USA

ADMISSION DEADLINES: ALWAYS CHECK DEADLINES AS THERE ARE MANY VARIATIONS FOR US UNIS

- **Rolling** – the sooner you apply, the sooner your file is evaluated
- **Early Decision** – A **binding** application in which you are obligated to attend if you gain admission **(Usually takes place between October 15th- November 1st)**
- **Early Action** – An early application which is not binding **(Usually takes place between October 15th- November 1st)**
- **Regular Decision** – The most utilized type of application. Generally, these take place **between January 1st- 15th, though they can be as early as November 15th in some instances (California State Unis are Nov)**

CHECKLIST BEFORE APPLYING: Degrees in law and medicine are not offered at the undergraduate level in the US. Instead, they are completed as professional study after receiving a bachelor's degree.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS INTENDED AS A GUIDE TO SUPPORT UNIVERSITY SEARCHING, INFORMATION CAN CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME

Question	Check / Research	Y/N
What do I know about studying in the US and why am I choosing to study there?	Explore what it´s like to live and study in states across the US (https://2016.export.gov/industry/education/eg_main_022048.asp) USA State Guides (https://www.internationalstudent.com/study_usa/state_guides/) www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice	
Am I applying to Public and/or Private universities or Junior (Associate) College?	www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice/choosing/type-of-university	
University and Course searching (have you reviewed the course content, including major and minor course options?)	• Study Guide by Subject https://www.internationalstudent.com/study-centers/subject-guide/ • College Ranking (these are 2 resources but don´t search based solely on ranking) https://www.niche.com/colleges/rankings/ https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/rankings#more-college-lists • College Search www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org or www.unifrog.org https://www.princetonreview.com/college-search	
What is the deadline for my application?	• University website (always check, don´t rely on a search engine platform for these key dates) • Information to understand the difference between Early Action and Early Decision www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice/applying/types-of-admission	
What are the academic entry requirements? Where a university states ´optional´ for a test it is advisable to take it. Universities will often quote GPA (Grade point average) which the UK system does not use however you can use this calculator to check equivalency.	University website – **MAKE SURE YOU CHECK INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PAGE** • **SAT / ACT Test** – not all Universities will require this, check a list of universities that don´t require the standardised test **www.fairtest.org** and https://www.compassprep.com/subject-test-requirements-and-recommendations/ • Do I need to take SAT Subject tests? Do I need to complete the essay in the SAT or ACT Test? • Check the IB and A Level requirements if specified.	

https://www.scholaro.com/gpa-calculator/	• Can I obtain credits for my IB and A Level results (this could mean 3 years of study instead of 4) – search on uni website for Credit awarded • Art/Drama - Portfolio or audition requirements?	
Do I meet the English requirements? Do not make assumptions on this requirement and check when you need to send certificates to meet this requirement.	Is English First Language or Second, IB accepted or am I exempt as I have studied in UK Curriculum for last 2-4 years? *If you do not meet the requirements consider taking tests in either IELTS, TOEFL, CAE or Duolingo (check unis. requirements as they vary)*	
Question (cont.)	**Check / Research**	**Y/N**
Have you checked with your parents (or whomever is supporting you financially) that the tuition fees and living costs are affordable? *To get a visa, you need to prove you have access to funding for the first year of study.*	Check tuition fees and living costs for each university on their website also https://www.bigjeducationalconsulting.com/resources Information about financing your study www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice/funding Financial Aid for International students: https://educationusa.state.gov/find-financial-aid	
Are there any scholarship options I could consider?	Each university will list their scholarship opportunities on their website, you can also review additional external scholarship options www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice/funding/university-funding	
Sport Scholarships?	www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice/funding/sports-scholarships	
Which standardized test should I take and how do I prepare?	Complete a practice paper for both the SAT and ACT to decide which test format you prefer. Great guide to get you started- https://www.compassprep.com/compass-guide/ **Prep tools listed at the bottom of the page.**	
Book your SAT or ACT test! (for SAT subject tests, please note you have to book a separate date for your SAT and SAT subject tests) Most students sit SAT - Yr12 March/May and October (subject test in June)	It is recommended to book early so you can register to sit the test 2-3 times as many universities allow a superscore (combined highest score across the tests). **There is limited availability for international test dates and capacity so you must book early.** Allow 40mins to set up your registration. **SAT booking** (3 test centres in Barcelona) **https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/register** **ACT online booking** (check for test centres) **www.act.org/**	
Am I planning to visit the Universities?	Book open day visits or as a minimum sign up to those universities offering webinar introduction sessions. Or look at online virtual tours at universities or 600 tours available below- https://www.youvisit.com/collegesearch/	
What support is there for finding accommodation / or options offered?	University website	
What are the visa requirements and health plans?	https://www.internationalstudent.com/immigration/f1-student-visa/ www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/pre-departure https://www.edupass.org/immigrating-to-the-usa/	

