



Study  
*in*  
the USA



*a guide for*  
International  
**Students**

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# Study in the US!

*The United States is full of contrasts; whichever direction you travel you will find a wide variety of landscapes and diverse cultures to explore. The country is made up of 50 states - each one unique and with so much to offer. Roughly 308 million people live in the USA, making it one of the largest nations in the world, and an extremely diverse place with many cultures coming together under one flag.*

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# 1. About the United States of America

## 1.1 Study in the USA

- 1.1 Study in the USA*
- 1.2 About the United States*
- 1.3 USA Short Facts & Figures*
- 1.4 In this Study in the US guide*

The United States is a nation of fifty states that together make up one of the most exciting and diverse countries in the world. With vibrant cities and expansive, beautiful nature, the United States has so much to offer any student looking for a new experience. For one thing, the quality of education in the US is one of the best, and there are countless opportunities for students to pursue whichever course of study they choose. In addition, students in the United States have the opportunity for unique experiences in an amazing country that is unlike any other in the world!

## 1.2 About the United States

The mainland of the United States is located in North America between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans to the east and west, and bordered by Canada and Mexico to the north and south. With a population of 308 million, the United States is the 3rd largest nation in the world by number of people.

The United States has been inhabited for thousands of years by indigenous people – Native Americans – originating in Asia. Europeans began to infiltrate the continent in the 1400s; gradually, the USA became a land of diversity, with people flocking to it from all over the world in hope of making new, better lives for themselves.





Today, the United States is a thriving and successful nation of friendly people; incredible natural wonders such as the Grand Canyon, Yosemite National Park, and Niagra Falls; and a variety of cultures which have influenced the nation's unique development. There are thousands of high-quality educational institutions in the USA with programs in every subject.

### 1.3 USA Short Facts & Figures



Capital: Washington, DC  
Government: Democratic Republic  
Declared Independence: from Great Britain on July 2, 1776  
Area: 3.79 million square miles/ 9.83 million square kilometers  
Population: 308 million  
GDP per capita: \$47,400  
Currency: \$US dollar  
Calling code: +1

### 1.4 In this Study in the US guide

Studying abroad in the United States includes both a broad spectrum of educational options and a great opportunity to experience new things. You get to know a new culture, you become fluent in a new language and best of all – you build memories that last a lifetime and make friends from all over the world.

But before you make up your plans to head out for the States, it is important to have all the information you need for an amazing experience in this new and exciting country. Read more about the different types of higher educational institutes available in the US, popular cities where international students can choose, and a few practical details you should consider during your preparations for studying in the United States.

## 2. USA Education System

### 2.1 Prerequisites to US Schools

- 2.1 Prerequisites to US Schools*
- 2.2 Grading System*
- 2.3 Credit System*
- 2.4 Semester System*

#### Academic Prerequisite

Admission requirements vary between universities and colleges in the United States. You normally must have graduated from secondary school (called high school in the US). You must also fulfill the requirements for the specific education course to which you are applying. In addition, most schools require results from a test like the SAT Reasoning Test (Scholastic Assessment/ Aptitude Test), which is a standardized test for university admissions.

#### Linguistic Prerequisite

Some schools in the US accept that you have obtained certificates at sufficiently high standard in English from secondary school. Other universities require that you complete a TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) test to prove your English skills.



## 2.2 Grading System

Almost everything you do for a class in the United States will effect your grade: examinations and tests, essays or written assignments, laboratory reports, studio work, class attendance, and class participation.

The grade scale is usually from either A to F or 0-4. For each grade, you need certain percentages. For example, to get an A (or 4) on a test, you usually need to correctly answer 90-100 % of the questions, to get a B (or 3), you need 80-90%, and so on. Other common grades are:

- I = incomplete
- W = withdrawal
- Audit = enroll in the course for no credit or grade, but attend class and complete assignments
- Pass/ Fail = enroll in the course for either a Pass or a Fail grade
- Pass/ No Credit = enroll in the course for either a Pass or a No Credit grade, with no negative points

Examinations are usually given once in the middle of the term and once at the end. Professors often give short quizzes or tests inbetween, with or without notice. Many times you must write a research paper or complete a project assignment toward your final grade.

Grade point average (GPA) is a common measurement of grade in universities and colleges in the United States. The scale is from 0 to 4.0; students with a 4.0 GPA have recieved the highest grade overall in every class.

