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DUKHAN ENGLISH SCHOOL



# GLOBAL UNIVERSITY OPTIONS



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## OUTLINE &

# OVERVIEW

- Country Specific Information
- General Application Information
- Useful Websites
- Scholarship Links

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## AN IMPORTANT CHOICE

The university we attend, and the education we subsequently receive there, can be one of the most important determinants in gaining initial employment, the careers we go on to have and the specialisms we take on. Gainful employment and education at the highest level have an integral impact on the standard of living we have, and the quality of the interactions we have with those around us. As a result, where our children go to university is one of the biggest decisions they and we will make in their formative years.

With such an international student body, DES see a number of students travelling to destinations which will class them as 'International students'; this comes with its own challenges, concerns and benefits. This document is intended to supplement the search for the perfect university for your child.

Some of the overarching concerns this document hopes to address are;

- Entrance requirements
- Cost
- Subject/Degree choice

Each can be as important as the other and, when seeking the education we desire for our children, must all be taken into account.

## PREREQUISITES

General subject and grade requirements for degrees

## UNIVERSITY PORTALS

Links to, and information on, the main pages for university applications and information

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Links to possible funding and scholarships opportunities

## FEES

Average fees for popular degrees (fees quoted per year)

## Prerequisites

Many Australian universities will offer guaranteed entry scores, so obtaining a BBB grade outcome, will ensure a place on a course for example. The number one university in Australia, University of Melbourne, for example, offers guaranteed offers of BCC for Arts, BCC for natural sciences and AAB for Biomedicine.

### Medicine

Combined score of 12-15 for 3 GCEs (BBB-AAA) are normally the required outcomes for competitive institutions. There is more freedom on the subject prerequisites as students will often take introductory courses in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics.

### Engineering

Competitive universities may ask for a combined score of around 11 for Engineering (BBC), with the necessary subjects (Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry).



# AUSTRALIA

Australia has a number of universities in the top 100 ranked globally. Standard of life is high, courses are well funded and resourced, and the collective level of undergraduate courses is quite evenly spread across all universities. Fees are among some of the highest, and the cost of living is also high as a result.

## Application Portals

A comprehensive university application portal for Australian universities does not exist; applicants must apply directly to their university of choice.

## Fees

Fees are generally quite high, with a median value of around \$29,000 AUD. Laboratory degrees, technical degrees can often be twice this amount.

## Scholarships and Funding

A number of academic and need-based funding channels/financial aid are available through the Australian government. The Study Australia site has a comprehensive list of those, and their requirements.

## DES Alumni

Zabin Salil (University of Sydney)

## Useful Websites

[Australian Trade and Investment page for University information](#)

[Scholarship opportunities nationwide](#)

[Visa application](#)

## Prerequisites

A full A-Level is not always required by all Canadian institutions (this includes some of the most prestigious universities), but completion will give a competitive edge. Many will accept a combination of 3 courses at AS/A-Level. Some universities will consider applications on the basis of very strong IGCSE performance.

### Medicine

In order to take a MD in Canada, students must have previously studied 3 years of an undergraduate degree before application. This undergraduate degree should be in life-sciences, biomedics, natural sciences etc.

### Engineering

Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry will normally be required. Typically grade C and above are accepted. Students may have to take AP or SAT tests where a course prerequisite has not been taken.



# CANADA

Canadian Universities are renowned for their inclusive campuses, quality of student life, the standard of education and (comparatively) competitive pricing. There are many universities, but the spread in quality amongst them is less than in many other countries.

## Application Portals

Each of the ten provinces has a dedicated application resource for universities within that region (e.g. OUAC - Ontario Universities Application Centre; Alberta - Apply Alberta; British Columbia - Apply BC). Through these portals students can apply, seek more advice and review the various universities available in that region. In addition, many universities will have their own application pages which work in collaboration with the province site, but sometimes completely adjacent to.

## Fees

Dependent on the program, university and location, fees can range from \$10,125 to \$30,000

## Scholarships and Funding

A number of universities offer partial funding for undergraduate courses. York university, the University of British Columbia and Carleton University offer substantial grants for students with exemplary academic records.

