

**Want to study
in the US?
IELTS can help
get you there.**



Why choose IELTS?

IELTS is the world's most popular high stakes English language test.

IELTS scores open doors to education and employment in the US. You can be sure that an IELTS score demonstrates your true ability to communicate in English across all four language skills – listening, reading, writing and speaking. This test of real-life communication skills gives you a reliable and valid indicator of your English language abilities.

IELTS scores are currently accepted by over 6,000 organizations worldwide.

Key considerations for studying in the US

From the moment you decide to study in the US, you will be faced with numerous choices. First, take the time to ask yourself the key questions below. On the next page you will find a simple, step-by-step checklist that will help you to plan your personal journey.

What?

What do you wish to study? Have you considered all options, such as liberal arts, sciences, business, engineering, or a specific trade or technical area? Determining your major or field of study is a good way to start identifying potential institutions.

Where?

What do you expect from your choice of education institution? Have you also considered the location of the institution and what this area offers?

Size?

What is your preferred campus environment? Would you prefer an institution with tens of thousands of students, sometimes on a single campus? Or are you more content with a smaller institution that has less than 1,000 students? Choose the campus environment which feels most comfortable to you.

Cost?

What is the total annual cost for attending the institution of your choice? Have you considered all expenses including tuition, accommodation, living expenses, books and other personal fees and costs? Do you need financial assistance to study in the US and, if so, have you considered those institutions that can offer scholarships or financial aid specifically for international students?

Remember that although the choice may seem difficult, by considering each factor carefully you will reach a good decision that can have a positive impact on the next few years of your life.

IELTS™

Your Steps for Applying to Study in the US

Use this checklist to help you record completing the tasks necessary to become a student of the US University or College of your choice.

Mark the circles when you've completed each task.

- Up to 3 years before enrollment**
 - Research institutions in the USA.
The Global Recognition System (GRS) on the IELTS website, www.ielts.org, lists all the US institutions that accept the IELTS test and their score requirements; use this as a starting point to find an institution that suits you.
- 15-18 months before enrollment**
 - Maintain a good academic record at your current institution.
 - Find your nearest test center and schedule your IELTS test date.*
 - Find out if the institutions you're interested in require an admission test. Start planning to take the test(s) required by your chosen institutions.
 - Look at information about studying in the US from organizations such as Education USA.
- 12-14 months before enrollment**
 - Take the IELTS test and receive your score. If you need to improve your score, review the free tools on the IELTS website or purchase the Official IELTS Practice Materials.
 - Prepare a folder for each institution you want to apply to so that you can organize all forms, correspondence and receipts.
 - Carefully read all application materials and fulfill all requirements by their due dates. Create an application calendar to stay on track.
- 10-12 months before enrollment**
 - Complete the admission application for the institution(s) you have chosen.
 - Complete your financial aid and scholarship applications.
 - Check the visa requirements.
- 6-9 months before enrollment**
 - Having discovered which institutions have accepted you as a student, choose the institution you wish to attend and send in any necessary deposits or paperwork.
- 3 months before enrollment**
 - Ensure your visa application is progressing as required.

*IELTS scores are usually available 13 days after you take the test, so if you need to take the IELTS test closer to your expected entry date, we can make sure you have your scores in time.

Tools to Help You Succeed

- Official IELTS Practice Materials – available for purchase online at www.ielts.org or from your local test center.
- IELTS preparation courses – available at selected IELTS test centers and language schools around the world.
- Practice your everyday English skills by speaking with friends and teachers in English, watching news programs or movies in English, and by reading novels, textbooks and newspapers in English.
- Consider taking an English course if you require additional help.

Over one million people take the IELTS test each year – join them.

Next steps

Find out more at www.ielts.org or contact your nearest IELTS test center. The staff at your local test center can provide information about:

- Fees
- Test dates
- How to register
- Official IELTS Practice Materials
- IELTS preparation courses

A full list of IELTS centers worldwide is available at www.ielts.org

IELTS is jointly managed by British Council, IDP: IELTS Australia and University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL).