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Your Complete Study Abroad Guide

Boost your Career Abroad

This document contains necessary information for preparation for your studies abroad.

Study Abroad Specialist

Get in touch with us if you have any questions.



University Requirements

Eligibility

Bachelors: Most schools require qualifications comparable to a U.S. or UK High School Diploma. ‘A’ levels or university diploma is required for direct entry to year 1. Those with the only a high school qualification will be able to start a foundation year. Some countries like Canada can admit students directly from high school. That means a **minimum of 12 years** of formal education.

Masters: Most schools require qualifications comparable to a U.S. Bachelor’s (Honours) degree (Four Year Degree Program). That means a **minimum of 16 years** of formal education. In the Indian context, it implies qualifying in a professional four-year degree like engineering or other such courses.

For Doctorate programs, most universities require a Master’s degree in that subject. In a few exceptional cases like a good undergraduate degree (first class), the university may offer a direct admission to a Doctorate course. Funded PhD positions most times require a first class degree in addition to a masters degree. Research experience at undergraduate or masters level is also important.

Academic Records

Your past academic record is one of the most important deciding factors in securing admission to a college or university abroad. Most schools require you to have a reasonably good academic record especially for programs and courses offering a master’s or doctoral degree. Each university has its own minimum requirement for its programs, which are flexible depending on the candidate’s profile.

Universities in USA as well as other countries have their own marking and evaluation systems; they follow the GPA (Grade Point Average). You may attach an explanatory note from your college to indicate your rank in your class and/or university. The letter may also indicate your relative place in the class and the university average, along with the number of students in the class and the number of colleges and students in the university. You may also provide any other information or documents that you feel may help you in the admission process.

Students applying for Graduate courses (MBA, MS, PhD etc) are required to submit an official transcript (mark-sheets) from each college or university that they have attended after secondary school with complete details of the subjects/credits involved (for each year) and other details like correspondence courses, diplomas etc. High school transcripts are also required for students applying to undergraduate courses.

This procedure is to be done for each and every college that you have attended. Some universities may ask for more than one copy of the transcript.

If the transcripts are in a language other than English, they must be translated into English only by the issuing authority or university.

Some countries like Germany, Poland etc., will require that you legalize your academic documents at their respective embassies in your home country. This is often an easy straight forward process.

Standardized Tests

Many Courses and Universities in require you to take one of the standardized tests like GRE, GMAT along with English Proficiency tests like TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, TWE and TSE. **The English Language test is required in the US, Australia and many European and Asian Countries.**

English Proficiency Tests

TOEFL: This test is mandatory for International students applying to a Graduate course or University in US. The minimum score required by most universities for admission is 570 (Paper-based test) and 230 (Computer-based test). 100(Internet Based Test)

TSE : This test is important if you intend to apply for a Teaching Assistantship. Though many universities don't mention it, but it is advisable to take this test if you are looking for a Teaching Assistantship.

Other English tests are IELTS, PTE.

Other Tests

Different programs require you to take certain standardized tests for admission and there is a certain minimum that you have to score in those tests to get admitted to those universities :

The various tests are:

GMAT : For Graduate Courses in Management.

GRE : For Graduate Courses in fields other than Management.

LSAT :For Admissions to Law Schools.

USMLE: For Admission to Medical Colleges.

PLAB: For Admission to Medical Colleges.

UKCAT: For Admission to Medical Colleges.

[CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR FREE PRACTICE TESTS](#)

Work Experience

A number of professional and vocational courses require relevant work experience. For instance, many MBAs or master's courses in information studies require at least a couple of years' work experience. Most Australian universities are pretty strict about this.

A detailed Résumé/CV is an important part of your application. It should include all information of professional work experience along with the details like positions held, achievements and range of work.

Letters of Recommendation

Letters of reference or recommendation letters play a very important part in your admission especially in courses that earn you a master's or doctoral degree. A recommendation letter is a signed statement from a person who knows you well professionally or has taught you in a subject that is related to the course you are applying to. It should list your positive and negative qualities, strengths and other such information.

The author or teacher must indicate his position, how long he/she has known the applicant and in what capacity. He/she should briefly discuss the need, importance and usefulness of the study the applicant proposes to undertake. Authors are usually asked to rank applicants in their letters of recommendation, which helps admission officers to interpret the academic credentials of foreign students. Students should obtain letters of recommendation (often on the prescribed forms sent by the institutions) from teachers who know them as a person as well as a student. You may like to request your author to give concrete examples that may show your qualities and help your case.

Many universities have their own format and questions that have to be answered by the person who is giving the letter of recommendation on your behalf. Letters, which do not give enough information, can jeopardize a candidate's chances of selection.

Note: Even if not mentioned, it is advisable to include at least two letters of recommendation in your applications as they increase your chances of getting admissions.

Statement of purpose

The personal statements, and/or statement of purpose, play a very important role in the process of evaluating your application for both admission as well as financial aid because it gives the faculty assessing your application their most significant impression of you as an individual. This section is the key to distinguish your application from other suitable candidates and a chance to market yourself.

A personal statement should include your reasons for choosing a particular course, the suitability of your education and experience for the chosen course, your personal interests and career goals.

Some courses like Business school courses will have their own essay questions and format. Others may ask for a résumé/CV or reasons for applying to that particular course.

Financial Support

You must submit a financial aid application if you desire financial help for your graduate studies in a US university. Financial assistance for non-US citizens is very limited.

The evidence of financial support is required by universities to issue the documents needed for visa application. Although it is a requirement for application, it is usually not taken into consideration into factors that determine admission. Most universities make their admission decisions without regard for the source and amount of financial support.

You would be required to submit documentation of your family's financial resources to help schools assess your need. Most of the universities have their own financial aid form, which you would have to complete.

You would also be required to submit a bank statement demonstrating your financial capacity to support your education in US. Some US state institutions offer tuition waivers to international students in return for some type of educational contribution.

For some other countries, the evidence of financial support is required by universities to issue the documents needed for visa application. While for some others, the evidence of financial support is needed just for visa application.

Tuition and Living Expenses

We have listed tuition and living expenses for a few countries to give you a general idea of the costs of studying abroad.

US

Average tuition per year is between \$30,000 to \$45,000. Average cost of living is between \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year. All fees are in USD.

UK

Average tuition per year is between £12,000 to £30,000. Average cost of living is between £9,000 to £12,000 per year.

Canada

General average tuition per year is between \$15,000 to \$30,000. Undergraduate Diploma programs are between \$15,000 to \$18,000 a year. Bachelor programs between \$17,000 to \$25,000 per year. Masters between \$7,000 to \$25,000 per year. MBA between \$15,000 to \$35,000 per year. PhD degrees between \$6,000 to \$9,000 per year. Average cost of living is between \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year. All fees are in CAD.

China

Tuition fees in China will depend on the university and the subject that you have chosen. Public universities will offer a more affordable option, with tuition fees ranging from \$3,300 to \$10,000 per year. For an English speaking degree between \$2,200 to \$4,500 per year. Private universities cost between \$8,000 to \$15,000 per year. Medicine, Engineering and Business degrees are more expensive ranging from \$24,500 to \$50,000 per academic year. Living expenses is about \$6,000 per year. All fees listed are in USD.

Australia

Average tuition per year is between \$25,000 to \$38,000. Some Undergraduate College Diplomas/Certificates cost less, between \$7,000 to \$12,000 per year. Average cost of living is between \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year. High value courses such as medicine, veterinary science and MBAs cost considerably more. All fees are in AUD.

New Zealand

Average tuition per year is between \$22,000 to \$32,000 for bachelor's degrees and between \$26,000 to \$37,000 for postgraduate courses. PhD Programs are between \$6,000 to \$9,000 per year. However, a dentistry or medicine degree can have fees of up to \$75,000. Average cost of living is about \$15,000 per year. All fees are in NZD.

Ireland

Average tuition per year is between €9,950 to €24,958 for bachelor's degrees and between €6,000 to €40,000 for postgraduate courses. However, a dentistry or medicine degree can have fees of up to €54,000. Average cost of living is between €7,000 to €12,000 per year.

Poland

Poland has very affordable tuition. Living expenses is about 50% less than most other European countries. Average tuition per year is between €2,000 to €5,000 for bachelor's and postgraduate courses. Average cost of living is between €310 to €500 per month.

Norway

Norway is a country with very good standard of living. Higher education in Norway is free, no matter where you come from. Most universities charge an administrative fee of about €80 to €100. However, living expenses is very high. For monthly rent only, you will be looking at €800 to €1000.

France

Average tuition per year is between €2,770 to €3,770 for bachelor's and postgraduate courses. However, private universities have tuition between €3,000 to €20,000 per year. Some top management schools charge up to €30,000 annual fee. Average cost of living is between €7,318 to €10,000 per year.

Germany

Most public universities in Germany offer tuition free higher education, no matter where you come from. These universities only charge an administrative fee per semester (this amount varies per university but it is often about €350). Universities in Baden- Wurttemberg area however charge tuition of €3,000 per year. Private universities charge between €9,000 to €20,000 per year. MBAs can cost up to €30,000. Per year. Living expenses is about €9,000 per year. International students are required to open a blocked account when applying for a visa.

Dubai

Average tuition per year is between 40,000 AED to 70,000 AED for undergraduate courses and 55,000 AED to 75,000 AED for postgraduate courses. Average cost of living is between 2,600 AED to 3,600 AED per year.

Working while studying

Most countries do allow you to work part-time on a student visa. But you cannot rely on this income to pay for your education. When you apply for a visa you must show that you have paid for tuition fees, or that you have money to pay for them. You also need to show that you have a specific amount of money for your living cost.

Some countries DO NOT allow international students to work while studying, e.g Greece and Dubai. China generally do not permit international students to work while studying. However, part-time jobs have been known to be permitted at times. Some students choose to teach English. This helps them to earn some additional income while also meeting and interacting with local people. If you are considering taking up part-time work while in China, seek guidance from your university regarding the steps needed to gain government permission for this.

Some universities and countries are given below (limited list):

US

- Marshall University
- Florida International University
- George Mason University
- Oregon State University
- University of South Florida

UK

- Lancaster University
- Teesside University
- York University
- London Southbank University
- Manchester University
- Coventry University

- Bolton University

Canada

- Victoria University
- University of British Columbia
- Niagara College
- Seneca College
- University of Manitoba
- McGill University

Netherlands

- University College Roosevelt
- University of Groningen
- Hague University of Applied Sciences
- Tilburg University

Australia

- University of Queensland
- University of Southern Queensland
- RMIT University
- University of Melbourne
- Central Australian College
- Salford College

Poland

- University of Warsaw
- University of Information Technology and Management
- SGH University of Science and Technology
- Cracow University of Technology
- University of Gdansk

Sweden

- Uppsala Universitet
- Karolinska Institute
- Stockholm University
- Lund University

Cyprus

- Eastern Mediterranean University
- Cyprus International University
- Near East University

Germany

- Bonn University
- Freiburg University
- Goettingen University
- LMU Munich

New Zealand

- Auckland University of Technology
- Massey University
- University of Waikato
- University of Canterbury
- University of Otago

Ireland

- Trinity College Dublin
- University College Dublin
- National University of Ireland

Norway

- University of Oslo
- University of Bergen
- Nord University