

# American University Scholarship Program

**Introducing the Most Affordable Way  
to Study at U.S. Universities**



**ACSA**

American Collegiate Scholarship Association



# How You Can Study at U.S. Universities for Under \$10,000 a Year

Thanks to the American University Scholarship Program, studying in America has never been easier.

We are here to help you realize your dreams!



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# Introduction

## What is the American Collegiate Scholarship Association and how do they support the American University Scholarship Program?

The American University Scholarship Program connects young internationally-minded students with a wide variety of U.S. universities. Through scholarships, the program awards thousands of dollars in tuition money to students. These scholarships never have to be paid back. Since its foundation in 1997, this program has allowed over 10,000 students from countries around the world to affordably study at American Universities.

This tremendous opportunity is made possible through a collaboration between the American Collegiate Scholarship Association (ACSA), which sponsors the program, and IDEA, a U.S. organization that runs it. The American Collegiate Scholarship Association is currently presided over by Mr. Samuel M. Shepherd, former Executive Director of the Fulbright Program and one of America's most dedicated supporters of international education.

Traditionally, scholarship information has been very difficult for students to access. Even scholarships listed on

the Internet often fail to provide important information. Moreover, there is usually no way for aspiring international students to directly ask questions and acquire program details from overseas schools. Considering that there are over 4,200 colleges in America alone, searching for the right school is a challenge in itself. Receiving a scholarship offer on top of this has until now been a distant hope.

The American University Scholarship Program was created to remove these hurdles. Our aim is quite simple: Give international students an easy and affordable method for realizing their dreams. Directly exchanging information with our extensive network of universities, we are able to negotiate special scholarships that can potentially save students more than 50% on tuition and room & board. We are excited to witness how motivated young people from countries around the world use these scholarships to grow into talented global individuals.



**Samuel M. Shepherd**

- President, National Association of Japan
- America Societies -Executive Director and CEO, Japan
- United States Educational Commission 1994-2004
- CEA, Commission on English Language Program Accreditation

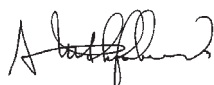
### Greetings to our friends from Asia!

I have been deeply involved in international educational exchange throughout my career, encouraging and facilitating the flow of students and scholars to and from Asia and the United States. Based on my extensive professional experience, I can say with confidence that studying in the United States will enrich both you and the American college or university you attend. You will benefit enormously from the education and the interaction with not only America students but with students from around the world. The receiving institution will welcome your many contributions to making a more diverse campus.

Since 1997, more than 200 colleges and universities and more than 6000 young people have participated in these programs, enabling talented students from Asia to gain entry into the American educational system. I look forward to seeing many of you attend colleges and universities in the United States. You will be making your own important contributions to mutual understanding while at the same time receiving the education, training and experience that will give you a competitive edge in this increasingly demanding and interdependent world.

I wish you the very best as you plan for a future that will include valuable cross-cultural experiences!

Sincerely yours,  
Samuel M. Shepherd, President



American Collegiate Scholarship Association

# Let's Learn More about Universities in America!

## "Easy to Enter, Difficult to Graduate" - The Importance of Independent Learning

**"I want to study at an American University!" We imagine that there are many people who share such a dream. However, with so many different schools and academic objectives, where should a prospective student begin? For anyone hoping to study in the United States, it is necessary to clearly understand the characteristics of American universities. In this section, we will introduce the primary aspects of U.S. 4-year universities, including their educational philosophies, and other unique attributes.**

### The American Educational Philosophy

#### The University as 'Place for Independent Study'

In the United States, a major emphasis is placed on the concept of 'independent and experiential learning'. The university is seen as a place for diverse individuals to gather and share unique perspectives and opinions. Through these activities, each student hopes to discover new truths and wisdom that they can then apply to their own academic studies. This 'university as place for independent study' philosophy greatly contrasts with the 'passive learning' that occurs at many lecture-based universities in other parts of the world. As opposed to merely being 'dispensers of knowledge', professors at American

universities are expected to extract and develop the original ideas of students. Schools encourage students to actively participate in debates and a wide range of academic activities. Moreover, a majority of courses are based around discussions, where students are obligated to express constructive opinions in order to contribute to the class.

Another key aspect of U.S. higher education is its focus on fostering 'international perspectives'. Considering that it helps American students come in contact with new cultures and ideas, class participation by international students is not only welcomed, but considered to be a valuable part of liberal arts education.

### Types of U.S. Colleges and Universities

#### Thousands of Institutions, Three Main Types

The large number of schools is a major feature of American higher education. Of its 4,276 institutions of higher learning, 2,582 are public and private 4-year universities. Based on the content of their programs, these universities are further broken down into three primary groups: (1) Liberal Arts Colleges (2) Universities and Colleges (3) Specialized Colleges

Source: Digest of Education 2006 National Center of Education Statistics

#### ① Liberal Arts Colleges

'Liberal arts education' has long been an American tradition. At this type of school, students focus on a wide range of topics before going on to their main fields of study. Unlike curriculums that concentrate on creating single-field specialists, undergraduate programs at American liberal arts universities tend to place an emphasis on 'cultivating student character' through a well-balanced education. Therefore, these programs will include general knowledge drawn from arts and humanities as well as the social and natural sciences. Ultimately, this multi-disciplinary style of education creates graduates with highly-developed intellectual capabilities - people who can solve problems by thinking creatively and analytically.

A majority of liberal arts colleges are small private institutions with between 500 and 3,000 students, who generally live in on-campus dormitories. Compared to larger universities, these schools are highly regarded for their quiet park-like campuses and are often located in rural and suburban areas.

Another major advantage of attending a liberal arts college is the amount of individual care that each student is given. Compared to large universities, teacher-student ratios are extremely small at liberal arts schools. In fact, students will often find that a majority of their classes will consist of about 15 students. This directly results in better teaching and more in-class interaction between students and professors. After gaining a broad education at liberal arts colleges, many American students go on to graduate programs at larger universities, where they develop their specializations.

#### ② Universities and Colleges

In America, the words 'college' and 'university' often refer to the same thing. However, there are several commonly perceived differences between these two types of institutions. To begin with, 'colleges' are generally smaller and more focused on the act of educating undergraduates. In contrast to this, universities host a multitude of departments and often concentrate on research activities. Due to their emphasis on master and doctorate degree programs, it is not rare for undergraduate university classes to be extremely large and taught by post-graduate students. Of course, it should not be said that one type of institution is better than the other. Every college and university has special features and unique character.

#### ③ Specialized Colleges

In America, there are many colleges that offer specialized curriculums in a single field or subject. They include business schools, institutes of fine art, dance and music as well as technical institutes that feature programs in fields such as architecture, engineering and nursing. A number of these specialized colleges, particularly ones focusing on the arts, are highly competitive and require aspiring individuals to undergo auditions or submit portfolios in order to gain program admission.

#### Private vs. Public Universities

In many countries, national public universities are regarded as the top institutions of learning. In addition to having higher academic standards, they are usually more affordable than private schools. This is not always the case in America, where 'public universities' most often refers to regional state colleges. The primary purpose of state schools in the U.S. is to provide affordable education and equal opportunities to all state residents. In fact, age is the only entrance requirement for some state institutions.

Unfortunately, because most public schools rely on government funding, they are often unable to provide the individual care and small classes that many private schools are famous for. This is one of the reasons why private U.S. learning institutions often rank higher in published lists of the 'World's Top Universities' and educational reports.





## Features of U.S. Universities

### "Diversity and Flexibility"

#### 1 Selecting a Major

Most students at U.S. 4-year universities choose their academic major at the end of their second year or even as late as the first term of their third year. Moreover, it is not uncommon for students to also select 'minor' fields of study or 'double-major' by studying two academic fields at the same time! Of course, in order to accomplish this, it is necessary for students to acquire more credits than for a typical single-major degree.

