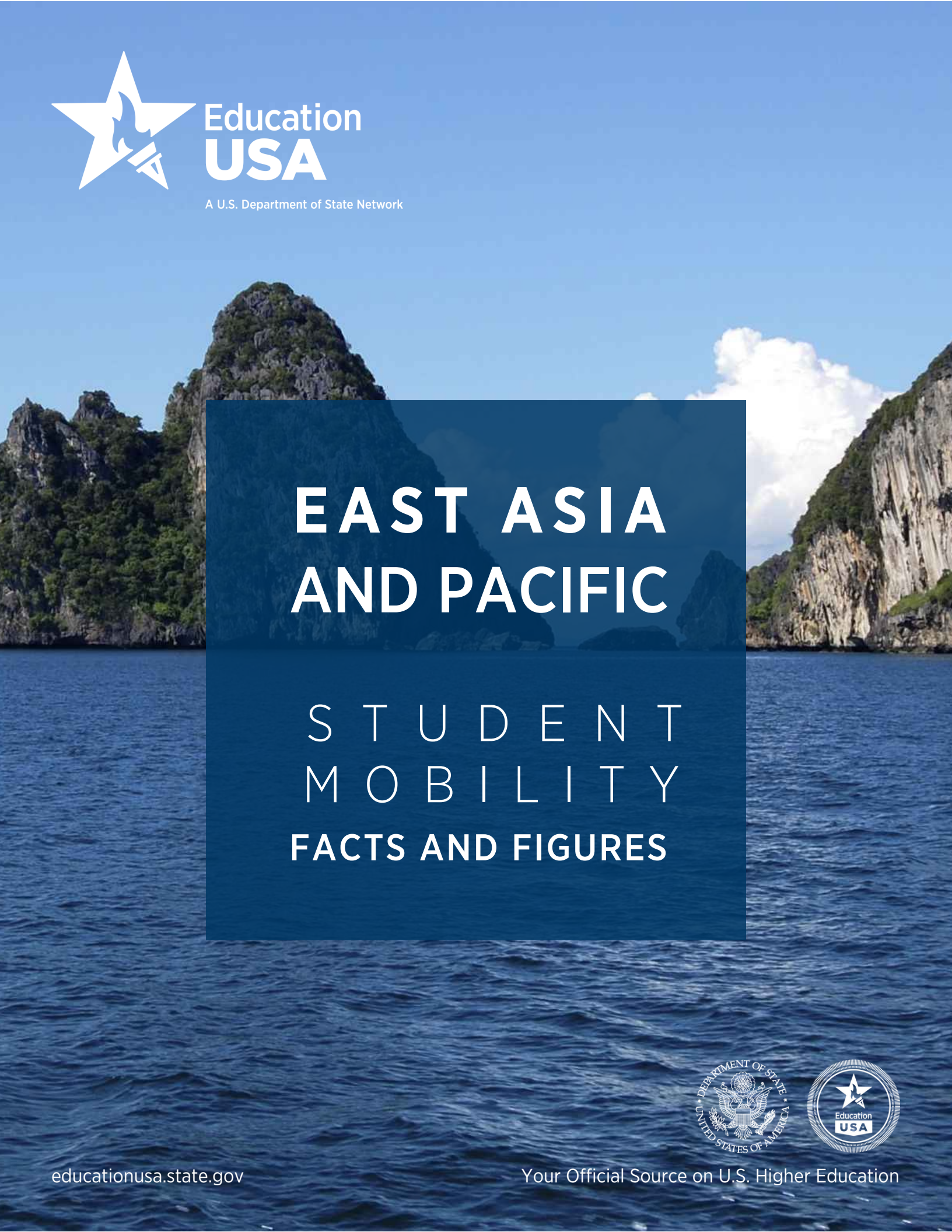


Education USA

A U.S. Department of State Network

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

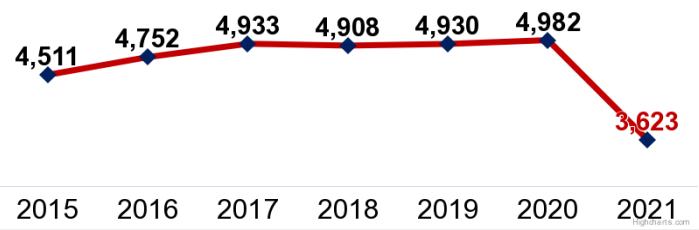
STUDENT MOBILITY

FACTS AND FIGURES

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

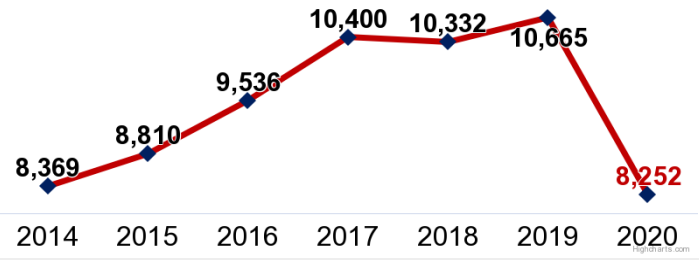
Australia

Australian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Australia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-27.3%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-22.6%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

25,809,973

Population Aged 15-24

12.89%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

New York
California
Massachusetts
Pennsylvania
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-65.87%**
J	**-60.97%**
M	**-58.24%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	57.5%	2,082	-17.1%
Graduate	26.8%	972	-10.3%
Non-Degree	1.6%	59	-93.3%
OPT	14.1%	510	1.6%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	4.54%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	5.82%
Master's Colleges and Universities	12.44%
Doctorate-granting Universities	73.98%
Special Focus Institutions	3.22%
Public Institutions	43.73%
Private Institutions	56.27%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Australia consistently ranks amongst the top five sending countries of student-athletes to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Student-athletes from Australia also have a high participation rate in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The opportunity to play sports at any level and through any athletic association is a strong motivator for Australian students.
- The global pandemic, along with government travel bans, heavily impacted mobility to/from Australia and the region. Despite the challenges, interest in studying in the United States remains high in the undergraduate sector. The graduate market has great potential for growth.
- Australians are attracted to U.S. campus life, which is quite different from the commuter experience that most Australian institutions offer.

Australia



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 7 years (Kindergarten plus 6 years of primary school)
- **High school (# of years):** 6 years (Year 7 through Year 12)
- **Academic year calendar:** February-December
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** February-September. Major holidays/break: mid-April (around Easter), early to mid-July, late September to early October, late December to late January. Major exam periods: June and November/December

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Grading will vary for each state or territory.
- **Subjects required:** English is the only compulsory subject. Students in the final two years of high school study five subjects of their choice from the general areas of math, sciences, social sciences/humanities, and foreign language.
- **Graduation requirements:** 6 years of high school + sitting for the state/territory final exam
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Varies by state and territory.
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Varies by state and territory. New South Wales: Higher School Certificate (HSC); Victoria: Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE); Queensland: Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE); Northern Territory & South Australia: South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE); Western Australia: Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE); Tasmania: Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE); Australia Capital Territory: Australian Capital Territory Senior Secondary Certificate
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Through each state or territory's Department of Education
- **Other credentials:** The International Baccalaureate (IB) is offered throughout Australia.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, Duolingo English Test and a limited offering of the PSAT and Advanced Placement (AP) exams
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 87

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Grading system and interpretation:** HD= High Distinction 85-100%, D= Distinction 75-84%, C= Credit 65-74%, P= Pass 50-64%, F= Fail 0-49%
- **Degrees offered:** bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Arts, Business, and STEM
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, TOEFL, IELTS, and PTE Academic
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE: VR: 157.6, QR: 157.6, AW: 4.5
- **Study Abroad:** China, United Kingdom, United States

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Australian Curriculum Assessment and Certification Authorities Website: http://www.acaca.org.au
- Universities Australia: http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au
- Australian Education International: https://internationaleducation.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx
- Australian Qualifications Framework: http://www.aqf.edu.au
- Department of Education, Skills, and Employment: https://www.education.gov.au
- My School Website: http://www.myschool.edu.au

EducationUSA advising centers in Australia: Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Brunei

Bruneian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Brunei



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-31.5%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

471,103

Population Aged 15-24

16.14%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Minnesota
MA, TX, WA

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-33.33%**
J	**-76.09%**
M	**0 > 1%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	48.6%	18	-43.8%
Graduate	21.6%	8	-27.3%
Non-Degree	0%	0	-100%
OPT	29.7%	11	10%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	9.38%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	0%
Master's Colleges and Universities	9.38%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	78.13%
Special Focus Institutions	3.13%
Public Institutions	62.5%
Private Institutions	37.5%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has forced the Brunei Government to restrict and limit overseas education. Exit and entry are tightly controlled.
- Along with other ASEAN member states, Brunei has adopted a five-year Digital Economy Masterplan, which aims to develop manpower and talent in all aspects of the digital field. The Masterplan will open up opportunities for U.S. higher education institutions to promote training and education in various digital skills across all sectors.
- In the next five years, Brunei will prioritize education and training in the following clusters: Life Sciences and Medicine; Social Sciences and Management; Natural Sciences; and Engineering and Technology.
- Community Colleges and Continuing Education are becoming more popular options for Bruneians because of the affordability and flexibility of the systems. Online and hybrid learning options are also now accepted by the government.

Brunei



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 6
- **High school (# of years):** 5-7
- **Academic year calendar:** January-November
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** January-June

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 5-7 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - General School Grading System:
    A 90-100% – Highest grade
    B 80-89%
    C 70-79%
    D 60-69%
    E 50-59%
    F (fail) below 50%

  - "O" Level Grading System eight-point scale grade:
    1 - A* – Highest grade
    2 - A
    3 - B
    4 - B
    5 - C
    6 - C
    7 - D
    8 – E

  - "A" Level Grading System, six-point scale grade:
    A* – Highest grade
    A
    B
    C
    D
    E

  - International Baccalaureate:
    7 Excellent
    6 Very good
    5 Good
    4 Satisfactory
    3 Mediocre
    2 Poor
    1 Very poor

Mainstream Program: Passing grades are required for O Level tests in compulsory subjects: Malay language, English language, mathematics, and one other subject.

Secondary Vocational Program: Students who have successfully completed a secondary vocational program are awarded a National Vocational Certificate.

Brunei



Pre-university/Sixth Form Centers: Students who have the necessary 'O' Level qualifications may proceed to do a two-year pre-university course leading to the Brunei-Cambridge Advanced Level Certificate of Education examination (GCE 'A' Level). Pre-university education prepares students for entrance to universities and other higher education institutions in Brunei Darussalam and overseas. Depending on their English Language 'O' Level grades, all pre-university students are required to take English language at an appropriate level such as the 'A/S' Level General Paper, thinking skills, English A.S., English language and English literature, or 'O' Level English. Students may choose a combination of three or more 'A' Level subjects according to approved subject combinations.

Post-secondary Education: Privately funded schools provide more choice and variety for students in Brunei. They also represent added sources of ideas and innovative practices in education. Private schools account for 30 percent of the number of educational institutions in this country. A few international schools like the Jerudong International School (JIS) and International School Brunei (ISB) have also established themselves by offering a British curriculum (ISB offers a modified version of the National Curriculum of England) where pupils work towards GCSE and A-Level / International Baccalaureate (IB) qualifications.

- **Name of school leaving exams:** Students who are on the mainstream program are required to take the GCE Ordinary Level exams to complete secondary schooling. Students on the secondary vocational program receive the National Vocational Certificate (NVC).
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Contact the Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council, Ministry of Education, and Public Service Commission to verify school leaving exams.
- **Other credentials:**
  - At the start of their secondary education, students are placed in either the mainstream or vocational program according to how they perform at the end of their primary education (Year 6). The secondary level follows two stages: lower secondary and upper secondary. The lower secondary level covers three years of education at the end of which students sit for the Lower Secondary Assessment. The different curricular emphasis caters to different learning abilities and inclinations. It is the aim of lower secondary education to prepare students for upper secondary and vocational/technical education and training.
  - A school-based assessment test and adequate and relevant O Level results are required for completing secondary education.
  - Secondary School Mainstream Program: Students who obtain adequate/passing and relevant O Level results may proceed to the pre-university level or sixth form center. At the sixth form level, students who complete 'A' Level courses with adequate and relevant passes may be eligible for entry to the local universities.
  - Secondary School Vocational Program: Students who complete their O Levels may proceed to take up Diploma courses.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS, DUOLINGO, PTE, GRE, and GMAT.

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3-4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English is the general language of instruction in all universities, but discussions can be bilingual (Malay and English).
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 3-4 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - General University Grading System is as follows:
    A 80-100% – being the highest
    B 70-79%
    C 60-69%
    D 50-59%
    E 40-49%
    F (fail) below 40%



- The Brunei system of education is British-based, and the following shows the Brunei/British – U.S. Honors equivalency based on the Grade Point Average:
  First Class Honors = GPA 3.68-4.0
  Second Class Honors (Upper Division) = GPA 3.33-3.67
  Second Class Honors (Lower Division) = GPA 3.00-3.32
  Third Class Honors = GPA 2.30-2.99
  Ordinary = GPA 2.00-2.29

- **Degrees offered:** Advanced Diploma, Higher National Diploma, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:**
  - SAT – 6 times a year
  - ACT – 2 times a year
  - TOEFL at-home test (online)
  - IELTS – 28 times a year
  - DUOLINGO (online)
  - PTE (online)
  - GRE – 4 times a year
  - GMAT (online)

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- **Embassy of Brunei Darussalam in the United States of America**
  3520 International Ct NW
  Washington, DC
  E: info@bruneiembassy.org

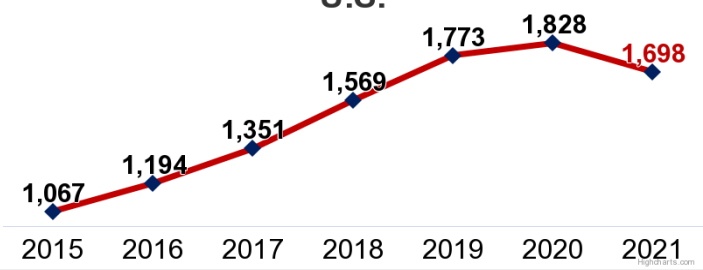
- **International Affairs Unit**
  Brunei Ministry of Education
  Level 5, Block B Berakas Old Airport
  BB3510
  Brunei Darussalam
  E: international@moe.gov.bn

- **EducationUSA advising center in Brunei**: Bandar Seri Begawan

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Burma

Burmese Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Burma



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-7.1%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-63.6%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

57,069,099

Population Aged 15-24

17%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Washington
Illinois

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-63.55%**
J	**-71.54%**
M	**-55.56%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	72.4%	1,230	-7.9%
Graduate	13.8%	235	4.0%
Non-Degree	1.1%	19	-64.2%
OPT	12.6%	214	0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	21.84%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	6.0%
Master's Colleges and Universities	18.45%
Doctorate-granting Universities	50.52%
Special Focus Institutions	3.19%
Public Institutions	66.49%
Private Institutions	33.51%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Student mobility to the United States from Burma decreased by 7.1 percent from 1,828 students to 1,698 students in 2020/21. In some cases, students deferred to the next academic year to have a better chance of attending in person.
- Almost two-thirds of Burmese students pursuing higher education in the United States are undergraduate students. However, after the February 1 military coup and economic decline that followed, EducationUSA advisers have seen a significant increase in graduate program interest.
- International schools in Burma are not accredited or recognized by the Ministry of Education. As a result, Burmese nationals that attend international schools may not attend public universities in Burma. As a result, these students must seek higher education opportunities abroad.

