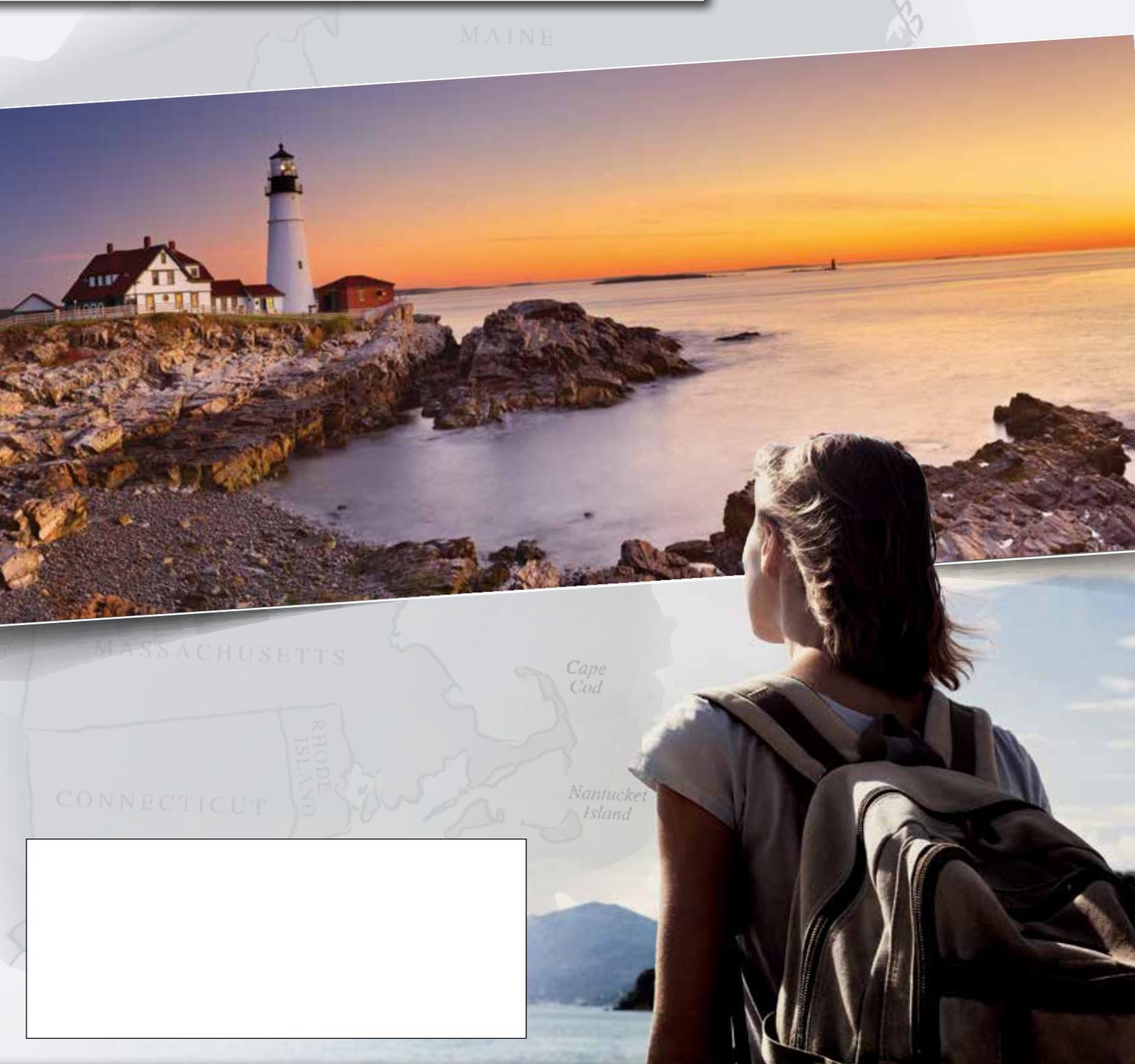


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- ★ **The small coastal town of Rockland is the Lobster Capital** of Maine and, each August, plays host to the **Maine Lobster Festival**.
- ★ **Rhode Island is the smallest U.S. state** but has the **longest name**. Little Rhody, as it is known locally, measures just **48 miles long** and **37 miles wide**, however, the state's full name is **Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**.
- ★ **Popular sports, including basketball and volleyball**, were invented in **Massachusetts**; Springfield, Massachusetts, is home to the **Basketball Hall of Fame**.
- ★ **Connecticut, New England's southernmost state**, has a **wine trail** through a collection of **25 unique vineyards**.

Source: [www.discovernewengland.org/about-new-england/new-england-quick-facts](http://www.discovernewengland.org/about-new-england/new-england-quick-facts)

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# Summer:

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By **Lindsay Moore**

It's nearing that time of year - a time when many high school students begin their quest to secure summer employment. For some this is a routine process as many government agencies, along with seasonal and local businesses will post vacancies on job boards or on school sites that invite and encourage students to apply.

For some students, however, particularly those with an interest in pursuing post secondary studies in the United States, they may opt to experience their future by enrolling in a summer program at one of the schools they're considering. For those with a little more adventure, they may opt to seek employment in a city that the school they're considering is located in. Either way, the process to apply can be more involved and quite different than doing the same here in Canada.

@GettyImages/Solovyova



*Canadian students enrolling in these programs will have the chance to experience life as an international student with others from around the world seeking a similar experience.*

Regardless of which direction the student pursues, going through the application process and securing a visa can be involved; and trying to remain compliant throughout will make this even more daunting.

**Education – Summer Programs**

Most colleges and universities that offer summer programs, or summer enrichment programs have admissions counsellors to assist the students and facilitate the application process. Summer programs generally run between May and August and will be between two weeks to three months in duration. Canadian students enrolling in these programs will have the chance to experience

life as an international student with others from around the world seeking a similar experience.

Being enrolled in a summer program offers enriching benefits to Canadians such as:

- a better comprehension of US academics
- a wide range of course options to better prepare for full time studies
- new, exciting and challenging experiences
- gaining academic transfer credits
- an opportunity to interact, engage and grow with other international students

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The options surrounding summer school or enrichment programs for Canadians in the United States are quite plentiful and often a student will research and determine their selection based on a number of factors – full time study and geographical location being two of the most likely influencers.

Let's say your student has always loved the mountains and has yet to have the chance to travel to such regions. You may recommend that they consider a program at the University of Colorado – Boulder, which is nestled in the scenic Rockies. Are they partial to beaches? Do they have a flair for the entertainment industry? A short stint in Southern California might be just what they need to make that final decision while experiencing life on one of the country's most renowned beaches! Considering a career in Marine or Environmental Sciences? Florida's universities offer a variety of related summer programs for students to study while residing in surroundings they may one day be working in.

Remind them that regardless of the study destination, the summer courses are much shorter and the classes tend to more intense and condensed. In most situations, the content will be similar, but the lectures may be longer. So whether students select a course that aligns with their path of future study or simply one they select for fun and an experience, there is always a benefit to learning something.



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Canadian citizens do not need visas to study or participate in an exchange program in the U.S. However, Canadian students do need to obtain an I-20 (or DS-2019) Certificate of Eligibility from the university, school or exchange program they plan to attend. Upon receipt of the I-20 (or DS-2019), the student will be registered with SEVIS, the student tracking system, will be assigned a SEVIS number, and will be required to pay a registration fee. When crossing the border to begin their study or exchange program in the United States, the student will need to provide the Officer at the port of entry:

1. A Canadian passport;
2. The original I-20 (or DS-2019) certificate;
3. Proof that the SEVIS fee has been paid;
4. Proof of ability to pay school fees and living expenses in the United States; and
5. Proof of ties to Canada.