## 2.3 Credit System

Each course you take at a university in the USA is counted as a certain number of credits, also called hours or units. You normally need between 130 and 180 credits to graduate. One credit is equal to 50 minutes of class time per week; completing a class that meets 3 times every week is equal to earning 3 credits. Full-time students usually earn 15 credits every semester. Students are assigned an academic advisor at the school who helps plan their credits and courses.



## 2.4 Semester System

Most schools in the USA have a two-semester system, each semester lasting for roughly 15-17 weeks. The fall semester usually starts in late-August or September, and finishes just before or after Christmas. The spring semester begins in early- to mid-January and runs until May or sometimes June.

Some schools in the United States use a semester system called the quarter system, each quarter lasting for about 10 weeks. There are also schools which schedule three-semester academic years, where each semester is 10-12 weeks.

The 'years' at American higher educational institutions are as follows:

- Freshman: 1st year
- Sophomore: 2nd year
- Junior: 3rd year
- Senior: 4th year





# 3. USA Education Institutes

## 3.1 State Universities

3.1 State Universities

3.2 Private Universities

3.3 Community Colleges

State universities, or public universities, are founded and subsidized by US state governments. These dynamic and exciting educational institutions closely identify with their state, and often have unique local traditions which connect them to the community.

State universities in the United States usually have a large number of students – sometimes tens of thousands – and offer degrees in hundreds of subject areas. This category of schools produces the highest number of graduate degrees in the United States, and a significant number of undergraduate degrees as well. Many state universities are very involved in research, and may advance knowledge and technology on a local, national, or even international level.

State universities in the USA can be located anywhere, from large, bustling metropolises to tiny towns with more students than permanent residents. There are often multiple campuses located throughout the state, and sometimes multiple state university systems within a state.

The tuition costs at state universities in the United States are usually lower than those of private universities. International students pay the same tuition as the students from out of state.

State universities are the most popular type of school in the USA for international students. They often have established services and support aimed at helping international students adjust to their new education in a new country. Depending on the university, these may include counseling, immigration and visa advising, workshops on intercultural understanding, and English as a second language courses.

## 3.2 Private Universities

Private universities in the USA are high-quality, exciting educational institutions funded by a combination of donations, tuition fees, research grants, and gifts from alumni. Private schools are normally smaller and tuition fees are often higher than at state universities, but all students pay the same amount.

Because private universities in the United States do not depend on state funding, they have greater financial flexibility. Within research departments at private universities, there is greater opportunity to explore new ideas and take bold steps in the latest developments of the field. This is encouraging for students within that field, who are supported in taking initiative toward new frontiers.

In addition, the financial flexibility of private universities in the United States more easily allows them to establish international portals for teaching, research, and service. This allows the top minds from many nations to collaborate on ideas, research, and learning.

Private universities in the USA have a reputation for high academic standards, while fostering a sense of close community with smaller-scale campuses, facilitating easy interaction across different disciplines.



### 3.3 Community Colleges

Community colleges in the United States, sometimes also called junior colleges or two-year colleges, are small, community-based institutions that work closely with secondary schools, community groups, and employers. They are the largest and fastest-growing higher education institution in the USA, and offer a wide variety of education programs.

Community colleges can both be private or public, and provide two-year associate degree programs. They are often thought of as the gateway to higher education in the United States, as it is common for students to transfer from a community college to a four-year college or university after two years to complete their bachelors degree. This transfer is made easy by the '2+2' articulation system. Articulation agreements exist between community colleges and four-year colleges and universities, allowing credit earned at community college to be put toward the student's future education program.

Community colleges in the United States are the ideal high-quality, accredited institution for students to start their higher education in a supportive environment before continuing their degree elsewhere. Class sizes are usually relatively small, and the focus is on the needs of each individual student. In addition, community colleges provide students with associate degree or nondegree career training.

International students can find a number of benefits in enrolling at a community college in the United States, such as improving English language skills through a variety of English as a second language courses, and building an understanding of American culture on a community level. Another benefit is the significantly lower tuition cost of community colleges, which helps students save money.

## 4. USA Course Types

### 4.1 Study Options in the United States

#### *4.1 Study Options in the United States*

In the United States, the term "college" refers to a four-year undergraduate school where students earn Bachelors degrees. Colleges can be part of a university, which is a school offering both undergraduate and graduate programs. Within either of these educational institutions in the US, you can choose between three different opportunities to study.