SAT practice papers www.khanacademy.org/sat
ACT practice papers www.kaptest.com
https://blog.prepscholar.com/complete-official-sat-practice-tests-free-links

1. *ACT and SAT Official study guide book https://www.amazon.es/Official-SAT-Study-Guide-2020/dp/1457312190 https://www.amazon.es/s?k=act+prep&__mk_es_ES=%C3%85M%C3%85%C5%BD%C3%95%C3%91&ref=nb_sb_noss_2*
2. *College Board SAT Study guidance https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/inside-the-test/study-guide-students*
3. *SupertutorTV channel on Youtube for SAT and ACT Prep https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rcnUtURjWFA*

READY TO APPLY - DOCUMENTS REQUIRED: There are no restrictions on the number of courses a student can apply for however some unis put a restriction on Early Action applications ie: Harvard, Yale won't allow you to apply to another university through Early Action. It is not advisable to apply to more than 8-10 due to the application paperwork required for each. These are the main documents required but be sure to check if any additional requirements. Ie Portfolios

Document	From where	Y/N
Predicted Grades	Your subject teacher will list your predicted grade by subject on your Unifrog account (activity usually completed by end of Sept/Oct)	
Transcript (of your school grades for the last 4 years)	Please request from Consol Fernandez a Transcript document to include: - *IGCSE/GCSE grades* - *AS grades (as relevant)* - *or IB end of Yr12 grades* - *EPQ (if taken)* ***(If you did not attend BSB in Y10-11 we will only provide your grades for Y12 and you will need to contact your previous school for a transcript for Y10-11)*** ***10 days notice required***	
Certificates	You will need to have your original GCSE/IGCSE (or previous education equivalent) and A/S Level certificates ready to scan and upload. *(if you do not have ask Consol Fernández. You will need to request from your old school if you attended elsewhere for Y10/Y11- check if translation/credential check is required on the university admissions page)* ***10 days notice required***	
SAT/ACT Scores (as relevant)	You can choose up to 4 universities (free service) to have your test scores sent within 10 days of the test. There is an additional fee to pay for more than 4. If you want to superscore you may decide to wait to see which test score to send (you maybe charged additional fee).	
Proof of English Language Proficiency	Depending on requirements - IGCSE/GCSE certificate / IELTS / TOEFL/Duolingo (some unis) score or certificate as per university requirements	
College Essays (can be up to 3 essays per university application)	• 1 essay to be completed for your Common App application (you choose 1 from the list of 7 topics below, approx. 500 words). https://www.commonapp.org/whats-appening/application-updates/2019-2020-common-app-essay-prompts • Universities may ask for an additional 1-2 essays on topics they set. www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-usa/undergraduate/educationusa-advice/applying/essays	
School Profile	This will be uploaded via Common App by Mrs Burns.	
2 letters of Recommendation	Usually 1-2 from relevant subject teachers and 1 from college counsellor (Mrs Burns). Please email Mrs Burns the teachers you are choosing (these are more in depth references required for US unis) – ***10 days notice required***	
(sometimes required) **Financial information**	Parents will need to provide verification with the online application of income or evidence of sufficient funds to pay tuition, and /or if for financial aid. https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/international-applicants	

APPLICATION: Check instructions of how to apply on the University website. For over 600 universities you set up an account and apply through Commonapp www.commonapp.org/; some universities you can apply direct.

1. **Apply online through Commonapp** app.commonapp.org/createaccount
2. Follow the instructions and select Mrs Burns as a College Counsellor

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT: You will receive notification emails both from Commonapp and the University direct. **PLEASE ENSURE YOU READ ALL YOUR EMAILS AS THERE ARE IMPORTANT ACTIONS TO FOLLOW UP – it can be related to missing documents, admission test requirements or online interview req´d.**
2. You will then receive advice if you have been successfully offered a conditional enrolment/place.