



EDUCATION SYSTEM IN USA

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Annotation: The aim of the article is to analyze the system of Education in the USA. It reviews the kinds of educational institutions and types of education, which they provide. The system of education in the United States of America is made up of two levels or stages. The first level is undergraduate education and when students complete it they usually become Bachelors of Art or Bachelors of Science. The article describes the system of funding of the USA higher education. The educational institutions can be categorized into public, private and for-profit schools. Private and for-profit colleges and universities are the most expensive schools. Students pay for tuition, room and board with their own money. There is a system of educational loans, scholarships and grants which you can take or receive if you do not have enough of your own finance. Americans are willing to pay for the education of their children as well as their own. It has to do with their belief that education will enable them to achieve success and financial stability. Many Americans follow the lifelong learning for professional growth, new knowledge and skills.

Key words: variation of the school, curriculum, guidelines, numerous sports, cultural cub, Professional skills.

Many international students, who visit America for the first time and attend a school there, wonder about the prior education of their classmates. As there are many variations of the school system from state to state, the education system seems to be a bit confusing. Additionally, the structures and procedures at American universities differ from other systems, such as the German one.

This essay will give you a brief overview of the U.S. education system, including important Acts as the "No Child Left Behind" Act and funding as well as admission to Universities. To begin, I would like to present the American school system, and later on the "No Child Left Behind Act".

The United States has no country-level education system or curriculum. Each of all fifty states has its own Department of Education, where the guidelines for the schools in this particular state are set. So the federal government does not control any schools within the US at all. Public schools and universities receive funding by the local state, which decides what percentage of e.g. the local property taxes go to the





universities. Pupils in grade one to twelve do not pay tuition fees, in contrast to the students of colleges and universities.

The US education system consists of 12 years of elementary and secondary education before students can advance to post-secondary education.

In the US, the school calendar begins in August or September and continues through to May or June. The majority of students begin school in autumn. The academic year is composed of three terms also known as semesters. The first semester is from September to December followed by a short holiday break between semesters. The second semester is from January to May. The last semester is a summer holiday break. Post-secondary students can be on summer break from June to August.

Elementary and Secondary (K-12) Education

Elementary and secondary school is similar across the US. However, there are minor variations from state to state. Elementary and secondary education is divided into:

Elementary School: Runs for 6-7 years starting in Kindergarten through to Grade 5 or 6 Middle School: Runs for 2-3 years starting in Grade 6 or 7 through to Grade 8 High School: Runs for 4 years starting in Grade 9 through to Grade 12

Once a student has completed Grade 12, they will receive a high school diploma. Students must complete secondary school (high school) to qualify for post-secondary education. Public education in the US is generally free, however, students may come across some fees including field trips, uniforms, books, etc.

US educational institutions occupy leading positions in all major rankings. Immediately 34 US universities entered the top 150 best universities in the world. The USA provides 50% or more discounts on tuition. If students have achievements in sports, the US is also happy to provide large scholarships and grants.

The infrastructure of the campuses makes not only study, but also leisure full-fledged: numerous sports, cultural clubs, interest centers, volunteer and other organizations make student life exciting and unforgettable!

Students of American universities are given the opportunity to choose their own courses, and classes are held in the form of a discussion with the opportunity to express their opinions. In America, there are a large number of student exchange programs that allow students to study in another country for one semester and get an unforgettable experience. A large number of intra-university activities allow students of American universities to develop social and professional skills.

During the training, there is the possibility of legal earnings on the university campus, getting practice and recommendations from specialists, which can be a big plus for employment. Also, the direct and close ties of most US universities and colleges with employers opens up opportunities for free and paid internships during study and employment after graduation.



Formal education in the U.S. is divided into a number of distinct educational stages. Most children enter the public education system around the ages of five or six. Children are assigned into year groups known as grades.

The American school year traditionally begins at the end of August or early in September, after a summer vacation or break. Children customarily advance together from one grade to the next as a single cohort or "class" upon reaching the end of each school year in late May or early June.

Depending upon their circumstances, children may begin school in prekindergarten, kindergarten, or first grade. Students normally attend 12 grades of study over 12 calendar years of primary/elementary and secondary education before graduating and earning a diploma that makes them eligible for admission to higher education. Education is mandatory until age 16 (18 in some states).

In the U.S., ordinal numbers (e.g., first grade) are used for identifying grades. Typical ages and grade groupings in contemporary, public, and private schools may be found through the U.S. Department of Education. Generally, there are three stages: elementary school (grades K/1-2/3/4/5/6), intermediate school (3/4-5/6), middle school / junior high school (grades 5/6/7-8/9), and high school / senior high school (grades 9/10-12).

There is considerable variability in the exact arrangement of grades, as the following table indicates. Note that many people may not choose to attain higher education immediately after high school graduation, so the age of completing each level of education may vary. The table below shows the traditional education path of a student completing an undergraduate degree immediately after high school.

The United States is one of the very few developed countries where corporal punishment is officially permitted and practiced in its public schools. Although the practice has been banned in an increasing number of states beginning in the 1970s, in 2023, only 31 out of 50 states have this ban and the remaining 19 states do not. The punishment virtually always consists of spanking the buttocks of a student with a paddle in a punishment known as "paddling." Students can be physically punished from kindergarten to the end of high school, meaning that even adults who have reached the age of majority are sometimes spanked by school officials. Although uncommon relative to the overall U.S. student population, more than 167,000 students were paddled in the 2011–2012 school year in American public schools. Virtually all paddling in public schools occurs in the Southern United States, however, with 70% of paddled students living in just five states: Mississippi, Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, and Georgia. The practice has been on a steady decline in American schools.

As the number of international students in the US has escalated dramatically over the years, students can find high diversity in the courses offered by the US education system. Each state follows a different curriculum of courses creating students of



varying standards of education. This creates a gap in the education and breaches the knowledge of the student in general. This leads to certain universities becoming more favored by employers and thus raising the inequality in the workforce.

One of the major setbacks of US education is the cost as the high standards of quality education comes with a freight. The US education fees are among the highest in the world, reaching up to \$50 000 per year. One paper shows the undergraduate tuition and living expenses in MIT:

Nine months' tuition for 2014–2015 is \$43,720. In addition, undergraduate room and board is approximately \$13,224 depending on the student's housing and dining arrangements. Books and personal expenses are about \$2,790.

In addition, due to the immigration status of the international students, the possibilities for student loans are limited. So, if you are looking for an abroad education loan, connect with our team at We Make Scholars. The financial team of We Make Scholars alone has sanctioned close to 10,000+ abroad education loan applications as these statistics tell you that our team's knowledge about the entire abroad education loan process from the beginning to the end. The team of We Make Scholars continuously strives to get their students the best education loan lender to fund their study abroad.

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