It is also possible - and quite common, for students at U.S. universities to change their majors at some point during their academic studies. Doing such requires a student to earn additional credits and occasionally even push back their graduation. However, this is generally not a problem when you consider another benefit of American universities: Students can graduate as soon as they receive enough credits for their degree - no matter what term. In other words, there is no need to wait until the end of an academic year to graduate.

At many schools, certain majors are more popular than others. Some programs even require applicants to already possess special skills. Due to this, it is not rare to find majors that don't automatically accept all

students. In such cases, students are generally selected based on things such as aptitude, GPA (Grade Point Average) and the number of credits they have already earned.

#### 2 Transferring

In America it is extremely common for students to transfer from 2-year colleges to 4-year universities as well as from one university to another. In fact, U.S. universities actively welcome transfer students from all over the world. Students wishing to transfer are asked to submit transcripts and a course syllabus to the schools in which they are applying. Transcripts include past results and credits earned while a syllabus gives a description of each class taken. Many schools use an organization called WES (World Education Services) to help evaluate international syllabuses and award transfer credits.

Though the relative ease of transferring gives students in the U.S. a lot of flexibility, issues do occasionally come up. For example, students sometimes find themselves unable to gain acceptance to the schools they wish to attend. Other students cannot receive or easily transfer all their previously earned credits. It is also not uncommon for the act of transferring to cause students to spend more time and money in order to graduate than they had originally anticipated.

## The Unique U.S. University System

### Essential Elements

#### 1 Application Process

Unlike many countries, U.S. universities don't require prospective students to take entrance examinations. Instead, applicants are screened based on a variety of documents, which oftentimes must be sent in before a strict deadline. These deadlines vary widely. Some universities require that all applications for the following autumn semester be received as early as November, while a number of other schools have a 'rolling admission' policy, which, as the name implies, allows for applications to be sent in year-round. Either way, it is necessary for international students who hope to study in America to begin the application process 18-months to a year before their actual studies are set to begin.

#### 2 The Academic Year

Though the starting date will differ for each school, the beginning of the academic year for most American universities falls between mid-August and the beginning of September. The academic year usually goes through May or the beginning of June, when students are given nearly a 3-month summer vacation. Some students stay at their school during the break and participate in the 'summer session'.

The academic year at a number of schools is broken into 'trimesters' (3 terms) or 'quarters' (4 terms). However, a vast majority of universities and colleges use the 'semester system', which breaks the academic year into two 4-month terms (Aug. - Dec.; Jan. - May).

In the U.S., each class is completed at the end of a term - not at the end of the academic year. This means that the grades a student earns as well as the credits they receive in every course are finalized at the end of each semester. Due to this system, students have the flexibility to freely build their desired class schedules at the start of each term. Correspondingly, students can smoothly enroll at or transfer to different universities at the beginning of any academic term. Moreover, U.S. universities and colleges allow students to return after taking semesters off. The opposite is also possible - by earning credits during

summer sessions, some students manage to earn their degrees and graduate in less than 4 years. Considering that students also have the ability to change majors at any time, it is easy to see why America is considered to have one of the world's most flexible and student-friendly education systems.

#### 3 What is University Accreditation?

Unlike many countries, the United States government does not regulate the quality of educational programs at colleges and universities. Instead, institutions are given 'accreditation' by government-authorized but independent accrediting organizations, who make sure that accredited colleges and universities maintain designated standards of quality. Considering that schools are not legally obligated to gain accreditation, it is possible to find colleges and universities in the U.S. that are subject to no standards. Therefore, it is extremely important for international students to make sure that the universities they plan on attending have received proper accreditation.

#### 4 University Ranking

Considering nearly all U.S. universities and undergraduate programs have special characteristics and concentrate on different academic areas, institutions cannot really be compared with each other based on the same criteria. For this reason, there is no national 'ranking' of universities in the U.S.. However, there is a large amount of information that students should look into before selecting a school. When making this important decision, things to consider include student-teacher ratio, faculty research and publications, graduation rate, school facilities, the amount of grant revenue a school receives - and most importantly, whether or not a school matches your personal criteria.

Though a variety of publishers and research organizations do independently announce yearly school rankings, the general consensus is that, "It's better to get an 'A' at Arizona than a 'C' at Harvard." Simply put, grades and performance are much more important than what school you go to. Moreover, rankings are merely a single perspective on a school and can be very misleading. It is important to select a college based on much more than just a number.

# A Deeper Look at Studying in America

## Connect with the World

With their strong emphasis on 'independent learning', it is no wonder that schools in the U.S. place an importance on 'discussion' - the act of exchanging ideas and opinions. Being able to introduce new perspectives, international students are naturally encouraged to become an active part of discussions. Currently, over 580,000 students from 230 countries around the world are receiving educations at U.S. colleges and universities. Below, we introduce the study abroad landscape of America - the world's premier destination for international education.

### International Student Trends

#### Your opportunity to make friends from around the world

"While studying in America, what was your best experience?"

After completing their programs, international students most commonly answered the above question with replies such as, "Though the academics were great, the best part of my education was meeting people from around the world and making friendships that will last a lifetime."











During her speech at the 2004 NAFSA conference, former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright asked a gathering of over 7,000 study abroad professionals, "Could you drop bombs on a country where you have close friends?" She went on to explain how the act of

studying abroad and making friends with people from different countries is an important way to build and maintain world peace.

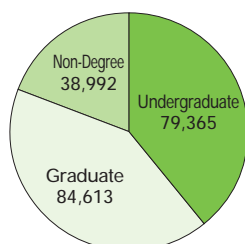
When students with plans to study abroad filled out pre-departure questionnaires, a majority stated that their primary goals were "improving English ability" and "developing an international sensibility." However, these students will soon find out that there are even bigger merits to getting an overseas education. The fact is, things such as 'experiencing different cultures', "making friends" and "exchanging opinions with diverse people" will probably end up being the most significant benefits of studying abroad, considering how these skills and relationships will play a pivotal role in the long lives that lay ahead of us.

### Asian International Student Trends

#### TOP PLACES OF ORIGIN of International Students, 2009/10

Rank	Place of Origin	Students	WORLD TOTAL	690,923
1	China	 127,628	6	Japan  24,842
2	India	 104,789	7	Saudi Arabia  15,810
3	South Korea	 72,153	8	Mexico  13,450
4	Canada	 28,145	9	Vietnam  13,112
5	Taiwan	 26,685	10	Turkey  12,397

#### New International Student Enrollment, 2009/10



#### TOP FIELDS OF STUDY International Students, 2009/10

Field of Study	Students
Business and Management	145,514
Engineering	127,441
Physical and Life Sciences	61,285
Math and Computer Science	60,780
Social Sciences	59,865

#### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY INSTITUTIONAL TYPE: TOP 15 BACCALAUREATE INSTITUTIONS, 2009/10

Rank	Institution	Students
1	SUNY Fashion Institute of Technology	1,084
2	Brigham Young University - Hawaii Campus	973
3	Mount Holyoke College	511
4	Utah Valley State College	456
5	Brigham Young University - Idaho	388
6	Calvin College	350
7	Middlebury College	332
8	University of Hawaii - Hilo	317
9	College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University	284
10	Willamette University	270
11	Smith College	263
12	Macalester College	262
13	University of Richmond	251
14	Wellesley College	240
15	Campbellsville University	223