## Summer Work Programs

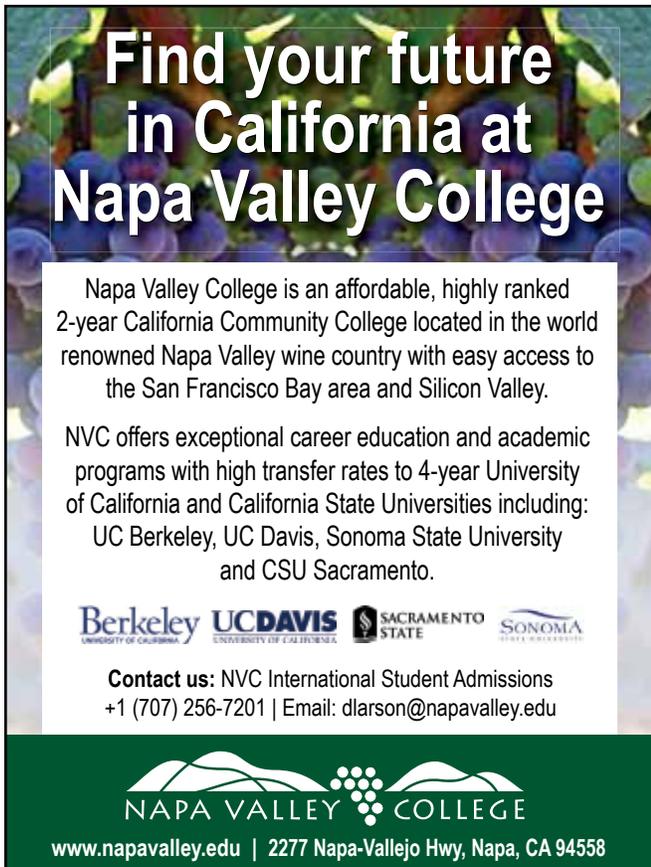
Snagging a summer job in the United States lends students yet another way to experience what life in our neighbouring country would offer, if only for a short time. Being immersed in real-time, day-to-day life, in a culture that appears the same from the outside, can offer a very different perspective.

To make these opportunities more accessible to students considering the challenge, there are a number of different programs in which they can take advantage of.

**Go International** offers a Summer Camp Counsellor Program; a placement program that lets students work as a counsellor in one of the best camps in the USA, along side other international students.

Finding a summer job and securing the necessary visa and/or documentation, while preparing for travel can be complex and cause an undue amount of stress. One agency – **CIEE** – works with individuals to look after the details for them, alleviating the stress. They work with a number of representatives and facilitate the recruitment, interview and hiring processes to ensure students and employers are the right fit.

There are several exchange programs which offer another path for Canadian [international] students to access summer / seasonal



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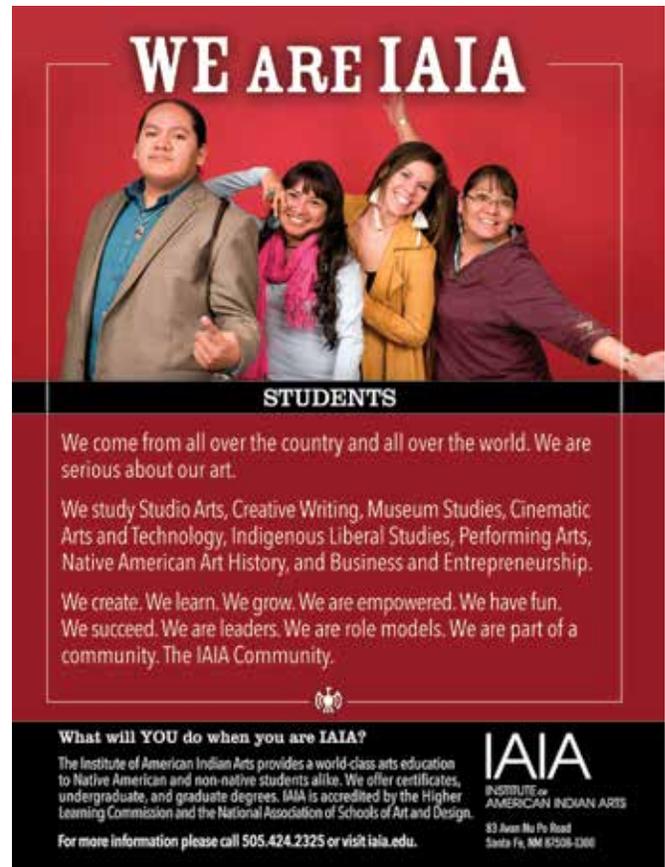
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employment. The Department of State – United States of America, offers a **Summer Work Travel** program for students pursuing an undergraduate degree. Those students located outside the U.S. can reside in the U.S. during the summer to share their culture through temporary work and travel opportunities. The dates for this program are scheduled by country and all the details and information are available on the website.

**SWAP Working Holidays** is a not-for-profit organization that specifically caters to Canadians. For more than 40 years, SWAP has provided students (youth now up to the age of 35) the chance to experience cultures abroad through working holidays.

SWAP provides a wide range of programs, for young Canadians who want traditional working holiday programs, but also assist for those seek teach abroad positions, volunteer abroad adventures, and hard-to-acquire work in the US visas.

Most agencies that facilitate exchange programs, offer ongoing, personal contact from the pre-travel stages, along with continued available personal support through the travel program, making for a more comfortable, confident and rewarding experience for the student. The benefits the students receive through working, volunteering and living in their select destination allows them to gain new skills, and friends. **CB**



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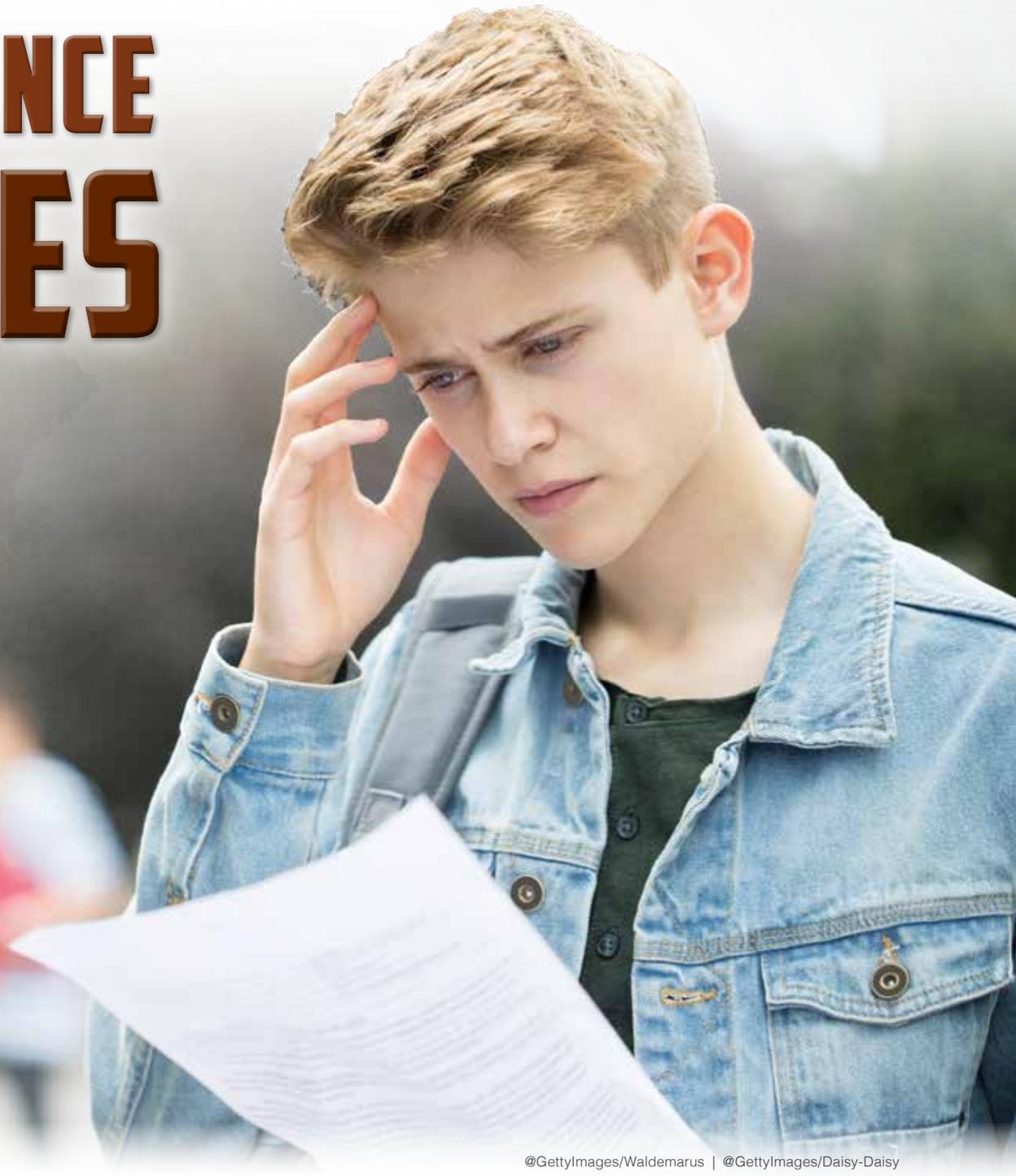
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# CHANGES TO THE UNLAWFUL POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES



