive, “needy” pool of applicants and get accepted, the university will pay the part of

the CoA you cannot. Among the renowned need-aware universities are-Duke, Brown, Carleton,

Washington and Lee, Washington U in St.Louis etc. Please note that some of these universities exhibit

need-blind of policies for US citizens and need-aware for international applicants. Also note that these

need-aware universities do not (supposedly) look into HOW MUCH your financial need is; that is the job

of need-sensitive universities.

3. Need-sensitive: These are very much like the need-aware universities, except they also look into HOW

MUCH financial need you demonstrate. If they find that your need is much larger than what they have in

their reserve for you, they just might reject you. Modestly ranked US colleges tend to be need-sensitive

and many of them cannot meet 100% of a student’s demonstrated need. Clark U, Occidental C, Reed

College etc. are a few need-sensitive ones.

We’ve been talking about need-based financial aid so far. Many universities also offer Merit-based

aid(Scholarships). These will be awarded to you without any regard to your financial needs. Some places

need to write a separate application (usually consisting of essays) for certain scholarships, while others

will automatically consider you for scholarships once you’ve submitted your main application.

If you get admitted to a US university, the acceptance letter is usually accompanied by your financial aid

awards. These awards usually consist of grants(you don't have to pay them back), student employment

on campus and scholarships. Again, you need to APPLY for need-based aid to get the grants. The total

financial award can even cover THE ENTIRE COST OF ATTENDANCE i.e. better than full tuition

scholarship.

So, if you are hopeful and “poor” like I am (I cannot pay 60k a year -_-), apply for need-based aid (and

any merit-based aid you find) and pray for the best. Always remember, colleges in USA have a HOLISTIC

process of reviewing applications- it is NOT ALWAYS ABOUT YOUR SCORES. I've heard of people with

2300 in SAT get rejected from the same place people with 1900 got into. One good recommendation

letter can make as much of a difference as a brilliant grades. It is this fair and generous admissions

process of US colleges that make underdogs like us to believe that we have a chance too. And this is

why we blindly chase the American Dream.

List of US Colleges/Universities which offer Need-based financial aid and Merit-based Scholarships for International Students

By Saraf Nawar on Sunday, August 2, 2015 at 10:23 PM

Need-blind Universities/Colleges which meet 100% demonstrated need[1] of ALL admitted/accepted Freshmen students

1. Amherst College

2. Harvard University

3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

4. Princeton University

5. Yale University

Need-aware Universities/Colleges which usually meet 100% demonstrated need of ALL admitted Freshmen students

1. *Barnard College (All Women's College)*

2. *Bates College*

3. *Bennington College*

4. *Berea College*

5. *Bowdoin College*

6. *Brown University*

7. *Bryn Mawr College (All Women's College)*

8. *Carleton College*

9. *Colby College*

10. *Colgate University*

11. Colorado College

12. Columbia University

13. Connecticut College

14. Dartmouth College

15. Davidson College

16. Dickinson College

17. Duke University

18. Franklin & Marshall College

19. Gettysburg College

20. Hamilton College

21. Harvey Mudd College

22. Kenyon College

23. Lafayette College

24. Lehigh University

25. Minerva Schools at KGI

26. Macalester College

27. Middlebury University

28. Oberlin College

29. Pomona College

30. Skidmore College

31. Smith College (All Women's College)

32. Swarthmore College

33. Stanford University

33. *Trinity College*

34. *Tufts University*

35. *Union College*

36. *University of Chicago*

37. *University of Pennsylvania*

38. *University of Richmond*

39. *Vanderbilt University*

40. *Vassar College*

41. *Washington University in St. Louis*

42. *Wellesley College (All Women's College)*

43. *Williams College*

These are the names of few universities that meet 100% demonstrated need of ALL admitted students regardless of citizenship. The information has been collected by e-mailing each and every university individually. Universities which guaranteed to meet the full calculated need of each and every accepted student are in this list. If anyone is aware of any other university with such promise, feel free to comment below so that I can edit the doc. Hope this helps, peeps!!! Best of Luck!! (Y)

Need-aware colleges which offer need-based financial aid and merit scholarships but do NOT claim to meet 100% of demonstrated need:

These colleges offer need-based financial aid to international students, but they don't promise to meet 100% of demonstrated need of all applicants. However, that doesn't mean that they won't meet 100% need of any student at all.

1. Babson College

Note: They do not meet 100% demonstrated need for ALL accepted International Applicants. A small, highly talented group of international students will be awarded need-based scholarships as part of Babson's Global Scholars Program. Students selected for the Global Scholars Program will receive four-year, full-tuition scholarships. Global Scholars with greater levels of financial need will be awarded additional grant funds, in varying amounts based on need, to help with room and board, books and supplies, health insurance, and travel expenses. To be considered for the Global Scholars Program, students must apply for financial aid by completing the College Scholarship Service (CSS) PROFILE form by December 1 for early admission applicants, and February 15 for regular admission applicants. Admission decisions for international financial aid applicants will be made on a need-aware basis; the most highly qualified candidates from different regions around the world will be offered admission and the Global Scholarship.

Details:

<http://www.babson.edu/admission/tuition-aid/undergraduate/financial-aid/international-students/Pages/default.aspx>

2. Bard College

Note: Bard has a need-aware admission policy. While Bard offers generous financial aid packages to financially eligible, accepted students, Bard does not meet full need, nor does it offer merit aid. All financial aid is based on demonstrated need. Typically, it is expected that an international applicant be in position to demonstrate the ability to independently cover two-thirds of the total cost of attendance to Bard College before financial aid consideration.

3. Bryan Athyn College

Note: With regard to financial aid for international students, the whole process is centered around College Board's Certification of Finances form. If it is helpful, I have included a copy of the form for you to review. They will then review the Certification of Finances form and package financial aid based off the information provided. They do offer need institutional funding for tuition and housing, but unfortunately they are not able to meet 100% of demonstrated need. With regard to their merit scholarships, the highest scholarship is the Presidential Scholarship—which is \$10,000 per year for 4 years. Each student is automatically considered for merit scholarships.

4. Brandeis University

Note: Need-based financial aid is available to International students. They do offer full scholarships to international applicants, however they are very competitive. They also offer Wien Scholarships (<http://www.brandeis.edu/isso/alumni/wien/>). But, they cannot meet 100% need of every student accepted at Brandeis.

5. Bucknell University

Note: As Bucknell's international student scholarships are limited and competitive to receive, each year only a small number of highly qualified international applicants are ultimately chosen to receive financial assistance. Bucknell offers significant resources to support international students who are a) admitted to Bucknell, and b) demonstrate financial aid need through the application process. Bucknell financial aid for international students is, however, extremely limited. In each class we consider all applicants for financial assistance, but only a very small number of highly qualified international applicants are ultimately chosen to receive financial assistance.

6. Case Western Reserve

Note: While they do have some limited financial aid available to international students, they do not (always) meet demonstrated need. International students may be considered for some limited scholarship awards, but the only full cost of attendance award they provide is a competitive award that students must apply to separately. You can learn more about your merit scholarships here:

<http://admission.case.edu/financialaid/scholarships.aspx>

7. California Institute of Technology

Note: Caltech has need-based financial aid available for international freshman candidates. Admission for international students seeking financial aid is very competitive. International freshman candidates may apply Early Action only if they are not applying for financial aid. International freshman candidates seeking financial assistance must apply Regular Decision.

8. Clark University

Note: Clark provides limited financial assistance to international students. The awards it offers are based on a combination of both academic merit and financial need. At minimum, students should expect to pay at least \$20,000 per year for their education. The only exception to this is Clark's LEEP scholarship, which does cover tuition, room and board. Clark offered this scholarship to the top 10 students applying for Fall 2015 admission. There is a separate essay required.

9. College of Holy Cross

Note: In most cases they are unable to meet 100% of need for international applicants.

10. Cornell University

Note: At Cornell all admission consideration is need-aware for International students from 2017, meaning that your ability to finance your education does impact your admissions decision. Cornell University provides need-based financial aid on a limited basis to a selected number of admitted international students who have applied for financial aid. They do not offer merit, athletic, or talent based aid to students. The amount of funding they have to make financial aid awards to international students is very small, allowing them to award only a few students each year. If you are offered admission to Cornell and you have demonstrated financial need (as determined by your financial aid application) you will be considered for any available funds.

11. Drexel University

Note: Drexel does offer need-based scholarships but in most cases 100% demonstrated is not met. All applicants are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships. If you are applying as a freshman, you may want to apply for our Drexel Global Scholar program. This is a highly competitive program and requires additional materials to be considered. Students who are chosen to participate are awarded a full-tuition scholarship. You can find additional details here:

<http://drexel.edu/drexelcentral/finaid/grants/how-to-apply-grants-scholarships/global-scholars/>.

12. Emory University

Note: Emory College offers need-based financial aid awards to a select group of international students each year. As well, international applicants are encouraged to apply for merit-based scholarships through the Emory University Scholars Program (November 15 deadline).

13. Fairfield University

Note: Need-based financial aid is available to students. Students will be automatically considered for any merit-based scholarships on the basis of their admission application. Fairfield University does not meet 100% of a student's demonstrated need.

14. Goucher College**15. Grinnell College****16. Hampshire College**

Note: They do not provide 100% scholarships because we are still a very young school and our funds are limited. However, for international students we do provide need based aid. Our financial need packages can range anywhere from 25%-75% of tuition only (this does not include room and board).

17. Haverford College

Note: It provides financial aid to International students but the number of international students it can help is limited. The College can provide funding for only three international students per class who have need. All aid is based on need. Haverford College does not have a merit aid or scholarships. By the beginning of April, the Admission Office picks three students to receive Haverford College Aid from the pool of international students admitted from the Regular Decision pool who have applied for financial aid and have need. The Decision of the Admission Office on the three students to receive aid is based on merit (i.e. using the information you filed to apply for admission to the College) and not on how much or how little you or your family can contribute toward the costs of your education.

Haverford can typically provide funding for three or four international students (who are not US citizens or permanent residents) in each entering class. As you might imagine, the competition for these few spots is very keen, and the aid we provide is all based on financial need. If you apply for financial aid and are admitted, the College will meet 100% of your demonstrated financial need, but they do not offer special scholarships based on academic merit. These students, who have applied for aid and who have need, are chosen from the Regular Decision group of applicants.

18. Johns Hopkins University

Note: Johns Hopkins University offers need-based scholarships to undergraduate international students. Approximately 10% of the incoming international freshmen receive need-based scholarships. The average scholarship is \$25,000, but individual amounts can be more or less depending on the financial need of the student. Since funds are limited, Johns Hopkins University takes need for financial aid into consideration when making the Admissions decision. If an applicant applies for financial aid and is determined to have financial need, Johns Hopkins University will offer admission to that student only if funds are available to meet that student's financial need.

19. Lynn University

Note: They offer scholarships ranging from \$6,000 to \$12,000. These will only partially cover the tuition, room and board costs. Please follow this link to learn about the specifications of each scholarship. In addition they offer a presidential scholarship that does cover full tuition, room and board; however, students are still responsible for additional fees. This is a competitive scholarship that is only awarded to one international student of the fall incoming class . No additional application is required in order to be considered for these scholarships.

<http://www.lynn.edu/admissions/tuition-and-aid/scholarships-grants-loans/scholarships-and-grants>

20. Northeastern University

Note: All international applicants are considered for merit-based scholarships which range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year

21. Northwestern University

Note: Northwestern offers need-based financial aid awards to a small group of first-year international students. Northwestern does not offer merit-based scholarships to any of its students, domestic or international.

22. New York University

Note: Scholarships/grants for international students applying to the New York campus will be limited in number.

They are need aware for international students and since their funding is limited, they are unable to meet 100% of demonstrated need for international students.

23. Occidental College

Note: The financial aid for international students is very limited and therefore very competitive. However, they are committed to fully funding their only very top international applicants. The decision is based on a holistic review of the application. Because of this, scholarships tend to be awarded to the students who have consistently demonstrated intellectual curiosity, strong academic performance, commitment to community engagement and positive personal qualities.

24. Ohio Wesleyan University

Note: OWU does offer merit based and financial need scholarships to international students but does not meet 100% of demonstrated need for international students.

25. Rice University

Note: Rice University will offer need-based financial aid to a limited number of international undergraduate applicants each year. All admitted Freshman applicants are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships (in amounts ranging to full tuition) offered through the Office of Admission.

26. Scripps College (All Women's College)

Note: Financial assistance for international students is limited, and while you will be considered for both merit and need based assistance at the time of admission, they are not able to guarantee that your demonstrated need will be fully met. They encourage you to complete the CSS Profile and International Student Certification of Finance in order to be considered for financial aid at Scripps.

27. University of Notre Dame

Note: Only limited amount of financial aid is available to a small group of International students, which usually is not enough to meet demonstrated need. Prospective first year students wishing to be considered for limited need-based financial assistance must first complete an International Student Certification of Finances along with the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE adapted for international students. Notre Dame offers merit scholarships to a limited number of international students, accepted for admission as a first-time incoming freshman, who demonstrate exceptional accomplishment, leadership, commitment to service, and intellectual promise. Notre Dame's limited number of merit-based scholarship opportunities for international students are highly competitive. Merit scholarships are offered ranging from \$5,000 per year to the full cost of attendance.

28. University of Rochester

Note: Applicants seeking need-based financial aid are required to file the CSS PROFILE. Though the amount of need-based financial aid available to International students is very limited, all students are considered for all merit scholarships for which they are eligible upon completion of their application. The University of Rochester awards merit-based scholarships to freshman and transfer students who demonstrate outstanding

academic achievement and potential, regardless of financial circumstances. Merit scholarship amounts range from \$2,000 per year to full tuition. All admitted undergraduate applicants to the College are considered for merit scholarships. Merit scholarships are awarded to students during the admission process and renewed annually if satisfactory academic performance and full time status are maintained. Students are eligible to receive only one scholarship. Students who receive annual scholarships of \$15,000 or more have a GPA requirement of 3.0.

<http://enrollment.rochester.edu/apply/international/#tab3>

29. Villanova University

Note: Many financial assistance opportunities exist for international students. These include merit-based scholarships, need-based grants, and private education loans. However, Villanova does not meet 100% demonstrated need of ALL admitted students. The scholarships available are Villanova Scholarship and Presidential Scholarship.

<https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/enroll/finaid/process/international.html>

30. Washington and Lee University

Note: Washington and Lee University provides both need-based and merit-based assistance to between 15 and 20 international students in each entering class. Awards range from several thousand dollars to the full annual cost of attendance. It should be understood, however, that admission to Washington and Lee does not guarantee financial

assistance. All merit-based aid is awarded through the Johnson Scholarship Program (<http://www.wlu.edu/johnson-program/the-johnson-scholarship>)

31. Wesleyan University

Note: Being one of the need-aware schools of the US, the university commits to meet full demonstrated need of only 15 out of 400 International applicants based on merit and financial need.

US Universities that do not provide any need-based financial aid to International student but provides Merit scholarships.

1. Boston University

Note: Although international students are not eligible for need-based financial assistance, there are two merit-based scholarships available to international freshmen students: The Trustee Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship. For more information specific to these two scholarship opportunities, please visit the web site:

<http://www.bu.edu/admissions/apply/costs-aid-scholarships/scholarships/international/>

Presidential Scholarship

Students with exceptional academic records applying to Boston University are eligible for this \$20,000 renewable scholarship. No additional application process is required. Priority consideration will be given to students who submit their application for admission by December 1.

Recipients' average high school GPA: 3.9/4.0

Average rank in class: top 10 percent

Average SAT (Critical Reading and Math): 1450

Average SAT (Writing): 720

Average ACT score: 32

Trustee Scholarship :

This scholarship recognizes outstanding high school seniors with a four-year (full-tuition and certain mandatory fees) merit award. For this scholarship, students must submit the Trustee Essay. For further information, visit www.bu.edu/admissions/trustee. The deadline to apply for the Trustee Scholarship is December 1.

Recipients' average high school GPA: 3.9/4.0

Average rank in class: top 5 percent

Average SAT (Critical Reading and Math): 1520

Average SAT (Writing): 750

Average ACT score: 35

2. Cooper Union University

Note: International students are not eligible for Federal or State Financial Aid (need-based awards). However, they are eligible for the half-tuition scholarship and additional merit aid. Any international student accepted to Cooper Union will receive the same half-tuition scholarship (valued at approximately \$10,000/per semester) that US citizens and Permanent Residents receive. Cooper Union will also offer merit scholarships to exceptional students.

3. Illinois Institute of Technology

Note: They are only able to offer merit based aid to international students, this begins around \$10,000 per year and goes to \$20,000 depending upon the strength of your application. International first-year and transfer students will be eligible for a combination of scholarship and grant packages, including merit based scholarships, housing award, and Phi Theta Kappa membership, starting at \$10,000 annually. Each application will be automatically reviewed for merit based scholarship. This will be based on academic success, involvement in the community and other achievements.

4. Michigan Technological Institute

Note: Michigan Tech does offer a scholarship for international students. It is called the International Ambassador Scholarship. The award ranges between \$1,000 to \$6,000 USD per year. It is a merit scholarship based on academic achievement. Other information about the types of scholarships available to International students can be found in the following links:

<http://www.mtu.edu/finaid/students/international/> and

<http://www.mtu.edu/international/study-abroad/aid/>

5. The College of William & Mary

Note: Though Need-based Financial Aid is not available to International students, there are a few merit scholarships and athletic scholarships for which International students are eligible. For requirements and details, check out the following link.

<http://www.wm.edu/admission/undergraduateadmission/costs-aid/index.php>

6. University of Massachusetts Amherst

Note: International freshman students may qualify for financial awards based on academic merit. Students are considered for these awards as part of the admissions process - there is no separate application process.

7. University of Miami

Note: International Students, though not considered for need-based aid, are considered for an academic scholarship if they have significant academic achievement. Those selected to receive a scholarship take the most challenging curriculum, earn the highest grades and are at the top of our applicant pool. Students are automatically considered for the President's Scholarships when they apply for admission to the University. Students selected to receive a President's Scholarship will be notified no later than the end of March by the Office of Admission. Students applying for a second Bachelor degree are not eligible to receive a President's Scholarship.