#### TOP U.S. STATES Hosting International Students, 2009/10

Rank	Field of Study	Students	Rank	Field of Study	Students
1	California	94,279	6	Florida	29,708
2	New York	76,146	7	Pennsylvania	28,097
3	Texas	58,934	8	Michigan	24,214
4	Massachusetts	35,313	9	Ohio	22,370
5	Illinois	31,093	10	Indiana	18,569

#### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY INSTITUTIONAL TYPE: TOP15 DOCTORATE INSTITUTIONS, 2009/10

Rank	Institution	Students
1	University of Southern California	7,987
2	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign	7,287
3	New York University	7,276
4	Purdue University - Main Campus	6,903
5	Columbia University	6,833
6	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	6,095
7	University of California - Los Angeles	5,685
8	Michigan State University	5,358
9	University of Texas - Austin	5,265
10	Boston University	5,172
11	University of Florida	4,920
12	SUNY University at Buffalo	4,911
13	Harvard University	4,867
14	Indiana University - Bloomington	4,819
15	Ohio State University - Main Campus	4,796

#### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY INSTITUTIONAL TYPE: TOP 15 MASTER'S INSTITUTIONS, 2009/10

Rank	Institution	Students
1	San Jose State University	2,611
2	San Francisco State University	2,572
3	California State University - Northridge	2,372
4	California State University - Long Beach	2,324
5	Rochester Institute of Technology	1,765
6	Johnson and Wales University	1,763
7	California State University - Fullerton	1,742
8	CUNY Baruch College	1,629
9	California State University - East Bay	1,557
10	New York Institute of Technology - Old Westbury	1,535
11	St. Cloud State University	1,348
12	California State University - Los Angeles	1,327
13	University of Texas - San Antonio	1,231
14	Fairleigh Dickinson University	1,217
15	University of Central Oklahoma	1,124



## University Costs in the U.S.

The cost of higher education in America varies widely. Depending on the school one chooses, the combination of tuition, room and board will usually run from \$18,000 - \$40,000 per year. Needless to say, cost is a major issue even for American students and their families. Luckily, the U.S. higher education system partially offsets these high costs by providing a significant amount of financial assistance in the form of scholarships and student loans.

International students are usually eligible to utilize the scholarships and financial aid opportunities that are available to American students. However, finding scholarships that match the programs and schools that one is interested in is never an easy task - especially when you consider that there are over 4,000 colleges and universities in America.

By taking advantage of our scholarship program, students will save

up to 50% on tuition, room and board. This amounts to a savings of at least \$9,000 per year - sometimes even as much as \$20,000! Moreover, these scholarships are renewed each academic year and never have to be paid back.

In addition to tuition, and room & board, international students can expect the following yearly expenses.

- Textbooks and study materials (\$300-\$500)
- Student service fees, etc. (\$1500-\$2,000)
- Overseas travel insurance (approx. \$1,300)
- Airline ticket (varies)
- Personal expenses (\$200-\$300 per month)
- Living expenses for summer and winter holidays (if student chooses not to return to home country)

## International Student Lifestyle

It is often said that graduating is the biggest challenge of studying at a U.S. university. While this is not necessarily true, it is important for international students to establish a fairly strict academic lifestyle in order successfully complete their studies. To begin with, more than English ability, academic effort is directly connected to achievement at colleges and universities in America. The fact is, if you don't study hard you won't graduate.

How to graduate with top marks is no secret in America. Successful students study each morning as well as before they go to sleep. They not only prepare well for tests, but for each class. Good students often review material and do a lot of reading. Importantly, successful students participate actively in class and do a lot of independent research for their reports and essays. Considering that participation and effort are highly evaluated in final grades, even if the above type of student does happen to fail several exams, they will almost certainly graduate.

### Sample Weekly Schedule

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
AM. 7:00	Breakfast					Free Time	Free Time
8:00	Free Time	Math	Free Time	Math	Free Time		
9:00	Economics		Economics		Economics		
10:00	Free Time	Music	Free Time	Music	Free Time		
11:00	Brunch					Free Time	Free Time
PM.12:00	Lunch						
13:00	Spanish	English	Spanish	English	Spanish		
14:00	Self Study	Group Study	Self Study	Group Study	Self Study		
15:00	Extra-curricular Activities					Free Time	Self Study
16:00	Dinner						
17:00	Self Study	Self Study	Self Study	Self Study	Free Time		
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00	Free Time					Free Time	Self Study
22:00							
23:00							
00:00							
	Free Time						

- For most subjects, classes last 60-120 minutes and are held 2-3 times per week.
- Generally, course credits correspond with weekly hours of class (e.g. a 3-credit class has 3 hours of class time in a week).
- Because full-time students take a minimum of 12 credits and average of 15 credits each term, one can expect to have between 12-18 hours of class each week.
- If you include time for homework, review, preparatory reading and test preparation, each class hour will typically require 2-3 hours of additional study time. Therefore, it is not unusual for students to spend 30-40 hours per week studying - the same amount of time spent at a typical full-time job!
- Some classes organize 'group study sessions', where students study together by discussing class topics and completing homework.
- Students typically relax or go shopping on Friday afternoons and Saturdays, when they have the most free time.

# What is the 'American University Scholarship Program'?

## More Scholarships, More Choices

With over 4,000 universities, finding the U.S. school that meets your individual needs is always a challenge. Getting a scholarship on top of finding the right school is usually just a dream. Not anymore. Thanks to the American University Scholarship Program, it has never been easier for international students to attend U.S. universities. Using our extensive network of partner schools, we help students find both the universities and scholarships that meet their academic and financial needs. Let us introduce what makes our program so special.

### Special Features of the Program

#### Two Important Ways International Students Benefit from Our Program

##### ① Financial Support that Doesn't Need to be Paid Back

The scholarships provided by the American University Scholarship Program need never be repaid. This is clearly one of the biggest benefits of our program. Quite simply, students can save even more than 50% on tuition, housing and food without any further obligations. Moreover, almost every student between the ages of 18 and 26 is eligible for a scholarship - as long as they have managed to achieve average grades (equivalent GPA of at least 2.0 on the U.S. scale).

Naturally, many students ask questions such as, "How is the American University Scholarship Program able to provide such a fantastic opportunity?" and "Where does the scholarship money come from?" To begin with, all American universities desire to offer students an international study environment. They recognize the value in providing American and international students the opportunity to share perspectives and experiences. In fact, improving cultural exchange on campus has become one of the primary goals of many schools. The American University Scholarship Program is a direct result of this objective. The scholarship money comes from many sources. However, it is most commonly the result of donations made by university alumni and local foundations.

##### ② Multiple Scholarship Offers

We believe that it's your right to choose. This is one of the most important and attractive aspects of the American University Scholarship Program. Each applicant is offered a range of schools and scholarships to select from. After their pre-application interview, we will be able to give each student a good idea of how many offers they can expect to be offered. However, most applicants will receive scholarship offers from between 5 and 7 universities - many of which greatly differ. These offers will be based on a wide range of conditions, such as a student's desired major or preferred living environment.

Each year, a large number of liberal arts colleges participate in the American University Scholarship Program. These schools are widely regarded for their education quality. In addition to smaller class sizes, liberal arts colleges feature outstanding teaching and student support. However, these universities are often much smaller than general research universities. As a result, many liberal arts colleges are not so well-known outside of America. This in turn makes it more difficult for them to attract students from abroad.

The international students who discover liberal arts and other small universities are greatly rewarded. Judging by high graduation rates and positive student feedback, overseas students are both happy and highly successful at U.S. liberal arts colleges. In particular, international students offer high praise to these schools for things such as curriculum content, program management and study environment. Though there may not be many students from your home country, small liberal arts colleges have so much to offer.