For international students and exchange visitors in the United States, things changed dramatically, if quietly, on August 9, 2018. On that date, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) published guidance that swiftly altered how “unlawful presence”—being in the country without legal status—can now be calculated.

# PRESENCE STATES



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Students and others in F, J, or M non-immigrant status and their dependents can now begin accruing unlawful presence the day after their education or exchange programs end—potentially barring them from readmission to the U.S. for 10 years.

## **The End of Flexibility**

Historically, non-immigrant students and exchange visitors have been admitted as D/S, or duration of status, which provided flexibility for this group of visitors. D/S allowed international students and exchange visitors to complete their studies and remain in the country legally as long as the student continued to qualify for that non-immigrant status.

D/S was a practical, reasonable acknowledgment that exact graduation dates are difficult to pinpoint, as are the end dates of other various education programs. Before August 9, students admitted under D/S did not accrue unlawful presence until an application was filed and USCIS determined that the student or exchange visitor had violated his or her status; or an immigration judge ordered the exclusion, deportation, or removal of the student or visitor.

With this new policy memo in place, the U.S. immigration system assumes that each student and exchange visitor is in charge of his or her own status and continued eligibility. Students and exchange visitors now need to be diligent in checking with their international student advisors, registrar, and attorneys to ensure that they are in compliance.

But things have changed. This is how a footnote in the guidance reads:

Under the former policy, an alien admitted for duration of status who overstayed or violated

such status did not immediately begin accruing a period of unlawful presence for purposes of INA 212(a)(9)(B). Nevertheless, such alien was illegally present in the United States and would be amenable to removal proceedings

under INA 237(a)(1)(C), which renders deportable aliens who violate their non-immigrant status or any condition of their entry.

According to a Broadcast Message to the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) users on August 10, students and exchange visitors will now begin accruing unlawful presence on the earliest of the following:

- The day after they no longer pursue the course of study or the authorized activity or the day after they engage in an unauthorized activity;
- The day after completing the course of study or program, including any authorized practical training, plus any authorized grace period;
- The day after the Form I-94 expires; or
- The day after an immigration judge orders them excluded, deported, or removed (whether or not the decision is appealed).

The first bullet point is particularly worrisome. There are many elements to a “full course of study” as well as “authorized activity”—some of which depend on the education or exchange program and the level of education offered.

With this new policy memo in place, the U.S. immigration system assumes that each student and exchange visitor is in charge of his or her own status and continued eligibility. Students and exchange visitors now need to be diligent in checking with their international student advisors, registrar, and attorneys to ensure that they are in compliance.

### Why Is Unlawful Presence Important?

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, a person who is unlawfully present in the U.S. for a period of more than 180 days but

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less than one year, and voluntarily leaves the U.S. before removal proceedings begins, is barred from readmission into the U.S. for three years from the date of departure or removal. When the unlawful presence period is a year or more, the bar for readmission to the U.S. is 10 years.

The 3- or 10-year bar from readmission to the U.S. can up-end the education, career, and life goals of international students and exchange visitors. Although there are limited waivers available for the unlawful presence bar, with this new policy memo, students and exchange visitors may begin to accrue unlawful presence without knowing it—and therefore not realize that they need to apply for a waiver.

### Final Tips

The eligibility requirements of U.S. immigration law can be confusing. Unlawful presence and other immigration terms can be difficult concepts to grasp.

Incoming and current international students and exchange visitors now need to be meticulous about their status. Be sure to check with your advisors and responsible officers every few months to see if any immigration policies have changed, and how they might affect you. In addition, work with your school or sponsoring organization—as well as with a knowledgeable immigration attorney—to properly plan and prepare for your stay in the U.S. **CB**



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### About the Author:

**Lucy Cheung** is a partner at Goldstein and Cheung LLP in New York City, a law firm that practices immigration law exclusively.

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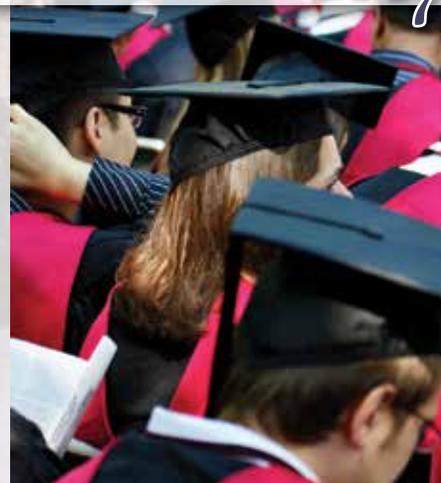
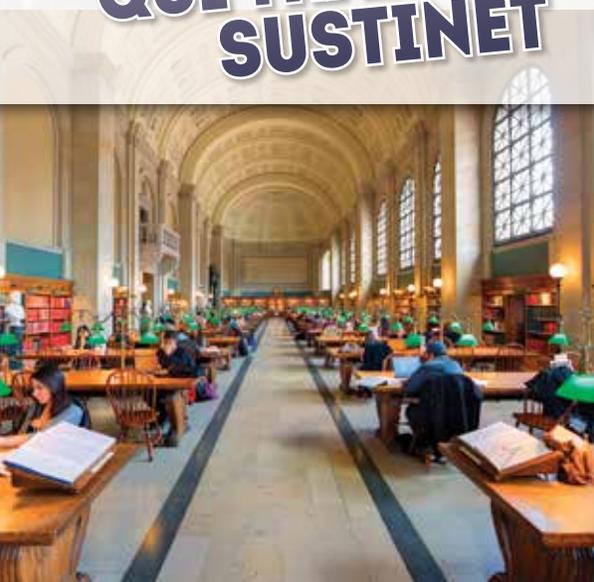
# Beyond the Mountains and Clo

## NEW ENGLAND OFFERS A V

**QUI TRANSTULIT  
SUSTINET**

*Dirigo*

By the sword we  
peace, but peace  
under liberty



*New England is an area steeped in the early history of modern America. Comprised of six northeastern states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont), New England is known for its beautiful fall colors, delicious seafood, Boston accents, and world-class higher education. Home to four Ivy League universities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, four of the Seven Sisters colleges, and the Five Colleges consortium in western Massachusetts, the region is highly desirable for international students. Canadians in particular have a deep history with the region, and many students look just south of the border to enrich their education.*