## DES Alumni

Harsha Thomas (University of Calgary)

## Useful Websites

[Universities Canada](#) - Canadian Universities representative body

[Universitystudy.ca](#) - Searchable database of universities throughout Canada

[applyalberta.ca;ouac.on.ca](#) (Ontario); [apply.educationplannerbc.ca/](#) (British Columbia) - Province application pages

[Undergraduate scholarships for international students](#)

## Prerequisites

Full A-Levels must be presented for application to a German university; the German government sees a broad range of full A-Levels as equivalent to the German Abitur (High school graduating certificates). There should be 3 A-Levels presented and, in some cases, a fourth subject at AS may also be necessary. In the vast majority of cases, German universities will require students to have completed A-Level Mathematics, independent of the final degree program. This can sometimes be substituted by a natural science (Physics/Biology/Chemistry, should any of these have not been part of the original 3)

### Medicine

3 sciences plus Mathematics, with grades C/B and above.

### Engineering

As above, with the exception of Biology.



# GERMANY

Universities can be categorised into 3 broad types; Universities, which are research orientated and concentrated on theoretical investigation and methodological expertise; Universities of Applied Science concentrate on the application of professional understanding and scientific knowledge, and are geared towards vocational learning; Colleges of Music and Art are fully focused on creative endeavours such as art, writing, music theory and practice, and design. Tuition fees are highly competitive but the quality of education and student support is rated very high globally. Many of the most popular courses are taught fully in English, but students are supported with German language courses upon arriving at University.

## Application Portals

Uni assist ([uni-assist.de/en](http://uni-assist.de/en)) evaluates and facilitates international student applications to German universities. Their website is very user friendly, and outlines all necessary documents needed for a successful application.

## Fees

Whilst fees for international undergraduate students are either being reintroduced, or have been fully reintroduced, the average tuition fees are much lower than many other European and non-European countries. Typically, annual fees are around €4500. In addition, living costs in Germany (particularly housing and rent) tend to be lower than other European countries.

## Scholarship & Funding

Visit [DAAD.de](http://DAAD.de) to see the full extent of undergraduate scholarships available to outstanding students.

## DES Alumni

None as yet!

## Useful Websites

[Uni Assist - Central Portal for universities applications](#)

[Studying in Germany - Promotional information hub with advice on studying in Germany](#)

[DAAD Database for scholarships and funding opportunities](#)

## Prerequisites

Points are allocated for AS/A-Level courses, though points tallied generally do not comprise a combination of AS and A-Levels. Some courses may allow entry via 2 A-Levels and AS-level as well as BTEC courses. 5 IGCSEs, including English and Mathematics will be necessary for all courses.

### Medicine

Only selected universities will offer Medicine courses. Those that do will require AAA or AAB at A-Level. Chemistry/Biology will be a prerequisite, with Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics as subjects making up the remainder of admissions. All 3 sciences are not generally required for entry.

### Engineering

Many institutions will offer a combination of Engineering courses, with different emphasis and specialisms. Generally, technical subjects (including Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry) are necessary for entry. Dependent on the institution, entry requirements might range from BCC up to AAA.



# UNITED KINGDOM

UK universities rank among the very top institutions of higher learning globally. Leading institutions such as Cambridge and Oxford are world-renowned for their excellence of teaching for undergraduates, but also their huge emphasis on cutting-edge research and postgraduate studies. This standing comes at a price; for international students, only degree programs in the US compare in terms of costs, fees and living expenses.

## Application Portals

All applications for UK universities will go through UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). This can be completed independently by students, but can also take place through DES Sixth form and the university counsellors attached to UCAS (Mr Jason Clarke and MR Stait-Gardner).

## Fees

Non-laboratory or clinical degrees will generally stand at £9,250 (standard across UK universities). At the top end, Medicine, engineering, Biomedical sciences etc can range from £18,500 to £25,000

## Scholarship & Funding

A number of different scholarships are available to international students, being issued by the UK government, non-governmental agencies/charities, and from universities themselves. Unlike the US, much of this financial aid is tied to postgraduate and doctoral studies, though some undergraduate help is available.

## DES Alumni

Anjoom Faizal Ali (Plymouth University); Nakul Barathan Nair (Imperial College); Abdul-Hadi; Sharifra Rashid Al-Dosari (Portsmouth University); Hanadi Ali Al-Kubaisi (Nottingham Trent University);

## Useful Websites

[UCAS Portal for international students](#)

[Wallace Trust scholarship opportunities for Indian and Pakistani students](#)

[Visa application process](#)

[Universities Uk - Representative body for UK institutions](#)

## Prerequisites

Entry onto the majority of courses must be equivalent to the India 10+2 standard. A-Levels fulfil this criteria. Many universities will also require applicants to pass a university entrance exam to test for basic competences. For some degrees/institutions, students will also need to take the Joint Entrance Examinations (e.g. National Institutes). Students will also need to take on AS level English in either the first or second year of Sixth form.