Education System Overview

Burma



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 2 years
- **Academic year calendar:**
  - Secondary schools: June 1 to mid-February; Universities: December to March and May to August
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** July to September, and January to early February
  - Holiday break for secondary schools: October, March to May
  - Holiday break for universities: October, November, April
  - Major exam period(s) for universities: March and September

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Burmese and English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 11 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Based on 100% scale
- **Subjects required:**
  - Burmese (2 years); English (2 years); mathematics (2 years); chemistry (2 years); physics (2 years)
  - * For science combination, biology (2 years)
  - * For arts combination, economics (2 years)
- **Graduation requirements:** 6 subjects, either arts or science combination with three compulsory subjects: Burmese, English, and mathematics
- **Name of school-leaving exams:** Matriculation Exam / 10th Standard Exam
- **How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Myanmar Matriculation Exam Board under the Ministry of Education
- **Other credentials:** Passing the matriculation exam
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, Duolingo English Test
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of TOEFL iBT: January-December 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 86

Structure of University System

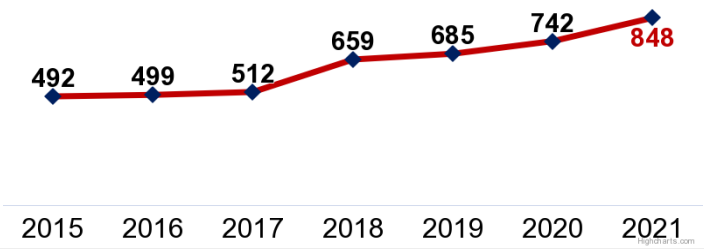
- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** The current education system requires four years of study, but those who attended university between 2005 and 2014 are only required three years of study to complete a bachelor's degree. Degrees obtained through distance education only require three years for completion.
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Burmese and English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 1 year except for those studying English
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Different systems are used, but the most common system assigns grades from 3 to 5 (see below for rubric).
  - Distinction: 5 (75 and 75+ for arts and 80 and 80+ for science subjects)
  - Credit: 4 (65 - 74)
  - Passed: 3 (50 - 64)
- **Degrees offered:** bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** medicine, engineering, information technology, and business
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE: VR 145.1, QR: 150.2, AW: 3.3

EducationUSA advising centers in Burma: Mandalay**,** Rangoon

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

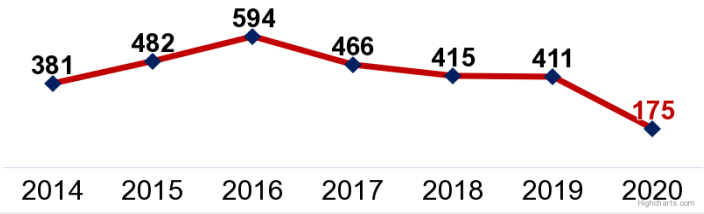
Cambodia

Cambodian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Cambodia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
14.3%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-57.4%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

17,304,363

Population Aged 15-24

17.28%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
Arizona
Massachusetts
Washington
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-64.34%**
J	**-69.31%**
M	**60%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	77.2%	655	28.7%
Graduate	13.9%	118	-12.6%
Non-Degree	2.0%	17	-39.3%
OPT	6.8%	58	-17.1%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	26.36%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	8.31%
Master's Colleges and Universities	15.45%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	48.96%
Special Focus Institutions	0.91%
Public Institutions	75.45%
Private Institutions	24.55%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The number of Cambodian students who studied at U.S. colleges and universities reached an all-time high in 2020/21, increasing by 14.3 percent over the previous year. In 2012, there were only 333 Cambodian students studying at U.S. colleges and universities. Since that time, there has been a 154.65 percent increase.
- The percentage of Cambodians who complete high school and go on to university has continued to increase sharply over the past several years, with a corresponding increase in the number of universities and institutes of higher learning in Cambodia. An increasing number of high-quality private international high schools in the country better prepare Cambodian students to meet the educational requirements of U.S. colleges and universities.
- Community colleges have a prime recruitment market in Cambodia that continues to grow.

Education System Overview

Cambodia



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:** 1st October - 15 July
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** December to February
  - Major school holidays/break: Khmer New Year (April 13-18), King Birthday (May 13-15), Pchum Ben Day (3 days, either in September or October), Water Festival (3 days, generally in November)
  - Major exam period(s): 1st Semester Exam (March), 2nd Semester Exam (July), National Exam (August)

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Khmer
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 100 scales; 50% is passing grade
- **Subjects required:** 10 subjects (Khmer, English, mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, geography, earth science, history, ethics, and civics)
- **Graduation requirements:** Passing High School National Exam
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** N/A
- **Name of school leaving exams:** High School National Exam
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Department of Higher Education Cambodia
- **Standardized admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo English Test, PTE Academic, SAT, ACT
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of TOEFL iBT: January-December 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 77

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** The majority of higher education institutions offer Khmer as a medium of instruction, while a few universities offer English.
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** Varies
- **Grading system and interpretation:** The 4.0 scale was recently adopted by HEIs in Cambodia.
- **Degrees offered:** associates, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** business, accounting, and international relations
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo English Test, PTE Academic, GRE
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE: VR 142.2, QR: 147.5, AW: 3.0

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

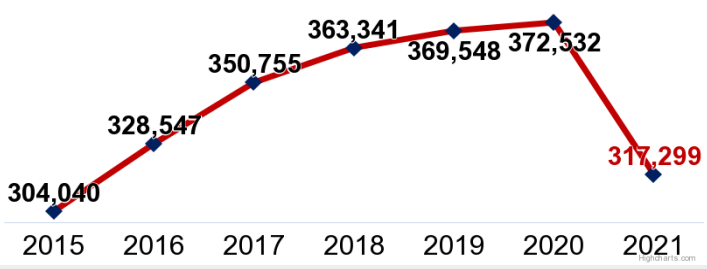
- **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport**
  Website: www.moeys.gov.kh
  Email: info@moeys.gov.kh
  Telephone: 855 23 219 285

EducationUSA advising centers in Cambodia: Phnom Penh, Siem Reap

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

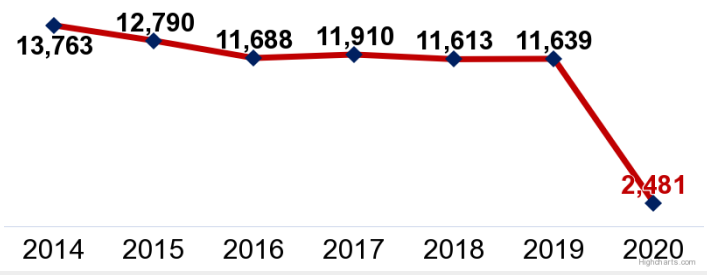
China

Chinese Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in China



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-14.8%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-78.7%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

1,397,897,720

Population Aged 15-24

11.48%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Pennsylvania
Illinois

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-86.08%**
J	**-77.31%**
M	**-78.2%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	39.6%	125,616	-15.2%
Graduate	37.5%	118,859	-13.3%
Non-Degree	2.4%	7,458	-53.1%
OPT	20.6%	65,366	-8.4%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	2.58%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	2.30%
Master's Colleges and Universities	5.31%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	86.39%
Special Focus Institutions	3.42%
Public Institutions	56.15%
Private Institutions	43.85%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- For the twelfth consecutive year, China remains the top sender of international students to the United States. China was the largest source of international students to the United States in 2020/21 with 317,299 students.
- According to the 2021 *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange,* China continued to send the most students worldwide to the United States for undergraduate, graduate, and nondegree programs. For Optional Practical Training (OPT), China ranked second behind India.
- The number of Chinese students studying in the United States declined by 14.8 percent from 2020 to 2021. The decline is mainly attributed to the complications caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Globally, the number of international students studying in the United States declined by 15 percent from 2020 to 2021.

China



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:** September to July
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** September to November and March to May; major holidays occur in January/February, May, July/August, and early October.

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Mandarin Chinese
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 3 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Numerical scale
- **Subjects required:** Chinese, English, math, geography, political science, history, physics, biology, physical education
- **Graduation requirements:** Provincial Graduation Exam (Hui Kao)
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center, info@chsi.com.cn, +86-10-62166727
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, Duolingo English Test. The SAT and ACT are typically not offered in Mainland China (students usually travel to Hong Kong to take the SAT or ACT).
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 87

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Mandarin Chinese
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 3 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Numerical scale
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Business and engineering
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, GRE, GMAT tests are all available in Mainland China.
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE: VR: 149.2, QR: 164.7, AW: 3.2
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is still the number one destination for Chinese students, but other options are increasing across Europe, Oceania, and the East Asia and Pacific region.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China
  Website: http://en.moe.gov.cn/
  Telephone: (86-10) 6609-6114
  Email: english@moe.edu.cn

- China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center
  Role: Verifies Chinese HEI diploma/graduate certificates and students' academic transcripts.
  Website: chsi.com.cn/en

China



- China Academic Degrees & Graduate Education Development Center
  Role: Verifies Chinese academic degree certificates.
  Website: www.cdgdc.edu.cn
  Telephone: (86-10) 8237-9478
  Email: zhc@mail.cdgdc.edu.cn

- Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange
  Role: Verifies overseas academic diplomas and degree certificates.
  Website: www.cscse.edu.cn

- China Education Association for International Exchange – CEAIE
  Role: Oversees 1+2+1 dual degree student academic program with American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).
  Website: http://en.ceaie.edu.cn/

- China Scholarship Council – CSC
  Role: Issues Chinese government scholarships for study abroad
  Website: www.csc.edu.cn

EducationUSA advising centers in China: Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, and Shenyang

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Federated States of Micronesia

Micronesian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
35.3%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-95%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

101,675

Population Aged 15-24

18.62%

Source: The World Fact Book

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Federated States of Micronesia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Top Receiving States

Missouri
Hawaii
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	N/A
J	-88.89%
M	N/A

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	87.0%	20	33.3%
Graduate	13.0%	3	50.0%
Non-Degree	0%	0	0%
OPT	0%	0	0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	9.52%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	19.05%
Master's Colleges and Universities	38.10%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	33.33%
Special Focus Institutions	0%
Public Institutions	52.38%
Private Institutions	47.62%

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Palau are under a Compact of Free Association with the United States, allowing citizens from these islands to visit, work, and study in the United States without a visa. Students from the Freely Associated States are eligible for federal student aid and often apply as domestic students. The number of students from Micronesia is difficult to quantify; however, in 2021, nearly 1,800 Micronesian students received federal aid to study in the United States. Local government scholarships are also available to support study abroad.

The highest level of education available in the Freely Associated States is community college, and large numbers of students from here pursue higher education in the United States. As the community colleges are based on the U.S. system, transfer agreements offer a simple way to start a pipeline of students.

Engaging diaspora communities of Pacific Islanders communities on Guam and in other parts of the United States is a cost-effective recruitment practice.

Higher education institutions interested in recruiting students from Micronesia should strongly consider visiting the country, meeting students, and engaging local schools. Best practices in recruitment include taking advantage of flights via Asia, Guam, and Hawaii, visiting schools, and training counselors.

Federated States of Micronesia



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8
- **High school (# of years):** 4
- **Academic year calendar:** August-May
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** October and November, and spring, avoiding major holidays; major exam period: twice a year at the end of each semester

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English and Native Micronesian (Pohnpeian, Chuukese, Kosraen and Yapese)
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 4
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Similar to U.S. system
- **Subjects required:** English, math, science, and social studies for at least four years and a certain number of vocational and elective courses
- **Graduation requirements:** Secondary school graduation requirement: seven courses per school year for three years; a summer of community service; senior year: four courses first semester and second semester; one internship (town study project); each school year: one weekend of community service
- **Name of school leaving exams**: National Minimum Competency Test
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** State and National Education Department
- **Other credentials:** General Education Development (GED) is equivalent to high school graduation
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT; TOEFL is no longer available; test fees and travel to take the test in another country are prohibitive.

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** Highest level of education available is community college
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 2
- **Grading system and interpretation:** A = Superior, B = Above Average, C = Average, D = Passing, F = Failure, I = Incomplete
- **Degrees offered:** Associate's degrees
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** GRE, as necessary
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is the top destination, particularly Guam, Hawaii, and U.S. states with large Micronesian diaspora communities.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Department of Education: http://national.doe.fm/index.php
- Department of Education Scholarship Page: http://national.doe.fm/index.php/education-programs/basic-programs/post-secondary-and-scholarship
- College of Micronesia-FSM: http://www.comfsm.fm
- EducationUSA advising centers in the Federated States of Micronesia: Palikir

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Fiji

Fijian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-1.1%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-77.6%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

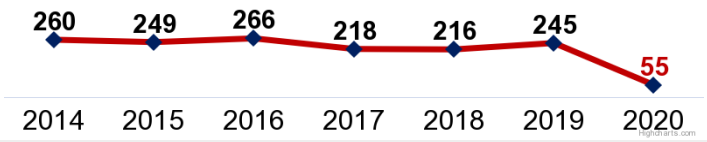
939,535

Population Aged 15-24

15.51%

Source: The World Fact Book

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Fiji



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Top Five Receiving States

Hawaii
Massachusetts
New York
Utah
Florida

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-18.75%**
J	**-65.22%**
M	**-100%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	83.1%	74	0%
Graduate	10.1%	9	0%
Non-Degree	0%	0	0%
OPT	6.7%	6	-14.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	6.25%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	66.25%
Master's Colleges and Universities	6.25%
Doctorate-granting Universities	18.75%
Special Focus Institutions	2.5%
Public Institutions	21.25%
Private Institutions	78.75%

HIGHLIGHTS:

There are more than 68,000 high school students in Fiji, but there is almost no U.S. higher education recruitment presence. Careers fairs and major student events can reach several hundred to over one thousand students. Recent EducationUSA events have been very well attended.

