

Considering Study in the USA?

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Last year, more than 4,000 UK students studied in the US at the undergraduate level. Why do so many students cross the Atlantic for their studies? In a recent survey, we found British students were most attracted to the US for several top reasons. These include the ability to choose from a wide range of universities



▲ A great turn out for the 2010 College Day event.

on offer, the funding available, the flexible liberal arts philosophy, the opportunity to experience American campus life, the chance to internationalise their CVs and the opportunity to travel and explore another culture.

Students find the ability to choose from a wide range of universities on offer exciting. There are over 4,500 US universities offering undergraduate degrees. With such a wide range of universities and degrees available, there is bound to be one that is a great fit for you!

Prospective students to the US are also interested in taking advantage of the funding opportunities on offer. Many students are able to fund their studies through scholarships from US universities and external funding bodies. In fact, nearly a quarter of international students report US universities as their primary source of funding.

Culture

Another top reason UK students head to the States is to experience American college life. US universities are known for their vibrant campus culture. There are literally hundreds of student organisations, athletic events and campus activities that allow students to pursue their interests all whilst getting their university degree.



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▲ Advisors will be on hand throughout the event.

Having the flexibility to explore their academic interests is especially appealing for students who feel pinned-down by their A-level choices or who are not sure what they would like to study. US universities teach under what is called the liberal arts philosophy, meaning students take classes from a variety of subjects before specialising in their major field of study.

The opportunity to internationalise and strengthen their CV is another benefit of study in the US. When the Council for Industry and Higher Education (CIHE) surveyed 230 major UK recruiters in July 2007, one in three employers specifically valued job applicants with international study experience, while 65% of employers favoured applicants with overseas work experience.

International students in the US have the opportunity to gain work experience during their studies and to work in the US for one to two years after graduation under the Optional Practical Training scheme. ➔

Airlines, Airports, and Aerospace – A CAREER IN THE SKIES

Global demand for passenger air travel is projected to grow by over 5% per year for the next 20 years, while air cargo demand is projected to increase by nearly 6% per year. This growth creates new opportunities in the aviation and aerospace industries for professional managers who understand the key components of the air transport system and can identify new business opportunities in the commercial airline, airport and aerospace manufacturing sectors.

To support the growth in these industries new challenges await. Airline managers must constantly be aware of the global forces that impact airline operations, from the price of oil, to natural disasters, to possible political changes, to world events that call on the airlines to meet the needs of the traveling public.

Access to the skies

Airport managers must build and operate the critical facilities needed for people to access the world of the skies. Aerospace managers must constantly strive to develop the aircraft and supporting technologies and systems to allow more travelers access to the skies all the while being aware of the growing need to do so in a manner that does no harm to the planet we occupy and whose skies we wish to access.

While there are aviation and aeronautical programs across the world, one unique university, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, has a focus across all industry segments. Recognized as the leading university dedicated to all areas of aviation and aerospace education, ERAU has created a range of educational programs at the undergraduate and graduate level to help provide the transportation industry with the skilled men and women needed to succeed.

If one wishes for a career in the air transport industry, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University exists to help you reach your goal for a career to take you to the skies.



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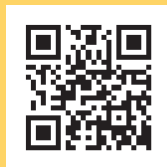
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Travelling in the US and learning about another way of life is also of course appealing to UK students. The US spans six time zones and has a great diversity in geography and culture. Long university summer holidays and programmes organised by the international students office, such as holiday trips and host family schemes, offer students excellent opportunities to see the States.

If you have decided US study may be a good fit for you - what resources are available to help you get started applying?


First, visit the US-UK Fulbright Commission advising website www.fulbright.co.uk. The US-UK Fulbright Commission is a not-for-profit organisation funded by both governments to promote educational exchange.

As part of the EducationUSA network of advising centres worldwide, the Fulbright Advisory Service is endorsed by the US State Department as the official source of information about US higher education in the UK. The website will provide a step-by-step guide on US university admissions, including information about choosing a university, the application components, funding US study and more!

American fair

Next, attend the only American fair in the UK – USA College Day! USA College Day will take place on Saturday, 1 October 2011 (Time: 11 am - 5:30 pm) at Kensington Town Hall (Hornton Street, London W8 7NX). It is FREE to attend if you register in advance. (£5 if you register on the day.) Visitors can register online at: www.fulbright.co.uk/USACollegeDay.

Attracting over 125 exhibitors each year, this FREE event is not to be missed by students, parents and advisors interested in undergraduate study in the USA! In its 34th year, USA College Day 2011 will be held in partnership with Richmond, the American International University in London.

If you have questions about USA College Day or about US study in general, visit the Fulbright website. 



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SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE USA

Over the last 20 years, College Prospects has helped nearly 2000 UK students find scholarships at American colleges and universities across a range of sports – tennis, golf, soccer, athletics, swimming, field hockey, basketball and more.

Top national-level players get good scholarships which can include tuition, fees, housing, food, books and all sports-related expenses. But even for county and club level players, it could work out cheaper than going to a British university, especially post-2012 tuition increases.

There are three sports governing bodies, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), each with their own rules.

The NCAA requires British students to obtain a MINIMUM of five academic GCSE passes with a 'D' average or Standard Grade passes at '5'. These must include English, maths, any science and any social studies (history, geography, economics, modern studies, sociology or psychology). Foreign languages, philosophy and non-doctrinal RE will be accepted as one of the five so long as the other four core areas are achieved. PE, media studies, ICT, D&T, music and art will not satisfy core requirements.

Eligibility

In order to continue to be eligible after GCSE's, a student will need to take a minimum of two AS levels, followed by two A2's OR a BTEC National Diploma. Subjects which a student takes AFTER year 13 will probably not count towards satisfying core and will not be considered continuing education. Home schooling and/or distance learning are acceptable so long as the student takes his/her exams and achieves minimum passing grades. Students who get 'U's' will have their graduation backdated to their last year with passing grades.

College Prospects offers a free, no obligation evaluation to anyone between 16-19 who completes their on-line assessment form at www.cpoauk.com.



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16-22? For a free, no obligation assessment of your chance, contact the experts.

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