#### Costs of Top Universities

Rank	Institution	State	Tuition & Fees	Room & Board	Total
1	Harvard College	MA	36,828	14,988	51,816
2	Princeton University	NJ	35,340	15,815	51,155
3	Yale University	CT	36,500	16,050	52,550
4	California Institute of Technology	CA	34,584	13,971	48,555
5	Massachusetts Institute of Tech	MA	37,782	14,218	52,000
6	Stanford University	CA	37,380	15,243	52,623
7	University of Pennsylvania	PA	38,970	14,125	53,095
8	Columbia University	NY	39,926	12,080	52,006
9	University of Chicago	IL	36,173	11,042	47,215
10	Duke University	NC	38,741	14,524	53,265
11	Dartmouth College	NH	38,789	14,898	53,687

#### American Collegiate Scholarship Association Partner Universities Costs (2010 Fall)

Type	Institution	State	Original	Savings	Student Cost
Private	Lindenwood University	MO	19,200	9,600	9,600
Private	Missouri Valley College	MO	22,200	11,700	10,500
Private	Campbellsville University	KY	25,000	12,500	12,500
Private	Tennessee Wesleyan College	TN	24,000	12,000	12,000
Private	Hobart & William Smith Colleges	NY	48,000	24,000	24,000
Private	Elizabethtown College	PA	38,600	19,300	19,300
Private	Hannibal-LaGrange College	MO	20,000	10,000	10,000
Private	North Carolina Wesleyan College	NC	29,000	14,500	14,500
Private	Upper IOWA University	IO	26,000	13,000	13,000
Private	Webber International University	FL	24,822	14,822	10,000
Public	Valley City State University	ND	15,500	6,000	9,500
Public	Mayville State University	ND	15,000	6,300	8,700

#### Average Costs (1 Academic Year)

		Tuition and Fees	Room And Board	books	Transportation	Others	Total
Public Two-Year	Commuter	\$2,544	\$7,202	\$1,098	\$1,445	\$1,996	\$14,285
Public Four-Year	Out-of-State On-Campus	\$18,548	\$8,193	\$1,122	\$1,079	\$1,974	\$30,916
Private Four-Year	On-Campus	\$26,273	\$9,363	\$1,116	\$849	\$1,427	\$39,028





## Student Experiences

### Pep Ponset

Spain

#### Missouri Valley College (Missouri)

"I am improving my English every day at Missouri Valley College. I am doing very well in all my classes. This is an experience that would be difficult to forget although it just started."

### Mirela Braghini

Brazil

#### Lindenwood University (Missouri)

"I think that the program is very good because it gives you an opportunity to achieve your objectives, such as having a great experience living in the U.S. and playing the sport you like."

### Juan Patricio Murphy

Argentina

#### University of Maine (Maine)

"The university and its people continue helping me with everything I need. So, I adapted pretty quickly to the American student lifestyle. My studies are going well and if some problem comes up I can count on people who can help me. In football (soccer) it's going better than expected, as I was already chosen as the best player on the team."

### Keita Yamada

Japan

#### Maryville College (Tennessee)

"Studying at a Liberal Arts College is a very good opportunity for me. Small class size and the on campus residence helps me to make a lot of friends and study hard!"

### Juan Antonio Marquine

Uruguay

#### Spring Hill College (Alabama)

"Before participating in the IDEA Program I doubted about the possibility of obtaining a scholarship to study in the USA. With the help of IDEA, I was able to obtain this precious scholarship and many other opportunities. At the same time, I became friends with other students from different countries."

### Raúl Martínez

Honduras

#### Hesston College (Kansas)

"In regards to the Program, my expectations were met because it was a great experience that I will always remember. My dream of studying in the U.S. is being achieved thanks to the Program."

### Tanja Reiber

Germany

#### Brescia University (Kentucky)

"I like the university because of the nice campus and friendly people. In general, it didn't take me long to acclimatize and I am not homesick because I like it."

### Otto González Mendoza

Ecuador

#### Shorter College (Georgia)

"The IDEA Program is very good. It allowed me to understand the American university system. I was able to visit many U.S. cities and places I had not been before."

### Akane Shiwa

Japan

#### Brescia University (Kentucky)

"My dream would not have come true without this scholarship program. I had a great experience at the University and made friends from all over the world!"

### Miguel Quinones

Colombia

#### St. Andrew's College (North Carolina)

"During my last year of high school I was always looking for scholarships and contacting the universities and colleges in the USA, but it was never as effective as this. Now that I came with the program I realize that it is a lot easier because IDEA directly links the students and the universities."

### Ezequiel Martinez

Argentina

#### King College (Tennessee)

"I am grateful for the opportunity I received. IDEA opened a very important door for me. I am currently studying, playing my favorite sport, and working at my university, while making lifelong friendships."

### Jessica Silis

Germany

#### Dickinson State University (North Dakota)

"The people here at Dickinson are really nice and I'm glad to have the opportunity of studying in the USA, like I've always wanted to, which wouldn't have been possible without IDEA. I'm enjoying every moment and I try to get the most out of it."

## Messages from Our Partners

### Upper Iowa University

"Upper Iowa University is proud to work with IDEA. Their students are well prepared for the university experience. IDEA and Upper Iowa share the common philosophy, that the student must come first. Upper Iowa enjoys the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation for diversity provided by international students. The cultural interaction this creates helps both international students and American students become true Global Citizens."

Mr. Brian More  
Coordinator for International Recruitment  
Upper Iowa University

### North Dakota State University

"North Dakota State University values international students for the contributions they make on the campus and in the community. NDSU is committed to increasing its diversity and its international student numbers. Working with IDEA has helped the institution achieve these two university goals. We appreciate IDEA's efforts to help students find the right school and enjoy working with them."

Kerri  
Kerri Spiering, Ph.D.  
Director, Office of International Programs  
North Dakota State University

### Webber International University

"Webber International University values our international students and the diversity they have to offer. WIU degrees emphasize providing students with knowledge that can be applied globally; we truly value our international student's cross-cultural experiences. IDEA has certainly played an instrumental role in increasing our international population. WIU and IDEA have worked together for several years, each year improving the quality and quantity of international students."