Counselor training, community colleges, partnerships with educational institutions for research study abroad programs, and exchanges are also promising options for HEIs hoping to recruit Fijian students.

Fiji is an untapped market for student-athlete recruitment. The country has had recent successes in rugby with consecutive men's Olympic gold medals, a recent women's bronze at the Tokyo Olympics, and several World Sevens Series championships.

The language of instruction in Fiji is English, and many students go on to universities in English-speaking countries. Australia and New Zealand are major destinations for Fijian students.

Given the distance and the investment in visiting the Pacific Islands, institutions should consider both virtual engagement and a travel itinerary that includes visits to schools, counselor training, and recruitment visits to major senders in the region.

Fiji



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8
- **High school (# of years):** 4-5
- **Academic year calendar:** End of January to end of November
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** February-June; Major exam period: late October-late November

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English; there are also curricula that provide opportunities for ethnic minority children to study their mother tongue, in particular, the two main vernaculars: Fijian and Fiji-Hindi
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 5
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 80-100: A; 65-79: B; 50-64: C; <50: D or F
- **Subjects required:** English and mathematics
- **Graduation requirements:** Completion of 4-5 years of secondary schooling
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Form 6/Year 12: Fiji School Leaving Certificate; Form 7/Year 13; Fiji Seventh Form Examination
- **Name of school-leaving exams:** The state-administered high-school exit exams are as follows: Form 4/Year 10: Fiji Junior Examination, Form 6/Year 12: Fiji School Leaving Certificate Examination and the Form 7/Year 13; Fiji Seventh Form Examination
- **How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, TOEFL (paper delivered), and IELTS

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 3
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Same as secondary school grade system.
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** GRE, GMAT, TOEFL, and IELTS; ETS administered tests offer on average 3-4 tests per year. IELTS on average twice a month
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is among the top five most popular destinations for study abroad.

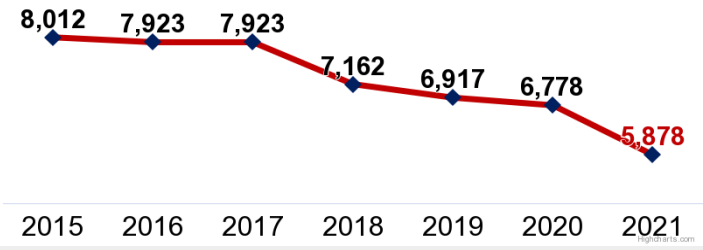
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education, Heritage, and Arts Fiji Website: http://www.education.gov.fj
- EducationUSA advising centers in Fiji: Suva, Lautoka

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

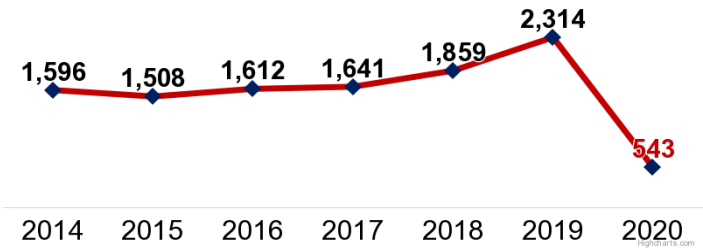
Hong Kong

Hong Kong Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Hong Kong



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	57.9%	3,404	-13.8%
Graduate	22.5%	1,322	-1.3%
Non-Degree	2.0%	115	-68.3%
OPT	17.6%	1,037	-8.0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	10.43%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	5.8%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.09%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	69.3%
Special Focus Institutions	6.38%
Public Institutions	54.65%
Private Institutions	45.35%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-13.3%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-76.5%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

7,263,234

Population Aged 15-24

8.81%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Washington
Massachusetts
Georgia

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

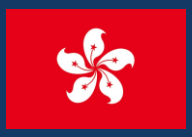
F	-63.17%
J	-64.22%
M	-50%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Despite the overall fall in Hong Kong student numbers in the United States, Hong Kong rose four steps in the ranking to become the 22nd leading sender of international students to the United States, demonstrating considerable resilience to the impact of the pandemic and Hong Kong students' solid interest in the United States.
- In recent years, Hong Kong has seen healthy growth in students participating in graduate programs and Optional Practical Training (OPT), partly due to an increasing number of students seeking ways to extend their stays in the United States.
- Previously brand-sensitive, Hong Kong students and parents are becoming more open to a wider array of schools and program options, including community colleges, vocational programs, and short-term programs.
- Other major destinations include the UK, Australia, Canada, Japan, and Germany. Some of the major factors that pull Hong Kong students to these destinations include welcoming immigration policies that offer pathways to work permits and residency, low cost of education, and a comparatively easier application process.

Hong Kong



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 3
- **High school (# of years):** 3
- **Academic year calendar:** September to January; February to June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** September to November; February (after Chinese New Year) to May. It is not recommended to visit schools during major school holidays (Chinese New Year, Summer, and Christmas)

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Secondary schools may have either Chinese-medium or English-medium instruction
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 6
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Varies according to the school system
- **Subjects required:** Chinese, English, math, liberal studies, and up to 4 elective subjects, plus other 'learning experiences'
- **Graduation requirements:** Five level 2s (Ranked from level U to 5); If not satisfied, the graduating diploma will only note a Form 3 graduation.
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Diploma of Secondary Education
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Hong Kong Education Bureau
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** High School and Hong Kong Education Bureau
- **Other credentials:** Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT: 91

Structure of University System

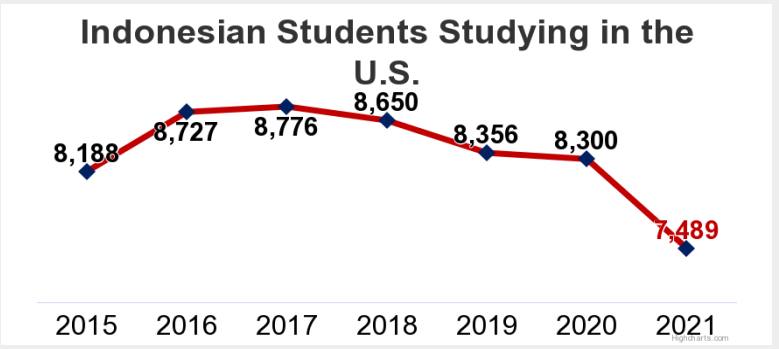
- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** Varies
- **Grading system and interpretation:** GPA on a 4.0 scale
- **Degrees offered:** Diplomas, associate, bachelor's, master's, doctorate, and post-doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Business, engineering, humanities
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** GRE, GMAT, TOEFL, IELTS
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT: 91
- **Study Abroad:** Top destinations include the UK, Australia, China, and the United States

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

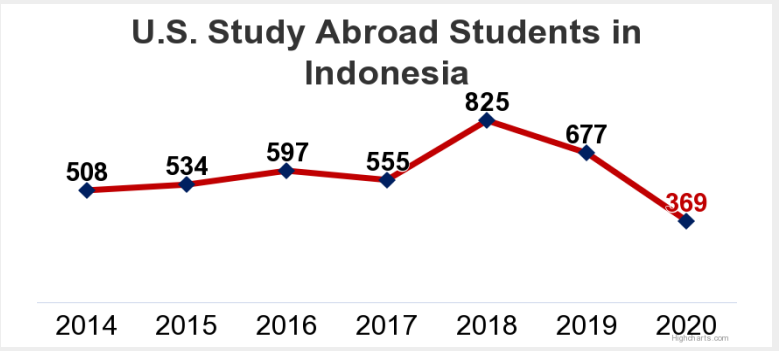
- Hong Kong Education Bureau: https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/
- EducationUSA advising centers in Hong Kong: U.S. Consulate Hong Kong and Macau

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Indonesia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-9.8%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-45.5%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

275,122,131

Population Aged 15-24

16.76%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
Washington
New York
Massachusetts
Arizona

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-79.28%**
J	**-66.91%**
M	**-62.34%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	61.6%	4,614	-5.8%
Graduate	18.9%	1,413	-12.2%
Non-Degree	2.0%	150	-33.9%
OPT	17.5%	1,312	-16.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	15.06%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	3.3%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.29%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	70.47%
Special Focus Institutions	2.88%
Public Institutions	69.3%
Private Institutions	30.7%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Despite the sharp percentage loss in student numbers, Indonesia climbed three slots to become the 17th leading sender of international students to the United States.
- The Indonesian government launched a new undergraduate-focused mobility scholarship scheme, "Indonesian International Student Mobility Awards (IISMA)," and established partnerships with new foreign higher education institutions in support of Indonesian students' outbound mobility.
- The graduate market in Indonesia remains largely untapped and has considerable growth potential.
- Australia is a particularly strong regional competitor due to its proximity to Indonesia, simplified college application process, and provision for international students to work in the country while pursuing their degree.

Indonesia



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** Kindergarten: 2 years; elementary school: 6 years
- **High school (# of years):** Junior high school: 3 years; Senior high school: 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:** July to June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** February, March, April, September, October
    - Major school holidays/break: Mid-June to mid-July; Mid-December to mid-January
    - Major exam periods(s): April, October, November

Secondary Education (High School)

- **Language of instruction:** Bahasa Indonesia (national school) and English (school with international curriculum)
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
    - 10 = A+ (Superior)
    - 9 = A (Excellent)
    - 8 = B+ (Very Good)
    - 7 = B (Good)
    - 6 = C (Fair)
    - 5 = D (Poor)
    - 0-4 = E (Fail)

- **Subjects required:**

GROUP A
- Religious and moral education
- Civics education
- Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian language)
- Mathematics
- Indonesian history
- English language

GROUP B
- Arts
- Physical and health education
- Entrepreneurship
- Communication and information technology

GROUP C (ELECTIVE)
Mathematics and Science Stream:
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Physics
- Chemistry

Social Stream:
- Geography
- History
- Sociology
- Economics

Language and Culture Stream:
- Indonesian language and literature
- English language and literature
- Foreign language (Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Germany, French)
- Anthropology

Indonesia



- **Graduation requirements:** Passing the Senior High School Examination and the National Examination
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** N/A
- **Name of school leaving exams:** UN (Ujian Nasional); Students will get IJAZAH certification after passing UN.
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Through issuing school or EducationUSA Indonesia
- **Other credentials:** Transcripts
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, ACT, PTE
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 88

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Bahasa Indonesia and/or English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 1 year
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - A = 4 (Very Good)
  - B = 3 (Good)
  - C = 2 (Satisfactory)
  - D = 1 (Below Average)
  - E = 0 (Fail)

- **Degrees offered:**
  - Sarjana 1 (S1) = Bachelor's degree
  - Sarjana 2 (S2) = Master's degree
  - Sarjana 3 (S3) = Doctorate degree

- **Top fields of study/majors:** Business/management, engineering (STEM)
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL, IELTS, GRE, GMAT, PTE
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 88
- **Study Abroad:** Australia, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and the United States

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Organization: Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Higher Education
  Website: www.kemdikbud.go.id
  Email: pengaduan@kemdikbud.go.id
  Telephone: +62 21 57903020

- Organization: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  Website: www.kemlu.go.id
  Email: kontak-kami@kemlu.go.id
  Telephone: +62 21 344 1508

- Organization: LPDP Scholarship (Indonesia Endowment Fund of Education)
  Website: www.lpdp.kemenkeu.go.id
  Email: cso.lpdp@kemenkeu.go.id
  Telephone: +62 21 1500652

- Organization: American Indonesian Exchange Foundation (AMINEF)
  Website: www.aminef.or.id
  Email: infofulbright_ind@aminef.or.id



Telephone: +62 21 5793 9085 /86

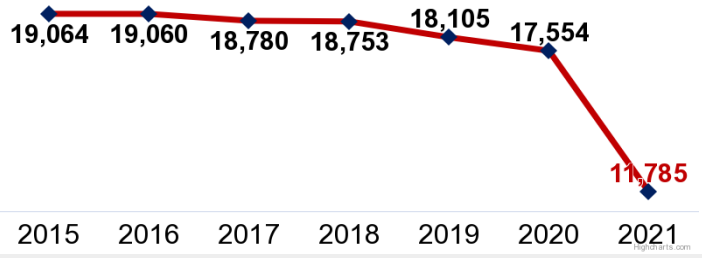
- Organization: U.S. - Indonesia Joint Council
  Website: http://www.usindo.org
  Email: usindojkt@usindo.org
  Telephone: +62 21 3983 0061

EducationUSA advising centers in Indonesia: Aceh**,** Jakarta, Makassar, Malang, Medan, Surabaya

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

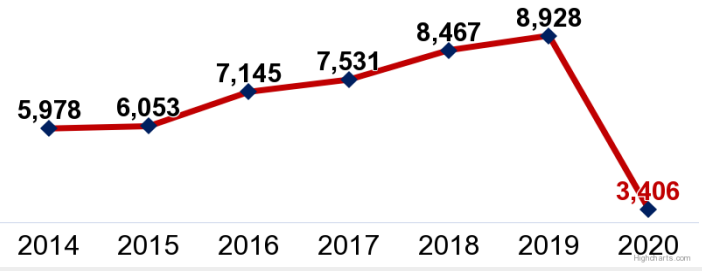
Japan

Japanese Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Japan



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	61.5%	7,243	-16.6%
Graduate	22.7%	2,678	-3.5%
Non-Degree	6.3%	744	-83.9%
OPT	9.5%	1,120	-24.1%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	24.50%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	7.00%
Master's Colleges and Universities	14.86%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	51.85%
Special Focus Institutions	1.80%
Public Institutions	70.15%
Private Institutions	29.85%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021

-32.9%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020

-61.9%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

124,687,293

Population Aged 15-24

9.47%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Hawaii
Washington

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-60.94%**
J	**-64.58%**
M	**-40.12%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

HIGHLIGHTS:

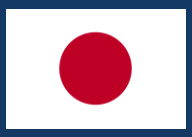
Business and social sciences are popular areas of study, and fields such as IT security and data mining are growing in popularity. The cost of education and perceived English language ability tend to be the greatest barriers to entry for study abroad.