1. Study Abroad – Here you take a few free-standing classes, and study at a school for one or two semesters. Not all of the universities in the US have this kind of opportunity; it is best to contact the school to get more information. At some universities, you apply to the classes when you apply to the school, but for most universities, you choose your classes when you arrive to start your education.

2. Undergraduate – You study for a complete education which is normally three to four years long. Most undergraduate, or Bachelors degrees in the US require completion of 120 credits, amounting to 15 hours of credit each term for full-time students. Upon graduation of an undergraduate education program in the United States, students earn a Bachelors Degree.

3. Postgraduate – this type of degree is aimed at students who have already earned a Bachelors Degree. A Postgraduate or Masters degree allows you to pursue an in-depth study of a specific topic of your choice. Students who complete the postgraduate education earn a Masters Degree, which usually takes three to four semesters to finish.

It can take a long time for an international student to be accepted to a university or college in the USA. There is a lot of paper work to fill in and there are many choices to make. It is recommended for you to start planning early, at least a year before you want to study abroad in the United States.

# 5. USA Study Costs & Accommodation

## 5.1 Study Costs in the United States

5.1 Study Costs in

the United States

5.2 Student Accom-

modation in the

United States

Both the tuition costs to study in the USA and living costs vary considerably between different universities/colleges, educations and cities. Tuition is usually between \$5,000 and \$50,000 per year. Costs for food and living are normally between \$5,000 and \$11,000 dollars per year. In addition to paying tuition, you need money for travelling, course literature, and personal expenses.

These expenses may be daunting, but there are a number of support systems in place for students to get financial assistance. Thousands of students get funding for college in the USA through grants and loans. Loans are amounts of borrowed money that must be paid back with interest (interest rates are usually low for students). Grants are gifts of money which do not need to be paid back. However, grants often have stipulations such as maintaining a certain grade point average to keep the money.

Many students may also be eligible for scholarships, which must be earned, whether through academic merit, athletic talent, or civic performance. Be cautious of fraudulent scholarship agencies, which often charge a fee in exchange for information. There is also financial aid available for international students, often for education at a graduate level.

We recommend you to do a personal calculation of all the costs to make sure that you have enough in your budget before you arrive in the USA, and begin researching sources of financial aid well in advance.



## 5.2 Student Accommodation in the United States

There are three accommodation options for students in the United States:

- \* On-campus accommodation: you live on the school's campus in a student room or student apartment. This accommodation can be more expensive, but you get to know a lot of students very fast. On-campus accommodation can be good for your first year at school to be a part of campus life and meet other students. Meals may also be included in on-campus accommodation.

- \* Off-campus accommodation: You hire a private/shared apartment outside of campus, usually for a lower price than living on-campus. The International Office at the university can usually help you with information about private apartments and where to look for them. It can also be useful for temporary accommodation in the first few weeks upon arriving.

- \* Host family accommodation: This accommodation alternative is only offered by a few universities. It is more expensive compared to living off-campus, but gives you the extra support of a family and ingrains you in American culture quickly.

# 6 USA Study & Work Permits

## 6.1 Visas to Study in the United States

*6.1 Visas to Study in  
the United States  
6.2 Student Work  
Permits in the United  
States*

It is the American Embassy that issues student visas to the United States. As obtaining a visa to the USA can be a lengthy process, it is advisable to submit the application well ahead of the date by which you need entry for your education course. However, note that Embassies cannot issue your student visa more than 120 days in advance of the education course starting date. Students may not enter the country more than 30 days before their study start date.

To qualify for a student visa to the United States, you must have a residence abroad, and the intention to return to that residence upon completion of your education program. You must also have sufficient funds to support your course of study.

For more information about how to apply for a student visa to the USA, please contact the American Embassy in your country.



## 6.2 Student Work Permits in the United States

As an undergraduate or postgraduate international student studying in the United States, employment is possible on a part-time basis for up to 20 hours every week. During the first year of education, students may only work on-campus, such as at the school's gym, cafeteria, bookstore, or library. Working for 10 to 15 hours per week may be enough to cover books and personal expenses, but will not cover the majority of education costs.

After the first year of education in the USA, you may apply for a position as a residential assistant (RA). An RA oversees student housing, acting as a point of contact for any questions or issues students may have. In return, the RA is paid with free accommodation, and possibly a meal plan and/or small salary. In addition to being an RA, students who have completed their first year may apply for Curricular Practical Training which allows students to work as an intern or in a work/study program off-campus for up to 20 hours every week. If you are married and studying in the US on a F-1 student visa, your spouse may not work; if you are studying on a J-1 student visa, your spouse may acquire a temporary work permit.

