



Capacity Building for Guidance Counselors at Universities and High Schools in Vietnam

“OPEN DOOR TO U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION”

Sponsored by

**EducationUSA - U.S. Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City
SEAMEO Regional Training Center in Vietnam (SEAMEO RETRAC)**

Virtual Training Workshop Series 2021

December 02-03, 2021 for Ho Chi Minh City

December 08-09, 2021 for Can Tho City

December 16-17, 2021 for Hue City

PROGRAM

Time	Program
Day 1: MORNING SESSION	
08:00 - 08:30	Welcoming
08:30 - 09:00	Opening Ceremony
Section A: The Education System of the United States	
09:00 - 10:00	Overview of the U.S. Higher Education System
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Introduction to U.S. Higher Education • Why study in the U.S.?
10:00 - 10:15	Break
10:15 - 11:30	Different School Choice Options - Finding the Best Fit for Our Students
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different Types of Higher Education Institutions in the U.S. • Accreditation and Degree Recognition • Finding a Good Fit for Our Students
11:30 - 12:00	Q&A
Lunch Break	

PROGRAM

Time	Program
Day 1: AFTERNOON SESSION	
Section B: Get Admitted into U.S. H.E. Institutions	
13:30 - 15:00	Applying to U.S. Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission Requirements • Enrollment Process • Pathway Programs and Conditional Admission • Standardized Tests • Counseling Guides and Decisive Matters
	Financial Aids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources of scholarships • How to prepare our students for U.S. Financial Aids
	15:00 - 15:30 Q&A
15:30 - 16:00	Break
16:00 - 17:00	Get Access to Information and Academic Advising Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual U.S. Education Fairs • Useful websites • Online Search Tools • Others Reference Resources
	17:00 - 17:30 Q&A

PROGRAM

Time	Program
Day 2: MORNING SESSION	
Section C: U.S. Student Visa System	
09:00 - 11:00	Visa application process
11:00 - 11:30	Q&A
11:30 - 12:00	Closing Ceremony and Conclusion of the Training

TRAINING AIMS

SEAMEO RETRAC is in partnership with the U.S. Consulate General Ho Chi Minh City to host three separate 1.5-day virtual training workshops for participants from Ho Chi Minh City, Can Tho City, and Hue City. These trainings are designed to equip participants with a better understanding about the U.S. Higher Education System. The workshop aims to help the participants with:

- updated knowledge about the U.S higher education system;
- necessary tools to explore a range of academic programs;
- enrollment procedures and other related concerns;
- useful tips on how to help students apply for and obtain U.S. Scholarships and beneficial Financial Aid packages; and
- information on how to access basic information for student visa application.

PARTICIPANT

The target participants of the training workshops are:

- Guidance counselors from high school and universities (prefer international schools and institutions);
- Staff in charge of overseas study of major educational institutions;
- Language teachers at high schools and university level; and
- Counselors of major counseling agencies.

TRAINERS



Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong
Director
SEAMEO Regional Training Center in
Vietnam (SEAMEO RETRAC)

For more than 30 years, Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong has worked in the field of International Education as both an instructor and an educational researcher. Dr. Phuong is a visiting scholar and a lecturer in Masters Degree programs offered by Curtin University, Australia and many prestigious Colleges and Universities in Vietnam. She is the chief investigator in several educational research projects including those cooperated with foreign institutions. Having extensive and strong knowledge about the Vietnamese and U.S. Education system, she has successfully hosted multiple sharing sessions and lectures for international students in Vietnam and vice versa.

Besides her active involvement in the field of international education, as a Center Director, SEAMEO RETRAC, under her leadership, has strong collaboration and close partnerships with U.S. institutions through annual internship and exchange programs (University of Hawaii, Queen's College, ...), research projects (BUILD-IT, Arizona State University, Portland State University, ...), information dissemination activities, education fairs for thousands of Vietnamese students.

Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong holds a Master Degree in TESOL from the University of Canberra, Australia. In the year 2000, she won a scholarship from the Ford Foundation International Fellowship Program and went to study at the University of Southern California, USA. From this university she earned her Master Degree of Science in Education in 2002 and Doctorate Degree in Educational Leadership and Management in 2004.



Mr. Daniel Gerbatch
Executive Liaison for International
Programs
Admission Services
Arizona State University, U.S.A.

Since graduating with a Master Degree in East Asian Studies, Mr. Daniel has worked in International Admissions for close to a decade at both private and public universities in the US. Thanks to his longterm living in Asia for almost ten years and prior to that in Europe, he has gained much experience in concerns of students who are looking for opportunities to study abroad.

He currently works with Admissions at Arizona State University focusing on our recruitment strategy in greater China, as well as regularly assisting international students interested in applying to ASU.