Starting in 2020, English became an official subject in primary school starting from the fifth grade. The Japanese government is also considering proposals to incorporate tests to assess speaking, writing skills, listening, and reading into university entrance exams. These policies may lead to increased demand for English programs.

According to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT), the number of Japanese high school students interested in exchange programs is increasing. Australia is the most popular English-speaking destination, and interest in traveling to the U.S. grows annually.

MEXT has set a goal of doubling the number of Japanese university students studying abroad from 60,000 to 120,000 by 2022, and of high school students from 30,000 to 60,000 through joint efforts by the government, industry, and academia as part of the policy agenda titled, "Japan's Re-vitalization Strategy." MEXT is also focusing on internationalization at higher education institutions and developing students who are competitive in the global economy.

Japan



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** English language education: Starting from 2020, English education will be introduced as an official subject in primary school starting from the 5th grade. The Japanese government is also considering proposals to incorporate communicative English tests into university entrance exams. These policies may lead to increased demand for English programs.
- **High school (# of years):** 3
- **Academic year calendar:** April - March
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Major school holidays/break: July to mid/end of September. Beginning of February to end of March. End of December to beginning of January. End of April to beginning of May. Major exam period: End of January - mid-March

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of Instruction:** Japanese
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 6 (3 years junior high, 3 years high school)
- **Grading system and Interpretation:** Scale of 5: 秀(Shu) 90-100, 優 (Yu) 80-89, 良 (Ryo) 70-79, 可 (Ka) 60-69, 不可 (Fuka) 59 and below (Failure) - Scale of 4: 優 (Yu) 80-100, 良 (Ryo) 70-79, 可 (Ka) 60-69, 不可 (Fuka) 59 and below (Failure)
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT)
- **Other credentials:** 高等学校卒業程度認定試験 (high school equivalence test)
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** IELTS, TOEFL, SAT, ACT, EIKEN, and PTE Academics
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT 73; IELTS 5.8

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of Instruction in universities:** Japanese
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** varies by university
- **Grading system and Interpretation:** Scale of 5: 秀 (Shu) 90-100, 優 (Yu) 80-89, 良 (Ryo) 70-79, 可 (Ka) 60-69, 不可 (Fuka) 59 and below (Failure): Scale of 4: 優 (Yu) 80-100, 良 (Ryo) 70-79, 可 (Ka) 60-69, 不可 (Fuka) 59 and below (Failure)
- **Degrees offered:** Associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctorate, and professional degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Business management, intensive English, social sciences, fine/applied arts
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, IELTS, TOEFL, EIKEN, and PTE Academics
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT: 73; IELTS: 5.8; GRE V: 146.7, Q: 159.7, W: 3.2; GMAT: 572
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is the top destination for Japanese students. Other major destinations include China, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, France, and Canada.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education, Culture Science Sports, and Technology (MEXT): http://www.mext.go.jp/english
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA): http://www.mofa.go.jp
- Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO): http://www.jasso.go.jp/index_e.html
- EducationUSA advising centers in Japan: Tokyo, Fukuoka, Nagoya, Osaka, Okinawa, Sapporo

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Laos

Lao/Laotian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Laos



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021

-13.7%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020

14.3%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

7,574,356

Population Aged 15-24

20.6%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
Minnesota
Illinois
Tennessee
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-81.33%**
J	**-88.65%**
M	**0%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	70.8%	80	-7.0%
Graduate	19.5%	22	0%
Non-Degree	1.8%	2	-83.3%
OPT	8.0%	9	-18.2%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	32.04%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	9.71%
Master's Colleges and Universities	16.5%
Doctorate-granting Universities	39.81%
Special Focus Institutions	1.94%
Public Institutions	76.70%
Private Institutions	23.30%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Laos is still one of the least developed countries in the world. The majority of Lao students cannot afford to study overseas and are particularly challenged to find an affordable placement in the United States. As a result, there is great interest among Lao students in identifying both scholarship and exchange opportunities.
- There are several scholarships and exchange opportunities for Lao high school students and first-year college students to study overseas in countries like Australia, China, Japan, Hungary, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam in addition to the United States.
- In April 2020, the U.S. Secretary of State ordered consular officers to suspend issuance of nearly all routine nonimmigrant visa applications for Lao citizens applying in Laos due to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's determination that Laos unreasonably delays or denies accepting the return of its citizens subject to final orders of removal from the United States. This includes suspending issuance of F and J study and exchange visa categories for Lao nationals, with very limited exceptions.

Laos



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 4 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:** September-June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** October-November, and February-April
  - Major school holidays/break: April for Lao New Year and June-September is summer break
  - Major exam period(s): December to January – mid-term exams and May to June – final exams Secondary Education

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Lao
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 7 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Grading system 10/10
- **Subjects required:** Currently there are 10 subjects: Lao language, mathematics, civics, history, information technology, vocational skills, biology, chemistry, physics, and physical & health education. However, some subjects may be eliminated in the future.
- **Graduation requirements:** With 4 subjects = 40 scores; the passing grade is 5/10 from each subject.
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** N/A
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Ministry of Education and Sports
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Through issuing schools, Provincial Department of Secondary Education or Department of Secondary Education, Ministry of Education and Sport
- **Other credentials:** Transcripts
- **Standardized admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL and IELTS are offered every month; Duolingo English Test; PTE Academic; SAT – up to 6 times yearly.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of TOEFL iBT: January-December 2020):** N/A

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Lao
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 4 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Grade Point Average (GPA)
- **Degrees offered:** bachelor's and master's
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** N/A
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** N/A

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

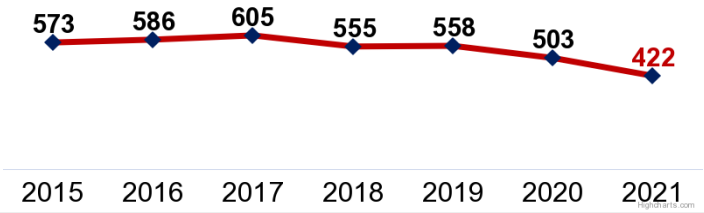
- Organization: Ministry of Education and Sports
  Website: http://moes.edu.la/moes/index.php
  Telephone: +856 21 216013

EducationUSA advising centers in Laos: Vientiane

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Macau

Macau Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Macau



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-16.1%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-69.6%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

630,396

Population Aged 15-24

10.45%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Washington
Pennsylvania

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-80.88%**
J	**-75.00%**
M	**-100%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	61.4%	259	-19.1%
Graduate	21.1%	89	3.5%
Non-Degree	0.7%	3	-81.3%
OPT	16.8%	71	-12.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	10.29%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.58%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.44%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	74.93%
Special Focus Institutions	4.75%
Public Institutions	69.13%
Private Institutions	30.87%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Although the overall number of Macau students studying in the United States dropped in Academic Year 2020/2021, this year's decline was not significantly steeper than the declining curve observed in the previous year.
- Macau is primarily an undergraduate market, with 61.4 percent of Macau students in the United States studying in undergraduate programs. However, graduate school enrollment saw a small increase of 3.5 percent.
- The EducationUSA Hong Kong office provides advising and outreach services to students in Macau.

Macau



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9
- **High school (# of years):** 3
- **Academic year calendar:** September to January; February to June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** September to November; February (after Chinese New Year) to May; It is not recommended to visit schools during major holidays such as Chinese New Year and Christmas.

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Chinese or English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 6
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Numerical or GPA
- **Subjects required:** Chinese, English, mathematics, liberal studies
- **Graduation requirements:** All pass
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Diploma of Secondary Education
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Diploma of Secondary Education
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Macau Education Bureau
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT: 87

Structure of University System

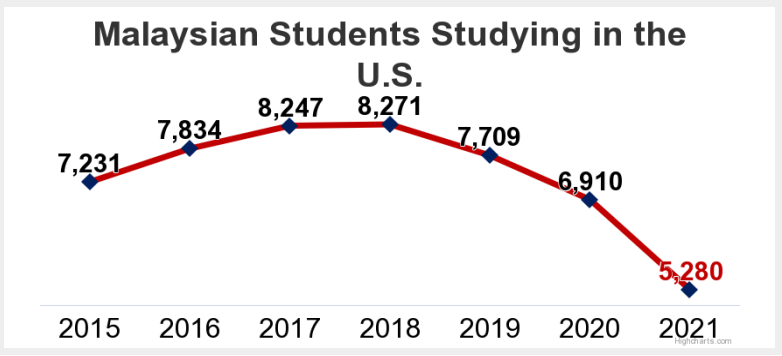
- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** Varies
- **Grading system and interpretation:** GPA
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Varies by university
- **Study Abroad:** United Kingdom, Australia, China, European Union

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Macau Education and Youth Affairs Bureau: http://portal.dsej.gov.mo/
- EducationUSA advising centers in Macau: EducationUSA Hong Kong is responsible for advising services in Macau.

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Malaysia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-23.6%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-86.7%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

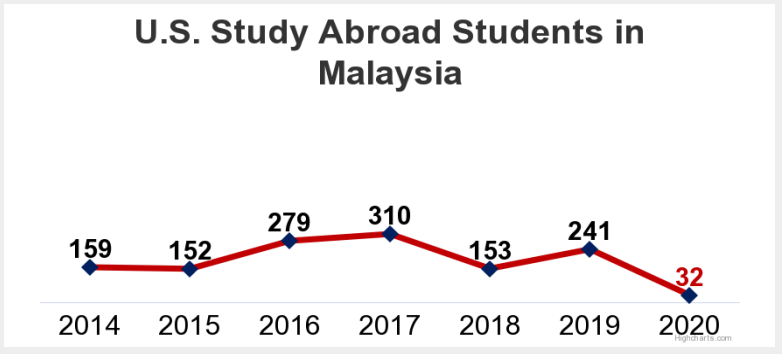
Total Population

33,519,406

Population Aged 15-24

16.63%

Source: The World Fact Book



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Iowa
Michigan
Indiana

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-62.38%**
J	**-56.77%**
M	**-32.50%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	56.7%	2,996	-30.9%
Graduate	18.8%	995	-6.9%
Non-Degree	0.8%	44	-60.0%
OPT	23.6%	1,245	-10.9%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	4.28%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	3.11%
Master's Colleges and Universities	12.68%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	78.37%
Special Focus Institutions	1.56%
Public Institutions	76.36%
Private Institutions	23.64%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Malaysia is the 26th leading sender of international students to the United States. Despite a decrease in OPT participants, Malaysian students continue to value gaining work experience in the United States.
- Parental involvement in the decision-making process remains high, especially for students seeking undergraduate studies in the United States.
- STEM and business remain the most popular fields of study, with some interest growing in social science, health, and arts programs.
- The Malaysian government is taking measures and increasing support to upskill and reskill the workforce as a way of driving economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19.
- The American Degree Transfer Program is a highly popular route for Malaysians to study in the United States at a lower cost. This program allows students to study the first part of their bachelor's degree at a private higher education institution in Malaysia.

Education System Overview

Malaysia



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** Also called 'Primary School'
  - Public government syllabus: 6 years (Standard 1-6)
  - Private UK-based system: 6 years (Grade 1-6)
- **High school (# of years):** Also called 'Secondary School'
  - Public: 5 years (Form 5 and standardized SPM Exam) plus 18-month foundation (STPM) or a 12 to 18-month private pre-university program
  - Independent Chinese: 6 years and UEC (Unified Examination Certificate for Chinese medium schools only) Exam
  - Private UK-based system: 5 years (Grade 7-11)
- **Academic year calendar:**
  - Public and Independent Chinese: January-November
  - Private: August-June/July (varies)
  - Universities: September-May
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** January-March; August-October
  - Public School Holiday: March (1 week)
    May-June (2 weeks)
    August (1 week)
    November-December (7-8 weeks)
  - Private School Holiday: June-August/September (varies)
  - University Holiday: May-August
  - Major exam period(s): May/June and October-December, for public secondary schools
    **subject to change due to COVID-19. Refer to the Ministry of Education website for the updated academic calendar.*

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Malay, English, and Mandarin
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** Public Secondary: 5 years; Independent Chinese Schools: 6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - Public: SPM standardized exam patterned after British O-Levels and STPM standardized exam for an A-Levels equivalent. Exam graded as follows: A+, A, A-; B+, B; C+, C; D; E; G
  - Independent Chinese Schools: UEC standardized exam. Alphabetical Grades
  - Private Schools: Varies
- **Subjects required:** Languages (Malay and English), history, moral education or Islamic religion. Other required subjects depend on which track the student is in: science, commerce, or literature and arts.
- **Graduation requirements:** At least 6 subjects and passing grade in Malay language and history
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Transcripts and certificates
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Individual schools or the Ministry of Education (MOE), but only with special request and payment
- **Other credentials:** Form 5 SPM exam (Final High School exam; is equivalent to 11 years of school). Traditionally, local university systems require an 18-month Form 6 (STPM exam), A-Levels, IB (International Baccalaureate), or some form of foundation course. These options are all considered as a year-12 equivalent in Malaysia. Therefore, one must be completed before applying to university.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS, and others upon request (*LSAT, MCAT, GRE, GMAT)
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of as of TOEFL iBT: January-December 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 94

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3-4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Malay and English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** Varies

Malaysia



- **Grading system and interpretation:** A to F grading scale – the GPA system is like the GPA system in the U.S.
- **Degrees offered:** bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** STEM, business, finance, psychology

- **Non-degree tertiary education for which transfer credit may be granted:**
  - American Degree Transfer Program (ADTP/ADP) in local private universities (a popular Malaysian choice; students do 1 to 2 years in Malaysia, completing credits for freshman and sophomore equivalent subjects, and then transfer to the United States to finish the final 2-3 years.)
  - A-Levels
  - IB (International Baccalaureate)
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** Note: Prometric conducts internet-based tests:
  - TOEFL/IELTS: Monthly
  - SAT: 5x a year
  - ACT: 3x a year
  - LSAT: Varies annually
  - (Other *exams are conducted upon request.)
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of TOEFL iBT: January-December 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 94
- **Study Abroad:** Malaysian universities conduct short-term student mobility programs in partnership with foreign universities worldwide.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Organization: Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE)
  Website: www.mohe.gov.my
  Note: Regulatory body for higher education (colleges and universities) in Malaysia

- Organization: Ministry of Education (MOE)
  Website: www.moe.gov.my
  Note: Regulatory body for education (primary to high school level) in Malaysia

- Organization: Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA)
  Website: www.mqa.gov.my
  Note: Qualifying and ranking of Malaysian recognized courses and colleges

- Organization: Public Service Department (JPA)
  Website: www.jpa.gov.my
  Note: Scholarships from JPA are only offered to top performing students in the country.