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## History

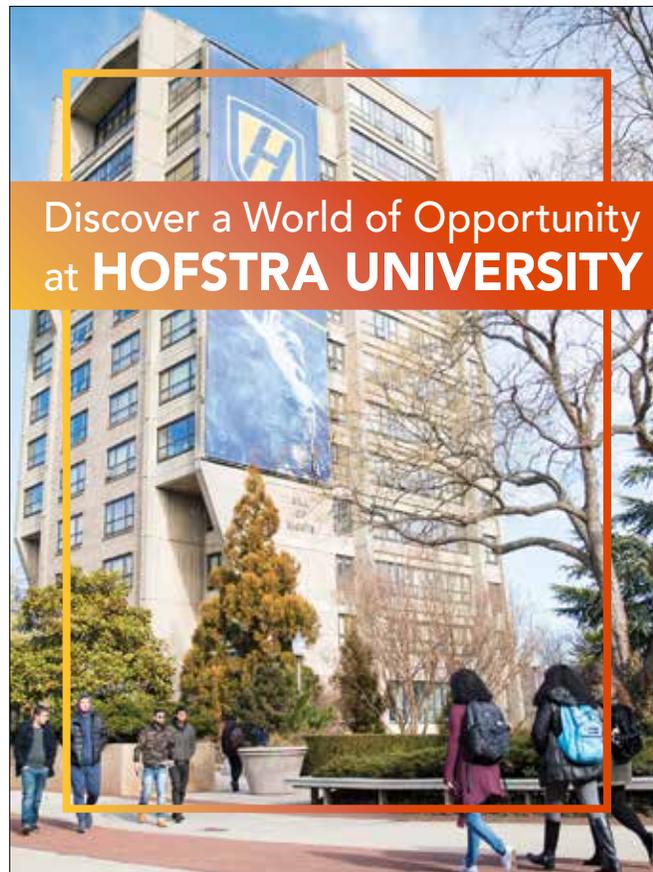
Harvard College was the first institution of higher learning, founded in 1636 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, only 16 years after the founding of Plymouth Colony. Yale University was the second university established in the region in 1701 in Connecticut (fourth in the United States), followed by the two other Ivy League colleges in the region, Brown and Dartmouth. By the end of the 18th century, twenty-eight universities had been established in the United States, with seven of them in New England, and at least one in each state (see table 1).

Consider the founding of these universities in the larger cultural and political context of the American Revolution in the 1770's which culminated to American Independence in 1776. These institutions became the basis of American academic philosophies and early centers of innovation. These schools have educated presidents and become torchbearers that have set the high standards expected around the world from an education in the United States.

**Table 1:** Oldest Universities in New England

University	Current Location	Year Established	Oldest ranking in USA	Presidential undergraduate attendance
Harvard University	Cambridge, MA	1636	1	John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy
Yale University	New Haven, CT	1701	4	William Howard Taft, George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush
Brown University	Providence, RI	1764	12	
Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	1769	14	
University of Vermont	Burlington, VT	1791	24	
Williams College	Williamstown, MA	1793	25	James A. Garfield
Bowdoin College	Brunswick, ME	1794	26	Franklin Pierce

Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, and Brown were all founded as liberal arts colleges (although not considered so today), institutions based in the Roman ideal of learning a wide variety of arts and science subject matter in order to engage the full student. Today, many of the most well-known and highly ranked liberal arts colleges are in New England, such as Amherst College (MA), Bowdoin College (ME), Colby College (ME), Middlebury College (VT), Smith College (MA), Wellesley College (MA), Wesleyan University (CT), and Williams College (MA). Even though a “liberal arts college” is today defined as an institution that caters specifically to undergraduate students receiving a liberal arts-based education, the majority of universities across the United States were founded on liberal arts principles. As such, one of the defining elements of an American education is the goal to educate well-rounded students who engage in multiple disciplines and extracurricular activities to build dynamic characters.



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*...one of the defining elements of an American education is the goal to educate well-rounded students who engage in multiple disciplines and extracurricular activities to build dynamic characters.*



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The library was the first publicly supported municipal library in the United States.

### New England by the numbers

In the United States, there are both public and private institutions. Additionally, there are two-year colleges (community college or junior college) and four-year universities (college or university). In New England there are 230 accredited 2-year or 4-year colleges, the large majority of which are in Massachusetts (97). (See table 2)

**Table 2:** Number of Universities and Colleges in New England

State	2-year public	2-year private	4-year public	4-year private
Connecticut	12		7	20
Maine	7	2	8	10
Massachusetts	16	6	13	62
New Hampshire	7		5	12
Rhode Island	1		3	8
Vermont	12	2	4	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>125</b>

Among the accredited specialty institutions, there are 7 art schools, 1 culinary school, 5 health professions colleges, 6 institutes of technology, 2 maritime academies, 2 military colleges, 2 music colleges, 2 photography institutes, 8 seminaries, and 2 technical colleges. Of the religiously-based private institutions, 26 are Catholic, 6 are other Christian faiths, 2 are Jewish, and 1 is Greek Orthodox.

According to the Institute of International Education (IIE), Massachusetts is the state with the 3rd highest number of Canadians at 2,454 (9% of total). The Boston metro area is home to 2,267 Canadian students, or 8.4% of all Canadians in the United States. The Boston metro area has 49 higher education institutions, and has third highest number of international students overall (51,072). Due to the small size of the other states in New England (27,868 international students total), Massachusetts is the only state that the IIE publishes in depth data on.

### The economic advantage

The U.S. Department of Commerce has called the New England economy a microcosm for the entire U.S. economy. For students, this means that no matter your ambition, you can find an institution that specializes in your interests, and can prepare you for a career in your field. Therefore, for the sake of this article, we will focus on the top fields of study that Canadians choose, and where they can find great match universities or colleges in New England.

**Table 3:** Top Seven Fields of Study for Canadians in the United States (all levels)

<b>Business/Management</b>	16.2%	<b>Physical/Life Sciences</b>	10.0%
<b>Undeclared</b>	14.9%	<b>Engineering</b>	8.9%
<b>Health Professions</b>	14.4%	<b>Fine/Applied Arts</b>	8.8%
<b>Social Sciences</b>	10.9%		



*Canada has the largest percentage of students studying in the United States in Health Professions at 14.4% or 3,900 students.*



@Gettyimages/alanf1919



Williamstown, Massachusetts, USA - Williams College

## Business/Management

Nearly 4,400 Canadians are currently studying Business in the United States (all levels of study), making it the most popular major of choice. Beyond a Management concentration, Business can also encompass Marketing, Finance, Accounting, Logistics, Entrepreneurship, and more. New England's major metropolitan areas are perfectly suited to support aspiring Business students.

According to The Global Financial Centres Index 21, Boston has the ninth most competitive financial center in the world and the fourth most competitive in the United States. For Business majors, Babson College is a university that is completely dedicated to the field. As a college focused on entrepreneurship, students will be able to take advantage of Boston's financial institutions and access many global companies which are headquartered there, like General Electric, Santander Bank, and Reebok. Also in Boston, Northeastern University had the D'More McKim Business School and is known for their mandatory semester co-op program.

In Rhode Island, students can consider Bryant University, located in the region with second largest population of international students in New England. Bryant is made up of two colleges, one of which is the Business School and is really the main focus of the institution. The highest ranked programs in Business include Entrepreneurship, Human Resource Management, International Business, and Marketing. Students not only have internship opportunities in Providence, but also in nearby Boston.

The Hartford, Connecticut metropolitan region has 10 U.S. higher education institutions and has the third largest population of international students in New England. Hartford is most well known for being the international center for the insurance industry. Any student interested in finance and insurance, will find a plethora of internship opportunities in Hartford. Students interested in taking advantage of the strength of this region can consider the University of Hartford Barney School of Business or the University of St. Joseph that has both a Business/Management major and a Sport Management and Promotion major.

## Health Professions

Comparatively, Canada has the largest percentage of students studying in the United States in Health Professions at 14.4% or 3,900 students. For students looking to continue their education with a professional degree in medicine, they can take almost any major as an undergraduate student. In the United States, undergraduates are not required to be Pre-Med majors to get into medical school. In fact, Humanities majors actually have a higher acceptance rate into medical schools than Physical Science majors. Why? As mentioned early, U.S. universities highly value a liberal arts education.

