
Overseas Schools Program

**US Department of State &
The College Board**

Spring 2023



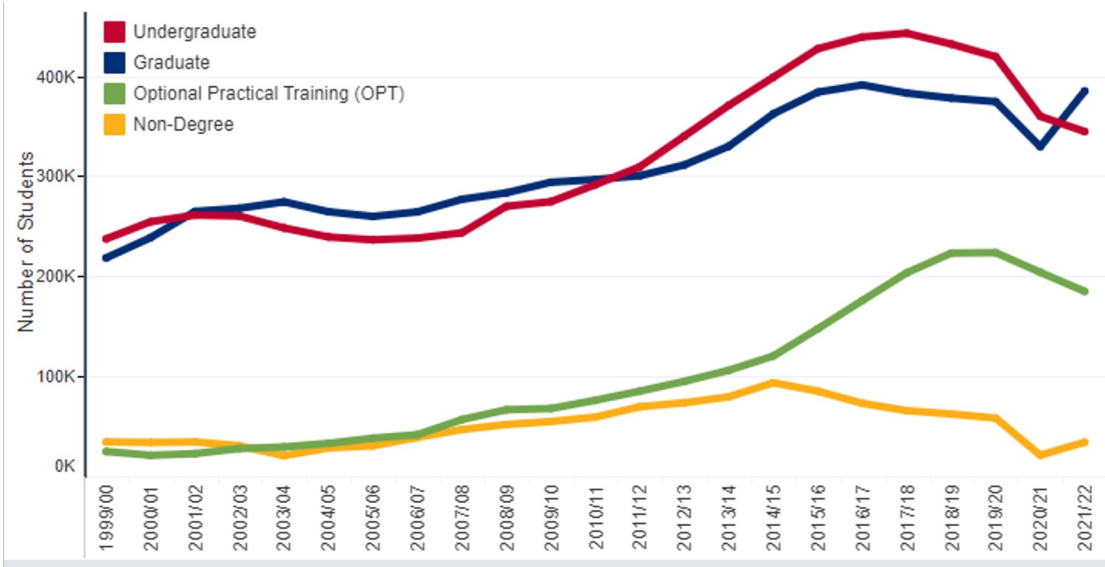
 CollegeBoard

Navigating the US Colleges and Universities Admissions Process

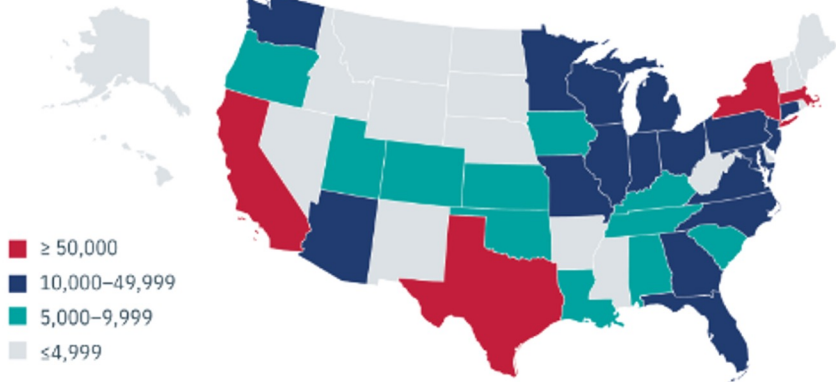
Benjamin Toll
Dean of Undergraduate Admissions
The George Washington University
btoll@gwu.edu



International Student Trends



U.S. STATES HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, 2021/22



1 out of 4 international students studied at an institution in California or New York.

Begin Your Search

- **Make a list of what you are looking for**
 - Find 5-15 schools that interest you
 - Make sure the list has variety. A balanced list reduces stress through the process
 - Be open-minded
 - Understand that your list might change
- **Do your research**
 - Use all available resources
 - No need to pay for information
 - Always be aware of the source
 - Actively participate

Considering an Academic Program

- The majority of students enter U.S. colleges and universities: UNDECIDED
- Select a major based on passion, not as part of an admissions strategy
- You can change your mind at most schools, but research limitations on mobility at institutions that admit directly to schools or colleges
- Be sure to evaluate core curricula and graduation requirements
- At most institutions your major will constitute less than 50% of the coursework you complete

How to Apply

- Be familiar with deadlines
- Be familiar with consideration types
 - Early Action (+Restricted)
 - Early Decision
 - Regular
 - Rolling



International or Domestic?