- Organization: Majlis Amanah Rakyat Malaysia (MARA)
  Website: www.mara.gov.my
  Email: webmaster@mara.gov.my
  Note: Scholarships from MARA are only offered to top performing students in the country.

- EducationUSA advising centers in Malaysia: Kuala Lumpur, Penang

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Marshallese Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Republic of the Marshall Islands



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021

-12.5%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020

--%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

78,831

Population Aged 15-24

19.09%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
Maryland
Michigan
Oregon
South Carolina
Virginia

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	N/A%
J	-80.0%
M	N/A%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	85.7%	6	-25.0%
Graduate	14.3%	1	--%
Non-Degree	0%	0	0%
OPT	0%	0	0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	16.67%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	0%
Master's Colleges and Universities	50%
Doctorate-granting Universities	33.33%
Special Focus Institutions	0%
Public Institutions	66.67%
Private Institutions	33.33%

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau are under a Compact of Free Association with the United States, allowing citizens from these islands to visit, work, and study in the United States without a visa. Students from the Freely Associated States are eligible for federal student aid and often apply as domestic students. The number of students from Freely Associated States is difficult to quantify; however, in 2021, nearly 1,500 Marshallese students received federal aid to study in the United States. Local government scholarships are also available to support studying abroad.

The highest level of education available in the Freely Associated States is community college, and large numbers of students pursue higher education in the United States. As the community colleges are based on the U.S. system, transfer agreements offer a simple way to start a pipeline of students.

Engaging diaspora communities of Pacific Islanders in Guam and in other parts of the United States is a cost-effective recruitment practice.

Higher education institutions interested in recruiting students from the Marshall Islands should strongly consider visiting the island, meeting students, and engaging local schools. Best practices in recruitment include taking advantage of flights via Asia, Guam, and Hawaii, visiting schools, and training counselors.

Republic of the Marshall Islands



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8
- **High school (# of years):** 4
- **Academic year calendar:** (similar to the U.S. calendar) August-June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Between August and October

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 4
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Number and letter grading similar to the U.S. system
- **Subjects required:** math, English, science, geography, world history government, etc. (general)
- **Graduation requirements:** Must pass all requirements with at least a GPA of 2.0
- **How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, SAT, ACT; standardized tests are not available on every island and availability can change.

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** Highest level of education available is community college
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 2
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Number and letter grading similar to the U.S. system
- **Degrees offered:** Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, Associate of Science in Nursing, along with other certificate programs
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL, PRAXIS, GRE

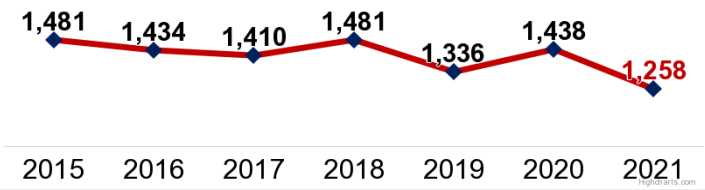
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Marshall Islands Public School System: http://pss.edu.mh
- College of the Marshall Islands: http://www.cmi.edu
- EducationUSA advising centers in the Republic of the Marshall Islands: Majuro

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Mongolia

Mongolian Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Mongolia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-12.5%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-76.5%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

3,198,913

Population Aged 15-24

14.93%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
Washington
Hawaii
Virginia
New York

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-61.18%**
J	**-88.09%**
M	**-57.89%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	62.8%	790	-5.3%
Graduate	20.5%	258	-5.1%
Non-Degree	4.1%	52	-51.4%
OPT	12.6%	158	-29.8%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	17.31%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	15.55%
Master's Colleges and Universities	19.88%
Doctorate-granting Universities	45.76%
Special Focus Institutions	1.50%
Public Institutions	56.63%
Private Institutions	43.37%

HIGHLIGHTS:

Mongolians study in a wide variety of fields, from STEM, business, and social sciences to the arts. Interest in pursuing undergraduate and graduate education in the United States is growing steadily.

The Mongolian Ministry of Science and Education offers the Mongolian President and Prime Minister's scholarships, and many recipients use those funds to study in the United States. In addition to Fulbright programs funded by the U.S. State Department, a Fulbright program funded by the Mongolian government provides 10 students with the opportunity to study in the United States each year.

Internships and other work experiences such as Optional Practical Training (OPT) are of great interest to Mongolian students. Students are also interested in short-term exchanges and language courses in the United States. Community colleges and 2+2 programs are an area of growth potential.

The United States is among the top destinations for Mongolian students, along with China, South Korea, and Australia.

Mongolia



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9
- **High school (# of years):** 3
- **Academic year calendar:** September to June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Late August, mid-January, and March (School Breaks), summer holiday (June-August)

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Mongolian
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 7 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Numerical scale: 0-100: 0-59 (F), 60-69 (D), 70-79 (C), 80-89 (B), 90-100 (A), which can be converted into a 4.0 scale GPA
- **Subjects required:** Depends on the school
- **Graduation requirements:** Must pass the state examination
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Certificate of Completion of General Secondary Education
- **Name of school-leaving exams:** State examination
- **How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education and Science
- **Other credentials:** School Leaving Certificate
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, TOEFL iBT, IELTS
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT 83

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Mongolian
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 2
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 4.0 scale GPA
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Business administration, trade, marketing, law, education, medicine doctor, engineering
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** GRE–1~3 times/year; GMAT–1~3 times/month, TOEFL (iBT)–12 times/year; IELTS–2 times/year
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT: 83; GRE: V: 146.4, Q: 154.4, W: 3.2; GMAT: 524
- **Study Abroad:** Top destinations include China, South Korea, the United States, and Australia

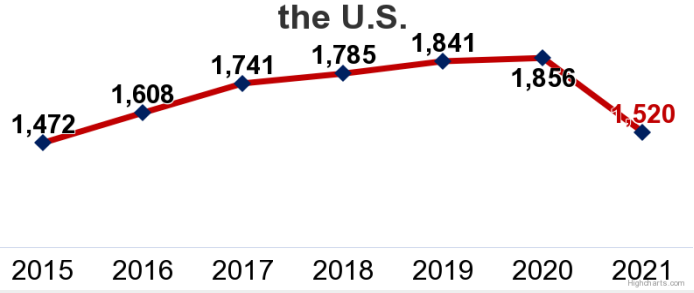
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education and Science: https://www.meds.gov.mn/
- U.S. Embassy Mongolia Scholarship Info Page: https://mn.usembassy.gov/education-culture/scholarships/
- Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation: www.accmon.mn
- Mongolian Association of State Alumni (MASA): http://masa.org.mn/
- EducationUSA advising centers in Mongolia: Ulaanbaatar

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

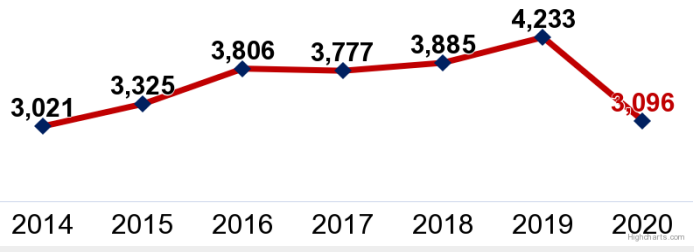
New Zealand

New Zealander Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in New Zealand



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021

-18.1%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020

-26.9%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

4,991,442

Population Aged 15-24

12.92%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Pennsylvania
Hawaii

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-52.57%**
J	**-60.29%**
M	**-40%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	58.0%	881	-21.1%
Graduate	24.7%	375	-9.4%
Non-Degree	1.4%	22	-80.9%
OPT	15.9%	242	14.7%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	2.78%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	7.76%
Master's Colleges and Universities	11.64%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	75.18%
Special Focus Institutions	2.64%
Public Institutions	43.41%
Private Institutions	56.59%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- New Zealand is a top ten sender of students to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Divisions I and II. The opportunity to play sports at all levels is of interest to many students.
- Students from New Zealand study at nearly 400 higher education institutions across the United States and the District of Columbia.
- Students express interest in expanding their knowledge outside of the classroom, including through internships and post-study work opportunities.
- New Zealand hosts a large international student population itself, with as many as 120,000 students across the country as of 2019. New Zealand is the 11th most popular destination for U.S. study abroad students.
- Virtual outreach can be effective for student recruitment, including partnering with EducationUSA to share information sessions, current student stories, and alumni spotlights. Counselor engagement is also encouraged.

New Zealand

- **Compulsory education:** Ages 6 to 16 years old (but most students start school at age 5).
- **Pre-high school (# of years):** Year 1 to Year 8 (8 years in total)
- **High school (# of years):** Year 9 to Year 13 (5 years in total). Students typically turn 18 during Year 13.
- **Academic year calendar:** February to December
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** February to June and late July to mid-September

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English and te reo Māori (Māori language) in Māori-medium education.
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - The National Certificates of Educational Achievements (NCEAs) are the national qualifications for secondary school students in New Zealand.
  - There are three levels of NCEA certificate, listed at levels 1-3 of the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF), which is the definitive source of information about all quality assured New Zealand qualifications. https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/understanding-nzqf/
  - At each level of NCEA, students must achieve 80 credits to gain a certificate. Students undertake programs of learning (courses or subjects). In each of these subjects or courses, skills and knowledge are assessed against standards. Each standard is worth a number of credits. When a student achieves a standard, they gain the number of credits associated with that standard. In the New Zealand system, 1 credit represents 10, "notional learning hours," or time spent in a combination of learning, practice, and assessment.
  - NCEA certificates can be awarded with achieved, merit, or excellence to recognize different levels of student overall achievement. High achievement is recognized when a student gains 50 credits at "Excellence or Merit" level and/or 14 credits in a specific course. https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/understanding-ncea/how-ncea-works/endorsements/
- **Subjects required:** Students typically study five or six courses or subjects for each NCEA level. A year's work in a typical school subject is assessed by approximately 18 to 24 credits (equivalent to 180 to 240 notional learning hours).
- **Graduation Requirements:** There are no specific graduation requirements as students can continue to earn credits towards achieving their NCEA in tertiary education. However, most students aim to achieve the three levels of NCEA over their final three years of secondary education (years 11-13). Students on a university pathway must achieve the award of University Entrance (see detail below) which minimally requires NCEA Level 3 achievement.
  - NCEA results for the academic year are released by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) in mid-January of the following calendar year.
- **University Entrance (UE) Requirements:** UE is the minimum requirement to go to a New Zealand university. It is a separate award given when a student has achieved NCEA Level 3, with at least 14 credits in each of three subjects from the approved subjects list (e.g English, mathematics, geography, biology, drama, design), and met minimum numeracy and specific academic literacy requirements. https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/university-entrance/
- **Name of school leaving exams:** NCEA Exams
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** The New Zealand Record of Achievement (NZROA) lists NCEA qualifications and endorsements, the University Entrance award as well as standard results and grades, https/www.nzqa.govt.nz/nzroa. Students download their NZROA as a verifiable PDF and submit the electronic file with their application for study or employment. Education organizations or credentialing agencies can verify the NZROA using NZQA's verification portal or contact NZQA to verify hard copy. https:/www.nzqa.govt.nz/verify-roa
- **Other credentials:** A small number of schools enable students to study International Baccalaureate or Cambridge A-Level qualifications.
  - **NZ Scholarship** is an academic award, similar to Advanced Placement, and is designed to recognize the very best students and to financially reward very able students who are going on to tertiary study. https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/scholarship
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, Duolingo English Test; the SAT is available in 10 testing centers across the country, while ACT is only available in Auckland.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 94

Education System Overview

New Zealand



Structure of University System

- The New Zealand tertiary sector covers universities, Te Pūkenga (the New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology), wānanga (Māori tertiary education organizations), private training establishments (PTEs), and workplace training. https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/understanding-nzqf/tertiary-education/
- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** Typically, 3 years; engineering requires 4th honors year, law requires 4-5 years, and medicine requires 6 years.
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English, Te Reo Māori (Māori language) in Māori medium education
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** None, but a proficiency test is required for international students if English is not a first language.
- **Grading system and interpretation:** A: 100% - 80%, B: 79% - 65%, C: 64% - 50%, D: 49% - 40%, E: 39% - 0
- **Degrees offered:** All normal degrees offered; NZ Qualifications Framework with ten levels, https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/understanding-nzqf/
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** GRE, GMAT, TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo English Test; PTE Academic; LSAT
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE: VR: 58, QR: 158.7, AW: 4.4

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- New Zealand Qualifications Authority: https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/international; email: internationalunit@nzqa.govt.nz
- Universities New Zealand: https://www.universitiesnz.ac.nz/international-students
- Careers and Transition Education Association NZ (CATE): https://www.cate.co.nz/
- Education New Zealand: https://www.studywithnewzealand.govt.nz/

EducationUSA advising centers in New Zealand: Auckland, Wellington

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Palau

Palauan Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Palau



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021

-26.5%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020

-100%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

21,613

Population Aged 15-24

15.86%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Idaho
California
Hawaii
Kansas
Ohio

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	N/A
J	-100%
M	N/A

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	44.0%	11	-50.0%
Graduate	56.0%	14	55.6%
Non-Degree	0%	0	-100%
OPT	0%	0	-100%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	4.35%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	4.35%
Master's Colleges and Universities	17.39%
Doctorate-granting Universities	69.57%
Special Focus Institutions	4.35%
Public Institutions	82.61%
Private Institutions	17.39%

HIGHLIGHTS:

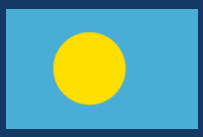
The Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands are under a Compact of Free Association with the United States, allowing citizens from these islands to visit, work, and study in the United States without a visa. Students from the Freely Associated States are eligible for federal student aid and often apply as domestic students. The number of students from Freely Associated States is difficult to quantify; however, in 2021, over 400 Palauan students received federal aid to study in the United States. Local government scholarships are also available to support studying abroad.

The highest level of education available in the Freely Associated States is community college, and large numbers of students pursue higher education in the United States. As the community colleges are based on the U.S. system, transfer agreements offer a simple way to start a pipeline of students.