The University of Miami President's Scholarship: Ranges from \$8,000-\$28,000 annually

The most academically competitive students accepted to the freshman class may be considered for a Premier Scholarship. Students are automatically considered for the Singer Scholarship when they apply for admission to the University. A select group of students are invited to participate in a scholarship interview for a chance to receive the Singer Scholarship.

Isaac Bashevis Singer Scholarship: Full Tuition

http://www.miami.edu/admission/index.php/undergraduate_admission/costsandfinancialresources/scholarships/new_international_students

8. University of Southern California

Note: Although International students will not qualify for need-based financial aid if he/she are not a US citizen or permanent resident, he/she may be eligible for merit scholarships. Students will not be able to pay for the full amount of their educational expenses by working while they are in the United States. The Merit scholarships available to International students are USC Merit Scholarship and other USC Scholarships.

The USC Merit Scholarship: Administered through the Office of Admission, USC Merit Scholarships require students to apply for admission to the university by the December deadline. All students who submit a complete application will be automatically considered for a scholarship. Ranging in value from a few thousand dollars up to full tuition, merit scholarships are awarded based on academic excellence, leadership, service and talent. These include the full-tuition, four-year Mork Family, Stamps Leadership and Trustee scholarships, the

half-tuition Presidential Scholarship, and the one-quarter tuition Deans Scholarship.

<http://www.usc.edu/admission/undergraduate/firstyear/prospective/scholarships.html>

Special Scholarship Opportunities

1. Washington University in St. Louis

Their five undergraduate divisions—the College of Arts & Sciences, College of Architecture, College of Art, Olin Business School, and School of Engineering & Applied Science—sponsor scholarships and fellowships for exceptional students. These awards range from annual awards of \$3,000 to half-tuition scholarships to full-tuition scholarships (\$47,300 in academic year 2015-16) with annual stipends. Each involves expectations that the students selected will participate actively in shaping the academic and campus communities of which they become a part.

Students can apply for the academic scholarships and fellowships that match their academic and extracurricular achievements. These interests should be indicated on their Common Application for the Class of 2020. Students may also apply for need-based financial assistance.

<https://admissions.wustl.edu/scholarships-financial-aid/Freshman-Academic-Scholarship-Fellowship-Programs/Pages/default.aspx>

Most of these scholarships at WashU have a requirement of a 97th Percentile in SATs. Please check the requirements accordingly.

2. Northeastern University

The Merit Scholarships available here are very competitive but International Students are certainly eligible for them. The link provides the details: <http://www.northeastern.edu/.../cost.../scholarships/>

1. Important Footnote: "Determining need from CSS profile/finaid applications is NOT a deterministic process. It can vary depending on the interpretation a LOT. For example: no one doubts the aid policy of Stanford or Princeton, right? But Princeton initially asked me for THREE the parental contribution than Stanford. It was only possible because the calculation of need depends on the university aid office itself." - Mahi Nur Muhammad

If anyone feels the need of making some changes or adding information to this doc, please comment below, specifying the necessary changes and I myself will edit the doc. I request everyone to not come up with any information without being completely sure about it since this doc is meant to guide the future applicants. Thank You and Best of Luck! :D

US Colleges that offer Full ride merit scholarships to International Students

Shah Md Abubakar Siddique·Thursday, March 17, 2016

Hello People!

International Students are eligible for the following merit based full ride scholarships. All of them cover AT LEAST Full tuition, Room andBoard. Some of them may also cover books, health insurance, travel,personal expenses etc. I only mentioned the names of the scholarships. You will find detailed information on their websites.

1. Howard University

Presidential Scholarship

Founders Scholarship

2. The University of Texas at Dallas

The Eugene McDermott Scholars Program

3. University of Kentucky

The Otis A. Singletary Scholarship

4. American University

Emerging Global Leader Scholarship**5. Carleton College*****International Scholarships***

(http://apps.carleton.edu/admissions/afford/international_scholarships/)

6. Case Western Reserve University***Milton A. and Roslyn Z. Wolf Scholarship*****7. Clark University*****LEEP Scholars Program*****8. Duke University*****The Robertson Scholars Program******Karsh International Scholarship******AB Duke Scholarship******University Scholars Program*****9. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*****The Robertson Scholars Program*****10. Drake University*****National Alumni Scholarship***

(<http://www.drake.edu/admission/undergraduate/costsfinancialaid/typesoffaid/scholarships/nationalalumni/>)

11. Lynn University***Presidential Scholarship*****12. SOKA University of America*****Global Merit Scholarship***

13. University of Central Arkansas

Distinguished International Student Scholarship

14. University of Richmond

Oldham Scholars (Richmond Scholars Program)

15. Loyola Marymount University

Trustee Scholarship

16. Barry University

Stamps Leadership Scholarship

17. The University of Mississippi

Penelope W. and E. Roes Stamps Leadership Scholarship

18. Furman University

Herman W. Lay Scholarship

19. Washington and Lee University

The Johnson Scholarship

20. Fisk University

Presidential Scholarship

21. The University of New Orleans

Homer Hitt Scholarship

22. Belmont University

Presidential Scholarship

William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship

23. Appalachian State University

Wilson Scholarship

Chancellor's Scholarship

24. *Wabash College*

Trustee Scholarship

25. *Wofford College*

The Richardson Family Scholars Program (Wofford Scholars)

26. *Dartmouth College*

Dorothy J. and Robert E. King 1957 Leadership Scholarship

27. *Santa Clara University*

The Johnson Scholarship

28. *Carthage College*

Lincoln Scholarship

29. *Troy University*

The Millennium Scholar's Award

30. *Gardner-Webb University*

The Presidential Fellow Scholarship

31. *East Tennessee State University*

The University Honors Scholars Program

32. *Emory University*

Emory Scholars Program

33. *Jackson State University*

Presidential Academic Scholarship

Full Academic Scholarship

A list of colleges that are free to apply to

Towkir Akhand·Sunday, October 26, 2014

Agnes Scott College

Albion College

Albright College

Alice Lloyd College

Allegheny College

Alma College

Alverno College

American University

Anderson University

Ancilla College

Aquinas College

Arcadia University

Asbury College

Augsburg College

Augustana College

Aurora University

Averett University

Avila University

Bainbridge College

Baker University

Baldwin-Wallace College

Barclay College

Barton College

Baylor University

Belmont Abbey College

Beloit College

Berea College

Bethany College (KS)

Bethany Lutheran College

Bethany University

Blackburn College

Bradley University

Bridgewater College

Buena Vista University

Butler University

Capitol College

Carleton College

Carroll College (MT)

Carroll College (WI)

Case Western Reserve University

Cedar Crest College

Centenary College (LA)

Central College (IA)

Central Pennsylvania College

Centre College

Chatfield College

Chatham College

Christendom College

Clarkson University

Coe College

Coker College

Colby College

Colgate University

College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University

College of Wooster

Columbia College (SC)

Columbia Union College

Concord University

Concordia College (MN)

Concordia University (MI)

Concordia University of Portland

Cornish College of the Arts

Creighton University

Crichton College

Culver-Stockton College

D'Youville College

Dana College

Davis College

Dayton, University of

Deep Springs College

Defiance College

Denison University

Detroit Mercy, University of

Dominican University of California

Drake University

Drexel University

Earlham college

Elizabethtown College

Emmanuel College (MA)

Erskine College

Findlay, University of

Finlandia University

Fisher College

Florida Institute of Technology

Fontbonne University

Franciscan University of Steubenville

Franklin College

Franklin Pierce College

Freed-Hardeman University

Grace College

Graceland University

Great Falls, University of

Green Mountain College

Greenville College

Grinnell College

Guilford College

Gwynedd-Mercy College

Hamilton College

Hamline University

Hanover College

Hartford, University of

Hartwick College

Hastings College

Hilbert College

Hiram College

Hobart & William Smith Colleges

Holy Cross College (IN)

Hood College

Illinois Institute of Technology

Illinois Wesleyan University

Iowa Wesleyan College

John Carroll University

Johnson & Wales University

Judson College

Kenyon College

Kettering University

King's College (PA)

La Sierra University

La Verne, University of

Le Moyne College

Lesley College

Lewis & Clark College

Liberty University

Limestone College

Lindsey Wilson College

Loras College

Loyola University Chicago

Loyola University New Orleans

Luther College

Lycoming College

Lynchburg College

Madonna University

Manchester College

Manhattanville College

Marian College

Marietta College

Marquette University

McKendree College

Medaille College

Messiah College

Methodist College

Michigan Technological University

Midland Lutheran College

Miles College

Millikin University

Millsaps College

Milwaukee School of Engineering

Mississippi College

Mississippi University for Women

Mitchell College

Monmouth College

Moravian College

Morehead State University

Morningside College

Mount Holyoke College

Mount Mercy College

Mount Saint Vincent, College of

Naes College

Nazareth College

Nebraska Wesleyan University

Neumann College

New College of Florida

Northland College

Northwest College

Northwestern College (IA)

Northwood University

Notre Dame College

Notre Dame de Namur University

Oglethorpe University

Ohio Wesleyan University

Oklahoma Wesleyan University

Olivet College

Otterbein College

Pacific, University of the

Pacific Lutheran University

Pacific Union College

Peru State College

Piedmont College

Pikeville College

Pine Manor College

Point Park University

Polytechnic University

Post University

Purdue University-North Central

Queens University of Charlotte

Randolph-Macon College

Randolph-Macon Woman's College

Rhodes College

Rio Grande, University of

Roanoke College

Robert Morris University

Rockhurst University

Rockford University

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Rosemont College

Rust College

Sage College of Albany

Saint Louis University

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota

Salem College (NC)

Scranton, University of

Sewanee: The University of the South (Common Application only)

Siena Heights University

Sierra Nevada College

Simmons College

Simpson College

Smith College

Southern Idaho, College of

Southwestern Adventist University

Spring Hill College

Springfield College

St. Ambrose University

St. John's College (MD and NM)

St. John's University (NY)

St. Joseph College (CT)

St. Joseph's College (ME)

St. Mary's College (IN)

St. Mary's University (MN)

St. Mary's University (TX)

St. Norbert College

St. Olaf College

St. Rose, College of

St. Scholastica, College of

St. Thomas (MN), University of

Stephens College

Sterling College

Stevens Institute of Technology

Susquehanna University

Sweet Briar College

Texas-El Paso, University of

Thiel College

Thomas Aquinas College

Thomas More College

Touro College

Transylvania University

Trinity University (TX)

Truman State University

Tulane University

Tusculum College

Union College (NE)

United Theological Seminary

Unity College

Valparaiso University

Villa Julie College

Warren Wilson College

Washington & Jefferson College

Wellesley College

West Liberty State College

West Virginia Wesleyan College

Wesley College

Wesleyan College (GA)

Westminster College (MO)

Westminster College (PA)

Wheeling Jesuit University

Whittier College

Whitworth College

Willamette University

William Jewell College

William Woods University

Williams Baptist College

Wilson College

Wittenberg University

Xavier University (OH)

Best Business Programs

Looking for a school where you can start learning about business? *U.S. News* surveyed deans and senior faculty at undergraduate business programs accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Participants were asked to rate the quality of programs they are

familiar with on a scale of 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished). The rankings are based solely on this peer survey; 45 percent of those surveyed responded. Deans and faculty were also asked to nominate the best programs in specialty areas; the five schools receiving the most mentions in each appear.

BEST PROGRAMS

Rank School	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)	4.8
2. Massachusetts Inst. of Tech. (Sloan)	4.6
3. University of California–Berkeley (Haas)*	4.5
University of Michigan–Ann Arbor*	4.5
5. New York University (Stern)	4.3
U. of N.C.–Chapel Hill (Kenan-Flagler)*	4.3
University of Texas–Austin (McCombs)*	4.3
8. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	4.2
9. Univ. of Southern California (Marshall)	4.1
University of Virginia (McIntire)*	4.1
11. Cornell University (NY)	4.0
Indiana Univ.–Bloomington (Kelley)*	4.0
13. Emory University (Goizueta) (GA)	3.9
U. of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign*	3.9
U. of Minnesota–Twin Cities (Carlson)*	3.9
Univ. of Wisconsin–Madison*	3.9
Washington University in St. Louis (Olin)	3.9

Rank School	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
18. Ohio State Univ.–Columbus (Fisher)*	3.8
Pennsylvania State U.–U. Park (Smeal)*	3.8
Purdue U.–W. Lafayette (Krannert) (IN)*	3.8
University of Arizona (Eller)*	3.8
Univ. of Maryland–College Park (Smith)*	3.8
23. Arizona State University (Carey)*	3.7
Babson College (MA)	3.7
Georgetown Univ. (McDonough) (DC)	3.7
Michigan State University (Broad)*	3.7
University of Notre Dame (IN)	3.7
University of Washington*	3.7
29. Boston College (Carroll)	3.6
Case Western Res. U. (Weatherhead) (OH)	3.6
Texas A&M U.–College Station (Mays)*	3.6
University of Florida (Warrington)*	3.6
University of Georgia (Terry)*	3.6
Wake Forest University (Calloway) (NC)	3.6

(*Public)

Rank School	Peer assessment score (5.0=highest)
35. Georgia Institute of Technology*	3.5
University of Iowa (Tippie)*	3.5
37. Boston University	3.4
Brigham Young U.–Provo (Marriott) (UT)	3.4
Southern Methodist University (Cox) (TX)	3.4
University of Colorado–Boulder*	3.4
Virginia Tech (Pamplin)*	3.4
42. Bentley College (MA)	3.3
Florida State University*	3.3
George Washington University (DC)	3.3
Georgia State University (Robinson)*	3.3
Syracuse University (Whitman) (NY)	3.3
University of Arkansas (Walton)*	3.3
University of Pittsburgh*	3.3
U. of South Carolina–Columbia (Moore)*	3.3
University of Tennessee*	3.3

SPECIALTIES

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

1. Univ. of South Carolina–Columbia (Moore)*
2. New York University (Stern)
3. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor*
4. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
5. University of California–Berkeley (Haas)*

MANAGEMENT

1. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor*
2. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
3. University of California–Berkeley (Haas)*
4. U. of N.C.–Chapel Hill (Kenan-Flagler)*
5. Indiana University–Bloomington (Kelley)*
- University of Texas–Austin (McCombs)*

(*Public)

PRODUCTIONS/OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
2. Purdue U.–West Lafayette (Krannert) (IN)*
3. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
4. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
5. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor*

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS/METHODS

1. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
2. Carnegie Mellon University (PA)
3. Purdue U.–West Lafayette (Krannert) (IN)*
4. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
5. University of California–Berkeley (Haas)*

REAL ESTATE

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. University of Georgia (Terry)*
- Univ. of Wisconsin–Madison*
4. University of California–Berkeley (Haas)*
5. University of Connecticut*

SUPPLY CHAIN

1. Michigan State University (Broad)*
2. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)
3. Arizona State University (Carey)*
4. Ohio State University–Columbus (Fisher)*

ACCOUNTING

1. University of Texas–Austin (McCombs)*
2. U. of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign*
3. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
4. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor*
5. Brigham Young Univ.–Provo (Marriott) (UT)
- Univ. of Southern California (Marshall)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

1. Babson College (MA)
2. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
3. Indiana University–Bloomington (Kelley)*
4. Univ. of Southern California (Marshall)
5. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)

FINANCE

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. New York University (Stern)
3. University of California–Berkeley (Haas)*
4. University of Michigan–Ann Arbor*
5. Massachusetts Inst. of Technology (Sloan)

INSURANCE

1. University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
2. University of Georgia (Terry)*
3. Univ. of Wisconsin–Madison*
4. U. of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign*
5. Georgia State University (Robinson)*
- Temple University (Fox) (PA)*

5. Pennsylvania State U.—U. Park (Smeal)*

Note: Peer assessment survey conducted by Synovate.

To be ranked in a specialty, a school must have either a program or course offerings in that subject area.

How To Get into Minerva Schools

SADID HASAN·SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

[GETTING INTO MINERVA SCHOOLS]

Hello Everyone! I am Sadid Hasan, from Saint Joseph and I am proud member of Minerva Schools Class of 2022.

WHY APPLY?

>Enables you to travel and learn from people in 7 Major cities around the world (San Francisco, Seoul, Berlin, London, Hyderabad, Buenos Aires and Chinese Taipei)

>Doesn't require IELTS or SAT to apply.

>NEED BLIND ADMISSIONS: Meaning that your financial condition won't affect your admission decision.

>FREE Applications: It is absolutely FREE to complete the entire application!

>You are not competing against each other for your places, BUT you just have to meet the minimum bar in the online exam.

So lets get started :D

The following note comprises of Tips on acing the Online Exam for Minerva Schools:

There are 6 parts in the online exam of Minerva Schools:

1. UNDERSTANDING:

You will have 7 minutes to read a Critical Reasoning Passage related to Minerva and will have to answer 7 MCQ questions.

2. CREATIVITY:

You will have 8 minutes to complete this task.

You will be given the name of an object and will be asked to write down as many USES of that object you can think of.

For example, I was given "Ball" and I listed about 19 uses I could think of.

3. MATHS:

This one is the Rapid-fire round. You have 8 minutes to answer 20 MCQ questions.

Questions are similar to SAT Math and IBA Math questions.

For example:

I answered 17 in 8 minutes. The rough average of most admitted candidates is about 12-14. These maths are pretty do-able but you just need to have a look at the timing.

4. REASONING:

This round is quite similar to IQ tests or pattern solving. You have to solve 13 patterns in 21 minutes.

Format: There is a 3x3 grid of 9 discrete figures of which 8 are already provided. You have to choose the figure which matches the pattern.

The difficulty of the questions increases as you go from question 1 to 13.

5. WRITING:

You have 20 minutes to write a passage on how you would solve a problem.

Generally, you would be given a difficult starting scenario where you have 2 friends alongside with you. You need to devise a way to solve a problem at hand.

For example:

You need to finish a science project by tonight. One of your friends is good will framework building and wants to re-engineer the whole project. Another friend is sleepy and wont be able to help you with anything other than navigation.

You have a 50% probability of passing alone. 60% probability with one friend and 75% probability if all three work together.

How would you approach the problem?

6.Expression

This one is the MOST important. You need a webcam for this one. You will be asked 6 questions for which You will have 2 minutes to answer.