Students may be surprised to find out that liberal arts colleges have some of the highest success rates in medical school admissions. Typically this is due to very supportive Pre-Health Tracks, which can include Pre-Health counselling, admissions application support, interview practice, and job shadowing. Bowdoin College (ME) recently had 97% of their Pre-Med students accepted into medical school. Middlebury College (VT) has an 87% acceptance rate, and Williams College (MA) has a 90% acceptance rate. Most colleges and universities publish this information on their websites, so make sure to research this if you are interested in applying to medical school in the future.

For students who would like to start their path into medical fields more immediately, New England has five colleges that specialize in health professions. The Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science has more than 100 bachelors and advanced programs, including many accelerated health options. The College does not have a medical school, and rather focuses heavily on Pharmacy, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Physical Therapy, and Healthcare Business. The downtown college is based in the world renowned Longwood Medical area, offering students cutting-edge opportunities in their fields.



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## STEM degrees – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

From 2-year colleges, to large research institutions, there are institutions in New England that will meet any future Scientist's needs. For students who would like a school whose majority focus is STEM programs, there are six institutes of technology in the area: Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology (MA), Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering (MA), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MA), New England Institute of Technology (RI), Vermont Technical College (VT), and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (MA).

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) is known around the world for having some of the strongest and most innovative STEM programs, as well as incredibly selective admissions with an undergraduate admissions rate of only 6.7%. MIT is known for a student body with "out-of-the-box" thinkers and innovators. All undergraduates have a chance to work in research labs alongside preeminent scholars in their field. Far from taking themselves too seriously, MIT students like to pull pranks known as MIT Hacks, a playful way that students show their ingenuity, school spirit, and joie de vivre.

Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering shares a campus with Babson College in Boston. Olin was founded to take a different approach to engineering by starting students with hands-on experiences during their first year. The goal is for students to become problem solvers of real world challenges, which means that they have to take a healthy dose of social science, humanities, arts, and business courses in order to be well prepared to problem solve within cultural context.

Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology in Boston and Vermont Technical College in Randolph both offer 2-year Associate degrees and 4-year Bachelor degrees. Institutions such as these give students the opportunity to work towards a degree that will streamline them right into the job force. Covering fields like Agribusiness Management, Civil and Environmental Engineering Technology, Forestry, or HVAC and Refrigeration, these institutions are best for students who want to spend the bulk of their time with hands-on work, and less on time on theory.

## Social Sciences

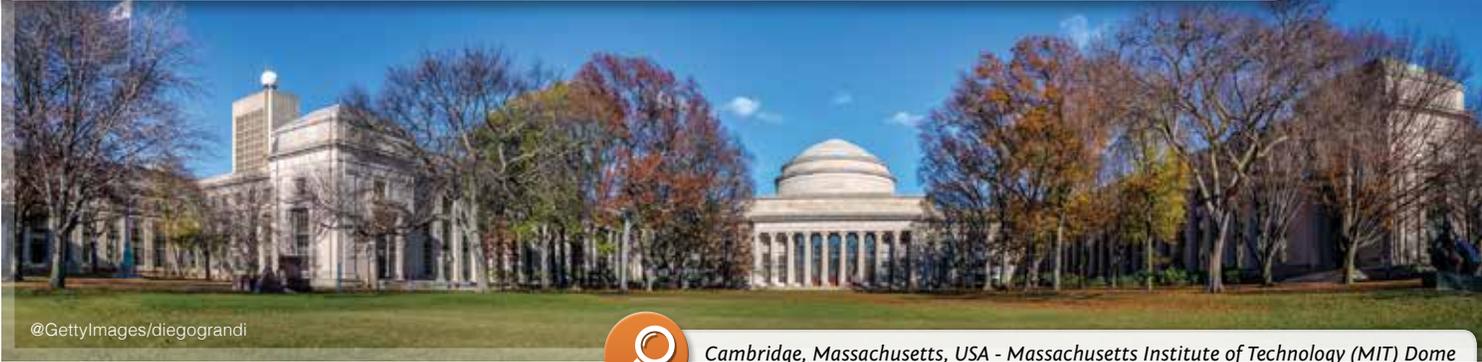
Approximately one in ten Canadians who study in the United States are in the Social Sciences, a broad designation that can encompass any field that scientifically studies society and social relationships. Field such as, Anthropology, Communications, Economics, Education, International Studies, Politics, Psychology, or Social Work. In the United States, most institutions will have a large variety of social science majors available, meaning that the best places for these majors are usually large public campuses, or small, liberal arts schools.

## Fine/Applied Arts

New England is a phenomenal place to complete an Arts degree. Particularly, there are seven arts-specific colleges and two music colleges that students may consider. The Berklee College of Music,



*Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) is known around the world for having some of the strongest and most innovative STEM programs.*



@GettyImages/diegograndi



Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA - Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Dome

which includes the Boston Conservatory, is one of the most highly regarded music schools in the United States. They have 12 majors focused on Music, including Film Scoring, Music Management, and Music Therapy. As a music performance school, the admissions process relies heavily on the live audition and interview which can be completed in cities across the United States and in Toronto.

For students interested in a Bachelors of Fine Arts (BFA), Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) is one of the first art and design schools in the United States. RISD prides itself in having a selective admissions process where 1/3 of their accepted students

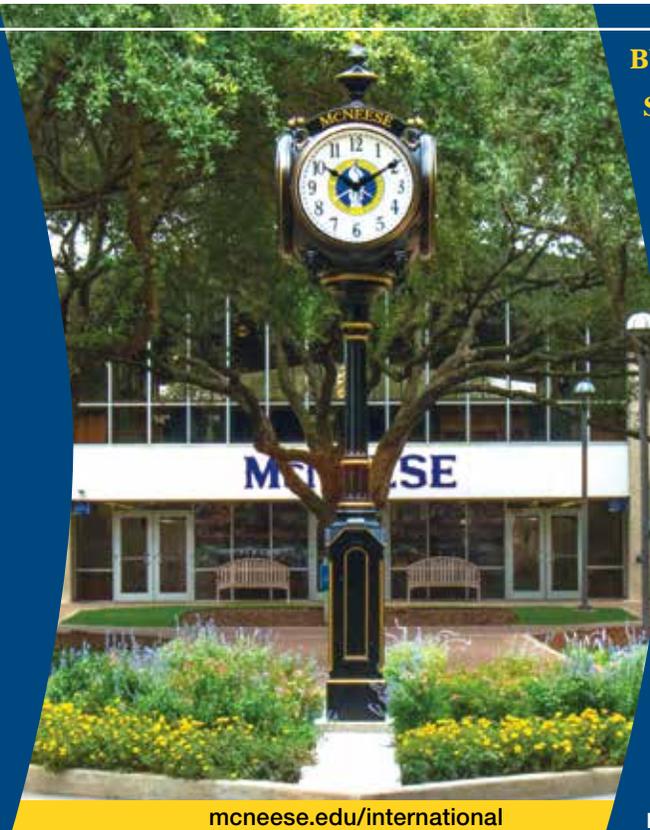
are international, making it an incredibly diverse campus. Some interesting niche majors include Furniture Design, Glass, or a concentration in Nature-Culture-Sustainability Studies.

Alternatively, Emerson College in Boston was founded as a "school of the oratory" and only has degrees in Communications and the Arts. Aspiring actors, journalists, marketers, and stage-hands will all find a home here. The campus lies on the edge of Boston Commons in the heart of the Theatre district, making access to the industry a quick walk down the street. Although an arts-focused campus, Emerson competes in NCAA Division III athletics, an opportunity that most art institutes do not have.



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### Undecided? There is a university for you!

U.S. universities truly value students who haven't yet decided which major to focus on. Many schools have an exploratory first year, which allows students to wait until their second year to declare their majors. Becker College (Worcester, MA), St. Michael's College (Colchester, VT), University of Saint Joseph (West Hartford, CT), and Western New England University (Springfield, MA) all have this option.