Julie R. Ragans  
Director of Admissions  
Webber International University

# What University is Best for Me?

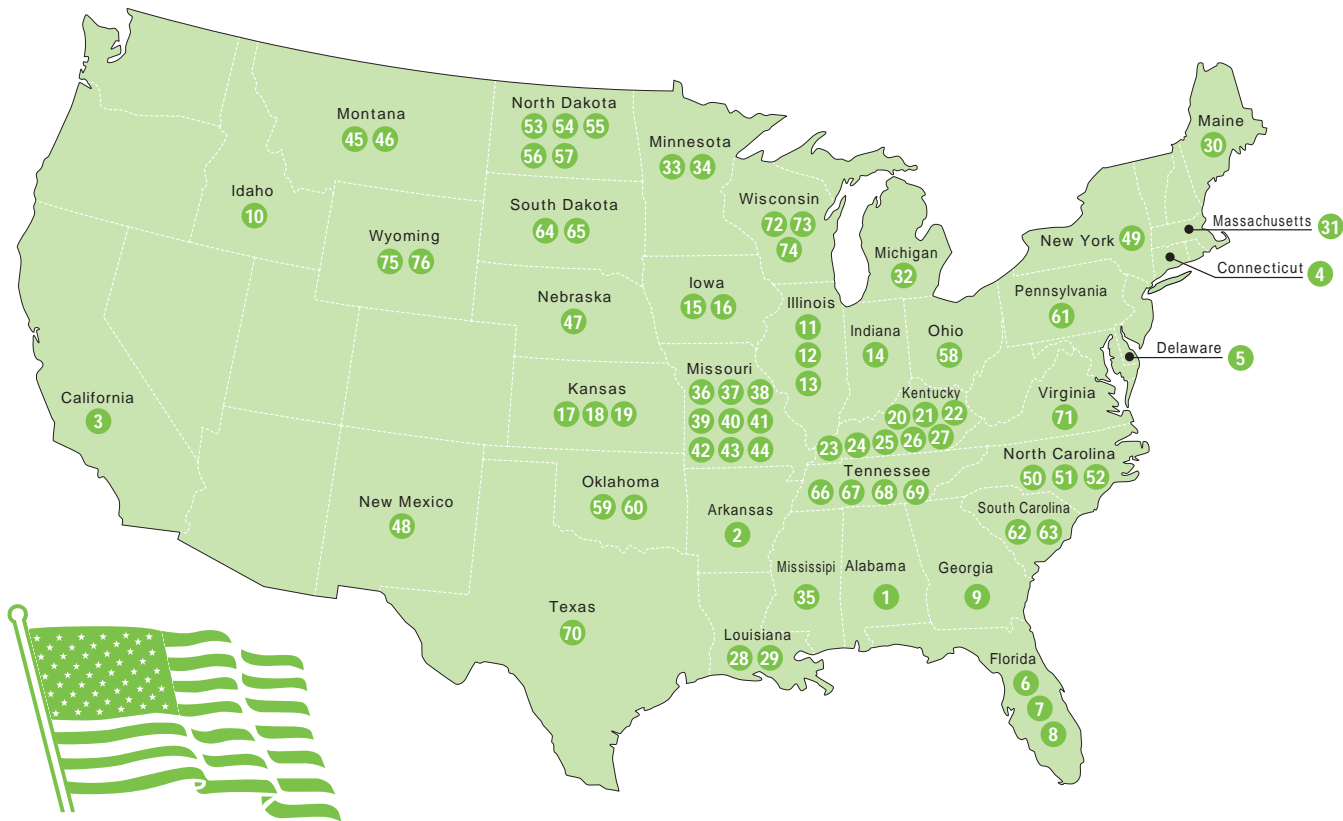
## Examples of Participating Universities

	University	State	Students	Int'l Students	TOEFL
1	<b>Spring Hill College</b> <a href="http://www.shc.edu/">http://www.shc.edu/</a>	Alabama	1,308	6	79 iBT
2	<b>Arkansas State University</b> <a href="http://www.astate.edu/">http://www.astate.edu/</a>	Arkansas	9,200	173	61 iBT
3	<b>Holy Names University</b> <a href="http://www.hnu.edu/">http://www.hnu.edu/</a>	California	669	42	61 iBT
4	<b>Central Connecticut State University</b> <a href="http://www.ccsu.edu/">http://www.ccsu.edu/</a>	Connecticut	9,479	210	61 iBT
5	<b>Goldey-Beacom College</b> <a href="http://www.gbc.edu/">http://www.gbc.edu/</a>	Delaware	2,950	146	76 iBT
6	<b>Jacksonville University</b> <a href="http://www.ju.edu/">http://www.ju.edu/</a>	Florida	542	106	61 iBT
7	<b>St Thomas University</b> <a href="http://www.ccsu.edu/">http://www.ccsu.edu/</a>	Florida	1,116	168	61 iBT
8	<b>Webber International University</b> <a href="http://www.webber.edu/">http://www.webber.edu/</a>	Florida	920	135	80 iBT
9	<b>Shorter College</b> <a href="http://www.shorter.edu/">http://www.shorter.edu/</a>	Georgia	2,590	43	79 iBT
10	<b>The College of Idaho</b> <a href="http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/">http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/</a>	Idaho	3,913	110	61 iBT
11	<b>Illinois Institute of Technology</b> <a href="http://www.iit.edu/">http://www.iit.edu/</a>	Illinois	2,222	41	68 iBT
12	<b>Lewis University</b> <a href="http://www.lewisu.edu/">http://www.lewisu.edu/</a>	Illinois	5,352	18	71 iBT
13	<b>McKendree College</b> <a href="http://www.ccsu.edu/">http://www.ccsu.edu/</a>	Illinois	842	50	61 iBT
14	<b>Indiana University Southeast</b> <a href="http://www.ius.edu/">http://www.ius.edu/</a>	Indiana	787	14	61 iBT
15	<b>IOWA Wesleyan College</b> <a href="http://www.iwc.edu/">http://www.iwc.edu/</a>	Iowa	419	40	61 iBT
16	<b>Upper Iowa University</b> <a href="http://www.uiu.edu/">http://www.uiu.edu/</a>	Iowa	783	N/A	61 iBT
17	<b>Hesston College</b> <a href="http://www.hesston.edu/">http://www.hesston.edu/</a>	Kansas	1,015	49	61 iBT
18	<b>Kansas Wesleyan University</b> <a href="http://www.kwu.edu/">http://www.kwu.edu/</a>	Kansas	783	N/A	61 iBT
19	<b>Newman University</b> <a href="http://www.newmanu.edu/">http://www.newmanu.edu/</a>	Kansas	1,015	49	100 iBT
20	<b>Brescia University</b> <a href="http://www.brescia.edu/">http://www.brescia.edu/</a>	Kentucky	462	30	79 iBT
21	<b>Campbellsville University</b> <a href="http://www.campbellsville.edu/">http://www.campbellsville.edu/</a>	Kentucky	1,714	113	61 iBT
22	<b>Lindsey Wilson College</b> <a href="http://www.lindsey.edu/">http://www.lindsey.edu/</a>	Kentucky	1,611	44	61 iBT
23	<b>Morehead State University</b> <a href="http://www.moreheadstate.edu/">http://www.moreheadstate.edu/</a>	Kentucky	6,773	27	61 iBT
24	<b>Murray State University</b> <a href="http://www.murraystate.edu/">http://www.murraystate.edu/</a>	Kentucky	7,630	135	61 iBT
25	<b>Union College</b> <a href="http://www.unionky.edu/">http://www.unionky.edu/</a>	Kentucky	804	33	68 iBT
26	<b>University of Louisville</b> <a href="http://www.louisville.edu/">http://www.louisville.edu/</a>	Kentucky	14,524	168	79 iBT
27	<b>University of the Cumberlands</b> <a href="http://www.ucumberlands.edu/">http://www.ucumberlands.edu/</a>	Kentucky	1,429	41	79 iBT
28	<b>McNeese State University</b> <a href="http://www.mcneese.edu/">http://www.mcneese.edu/</a>	Louisiana	7,246	516	61 iBT
29	<b>Nicholls State University</b> <a href="http://www.nicholls.edu/">http://www.nicholls.edu/</a>	Louisiana	6,246	129	61 iBT
30	<b>University of Maine</b> <a href="http://www.umaine.edu/">http://www.umaine.edu/</a>	Maine	8,868	143	71 iBT
31	<b>Western New England College</b> <a href="http://www.wnec.edu/">http://www.wnec.edu/</a>	Massachusetts	2,768	7	79 iBT
32	<b>Spring Arbor University</b> <a href="http://www.arbor.edu/">http://www.arbor.edu/</a>	Michigan	2,615	N/A	71 iBT
33	<b>Minnesota State University</b> <a href="http://www.mnstate.edu/">http://www.mnstate.edu/</a>	Minnesota	6,950	408	61 iBT
34	<b>Winona State University</b> <a href="http://www.winona.edu/">http://www.winona.edu/</a>	Minnesota	7,641	182	79 iBT
35	<b>William Carey University</b> <a href="http://www.wmcarey.edu/">http://www.wmcarey.edu/</a>	Mississippi	1,839	51	71 iBT
36	<b>Columbia College</b> <a href="http://www.ccis.edu/">http://www.ccis.edu/</a>	Missouri	1,101	79	61 iBT
37	<b>Culver-Stockton College</b> <a href="http://www.culver.edu/">http://www.culver.edu/</a>	Missouri	771	19	61 iBT
38	<b>Fontbonne University</b> <a href="http://www.fontbonne.edu/">http://www.fontbonne.edu/</a>	Missouri	2,009	12	71 iBT

