

What to do if you are attending high school in the US:

- 1) Go to your school library and ask the librarian to help you get books that will assist you with the process. In the United States, high school librarians are information experts. They are generally extremely helpful especially to a student that shows initiative. Stopping by and getting acquainted with the librarian should be one of your first tasks when you arrive for your program.
- 2) Visit the high school guidance counselor and see what books they would recommend or suggest. Most of the time the high school counselor is not going to have vast experience in working with international students. The admission process for international students is very different, but it is good to check and see what resources are available to you.
- 3) Register for your SAT® and TOEFL® exams. You will need to find the nearest location for these exams and determine how you will get to these exams.
- 4) Go to the common application form on-line. Go through it and begin to make a list of the documents that your family will need to provide to the schools. Look at your essay topics and start drafting essays.
- 5) Look, listen, and learn. Most of the students around you are preparing for the very same process. You can learn a great deal as you listen to them talk about the process.
- 6) Impress your teachers by making excellent grades. DO NOT approach the teachers on the first day of class with an unproven track record and expect a great deal of help. Before any US teacher is going to write a letter of recommendation for a student, the teacher has to see some results.
- 7) If you are a student athlete, you need to have a video to post. You need to notify coaches where you are playing and see if the coaches can get someone there to watch you play. Coaches are not just interested in your playing – before they can offer a scholarship they have to be sure that you meet the academic admission requirements and the NCAA requirements. SAT scores on record, plus your GPA can be helpful to any coach that is trying to decide if you are worth sending someone out to watch play.
- 8) Get organized. America is the land of organization. You need to start to make a list of schools, deadlines, requirements, and put yourself on a schedule.