



# EducationUSA

## 5 Steps to U.S. Study

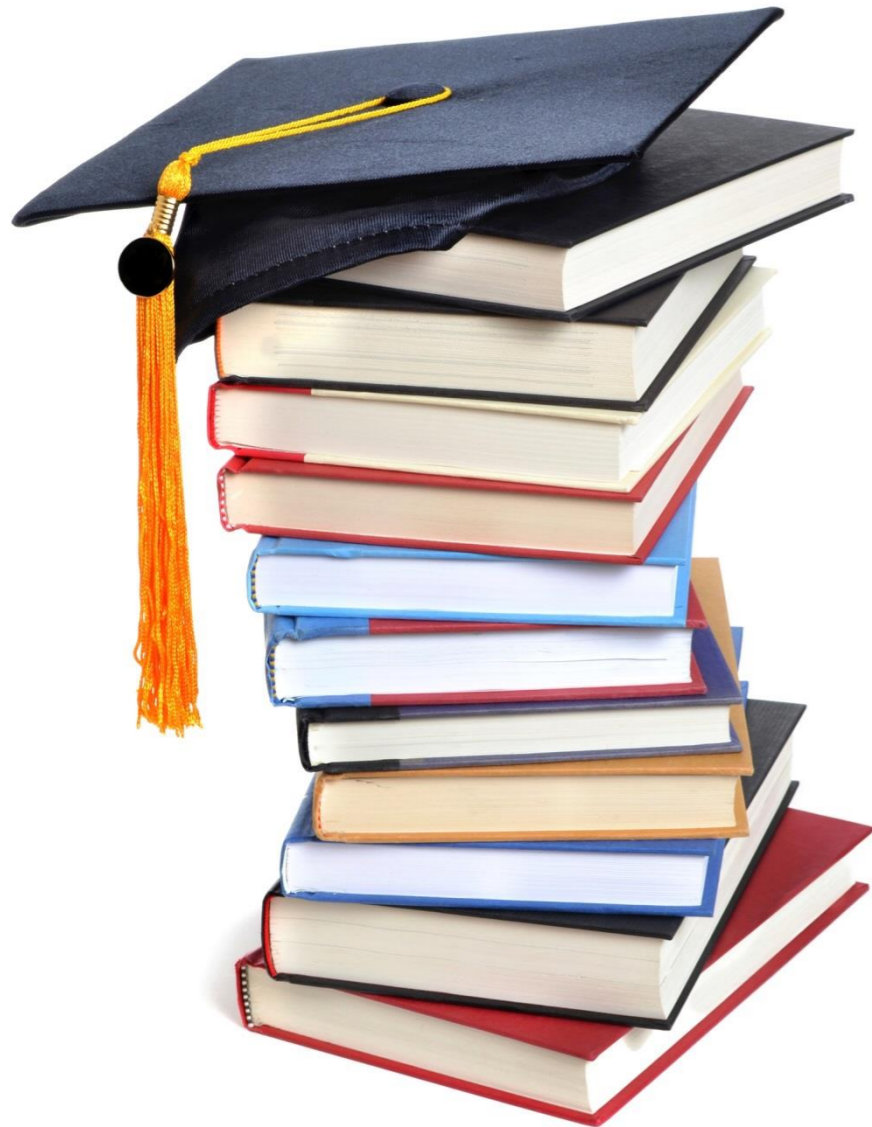
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# What is EducationUSA?

- EducationUSA is a U.S. Department of State network of over 400 international advising centers in more than 170 countries.
- These centers offer accurate, comprehensive, and current information about educational opportunities in the United States and guidance to qualified individuals on how best to access those opportunities.

# EducationUSA Advising Centers



- **Barbados Community College:**
  - Advisers: Faith Callender & Racquel Collymore
  - Email: [edusabarbados@gmail.com](mailto:edusabarbados@gmail.com)
- **National Library (Fair Child Street):**
  - Adviser: Loleta Parris
  - Email: [lparris@nls.gov.bb](mailto:lparris@nls.gov.bb)
- **U.S. Embassy:**
  - Adviser: Amanda Martinez
  - Email: [BridgetownIRC@state.gov](mailto:BridgetownIRC@state.gov)

# The 5 Steps to U.S. Study

1. Research Your Options



2. Finance Your Studies



3. Complete Your Application



4. Apply For Your Student Visa



5. Prepare For Your Departure

# Step 1: Research Your Options

## Define Priorities

- **Why do you want to study in the United States?**
- **How will you pay for your studies?**
- **Which type of U.S. institution is best for you?**
- **How easily will you adjust to your new environment?**

## Research and Narrow Choices

- **Start early: 18-24 months**
- **Learn about the U.S. higher education system**
- **Attend fairs**
- **Visit EdUSA advising center**
- **Make a short list**

## Use Time Wisely



# Step 2: Finance Your Studies

- **Plan your finances before you start**
- **Identify the major costs**
- **Average annual costs**
- **Sources of funding**
- **Realities of scholarships and aid**
- **Identify ways to reduce costs**
- **Make a budget**



# Step 3: Complete Your Application

- Register for online profiles & apply online
- Create an application timetable (18-24 months)
- Keep track of application requirements
- Keep copies of applications
- General application components
- Standardized Testing



# Step 4: Apply for a Student Visa

- Takes time but an easy procedure
- Before you apply, must be accepted by U.S. institution that is certified by the Student Exchange and Visitor Program
- Types of Student Visas
- Requirements for Visa Interview



<https://bb.usembassy.gov/visas/nonimmigrant-visas/>



# Step 5: Prepare For Your Departure

- **Attend Pre-Departure Orientation Session**
- **Make travel arrangements**
- **Make sure you have all required documentation and materials**



# USG Exchange Programs



# Youth Ambassadors Program

- Open to secondary school students 15-17 years
- Must have one year of school remaining
- Application period opens in April
- 3 week summer leadership program taking students to three cities in the United States



**To make an appointment, email:**  
**[BridgetownIRC@state.gov](mailto:BridgetownIRC@state.gov)**