	University	State	Students	Int'l Students	TOEFL
39	<b>Hannibal LaGrange University</b> <a href="http://www.hlg.edu/">http://www.hlg.edu/</a>	Missouri	1,084	31	61 iBT
40	<b>Harris Stowe State College</b> <a href="http://www.hssc.edu/">http://www.hssc.edu/</a>	Missouri	1,799	12	61 iBT
41	<b>Lindenwood University</b> <a href="http://www.lindenwood.edu/">http://www.lindenwood.edu/</a>	Missouri	6,330	618	61 iBT
42	<b>Missouri Valley College</b> <a href="http://www.park.edu/">http://www.park.edu/</a>	Missouri	1,405	107	55 iBT
43	<b>Park University</b> <a href="http://www.moval.edu/">http://www.moval.edu/</a>	Missouri	11,857	185	61 iBT
44	<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b> <a href="http://www.wustl.edu/">http://www.wustl.edu/</a>	Missouri	6,495	279	79 iBT
45	<b>Montana State University-Bozeman</b> <a href="http://www.montana.edu/">http://www.montana.edu/</a>	Montana	59,717	448	71 iBT
46	<b>Rocky Mountain College</b> <a href="http://www.rocky.edu/">http://www.rocky.edu/</a>	Montana	924	50	71 iBT
47	<b>Midland Lutheran College</b> <a href="http://www.mlc.edu/">http://www.mlc.edu/</a>	Nebraska	909	N/A	61 iBT
48	<b>College of the Southwest</b> <a href="http://www.csw.edu/">http://www.csw.edu/</a>	New Mexico	504	9	79 iBT
49	<b>Hobart &amp; William Smith Colleges</b> <a href="http://www.hws.edu/">http://www.hws.edu/</a>	New York	1,855	36	87 iBT
50	<b>Lenoir-Rhyne University</b> <a href="http://www.lr.edu/">http://www.lr.edu/</a>	North Carolina	1,347	16	79 iBT
51	<b>Mars Hill College</b> <a href="http://www.mhc.edu/">http://www.mhc.edu/</a>	North Carolina	1,308	N/A	61 iBT
52	<b>North Carolina Wesleyan College</b> <a href="http://www.ncwc.edu/">http://www.ncwc.edu/</a>	North Carolina	1,318	11	61 iBT
53	<b>Dickinson State University</b> <a href="http://www.dsu.nodak.edu/">http://www.dsu.nodak.edu/</a>	North Dakota	2,730	429	71 iBT
54	<b>Mayville State University</b> <a href="http://www.mayvillestate.edu/">http://www.mayvillestate.edu/</a>	North Dakota	789	27	71 iBT
55	<b>Minot State University</b> <a href="http://www.minotstateu.edu/">http://www.minotstateu.edu/</a>	North Dakota	3,172	334	71 iBT
56	<b>North Dakota State University</b> <a href="http://www.ndsu.edu/">http://www.ndsu.edu/</a>	North Dakota	10,799	433	71 iBT
57	<b>Valley City State University</b> <a href="http://www.vcsu.edu/">http://www.vcsu.edu/</a>	North Dakota	900	46	71 iBT
58	<b>University of Akron</b> <a href="http://www.uakron.edu/">http://www.uakron.edu/</a>	Ohio	16,288	116	61 iBT
59	<b>Cameron University</b> <a href="http://www.cameron.edu/">http://www.cameron.edu/</a>	Oklahoma	4,700	233	61 iBT
60	<b>Oklahoma City University</b> <a href="http://www.okc.edu/">http://www.okc.edu/</a>	Oklahoma	1,911	386	61 iBT
61	<b>Elizabethtown College</b> <a href="http://www.etc.edu/">http://www.etc.edu/</a>	Pennsylvania	2,178	41	75 iBT
62	<b>Lander University</b> <a href="http://www.lander.edu/">http://www.lander.edu/</a>	South Carolina	2,552	51	79 iBT
63	<b>Limestone College</b> <a href="http://www.limestone.edu/">http://www.limestone.edu/</a>	South Carolina	676	18	61 iBT
64	<b>Black Hills State University</b> <a href="http://www.bhsu.edu/">http://www.bhsu.edu/</a>	South Dakota	3,139	20	79 iBT
65	<b>University of Sioux Falls</b> <a href="http://www.thecoo.edu/">http://www.thecoo.edu/</a>	South Dakota	1,262	N/A	61 iBT
66	<b>King College</b> <a href="http://www.king.edu/">http://www.king.edu/</a>	Tennessee	807	24	69 iBT
67	<b>Lambuth University</b> <a href="http://www.lambuth.edu/">http://www.lambuth.edu/</a>	Tennessee	786	27	61 iBT
68	<b>Maryville College</b> <a href="http://www.maryvillecollege.edu/">http://www.maryvillecollege.edu/</a>	Tennessee	1,120	49	74 iBT
69	<b>Tennessee Wesleyan College</b> <a href="http://www.twcnet.edu/">http://www.twcnet.edu/</a>	Tennessee	847	22	80 iBT
70	<b>University of the Incarnate Word</b> <a href="http://www.uiw.edu/">http://www.uiw.edu/</a>	Texas	4,278	146	79 iBT
71	<b>Virginia Intermont College</b> <a href="http://www.vic.edu/">http://www.vic.edu/</a>	Virginia	1,126	12	61 iBT
72	<b>Lawrence University</b> <a href="http://www.lawrence.edu/">http://www.lawrence.edu/</a>	Wisconsin	1,405	99	90 iBT
73	<b>University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire</b> <a href="http://www.uwec.edu/">http://www.uwec.edu/</a>	Wisconsin	9,929	103	71 iBT
74	<b>University of Wisconsin-Green Bay</b> <a href="http://www.uwgb.edu/">http://www.uwgb.edu/</a>	Wisconsin	2,353	103	61 iBT
75	<b>University of Wisconsin-Superior</b> <a href="http://www.uwsuper.edu/">http://www.uwsuper.edu/</a>	Wisconsin	2,507	131	61 iBT
76	<b>University of Wyoming</b> <a href="http://www.winona.edu/">http://www.winona.edu/</a>	Wyoming	8,984	110	71 iBT



## United States of AMERICA



### Webber International University 8

Florida Students 920 Int'l Students 135 TOEFL 80 IBT

Webber International University is a private business university located on a beautiful 110-acre campus along the shoreline of Crooked Lake, 45 minutes from Disney World and Universal Studios. We award Associate and Bachelor of Science degrees and an MBA graduate degree.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$26,064 Annual Cost to Student \$11,500 Approx. Annual Savings \$14,564

### Upper Iowa University 16

Iowa Students 783 Int'l Students N/A TOEFL 61 IBT

Established in 1857, Upper Iowa University (UIU) is a private institution of higher education with its residential campus located in northeast Iowa near the Volga River of Iowa in the rural community of Fayette, Iowa. We have around 900 students and a 24:1 student/faculty ratio.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$26,000 Annual Cost to Student \$13,000 Approx. Annual Savings \$13,000

### Campbellsville University 21

Kentucky Students 1,714 Int'l Students 113 TOEFL 61 IBT

Campbellsville University is a private university located in Campbellsville, Kentucky, the seat of Taylor County. Campbellsville University has a student-faculty ratio of 12:1 and has a strong international program, currently welcoming students from more than thirty-five countries.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$26,050 Annual Cost to Student \$12,800 Approx. Annual Savings \$13,250