### Medicine

A-Levels in all three sciences will be required. Mathematics is also desirable. In addition, UMS and/UPM should be at 60/70% across your A-Levels.

### Engineering

Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry/Biology/any technical subject (i.e. Computer Science) will be necessary courses to take



# INDIA

Representative of the size of the country, India houses a myriad of universities and centres for higher learning. These can be categorised into Private, Public and Central universities and Deemed universities. Known for their technical and academic rigour, some of the world's foremost change makers and technologists number amongst its alumni, including the current CEOs of Microsoft, Google and numerous blue-chip companies globally.

## Application Portals

Each university and state will have their own portals for application. For national institutions (NIT, Indian Institutes of Management etc.), students can apply through the Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) to apply for more than one institute. Application will differ dependent upon whether your son/daughter is a Non-resident Indian (NRI) or an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI).

## Fees

Fees will obviously vary, but for international students, fees range from 20,000Rup to 400,000Rup

## Scholarship & Funding

NRIs may be subject to administrative fee and tuition fee waivers upon application through DASA. Non-indian applicants who are from the British Commonwealth may also be able to have courses part funded by the Commonwealth Association of Universities

## DES Alumni

Shivani Shridhar (Manipal University); Nikil Venkatesh Neduncheliyan (PRIST University); Archit Maurya (Delhi Technological University)

## Useful Websites

[Joint Entrance Examination page \(For national institute entry\)](#)

[DASA - Indian applicants from abroad](#)

[Indian student visa](#)

## Prerequisites

Students will need to have completed a full A-Level to be accepted onto BA/BSc/BEng degrees. Should only AS-Level have been completed, many of the universities provide Pre-university or Foundation courses, which after one year, give access to the full degree programme. C grades and above at A and AS-Level are normally considered acceptable for many institutions. Generally, Malaysian universities will also ask for applicants to complete a competency-based entrance exam.

### Medicine

From A-Levels, 3 sciences generally, with grade offering ranging from BBC to AAA. International Student Admission Test (ISAT) or equivalent, will also generally need to be taken.

### Engineering

Mathematics and Chemistry/Physics are prerequisites for many Engineering courses, and grade outcomes can range from DCC to AAA.



# MALAYSIA

Malaysia has invested heavily in its tertiary education sector in recent years, and this has paid dividends both in the choice and quality it offers students. It has also worked hard to adopt a franchise system, whereby universities from the UK, Australia and beyond, have created degree programs which are often certified by the home university (e.g. Heriot-Watt, University of Nottingham, Monash University etc.), thus ensuring the quality of provision students and parents crave. The quality of life in Malaysia, and the cost of living, also compare favourably globally.

## Application Portals

There is no centralised platform for Malaysian universities, so applicants should apply directly through their university of choice.

## Fees

Dependent on the course, and university, fees range from 30,000Rg (Arts, Social Sciences), to 50,000rg (Engineering, Finance) all the way up to 110,000 (Medicine)

## Scholarship & Funding

A number of government-issued and University-based scholarships are available. Many of these are provided on a termly basis and given as rewards for maintaining good grades throughout the course.

## DES Alumni

Harsh Parab, Haris Danial Hamka ((University of Malaya); Nur Imanina Shahrulnizam (International University of Malaya-Wales); Rizal Rusydi Hamka (SEGI University)

## Useful Websites

[Malaysiauniversity.net](http://Malaysiauniversity.net) - Promotional site for Malaysia universities

Representative body of Malaysian universities and colleges

[My Aspiration](#) - DES Malaysian universities partner

## Prerequisites

Students must have a school-leaving education which is equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma. GCE/A-Levels qualify for this award, but, as with Germany, A-Level Mathematics should be included in the prerequisite courses. Grades of C and above will be considered for application. Some courses have limited intakes (Numerus fixus). This can include popular courses like Medicine, Veterinary science etc.

# HOLLAND

Dutch universities have one of the highest proportions of international students of any European nation. Universities are, like Germany, similarly categorised into 3 types; Universities (general research-based, and theoretical understanding) and Universities of Applied Sciences (Professional application and vocationally focused learning). All offer a globally well-regarded education and are generally less expensive than other European and Western hemisphere countries.