Engaging diaspora communities of Pacific Islanders in Guam and in other parts of the United States is a cost-effective recruitment practice.

Higher education institutions interested in recruiting students from Palau should strongly consider visiting the island, meeting students, and engaging local schools. Best practices in recruitment include taking advantage of flights via Asia, Guam, and Hawaii, visiting schools, and training counselors.

Palau



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8
- **High school (# of years):** 4
- **Academic year calendar:** August-May (similar to the United States)
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Avoid the summer and the two-week Christmas/New Year's break.

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 4
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 4.0 GPA Scale: A (4.0): 90-100, B+ (3.5): 85-89, B (3.0): 80-84, C+ (2.5): 75-79, C (2.0): 70-74, D+ (1.5): 67-69, D (1.0): 65-66, F (0): 0-64
- **Subjects required:** Core subjects, elective courses, and career academy courses
- **Graduation requirements:** 27 total credits of English, math, science, social studies, Palauan Studies, health, physical education, career development & career academy courses, elective courses
- **How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education, high schools
- **Other credentials:** High school graduates from Palau High School graduate with a diploma, Career Technical Education Certificate, and/or an Individualized Education Diploma.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, TOEFL, ASVAB

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** at least 3 credits
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 4.0 GPA Scale: A (4.0): 90-100, B+ (3.5): 85-89, B (3.0): 80-84, C+ (2.5): 75-79, C (2.0): 70-74, D+ (1.5): 67-69, D (1.0): 65-66, F (0): 0-64
- **Degrees offered:** Palau Community College is the only institution for higher education in Palau and offers certificates, two-year programs for associate degrees, and several bachelor's programs in partnership with U.S. institutions online.
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL
- **Study Abroad:** Australia, Taiwan, Japan, Cuba, the Philippines, and others

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education: http://www.palaugov.pw/executive-branch/ministries/education/
- Palau National Scholarship Board: http://www.pnsb.org/applications/
- Palau Community College: http://pcc.palau.edu
- EducationUSA advising centers in Palau: Palau Community College (reference center)

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Papua New Guinea



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
13.6%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-66.7%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

7,399,757

Population Aged 15-24

19.87%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Hawaii
Michigan
Ohio
Kentucky
Florida

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	-54.79%
J	-70.83%
M	-42.86%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	75%	75	19%
Graduate	17%	17	0%
Non-Degree	0%	0	-100%
OPT	8%	8	14.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	23.91%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	33.70%
Master's Colleges and Universities	11.96%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	28.26%
Special Focus Institutions	2.17%
Public Institutions	42.39%
Private Institutions	57.61%

HIGHLIGHTS:

Despite the large population, Papua New Guinea (PNG) receives no visits from U.S. higher education. Financial need, lack of engagement, and local need for training on the U.S. application process are major challenges.

Counselor training offers an opportunity for engagement and recruitment. As funding is a major consideration, U.S. institutions should highlight scholarships and community-college transfers.

Australia and New Zealand are major destinations for PNG students due to scholarship availability and the chance to study closer to home and family. This presents an opportunity for graduate recruitment of PNG students in these countries.

The cost of a broadband home internet connection can be a challenge in PNG, but virtual engagement is relatively easy at schools and educational institutions.

Given the distance and the investment in visiting the country for recruitment, U.S. higher education institutions should consider an itinerary that includes visits to schools, counselor training, and recruitment visits to other destinations in the surrounding region, including Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, and other Pacific Islands.

Papua New Guinea



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8
- **High school (# of years):** 4
- **Academic year calendar:** January-December; March to October (for universities)
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** 2022 calendar for high schools: Term One: January 31–April 8; Term Two: April 19–June 24; Term Three: July 11–September 23; Term Four: October 3–December 9

  National Examination Weeks (October): Year 12 Higher School Certificate October 17-21; Year 10 High School Certificate October 10-14; Year 8 Basic School Certificate October 24-27

  University Operations: March to October

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 4
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Upper Secondary grading and score (Grade 11/12): A - High Distinction; B – Distinction; C – Credit; D – Pass; E - Conceded Pass; F = Fail; Scoring: HD – 5; DI – 4; CR – 3; PA – 2; CP – 1; F = 0 Each grade is multiplied by its course credit points to produce grade points. Total grade points are calculated by summing grade points. Total credit is calculated by summing the credit points for all courses attempted, including those with F grades. GPA is calculated by dividing the total grade points by total credits.
- **Subjects required:** English, math, science, and social science
- **Graduation requirements:** National Exam (done in Year 10 and Year 12)
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Papua New Guinea National Exam
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, TOEFL, GRE

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Grading system and interpretation:** same as above
- **Degrees offered:** Diploma, bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Arts, law, business management, accounting, banking and finance, information technology, engineering, chemistry, biology, physics and journalism
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL, GRE
- **Study Abroad**: Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, Philippines, and United States

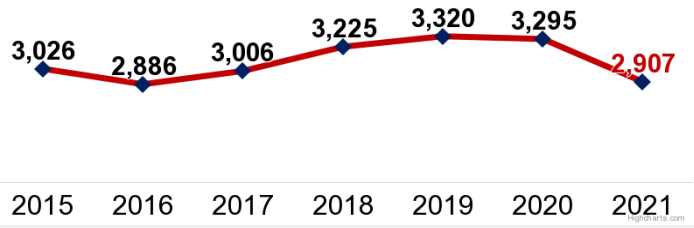
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Department of Education website: www.education.gov.pg
- Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology website: web.dherst.gov.pg/
- United States South Pacific Scholarship Program: https://pg.usembassy.gov/education-culture/ussp-scholarship-program/
- EducationUSA advising centers in Papua New Guinea: Port Moresby

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Philippines

Filipino Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-11.8%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-20.5%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

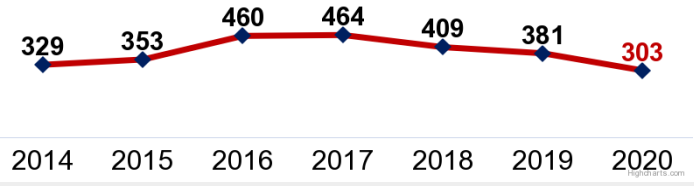
110,818,325

Population Aged 15-24

19.16%

Source: The World Fact Book

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Philippines



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Hawaii
Massachusetts
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-68.21%**
J	**-71.06%**
M	**-60.87%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	51.9%	1,510	-13.9%
Graduate	29.4%	856	-15.0%
Non-Degree	2.1%	61	-33.0%
OPT	16.5%	480	8.1%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	12.53%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	12.19%
Master's Colleges and Universities	10.81%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	59.91%
Special Focus Institutions	4.56%
Public Institutions	50.48%
Private Institutions	49.52%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Despite the overall drop in student mobility numbers, the Philippines saw a notable increase in OPT participants, demonstrating Filipino students' strong interest in gaining work experience following graduation.
- Student reactions to COVID-19 varied. Many students decided to take gap years, while others decided to stay in the Philippines despite receiving significant financial awards from U.S. universities.
- Virtual programs such as virtual campus tours, webinars, and virtual internships are gaining popularity. Prospective students are becoming less interested in general information sessions and increasingly seeking programs focused on specific topics (e.g., scholarships), skills-building workshops, and visually appealing engagements.
- Cities/destinations to add to the recruitment itinerary include Cebu, Baguio, Subic, Pampanga, and Davao.
- Rising fields of study include aviation, business, civil engineering, computer science, cybersecurity, data analytics, economics, education, marketing, health sciences, and "technopreneurship."

Education System Overview

Philippines



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 4 years
- **Academic year calendar:** Varies: June to March, August to May; many transitioned to the Western calendar.
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** September to November; mid-January to March
  - Major school holidays/break: October (week 3) - November (week 1); December (week 3) - January (week 1); May (week 4) - August (week 1)
  - Major exam period: Varies by school

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 4-6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - 100 – Excellent
  - 94-99 – Very Good
  - 88-92 – Good
  - 82-88 – Very Satisfactory
  - 76-81 – Satisfactory
  - 75 – Passing
  - 74 below – Fail
- **Subjects required:** Math, science, history, language, reading, physical education, humanities, and arts
- **Graduation requirements:** Varies per school
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Final or Periodical Exam in Grade 12
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Before graduation, students are required to complete a clearance form.
- **Other credentials:** Grades 6, 10, and 12 take a National Achievement Test. Grade 9 students take the National Career Assessment Examination.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT, LSAT / TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 90

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4-5 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 4-5 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - A = 4.0, 1.0, 92-100
  - B+ = 3.5, 1.5, 87-91
  - B = 3.0, 2.0, 83-86
  - C+ = 2.5, 2.5, 79-82
  - C = 2.0, 3.0, 75-78
  - D = 1.0, 5.0, 74-below
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** STEM, business/management, information technology, humanities/social science/communications (HUSOCOM), and health-related professions
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic
- **Study Abroad:** Available through linkages facilitated by the Commission on Higher Education's International Affairs Section. Some universities with international linkages are Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, Central Philippines University, Mapua University, University of Santo Tomas, and University of the Philippines.

Education System Overview

Philippines



Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Department of Education (DepEd)
  Website: deped.gov.ph
  Email: action@deped.gov.ph

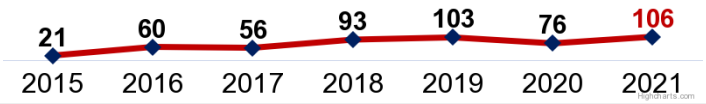
- Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
  Website: https://ched.gov.ph
  Email: info@ched.gov.ph / ias@ched.gov.ph

- **EducationUSA advising centers in Philippines:** Cebu, Manila

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Samoa

Samoan Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
39.5%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-51.1%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

204,898

Population Aged 15-24

19.61%

Source: The World Fact Book

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Samoa



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Top Receiving States

Hawaii
California
Pennsylvania

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-44.44%**
J	**-62.96%**
M	**0%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	86.8%	92	29.6%
Graduate	6.6%	7	75.0%
Non-Degree	5.7%	6	N/A
OPT	0.9%	1	0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	0%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	89.58%
Master's Colleges and Universities	3.13%
Doctorate-granting Universities	7.29%
Special Focus Institutions	0%
Public Institutions	6.25%
Private Institutions	93.75%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The greatest concern for Samoan students and parents continues to be affordability. The cost of U.S. higher education is a barrier for most families.
- Student interest in scholarships for U.S. higher education remains strong. U.S. schools that can offer significant scholarship amounts will have better chances of recruitment in Samoa.
- Family input and funding are major considerations for Samoan students. Many students will consider a U.S. higher education institution that is affordable, a good fit for them, and close to family living in the United States.

Samoa

- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8
- **High school (# of years):** 5
- **Academic year calendar:** End of January to mid-December
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:**
  - High School: February to June
  - Major school holidays/break:
    - Quarter breaks (i.e. two-week break after term)
    - Mid-December to January (school vacation/holiday – 6 weeks)
    - End of quarter exams (April, June, September, December)

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English/Samoan
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 8
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 90-100 A, 89-80 B, 79-70 C, 69-50 D, <50F
- **Subjects required:** Business studies, computer studies, design & technology, Gagana Samoa, food & textile, English, math, music, science, social studies, visual arts, performing arts, health & physical education, agricultural science
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Samoa Secondary Leaving Certificate Examination (SSLC)
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC)
- **Other credentials:** Pacific Senior Secondary Certificate (PSSC) and the South Pacific Form Seven Certificate (SPFSC)
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** N/A
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of N/A):** N/A

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English/Samoan
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 3-4
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 90-100 A, 89-80 B, 79-70 C, 69-50 D, <50F
- **Degrees offered:** Undergraduate and technical/vocational degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Arts, business & entrepreneurship, education, nursing & health science, science, business & general studies, engineering, and maritime training
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** N/A
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of N/A):** N/A
- **Study Abroad:** Pacific Islands, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, and the United States.

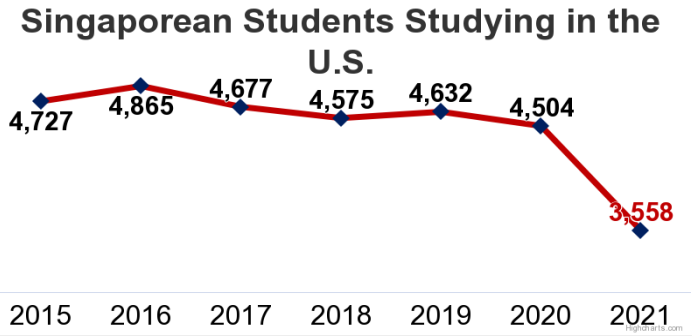
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture Website: http://www.mesc.gov.ws/

EducationUSA advising centers in Samoa: Apia

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Singapore



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-21.0%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-25.8%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

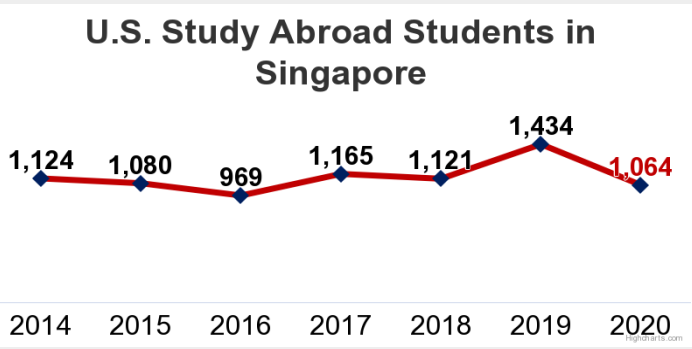
Total Population

5,866,139

Population Aged 15-24

15.01%

Source: The World Fact Book



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Pennsylvania
Illinois

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-63.86%**
J	**-58.14%**
M	**-33.33%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	43.1%	1,532	-16.4%
Graduate	34.6%	1,230	-10.5%
Non-Degree	1.1%	39	91.7%
OPT	21.3%	757	-8.4%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	2.30%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	4.13%
Master's Colleges and Universities	3.59%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	85.85%
Special Focus Institutions	4.13%
Public Institutions	37.52%
Private Institutions	62.48%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Due to COVID-19, many Singaporean students are opting to study in a local program before transferring to an overseas university, reasons for which include the fear of moving abroad during the pandemic and the difficulty of adjusting to time differences with online learning options.
- Singaporean students have access to numerous government and industry scholarships for overseas education. These scholarships typically cover the full cost of tuition, fees, a living stipend, and airfare, often in exchange for a few years of working in the civil service.
- STEM, business, and computer science programs are popular areas of focus.
- Singaporean students are well adapted to online learning. During the pandemic-induced lockdown periods, Singaporean students attended classes online from home. Students are provided access to internet connectivity and personal learning devices at home through various government initiatives.