### Hannibal LaGrange University 39

Missouri Students 1,084 Int'l Students 31 TOEFL 61 IBT

Hannibal-LaGrange is a private, Christian college located in Hannibal, Missouri. Hannibal-LaGrange is a four-year liberal arts college fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$20,000 Annual Cost to Student \$10,000 Approx. Annual Savings \$10,000

### Lindenwood University 41

Missouri Students 6,330 Int'l Students 618 TOEFL 61 IBT

Lindenwood University is a private, coeducational, liberal arts university located in Saint Charles, Missouri, northwest of St. Louis and St. Louis County. Lindenwood offers undergraduate and graduate degrees. The main St. Charles campus is currently at 500 acres.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$20,110 Annual Cost to Student \$9,600 Approx. Annual Savings \$10,510

### Missouri Valley College 42

Missouri Students 1,405 Int'l Students 107 TOEFL 55 IBT

Missouri Valley College is a private, four-year liberal arts college affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. The beautiful 150-acre campus is in Marshall in west central Missouri.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$23,620 Annual Cost to Student \$11,320 Approx. Annual Savings \$12,300

### North Carolina Wesleyan College 52

North Carolina Students 1,318 Int'l Students 11 TOEFL 61 IBT

North Carolina Wesleyan College is a four-year coeducational, liberal arts college, located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Founded in 1956, the school is affiliated with the United Methodist Church.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$30,940 Annual Cost to Student \$15,470 Approx. Annual Savings \$15,470

### Elizabethtown College 61

Pennsylvania Students 2,178 Int'l Students 41 TOEFL 75 IBT

Elizabethtown College is a small comprehensive college located in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania in Lancaster County. The school was founded in 1899 by members of the Church of the Brethren.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$41,750 Annual Cost to Student \$20,750 Approx. Annual Savings \$21,000

### Maryville College 68

Tennessee Students 1,120 Int'l Students 49 TOEFL 74 IBT

Maryville College is a private four-year liberal arts college in Maryville, Tennessee, near Knoxville. It was founded in 1819 and is one of the fifty oldest colleges in the United States and the twelfth oldest institution in the South.



Approx. Total Annual Cost \$35,856 Annual Cost to Student \$20,856 Approx. Annual Savings \$15,000

These offers include tuition, room, and meals costs for the academic year of 2010-11.



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## Q1

**Who can receive these scholarships and why are they given out?**

## A1

Universities in America give these scholarships directly to international students. Though there are many reasons for their provision, the primary purpose is to promote 'internationalism' on campus. Most American students and institutions believe that academic and campus activities are improved through diversity and multicultural exchange. Students from abroad are a big part of this.

## Q2

**Do these scholarships have to be repaid?**

## A2

No. All of our scholarships need never be paid back.

## Q3

**Can I apply even if I don't have much English ability?**

## A3

At the application stage, English language ability is not a requirement. In fact, language skills are not even criteria for awarding and denying scholarships. However, if a student doesn't have a sufficient English ability, his or her departure date and enrollment may be delayed. Moreover, such students may be required to enter a university ESL program or receive additional English training until they have achieved language proficiency. Luckily, some of the schools include this training in the scholarship.

## Q4

**How are scholarship recipients selected?**

## A4

Each university selects its own criteria for awarding scholarships. However, most schools place an emphasis on things such as high school academic performance, letters of recommendation and personal essays.

## Q5

**What kind of schools will the scholarship offers come from?**

## A5

Our program only works with reputable and properly accredited universities - many of which offer liberal arts-style programs. Scholarship offers generally come from an average of 5-7 schools, from which the applicant can choose. A wide range of schools take part in our program, including institutions that have ranked highly in both national and international surveys. Extremely well-known universities that focus on graduate studies, such as UCLA and New York University, typically do not participate.

## Q6

**How are the scholarships paid?**

## A6

The scholarship money will automatically be deducted from your tuition and room/board bills. Direct cash transactions will not be made.

## Q7

**I already graduated from a 4-year university. Can I still apply?**

## A7

Yes. As long as a student is age 26 or younger, they are eligible to participate in this program - even if they already have a degree. However, such students are not allowed to take a similar academic program to the one they graduated from in their home country. Please note that this scholarship program does not apply to graduate programs.



## Q8

**After receiving a scholarship, is it possible to transfer to another school or withdraw from the university?**

## A8

Both of these are possible. For example, a student can utilize the scholarship for 2 years and then transfer to a different university. However, this student's scholarship will not be carried over to their new school. Of course, such students will be able to freely apply for other scholarships at the schools they have transferred to. It should be noted that this scholarship program bears no further responsibilities once a student has transferred or withdrawn from their original institution.

## Q9

**Can I transfer the credits I already earned at a university in my home country?**

## A9

Generally yes. It will depend on the credits you earned. Most U.S. universities are willing to accept transfer credits for subjects that go towards graduation. However, credits earned from English classes taken in your home country will not be transferrable.

## Q10

**Does this program have a limited number of spaces?**

## A10

Yes. The American University Scholarship Program utilizes a 'first come, first serve' policy. As applications are received, each student will be evaluated and considered for scholarships. The number of scholarships are limited to 125 students for summer enrollment (August) and 75 for winter enrollment (January). Therefore, if it looks like you may not meet an application deadline, we recommend that you consider applying for the following semester.

## Q11

**What are the TOEFL or IELTS requirements for this scholarship program?**

## A11

At the time one applies to our program, a TOEFL score is not necessary. However, an official TOEFL or IELTS score must eventually be sent along with application documents to the university. When initially submitting this score, it does not yet matter whether or not the benchmark is met. The actual score only becomes important several months before enrollment. For students with plans to begin their university studies in August, an iBT TOEFL score of at least 79 or an IELTS band score of 6.0 should be attained before one selects a university.

## Q12

**What is a Course Syllabus?**

## A12

Most courses at American universities are based on what is called a 'syllabus', which outlines class schedules and content. In addition to including things such as reading lists and report topics, syllabuses list test dates and other important deadlines. The syllabus should help you understand the academic demands and study time required for each course.





### Q13

#### How are lessons conducted?

#### A13

There is a good chance that the classes at U.S. universities are very different from those in your home country. Even international students with confident English abilities are occasionally bewildered at first. To begin with, all students should be prepared to answer questions such as, "What do you think?" with original replies. To quickly give an opinion, one will have to be well-prepared beforehand. In addition to completing reading assignments, students are expected to independently research related information and find concrete facts that support their opinions. For example, if a professor asks a question such as, "If you were the President of the United States, would you have invaded Iraq?", a simple "Yes" or "No" will never do. A logical argument must be presented. Students not accustomed to this style of education might panic at first. However, once they have become used to exchanging opinions in class, students will find how interesting and rewarding this style of education can be.

### Q16

#### How important is English?

#### A16

Of course, a certain amount of English is necessary for understanding class content and participating in discussions. However, it is important to remember that English is just a tool. Though the English language is a central focus of classes such as literature and writing, it is not so important in subjects such as mathematics and biology, where diagrams and photographs can help a student understand the context of study materials. Ultimately, a student's success will come down to effort.

There are many concrete ways to overcome a low English ability and have a successful university life. To begin with, students can record classes and review the content later at home. Professors are often available after class or during office hours. Most are happy to answer questions and give extra support. Moreover, don't be afraid to ask English-speaking friends or American classmates when you need some help.

For a majority of students who have academic trouble or drop out of school, the problem is not language-related. The cause is usually a lack of motivation or effort. Luckily, the opposite is also true. Expect to be surprised by how quickly your English improves through actively participating in university life.