New England is home to a wide variety of small liberal arts colleges. Students who want to spend their whole university career exploring a wide variety of course work can do so! Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, for example, is a public campus in North Adams that requires students to take coursework in four fields: Creative Arts, Human Heritage, Self and Society, and Science and Technology, culminating in a Capstone Senior Seminar.

College of the Atlantic (Bar Harbor, ME) is another example of an incredibly innovative liberal arts institution. They have one major: Human Ecology. Every student gets to interpret that major and build their own coursework around this theme. For students who want the freedom to follow all of their passions, this school could be a great fit!

Many schools have selective programs within their campuses to further support student learning interdisciplinarily. For example, Trinity College (Hartford, CT) has a unique opportunity called The Cities Program where students interested in Urban and Global Studies (but is open to every major) take coursework to understand urban issues from multiple perspectives. **CB**



### Need help finding a good fit school?

Reach out to EducationUSA to learn more about applying to U.S. universities. All resources and advising is free. Check out [educationusacanada.ca](http://educationusacanada.ca) for more info.



By **Jenika Heim**, EducationUSA Advisor, [educationusacanada.ca](http://educationusacanada.ca)



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# Student Spotlight

**Mikiko Hashimoto,**  
SUA Class 2022



Photos courtesy of Mikiko Hashimoto

*High school is a stressful time for anybody—especially if you don't know what you want to do after you graduate. As the deadline for university applications approaches, you start to consider what you want to gain from your post-secondary experience.*

My name is Mikiko, and I am currently a first-year student at Soka University of America in Aliso Viejo, California. Even during my last year of high school, I still didn't know what I want to be or do as an adult, but I knew I wanted to broaden my view on the world before entering the workforce, so I pursued post-secondary education.

Growing up, my parents did not have a preference as to what kind of field I pursued. They encouraged me to consider applying for universities outside of Ontario (notably Soka University of America, because my father had had a positive college experience from attending the Soka University in Japan).



*Besides being intrigued by the stories I heard about SUA, I wanted to try experiencing the world from a different environment. I figured that by studying in a different country, I would be able to achieve precisely that.*

Despite the suggestions I got from my parents, I mainly searched for universities close to home at first because I did not want to be too separated from my family and friends in Canada during my time at university. However, as I searched through local universities, the unique aspects of the SUA experience lingered in the back of my head. For instance, the idea of small class sizes, which increases the attention each student receives, and the mandatory study abroad program during the junior year were some of the core aspects that appealed to me. Besides being intrigued by the stories I heard about SUA, I wanted to try experiencing the world from a different environment. I figured that by studying in a different country, I would be able to achieve precisely that.

During my third year of high school, I started to take the idea of studying abroad seriously. I was thrilled when, after the extensive application process of U.S. universities, I was accepted. Also, thanks to the school's generous financial aid I was fortunate to receive a scholarship and need-based financial aid that covered most of my costs of attending the university. Thus, with everything ready to go, my university life at SUA began.

Upon the arrival on campus, I encountered several surprises.



*I was equally surprised to see that there was a fair number of international students like me in the first-year class—this year alone, we had students from 20 different countries (including the U.S.)*





For first-year students, school started a month earlier than other students because of orientations and an intensive course called Core. I was pretty disappointed at first because I graduated from high school in June, which meant that I only got a month of summer vacation. But I learned a lot about different religions, philosophies, and the beliefs during the intensive course, so in the end, I think that it was worth coming a month early for it. I was also surprised to see that the classes were similar to high school in the sense that they were small—there were only about eleven people in our class. But instead of having the professor lecture us about the readings, there were a lot more class discussions that encouraged the participation of everyone. This meant that we had to do all (or at least most) of the readings, but it also meant that we all learned the class materials reasonably well.

# Top 5 California Liberal Arts Colleges

— U.S. News & World Report



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*...swimming at the beautiful pool at our campus became a way for me to cope with the stress from school work.*

I was equally surprised to see that there was a fair number of international students like me in the first-year class—this year alone, we had students from 20 different countries (including the U.S.). I was especially pleased when I discovered that the laundries on campus were free, which meant that I did not have to collect coins to wash my clothes.

I was lucky to be assigned a roommate who is a local student with whom I got along very well. For the first few weeks, we talked about the similarities and differences of American and Canadian life. Thanks to her, I was not only able to avoid looking too much like a tourist, but I was also able to see how life is for people who grew up in a place that is different from my hometown.

Learning outside of the classroom also takes place in the form of Learning Clusters that happen during winter block. I will experience my first learning cluster, but I am excited for the upcoming one in January.

Studying away from home also meant that I had to be a lot more independent. I had many "firsts" during the first month alone—my first time living away from my parents, my first time setting up my bank account, etc. The warm community at SUA made the transition from home to university easier. During the first few weeks, there were many activities hosted by the Student Orientation Leaders—who were open to answering any questions we had—and there were also many informational sessions that taught us all of what we need to know as international students. Many of the upperclassmen were very welcoming as well.

Throughout the semester, I have benefited from the multiple resources offered on campus. For instance, the professors are very friendly and open to help any time students are struggling. Also, the Facebook page that includes most of the people from our university—a space where anyone can ask about any recommendations. People ask questions about classes or university life in general on there all the time, and those who have recommendations suggest the best answers. The sense of community that it establishes makes it seem like our whole student body is like a big family.

As a way to get involved with the school, I decided to join the swim team. At first, the main reason I wanted to join was to reduce the chances of getting my freshman fifteen, but as I attended morning practices, I discovered that the coaches were very supportive, and swimming at the beautiful pool at our campus became a way for me to cope with the stress from school work.

Although I still have a lot to discover, both at SUA and from the life outside of Canada, all in all, I am happy and fortunate to be able to receive a post-secondary education at the beautiful campus of SUA. Through the learning that occurs both inside and outside of the classroom, I hope to become a global citizen who can make a difference in today's society. **CB**

# Employment Options for Students on an F-1 Visa



@GettyImages/vladwel

If you are an international student in the United States, you have the opportunity of working either full time or part time. It is important to remember, however, that your work options are limited by certain rules because of your visa status. You must remain aware of all the regulations regarding your visa before you can start working.



## Preparing for the F-1 Student Visa Interview

The F-1 visa interview can be an intimidating experience. Not only will students need to be prepared with the required documentation but they also need to be ready to answer questions regarding plans about studying in the U.S. Students who know what questions to expect for the interview process can be at a huge advantage as this will help them prepare for the interview.

### Listed below are the five most frequently appearing topic categories:

- ✓ **Study plans:** These questions relate to your goals and aspirations as a student; they will be very similar to the questions asked in university application essays and interviews. Your interviewer will want to know why you are choosing to pursue higher education in the U.S. as opposed to your home country or another country.
- ✓ **University choice:** Your interviewer will also be interested in your chosen university. They may ask questions such as how many universities you applied to, at which schools were you accepted, and which schools rejected you. These questions will help your interviewer determine the strength of your academic qualifications.
- ✓ **Academics:** You will need to prove that you are a genuine student who is capable of succeeding at a U.S. university during the interview. Your interviewer may take into consideration your test scores, previous GPA, and even past study abroad experiences—all of these factors will be evaluated to determine your likelihood of excelling as a student in the U.S.
- ✓ **Financial security:** Irrespective of academic qualifications, your F-1 visa will not be granted without proof that you have enough funds to live and study in the U.S. Your financial plan should include such expenses as tuition, housing, food, transportation, and health insurance. If you have a sponsor who will help pay for your educational expenses, the interviewer will likely ask about the nature of the relationship between you and your sponsor (particularly if your sponsor is not a parent) and will request to see supplemental documentation, such as an official bank statement and letter of support from your sponsor. If your sponsor is not a parent or close relative, you can expect closer scrutiny of your supporting documentation, including proof of what your sponsor earns and how long they have been at their job.
- ✓ **Post-study plans:** Although you may be interested in working in the U.S. after graduation, through programs such as optional practical training (OPT) and H-1B, it is important to emphasize that you will return to your home country upon graduation. You should be able to provide evidence of ties to your home country as well as proof of your intention to return home following your studies.