In between each question and answer, you will have 10-15 seconds of preparation time.

Questions mainly revolve around:

Why you chose that specific method in the WRITING segment.

Why you choose Minerva and how you'd impact as a global citizen?

You can take breaks after each segment and you also have a practice question before each round.

THERE ARE EXACTLY 5 Days before the admission date closes this year. Just select Minerva Schools in your Common Application and HIT Submit. You will receive a link in your email for Starting the exam. There are already 4 acceptances for Bangladesh in the last 2 years and GOOD NEWS is they like our students a Lot!

Link to Minerva Schools: <https://www.minerva.kgi.edu/application/1/>

Hope this note helps you to have a better understanding of the exam and I look forward to welcoming you to Minerva Class of 2022 and onwards!

How to get into Harvard, MIT or X*?

TARIK ADNAN MOON·MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015

***insert the name of a prestigious US university**

Short answer

For US admissions you need—1) Academics (SSC/HSC/A/O level) 2) Tests (SAT, SAT II, TOEFL) 3) Extracurricular Activities (ECA) 4) A Story

But if you stop there, you'll never get into Harvard/MIT! As we get this question on our group ALL THE TIME, I just wanted to address this.

Why Harvard/MIT?

First, why do you want to get into Harvard/MIT? This is a question that you must ask yourself because Harvard might not be a fit for you and you'd be unhappy. Education quality-wise, many US top colleges will have similar quality of education, but the networks and other opportunities make these prestigious places, well...so prestigious.

How do they select?

First, let me tell you how places like Harvard/MIT build their “classes”. They take people from different fields and try to find the promising ones (or already young stars) in their fields. So if you are in the 12th grade and

have nothing to show that you are that great in something, maybe you have no chance of getting into those—I will be honest. However, if you are in grade 8, 9, or even 10, you might have time to invest in something, improve yourself, and achieve greatness. Do something that really interests you, be really good at it, and make it your story. So what is your story?

The reason admission into any US university is hard is because they take a holistic approach—they look at all your scores and extracurricular activities and try to find how you used your time and what your caliber is. For example, if you judge a kid from a village in Africa with a kid from a rich family in the US, you are not being fair. The US admissions people know that.

My Story

Let me tell you my story, I went to a school in a small city called Kushtia. There we did not even have a debate club. So I was one of the members who started that. This is the kind of initiative and passion that show your true passion and quality. I was very lucky to make into the national math team several times and won a bronze medal at the International Math Olympiad (IMO). These kind of international honors help a lot. But look—to get there I used to do Olympiad math for 5 hours average (sometimes 15-18 hours before IMO) for over 6 years. That is more than 10,000 hours of work. Do anything like that in any field and you will become so good that places like Harvard would love to take you. But are you willing to spend 10,000 hours?

Math Olympiad and Cloning

There was a very interesting post on MIT admissions website that says that if you follow someone who got into MIT and become exactly like that you might as well get rejected because “cloning is still for sheeps”!

“Some applicants struggle to turn themselves into clones of the “ideal” MIT student - you know, the one who gets triple 800s on the SAT. Fortunately, cloning is still for sheep. What we really want to see on your application is you being you - pursuing the things you love, growing, changing, taking risks, learning from your mistakes, all in your own distinctive way.”

(<http://mitadmissions.org/apply/prepare/highschool>)

So just because I got into MIT/Harvard with Math Olympiads, that does not mean that you’d too. I had a lot other things that I did, but more importantly—I had an interesting story to tell relating to all these. It is not even true that just Math Olympiad kids got into Harvard/MIT/ other prestigious schools. People who won international debate contests, made a difference with their social work also got into those colleges. But see one similarity? They were all passionate about what they did and did something really well along with being good in academics and other

stuff. So to make yourself stand out, do well in something you really love. That would make you happy in the long run.

Finally...

Please don't ask me "I have X in SAT, have done Y ECA, have Z gpa. Will I get into Harvard?" I can't answer your question—because everyone has a different story to tell and that's why in the essay you write your story. If a kid from a village in Bangladesh started a business that helped a lot of people that would be more impressive if the kid of bill gates did the same, right?

Finally, nobody is sure to get admission to MIT/Harvard. Historically, Harvard rejected many IMO gold medalists and even IMO perfect scorers. Because they were not a good fit or had severe lacking in some of those 4 fields. So instead of trying to get into Harvard/MIT try to improve yourself and be world class at something. Then you'll realize that it doesn't matter whether you got into Harvard or not, but the path you took to become a master is what matters in life.

Also published at: <http://tarikmoon.com/harvard-mit-us-admission/>

Ivy League Admissions Overview

NAZIA CHOWDHURY·MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015

Whaddup, high schoolers in Bangladesh? As per your request, my take on undergrad admissions in the USA is here. Before I start, studying abroad is a **HUGE** commitment for an undergraduate for many different reasons. Especially if you are attending one of the top-notch schools in the USA, honestly, the process will challenge you as never before. But don't let that discourage you. As long as you don't mind some hard work and know when and where to ask for help, you'll be fine. :)

Let's start with **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:**

GPA: Undergraduate schools usually want to see your SSC-HSC/ O-A Levels transcripts. You, of course, need good grades in these tests to be considered for admission in a good school. I don't know much about students following the British curriculum. But for Bangla medium students, for example, 'golden' gpa 5 is not an absolute necessity as long as you maintain A pluses in the core subjects like mathematics, physics, economics etc. Another issue that often comes up is that many people apply to colleges before they have their official HSC/ A levels transcripts. In that case, you need to get a 'grades prediction' from your guidance counselor (If, at this point, you don't know who this is, read on :)). Meaning, s/he'll predict what you may get on all your subjects. Also you need to send in your official transcript as soon as it is available.

Standardized Tests: Different colleges have different requirements for standardized testing. Refer to the specific school's admissions website for definite information. In general, most colleges require scores for SAT 1 and two SAT 2 subjects. A few like Harvard College want three SAT 2s. Again, a few of them want your TOEFL scores as well. It is safe to get done with these tests by December of your application cycle. Some colleges also accept January scores; again refer to the college website to make sure you are keeping up with deadlines. As for preparing for these tests, it really really depends on you. Look at a preparatory book and see if you are up-to-date with the topics covered and if you can solve most

questions from their practice tests. If you can, you are all good materials-wise but a little practice wouldn't harm. If you can't then you need to study- where you study from doesn't matter; just make sure you know everything that these tests cover. Very often people ask me what sort of scores are required for schools. Schools don't really have any minimum score they look for. Undergraduate admission is a holistic process; so scores alone won't take you anywhere. Just get a decent score as a backup to other strong parts of your profile. I'd say a decent score in SAT 1 (for Bangladeshi students, in specific) is 2000+, SAT 2 is 2200+, and TOEFL is 105+. Don't take my word for it though. I have seen many 2400s getting rejected and 1900s getting in. I hope this makes you realize that your whole application has to look impressive; these standardized tests are just another formal part.

Haha, whew! SO much to keep in mind. :)

Now let's move on to the important part, **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ECAs)**.

1. DO WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT. Just partaking in random activities for the mere sake of undergraduate admission will not help at all. Remember, most of these schools will take in 2-3 Bangladeshi students and you are competing against a huge pool of passionate people. Passion is a big word in undergraduate admission in good schools. You can be passionate about anything and everything- math, biology, astronomy, arts, music, debate, karate, football, writing and what not. Have interest and pursue it actively. These schools will want to see how far you have gone to establish your cause and how you have utilized resources available to you. Recognition/ award is not an absolute requirement. But recognition on national/ international level can give your application a big boost. :)

2. WHAT YOU DO FOR OTHERS IS IMPORTANT. If you can improve other peoples' lives in any way through your ECAs, do it! This is your absolute duty as a human-being and a valued component of your personality. You do not have to run a big project on your own. The girl who got into MIT this year bought 'shemai' and ingredients necessary for making it for 71 poor people on Eid last year. I personally thought it was GREAT and went a long way to show how she would grow as a good person.

3. KNOW THE IMPACT AND HAVE STORIES TO TELL. Well, this is pretty self-explanatory. You yourself have to know how your ECAs have morphed you to a better you. Also have anecdotes to demonstrate your claims. Use those anecdotes freely in your essays and interviews. When I met the admissions officer who admitted me, he said, "We want students to show, not tell." Show them what you are made of ; mere telling won't work. For example, don't just say, "I am a good peer counselor." Tell them about a life experience, where your counseling helped a peer.

4. DO NOT LIE. Please. Trust me, it clearly shows and reflects badly on you.

So pursue your passion, enrich yourself, help others, and communicate your activities effectively. :)

Let's take a break, guys! I am taking mine with this:

<http://whatshouldwecallme.tumblr.com/post/24391201980/when-some-one-tries-to-wake-me-up-on-a-monday>

This website is hilarious- Well most of the time, when I can relate to them. :P

Now that my brain is well rested, let's go to the **MAIN APPLICATION COMPONENTS**

The essay/ question-answers: The only thing that I have to say on this regard is be vocal about life experiences that have made you 'you'. Don't be afraid of showing off; don't boast; don't just tell them without showing them; don't use unnecessary complicated words (an after-effect of the SATs); and don't lie. This I repeat do not lie/fake. Let the admission officers see into your true persona. It's necessary for your own good. All schools do not have the same environment. It is important that you get into one where you'll fit. :)

For 'The College Essay: Yogurt Edition', go here

http://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/the_college_essay_yogurt_edition

And here is the part 2

http://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/show_dont_tell_the_college_ess

Recommendation Letters: Usually schools require 3 of these: 1 from a science teacher, 1 from a humanities teacher, and 1 from your guidance counselor. Many Bangladeshi schools do not assign their students guidance counselors. If this is your case, just designate a teacher of your choice your guidance counselor. Request teachers you know well to write recommendation letters for you. Meet them a few times before they compose the letters. During these meetings, tell them your stories, what makes you unique. Highlight any point that you'd want them to address on their letters. Keep reminding them of the postmark deadline.

Interviews: Some schools conduct interviews for applicants. Check the college website for this information as well. Some of them like MIT will require YOU to schedule the interview. Others like PrincetonU, Harvard College etc. themselves will get in touch with you on this regard. This reminds me, check your email at least thrice in the January-February timeline. I remember, Stanford set my phone interview schedule some 12 hours before the actual interview took place. Well, continue the 'showing' in interviews as well. Though interviews do not decide everything, they can come to good use when the university is down to two choices and you are one of them.

This is a pretty good blog about interviews

http://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/post_8

[If you haven't noticed already, I love Chris's blogs :D]

All of these together will make your application. Try your best to make the application look good as a whole. As far as I have seen, Bangladeshi applicants are pretty impressive people. Understand that you have to shine among all of them. Also understand that you CAN shine among all of them. Don't be afraid and keep trying! :)
A little more, guys! We are almost there!

FINANCIAL AID: For colleges that offer aid for international students (A lot of them do, don't worry!), the application is usually separate. For need-blind colleges like MIT, the admission office will never know what aid you asked for and that will, in no way, affect your admission decision. Once you get in, they'll cover your full need with aid/ scholarships/ loans. Other colleges, where admission is need-based, like Caltech, they'll consider your admission and financial aid application together. In those colleges, asking for high aid may harm your admission chance a little bit. But if your admission application is strong enough, financial need is usually not a problematic factor. Along with the Collegeboard CSS profile, schools usually ask for parents' income tax returns and employer's letters. This is something that is probably better-handled by parents; use their expertise!

Whoa! Finally I feel like I have said everything that I wanted to. Still there is a good chance I missed some important stuff. My friends, who have experience about this, please share your ideas on the comments section. Also the target audience, high schoolers, please ask if you have specific questions on the comments section under this blog. :) I am sorry if I make the undergrad admissions process look like a long strenuous one. It is normal to feel very overwhelmed at the beginning. But you get done at the end, trust me. That being said, good luck! :)

Scholarship Essays Made Easy

By [Ishrak B. Iltut](#) on Sunday, August 30, 2015 at 8:20pm

Hello Everyone!

In the last Bangladesh Beyond Border Conference, I tried to focus that essays play a vital role in getting scholarships, especially in undergrad. If you use them right, those few paragraphs can help your application stand out and could mean the difference between getting a "thanks for applying" E-mail and an award check. I just ran into this article and thought I should share with you people. The writer's a Harvard alumni. He simplified the whole process with **FOUR STEPS**. Try to understand the article and will definitely come handy :

4 Ways to Make Your Scholarship Essay Stand Out

Writing a stellar scholarship essay can help you get more money for college.

It's not easy to separate your scholarship application from the crowd. After all, even if you fit the criteria to a "T," you're still likely to be one of a number of applicants with similar grades, goals, activities, and aspirations.

That's where a great application essay comes in. The essay is your best chance to make the case for why you should receive the scholarship; it helps the scholarship provider learn about the person behind the application, and gives them a much more detailed look at your school and home life.

Of course, putting so much emphasis on an essay may make it seem like a daunting task, especially if you don't consider yourself a great writer. By following these four tips, just about anyone can create a standout essay.

1. Know your audience: Although we're looking at scholarship essays as a whole, it's important to realize that every scholarship provider is looking for a specific student who meets unique criteria. When you get your application, look closely at the questions, the organization giving the scholarship, and any past recipients you can find.

Are they emphasizing classroom performance? Looking for someone who's dealt with adversity at home? Interested in character or community service more than grades? Whatever the answer, your research will put you a step ahead of applicants who are copying and pasting "one-size-fits-all" essays.

2. Plan far in advance: You can also avoid the "one-size-fits-all" essay by getting an early start on each application. Begin your research and planning a week or so before you think you should, and you'll be able to take enough time to turn out something great.

This will also give you time to craft an outline, which can help your essay stay concise and on target. Think of two or three main points you want to make in response to the essay question, add some supporting information under each of them, and consider a sentence or two of introduction and conclusion. Before you know it, you'll have built the structure and thesis of your essay, and you won't have to rush to write it.

3. Make it personal and passionate: When you do start writing, don't forget that the main purpose of your essay is to convince the scholarship provider that you're the student they've been looking for. Answer the questions you've set out in your outline, but make sure every point you make is illustrated with a specific detail that shows you care about the subject.

Don't just mention that you work with disadvantaged kids; tell them how your love of soccer got you into coaching those kids. Don't just tell them about your acting awards; show how the stage helped you conquer your shyness. Putting your unique interests and perspectives on the page will go a very long way toward creating a memorable essay.

4. Find an editor: Last but not least, make sure you have time to run your essay by a good editor, whether it's a parent, teacher, or grammar-nerd friend. Even a well-researched and passionately written essay can be derailed by spelling mistakes or awkward sentences, and if you've spent a lot of time looking at your words, it's easy to miss basic mistakes.

A few minutes of proofreading by a trusted editor can make a huge difference. I also recommend reading your essay aloud to yourself, so you can hear how it flows.

Scholarship essays are a big component of your applications, and can be a major headache, too. But by starting early, answering the right

questions, and describing what makes you unique, you'll be writing standout essays without the stress.

USA : City University of New York - I-20 Required Documents

By Nabil Rahman on Monday, September 15, 2014 at 8:05 PM

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**I-20 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

Very often the I-20 process is way more complicated than the actual admission process for CUNY. So here are all the required, semi-required and optional documents which you can prepare within short period of time and I can guarantee they will be very pleased. Actually I submitted these for one of my friend and they said, "This is not done by an international student. This is perfect." and I got her I-20 just after 4 hrs. of submitting.

Request for I-20 form

Bank statement of sponsor/sponsors

**Copy of original tax documents of all financially related person
[attested]**

Translated Copy of original tax documents of all financially related person [attested]

Tax acceptance letter from tax depart of Bangladesh [if sponsor is in Bangladesh]

Translation of Tax acceptance letter from tax depart of Bangladesh [if sponsor is in Bangladesh]

Proof of residence [if showing NYC residency support, you will know it in Request for i-20 form]

Immunization record [Must have sign and stamp and IN ENGLISH]

Color copy of your valid passport

SEVIS fee receipt

DS-160 confirmation page

I-20 pickup request [if someone in NYC picking it up mailing it to you]

Opportunities outside North America(#1)

The University of Hong Kong

By Aditi Dey Poonam

When should you apply?

The best time to apply, even if HKU is not your first choice, would be during the Fast Track round (early October to mid November). Applying in this round would not forbid you from applying to other universities at the same time.

Even though applications are accepted till the Late Round, the results of Fast Track are given first (December onwards), and the availability of scholarship is the most at that time.

Admission requirements-

Admissions in HKU mainly focus on academics, and a bit on the personal statement. From 2015's data, the general requirement for engineering was an A* in Mathematics and 2A's (one of which has to be Physics and cannot be a Language course). For science, it was 1A* and 2As (except Language courses) as well. However, it might deviate from year to year.

Scholarship requirements-

Scholarships mainly focus on academics as well, however, good extracurricular activities can also boost up the application. For a full ride scholarship (tuition fee+ living cost), 5A*s or equivalent in your A' Level is usually expected. With 4A*s, you might be able to attain anything between an 80% to a 100% scholarship (excluding living cost). 3A*s and an A might get you something around 50%-65% and the trend propagates like this. The percentage varies according to your extracurricular activities and scholarship essay (a small 200 word essay, stating why you need the scholarship). It also varies from year to year.

A few more words-

Always appeal if you think you deserve more, stating logically and clearly why. They always listen and might even give you a better offer if they are convinced.

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

By Shaoli Hassan

Some tips for getting offer of admission and scholarship from HKU and HKUST:

Hello everyone! Firstly, I would like to point out that my word is not the final word. I can only provide some suggestions and advice regarding your application to HKU and HKUST. I did not apply anywhere else and therefore have only limited knowledge about application to other unis. I myself had almost no help and was confused at almost all points. I can just try to help you out with some information that I have figured out myself.

Moving onto the important bit, most of the information regarding the admission requirement and eligibility criteria for HKU and HKUST are mentioned in the websites of the respective universities. Only some small details and tricks may be missing.