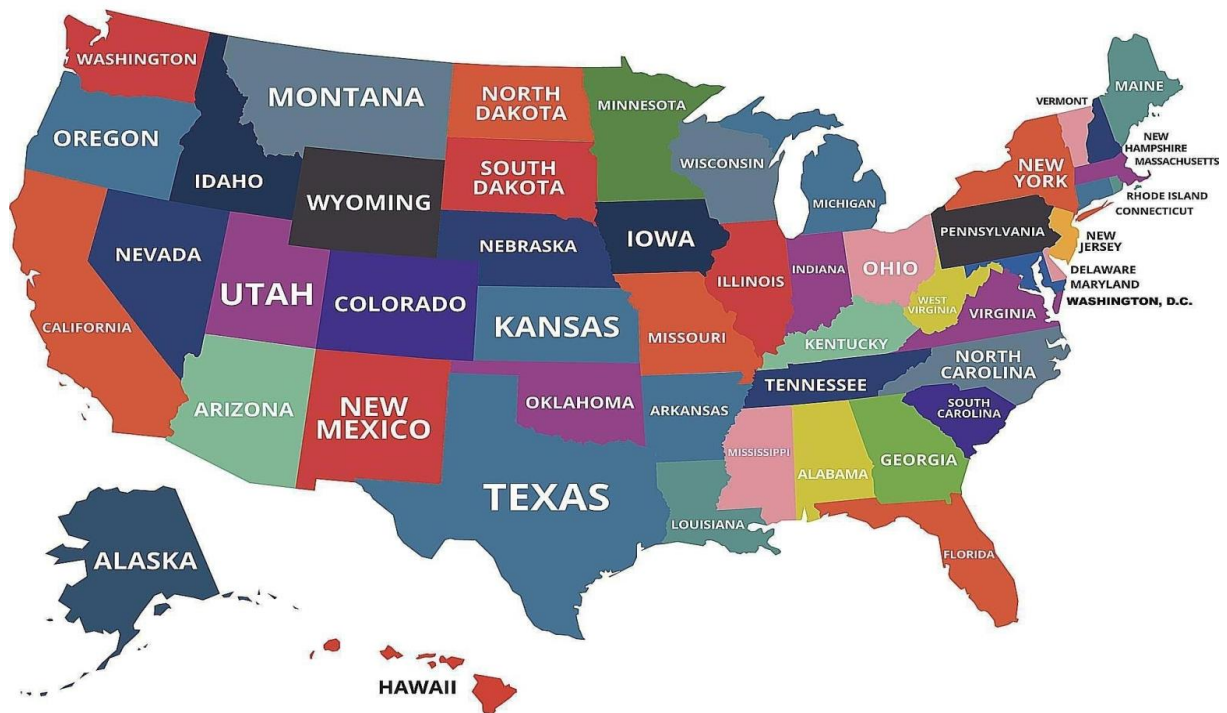


Ms. Huyen Nguyen
International Admissions Specialist
Admission Services
Arizona State University, U.S.A.

Ms. Huyen has joined Arizona State University since 2014. At the present, she serves as the International Admission Specialist and is responsible for marketing and promoting Arizona State University (ASU) programs, its mission, and services to potential partners in Vietnam and Southeast Asia region, counseling and advising international students during the application and enrollment process to ASU. In addition, Ms. Huyen works as a supporter for ASU Representative Office in Vietnam to develop partnerships with local universities and corporate training programs within Vietnamese industries.

Ms. Huyen received her Bachelor Degree in Finance from ASU and Master Degree in Global Management from Thunderbird School of Global Management, U.S.A.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