### Q15

#### What is a typical day like at an American university?

#### A15

A majority of classes will be finished by 3:00 p.m. After that, many students take part in extracurricular activities for several hours, which often involve sports, music or academic-related interests. A significant number of people will go straight from class to the library, where they will do homework or review class material. Dinner is usually eaten around 6:00 p.m. Most students will then return to their dorm rooms to study and prepare for the next day's classes. Though some students will occasionally join study sessions and special guest lectures on weeknights, most don't have enough time to go out or even watch T.V.

Luckily, students are able to refresh a little from Friday afternoon through Sunday evening. Like young people in most countries, students in America will try to fill their weekends with fun activities. While there are usually things to do both on and nearby the campus, a number of students will also head by car to nearby urban areas, where they will go shopping or catch movies.



### Q16

#### What is life like for a typical American university student?

#### A16

For most university students in the U.S., daily life revolves around academics. Students dress casually and spend a lot of time on campus. Even for women, dressing up is a rarity and makeup is seldom worn.

Though there are exceptions, most American students live quite simply and follow a strict budget. Despite the fact that many students are receiving loans and paying their own way through college, it is rare to find students with part-time jobs - there simply isn't enough time outside of academics.

### Q17

#### Is it possible to work in America after graduating?

#### A17

After graduating with a 4-year degree, it is possible to participate in 'OPT' (Optional Practical Training) for up to one year. This program requires that students work for companies in America and handle responsibilities that are related to their major fields of study.

To continue working in America once 'OPT' has been completed, a student will have to acquire an employment visa. Each application must be sponsored by a business. Because these visas take a long time to process and require the assistance of a lawyer, it is best to find a company and begin the application process as early as possible.

Employment visas are limited to three years. However, international employees can apply to have their visas extended an additional 3 years. To continue working in the U.S. after an employment visa has expired, it will be necessary for workers to receive either a 'green card' (permanent resident visa) or other type of visa.

### Q18

#### When and how do I pay for tuition?

#### A18

Though every university has a slightly different payment policy, each student will be paying the school directly. More information on this will be provided at the orientation.

### Q19

#### Can I get into a university even if my GPA is a little low?

#### A19

Oftentimes yes. Each university has different criteria. However, if you can impress a school with your other admission documents, they may overlook a slightly low GPA. It is definitely worth applying.

### Q20

#### What kind of special support is provided for international students?

#### A20

Almost every U.S. school offers students admissions support and academic counseling. In addition, a majority of universities have 'writing centers', where students can receive free writing support and tutoring. On top of this, almost all professors keep office hours and are happy to assist students with academic issues.

### Q21

#### Do I have to live in the dorm?

#### A21

Living in a dorm is a requirement for most 1st year students at American universities. Dorms are actually seen as an important part of university education. In addition to being conveniently located on or near campus, dorms allow students to make friends and receive social support. Because dorms are part of the scholarship offer, our program also requires participating students to stay in dorms. American students will probably be very jealous when they learn that you are staying in the dorms for half-price!

# Applying to the Program

## Necessary Application Documents

- ☐ Complete program admissions application
- ☐ ACSA counseling interview
- ☐ Medical release form
- ☐ Up-to-date curriculum vitae (resume) indicating academic and extra-curricular activities (athletics, arts, etc)
- ☐ English translation of school transcript (original or certified copy)
- ☐ English translation of school grade point average (per year and cumulative)
- ☐ Official or institutional TOEFL test results
- ☐ Two letters of recommendation from high school staff (College staff for transfer students)

- ☐ Personal essay that addresses the following questions (maximum of two pages)
  1. Why do you deserve a scholarship?
  2. What are your objectives for studying in the USA?
  3. What are your post-graduation plans?

### If transferring from other college or University:

- ☐ English translation of college transcript of courses taken and passed (translated syllabus may also be requested)

### Once the amount of scholarship is established:

- ☐ Proof of financial means (bank statement or similar) to study in the USA for one academic year. This document is necessary for obtaining an F1 student VISA.



## Application to Arrival: A Step-by-Step Guide

### STEP 1

#### Join an Orientation

In order to better understand the U.S. university system and our scholarship program, we ask that potential participants begin the application process by joining one of our free orientations. Because we will be providing detailed information and application materials, taking part in an orientation is a prerequisite to applying for the program. For this reason, we hold orientations in most major cities. If an interested student is unable to make it to one of our orientations, we do offer equivalent informational sessions online as well as over the phone. If this is the best option for you, please call us or make an appointment through your agent. We welcome parents and guardians to attend and even allow attendance by proxy (family members, friends, etc.).



### STEP 2

#### Receive a Personal Interview

We also provide free interview sessions to each prospective student or proxy who takes part in one of our orientations. These interviews can also be conducted over the phone. Through these consultations, we will determine whether or not a student is eligible for this scholarship program. However, it is always the universities that have a final say in who is offered or denied scholarships.

Only individuals who have passed the interview stage may progress to the next step.

### STEP 3

#### Complete an ACSA Application Form

ACSA application forms must be completed and sent in before the submission deadline. For details on deadlines and application deposits, please refer to the documents passed out at the orientation.

### STEP 4

#### Prepare University Admission Documents

All university admission documents must be sent in and program fees paid before the submission deadline. For detailed information on deadlines and program fees, please refer to the documents passed out at the orientation.

### STEP 5

#### Choose a Scholarship Offer

The average student will receive scholarship offers from 7 universities. He or she will then select the offer that best meets their needs. In the rare case that no scholarships are offered, all application and program fees will be 100% reimbursed. In cases where a student's English level is judged to be insufficient, he or she will be obligated to take part in a pre-departure English training course in order to receive a scholarship.

### STEP 6

#### Get Your Visa and Set off!

After passing a simple interview at the U.S. Embassy, students will be able to receive their student visas. Next up is timing one's arrival with the start of the school year. This will generally be in either August or January, when the new semesters begin. Before arriving in America, students will be given pre-departure orientations in their home countries.



# Program Application Form

## ■ PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
(day /month /year)

Country of Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number \_\_\_\_\_

Issuing Country \_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Address of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_

Province \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out only if younger than 21 years of age

Father/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Identification: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number)

Mother/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Identification: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number)

## ■ REGISTRATION

Desired Starting Date:

Year \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Spring Term (January)

☐ Fall Term (August)

Academic Status (mark with an 'X'):

☐ Freshmen

☐ Transfer

## ■ PERSONAL OBJECTIVES (Please describe)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ How did you get this brochure?

Name of institution, etc. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ■ Academic Objectives

1- Intended Fields of Study or Majors of Interest:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

2- Do you have a specific institution in mind?  
(Placement at these institutions is not guaranteed)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

3- Do you have a preferred U.S. city or state?  
(Placement at these destinations is not guaranteed)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

4- Please briefly describe your ideal institution:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5- Means of Financial Support:

(mark with an 'X' multiple answers are allowed)

☐ Personal funds

☐ Funds from parent/guardian

☐ Funds from parent/guardian and personal funds

☐ Funds from other source (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## ■ ABOUT YOUR FORMER EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1- High School Information:

High School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date (or expected) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
(day /month /year)

Grade Point Average (Final or Cumulative) \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Possible Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Passing Grade \_\_\_\_\_

2- University Information (if attended):

Institution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fields of Study \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date (or expected) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
(day /month /year)

Courses Passed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Point)

University Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_  
(Final or Cumulative)

Maximum Possible Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Passing Grade \_\_\_\_\_

3- Test Scores:

(Only if already taken. These are NOT required to apply for the Program)

TOEFL Score \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

SAT Score \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Score \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**ACSA**

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American Collegiate Scholarship Association

**<http://www.acsa-scholarship.org>**