Similar to most universities, you too have the option of applying to the universities in Hong Kong right after your AS or after your A2. If you apply with your AS results, they will give you a conditional offer, whereas if you apply with your A2 results, you will get a firm offer. I applied with my AS results and had conditional offers, but not firm ones from HKU and HKUST. In a conditional offer, they ask for specific grades and mention that you will get admission only if you fulfil their conditions. For example, HKU or HKUST may ask for 1 A* and 2 As in A2. The conditions vary from School/Department to School and candidate to candidate. For some cases, they may ask for 5 As. For the Department of Engineering, for example, they may ask for an A* in Physics or Math.

You can apply with credentials of most curricula including IB, A Levels (both Edexcel and Cambridge), SAT etc. I heard from a senior student that from this year onward, HKUST have decided to recognise SSC and HSC. This is highly probable since HKUST already recognise the Indian and the Indonesian curricula. But since, I haven't heard from any official source, and am not very well informed about the details, I will refrain from saying anything further.

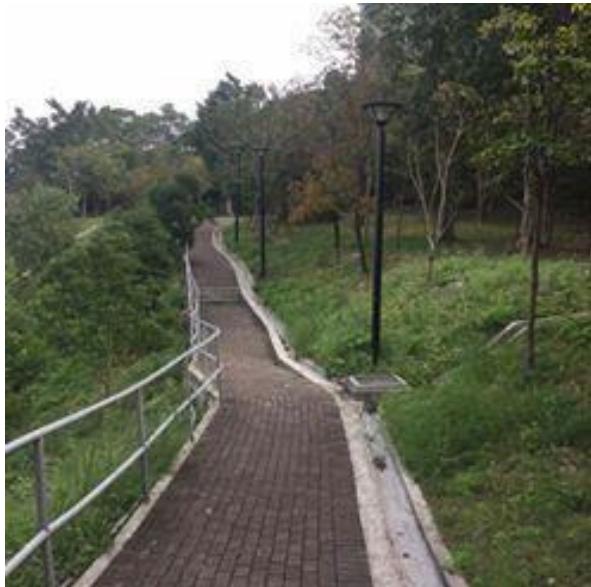
For increasing your chances of getting a scholarship, you must keep certain things in mind. All universities in Hong Kong are public institutions, including HKU and HKUST. This basically means that even if they are funded by external donors, the major contributor is the government itself. Hence, getting scholarship from universities in Hong Kong may be slightly more difficult than those in other countries. The sum of money you will be awarded with is termed scholarship, not financial aid. International students are not eligible for financial aid. As for American unis, there is something called Early Decision and Regular Decision; so is the case for Hong Kong unis. The two phases are termed as Fast Track and Main Round. I would advise the prospective students to apply under Fast Track to both unis. For HKUST, you can look into the website of their Scholarship and Financial Aid Office. They have some guidelines too regarding applicants under IB and international or Asian Olympiad gold medalists-they are guaranteed scholarships. For others they will judge them on a one to one basis. As I have mentioned in the comments under some posts already, there is no separate scholarship application for HKUST, unlike for HKU. Hence, the personal statement should be the most important means to let them know about your need. And of course your high schools transcripts, public exam certificates and certificates of extracurricular activities are very important. Even if it seems unimportant, like certificate for Perfect Attendance in school, submit it. Recommendation letters are important too. Prepare yourself, participate in Olympiads, engage in debate or public speaking, and join sports team (basketball and football if possible). Surprisingly, rowing is very popular in Hong Kong. It's not easy to join something like that in Bangladesh, but if you can, try. Voluntary activities and community service may be helpful too. Some of my friends formed their own groups and organizations to help underprivileged children. You can help out terminally ill patients, old people, special children, ethnic minorities etc. If you are taking a gap year, remember to utilize it well. Join clubs and societies; write articles for your newspaper. If you like to draw, send them a few of your painting or sketches. It is better if you can transfer credits for English Language in order to avoid some very basic Language courses in the first year. SAT-1, TOEFL, IELTS can fulfil the requirements. An A* in O Level English Language will do too. But don't ignore any. E.g. If your SAT score fulfils the Language requirement, don't hesitate to provide your IELTS score. The conditions for getting a full tuition plus living expenses changes from year to year and varies based on which Department you choose.

Depending on which School you chose to apply to, you may receive an invitation for an interview. The department of Science in HKU may not interview the candidates but the department of Engineering may do so. HKUST may randomly interview students. For HKUST, usually the students will be asked to face a video interview, some may be asked to face a Skype interview as well. Even if you are nervous during the interview, try to look confident!

It is understandable that most students prefer to apply to unis in USA. Because of this, the unis in Asia are sometimes ignored. However, if you take some time to look into the details of these unis, you will realize that they are splendid destinations as well! I am extremely homesick and so chose to try my luck in Hong Kong since it is pretty close to Bangladesh; I wouldn't have to travel for almost a day to meet my parents! 😊😊 At the same time, Hong Kong was the first choice for my parents since they had visited the place a number of times. And I realized their reason behind their preference the moment I landed. It is an absolutely wonderful place! Hong Kong simply consists of a number of islands and numerous hills, and so if any of you loves nature, Hong Kong may be the perfect location to enjoy the scenic beauty.

I have attached some of the photos of HKUST that I myself have clicked, with the hope that some of you may choose to come here. The university is built using the steps of several hills. You can google to know more about them!

I hope all this helps! All the very best with your application!





একই স্মারক ও তারিখে স্কলারশিপ

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়
ভবন নং ৬, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়
www.moedu.gov.bd
অধিশাখা-১৯

নং-৩৭.০০.০০০০.০৮০.২৫.০১০.১৫-২৮৭

তারিখঃ

০৩ শাবণ ১৪২৩
১৮ জুলাই ২০১৬

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়ঃ Scholarships to Bangladeshi Students from Egyptian Government.

Egyptian Government কর্তৃক বাংলাদেশের শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য বৃত্তির দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে। আগ্রহীদেরকে সংযুক্ত তথ্যের ভিত্তিতে আবেদন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। আগস্ট ৩১ জুলাই ২০১৬ তারিখ বিকাল ৫.০০ টার মধ্যে উপ-সচিব (বৃত্তি), বুম নং-১৭০৬, ভবন নং-০৬, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা বরাবর সংশ্লিষ্ট কাগজসহ আবেদনপত্র প্রেরণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

- ◊ প্রার্থীগণকে সংযুক্ত তথ্য অনুযায়ী Website-এ অবশ্যই on line Apply/ Initial Registration করতে হবে;
- ◊ এতদসঙ্গে সংযুক্ত "প্রাথমিক তথ্য বিবরণী ফরম" পূর্ণ করে সংশ্লিষ্ট ডকুমেন্স/ কাগজপত্র সহ বৃত্তির আবেদন জমা দিতে হবে;
- ◊ সংযুক্ত ডকুমেন্স/ কাগজপত্র গুলোর একটি তালিকা প্রদান করতে হবে;
- ◊ প্রার্থীদের প্রাথমিক বাছাই চূড়ান্তকরণের ক্ষমতা এ সংক্রান্ত কমিটি সংরক্ষণ করেন।


 শোহরাজ সামাদ
 উপ-সচিব
 ফোনঃ ৯৫৪৫০৩২
 ds_stp@moedu.gov.bd

সংযুক্তি: ০৬ (ছয়) পাতা।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি সংযুক্ত কাগজপত্রসহ শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়ের ওয়েবসাইটে প্রচারের জন্য এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়সমূহের গ্রুপ মেইলে প্রেরণের জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো হল:

সিনিয়র সিস্টেম এনালিস্ট
আই.সি.টি সেল
শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, ঢাকা।

অনুলিপি:

১. সচিবের একান্ত সচিব, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়, ঢাকা।
২. অফিস কপি/ সংরক্ষণ কপি।

Fax/E-mail Message

To : MOFA, Chaka
 From : B'doot, Cairo
 File No. : BEC (Edu.)/303/08/16-1
 Date : 30 June 2016

Director General (Africa) from Counselor & HOC

According to the Cultural Agreement, every year the Egyptian Government offers 12-scholarships to Bangladesh students at post graduate level (03) and under graduate level (09) at different universities like Cairo University, Ain Shams University etc. for various subjects like Engineering, Medical, Business Administration, Computer Science, Arts etc. in Egypt.

The Egyptian Govt. has issued new guidelines for processing the applications from students both at scholarship and self-finance basis. According to the guidelines, students at undergraduate have to apply online from 20/06/2016 to 30/08/2016 and Postgraduate applicants from 1/8/2016 till end of March 2017 for the Master degree and till the end of the academic year for the PhD through the website: <https://wafedan.gov.eg> or www.mche-caspi.edu.eg by filling up the information sheet. The initial registration has to be done as a requirement to be submitted along with the application for scholarship.

It may be noted that undergraduate students will receive an amount of L.E. 125.00 equivalent to BDT 1000.00 whereas Postgraduate students will have L.E. 150/- BDT 1200.00 as monthly pocket money. Tuition fees and accommodation are free. Also mentionable that 25% only of the nominees could join the faculty of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacist, and Engineering in any public university in Cairo.

In the above circumstances, the Mission strongly suggests the following:

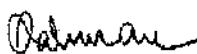
Either

1. Kindly take necessary steps to send the nominations for the year 2016-2017 at undergraduate level from Bangladesh by mid August 2016 to process as per the General Guidelines of the Egyptian universities (attached herewith) to avail the undergraduate scholarships.

Or Alternatively

2. Authorize this Mission like previous years to distribute all scholarships both undergraduate and postgraduate level locally from the students who are residing in Egypt. Specialy, postgraduate students after completion of Masters degree, are badly in need of scholarship for pursuing M.Phil/ PhD the distribution of which may be delegated to the Mission.

Encl: As stated (total 05 pages including this)


 (Md. Shafiqur Rahman)

Respectful regards a salam

2/16

General Guideline for admission at Cairo University (Scholarship)

- a) The Government of Egypt offers 09 Undergraduate scholarship and 03 Post Graduate scholarships for the students of Bangladesh under the Cultural Agreement. Ministry is responsible to distribute the undergraduate scholarships for joining five universities keeping in mind that 25% only of the nominees could join the faculty of (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacist, Engineering).
 - b) Please note that Undergraduate students will have L.E. 125/- BDT 1000.00 as monthly pocket money. The tuition fees and accommodation are free. Postgraduate students will have L.E. 150/- BDT 1200.00 as monthly pocket money.

Undergraduate degree

1. Students should apply online from 20/06/2016 to 30/08/2016 through the website: <https://wafedeni.gov.eg> or www.mohc-casn.edu.eg by filling up the information sheet. This way initial registration will be done proof of which has to be submitted along with the application for scholarship.
 2. They will attach Passport copy, Secondary School Certificate in English & Arabic, Mark sheets (English & Arabic), Birth certificate, 6 copies of photographs, etc.
 3. Ministry of Education, Bangladesh would select candidates for the scholarship and send details to Bangladesh Embassy, Cairo by the mid of August 2016.
 4. After receiving the list of candidates, Embassy would forward the same to Wafedine Department (Foreign Students' Affairs), Ministry of Higher Education of Egypt by the end of August 2016.
 5. Wafedine Department would enrol the selected students on the scholarships and send their details to the State Security of the Arab Republic of Egypt to issue no objection to the applicants under consideration for proceeding to Cairo.
 6. On arrival of the student, he/she has to contact the Wafedine Department. Student should now handover the original certificates along with birth certificates in English & Arabic. Wafedine Department will give a letter to the student addressed to his/her respective faculty stating that he/she is enrolled on a scholarship. Along with this letter, students will proceed to the faculty for admission.

Postgraduate degree:

1. Student shall submit application via the website of the Cultural Affairs and Missions Sector, Ministry of Higher Education: www.mohc-casm.edu.eg , starting from 1/8/2016 till end of the month of March 2017 for the Master degree and till the end of the academic year for the PHD according to the announcement published on the website.
 2. Student shall submit his documents to the faculty/university for initial registration according to the above-mentioned appointments. Student shall provide a proof that he applied via website of the sector as applicable for undergraduates.

長4.8-5.2mm, 宽1.5-2mm, 厚0.3-0.5mm。

Unofficial translation

Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Higher Education
First Undersecretary of the Ministry
Chief of Cultural Affairs and Missions Sector

To: H.E. Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh in Cairo

The Ministry has the honor to notify that the Minister approved on the rules and regulations for admitting foreign students in Egyptian universities and institutes for undergraduate and postgraduate students in the academic year 2016/2017, as follows:

First: Undergraduate degree:

- 1- Application shall be submitted via the new website for registration of Foreign Students (Wafeder) <https://wafeder.gov.eg> or the website of the Cultural Affairs and Missions Sector, Ministry of Higher Education www.mohc-casim.edu.eg, starting from 20/06/2016 till 10/09/2016 according to the announcement published on the website
- 2- Preliminary result is not considered as a final acceptance until the applicant submits his original documents to the Embassy as the Embassy "its accredited representatives" responsible for finalizing procedures with the General Administration for Admission and Scholarships of Foreign Students. The required documents is as follows:
 - School certificate "original".
 - Passport "original".
 - Birth certificate "original".
 - 6 recent photos.
 - Children of Egyptian mother shall provide a Proof.
 - Embassy Letter "for applicants who submitting application through the Embassy".
 - Payment receipt for submitting documents fees." In case of applicant holds an old certificate, they shall provide a payment receipt for old certificate fees".
(Payment shall be paid to the fund account of for facilitating matters for foreign students and their clubs – bank account number: 9/450/82144/5 - Central Bank of Egypt).

Walaa

3

3/6

Unofficial translation

- 3- For old student: applications of (re-nomination/re registration students failed several times/ transfer/ Transfer registration/ Completion of studies) shall be submitted to the General Administration for Admission and Scholarships of Foreign Students, Ministry of Higher Education.
- 4- Students who are coming from Syria, Libya and Yemen have to apply through the website of the Cultural Affairs and Missions Sector, Ministry of Higher Education www.mohc-casm.edu.eg according to the announcement published on the website.

Second: Postgraduate degree:

1. Student shall submit application via the website of the Cultural Affairs and Missions Sector, Ministry of Higher Education www.mohc-casm.edu.eg , starting from 1/8/2016 till end of the month of March 2017 for the Master degree and till the end of the academic year for the PHD according to the announcement published on the website.

Note: name should be written in full to be identified with the other documents, and to enable us to adopt measures related to the final approvals.

2. Student shall submit his documents to the faculty/university for initial registration according to the above-mentioned appointments. Student shall provide a proof that he applied via website of the sector.
3. Re-nomination, postponement registration, and change the faculty shall be reconsidered. "Changing to another faculty or section shall be for one time", and shall be submitted to the General Administration for Admission and Scholarships of Foreign Students, Ministry of Higher Education.

Third: Scholarships:

In case the country has a quota in "university/postgraduate" scholarship granted by the Government of Arab Republic of Egypt, all scholarships shall be completed at its year and not to be postponed for the next year for budget considerations.

- a) List of the nominees for the scholarships should be submitted to the General Administration for Admission and Scholarships of Foreign Students, Ministry of Higher Education by the end of August 2016.

Wael

n/6

Unofficial translation

- b) As for the Undergraduate Scholarship, it is preferably that the student should be a holder of Higher Education degree for the year 2015
- c) The Embassy is responsible to distribute the undergraduate scholarships for joining five universities keeping in mind that 25% only of the nominees could join the faculty of (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacist, Engineering)

Fourth:

At all cases, foreign students, who will study in Egyptian universities and institutes, shall be accepted only by the Higher Education Ministry through the necessary procedures by the General Administration for Admission and Scholarships of Foreign Students, Ministry of Higher Education and the concerned authorities in this regard to make sure that all nominees have been fulfilled all the nomination requirements. Therefore, any registration for students shall not be considered unless the final approval issued by the Ministry.

The Ministry avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurance of its highest consideration.

With regards

First Undersecretary of the Ministry

Chief of Cultural Affairs and Missions Sector

(Prof. Dr. Hossam El Malahy)

23 June 2016

Walaa

6/6/16

প্রাথমিক তথ্য বিবরণী ফরম

1. Applicant's Name:
2. Father's Name:
3. Mother's Name:
4. Gender:
5. Date of Birth:
6. Nationality:
7. Permanent Address:
8. Present Address:
9. E-mail:
10. Phone/Mobile:
11. Language Proficiency (attach certificate if available):
12. Particulars of Examination Passed:

Name of Examination	Institution & year of passing	Secured Grade/Class/Division	% of the obtained marks

13. Attach Passport size photograph:
14. Attach a list of the submitted documents:

Opportunities Outside of North America #2

ISHRAK BIN ILTUT·TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

After posting the first document I received overwhelming response and enthusiasm from the prospective applicants. It was indeed a pleasure to see that finally they are giving importance to some of the most amazing and reputed schools outside of North America. As promised, here are the details of 3 of the most reputed and competitive varsities around the world-

- 1. *The University of Melbourne***
- 2. *National University of Singapore (NUS)***
- 3. *Nanyang Technological University (NTU)***

This time all the information has been collected and composed by Saraf Nawar, who happens to be a NSHSS (National Society of High School Scholars) National Scholar and is going to start her freshman year at the Delft Technological University in Netherland.

If you have any questions, please ask it out below in the comment section. We will try to reply as swiftly as possible.

Applying to Australia

Different universities in Australia have different cost of attendance, course-wise required qualifications and undergraduate scholarship opportunities. Since I was offered admission and the Melbourne International Undergraduate Scholarship for Bachelors of Engineering, most of the information I can provide will be based on Engineering.

The University of Melbourne

The University of Melbourne offers a five year program for school-leavers who want to become engineers.

By studying an engineering major through one of these undergraduate degrees, followed by the Master of Engineering, you will gain in-depth technical preparation, breadth of perspective and workplace skills demanded by top employers.

Engineering majors are offered through the Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Environments and Bachelor of Biomedicine. Alternatively, you can opt to complete a sequence of engineering subjects via the Bachelor of Commerce. Information regarding each of the engineering majors and sequences is available from the Melbourne School of Engineering website: www.eng.unimelb.edu.au/study/undergraduate

Entry into the Master of Engineering is available to students with previous undergraduate studies in a relevant discipline. The duration of the program is between two and three years depending on the level and relevance of prior tertiary study.

Entry Requirements - GCE A Levels:

GCE (General Certificate of Education) A Levels are regarded as a suitable preparation for University entry provided the applicant has met the entry scores, has the grades required in prerequisite subjects and has satisfied the English language requirements.