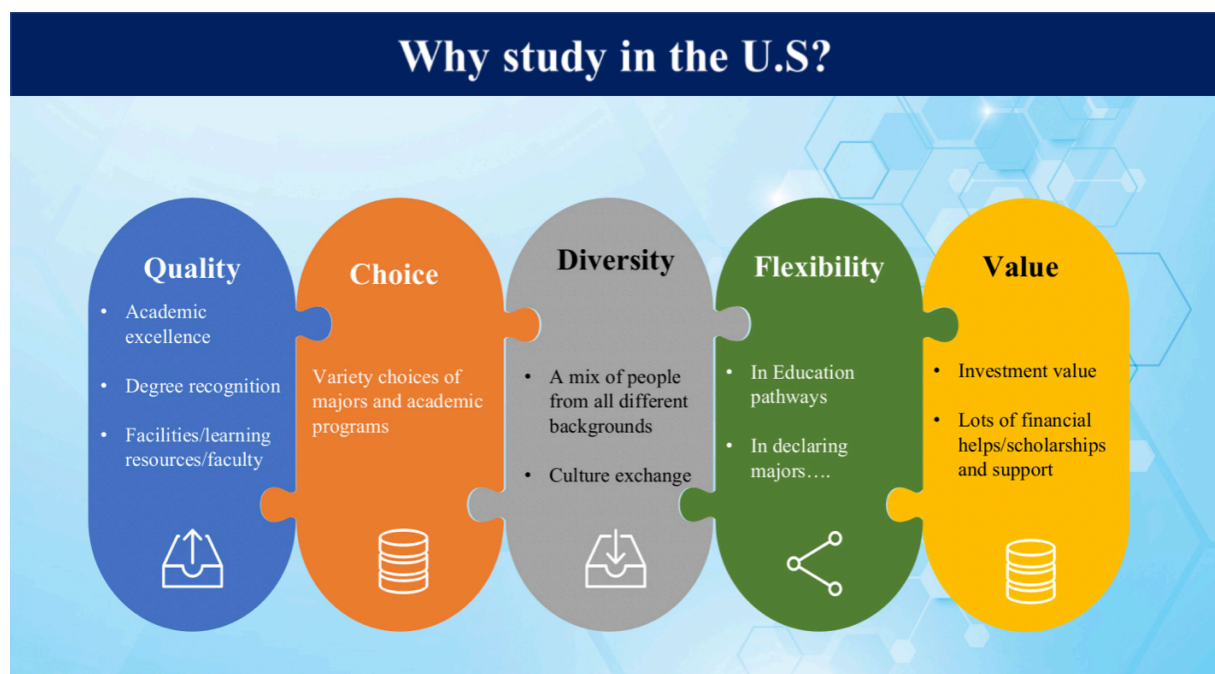
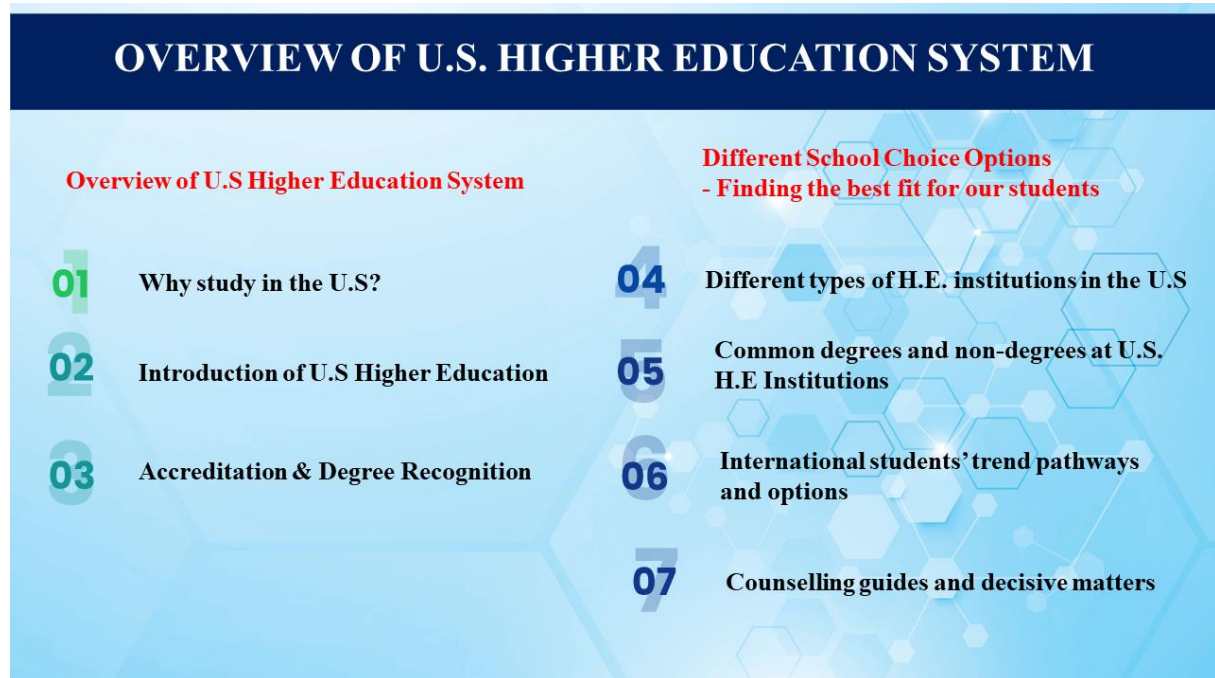
A background image showing two students, a woman and a man, sitting at a desk. The woman is on the left, looking down at a laptop. The man is on the right, looking at a book. There are various papers and books on the desk. The image is overlaid with a dark blue filter.