Upon graduation from your education course in the USA, you may apply for an Optional Practical Training (OPT), which gives you the opportunity to work in the United States for 1 year after your final examination in a field related to your major area of study. An OPT may be extended if the employer approves you to continue your work in the United States.





## 7. City Guide: Boston, Massachusetts

The city of Boston, located in the state of Massachusetts, is one of the most popular places for international students to enroll in education courses in the United States. This magnet for students is a bustling, exciting city with hundreds of universities offering every education course imaginable for all scholars from locals to internationals.

Boston is the capital of Massachusetts, and as New England's economic and cultural hub, is the unofficial capital of the region. It is located on Shawmut Peninsula on Boston Harbor, and is home to roughly 645,000 people. The greater metropolitan area of Boston, however, is much bigger, with about 4.5 million people, making it the 10th largest metropolitan area in the US.

There is so much to do in the beautiful city of Boston. As one of the first European establishments in the United States – founded by the Puritans – Boston has a long history of revolution and patriotism, politics and tradition, which can be followed by walking the 2.5-mile Freedom Trail past landmarks like Boston Common, the Paul Revere House, the site of the Boston Massacre, and Faneuil Hall. There are also plenty of museums including the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Science, the MIT Museum, or the Kennedy Library and Museum.

Boston is a sports-fanatics haven; the city comes alive for games, whether for the Knicks basketball team, the Bruins ice hockey team, or the Red Sox baseball team.

Downtown Boston is quite compact, making it easy to explore on foot. Cross the Charles River and visit Cambridge for a taste of Ivy League life at two of the world's finest educational institutions: the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University.

Boston is a lovely city full of exciting activity for students with any and all interests. Its cold winters warm up to gorgeous summers with many parks to enjoy a picnic, and the river and harbor to go sailing or swimming. Students will find everything they can imagine from an education – academically, socially, and culturally – in Boston.

## 8. City Guide: New York City, New York

The Big Apple, Gotham, The City that Never Sleeps – all of these are nicknames for New York City. Students come from all over to pursue their education in one of the most exciting cities in the world. New York is the most populated metropolitan area in the United States; 8.4 million people call it home.

First founded as a trading post in 1624 by the Dutch, New York City was originally called New Amsterdam. In 1664, the settlement was taken over by the English, who renamed it New York after the Duke of York. Since 1790, New York has been the largest city in the United States.

Today, New York City consists of five boroughs: The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and Manhattan. Manhattan is the most famous borough, home to Times Square, Broadway, Wall Street, Chinatown, and Rockefeller Plaza. Within these boroughs is enough activity to fill a lifetime: theatres, museums, parks, parades, historical sites, gardens, dance, opera, galleries, restaurants, clubs, and bars. Students from all over the world will find what they're looking for in New York.

There are also opportunities in New York to escape city life on a weekend getaway to Long Island with its beautiful beaches and laid-back atmosphere. Or visit the mountains of northern New York state for skiing in the winter, hiking in the summer, or enjoying the beautiful changing of the leaves in the autumn.

The City of New York has roughly 110 universities and colleges located within its boundaries, and is one of the most popular places for students to come for their higher education. There are a number of both public and private universities of all different sizes and specialties in New York City. In addition, there are schools specific to certain subjects such as religion, dance, or the visual arts.

New York City is an exciting place full of adventure and activity at any time of day and is home to many prestigious educational institutions where motivated students thrive.

## 9. City Guide: Los Angeles, California

Studying abroad in Los Angeles – the City of Angels – is an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience life in a vibrant metropolis. Los Angeles, often referred to as LA, is the most populated city in California, and has the second biggest population in the United States after New York. With only 141 inhabitants in 1841, the LA of today has 3.8 million people spread over 80 districts and neighborhoods. The greater urban area of Los Angeles is the largest in the US, and includes a whopping 17.8 million people.

Los Angeles is known as the Entertainment Capital of the World. However, it is not only famous for its celebrities and Hollywood district; LA is also an international center for trade, education, technology, media, culture, science, and fashion.

The city of Los Angeles was first founded in 1781 by Spanish governor Felipe de Neve. 40 years later in the Mexican War of Independence, LA ended up in territory owned by Mexico. Only 7 years later, in 1848, it was purchased by the United States in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and has remained a part of California ever since.