### Here are some final tips for the F-1 visa interview:

- ✓ Present yourself professionally (and dress professionally) for the interview.
- ✓ Answer all questions clearly and succinctly.
- ✓ Do not lie or exaggerate any of your answers.
- ✓ Remain calm and confident when answering each question.
- ✓ Maintain eye contact with your interviewer when speaking.
- ✓ Ensure your body posture conveys confidence: Sit with your back straight, shoulders held back, and head high.
- ✓ Avoid slumping in your chair and fidgeting.

By following these tips, carefully preparing, and providing honest answers to each question, you will set yourself up for a successful interview. Best of luck!

*As originally published online at: [wes.org/advisor-blog/f-1-visa-interview](http://wes.org/advisor-blog/f-1-visa-interview)*

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The F-1 student visa status allows the following categories of employment:

- **On-campus employment:** International students can work on campus (for example: in the university center, or as a teaching or research assistant) for up to 20 hours per week during the academic term, and full time during academic breaks including summertime, as long as they are carrying a full course load during the school year. Once you complete your courses, you are no longer eligible to work on campus without special approval.

- **Off-campus employment:** Off-campus employment requires written or documented authorization issued by either U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) or the university.

- To be eligible for off-campus employment, you must be enrolled as an F-1 student for a minimum of one academic year. Employment, whether on or off campus, is limited to 20 hours per week while school is in session but can be full time during vacations or breaks.

- **Curricular practical training (CPT):** CPT is off-campus employment or an internship related to your major. You must be registered for a class that will give you credit for successfully completing the training or internship. CPT is limited to part-time hours while classes are in session, but may be full time during breaks. Authorization for CPT is granted by your university's Office for International Students and Scholars and can take about two weeks. No fee is required.

- **Optional practical training (OPT):** OPT is employment or training directly related to your field of study. Through OPT, international students can obtain actual work experience in the U.S. after either:

- completing their studies (this is known as post-completion OPT), or
- completing one full academic year (this is known as pre-completion OPT).

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- **OPT STEM extension:** Recipients of bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in certain government-designated science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields may be

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- **Employment because of economic hardship:** F-1 students are eligible to apply for off-campus work because of economic hardship caused by conditions that were not anticipated. Applications for this work authorization must be submitted to USCIS. Once their applications are approved, students must find long-term employment on campus. USCIS grants authorization in the form of an EAD card that takes approximately 90 days to process and requires a fee; the card is good for one year.

However, now that regulation 8 CFR 103.2(b)(8) is being interpreted differently (as of September 11, 2018), you may need to use extra caution when applying for an economic hardship work authorization. For F-1 visa holders who plan to apply for work authorization based on economic hardship, be sure to gather all the necessary information and documents upon filing, as you may have limited chances to provide supplemental documents after the initial application. This is key to avoiding a Request for Evidence or Notice of Intent to Deny. **CB**

**Source:** As published <https://www.wes.org/advisor-blog/employment-options-students-f-1-visa/>

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Photo courtesy of: Lake Tahoe Community College

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LTCC students receive the personal attention and support they need from our faculty and staff to reach their academic and personal goals. Thanks to our small class sizes and personalized support, our students never feel lost in the crowd. And they get to enjoy on-campus free parking, unlimited free bus pass, free textbooks, and lots of free support services to help them succeed in college.

**General Information**

**School Type:** Public  
**Total Enrollment:** 4,278  
**Academic Calendar:** Quarter  
**Setting:** Rural

**Academic Life**

**Average Class size:** 18  
**Student / Faculty Ratio:** 16:1  
**Graduation Rate:** 43%  
**Summary – Student Life:** M 47% F 53%

**Application Process: Summary**

International student admission applications are considered each quarter. Admission is contingent upon completing the application process in a timely manner. There is a \$100 processing fee that must be submitted with the application. Instructions on how to apply are available at [www.ltcc.edu/international](http://www.ltcc.edu/international). The staff of LTCC’s Office of International Students will be happy to assist you. Contact us at +1-530-541-4660 or at [international@ltcc.edu](mailto:international@ltcc.edu).

**Average Annual Cost & Financial Aid For Canadian Students**

**Availability of Aid:** LTCC is approved to receive funding for Canadian students who qualify. We offer one of the most affordable tuitions for international students among all California colleges. During the 2018/2019 academic year, the cost per unit is \$203.

**Tuition / Fees:** starting at \$7,308 per academic year      **Books & Fees:** \$900      **Room / Board:** \$7,792

**Additional Information**

LTCC serves a diverse group of approximately 3,000 students each quarter on its 164-acre wooded campus. The campus features a state-of-the-art soccer pitch, a theater for performances, art and science labs, a Student Center with a commercial-grade Culinary Arts kitchen, art gallery, and a modern library.

Every year, LTCC offers dozens of scholarships that eligible students can apply for. Our international students have taken great advantage of these scholarship opportunities, and have saved thousands of dollars.

International students are also eligible for work experience and internship positions through CPT and post-OPT employment.

LTCC students enjoy a vibrant campus life with many events, concerts, readings, performances, art exhibits and athletics to take part in. We also have a number of student clubs where you can explore your passions and interests while networking with other students and having fun!



[ltcc.edu/international](http://ltcc.edu/international)



Photo courtesy of: Los Angeles Trade-Technical College

**About Us**

Founded in 1925 as the Frank Wiggins Trade School, Trade-Tech is the oldest of the nine public two-year colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD). We are the “Destination for Learning” with so many programs and pathways to choose from--offering over 60 Associate degrees and over 65 certificates, as well as pathways to transfer to four-year universities! We have established strong partnership with several distinguished business industries (i.e. Nike, Metro, Amazon, Space X, LA/OC Building Trades, Staples Center, LA Live, and more) to strengthen our pathway programs and expand skilled workforce in our communities.

ONE COLLEGE, NINE PATHWAYS, OVER 100 PROGRAMS OF STUDY.

You can study your interests; whether you want to obtain a certificate, an associates degree to prepare for a new career, or transfer to a four-year university. Interested in furthering your career, and get an affordable education, LATTC is here to help you reach your dreams.

**General Information**

**School Type:** Public two year college  
**Total Enrollment:** 14,100  
**Academic Calendar:** Semester- Late August to early June  
**Setting:** Metropolitan

**Academic Life**

**Average Class size:** 25  
**Student / Faculty Ratio:** 20:1  
**Graduation Rate:** 32%  
**Summary – Student Life:** 14,100 **M** 6,920 **F** 7,180

**Application Process: Summary**

Los Angeles Trade-Technical College welcomes your application as an international student (F-1 Visa holders). International students must apply on-line via the following link: <http://www.laccd.edu/Students/openccccapplyint/applylattc/Pages/default.aspx> and submit official and/or original documents. Official transcripts and proof of financial support are required. The application fee is \$50.

Applicants can submit documents in-person or via mail/courier.  
 For further information visit our website at: <http://college.lattc.edu/isc/>

**Average Annual Cost & Financial Aid For Canadian Students**

**Availability of Aid:** A limited number of scholarships are available to continuing international students.  
**Tuition / Fees:** \$8,600      **Books & Fees:** \$1,200      **Room / Board:** \$14,000

**Additional Information**

LATTC is a member of the South Coast Conference of which there are 10 colleges. In the Fall, sports offered are Men’s and Women’s Water Polo, Men’s and Women’s Basketball and Women’s Volleyball. In the Spring, sports offered are Men’s and Women’s Swimming. To be eligible for intercollegiate athletic program participation, students must be enrolled and attending 12 or more units. They must also have a physical examination and be cleared by our medical staff.

Campus Location & highlights: Los Angeles Trade Technical College covers 25 acres of land is centrally located about 3 miles south of Downtown Los Angeles.. The campus is served by the Grand/LATTC Station of the Metro Rail Blue Line and the LATTC/Ortho Institute of the Expo Line and is approximately one mile north of the University of Southern California (USC).