SECTION A

THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES

SECTION A

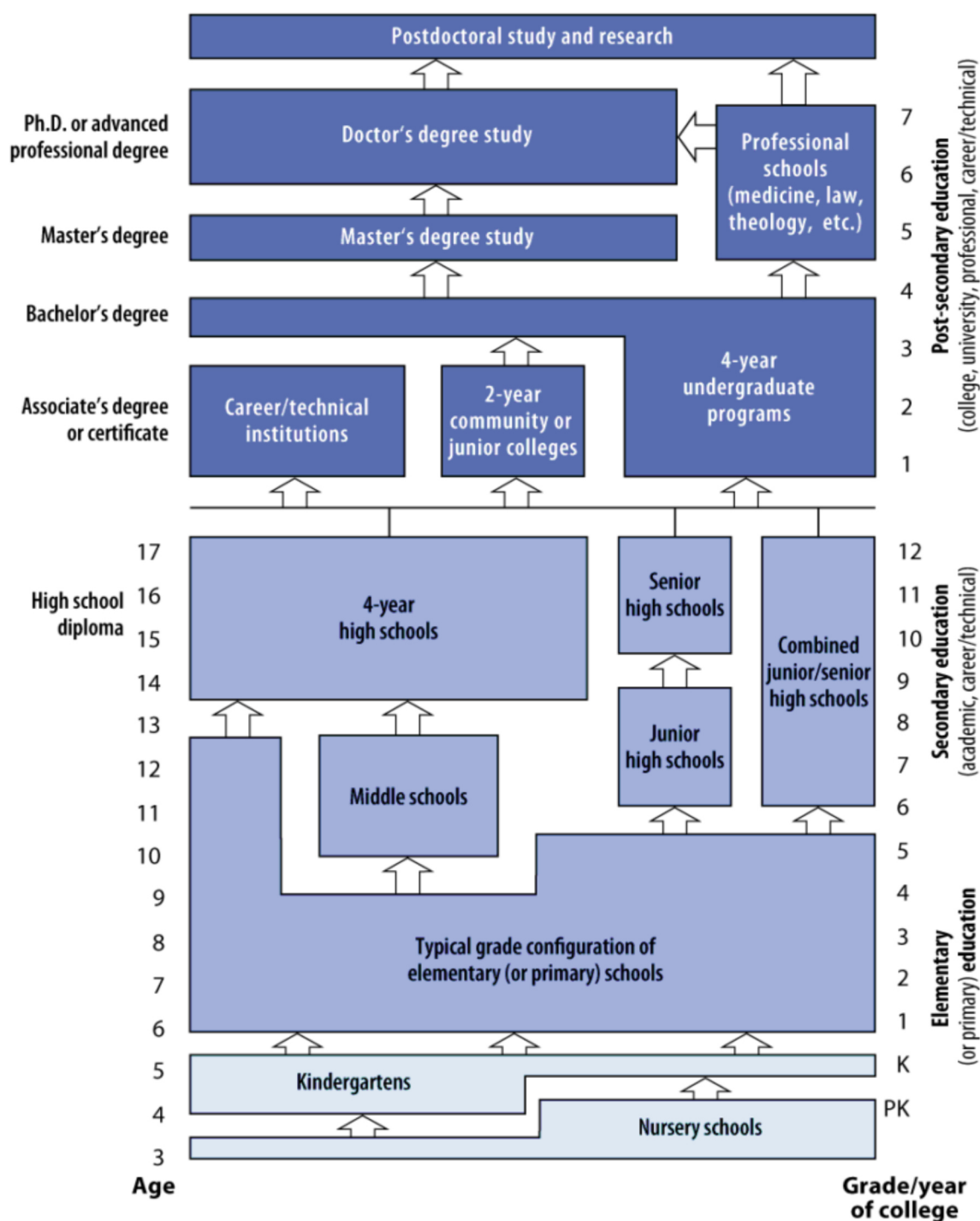
1. Overview of U.S. Higher Education System



Source: <https://vn.usembassy.gov/education-culture/educationusa/>

SECTION A

1. Overview of U.S. Higher Education System

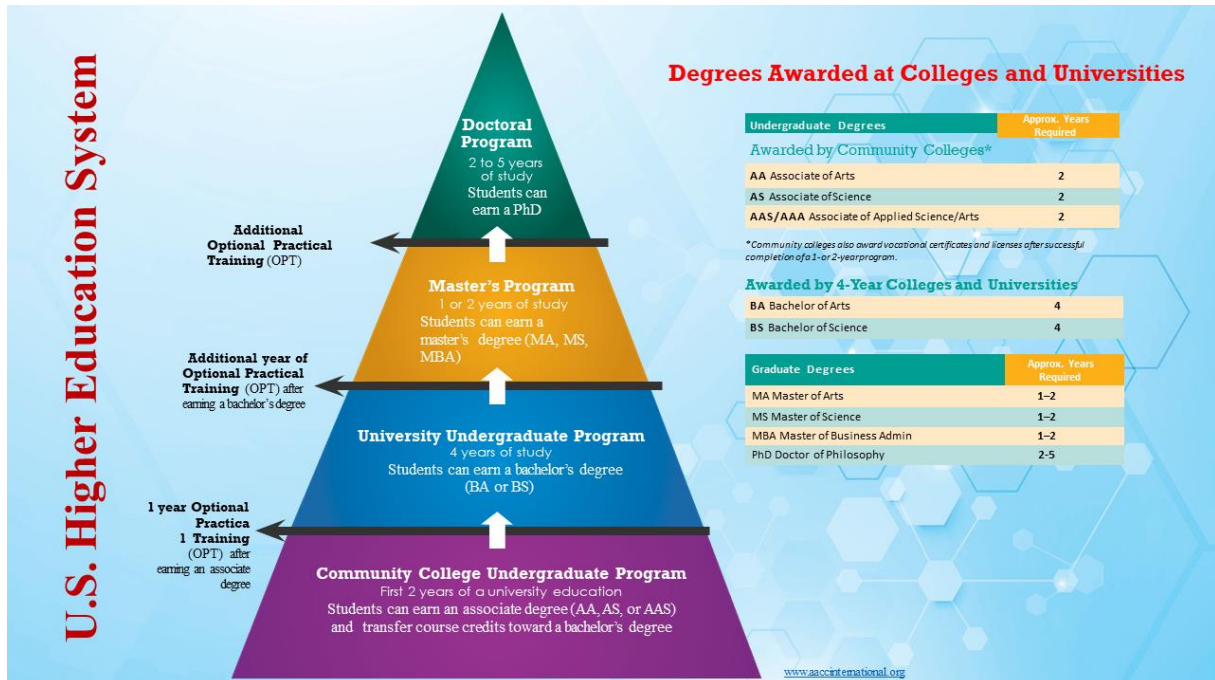


AN INTRODUCTION OF U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Source: <http://timssandpirls.bc.edu/timss2015/encyclopedia/countries/united-states/>

SECTION A

1. Overview of U.S. Higher Education System



Source: <http://www.aaccinternational.org/>

Community Colleges

These 2-year institutions, also known as technical or junior colleges, award associate degrees upon completion of a 2-year program of study. An associate degree enables students to:

- Transfer to a 4-year college or university for an additional 2 years of study to obtain a bachelor's degree
- Begin a career immediately in the workplace that does not require a 4-year degree

Four-Year Colleges and Universities

- Four-year institutions offer bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees.
- Most 4-year degree programs accept course credits earned by community college students.
- Ex: Boston College, Pierce College, City College of New York, ...