## Application Portals

Whilst studielink (studielink.nl) can be used to administer and collate applications to a number of universities, students are advised to contact individual universities for more details, as studielink does not offer the same comprehensive platform as UCAS or Common Application for example.

## Fees

Statutory tuition fees are significantly less (€2000) than Institutional fees (€6000 - €9000). If you are a non-EEA citizen, you will likely be subject to the institutional fee (with some exceptions under the Student Finance Act - WSF 2000)

## Scholarship & Funding

A number of scholarships are available for non-EEA International students these are mainly awarded via the Dutch government, through the degree issuing university.

## DES Alumni

Gabrielle Gonzalez (University College of Roosevelt);  
Abel Thomas (Technical University Delft)

## Useful Websites

[Studie Link - Central portal for University applications](#)

[Study in Holland - Promotional site with comprehensive information on studying in Holland](#)

[Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture & Science](#)

## Prerequisites

Full A-Levels at C and above will normally qualify students for Freshman study in many US universities, and can sometimes substitute for introductory courses in the freshman year (A-Levels are viewed as Advanced Placement – AP – courses under the College Board Advanced placement Program examinations). AS-Levels may also be accepted depending on how competitive entry is for the course/university. It should also be noted that American universities place a heavy emphasis on the 'whole student', and success outside of the classroom is valued just as much in student applications.

### Medicine

MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test ) – or equivalent – will generally need to be taken and passed to gain admission to a Medicine degree in the US. Students should have taken minimum AS level courses in Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics and or Physics. C grades and above at A-Level will be required.

### Engineering

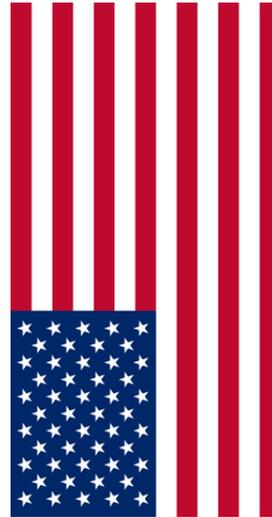
Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, C grades and above are generally accepted.

## Application Portals

Common Application is the main platform for University applications, and it will automatically collate and disseminate your applications to all selected universities. A number of universities have their own online platform through which to apply, this will be made clear on their application and admissions site. Other comprehensive application portals include the Coalition Application and Universal Application

## DES Alumni

Krishna Sridhar (NYU); Nidhi Barathan Nair (University of Pennsylvania)



# USA

The size and pre-eminence of the university sector in the United States need no introduction. It has the largest amount of top ten universities as listed by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, and universities have the largest endowments globally, allowing students to engage in bleeding edge research and world-class teaching. The variety available across such a large country also ensures that there can be entry points for many different students, with very different educational backgrounds. Fees are generally the highest in the world, this can sometimes be a marker for success in the jobs market, however.

## Scholarship & Funding

Full scholarships tend to be incredibly competitive (especially so for international students), but part funding and financial aid is widely available for many students.

## Fees

Fees can understandably vary wildly, but the general range is from \$5,000 to \$50,000. The average annual fee as of 2016 was \$25,000. International students are viewed as 'out of state' and so pay the same fees that an American student from outside of the state would. International students should look closely at the availability of financial aid and scholarship; because of the wealth of many of the top universities, these can often significantly reduce the full fees quoted here and on college websites.

## Useful Websites

[Common Application](#) - Main portal for college applications nationwide

[Coalition Application](#) - Application portal for students with financial needs/recognised protected group

[F-1 Student Visa application](#)

[Study USA - Scholarships for international students](#)

# USEFUL WEBSITES

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## **Top Universities**

Comprehensive and easy to use website providing detail on top university choices, country-by-country.

## **Time Higher Education University Rankings**

As above, but more authoritative, with various metrics describing the effectiveness of world universities (i.e. student-teacher ratio, funding levels, cost index etc.)

## **Scholars 4 Dev**

Comprehensive and easily searchable list of undergraduate funding and scholarship opportunities. Can be searched via destination, course, education level and deadline. Generally applicable for students hoping to move into a development (Economic, Political, Technological) role in their country of origin.

## **Scholarship Portal**

Promotional database, with scholarships searchable via country, degree and level of study.