Singapore



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 8-10 years
- **High school (# of years):** 2-4 years (varies according to academic streams, i.e. A-Levels, Polytechnic Diploma, IB, etc.)
- **Academic year calendar:** January-November (local), August-June (International)
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Any month except end of May-June and mid-October-November
  - Major school holidays/break:
    - End of May to end of June (local); Mid-June to mid-August (International)
    - November 15 to January 1 (local); Mid December to Mid-January (International)

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 2-4 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**

GCE O-Levels: Singapore – U.S. Equivalent ○ A1 – A+ ○ A2 – A- ○ B3 – B+ ○ B4 – B- ○ C5 – C+ ○ C6 – C- ○ D7 – D+ ○ D8 – D- GCE A-Levels Singapore – U.S. Equivalent ○ A – A ○ B – B ○ C – B ○ D – C ○ E – C ○ F – F	Polytechnic GPA: Equivalent to U.S. 4.0 GPA scale DIST Distinction (awarded by the Assessment Board) = 4.0 A > 80% = 4.0 B+ 75% - <80% = 3.5 B 70% - <75% = 3.0 C+ 65% - <70% = 2.5 C 60% - <65% = 2.0 D+ 55% - <60% = 1.5 D 50% - <55% = 1.0 F < 50% = 0.0

  - Note: When evaluating transcripts, colleges and universities should use students' predicted or actual O-Level and A-Level grades, not their preliminary grades. Preliminary grades are designed to motivate students to study for their A-Level exams. Preliminary grades are not used by Singaporean universities or by universities in Australia or the United Kingdom.
- **Subjects required:** Varies according to academic program/institution
- **Graduation requirements:** Varies according to academic program/institution
- **Name of school leaving exams:** GCE A-Levels, IB, AP
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** School/board transcripts
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** Both SAT and ACT are offered several times in a year. However, many centers were unexpectedly closed due to COVID-19.
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 98

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3-4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** Varies
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Varies

Singapore



- **Degrees offered:** Diploma, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** STEM and business
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** GMAT, GRE, LSAT, MCAT are all offered several times in a year.
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 98
- **Study Abroad:** Australia, United Kingdom, and United States

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

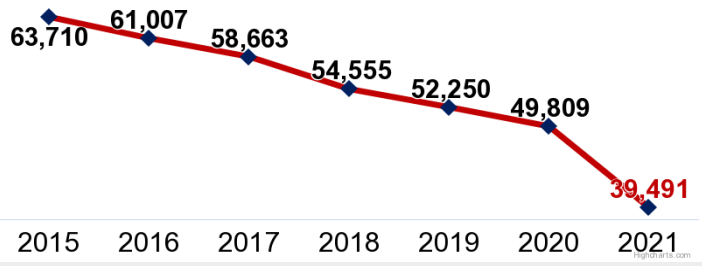
- Organization: Ministry of Education
  Website: www.moe.gov.sg
  Telephone: +65 68722220
  Email: contact@moe.gov.sg

- EducationUSA advising centers in Singapore: Singapore

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

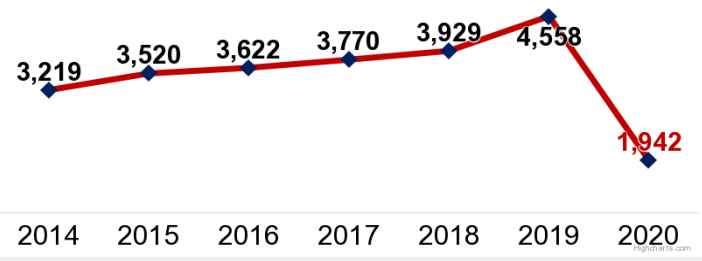
South Korea

Korean Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in South Korea



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	44.9%	17743	-24.2%
Graduate	36.1%	14238	-6.4%
Non-Degree	2.1%	840	-74.6%
OPT	16.9%	6670	-15.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	7.59%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	2.90%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.05%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	74.67%
Special Focus Institutions	6.79%
Public Institutions	63.09%
Private Institutions	36.91%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-20.7%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-57.4%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

51,715,162

Population Aged 15-24

10.75%%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Texas
Illinois

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	-54.17%
J	-47.19%
M	-61.03%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

HIGHLIGHTS:

- South Korea is the number three sender of international students to the United States and to community colleges. There are Korean students in all 50 states, and Korea is a top-five sender to 30 states and the District of Columbia. Cities outside of the capital have growth potential in both the undergraduate and graduate markets.
- Korean students study a wide variety of fields, from STEM, business, and social sciences, to education. Internships and other work experiences such as Optional Practical Training (OPT) are of great interest to Korean students. Students undertaking OPT make up 16.9% of the total.
- Korean students place high value on university alumni networks to advance their studies and careers. HEIs would benefit from promoting the benefits of these networks in Korea and highlighting student testimonials.
- South Korea is among the top recipients of U.S. students studying abroad. Korean universities are expanding courses and degree programs taught in English; those looking to partner with U.S. institutions are interested both in receiving students and sending Korean students abroad.

South Korea

- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9
- **High school (# of years):** 3
- **Academic year calendar:** March - February
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Mid-spring and mid-fall, avoiding exam periods and major holidays such as Lunar New Year and Chuseok; visits scheduled during winter or summer breaks should be planned well in advance to allow for ample promotion; summer vacation for high school: mid-July to mid-August; university: mid-June to late August; winter vacation high school: usually late December to the end of February, except about one week of school attendance in February.

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Korean
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 3
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 9 rank/level system: Rank 1 - top 4 %, Rank 2 - next top 7%, Rank 3 - next top 12%, Rank 4 - next top 17%, Rank 5 - next top 20%, Rank 6 - next top 17%, Rank 7 - next top 12%, Rank 8 - next top 8%, Rank 9 - the remaining 4%; Some high schools may use grading system of ABCDE letter grade scale with a GPA of 4.3 or 4; A: 90~100, B: 80~89, C: 70~79, D: 60~69, E: 60 or below.
- **Subjects required:** Korean language, social sciences, math, science, English, Korean history, arts, physical education, ethics, and music
- **Graduation requirements:** 204 credits required to graduate high schools. 94 credits required as a basic course / 86 credits selected by schools / 24 credits of extra-curricular activity. (1 credit = 17 hours of study)
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** High school diploma
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Transcripts of three-year high school education
- **Other credentials:** High School Entrance and Graduating Certificate Test for Self-Study Students (Korean GED)
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT, ACT, TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, CSAT (College Scholastic Ability Test: Korea's national exam for college admission)
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT 86; IELTS 6.0

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Korean
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 1 year (Each university sets a certain number of English credits as general study.)
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Letter Grade Scale of ABCDF, with a GPA scale of 4.3 or 4.5
- **Degrees offered:** Associates, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** STEM, business, social science, fine/applied arts
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country:** GRE - 32+ times/year; GMAT - 1~3 times/month, LSAT – 4-5 times/year; TOEFL (iBT) - 50+ times/year; IELTS - 4 times/month; PTE 25+ times/month
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT 86; IELTS 6.0; GRE V 150.8, Q 161.2, W 3.4; GMAT 591
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is the most popular destination for degree-seeking Korean students studying abroad. The United States and China are top destinations for shorter-term study abroad and intensive language programs.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education Website: http://english.moe.go.kr/
- National Institute for International Education (NIIED) Website: http://www.niied.go.kr/eng/main.do
- Korean Educational Development Institute Website: https://www.kedi.re.kr/eng/kedi/main/main.do

South Korea

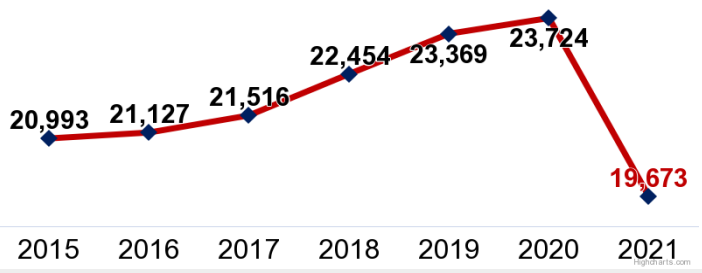


- EducationUSA advising centers in Korea: Seoul, Busan, Daegu, Gwangju, Pyeongtaek, Gangneung, Jeju

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

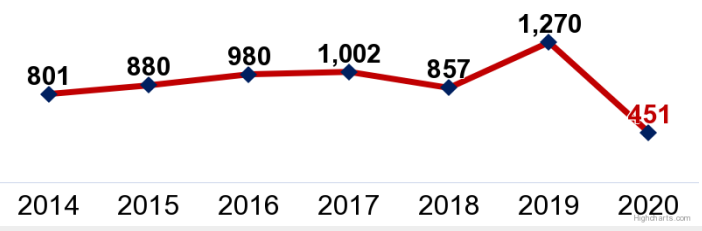
Taiwan

Taiwan Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Taiwan



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	31.1%	6,119	-17.1%
Graduate	40.9%	8,052	-13.6%
Non-Degree	2.4%	471	-69.0%
OPT	25.6%	5,031	-8.6%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	5.59%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.53%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.78%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	79.93%
Special Focus Institutions	4.16%
Public Institutions	64.22%
Private Institutions	35.78%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-17.1%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-64.5%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

23,572,052

Population Aged 15-24

11.62%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Washington
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	-62.72%
J	-76.95%
M	-58.44%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Taiwan is the number seven sender of international students to the United States and a top-five sender to eight states. It is the number 12 sender to community colleges.
- Taiwan has one of the highest percentages of college-educated youth in the world according to Taiwan Ministry of Education (MOE) statistics, with approximately 72% of 25- to 34-year-olds receiving higher education.
- Taiwanese students prefer U.S. graduate degree programs, and interest in undergraduate programs is increasing. Students are also interested in short-term exchanges in the United States administered in cooperation with Taiwanese universities.
- Taiwan's Ministry of Education (MOE) and Taiwan's nearly 160 institutions of higher education face the challenge of deciding whether to merge, close, or repurpose schools in the coming years as the student population declines due to Taiwan's low birth rate.

Taiwan

- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 6 years elementary school
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years junior high school and 3 years senior high school
- **Academic year calendar:** Fall Semester: September to late January; spring semester: February to late June
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** October to mid-December, March to late May; Major school holidays/break: winter break (Chinese New Year's) and summer break (mainly July and August); Major exam periods: there are 3 midterm exams in high schools, and dates vary from school to school; university entrance exams fall in late January and early July.

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Chinese
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 3
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Numerical grades: 60 – 100; above 80 = A or 4 in GPA system, 70 - 79 = B or 3, 60-69 = 2 or C, below 60 = 1 or F.
- **Subjects required:** Chinese, English, math, social science, and science
- **Graduation requirements:** Complete all the required courses and pass the school's final exam
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** High school diploma
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Verify by individual school
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, General English Proficiency Test (GEPT), SAT, ACT
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT 85; IELTS 6.1

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Mandarin Chinese and English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 1 year
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 4.0, 4.5 GPA or 100 percentage; some schools use ABCDF or their own grading system
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- **Top fields of study/majors:** STEM, business and management, and social science
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered:** TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, General English Proficiency Test (GEPT), GRE, GMAT
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT 85; IELTS 6.1; GRE V 147.9, Q 163.5, W 3.0; GMAT 568
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is the most popular destination for study abroad; the United Kingdom, other English-speaking countries, and Japan are also very popular destinations. In recent years, students have also inquired about European countries such as Germany.

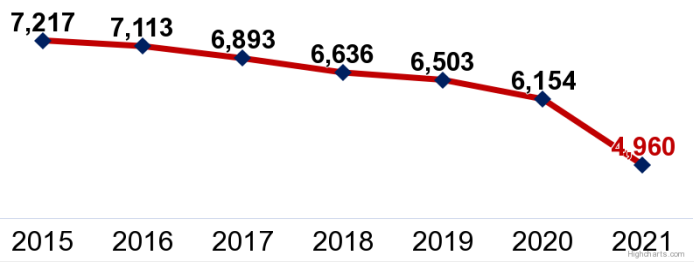
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Taiwan Ministry of Education - https://english.moe.gov.tw
- EducationUSA advising centers in Taiwan: Taipei

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

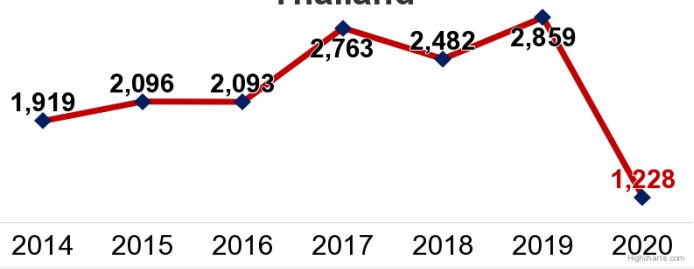
Thailand

Thai Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Thailand



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-19.4%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-57.0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

69,480,520

Population Aged 15-24

13.02%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Massachusetts
Illinois
Washington

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-70.85%**
J	**-73.35%**
M	**-69.77%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in the U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	44.9%	2,227	-16.1%
Graduate	35.5%	1,759	-17.0%
Non-Degree	2.8%	139	-68.9%
OPT	16.8%	835	-10.6%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	9.97%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	3.31%
Master's Colleges and Universities	10.26%
Doctorate-granting Universities	72.87%
Special Focus Institutions	3.60%
Public Institutions	58.09%
Private Institutions	41.91%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- In 2021 Thailand has seen a 70% increase in degree-seeking visa applicants over 2020 applications and a 12% increase over 2019 applications.
- STEM education continues to be a national policy priority for Thailand as the country continues the Thailand 4.0 initiative. STEAM education also remains a national priority. As a result, student interest in the arts has increased considerably.
- The Thai government provides more than 500 scholarships per year to Thai citizens under the Royal Thai Government Scholarship Program.
- The global pandemic has directly impacted the local economy in Thailand – specifically the tourism sector. As the economy begins to recover, affordability remains the top concern for most Thai students and families.
- Southeast Asia continues to be a prime community college recruitment market. HEI representatives interested in recruiting in Thailand should help Thai students and parents better understand the associated benefits, cost savings, and 2+2 model. Community college recruitment in Thailand has room for growth.