SECTION A

1. Overview of U.S. Higher Education System

An Introduction to U.S. Higher Education	
Basic Classifications in the Carnegie Classification System	
Carnegie Basic	Description (Verbatim)
Tribal Colleges	Colleges and universities that are members of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, as identified in IPEDS Institutional Characteristics.
Special Focus Institutions	Institutions where a high concentration of degrees is in a single field or set of related fields such as arts and health care professions. Excludes Tribal Colleges.
Associate's Colleges	Institutions at which the highest level degree awarded is an associate's degree. The institutions are sorted into nine categories based on the intersection of two factors: disciplinary focus (transfer, career & technical or mixed) and dominant student type (traditional, nontraditional or mixed). Excludes Special Focus Institutions and Tribal Colleges.
Baccalaureate/ Associate's Colleges	Includes four-year colleges (by virtue of having at least one baccalaureate degree program) that conferred more than 50 percent of degrees at the associate's level . Excludes Special Focus Institutions, Tribal Colleges, and institutions that have sufficient master's or doctoral degrees to fall into those categories.

An Introduction to U.S. Higher Education	
Basic Classifications in the Carnegie Classification System	
Carnegie Basic	Description (Verbatim)
Baccalaureate Colleges	Includes institutions where baccalaureate or higher degrees represent at least 50 percent of all degrees but where fewer than 50 master's degrees or 20 doctoral degrees were awarded during the update year. (Some institutions above the master's degree threshold are also included.). Excludes Special Focus Institutions and Tribal Colleges.
Master's Colleges & Universities	Includes institutions that awarded at least 50 master's degrees and fewer than 20 doctoral degrees during the update year (with occasional exceptions). Excludes Special Focus Institutions and Tribal Colleges.
Doctoral Universities	Includes institutions that awarded at least 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees during the update year and also institutions with below 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees that awarded at least 30 professional practice doctoral degrees in at least 2 programs. Excludes Special Focus Institutions and Tribal Colleges.

Source: <https://wenr.wes.org/2018/06/education-in-the-united-states-of-america>

SECTION A

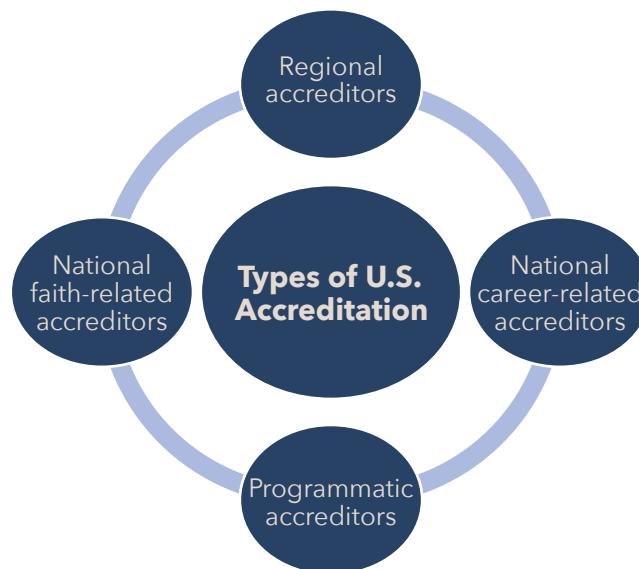
1. Overview of U.S. Higher Education System

Accreditation

Accreditation is the system of recognition and quality assurance for institutions and programs of higher education in the United States. There are over 2,900 accredited U.S. higher education institutions that hosted international students.

Types of U.S. Accreditation

In the United States, accreditation is carried out by private, non-profit organizations designed for this specific purpose.



Source: <https://www.chea.org/sites/default/files/other-content/Overview%20of%20US%20Accreditation%202015.pdf>

Purposes of U.S Accreditation

1. Assuring quality
2. Access to federal and state funds
3. Engendering private sector confidence
4. Easing transfer of courses and programs among colleges and universities

Two main entities overseeing accreditation organizations

- Council For Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA): <https://www.chea.org/directories>
- U.S. Department of Education (USDE): <https://www.ed.gov/>

SECTION A

2. Different School Choice Options - Finding the Best Fit for Our Students

Private vs. Public Universities/Colleges

	Public Institutions	Private Institutions
Quality	Both can provide well- recognized quality	
Type	Not-for-Profit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not-for-profit • For-Profit
Funded	Receiving government funding	Funded by tuition fees, research grants, combination of endowments (non-taxable gifts sources) from private and alumni
Program offerings	More degree programs	Fewer academic majors
Campus and capacity	Large and admit wide range of students	Can be large, medium size or small size
Tuition	In-state residents pay lower than out-of-state residents Less expensive	No distinction between state and non-state residents More expensive
Financial aids	Federal financial aids	Federal financial aids available to award grants and scholarships due to their large endowment funds
Class size	typically have larger class sizes with less one-on-one interaction between students and professors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tend to have much smaller class sizes, which creates a more intimate learning environment between students and instructors
Campus diversity	often less geographically diverse	often more geographically diverse and international students.
Learning environment	independent students typically better at public colleges	for students who may need a little extra direction and supervision.