The city of Los Angeles is famous for its perfect weather and infamous good eateries and attractions. There is so much to do in the area including visiting the theme park Universal Studios, various museums, Disney Concert Hall, L.A. Live, and watching the Lakers and Dodgers play at their home courts.



**Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC)**   
[college.lattc.edu/isc](http://college.lattc.edu/isc)

- Admission Masters
- Apply Minor
- Arts Motivate
- Average Multicultural
- Calling Officers
- Career Plans
- Charity Prepare
- Classes Program
- Crafting Psat
- Criteria Ranking
- Degree References
- Enroll Relax
- Essay Scholarship
- Flexible Select
- Goals Selfless
- Grades Shortlist
- Grant Standards
- Lead Strengths
- Learning Testing
- Liberal Tours
- Location Tuition
- Major Volunteer



Answers On Page 34



## Small campus. BIG IMPACT.

At the **Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture** students can pursue a variety of degrees, certificates and specialty programs, ranging from animal science to veterinary technology to agribusiness and agronomy.

For the past two years, NCTA has been ranked as the #1 two-year U.S. college for career outcomes when comparing graduate starting salary to the cost of education. Our global students get a low cost, high quality education with tuition at **\$131.50/credit hour**.

Learn more about your future home away from home at [ncta.unl.edu](http://ncta.unl.edu).



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 University of Nebraska-NCTA

 @NCTACurtis

 NCTACurtis

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## CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

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### Scholarship Information

**International FRESHMAN Tuition Waiver**  
Four-year tuition award total estimated value of

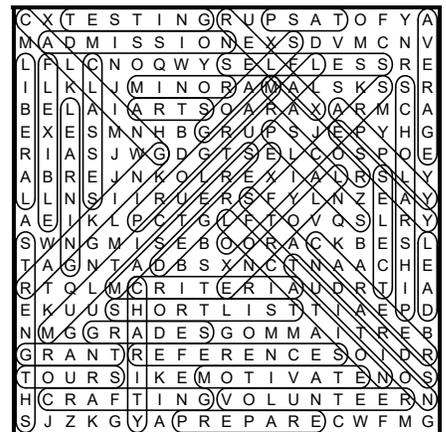
\$20,000

**Qualifying criteria:**

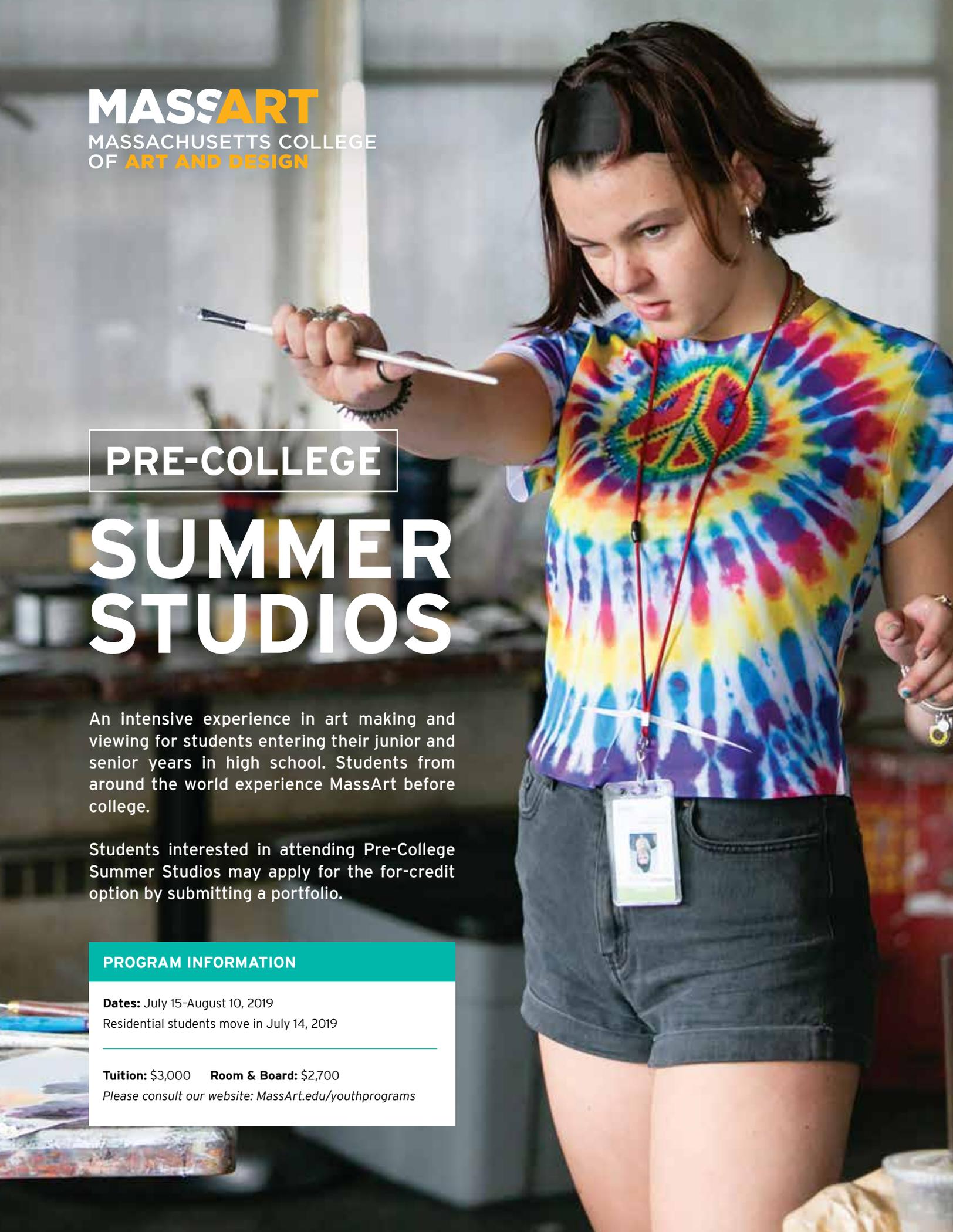
- Apply for admission as a degree-seeking freshman or transfer student
- Complete the Tuition Waiver Application and Essay
- Meet the CSC English Proficiency requirements
- Minimum cumulative high school (freshman) or college (transfers) GPA of 3.25 (4.0 scale)
- Commit to living in CSC campus housing for duration of the scholarship



**1-800-CHADRON | [cscadmissions@csc.edu](mailto:cscadmissions@csc.edu) | [www.csc.edu/international](http://www.csc.edu/international)**



Answers to Wordsearch Challenge



**MASSART**

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE  
OF **ART AND DESIGN**

**PRE-COLLEGE**

# SUMMER STUDIOS

An intensive experience in art making and viewing for students entering their junior and senior years in high school. Students from around the world experience MassArt before college.

Students interested in attending Pre-College Summer Studios may apply for the for-credit option by submitting a portfolio.

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

**Dates:** July 15-August 10, 2019

Residential students move in July 14, 2019

**Tuition:** \$3,000    **Room & Board:** \$2,700

Please consult our website: [MassArt.edu/youthprograms](http://MassArt.edu/youthprograms)

# Spring 2019 Auditions



**Vancouver**  
February 28, 2019

**Montreal**  
March 2, 2019

**Toronto**  
March 3, 2019

**Winnipeg**  
April 27, 2019

**Calgary**  
May 4, 2019

**Reservations and  
information:  
[amda.edu/audition](http://amda.edu/audition)**

## **AMDA**

**NEW YORK CITY CAMPUS**  
The American Musical and Dramatic Academy

**LOS ANGELES CAMPUS**  
AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts

**BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS  
DEGREE PROGRAMS**

**PROFESSIONAL  
CONSERVATORY PROGRAMS**

**ACT • SING • DANCE for FILM • TV • STAGE**