Thailand



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 3 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:**
  - High school: May to February; University: August to May
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** High school: Mid-May to August and November to January; University: Mid-January to March and end of May to September
  - Major school holidays/break: High school: March-May and October; University: Mid-December to January and May to mid-August
  - Major exam period: October and February for high school; December and May for universities

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Thai and English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 12 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 1-4 (D-A)
- **Subjects required:** math, science, English, and Thai
- **Graduation requirements:** 12 years
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** N/A
- **Name of school leaving exams:** Final exam
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Individual school and Ministry of Education
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, Duolingo English Test; SAT
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of TOEFL iBT: January-December 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 83

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4-6 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Thai and English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 4-6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 1-4 (D-A)
- **Degrees offered:** bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** business, engineering, law, communication arts, health, and sciences
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** TOEFL, IELTS, GRE, and GMAT
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE: VR: 145.1, QR: 157.1, AW: 3.1
- **Study Abroad:** ASEAN countries, China, US, UK, Australia, and New Zealand

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Organization: Ministry of Education
  Website: www.moe.go.th

- Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation
  Website: https://www.mhesi.go.th/

- Office of Civil Service Commission
  Website: www.ocsc.go.th

EducationUSA advising centers in Thailand: Bangkok (three centers)

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Timor-Leste

Timorese Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Timor-Leste



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
10.0%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-91.3%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

1,413,958

Population Aged 15-24

20.32%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Iowa
Missouri
Washington
Illinois
Minnesota

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-60.00%**
J	**-71.70%**
M	**0%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	60.6%	20	-4.8%
Graduate	33.3%	11	83.3%
Non-Degree	3.0%	1	N/A%
OPT	3.0%	1	-66.7%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	3.23%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	25.81%
Master's Colleges and Universities	12.9%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	58.06%
Special Focus Institutions	0%
Public Institutions	51.61%
Private Institutions	48.39%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Despite COVID-19, the number of Timorese students studying in the United States increased by 10% in academic year 2020/2021, primarily due to notably increased enrollment in U.S. graduate programs, which was up by 83.3%.
- Many Timorese students in the United States are sponsored by the U.S. government through fully-funded scholarships.
- Many Timorese students face financial barriers to study overseas and are particularly challenged to find an affordable placement in the United States.
- Since many university graduates struggle to find employment after graduation, the government of Timor-Leste is increasing emphasis on vocational training opportunities.
- Admission requirements such as English competency and standardized tests are barriers for Timorese students since there is a limited number of testing options in Timor-Leste.

Timor-Leste



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 10 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:** January to December
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** Mid-January until the end of February, and also around September

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Tetum and Portuguese
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 3 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  10 – Exceptional (highest grade; rarely given)
  9 – Outstanding (highest common grade)
  8 – Very good
  7 – Good
  6 – Pass (lowest passing grade in general)
  5 – Passing grade in some subjects, a failing grade in others
  4 – Failing grade
  3 – Failing grade
  2 – Failing grade
  1 – Failing grade
  0 – Failing grade (lowest)
- **Subjects required:** In the first year of high school, students are required to study all subjects. After that, the last two years divide students into "Science" and "Social Science" levels based on test results. The "Science" students study general courses plus their course level, and the "Social Science" students study general courses plus their course level.

  General Course
  - Tetum language
  - Portuguese language
  - English language
  - Indonesia language
  - Citizenship and social development
  - Multimedia technologies
  - Religion and morals
  - Physical education and sport

  Course Level (Science)
  - Physics
  - Chemistry
  - Biology
  - Geology
  - Mathematics

  Course Level (Social Science):
  - Economics
  - Accounting
  - Sociology
  - Mathematics

- **Graduation requirements:** National Exit Exam
- **Name of school leaving exams:** National Exit Exam
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education's record
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** IELTS

Education System Overview

Timor-Leste



Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Tetum, Portuguese, Indonesian; Spanish (Medical School)
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 1 year
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Grades are usually assigned in letters, following a four-point system. Generally, Timor-Leste's universities equate "A" with a numerical value of 4.0 and "E" with 0.0.
- **Degrees offered:** Diploma, undergraduate, postgraduate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Science and education (biology and chemistry)
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** IELTS
- **Study Abroad:** Indonesia, Philippines, China, Australia, New Zealand, and the United States

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Organization: Ministerio do Ensino Superior, Ciencia e Cultura (Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture)
  Address: Rua Avenida Marginal Numeru 04, Colmera, Dili, Timor-Leste
  Website: https://mescc.gov.tl/
  Email: info@messc.gov.tl

- Organization: United World College – Timor-Leste
  Website: https://www.tl.uwc.org/
  Email: info@tl.uwc.org

- Organization: United States Timor-Leste (USTL) Scholarship Program
  Website: - https://ustlscholarship.org/

- Global Undergraduate Exchange Program – Global UGRAD
  Non-Degree One Semester Scholarship
  Website: https://exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/global-undergraduate-exchange-program-global-ugrad

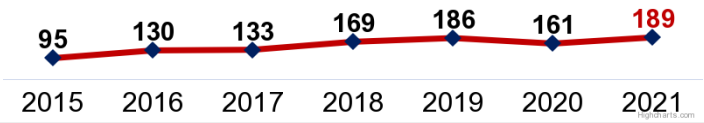
- Organization: The Fulbright Foreign Student Program
  Website: https://tl.usembassy.gov/education-culture/scholarships-and-exchange-programs/
  U.S. Embassy Dili Avenida de Portugal,
  Praia dos Coqueiros,
  Dili, Timor-Leste
  Phone: (670) 332-4684

- **EducationUSA advising center in Timor-Leste:** Dili

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

Tonga

Tongan Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Tonga



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
17.4%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-100%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

105,780

Population Aged 15-24

19.66%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Hawaii
California
Utah

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	-82.35%
J	-61.11%
M	N/A

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	96.3%	182	16.7%
Graduate	1.6%	3	0%
Non-Degree	1.6%	3	200%
OPT	0.5%	1	0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (2-Year) Colleges	1.72%
Baccalaureate (4-Year) Colleges	89.66%
Master's Colleges and Universities	3.45%
Doctorate-granting Universities	5.17%
Special Focus Institutions	0%
Public Institutions	5.17%
Private Institutions	94.83%

HIGHLIGHTS:

Given the distance and the investment in visiting the Pacific Islands for recruitment, HEIs should consider an itinerary that includes visits to schools, counselor training, and recruitment visits to other destinations in the subregion, including New Zealand and Australia.

Large numbers of Pacific Islanders attend secondary schools and higher education institutions in Australia and New Zealand, presenting opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate recruitment.

Student mobility depends on not only parental but also community support. Funding and family are major considerations for Tongan students. Many will consider schools closer to family or diaspora communities living in the United States, and families are heavily involved in the school selection process.

Universities and community colleges may consider exchange partnership and transfer agreement opportunities with tertiary education institutions in Tonga.

U.S. institutions with music-related majors may find interested students, as many Tongan schools have music programs, and Tongan music is famous in the Pacific.

Education System Overview

Tonga



- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 6
- **High school (# of years):** 6 years (3 years of lower secondary, 3 years of upper secondary, with an optional 13th year called additional upper secondary school)
- **Academic year calendar:** February-November
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** October-November

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Tongan and English
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** Up to 6 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** 1-9 numeric scale: A+: 1.00-1.99; A: 2.00-2.99; B+: 3.00-3.99; B: 4.00- 5.99; C+: 6.00-6.99; C: 7.00-9.00
- **Subjects required:** Curriculum information can be found at http://www.edu.gov.to/divisions/qualityassurance/curriculum.html.
- **Graduation requirements:** English, Tongan Language, sciences, mathematics, history, agricultural science, computing and ICT
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Pacific Senior Secondary Education Form 6
- **Name of school-leaving exams:** Pacific Senior Secondary Examination Certificate
- **How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** Ministry of Education
- **Other credentials:** South Pacific Board Educational Assessment Form 7 Certificate or the University of the South Pacific Foundation Certificate for university entrance
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** SAT (IELTS and TOEFL available nearby, but not within Tonga)

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 3-4
- **Language of instruction in universities:** English
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** 3
- **Grading system and interpretation:** The University of the South Pacific follows a qualification system similar to that of the Commonwealth of Nations.
- **Degrees offered:** Associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctorate degrees, and certificates
- **Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country:** GRE (paper form); twice a year
- **Study Abroad:** The United States is the second most popular destination for studying abroad, after New Zealand.

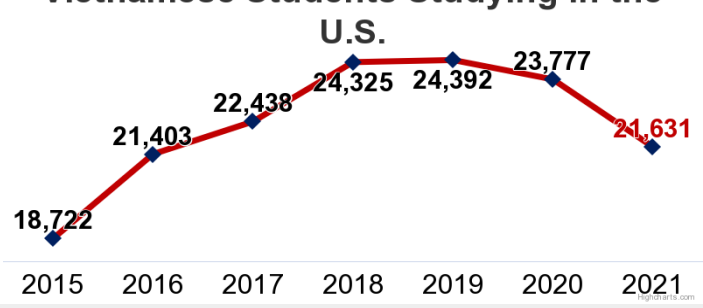
Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education: http://www.edu.gov.to
- EducationUSA advising centers in Tonga: Nuku'alofa

Student Mobility Facts and Figures

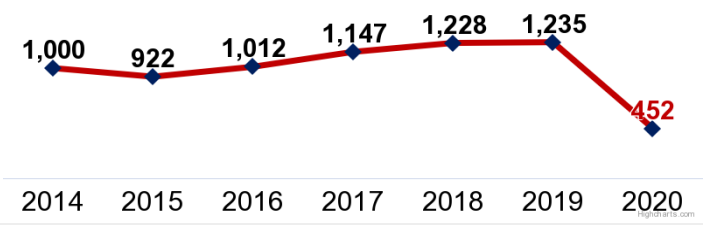
Vietnam

Vietnamese Students Studying in the U.S.



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Vietnam



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021
-9.0%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020
-63.4%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

102,789,598

Population Aged 15-24

15.22%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Texas
California
Washington
Massachusetts
New York

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F	**-65.06%**
J	**-65.95%**
M	**2.35%**

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	70.6%	15,282	-7.9%
Graduate	15.6%	3,375	-7.5%
Non-Degree	1.6%	348	-57.7%
OPT	12.1%	2,626	-3.4%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	26.42%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	5.60%
Master's Colleges and Universities	15.30%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	51.17%
Special Focus Institutions	1.52%
Public Institutions	74.18%
Private Institutions	25.82%

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Vietnam continues to be a large undergraduate student recruitment market. Over 70 percent of Vietnamese students in the United States (15,282) are pursuing undergraduate studies, making Vietnam the second and fourth greatest source of international associate degree and bachelor's degree candidates respectively.
- Vietnamese students constitute the second largest group of foreign students at community colleges, accounting for almost 11 percent of all international enrollments. The 2+2 program model remains popular among Vietnamese students.
- Vietnamese students continue to demonstrate a strong interest in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields, as well as business/management studies. More than 72 percent of Vietnamese students in the United States pursue studies in one of these areas.

Vietnam

- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- **Academic year calendar:** September-May
- **Recommended times for U.S. institution visits:** October and March
  - Major school holidays/break:
    - Lunar New Year
    - National Holidays
    - Summer Holiday: July-August
  - Major exam period: December-January and April-May

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Language of instruction:** Vietnamese
- **Years of mandatory English courses:** 7 years of foreign language requirement from 6th to 12th grade
- **Grading system and interpretation:**
  - A+ = 9-10 ~ 4.0 / Outstanding (10 is an absolute score and very rare - less than 5% of students receive this score.)
  - A = 8-8.9 ~ 3.5 / Very good (5-10% of students receive this score)
  - B+ = 7-7.9 ~ 3.0 / Good - (20-25% of students receive this score)
  - B = 6-6.9 ~ 2.5 / Average - (40%-50% of students receive this score)
  - C = 5-5.9 ~ 2.0 / Pass - (5%-10% of students receive this score)
  - D+ - X = <1 / Fail - (For failed courses)
- **Subjects required:** literature, mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, history, geography, civics, foreign language, technology, Information Technology (IT), physical education, military education and training
- **Graduation requirements:** Students must pass all required subjects and final examinations.
  - Four required tests:
    1. Literature
    2. Math
    3. Foreign language: English, French, German, Chinese, Japanese, or Russian
    4. Natural sciences (a combination of physics, chemistry, and biology) or social sciences (a combination of history, geography, and civic education). Students can take both; the higher score will be evaluated.

Note: From academic year 2020/21, students who have completed their high school studies and do not wish to take their high school graduation exam, or do not pass their high school graduation exam, will now receive a Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education (Giấy Chứng nhận Hoàn thành Chương trình Giáo dục Phổ thông).

- **Name of school leaving exams:** High school graduation exam (Kỳ thi tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ Thông)
- **Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion:** Bằng Tốt nghiệp Trung học Phổ Thông
- **How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree:** School records (a high school diploma or a Certificate of Completion of Secondary Education)
- **Standardized admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:** TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, Duolingo English Test, SAT, ACT, GRE, and GMAT
- **Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** TOEFL iBT Total Score: 88

Structure of University System

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 years; 5 years for some engineering programs; 4-6 years for medicine
- **Language of instruction in universities:** Vietnamese
- **Years of required English instruction in universities:** Required B1 according to Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, or equivalent standardized test score such as TOEIC or IELTS.
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Same as above. Many universities use both letter and numerical grading.

Vietnam



- **Degrees offered:** Associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** (*Source: MoET)*
  - Business, management
  - Computer and information technology
  - Humanities
  - Technology, engineering
  - Social and behavioral science
  - Education and teacher training
  - Health
  - Tourism and hospitality
- **Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020):** GRE**:** VR: 148.9 / QR: 159.6 / AW: 3.5
- **Study Abroad:** Japan, United States, Australia, Canada, China, and the United Kingdom

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Organization: Ministry of Education and Training (MOET)
  Website: http://www.moet.gov.vn
  Telephone: (84-24) 38695144
  Email: bogddt@moet.gov.vn

- Organization: International Cooperation Department (ICD, MOET)
  Website: https://en.moet.gov.vn/about/chuc-nang-nhiem-vu/Pages/default.aspx?ItemID=2080
  Telephone: (84-24) 38694883
  Email: info@vied.vn

EducationUSA advising centers in Vietnam: Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City


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