Source: <https://thebestschools.org/magazine/for-profit-vs-non-profit/>

SECTION A

2. Different School Choice Options - Finding the Best Fit for Our Students

Different types of Higher Education Institutions in the U.S.

Ivy League	Community College	Research Universities
Colleges with a special focus: Arts Colleges	Colleges with a special focus: Religious Affiliation Schools	Colleges with a special focus: Single-gender Institution
Colleges with a special focus: Specialized-mission Colleges	Vocational-technical and Career Colleges	Non-Degree Study
Distance Education	Liberal Arts Philosophy	Associations for Student Athletes

Degree Recognition

- To measure student progress toward graduation
- To determine the enrollment status of students
- To determine pricing of tuition and additional fees

Articulation Agreement

An articulation agreement is an official guarantee that classes completed at one school will be accepted when a student transfers to another school.

"An articulation agreement outlines which courses in which institutions will map toward a specific degree program," explains Brenda McCoy, associate vice president for strategic initiatives at the University of North Texas.

Students should also be clear about what type of program they intend to pursue before they transfer: *"If they did a general liberal arts pathway, and then decide they want to major in engineering, they essentially have to start over. Students don't have to declare a major at the community colleges for the most part, but they do need to be really clear with the counselor."*

SECTION A

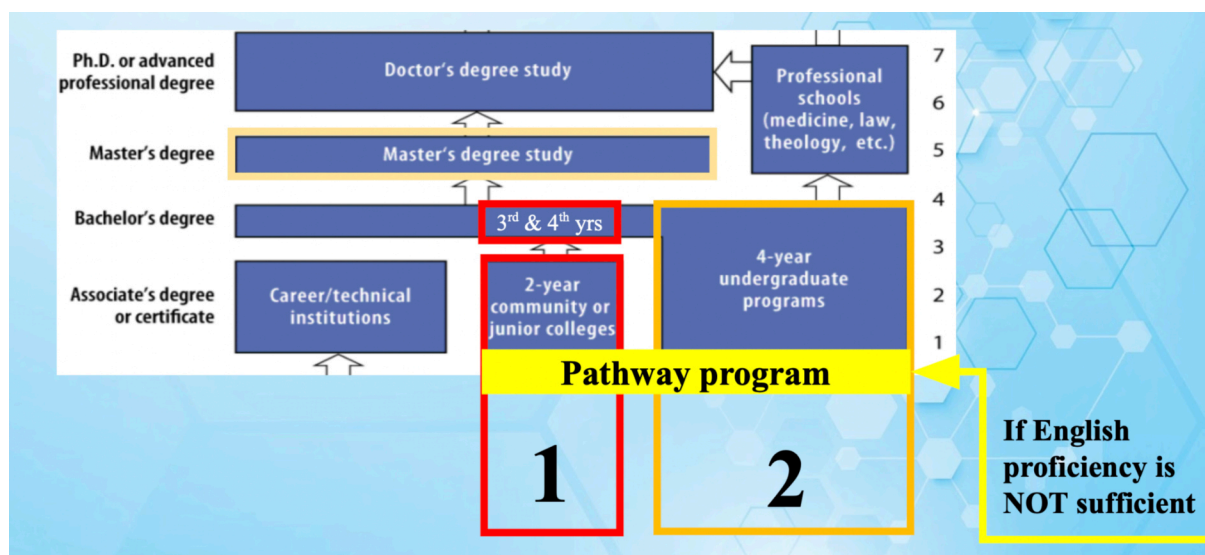
2. Different School Choice Options - Finding the Best Fit for Our Students

Finding a Good Fit for Our Students



Source: <https://educationusa.state.gov/your-5-steps-us-study>

Two Main Trendy Pathways for Undergraduate Students



Counseling guides and decisive matters

- ☑ Academic and Career Goals
- ☑ Expenses and Financial Capability
- ☑ Housing Options
- ☑ Lifestyle and other consideration