Prerequisites by course are as follows:

- Bachelor of Biomedicine

AAB (14)

A Level Chemistry, A Level Mathematics, and at least grade C in an accepted AS Level English subject.

- Bachelor of Commerce

ABC (12)

A Level Mathematics and at least grade C in an accepted AS Level English subject.

- Bachelor of Environments

BCC (10)

At least grade C in an accepted AS Level English subject

For students intending to major in property and construction or an engineering discipline, knowledge equivalent to GCE A Level Mathematics will be assumed. Students without this knowledge will have to undertake bridging studies on enrolment.

- Bachelor of Science

BCC (10)

A Level Mathematics and one of A Level Biology, A Level Chemistry, A Level Physics and at least grade C in an accepted AS Level English subject

The numbers in the bracket denote the total grade point required (A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2 and so on)

All courses require applicants to have achieved at least a Grade C in any of the following AS/A Level English subjects in order to meet the University's English language requirements:

- AS or A Level General Paper
- AS or A Level General Studies

- AS or A Level English Language
- AS or A Level English Literature
- AS or A Level English Language and Literature

Selection is based on the score from the applicant's top three A Level subjects. (AS or H1 Level subjects are not included in the calculation of scores).

TOEFL test results may be used to satisfy the University's English language requirement, as detailed on the following website:

<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/entry-requirements/language-requirements>

Generally SAT test results may not be used alongside GCE A Level results as a basis of entry.

The Melbourne Scholarships Program:

The Melbourne Scholarships Program is one of the most comprehensive in Australia — supporting around 3000 students at the University.

Key scholarships offered by the University do not require a separate application; all eligible students who have submitted a course application will automatically be considered and ranked against other international applicants on the basis of academic merit. Other opportunities are initiated with an application.

You can investigate scholarship opportunities offered by the University for international undergraduate students on the Future Students website. You can also find scholarships and their deadlines at

<https://studentforms.app.unimelb.edu.au/apex/f?p=153:search:0>

Please be aware that scholarships at the University of Melbourne are very competitive for international students and that you would be wise to investigate alternative sources of funding as well.

The most common sources of alternative funding are home government and Australian

government scholarships. Companies, home universities, professional organisations and charities such as Rotary also provide many scholarships.

Citizens of selected countries may be eligible for an Australia Award Scholarship from the Australian government.

For more information, you can access the following website:

www.ausaid.gov.au/australia-awards/Pages/default.aspx

You can also refer to the following links for information on scholarships available to both undergraduate and graduate international students in Australia:

- www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/global/australian-education/scholarships
- <http://www.hobsonscoursefinder.com.au/scholarship>
- <https://aei.gov.au/scholarships-and-fellowships/pages/default.aspx>

I WILL STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO SUBMIT ALL TEST SCORES (SAT I, SAT II, ACT and any other test you take) FOR MAXIMIZING THE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY. ALSO, APPLY BY NOVEMBER 01 FOR MAXIMUM SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION.

International Application Procedures and Dates:

International students must apply directly to the University or through one of our overseas representatives.

Direct applications can be made either online or by mail. Further information regarding these application procedures is available via the applications page of our Future Students website:

<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications>

Application closing dates for international undergraduate students are as follows:

- **Semester 1: late December** (for commencement in February of the following year)
- **Semester 2: late May** (for commencement in July). Please note that not all courses are available for entry in Semester 2; you can check if your course is offered on the Future Students website.

Specific 2016 course dates may be found on the Academic Calendar:

<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/unisec/PDates/acadcale.html#2016>

Late applications may be accepted in special circumstances; however students are advised to apply as early as possible to avoid visa delays.

Further information regarding the application processing times and application fee waivers may be found on the following website:

<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/online-application-info>

Please note that registered education providers such as the University of Melbourne are only able to enrol students transferring in the first six months of their principal course of study at another institution in limited circumstances (see the International Student Transfer policy for further information):

[www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/other-applications/transferring-course/international student transfer policy](http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/other-applications/transferring-course/international_student_transfer_policy)

International Student Work Permission:

International students with visas granted after 26 April 2008 are automatically entitled to work limited hours while studying in Australia.

Details of these entitlements may be found on the following website:

http://ask.unimelb.edu.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/173

For further information regarding admissions, courses, selection, application procedures and fees, please visit the Future Students website: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au

Applying to Singapore

National University of Singapore (NUS)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

International students who are keen to apply for admission should have completed or are completing high school, that is, at least twelve years of general education in the year of application. Students may view the list of acceptable high school qualifications and admission requirements at

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/apply/international/admissionreq/BYA-admissionreq.html>.

Admission is based on academic merit as well as open competition among all eligible applicants. In addition to fulfilling admission requirements for the high school qualifications the applicants are presenting, they must also satisfy the subject prerequisites for the courses which they wish to be considered for.

Please visit <http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/apply/international/prerequisites/BYA-prerequisites.html> for the subject prerequisites of all undergraduate programmes.

WHEN AND HOW TO APPLY

Application for undergraduate admission opens in mid-October each year with different closing dates for different qualifications.

All applications must be submitted through our website at

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/apply/international/applications/WYA-applicationform.html> during the application period; and all supporting documents (unless specified) and application fee must reach our office by the closing date.

For applicants presenting 'A' Level (AQA, Cambridge, Edexcel, London, OCR), a good pass in at least 4 'Advanced' Level subjects is required to make a competitive application.

TUITION FEES

The annual tuition fees and other miscellaneous expenses are provided in

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/financialaid/financial-tuition-fees.html>

SCHOLARSHIPS

International students who wish to be considered for scholarships administered by NUS are not required to submit a separate application. All international applicants are considered for available scholarships when they submit an application for undergraduate admission. However, as university funds are limited, they are unable to offer scholarships to students from all countries. Applicants will be invited to attend an interview if they meet the criteria and award is based on academic merit and open competition.

International students who wish to be considered for scholarships offered by external organizations, such as Dr Goh Keng Swee Scholarship, should submit applications to the external organisations for consideration.

More information on scholarships for international students can be found be at
<http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/scholarships/freshmen/scholarship-international.html>

FINANCIAL AID

All applicants should understand that scholarships are not guaranteed when an admission offer for undergraduate studies is made. International students who are not awarded scholarship may apply for financial assistance (in the form of loans, work-study scheme, etc.) offered by the University. Online application for Financial Aid opens at <http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/financialaid/financial-application.html> from mid-October to 1 April each year and can be made after online submission of admission application.

If you cannot afford the full unsubsidized tuition fees of NUS then you either read with a scholarship awarded to you or use the MOE tuition grant both of which require you to work for a minimum of three years (six years if you get a full ride). So the work bond is your only option (unless you can afford the whole fee). The bond requires you to work in a company stationed in Singapore not necessarily a government job. If get good grades and have a great interview, you can get a pretty decent job with good pay.

To find out more information or seek clarifications on financial aid, please send your queries to financialaid@nus.edu.sg.

For more information on undergraduate admissions, please visit the Office of Admissions website at <http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/>

Again, you are strongly encouraged to submit any and every test score (SAT, SAT II, ACT etc) you have. Usually 5 (or more) A*/A s in A-Levels is considered to be most competitive for admissions, but 4 A*/A s along with almost perfect test scores and ECAs can give you a great opportunity for admissions. International Olympiad Achievements are highly valued by NUS.

Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

Admission to NTU is primarily based on academic merit and is based on good grades and marks for at least 4 A level (A2) subjects taken in a single sitting and meeting the minimum subject requirement per program as shown at

http://www3.ntu.edu.sg/oad2/website_files/International/MinimumSubjects.pdf

As admission to NTU is also based on competition, student with more A* may have a more comparative advantage. Extra curriculum activities will be useful for scholarship application. Winning a medal at National or International level competition such as International Olympiad Science competition will be useful for both admission and scholarship.

Submission of SAT, Toefl and IELTS are optional for A-level applicants. SAT subjects scores are not required for admission and is not considered for A-level applicants. If you did not take up O level English or General paper, it will be useful to submit TOEFL or SAT or IELTS score applying for non-Science and non-Engineering programmes such as Business, Accountancy, Psychology, etc as well as applying for scholarships.

You may apply for Nanyang and College Scholarship. For more information on scholarship, please refer to

<http://admissions.ntu.edu.sg/UndergraduateAdmissions/Pages/FreshmenNonSingapore.aspx>

To apply for scholarship, you must first obtain an application number by submitting application for admission when application open on 15 October at

<http://admissions.ntu.edu.sg/UndergraduateIntlAdmissions/Pages/InternationalOthers.aspx>

Europe Tuition Fee Chart

Collected from Mahedi Rahman

ক্রমিক নং	দেশের নাম	ব্যাচেলর	মাস্টার্স	পিএইচডি	ওয়েবসাইট	স্ট্যাটাস
১	অস্ট্রিয়া	টিউশন ফি নাই	টিউশন ফি নাই	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinaustria.at	সেনজেন
২	জার্মানি	টিউশন ফি নাই	টিউশন ফি নাই	অনিদিষ্ট	https://www.study-in.de/en http://www.studying-in-germany.org/	সেনজেন
৩	ডেনমার্ক	২৩০০-৮০০০	৩৫০০-৮৫০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://studyindenmark.dk/	সেনজেন
৪	ফিনল্যান্ড	৮০০০-৯৫০০	১২০০০-১৬০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinfinland.fi/	সেনজেন
৫	নেদারল্যান্ডস	৬০০০-১৫০০০	৮০০০-২০০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	https://www.studyinholland.nl/	সেনজেন
৬	সুইডেন	৮০০০-২৭০০০	১১০০০-২৭০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	https://studyinsweden.se/ https://www.universityadmissions.se	সেনজেন
৭	নরওয়ে	টিউশন ফি নাই	টিউশন ফি নাই	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinnorway.no/	সেনজেন
৮	ফ্রান্স	৩০০-১০০০	৩০০-১০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.campusfrance.org/en/	সেনজেন
৯	বেলজিয়াম	৯০০-৪৫০০	৯০০-৪৫০০	১৫০০- ৪৫০০	http://www.studyinbelgium.be/en	সেনজেন
১০	চেক প্রজাতন্ত্র	২০০০-১৫০০০	৩০০০-২০০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyin.cz/	সেনজেন
১১	পোল্যান্ড	১৫০০-২৫০০	২৫০০-১২০০০	২৫০০ - ৫০০০	http://www.studyinpoland.pl/en/	সেনজেন
১২	সুইজারল্যান্ড	৮০০০-১০০০০	১০০০০-১৫০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	https://www.swissuniversities.ch/en	সেনজেন
১৩	আইসল্যান্ড	২৫০০-৫০০০	৮০০০-৮০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyiniceland.is/	সেনজেন
১৪	এস্টোনিয়া	১৭০০-১২০০০	৩৫০০-১২৫০০	টিউশন ফি নাই	http://www.studyinestonia.ee/	সেনজেন
১৫	ইতালি	৮৫০-১০০০	৮৫০-১০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.cimea.it/en/index.aspx	সেনজেন
১৬	লিথুনিয়া	২০০০-৬০০০	২৫০০-৮০০০	৮৫০০-১০০০০	http://www.studyinlithuania.lt/	সেনজেন
১৭	লাতভিয়া	২০০০-১৫০০০	৩০০০-১৫০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinlatvia.lv/ http://www.studyinlatvia.eu/en/home	সেনজেন
১৮	হাস্পেরি	২৫০০-৫০০০	৮০০০-১০০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinhungary.hu/ http://www.campushungary.org/	সেনজেন
১৯	স্লোভেনিয়া	১৫০০-৩৫০০	২৫০০-৬০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://studyinslovenia.si/	সেনজেন
২০	স্লোভাকিয়া	১৫০০-৩৫০০	২৫০০-৬০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://office.studyin.sk/ http://show.studyin.sk/	সেনজেন
২১	লুক্সেমবোর্গ	২৫০০-৮০০০	৩৫০০-৭০০০	অনিদিষ্ট		সেনজেন
২২	লিচটেনস্টেইন	২৫০০-৮০০০	৩৫০০-৭০০০	অনিদিষ্ট		সেনজেন
২৩	পর্তুগাল	১০০০-৩৫০০	৩৫০০-৬০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinportugal.edu.pt/	সেনজেন
২৪	স্পেন	১০০০-৩০০০	২৭০০-৭০০০	২৭০০-৭০০০	http://www.studying-in-spain.com/ http://www.spainedu.org/	সেনজেন
২৫	গ্রিস	১৫০০-৮০০০	২৫০০-৭০০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinggreece.edu.gr/ http://www.studyinggreece.gr/	সেনজেন
২৬	মাল্টা	১১০০-৫৫০০	১৫০০-৫৫০০	অনিদিষ্ট	http://www.studyinginmalta.com/en/	সেনজেন
২৭	আয়ারল্যান্ড	৯৫০-৫২০০০	৮০০০-৮৫০০০	৮০০০-৮৫০০০	http://www.educationinireland.com/en	সেনজেন নয়

১৮	বেলারুশ	৩০০০- ৬০০০	৮৫০০-৬৫০০	৮৫০০-৬৫০০	http://www.studyinbelarus.com.ng/	সেনজেন নয়
১৯	বুলগেরিয়া	২৯০০-৮০০০	৩০০০- ৮০০০	৩০০০-৮০০০	http://www.studyinbulgaria.com/	সেনজেন নয়
৩০	সাইপ্রাস	২০০০-৮০০০	৩০০০- ৬৫০০	২০০০-৬৫০০	http://www.euroguidance.gov.cy	সেনজেন নয়
৩১	রোমানিয়া	২০০০-৮০০০	৩০০০- ৬০০০		https://www.studyinromania.gov.ro	সেনজেন নয়
৩২	রাশিয়া	১০০০-৬০০০	২০০০- ৬০০০	২০০০-৬০০০	http://studyinrussia.ru/en/	ইউরো- এশিয়া
৩৩	তুরস্ক	৫০০-১৫০০	৬০০-১০০০	৬০০-১০০০	http://www.studyinturkey.gov.tr/	ইউরো- এশিয়া
৩৪	ইউকে	৩০০০০- ৮০০০০ (ডলার)	৩৩০০- ৮৫০০০ (ডলার)	৩৩০০-৫০০০০ (ডলার)	https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/	সেনজেন নয়
৩৫	ইউক্রেন	২৫০০-৮৫০০	২৫০০-৫০০০	২৫০০-৫০০০	http://studyinukraine.site/	সেনজেন নয়
৩৬	সার্বিয়া	৫০০-২৫০০	৫০০-২৫০০	৫০০-২৫০০	http://www.studyinserbia.rs/en	সেনজেন নয়
৩৭	ক্রোয়েশিয়া	৮০০-৩৭০০	৮০০-৩৭০০	৮০০-৩৭০০	http://www.studyincroatia.hr/	সেনজেন নয়
৩৮	বসনিয়া- হার্জেগোভিনা	১০০০-৩৫০০	১৫০০-৮০০০	১৫০০-৮০০০		সেনজেন নয়
৩৯	মালদেভ	২০০০-৫০০০	২৫০০- ৬০০০	২৫০০-৬০০০		সেনজেন নয়
৪০	আলবেনিয়া	২৫০০-৫০০০	২৫০০-৭০০০	২৫০০-৮০০০		সেনজেন নয়
৪১	মেসেডিনিয়া	২৫০০-৫০০০	২৫০০-৭০০০	২৫০০-৮০০০		সেনজেন নয়
৪২	মার্টিনিগো	২৫০০-৫০০০	২৫০০-৭০০০	২৫০০-৮০০০		সেনজেন নয়
৪৩	স্যান মারিনো	২৫০০-৫০০০	২৫০০-৭০০০	২৫০০-৮০০০	http://san-marino.studentmap.eu/	সেনজেন নয়
৪৪	মোনাকো	২৫০০-৫০০০	২৫০০-৭০০০	২৫০০-৮০০০		সেনজেন নয়

সংকলনঃ মেহেদী হাসান

তথ্যসূত্রঃ সংশ্লিষ্ট দেশের ওয়েব পোর্টাল ও গুগল

আপডেটঃ ০৯ ফেব্রুয়ারী ২০১৭ ইং

How to prepare for IELTS - FAQs



香港城市大學
City University
of Hong Kong

How to prepare for IELTS FAQs



English Language Centre

What is IELTS?

IELTS is the International English Language Testing System examination which tests the four skills - listening, reading writing and speaking.

What does the exam consist of?

There are four tests done in the following order: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking.

Listening

4 sections, 40 questions
30 minutes + 10 minutes
transfer time

Academic Reading

3 sections, 40 questions
60 minutes

Academic Writing

2 tasks (150 & 250 words)
60 minutes

Speaking

11 to 14 minutes

Total exam time

2 hours 55 minutes

If you would like some more detailed information. Look at the following books in the SAC:

Insight into IELTS: p.6, p.7, p.28, p.66, p.96 & p.97.

Cambridge IELTS 2: pp.1-6.

Focus on IELTS: pp. 5-7.

What should I do to prepare for the exam?

The first thing you must do to prepare for this exam is to become familiar with what you are expected to do. See how many of the FAQs you can answer on the next page before reading the information on pages 3 and 4. Then focus on one skill at a time and work your way through the **booklets in the SAC - How to prepare for IELTS - Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing**.

How to prepare for IELTS - FAQs

What do you know about the tests?

See how many of the questions you can answer. Then read the information on the next four pages. The answers are on the last page.

Listening

1. How many times is the tape played?
2. What kind of texts do we listen to?
3. How many questions are there?
4. What kinds of questions are there? Are there multiple choice questions?
5. Are we given any time to read the questions?
6. Are we given any time when the tape is switched off?

Reading

7. How much reading do we have to do?
8. How many questions are there?
9. What kinds of texts are they?
10. Where do the texts come from?
11. What kinds of questions are there?

Writing

12. How many pieces of writing do we do?
13. How long should we spend writing each one?
14. How many words do we have to write for each one?
15. Do we get the same percentage of marks for each one?

Speaking

16. How many people are in the room at the same time?
17. What are the different parts of the test?
18. Can we make notes during the test?
19. Do we have time to prepare during the test?