Los Angeles is one of the world's most popular tourist destinations, and ranks as the 2nd most visited city in the USA for international travelers. It's easy to see why so many people come to visit LA each year. You can visit the Hollywood Boulevard Walk of Fame, with stars paving the sidewalk in honor of people who have contributed to film, music, or the stage. The Hollywood Bowl Amphitheatre is another major attraction, a natural amphitheatre in the foothills outside of LA where several legendary musicians have performed, including Frank Sinatra and The Beatles. Los Angeles has an incredible zoo, and hundreds of excellent restaurants, bars, and clubs. There are movie studio and television tours; Griffith Park; amusement and theme parks including Disneyland; and the La Brea Tar Pits.

With its Mediterranean climate, Los Angeles maintains warm temperatures throughout the year, which rise relatively high in the summer months. This means there is plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful beaches along the coastline of southern California in and around Los Angeles, including Santa Monica, Venice Beach, Laguna Beach, and Malibu.

Los Angeles, California is an ideal location to pursue higher education, and has dozens of high-quality educational institutions for students who are interested in studying any subject!



## 10. City Guide: San Francisco, California

The city of San Francisco is known for its cool summer fog, eclectic mix of Victorian and modern architecture, and steep hills. It is a city of natural beauty, located in Northern California on the peninsula between the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay. A total of 3.1 million people live within the city borders of San Francisco.

San Francisco started as a fort established by the Spanish in 1776 next to where the Golden Gate Bridge is today. For decades, the city remained relatively small. Then, in 1848, the Gold Rush drew thousands of people to California in hopes of striking rich. The population of San Francisco jumped from 1,000 to 25,000 people. This established the city as a financial epicenter not only on the west coast, but also in the entire USA. San Francisco today is home to many financial institutions' headquarters, and is also filled with many small businesses.

In addition to being a business center, San Francisco is a hub of Internet technology with close ties to Silicon Valley and companies which have played major roles in the dot-com boom and Web 2.0 boom. Google and other Internet companies have their office headquarters in San Francisco. The city also has a number of opportunities in health care; the San Francisco Medical Centers is one of the top 10 hospitals in the US, and many medical students intern there.

With its ideal climate of warm days and cool nights, abundant beauty and exceptional cultural resources, San Francisco is the ultimate location for international students to pursue their higher education. There is so much to do in this fascinating and diverse city, with attractions such as the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, the Coit Tower, and Chinatown. One novelty of San Francisco is the use of cable cars to navigate through the city center. There are stunning coastlines to hike along such as Presidio or Golden Gate Park, and lovely beaches to relax, such as North Beach or Santa Cruz. To escape the city, you can visit California's wine country just a couple hours away in the Napa Valley or go skiing in the mountains surrounding Lake Tahoe.

San Francisco has so much to offer students from all over the world who are interested in studying nearly any subject in a vibrant city.

# 11. City Guide: Chicago, Illinois

As the 3rd largest city in the United States, Chicago is an exciting, beautiful place on the Southwestern shore of Lake Michigan. With a population of 3 million people spread over 77 distinct neighborhoods, there are so many things to do and explore in this great metropolis.

Chicago was first established in the late 1770s by a trader, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable. In 1837, Chicago officially became a city, and developed into a major trading post when the Illinois & Michigan Canal linked the Great Lakes (including Lake Michigan) to the Mississippi River. Later, the railroad carried people and goods west, usually stopping in Chicago. Today, 50% of all rail freight in the United States passes through Chicago. The city is also the nation's busiest aviation center, with O'Hare and Midway International airports.

In 1871, a fire spread through Chicago, leaving a large part of the city in ruins. The people of Chicago came together and rebuilt the city, including the first skyscraper in the US – the Home Insurance Building – standing at 10 stories tall. Today, the Sears Tower soars 1,450 feet – the tallest building in the United States.

Chicago is often called the "Windy City" for its politicians and the "City in a Garden" for its 3,000 hectares of parks throughout the center, including 17 miles along the lakefront. Chicago is known for its enthusiasm and passion about sports, whether the White Sox baseball team, the Bulls basketball team, or the Bears football team.