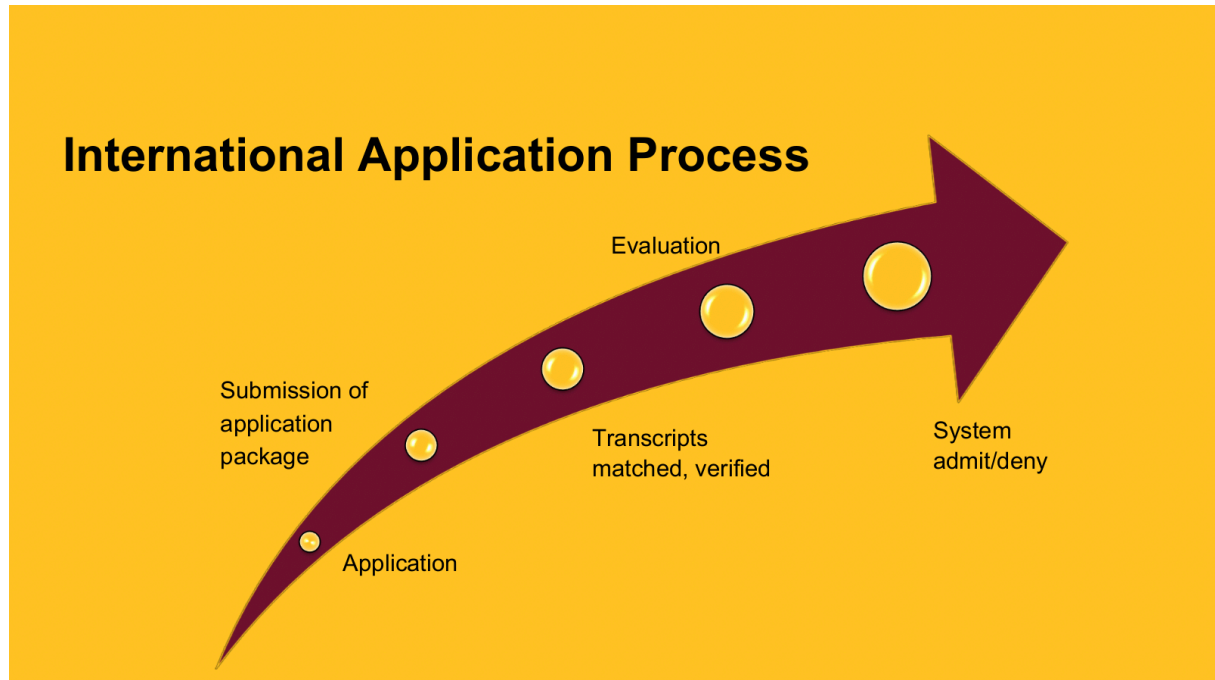


SECTION B

HOW TO GET ADMITTED TO U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

SECTION B

1. Admission and Enrollment Process



Consider which group of student you belong to:

- *International First-time Freshman*
- *Foreign-Domestic*
- *International Transfer*

Conditional Admission & Pathway Programs

Condition admission

Some Universities may offer conditional undergraduate admission to international applicants who meet the academic requirement but who are not proficient in English.

Pathway programs

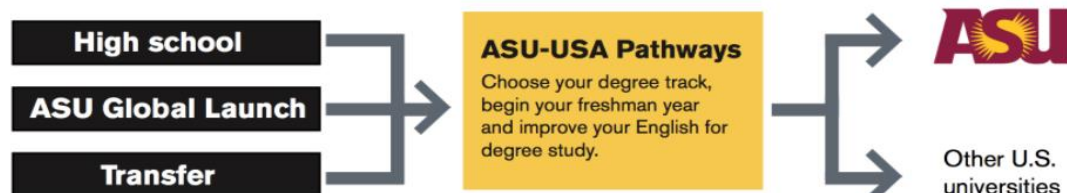
Students who do not meet direct admission to universities can choose another pathway program to improve their grades and English proficiency.

- Complete Associate Degree at Community Colleges and transfer to universities
- INTO Pathway: <https://www.intostudy.com/en>
- Specific University Pathway Programs (e.g. the ASU-USA Pathway Program)

SECTION B

1. Admission and Enrollment Process

What is the ASU-USA Pathway Program?



The Application Package

Application Package Overview

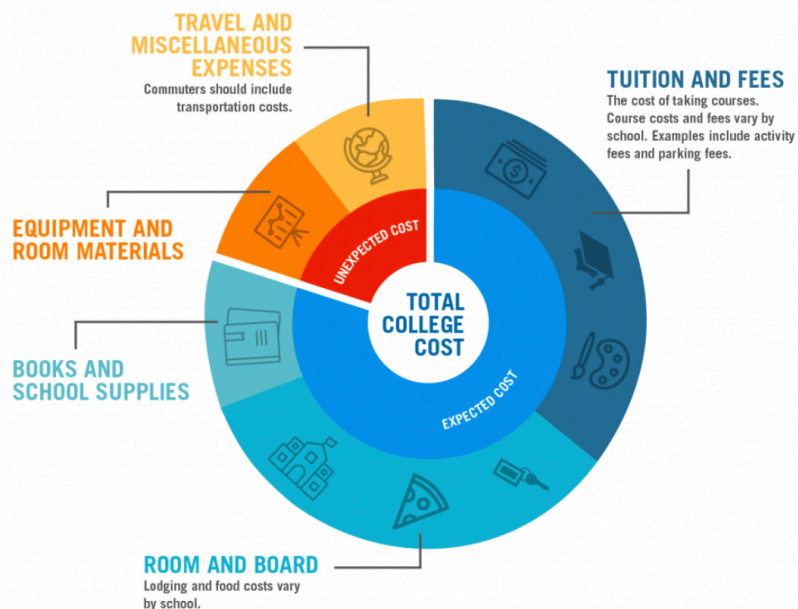
- **High School Transcript/Diploma:** Official transcripts are certified copies of official documents from each secondary school, college, university or technical school attended. Include a certified English translation of all documents not written in English.
- **Standardized test score:** Score may be required to assess academic ability (SAT/ACT) and English proficiency level (TOEFL/IELTS)
- **Recommendation letters:** Your school principal, your teacher, coach, tutor or supervisor from professional experiences can write a recommendation letter. Be sure to choose someone who knows you well.
- **Personal essay:** This is your chance to write about your interests, long-term goals, and strengths - one of the most important aspects of your application.

