



Education  
USA

Let's Get Started...

Applying for Undergraduate Study

## 9 to 18 MONTHS PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT

- Obtain a valid [passport](#)
- Determine your top priorities
  - Use the [EducationUSA website](#) to begin your search
  - Complete an EducationUSA Pre-Advising Survey
  - Create a budget
    - [What to consider?](#) Utilize a college cost [calculator](#)
  - Research and narrow your choices
    - [CollegeBoard](#) Big Future College Search
    - Universities with cross-border [tuition agreements](#) for Canadians
    - Attend an [education fair](#) near you
    - Explore college websites and take virtual campus tours
    - Read the [Study South of the Border](#) blog by EducationUSA Canada
  - Schedule on campus tours (if possible)
- Schedule a virtual 1:1 advising appointment with an EducationUSA Advisor
- Follow EducationUSA Canada on social media
  - Attend EducationUSA [Webinars](#)
  - Follow EducationUSA on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)
  - Subscribe to our [newsletter](#)
- Work with your guidance counselor to ensure prerequisite requirements are met
- Prepare for a standardized test
  - Decide what tests to take ([SAT](#), [SAT Subject Tests](#), [ACT](#), [TOEFL](#), or [IELTS](#))
  - Decide how to study
    - Take practice tests
    - Purchase a test prep book
    - Sign-up for free online resources (like [Khan Academy](#))
    - Purchase online resources
    - Enroll in a class
    - Hire a private tutor
  - Register for an upcoming test date

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**What is Most  
important to you?**

Cost?

Location?

Majors Offered?

Sports?

Size of School?

Research?



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## 9 to 18 MONTHS PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT

- Perfect your resume
  - Take challenging, but achievable, coursework (AP, Honors, & IB classes)
  - Build relationships with adults who can write letters of reference
  - Take on leadership roles in clubs or sports and develop work or volunteer experience
- Finance your studies
  - Identify types and sources of financial aid
    - University-provided aid: available on each university's website
    - Government of Canada [Scholarships](#)
    - Government of Canada [Loans](#)
  - Scholarship search engines ([Big Future](#), [Funding U.S. Study](#), [FastWeb](#))
  - Special scholarships ([Athletic Scholarships](#) & [Aboriginal Scholarships](#))
  - [Student loans](#)
  - [Work-study](#): Contact your university for specific details of program
  - On campus employment: International students can work up to 20 hours per week

## LESS THAN 9 MONTHS UNTIL ENROLLMENT

- Complete your application
  - Transcripts
  - Standardized test scores
  - Admissions essays
  - Letter(s) of Recommendation
  - Proof of financial support
- Review the [Study in the States](#) website
  - Learn about traveling to the United States
  - Know how to maintain your [immigration status](#)
- Prepare for your departure
  - [Student I-20](#) for border crossing
  - Housing
  - [Start packing](#)
  - Prepare for a [new culture](#)
  - Plan for your [banking](#) needs

### What should you bring with you?

Travel bag?  
Copies of documents?  
Medicine?  
US Dollars?  
Bed linens?  
Journal?