

# Study in the USA: A Comprehensive Guide

Educational Counseling Guide

May 25, 2025

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# Why Choose USA?

- World-class education system
- Advanced facilities and resources
- Practical and innovative approach
- Global perspective in education
- Diverse cultural exposure
- Strong professional networks
- Post-study opportunities

# Academic Requirements

- Strong academic background
- English proficiency tests
  - TOEFL (typical score  $\geq$  80)
  - IELTS (typical score  $\geq$  6.5)
- Additional tests (program specific)
  - GRE for graduate programs
  - GMAT for business schools
  - SAT for undergraduate admissions
- Academic transcripts and certificates

# Application Process

- ① Research and select universities
- ② Prepare required documents:
  - Academic transcripts
  - Test scores
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Statement of Purpose
  - Resume/CV
- ③ Submit applications
- ④ Accept admission offer
- ⑤ Apply for student visa

# Financial Planning

- Tuition fees (varies by institution)
- Living expenses
- Health insurance
- Funding sources:
  - Personal/Family funds
  - Scholarships
  - Education loans
  - On-campus work opportunities
- Required financial documents:
  - Bank statements
  - Sponsor letters
  - Scholarship awards

# F-1 Student Visa Process

- ➊ Receive I-20 from university
- ➋ Pay SEVIS fee
- ➌ Complete DS-160 form
- ➍ Schedule visa interview
- ➎ Prepare visa documents:
  - Valid passport
  - I-20 form
  - Financial documents
  - Academic documents
  - Interview preparation

# Visa Interview Tips

- Be clear about:
  - Choice of university
  - Program selection
  - Career goals
  - Financial planning
  - Intent to return
- Demonstrate:
  - Strong ties to home country
  - Genuine student intent
  - Financial capability
  - English proficiency



# Life in the USA

- Academic support services
- International student orientation
- Campus facilities
- Cultural adjustment resources
- Student organizations
- Health services
- Career services
- Work opportunities:
  - On-campus jobs (20 hrs/week)
  - Optional Practical Training (OPT)
  - Curricular Practical Training (CPT)

# Important Tips

- Start planning 12-18 months ahead
- Research universities thoroughly
- Maintain strong academic records
- Prepare for standardized tests early
- Keep documents organized
- Meet application deadlines
- Budget for all expenses
- Connect with current students
- Follow visa regulations strictly