How to prepare for IELTS - FAQs

LISTENING

- The tape is played once only.
- There are four sections.
- The first two sections are concerned with social needs.
- The last two sections are related to educational contexts.
- There are 40 questions. 10 questions per section.
- The texts and the tasks increase in difficulty as the test progresses.
- There are a variety of text types – monologues and dialogues between two or more people.
- There are a variety of task types including multiple choice, short-answer questions, notes/chart/table completion, sentence completion, labeling a diagram, classification and matching. (See worksheets 3 to 8 for more details).
- There will be more than one task type in each section.
- You are given about 30 seconds before each section to read the questions.
- You are given about 30 seconds at the end of each section to look over your answers.
- You are given an additional 10 minutes at the end of the test to transfer your answers from the question booklet to the answer sheet.

How to prepare for IELTS - FAQs

READING

- There are three sections with three reading passages.
- Each reading passage is between 700 and 1000 words long.
- There are 40 questions. 13 to 14 questions per section.
- The texts are academic in style but of general interest.
- There may be a text with diagrams, graphs or tables.
- There will be one text with a detailed logical argument.
- The texts and tasks increase in difficulty as the test progresses.
- The types of texts include descriptions, critical reviews, discussions of theories and data, case studies, narratives etc.
- The texts come from books, academic papers, magazines and journals.
- There are a variety of task types including multiple choice, short-answer questions, notes/chart/table completion, sentence completion, labeling a diagram, classification, matching lists/phrases, choosing suitable paragraph headings from a list, identification of writer's views/attitudes & summary completion. (*See worksheets 9 – 16 for details*).
- There will be more than one task type in each section.
- You are not given any extra time to transfer your answers from the question booklet to the answer sheet.

How to prepare for IELTS - FAQs

WRITING

- There are two tasks.
- You have to write at least 150 words for Task 1.
- You have to write at least 250 words for Task 2.
- You should take about 20 minutes over Task 1 and 40 minutes over Task 2.
- In Task 1 you have to look at the information in a table or diagram and present the information in your own words.
- You are assessed on how you describe data, describe the stages of a process, describe an object or event or explain how something works. (*See worksheets 17-21 for more details*.)
- In Task 2 you are given an opinion, an argument or a problem and you have to write an essay in response.
- You are assessed on how you present a solution to a problem, present and justify an opinion, compare and contrast evidence and opinions, evaluate and challenge ideas and give evidence and argue your case.
- Task 2 carries more weight than task 1.

SPEAKING

- There is one examiner who asks all the questions and also assesses you.
- There are 3 main parts.
- Part 1 is the introduction and interview and lasts about 4 to 5 minutes.
- In Part 1 you are asked general questions about yourself.
- Part 2 is the individual long turn and lasts about 3 to 4 minutes.
- Part 2 you are asked to talk for one to two minutes on a topic the examiner gives you.
- You are given one minute to prepare to speak in Part 2.
- You can make notes on paper provided by the examiner.
- Part 3 is the two-way discussion and lasts about 4 to 5 minutes.
- Part 3 is a discussion of more abstract issues related to the topic in Part 2.

Answer Key

1. The tape is played once only.
2. You listen to monologues and dialogues in social contexts and educational contexts.
3. There are 40 questions. 10 in each of the 4 sections.
4. There are lots of different types of questions. Multiple choice is only one of them.
5. You are given 30 seconds before each section.
6. You are given 10 minutes at the end to transfer your answers from the question booklet to the answer booklet.
7. You have to read three texts in three sections. They are 750 to 1000 words long.
8. There are 40 questions.
9. They are of general interest. One will be a logical argument and one may have diagrams, graphs or tables.
10. They come from books, academic papers, journals and magazines.
11. There are a variety of question types from multiple choice to matching.
12. You have to do 2 writing tasks.
13. You should spend 20 minutes on the first task and 40 minutes on the second.
14. You have to write at least 150 words for the first task and 250 words for the second task.
15. The second task carries more weight than the first.
16. You and one examiner are the only people in the room
17. There are three parts to the test. Part 1 – interview; Part 2 – 1-2 minute talk; Part 3 – discussion.
18. Yes, during Part 2 the examiner will give you some paper and a pen.
19. The only preparation time you have is before Part 2 – 1 minute only.

How to prepare for IELTS - FAQs

Books available in the SAC & referred to in the How to Prepare for IELTS booklets

Adams, G., & Peck, T. (2000). **101 Helpful hints for IELTS**. Sydney: Adams & Austen Press.

Jakeman, V., & McDowell, C. (2000). **Cambridge practice tests for IELTS 1**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Jakeman, V., & McDowell, C. (2001). **Insight into IELTS**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

O'Connell, S. (2002). **Focus on IELTS**. Harlow: Longman.

Sahanaya, W., & Lindeck, J. (1997). **Preparation & practice: Listening & speaking**. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

Sahanaya, W., Lindeck, J & Stewart, R. (2000). **Preparation & practice: Reading & writing academic module**. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

UCLES. (2000). **Cambridge IELTS 2**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

UCLES. (2000). **Cambridge IELTS 3**. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Wiley, J., & Sons. (2002). **IELTS to success**. Melbourne: Melbourne Enterprises Int. Ltd.

Netherlands

Step by step to Study in the Netherlands- Bachelor Pre-Masters,**Masters, Research****Masters and Post Doctorate**

The Netherlands, a country in northwestern Europe, is known for its flat landscape, canals, tulip fields, windmills and cycling routes. Besides these, approximately 97% of Dutch population speaks in English as a second language. Almost all the universities use English as their main language to teach undergraduate and graduate levels. Thus, the country has become quite popular destination for international students.

Requirements to apply for Bachelors:

Language requirements: It is essential that you speak, read and write English well. You must have passed an English language test. IELTS and TOEFL are commonly accepted, but institutions may accept other tests as well, like Cambridge English. The required scores are at least 550 (paper based) or 213 (computer based) for TOEFL. For IELTS a score of at least 6 is required for direct bachelor program for applied sciences universities and IELTS 6.5 for research universities. All academic certificate and mark sheet, IELTS certificate, Birth certificate required as a paper.

Preparatory year:

Sometimes you are not yet eligible to the program of your choice, but with a little extra

preparation you could succeed next year! The Dutch higher education institution of your choice can provide you with a conditional letter of acceptance. Dutch immigration law then allows you to come to the Netherlands for a maximum of one year prior to your studies to follow preparatory courses and pass the examinations set by the institution. After you have passed the examinations, the conditional letter of acceptance will turn into a definite letter of acceptance. The factsheet 'A preparatory year before admission to a Dutch university' gives you all the information on this topic. However, some universities allow IELTS 5.0 for one year English Language Program and IELTS 5.5 for six months.

Tuition Fees:

For bachelor studies range from 6000 to 8000 Euros a year for applied sciences universities and for research universities 8000 to 12000 euro. Better come with a scholarship or just come for masters because it will be very hard to fund your own study for four years bachelor program. There are only few scholarship opportunities for Bachelor's study. There are two types of scholarship for bachelor.

1. University excellence scholarship. 2. Holland scholarship.

These are for once only and you have to apply for September session. In February session there are no opportunities for scholarship. Go to this link to find a required bachelor scholarship for your interested area:

<https://www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/find-a-scholarship>

Masters or Pre-Masters:

Most universities follow online application system. The most important documents that a student needs to submit are undergraduate results, resume, IELTs score minimum 6.5 for direct masters and for pre-masters IELTS 6 required. GMAT score (depends on subject if necessary or not), Motivation letter, recommendation letter, bachelor thesis or internship report, CV, job experience or volunteering experience paper and birth certificate. After reviewing these documents if the university feels like you have all the necessary qualifications to study in the Masters program then you will be directly admitted to the program. However, if you do not meet the admission requirements for a master program, you could be considered following a pre-master, which usually takes a year or six months. After completing a pre-master program successfully, you have direct access to the desired master program.

Research Masters:

The same application package can also be followed to apply in a research master's program. The Master of Research degree is an advanced postgraduate research degree in a specific academic discipline. The benefit of studying this program is that you have higher chance to get accepted as a PHD candidate. The program is extensively scientific research oriented. It usually takes two years to finish the program, however, after finishing research masters it only takes three years to

complete the PHD. Getting accepted in this program is very competitive. A candidate has to have basic knowledge about scientific research or at least have written few articles following scientific research method. Most Universities in Holland gives full scholarship if accepted in research masters and also research assistance ship.

Post Doctorate:

Being a doctorate candidate in Holland has lots of benefits. A PHD candidate gets a work permit as they are treated as paid employees. The salary ranges from €1500-€2000 per month. As the student does not have to pay any tuition fees it becomes easy to bear all living expenses by themselves. In Holland, PHD candidate also have to work as a teacher in the university which means there is a higher chance to get permanent work permit as a lecturer after completion of PHD degree. However, you need to be highly talented and have written and published few research articles to get direct admission in PHD from Bangladesh.

Tuition Fees and Scholarship:

For Masters program tuition fee ranges from €10,000- €14,000 per year. Holland has specific university based scholarship that they give based on good results in undergraduate level, GMAT (depends if it is necessary for the program or not). Besides, there are some national scholarships provided by Dutch government like Erasmus, Nuffic scholarship, and OKP.

Full list here-

<https://www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/highlighted-scholarships>

Applying for MVV, residence permit and living cost:

The good news is after being accepted in a program the university will apply for your residence permit. All you have to do is follow the instructions given by the university. As living cost you have to show or transfer €10,500 in university bank account. However, it does not cost that much to live in Holland for a year. A student shared flat can be rented from €260- €350 per month. If you can cook at home your grocery expenses will not be higher than €300 a month. A health insurance need to be taken which will cost around €500 a year.

Studying and working:

As a student you will have permission to work 10 hours per week. It is very hard to find a suitable job as an international student. Most jobs are odd and in restaurants. Language barrier is a problem. Best advice is to be prepared for anything. It is not possible to cover tuition or living cost by working part time. Besides if you can't manage and fail in your studies then there is a big chance that you will lose your residence permit.

Working after studying:

Holland gives you 1 year after studying to look for a job. If you studied something related to IT, engineering and technical then you don't need to know the Dutch

language and there is a huge demand for IT people in Holland. For people who are studying other subjects it might be hard to find job without knowing the language. In that case, the best way to prepare yourself is by doing a lot of networking while you are studying, doing extracurricular activities, knowing about the culture and people.

How to apply:

The first way I would like to recommend you to see the selected university website.

You can see all of universities list here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HigherstudyabroadHolland/1494691630570594/>

1. Open an account in Studielink. <https://student.sl-cloud.nl/>
 2. Apply through Studielink.
 3. Upload your all necessary paper through university OSIRIES website.
 4. After 2 to 3 weeks they may ask for interview then they will give you offer letter within one week.
 5. Transfer your money according to invoice through bankstudent account.
 6. Wait 20 to 30 working days for IND approval.
 7. While you get your IND approval you will have to face embassy viva in Dhaka Dutch embassy.
 8. Then embassy will decide you will get the visa or not within 14 days.
- Like our official fan page: <https://www.facebook.com/Abroadinquiry/>
- Join our official group here:
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HigherStudyAbroadInquiry/>
- Join our Netherlands subgroup here:
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HigherstudyabroadHolland/>

Best of luck for your higher study in Netherlands. ☺

Abu Musa

Orange Knowledge Programme (OKP) Scholarship 2019 Dutch fully funded scholarship part-1 (Application open on 1st of February and the deadline varies university to university)

Hello World, Today, I am going to discuss the scholarship requirements and application criteria of OKP then my second part; I will try to briefly discuss about application procedure. Even you can read this for application: <https://www.studyinholland.nl/.../okp-information-for-application>... This post might help you to apply for next semester. So are you ready to ROCK? Well this OKP scholarship consists of tuition fees, visa, travel, insurance etc. Can you guess how much will be the monthly allowance? Well so far I know you can get maximum 2900 Euros per month. Basically, this OKP scholarship is for some short course and masters courses. First of all, you have to know that, is your country included the OKP list?

You can find the list in this here, <https://www.studyinholland.nl/.../orange-knowledge-programme> Secondly, if your country is not included then please check other scholarship here, <https://www.studyinholland.nl/.../scholars.../find-a-scholarship> Remember that at a time you can apply for two scholarships. I will try to discuss those next time.

Now time to check your subject. You can find your subject list here, <https://www.studyfinder.nl>. More easily you can find to use the filter 'OKP qualified -Yes'. Requirements and application criteria: 1. An unconditional offer letter from a Dutch university (make sure your offer letter before the online application). 2. You are currently working.- Make sure your working company is an eligible company list (<https://www.studyinholland.nl/.../okp-information-for-application>). 3. You have a current employer's statement. 4. Your valid passport. 5. You have done online application form and you have provided the required documents properly. To get an unconditional offer letter you need to full fill the university admission criteria. Admission criteria vary from university to university.

**South Korea(Could Not Find the actual doc for editing if you have it, than
please post the link in the comments)**

A Guideline for KGSP Undergraduate Application

SIDDIQUE JOY·WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2018

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Answers, Suggestions and Cautions-

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You need to have at least GPA 3.23 out of 5 to apply to KGSP
Undergraduate !

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① Completed Application Form (Form 1)

② NIIED Pledge (Form 2)

③ Personal Statement (Form 3)

④ Study Plan (Form 4)

⑤ Two Recommendation Letters (Form 5)

☒ Must be from two separate recommenders.

☒ The letters must be written by someone who can give in-depth assessment on the applicant's abilities, including a high school teacher, principal, or academic advisor.

⑥ Completed Self Medical Assessment (Form 6)

⑦ Graduation Certificate of High School

⑧ High School Grade Transcript (including a description of the school's grading system)

⑨ Certificates of Citizenship of the Applicant and Parents (Examples: a birth certificate, a government-issued certificate indicating the parent-child relationship, a family register, or parents' passport copies)

⑩ Awards (Optional)

⑪ Applicants with certified scores on their proficiency in Korean or in English may be given preference. Some examples include the following. Proficiency in Korean : TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean) Proficiency in English: TOEFL, TOEIC, or IELTS

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Step By step definition of every document types –

1. Completed Application Form (Form 1)

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2. KGSP Applicant Pledge (Form 2)

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3. Personal Statement (Form 3)

4. Study Plan (Form 4)

5. Letter Of Recommendation (Form 5)

6. Self-Medical Assessment (Form 6)

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1. Completed Application Form (Form 1)
2. NIIED Pledge (Form 2)
3. Personal Statement (Form 3)
4. Study Plan (Form 4)
5. Two Recommendation Letters (Form 5). Must be from two separate recommenders . The letters must be written by someone who can give in-depth assessment on the applicant's abilities, including a high school teacher, principal, or academic advisor
- Completed Self Medical Assessment (Form 5)
6. Completed Self Medical Assessment (Form 6)
7. Graduation Certificate of High School . Those who are expected to graduate may submit a provisional graduation certificate of high school.
8. High School Grade Transcript (including a description of the school's grading system)

9. Certificates of Citizenship of the Applicant and Parents (Examples: a birth certificate, a government-issued certificate indicating the parent-child relationship, a family register, or parents' passport copies)

10. Awards (Optional)

11. Applicants with certified scores on their proficiency in Korean or in English may be given preference. Some examples include the following: Proficiency in Korean: TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean) Proficiency in English: TOEFL, TOEIC, or IELTS Academic (TOEFL ITPs are not acceptable)

12. Certificate of Health (Form 7, only for candidates who successfully pass the 2nd round of selection) The certificate of health must be completed and signed by a doctor.

13. Copy of the Applicant's Passport (Only for candidates who successfully pass the 2nd round of selection)

14. Overseas Korean Proof Documents and supporting documents indicating the generation status (applicable to Overseas Koreans Only)

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MD Abu Bakar Siddique Joy, KGSP-U 2018 Scholar.

Currently studying in Korean Language institute, Silla University, Busan, South Korea.

Bachelor Program - Electrical And Computer Engineering, Seoul national University!

Russia

One of the most Prestigious Scholarship in Russia is Russian Government Scholarship , Every year about 60-70 students gets a chance to study in Russia for free (no tuition) in good universities like **Bauman Moscow State Technical University (QS rank : 291) , Higher School of economics (QS: 343 overall) , National Research Nuclear University (QS: 373) Tomsk Polytechnic University (QS: 386), Tomsk State University (QS: 323).**

Also other great Universities like :

- 1. Peters the Great Saint-Petersburg Polytechnic University(QS: 404).**
- 2. Kazan Federal University (QS: 441) and so on.**

Those who are the recipient of the scholarship will get free tuition from the University, monthly stipend of around 2000-2800 roubles , Mandatory room in the University Dormitory (which is really cheap, the average is around only 10-15 thousand taka a year).

All of the recipient will study in Russian medium , which is compulsory for Scholarship holders and will go through a 1 year foundation program (which will cover Russian language and other basic subjects related to the faculty) So the total course of study will be 4+1 years for general subjects , 6+1 years specialized subjects and 2+1 years for masters program.

Turkey

APPLICATION PROCEDURES OF TURKEY GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP:

*****Make sure you are applying in English Instructed/English Medium Department/Subject because Turkish Medium is quite difficult to pass for Bangladeshi students*****

Before submitting scholarship application, interested candidate must open an account at <http://www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/index.php/en/> along with all necessary documents.

The documents you may need to apply for Turkish government scholarship are:

- 1. Scan copy of all certificates and mark sheets.**
- 2. Two recommendation letter (from the professors)**
- 3. Valid passport's scan copy**
- 4. Recent pp size photograph, (scan or soft copy)**
- 5. English proficiency certificate like IELTS, TOEFL, SAT, GRE & GMAT.**
(Keep in mind that these are not the requirements of scholarship but these are the requirements of the university to which you are applying for)
- 6. If you have any publication/ project/ extra curriculum, proven documents or certificates of these activities. (Scan or soft copy)**

The application is very lengthy process. It has 7 to 9 pages which includes personal information, academic information, job experience (if you have), extra curriculum, Projects (if you have), short essays, and university selection. So, I suggest you to take at least one week to complete the application.

You can fill up section by section as well as save your information and then continue again later on. There will be 4 to 5 short essays and I suggest you to take time to write those essays. After writing, check properly is there any mistake/grammar mistake or not because most of the applicants will be dropped out for wrong or irreverent answers.