Roughly 86 million visitors come to Chicago every year, attracted by the Sears Tower, Michigan Avenue, the Field Museum, Lake Michigan, the Art Institute, the Skydeck, and Millennium Park. The city boasts stunning architecture, financial prowess, and ethnic diversity. Lake Michigan is the 5th largest body of fresh water in the world, and is a perfect place to swim, sail, fish, or just relax on the beaches.

Chicago has a wide range of excellent education options, including private, state, and religious educational institutions which are nationally renowned. Students from all over the world will find the education of their dreams in Chicago, the beautiful, exciting city by the lake.

## 12. City Guide: Austin, Texas

Known as the Live Music Capital of the World, Austin is a friendly, open-minded city in the center of Texas. With a population of about 800,000, it is the fourth-largest city in Texas after Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio. The city of Austin is the capital of Texas, which is known as The Lone Star State.

Austin was originally named Waterloo, and was located on the banks of the Colorado River. However, the name was changed after Stephen Austin, the "father of Texas," and grew throughout the 19th century to become a political and educational center. Today, it is also a center of technology and business, and is home to a number of Fortune 500 companies' headquarters, including Whole Foods Market, Dell, and Forestar Group.

There is so much to do in the city of Austin: visit the Texas State Capital building, swim in 25-degree Barton Springs natural pool, see the Congress Avenue Bats (the largest urban colony of bats in the US), and go to 350-acre Zilker Park. It is in this park that Austin hosts several nationally known music festivals including South by Southwest and Austin City Limits.

Texas as a whole ranks 3rd as a study destination for international students coming to the United States. The state – the 2nd largest in the country – has over 200 institutions of higher education, from community colleges to major universities. Texas weather is quite mild in the winters, and very warm in the summers. The culture of Texas is unlike any other: the official sport is the rodeo, and there is a diverse range of art and culture. Texas' state motto is friendship, which is easy to see reflected in the 24 million people who live there.

The city of Austin, and the state of Texas as a whole, have so much to offer international students, whatever their study goals are. There is exciting city life to discover, and stunning nature within close distance. The people are friendly, and the culture is incomparable to anywhere else. Students in Texas are guaranteed to have the experience of a lifetime.

## 13. City Guide: Miami, Florida

Studying abroad in Miami is a once-in-a-lifetime experience in a vivacious, diverse city on the east coast of southern Florida. The tropical climate and infamous beautiful beaches draw thousands of international students every year to study in the south of Florida.

Miami was first settled in 1825, and in 1896 had a population of just over 1,000 people. The population of the entire metropolitan area today, however, is over 5.5 million. A significant amount of growth occurred in the second half of the 20th century when immigrants relocated to Miami from Cuba and numerous Caribbean islands. These cultures have had a huge influence on Miami, which is sometimes called the most Latin city in the world north of Mexico. The art, the food, the way of life in general in Miami is largely due to these different ethnicities coming together in one city.

There are a great variety of things to do in the city of Miami. Students can go to the beach after class, to South Beach, Lummus, or Haulover Beach Park; visit Little Havana for a taste of Cuban culture; or go to Miami Beach for some of the best shopping. Sports enthusiasts have plenty to do, with the more than 40 golf courses in the area and are busy supporting the city's sport teams: the Miami Dolphins in the NFL, the Miami Heat in the NBA, and the Florida Panthers hockey team.

Miami has a unique Art Deco culture with the world's largest collection of Art Deco buildings, many of which are over 100 years old. There is also a wide range of music- and arts-oriented activity, facilitated by the Miami City Ballet, Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, and the New World Symphony Orchestra. A number of festivals are hosted in Miami every year, including the Miami International Film Festival, the Carnaval Miami, and the Coconut Grove Arts Festival.

For anyone who loves the outdoors, South Florida has over 500 public parks, and miles of paths for running, biking, and walking. There are two national parks within close proximity to Miami: the flooded wetland of the Everglades National Park and the islands and coral reefs of Biscayne National Park. Students can also visit the city of Fort Lauderdale just to the north of Miami or the Florida Keys islands to the south.

The diverse culture and tropical climate of Miami creates an excellent environment for students to experience new things while pursuing a top-quality education.



## 14. About *Educations.com*



Educations.com's vision is to help all students around the world to find their education by connecting schools and students worldwide. Our global internet website [www.educations.com](http://www.educations.com) is devoted exclusively to higher education, where students worldwide can browse through a large range of courses and programmes offered by educational institutions globally. Educations.com's main objective is to provide those seeking advice regarding higher education abroad with the information they require in an accessible, fast and straightforward way.

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