SECTION B

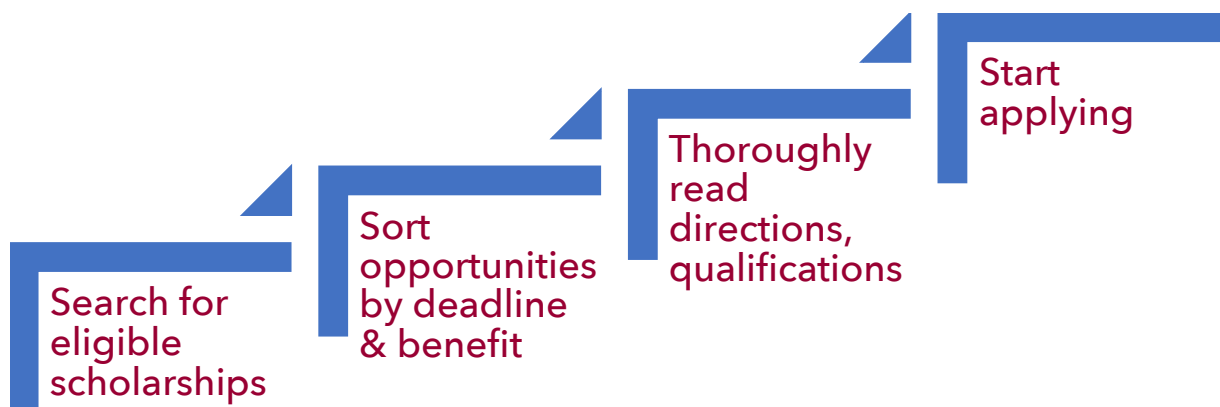
2. Financial Aids

Paying for College is a combination of:

- Family & Student Contribution
- Financial Aid
 - Self-help Aid
 - Loans
 - Student Jobs
 - Gift Aid
 - Grants
 - Scholarships



Planning your scholarship applications



SECTION B

3. Get Access to Academic Advising Tools Finding The Right School

Online Resources

- **Government Resources**

- National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>
- Study in the States, the Department of Homeland Security: <https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov>

- **Private Organizations**

- American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers: <https://www.aacrao.org/edge>
- Study USA: <https://www.studyusa.com/en/school-search>
- US News: <https://www.usnewsglobaleducation.com/school-finder/>
- Niche.com: <https://www.niche.com>
- CollegeBoard: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>
- CollegeData.com: <https://www.collegedata.com>
- College Confidential: <https://collegeconfidential.com>
- Common App: <https://www.commonapp.org/explore>

Printed Resources

- **College Board International Student Handbook** - Go-to guide when looking for schools that offer high percentages of international students some type of financial aid.
- **Ruggs Guide** - includes most college majors and the schools that have the highest quality programs for each major. This is a very helpful source if you have selected a major, but you still need to build your application list.
- **Fiske Guide to Colleges** - Great college guide book. Full of well researched and vivid descriptions.
- **College Board Book of Majors** - Comprehensive list of majors, with info on each major and lists of high school courses students should take to prepare for college.

Case Study: Find your major with me3

- Go to <https://me3.careers/asu/learning>
- Click "Play Now"
- Click by Associations
- Search through the results



SECTION C

U.S. STUDENT VISA SYSTEM

SECTION C

U.S. Student Visa System



EducationUSA is a U.S. Department of State network of over 430 international student advising centers in more than 175 countries and territories. The network promotes U.S. higher education to students around the world by offering accurate, comprehensive, and current information about opportunities to study at accredited postsecondary institutions in the United States. EducationUSA also provides services to the U.S. higher education community to help institutional leaders meet their recruitment and campus internationalization goals. EducationUSA is your official source on U.S. higher education.

EducationUSA programs/free services:


- Advising activities
- Information about Studying in the United States
- Educational Conferences/Workshops
- Country Briefings/Outreach presentations
- Education Fairs/Pre-Departure Orientations
- U.S.-Vietnam Joint programs/University Partnerships

Contact:

- Email: HCMCEDUSA@state.gov
- Phone: (84.28) 3520 4685
- Hotline: 090 666 9518
- Skype: HCMCEDUSA
- Address: Floor 8, 34 Le Duan Street, District 1, HCMC, Vietnam


To know more about U.S. Higher Education and U.S. student visa system, please visit the following useful websites:

- Website of U.S Embassy and Consulate in Vietnam:
<https://vn.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmigrant-visas/>
<https://vn.usembassy.gov/education-culture/educationusa/>
- Facebook page of U.S. Consulate General HCMC:
<https://www.facebook.com/USConsulateHCMC/>
- EducationUSA: <https://educationusa.state.gov/>
- U.S. Department of State Website for Student and Exchange Visitors:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/study/exchange.html>
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security-Student and Exchange visitor Program (SEVP): <https://www.ice.gov/sevis>



For further information, please contact us at:

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