Check out the application demo video in case you have any problem to fill up the form. Here is the link:

[https://basvuru.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/en/OBS_K/OnlineBasvuru/Basvuru Demo](https://basvuru.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/en/OBS_K/OnlineBasvuru/BasvuruDemo)

At last you have to choose your desire university along with subject. One applicant can choose up to 12 universities. At the time of universities selection, please check the university's requirements. In addition, do not apply to a university which requirements do not match with you since it has higher possibility to be rejected. For instance, you applied to **Middle East Technical University (METU)** and it requires good score in both IELTS/TOEFL as well as GRE. If you don't have these certificates your application will be rejected for METU. So, my suggestion is apply to those universities which requirements go with you.

After submitting application, short listed candidates will get an interview call. Turkey Scholarships interviews are conducted in the following format:

1. Welcome and introduction

The committee introduces themselves and explains the flow of the interview. Then they ask you to introduce yourself briefly.

2. Document check

While you are introducing yourself, a member of the committee checks your documents. Just make sure that you bring the original copies of your documents you have submitted in the application.

3. Candidate's motivation for applying

Here candidates are expected to explain why they wish to study abroad, why they choose Turkey as study destination and any other reason they may provide.

4. Academic knowledge and career goals

This stage is about assessing your academic standing and your future plans. So you may be asked questions about the academic field you already completed or you wish to start or both. Your career plans are expected to be as concrete as possible.

5. Ending and questions to the committee

As you are approaching to the end of the interview, the committee will give you some information about where and when to get the results of the interview. Here you can ask any questions you may have.

After one month of interview successful candidates will receive final notifications about scholarship and here is some information about further processing before coming to Turkey.

Attest your all original certificates and mark sheets with at least two copies from respective Education Board, Education Ministry and Foreign Ministry. (You don't have to pay any fee for Education Ministry and Foreign Ministry, however, for education board you may need to pay)

Do your medical test from United Hospital. Tell them you are going to Turkey as a student. It will cost around tk5000. (Ask Turkey Embassy Dhaka before going for medical.)

Translate all your documents including passport, certificates, mark sheet and medical reports to Turkish.

Signing scholarship contract papers (Scholarship Team will send everyone within due time)

Apply for the visa.

P.S. Please do communicate with Turkey Embassy Dhaka before starting your processing/ visa application.

If you have further query feel free to ask.

Canada

List of Canadian Universities Offering Major Scholarships by Ishrak Bin Iltut

Hello Everyone! Yes! The university admission season is near. With so many enthusiastic applicants approaching me with queries regarding the scholarships in Canadian universities and seeing everyone's interest in

them, I've decided to jot them down here. As a past recipient of two of the major scholarships here, I can assure you it's going to be very competitive. The number of awards given out by Canadian universities is extremely low (only one or two in most cases), especially when compared to those given out by universities in the US, and hence they are extremely selective. Please note that, aside from these scholarships, all the universities offer other small non-renewable scholarship programs ranging from CAD 1,000-5,000 in value, which I've not mentioned here because those do not require a separate application. You're automatically considered for those with your general admission application. Another thing: Canadian universities do not require SAT, but you do have to meet the minimum requirements in IELTS/TOEFL if you're from a local curriculum (SSC/HSC). For the scholarships listed here, applications will be considered based on academics, community involvement, extra-curricular achievements, referee/reference/recommendation letters and statement of interest. Plus, there are two kinds of scholarships here: renewable and non-renewable. Renewable means that you can renew your scholarship every academic year (Sept-April), while non-renewable means that the scholarship can be only used for one academic year (i.e. you cannot renew it on your second/third/fourth year). I've just tried to give you the overall picture of the scholarships in Canada and describe it from the financial perspective. I'll soon write another document going into the details of these. However, you can go through the details in the respective universities' websites. Just google it! (Yes you can do it)

1. Humber College Scholarships for International Students: Full tuition (approximate value of \$12,800CAD) and partial tuition (worth \$5,000) renewablescholarships are available for both September and January semesters. The scholarships will be applied toward the successful students' tuition fees.

Details at

-<http://international.humber.ca/study-in-canada/scholarships>

2. York University Scholarships for International Students: The University of York offers the Global Leader of Tomorrow Scholarships, United World College Scholarships, and International Entrance Scholarships for international students who would like to take a full-time undergraduate degree at University of York. Details at
-<http://futurestudents.yorku.ca/funding>. The awards include: · **Global Leader of Tomorrow Award:** \$68,000(\$17,000 x 4 years) · **United World College Scholarship** \$112,000(\$28,000 x 4 years) · **International Entrance Scholarships:** \$112,000(\$28,000 x 4 years)

3. The University of British Columbia: -International Leader of Tomorrow (ILOT) AwardThe International Leader of Tomorrow Awardrecognizes international undergraduate students who demonstrate superior academic achievement, leadership skills, involvement in student affairs and community service, recognized achievement in fields of endeavors such as the performing arts, sports, debating or creative writing, or external academic competitions and examinations. International Leader of Tomorrow Award-winners receive an award-level commensurate with their financial need as determined by the costs of their tuition, fees and living costs, minus the financial contribution the student and their family can make annually towards these costs. A standard needs-assessment is made, based on financial information provided by students and their families. The amount of an ILOT Award can be anywhere between a partial tuition coverage all the way to a full ride (tuition+living).

Details at [-http://internationalscholars.ubc.ca/about-the-program/ilot/](http://internationalscholars.ubc.ca/about-the-program/ilot/)

4. Carleton University Entrance Scholarships for International

Students: Carleton University awards scholarships in the Fall/Winter session of the year of offer to entrance and in-course full-time undergraduate students who have demonstrated a high potential for university studies. Carleton offers partial scholarships worth up to \$16,000 to exemplary students. Details at [-https://carleton.ca/awards/scholarships/entrance-scholarships-for-new-students/scholarships/](https://carleton.ca/awards/scholarships/entrance-scholarships-for-new-students/scholarships/)

5. Fairleigh Dickinson University Scholarships for International

Students: Fairleigh Dickinson University is the largest private university in New Jersey. It is a not-for-profit, nonsectarian, multi-campus institution with campuses in the USA, Canada and England. International scholarships worth of up to \$13,000 to \$25,000 are available to qualified, first-time undergraduate international students.

Details at

[-http://view2.fdu.edu/admissions/international/scholarships-and-financial-aid/](http://view2.fdu.edu/admissions/international/scholarships-and-financial-aid/)

6. University Of Toronto Engineering International Scholar Awards: The

International Scholar Awards at U of T are given out to exceptional international students pursuing an Engineering degree at U of T. It

covers full tuition and is awarded on the basis of leadership skills, academic performance and extra-curricular achievements. Details at [-http://discover.engineering.utoronto.ca/money/scholarships/](http://discover.engineering.utoronto.ca/money/scholarships/)

6. University of Ontario Institute of Technology:Global Leadership AwardAs one of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's (UOIT) most prestigious entrance awards, the recipient of this award will be academically outstanding and have made notable contributions to extracurricular or community activities. The Awards Committee will make selections based on these qualifications. The scholarship values at \$18000 per year i.e. \$72000 for 4 years.8.U of T International Scholar

Awards:<http://discover.engineering.utoronto.ca/money/scholarships/> Award

Description: The University of Toronto International Scholarship program recognizes eligible candidates who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, extracurricular activities and creativity; are recognized as a leader within their school; offer the potential to contribute to the global community in the future. Financial need is also a basic requirement and will be assessed in the selection process. The U of T International Scholar Award-winners receive an award-level commensurate with their financial need as determined by the costs of their tuition, fees and living costs, minus the financial contribution the student and their family can make annually towards these costs. A standard needs-assessment is made, based on financial information provided by students and their families.

Eligibility: Applicants must: * be in their final year of high school, applying for September entry to first year studies in Arts, Science, Commerce, Management, Engineering, Music or Kinesiology and Physical Education at the University of Toronto. * must NOT be Canadian citizens or permanent residents. * must normally be enrolled in a secondary school outside Canada. * have an outstanding academic record and have made an extraordinary impact on their school and/or the wider community. * demonstrate financial need in order to pursue studies at the University of Toronto.

Selectivity: The U of T International Scholars Award is given to only two incoming freshmen every year from all over the world. It may seem extremely competitive but it's certainly worth a shot. If you have any exceptional academic achievements, creative involvements and leadership activities just go for it. Application Process: Your High-School authority (principal) will have to contact U of T Enrollment Services personally by sending a post-mail (along with the profile of your High-School) to the following address or, via e-mail through a verifiable official e-mail domain, asking for the nomination package in late September or, early October. Enrollment Services University of Toronto 172 St. George Street Toronto, Ontario M5R 0A3 scholarship.enquiry@utoronto.ca May the odds be in your favor!

STUDENT DOCUMENTS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 Photograph (Size 3.5 cm X 4.5 cm) - white background
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medical (from designated doctor)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of Current & Previous Passport - All pages
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Family Information (parents, spouse, children, siblings)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of Educational Certificates, results (Certified by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of IELTS etc (Certified by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of Birth Certificate (Certified by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original Police Clearance Certificate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Study Plan / Statement of purpose
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bio-Data
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of Marriage Document: Nikah Nama, Photos (Certified by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 Contact Numbers, Email address

Ticks and crosses were applicable for me not for you

SPONSOR DOCUMENTS:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 Photograph
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Passport - information pages & visa pages (Certified by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Copy of National ID (Certified by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original Personal Bank Account Statements for recent 6 months (stamped & signed by officer)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original Bank Solvency Certificate from Manager (confirming account balance)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fixed Deposit Account Statement, Copy of Fixed Deposit Slip (certified), Letter from Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Savings Certificate (Certified), Letter from Manager Confirming Savings Certificates
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DPS / Provident fund / Other Bonds
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Share Investments / Insurance Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A written explanation about Source of Fund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Affidavit of Financial Support
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Affidavit of Name Correction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Certified Copy of Tax Return (Attested by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tax Certificate / Tax Payment slip etc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asset Valuation Report / Deed agreement etc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of Car Registration (Attested by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Receipt of Rent payments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Letter from Union Parishod Chairman etc regarding agricultural business etc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original Letter from Employer (include joining date, position, salary, bonus, other benefits)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Trade Licence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Business Audit Report
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other Licence (Contractors / Export / Import / Dealership etc)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photocopy of Remittance Slip (Attested by Notary)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Copy of visa, work permit incase of foreign job
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Professional Registration (Doctor / Lawyer etc)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Membership Certificates (Chamber of Commerce / Club etc)

MALAYSIA

× TOP UNIVERSITIES × HOW TO APPLY × FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

BY

TAUSEEF RASHEQ AHAD

BACHELOR OF ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING WITH MAJOR IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS
MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY
MALAYSIA

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1. TOP UNIVERSITIES IN MALAYSIA (PREFERRED BY EXPERTS)

1.1 Public Universities:

- a. University Malaya (UM).***
- b. University of Technology, Malaysia (UTM).***
- c. National University of Malaysia (UKM).***
- d. University of Science, Malaysia (USM).***
- e. University of Putra, Malaysia (UPM).***
- f. International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM).***
- g. University Technology Mara (UiTM).***
- h. University Utara Malaysia (UUM).**
- i. University Malaysia Sabah (UMS).**
- j. University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS).**
- k. University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM).**
- l. University Technical Malaysia Melaka (UTeM).**
- m. University Malaysia Pahang (UMP).**
- n. University Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP).**
- l. National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM).**

1.2 Private Universities:

- a. AIMST University.**
- b. Asia Pacific University College of Technology & Innovation.**
- c. HELP University.**
- d. International Medical University.*
- e. INTI International University.**
- f. KDU University College.**
- g. Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College.**
- h. Limkokwing University of Creative Technology.**
- i. Multimedia University.***
- j. SEGi University College.**
- k. Monash University Malaysia.***
- l. University of Nottingham Malaysia.***
- m. Curtin University of Technology.***
- n. Swinburne University of Technology.***
- o. Sunway University.**
- p. Taylor's University..**
- q. UCSI University.**
- r. National Energy University (UNITEN).***
- s. University of Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR).***
- t. Lim Kok Wing University of Creative Technology. **

In this rating:

*** Is equivalent to a top level University.

** Is average or above average University.

* Is an average or below average University.

Trusted ratings of Universities:

QS Rankings: <http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2014#sorting=rank+region=+country=113+faculty=+stars=false+search=>

Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA): <http://www.mqa.gov.my/portal2012/D-SETARA/THE%20SUN%2037X26.1.pdf>

2. HOW TO APPLY IN MALAYSIA (FOR BACHELOR STUDENTS ONLY)

2.1 Getting Accepted:

1. Look at University Website rankings (preferably QS Rankings) and check out websites of Universities to see a) what courses they offer b) what are the tuition fees c) how many semesters they have and when are the deadlines.
2. Choose at least 3 Universities. Fill up the online application form from their websites. You may need to upload certified true copies of your certificates. In that case, make a photocopy of your required documents, do a notary of them and then scan them into your computer. Or else, you can also attest them from your Headmaster, principal or any First Class Gazetted Officer.
3. Afterwards, you will have to send a few certified true copies and a few other photocopies to the University's address, along with a Bank Draft / TT of some amount. The best way to send documents fast, cheap and efficiently is via UPS or TNT. Bangladeshi Postal Office takes quite some time. DHL is quite expensive. As for Bank Draft / TT, open a Student Profile in any reputed Bank in Bangladesh and send money through that.
4. The University will email you if you are accepted. The process takes 7-30 days. The fees for applying in a University ranges from USD 30-100.

2.2 Applying for Student Visa:

1. Choose one out of all the Offer Letters you receive.
2. In this step, you will have to submit a few documents for Immigration Department of Malaysia and Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS). Fill up the forms asked by your University and submit certified true copies via couriers mentioned above.
3. You will also have to send a Registration Fee to the University using Bank Draft / TT. The fee will be mentioned by the University in your Offer Letter.
4. Once the University receives hardcopies of asked documents, they will send it to EMGS. You can check the progress here:
<http://www.educationmalaysia.gov.my/emgs/application/searchForm/>
5. This process usually takes 1 months to 3 months. Once your application is approved, the University will email you your VAL (Visa Approval Letter) from the Ministry of Education, Malaysia.

2.3 Entering Malaysia and Medical checkup:

1. This is the final step. First, ask your University to send hardcopies of your Offer Letter and your Visa Approval Letter via DHL.
2. You will now have to apply for a single-entry visa to Malaysia. To do that, take your original Offer Letter, your original Visa Approval Letter, all original Academic Transcripts and your passport to one of the authorized agents of High Commission of Malaysia in Bangladesh (you can find the list here: http://www.kln.gov.my/web/bgd_dhaka/other_information/-/asset_publisher/2TQe/content/authorized-visa-submitting-agents-high-commission-of-malaysia-in-dhaka-bangladesh?redirect=%2Fweb%2Fbgd_dhaka%2Fother_information). Also, do keep at least 3 photocopies of every document and try to attest / notarize them if possible.
3. The fee for visa application will be BDT 3100. The visa will take 3 working days to complete.
4. Once you have received the visa, you can book your tickets and go Malaysia. You can email your University to book a room in their Hostel and also to send a representative to pick you up from the Airport if you wish.
5. Once you have reached your University, report to the Visa and Immigration Unit of your University and submit your passport. You will then have to do a medical check-up in 7 days (check the list of authorized clinics here: <http://www.educationmalaysia.gov.my/our-services/all-services/medical-screening/>).
6. Once you have done registration in your University, you can continue doing classes. You will receive your passport in 1-2 months with a Student Visa for 1 year. You will have to renew the visa every year with RM 770, which will also include a Health Insurance worth RM 500 that will cover any disease if you are admitted in any reputed Hospital in Malaysia.

3. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Is IELTS mandatory?

A: No. But it is preferable as you will have to wait for 1-3 months for your Student Visa. However, if you do not give IELTS, you will have to give a MUET (Malaysian University English Test) here, which is somewhat harder than IELTS. If you can score at least Band 3 out of Band 6 there, you will pass. Or else, you will have to study English for 4 months in the University and spend around RM 15,000 for that only.

Q: What is the job scope after graduation?

A: Countless. Malaysia is one of the most booming countries in the World. There are countless vacancies for Engineering, Business, IT, Film and Media. As the biggest brands in the World are mostly in Malaysia, your possibilities are endless.

Furthermore, a Malaysian degree is recognized all over Asia and North America, including Singapore, Korea, Japan, Australia and Canada. Thus, you can easily aim for those places after graduation. Especially for Engineering, all the Tier-5 Universities in Malaysia are under Washington Accord, which gives its students a chance to apply directly in Australia, Canada, Japan, South Africa or Korea easily.

However, you have to be better than the local students to attain these advantages. Only the best of Internationals are selected for jobs.

Q: How much are the tuition fees?

A: That depends on the University. Public Universities charge BDT 5-10 lakhs for 3-4 years of Degree, while Private Universities charge BDT 16-50 lakhs for their 3-4 years of Degree.

Q: Are there any Scholarships?

A: For Bachelors, mostly no. There are a few Scholarships in Branch campus Universities (e.g: Monash, Curtin, Nottingham, Swinburne) but those are very limited and you have to be pretty talented to achieve those.

There are some other Scholarships too. For example, if your family members are members of the Grameen Bank, you can apply for the Khazanah Scholarship

(<http://www.yayasankhazanah.com.my/?p=scholarship&c=global>).

Q: Are there Financial Aids?

A: Yes, almost every University provides Financial Aids to students if they are unable to pay tuition fees, given that the student has a strong reason.

Q: When should I apply?

A: Different Universities have different times as Application deadlines. Choose your preferred University and follow the guidelines given in the website.

Q: What sort of results are necessary to get admitted?

A: In case of Bengali mediums, for the above average Universities, you will need at least a 4.00 in both your SSC and HSC. For the ones which are average or below average, the minimum requirement is a 3.00.

Q: How much is the monthly living expense?

A: Depends on the area. The price ranges from RM 800 per month to RM 1200 per month.

Q: Can I do part-time jobs?

A: No. Part-time jobs are strictly illegal for Bachelor and Diploma students in Malaysia. If you are caught, your visa will be cancelled immediately.