- There is often confusion about who is considered an international versus a domestic student
- Any student holding US citizenship or Green Card will be considered a domestic student, even if they hold other citizenships
- Domestic students will qualify for US federal student aid programs (more on that later)
- International students will have additional requirements in order to ensure an institution can support them through the F-1 visa process
- At most institutions, international and domestic students at the same high school are “read” together

Residency at State Universities

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- Most states have established residency requirements
 - Requirements vary from state-to-state
 - Generally speaking, student has one parent who is a full-time resident in state for one year before matriculating
 - Requirements for independent students also vary
 - Proof of residency varies from state-to-state
 - Decisions usually made by Office of the Registrar
 - Residency could have impact on admissibility

Percent of In-State Freshmen, 2020

Texas Tech University	92%
University of Texas at Austin	90%
University of Georgia	86%
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill	84%
Rutgers University – New Brunswick	84%
University of California – Los Angeles	75%
University of California – Berkeley	74%
University of Maryland – College Park	74%
Ohio State University – Main Campus	71%
University of Washington	64%
The Pennsylvania State University	63%
Georgia Institute of Technology	54%
University of Wisconsin – Madison	52%
University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	51%
Purdue University – Main Campus	50%
North Dakota State University	35%

Source: IPEDS

Inside the Admissions Committee

- Application indicators
 - Transcript
 - Courses and Grades
 - School Profile
- Standardized Testing
 - SAT/ACT/TOEFL
 - Test optional
- Activities
 - Passion
 - Leadership
- Personal Statement
 - YOUR voice
 - Answer the question
- References
 - Teachers and counselors

Inside the Admissions Committee

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- **An admissions office is likely the most quantitatively measured office on a college campus.**
 - **For example, in any given year I have at least 27 different headcount goals that we're trying to accomplish with each entering class.**
 - **A Dean of Admissions is like a football coach building a team from scratch this year. They want to select the best players, but also need to make sure each of the positions is covered**

Your Application Is A Portfolio

- As humans we love to focus on the things that we cannot control
- Focus instead on what you can control and on building a balanced list
- The most valuable skill in the college search is self-reflection
- The second most valuable skill in the college search is transparency within your family. The student should drive this process, but parents are invested partners.

Admissions is a Rapidly Changing Landscape and COVID-19 Accelerated These Changes

College/University	2019	2005	1992
Amherst College	10.8%	18%	N/A
Brown University	6.6%	16%	23%
Cornell University	10%	31%	30.6%
Dartmouth College	7.9%	23%	26%
Duke University	7.4%	23%	29%
Georgetown University	14%	23%	35%
Harvard University	4.5%	11%	16%
Middlebury College	15.8%	23%	31%
University of Pennsylvania	7.4%	29%	39%
Vanderbilt University	7.3%	38%	58%

Let's talk about testing

C9 Percent and number of first-time, first-year (freshman) students enrolled in Fall 2021 who submitted national standardized (SAT/ACT) test scores.

- Include information for **ALL enrolled, degree-seeking, first-time, first-year (freshman) students who submitted test scores.**
- Do not include partial test scores (e.g., mathematics scores but not critical reading for a category of students) or combine other standardized test results (such as TOEFL) in this item.
- Do not convert SAT scores to ACT scores and vice versa.
- If a student submitted multiple sets of scores for a single test, report this information according to how you use the data. For example:
 - If you consider the highest scores from either submission, use the highest combination of scores
 - If you average the scores, use the average to report the scores.

	Percent	Number
Submitting SAT Scores	64%	1007
Submitting ACT Scores	38%	609

For each assessment listed below, report the score that represents the 25th percentile (the score that 25 percent of the freshman population scored at or below) and the 75th percentile score (the score that 25 percent scored at or above).

Assessment	25th Percentile	75th Percentile
SAT Composite	1,380	1,530
SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	700	770
SAT Math	710	780
ACT Composite	32	35
ACT Math	30	35
ACT English	34	36
ACT Writing		

Percent of first-time, first-year (freshman) students with scores in each range:

Score Range	SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	SAT Math
700-800	78.25%	77.76%
600-699	18.77%	17.37%
500-599	2.68%	4.17%
400-499	0.30%	0.50%
300-399	0.00%	0.00%
200-299	0.00%	0.00%
Totals should = 100%	100.00%	99.79%

Remember the term, “Common Data Set”

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- Do not convert SAT scores to ACT scores and vice versa.
- If a student submitted multiple sets of scores for a single test, report this information according to how you use the data. For example:
 - If you consider the highest scores from either submission, use the highest combination of scores (e.g., verbal from one submission, math from the other).
 - If you average the scores, use the average to report the scores.

	Percent	Number
Submitting SAT Scores	25%	403
Submitting ACT Scores	32%	527

For each assessment listed below, report the score that represents the 25th percentile (the score that 25 percent of the freshman population scored at or below) and the 75th percentile score (the score that 25 percent scored at or above).

Assessment	25th Percentile	75th Percentile
SAT Composite	1480	1570
SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	720	770
SAT Math	760	800
ACT Composite	34	35
ACT Math	31	35
ACT English	34	36
ACT Writing		

Percent of first-time, first-year (freshman) students with scores in each range:

Score Range	SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	SAT Math
700-800	88.4%	94.8%
600-699	10.4%	4.0%
500-599	1.2%	1.2%
400-499	0.0%	0.0%
300-399	0.0%	0.0%
200-299	0.0%	0.0%
Totals should = 100%	100.0%	100.0%

Let's Talk About Demonstrated Interest

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- **Demonstrated Interest is an assessment some institutions make in how interested a particular applicant is in attending their institution. This can be then used as a selection criteria alongside other aspects of the application.**
 - **There is no standard approach to this. You should feel empowered to ask an institution if they utilize demonstrated interest and how they measure it.**
 - **Examples: interviews, campus visits, interaction with admissions staff, email interaction, website hits, early decision**

Let's Talk About Early Decision

Candid conversations need to occur about the advantages and disadvantages of applying Early Decision

Total first-time, first-year (degree-seeking) who applied	15163
Total first-time, first-year (degree-seeking) who were admitted	5607
Total first-time, first-year (degree-seeking) who enrolled	1511

For the Fall 2022 entering class:

Number of early decision applications received by your institution	1303
Number of applicants admitted under early decision plan	860
Please provide significant details about your early decision plan:	

Waitlist and/or alternative entry programs

- What does it mean?
- How will a college make decisions?
- What is expected of me?
- How can I advocate for myself?
- What are my chances?
- When will I find out?
- Spring start or overseas start?

WAITING LIST	TOTAL	
Number of qualified applicants offered a place on waiting list:	13,095	
Number accepting a place on the waiting list:	4,643	
Number of wait-listed students admitted:	13	
	Yes	No
Is your waiting list ranked?		X
If yes, do you release that information to students?		
Do you release that information to school counselors?		

WAITING LIST	TOTAL
Number of qualified applicants offered a place on waiting list:	11494
Number accepting a place on the waiting list:	4992
Number of wait-listed students admitted:	364

Financial Aid

- Types of aid: merit and need
- Some schools are moving away from merit aid to prioritize need based aid
- International students may qualify for financial aid depending on the institution
- Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): www.fafsa.ed.gov
 - complete after October 1st*****
 - Must be a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-U.S. Citizen (ex. Green Card, special visa)
- CSS Profile is used by many schools and is the primary need-based aid tool institutions will use for international student need based aid, <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>
- Be aware of admission deadlines as they could also coincide with merit scholarship deadlines

Financial Aid



- COA - Cost of Attendance
- EFC - Expected Family Contribution

Financial Aid

- Gift Aid
 - Grants and/or scholarships that you do not need to pay back
- Self-Help Aid
 - Work-Study
 - Loans

Other Take-Aways

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- Admission Offices exist to help answer your questions
 - Each college or university is different – always ask questions
 - Consideration for institutional merit aid sometimes tied to admission application
 - When considering the cost of an institution, do not just focus on the “sticker price”
 - May 1st is the national confirmation date