Furthermore, there are a few part-time jobs, which offer only RM 5-7 per hour. If you work for 4 hours for 5 days a week, that gives you a highest of RM 140 a week and RM 560 a month. This amount of money is not even enough for your proper accommodation, let alone food and tuition fees. So even if you are planning to do illegal part-time jobs and planning to pay tuition fees with that, you will be taking a wrong decision.

Of course, you can do freelance work in Malaysia (e.g: oDesk, Photography and such). Build strong networks and work accordingly.

Q: Should I apply through agents?

A: NO. What agents do is admit you to an unknown and bad level University and charge you high money for every activity they do. Once you reach Malaysia and realize you have been tricked, they just step aside and grab another victim. Never go for agents.

As far as I know, there are only 2 agents which are verified by the Universities themselves. They are:

University Malaya:

http://ips.um.edu.my/?modul=International_Students&pilihan=UM%E2%80%99s_Offshore_Office

Monash University, Sunway University, Swinburne University of Technology and Asia Pacific University:

https://www.facebook.com/HandICOUNCIL?ref=br_tf

Q: I have seen advertisements in newspapers where they say that Universities in Malaysia can provide BDT 50-60 thousand per month for part-time jobs. Are those true?

A: No they are not. That's a way for agents to allure you. You can check multiple videos on YouTube to see how people have been cheated on by agents. Here is an idea of one:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xhjKMZsAHs&spfreload=10>

Miscellaneous

Estimate

Student Type: International
Study Schedule: Full-Time
Faculty/Program: Engineering
Housing: Included
Units of Course Weight: 32

Fee	Amount
Tuition	\$21414.40
Residence	\$6602.00
Books and Supplies	\$1600.00
Engineering Market Modifier	\$2676.80
Faculty Student Fund	\$50.00
Registration and Transcripts	\$152.56
Student Services	\$114.16
Students' Union Dedicated Fees	\$86.38
Students' Union Membership Fees	\$78.10
Students' Union Health Plan	\$118.00
Students' Union Dental Plan	\$116.50
CoSSS	\$306.16
U-Pass	\$270.84
Athletics and Recreation	\$164.00
PAW Centre Fee	\$53.16
Health Services	\$54.12
▲ Noninstructional Fees Total	\$1563.98
Estimated costs for first year	\$33857.18 (CAD)

Please note that this is an estimate only, based on costs for the 2015-16 academic year, and that all fees are subject to change.

[Print](#)[Email](#)[Start Over](#)

Must Read for a US newcomer: Building Credit in the USA.

[Shifti Kamal Tanna·Thursday, 11 July 2019·](#)

Building Credit in the USA by [Muntaser Jems Syed](#)

Ok, so now you have your admission, you finally got the coveted F1 Visa and you will live happily ever after in the USA where all your dreams will come true, right? Well, unfortunately, the story is a bit more complex, and life in the USA can pose significant challenges for someone arriving from a different country/culture and especially if there is a lack of good mentor ship.

One of the key aspects of managing finances in the USA is understanding and utilizing credit. Credit in the USA is key to financing many of the major events in a person's life, such as purchasing a car, purchasing a house, getting married, major medical expenses, childbirth, etc. or even something like buying a high-end cell phone you would want for college. Pretty much large scale financial decision here has credit as a major factor.

#CreditProfile: In the USA, a person's credit-worthiness (i.e.) how likely is it that a bank or financial institution will lend you money (for things like buying a house, car or even groceries) depends on their credit profile. In almost all cases, a person's credit profile is identified by their social security number (SSN). This 9 digit number is a unique identifier given to every person in the United States eligible to be paid a salary or wage. Therefore, if you have an SSN you automatically have a credit profile.

#CreditHistory: So now you have an SSN, what next? Well, you have a profile, but in all likelihood, the profile is empty because there are no records on it. Putting records on your credit profile is how financial institutions can measure how creditworthy you are. This measure of credit-worthiness is also known as a credit score. There are 3 major agencies in the USA who keep track of individual credit scores, and they are Experian, Transunion, and Equifax. Scores at the 3 agencies vary slightly, but they all fall into ranges between 300 and 800/900

#CreditScores: So, what is a credit score? Like all other scores, the higher the better. Usually, someone with no credit history starts off at a base score like 400 or 450 depending on the agency. Then, as you add records (hopefully positive records) to your credit history, your score changes. This indicates to financial institutions about

how reliable you are with money, and therefore things like your mortgage rate, car payment rate, insurance rates, approval likelihood for credit cards, etc. are all heavily reliant on your credit score. Typically, scores below 500 are considered very poor and are highly unlikely to be even considered for approval for credit cards and generally incur the highest interest, mortgage, and insurance rates. Scores between 550 and 650 are considered poor but stable, and have slightly better outlooks. The average score for most people lies within the 650-750 range and at this level, most credit card providers will approve you, albeit you most likely still won't qualify for the lowest possible mortgage rates. Above 750, and especially above 800 is considered very good, and this tier provides the best possible rates and lines of credit.

How to get that high score:

So as stated above, the higher the credit score the better. So, how do we go about it?

Well, the exact formula for calculating the credit score varies slightly between agencies, but all have the same major components which make up the total:

1: Number of accounts: Any account that counts as a “credit” account will show up here. The more the better. Credit card accounts are the most common type, but accounts like a car loan, car lease, personal loan and mortgage carry more weight and typically a good score has atleast 6 or 7 accounts.

2: Age of accounts: the older, the better. Pretty intuitive, the more history you can show the more credit worthy you are.

3:Derogatory remarks: Have you ever been late with a payment? Missed a payment? Not paid the correct due? These count as derogatory remarks, and each one carries a significant negative impact on the score. Once a credit report has a derogatory remark, you can dispute it, but typically it stays on your record for atleast 7 years.

4: Total credit available: How much credit do you already have available to you? The more you have, the higher your score.

5: Total credit usage: How much of your available credit are you using? The higher this number, the lower your score. Basically, this means that a bank is less likely to lend you money if you already have significant debt

6: Number of credit inquiries: How many times have you applied for a loan/credit card/mortgage recently? The higher this number, the lower your score, however this does not impact your score in a large way and these inquiries disappear from your record in a matter of months (on average between 12 and 24 months)

7: Payment history: Have you made all your payments on time? If so, you will get a good score. The deeper your payment history, the higher your score and this shows that you are financially responsible.

Tips on getting good scores:

1: USE [#CREDITCARDS](#) RESPONSIBLY: heavy use of credit cards is perhaps the fastest way to increase your score, however you must ALWAYS pay off your credit card on time, and even though you may be tempted, remember this is a loan and not cash you have in hand. Not paying the credit card in full at the end of the billing cycle can cause you to incur very heavy interest rates, and typically these are extremely high for young people with little to no credit history.

2: Major purchase coming up? Use a credit card. This is a no brainer, if you use the credit card and pay it off responsibly your score gets a boost

3: Avoid credit cards with fees, especially in the initial stages. Most credit cards you can get will not have a fee, but some will and these are best avoided until later on where they are actually worth the money you spend.

4: READ THE FINE PRINT. Whenever you sign a financial agreement or document, always carefully read all the terms and conditions. Put those mad SAT/TOEFL/IELTS reading skills to good use.

5: Never share your SSN, Credit Card Number, CVV2 code and other such details unless you absolutely need to. These are your personal, private information and they are best kept to yourself.

6: Use credit monitoring tools (like creditkarma) to keep track of your overall credit history and score from time to time.

For more information on this: Please keep an eye out for a video by [Muntaser Jems Syed](#) coming out next week! Questions? Leave a comment.

List of Necessary Things for Students Coming to US from Bangladesh

This list was compiled by me in December 2012 while I was preparing to go to Arizona for my PhD. So it will mostly help the students who are coming to the Southern parts of US (where the minimum temperature is higher) - Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, may be California, Nevada, Mississippi etc. Probably, students going to other states can use this as well only with a few modifications.

Notes:

- After coming here, I updated the list and made a few changes according to my experience. I will try to make an update later if necessary.
- In the list there are two columns for prices to keep a track of the total cost incurred. I myself couldn't keep the track though ☺
- I tried to mention the minimum/optimum quantity according to my judgment. Consider issues like total weight, necessity and other things for packing your own luggage and then decide how many you need or **if you need it at all**.
- You can carry two 23 kg luggages, one hand-carry and 1 backpack for laptop (but nobody ever checks for laptop). Check dimensions for each luggage. For hand-carry and backpack, they don't measure the weight; only the size should be exact. So make the best use of all 4 luggages.
- Most of the things mentioned are available (and costly) in US. So you may opt to buy them here instead of bringing a lot of luggage.

Advice:

- Check the weather of the whole year of your intended state.
- Always try to talk or communicate with students living in that state for their specific suggestions
- Don't buy from the first shop/store- Check Market prices first, don't rush
- Start your marketing as early as possible
- Don't buy things of poor quality specially for shoes, backpacks, dress (I am not suggesting to go for the most extravagant either)
- **Check your varsity's website to find any recommended vaccination. Take those vaccines earlier- there is a minimum gap and some have 2 doses.**

List Compiled by: Arunodoy Saha, EEE, BUET'04, Arizona State University (arunodoysaha@yahoo.com)

I am really thankful to a lot of my friends for the compilation of this list and also go for this new version. I wanted to mention all the names, but that list would be as huge as this one. I hope they won't kill me for that. Still a special thanks to the following persons:

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Check	Item type	Item	Decision	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Comment
	Winter dress	Medium Heavy Jacket	Don't buy	1			Optimum for AZ and southern states, check with your friends or acquaintances of your intended state
		গলা ঢাকা গেজি	yes	1/2			
		সোয়েটার/ Jacket (with hood)	yes	1/2			
		Winter Trouser	yes	1/2			
		Hand gloves (Leather and Wool)	yes	1+1 pair			
		Woolen Cap	yes	1			
		Thermal Inner (optional)	?	1			May buy it for visiting other states
	Dress	Three Quarter/ Trousers	yes	5			
		Sports Trousers	yes	2/3			
		Underwear	yes	12			
		Jeans Pant/ Gabardine pant	yes	5			
		T-Shirt	Yes	12			
		স্যান্ডো গেজি	Yes	5			
		Formal Shirt	Yes	3			
		Formal Pant	Yes	2			
		Half Sleeve Shirts	yes	2			
		Belt	yes	3			
		Half Shirt	yes	3			
		Complete suit/ Pant	yes	1			
		Ties	yes	2			
		Big Towel	Yes	1			
		Small Towel/Gamchha	yes	2			
		Sun Cap	yes	2			
		Muffler	yes	1			
		Handkerchief	yes	3/4			

		পাঞ্জাবি	yes	270 3/4			For occasions mainly
	Miscellaneous	জাতীয় পতাকা	yes	1 big			
		Backpack	must	1			Must be good quality
		Nail Cutter	Yes	1			
		Umbrella (may bring for sun in AZ)	yes	1/2			Costly in US/Check weather of yours state
		Small Scissors	yes	1			
		সুই সুতা (more than one color)	must	3			
		Battery AA & AAA (preferably rechargeable and bring charger)	must	4+4 pair			very costly in US
		Wallet- Key bag with lots of pockets (Check the market for the best ones)	must	2			To keep cards, keys and money//I found them in some ground floor shops near Multiplan Centre
		Comb	yes	1/2			
		Photo Frame	optional	2			may buy them in US, not costly
		Cotton bud	yes				
		Laptop Cleaning brush	yes	1			
		Badminton Racket	User dependent				Very costly here
		Table Tennis paddle and balls					,,
		Foot cleaning mats	optional	1/2			may buy them here, not very costly
		wrench, screw driver, pliers (seperate pieces are costly here in US)	optional				large set of tools only 20\$ in US (may bring 1 or 2 piece for starting)
	Bathroom	Tooth Brush	yes	2/3			Available here
		বদনা (Available in AZ)	?	1			costly & not available in every state but some alternatives avail.//will take a lot of space in lug.
		Toothpaste	yes	1			For first 5/10 days, cheaper in US
		Soap	Yes	1			,,
		Shaving Kit, Foam	optional	1			Cheaper in US
		Deodorant, Scent	optional	1			,,

Check	Item type	Item	Decision	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Market/Comment
	Footwear	Socks – Short and Long (White + Black)	Yes	8 pair Blk 2 pair Wht			
		Formal Shoes	Yes	1 pair			Must be good quality, costly in US
		Leather Sandal	Yes	2 pair			„
		Sports Keds	Yes	2 pair			„
		চশ্মাল	yes	2 pair			
		Shoe Shiner/ Shoe polish	Yes	1			
		Shoe Polishing Brush	Yes	1			
	Bedroom	Bed cover/Bed Sheet	yes	3			
		Pillow cover	yes	3			
		Pillow	optional	1			If you prefer your own pillow ☺
		পাতলা কাঁথা	yes	1			
		Blanket/ Comforter	optional				consider weight/space issue
	Kitchen	Nonstick frying pan / কড়াই	optional	1			Costly but good quality here, tough to carry from BD (couples may try :P) // কড়াইয়ের বিকল্প non-stick frying pan (বড় তাওয়া) কিনতে হবে এখানে
		Pressure cooker		1			
		Sauce Pan, Rice Cooker		1			
		Melamine Plate		2			These are available here at somewhat more expensive price than in Bangladesh. Not heavy so if not struggling with weight may try to pack. I brought them.
		Mug with tight lead	yes	2			
		Spoon	yes	3			
		Fork	yes	3			
		Peeler (very necessary)	yes	1/2			
		Dish	yes	1			
		বাটি	yes	1			
		কাঠের/non-stick নাড়ানী	yes	2/3			
		বড় চামচ- various sizes	yes	2			
		খুন্তি	yes	1			
		ডালের ঘুঁটনি	must	1			Very costly here

	ছাঁকনি	yes	2			
	Tiffin box (oven, dishwasher proof & glass/plastic made with tight lids)	optional	1			Glass is heavy- so u can buy it here
	Knife (Big and very good quality) (must keep in the main luggage)	must	1/2			Buy a very good quality from Dubai Market -don't carry in hand luggage
	গরম জিনিস ধরার কাপড়	yes	3/4			Bring it- necessary from 1 st day
	Can opener	never				bad quality in BD, cheaper here
Food	হলুদ গুড়া, মরিচ গুড়া, ধনে, জিরা	yes				Available here but costly, I brought some for first few months
	রাঁধুনী গুড়া মসলা	yes				
	চিড়া, মুড়ি, চানাচুর	optional				If you prefer not to miss them in US
	আচার	optional				
	Tea	optional	?			User dependent
	Cooking manual	optional	1			If u want to invite people & cook foods for which youtube videos are not available

Check	Item type	Item	Decision	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Market/Comment
	Academic	Calculator MS 991	must	1/2			
		Clock		+			Cheaper here in US
		লেখার খাতা	optional				Not available in US, if you don't bring them you will have to staple blank white pages
		Pens (যাদের লেখার কলমটা মোটামুটি ভাল দরকার)	must	10/12	Quality pens are expensive in US. You will get lots of free medium qual. pens in seminars/ যাদের specific কলম দিয়ে লেখার অভ্যাস, তাদের বেশি আনা ভালো, এখানে পাবে না		
		Pencil (2B, HB)	yes	2 each			people prefer pencils to pens here
		Kangaroo stapler	yes	1			
		Stapler pin packet	yes	2			
		Gems Clip packet	yes	1			
		Pencil box	yes	1			
		Lead pencil	yes	1			

		Eraser	yes	3			
		Sharpener	yes	3			
		Anti Cutter	yes	1			
		Scale small (Steel & plastic both)	yes	1			
		Scale (Plastic, transparent, Large)	yes	1			
		Punch Machine	yes	1		Here punch machines are different (3 holes, not 2) but if you bring them from BD, you can punch and store your own papers easily at home	
		Punched paper storage files (I suggest them)	yes	5/6			
		Files/ Clear Bags	yes	4/5			For keeping and storing documents
		Super Glue	yes				
		Fevi-stik	yes				
		Cello Tape, Normal Tape	Yes				
		Books (Text, novels and others)	yes			Check the website, find which books you will need in next 2 years (lot of weight, if comfortable with PDF then it is optional)	
	Medicine	Napa, Napa Extra	yes			Though varsities carry cost of med. insurance (for TAs and RAs), still in some varsities (like ASU ଓ), there is a minimum cost for taking help from Health Centre for every time you go there and u have to bear total cost of medicine in some places (like me ଓ); so go there wisely and before going, note down all your problems precisely.	
		Oral Saline	yes				
		Antacid Plus	yes				
		Vergon (for headache)	yes				
		Pain Killers	yes				
		Bring your common medicines not listed here (inhaler etc)				Consult the doctor in BD for eyes and teeth just before journey even if you have had no problems	
		চশ্মা	must	5 pair minimum		For first few days only. good qual. available in US	
		Dettol, Band Aides, Burnol	must			good quality hub from IDB	
	Technical	USB pen drive- 16 GB	yes	1		Very costly here	
		USB multi-port hub	must	1/2			
		Mouse	must	2			

		Extra Key-board for laptop	yes	274 2			
		Laptop	?	Good qual. & cheap in US, u can order just after coming if u have contacts; here, for emergency use library desktops//bring from BD if bought recently or want to bring the old one for first few days, remember to bring converter			
		Small Sound-Box (for movie lovers)	optional	1			Logitech sells small ones for laptop
		Head Phone	must	2			Very costly here
		Portable Hard Disk	must	1/2			
		Pirated Softwares	must				
		Battery Charger (good quality)	must	1/2			
		Blank CD/DVD box	yes				
		Asian to US converter plugs (Buy very good quality ones)	must	2/3		Without them, you cannot use your Bangladeshi electronics here, (available in Nilkhet- I heard)	

Documents to Pack (Specific user may need to add more depending on purpose)

*** Leave a hard copy/photocopy of all of the documents in each pack of luggage you are carrying

Passport

Admission Letter

I-20 & VISA with photocopies

Assistantship Offer Letter (if you have it)

Transcripts

Recommendation Letters

GRE / TOEFL Score Sheets

Medical Fitness Certificate

Health History (if you have it)

Job Experience and leaving Certificate (if you have it)

Vaccination Certificate MMR, Meningococcal and others- check your varsity's website thoroughly

Medical Prescription of all medicines must

International Driving License (I.D.P.) Optional

Enough Money Cash and with some small changes for phone calls and other initial stuff