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BOARDING SCHOOL EDITION

2018



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• Canada

- Summer and Winter Youth Programs – for students ages 9 to 17

• Australia

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[ELS.edu/Study2](https://www.els.edu/Study2)

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INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TELL THEIR STORIES!



24 TYSON NGUYEN

from Vietnam is a high school senior studying at The Northwest School in Seattle, Washington.



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CONSIDERING

**A U.S. BOARDING OR
SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM?**

In the United States there is a network of independent residential schools for boys and girls aged 10- to 18-years-old—boarding schools. There are more than 300 boarding schools in the U.S.

Boarding schools were established by dedicated educators to fulfill a mission. These goals were usually for students to achieve excellence in academics, gain sound moral and spiritual character, and develop physical strength and dexterity, usually through competitive sports.

The primary purpose of the majority of U.S. boarding schools is to fully prepare young students to gain enrollment at leading universities. Some of these boarding schools are over 200 years old and have educated many of the world's most influential and successful business executives, politicians, scientists, educators and leaders of the 20th century.

Why Choose an American School?

Schools in the USA offer outstanding educational programs taught by highly educated and committed teachers. While these schools are focused on excellence, they also stress intellectual growth and the importance of personal and societal values.

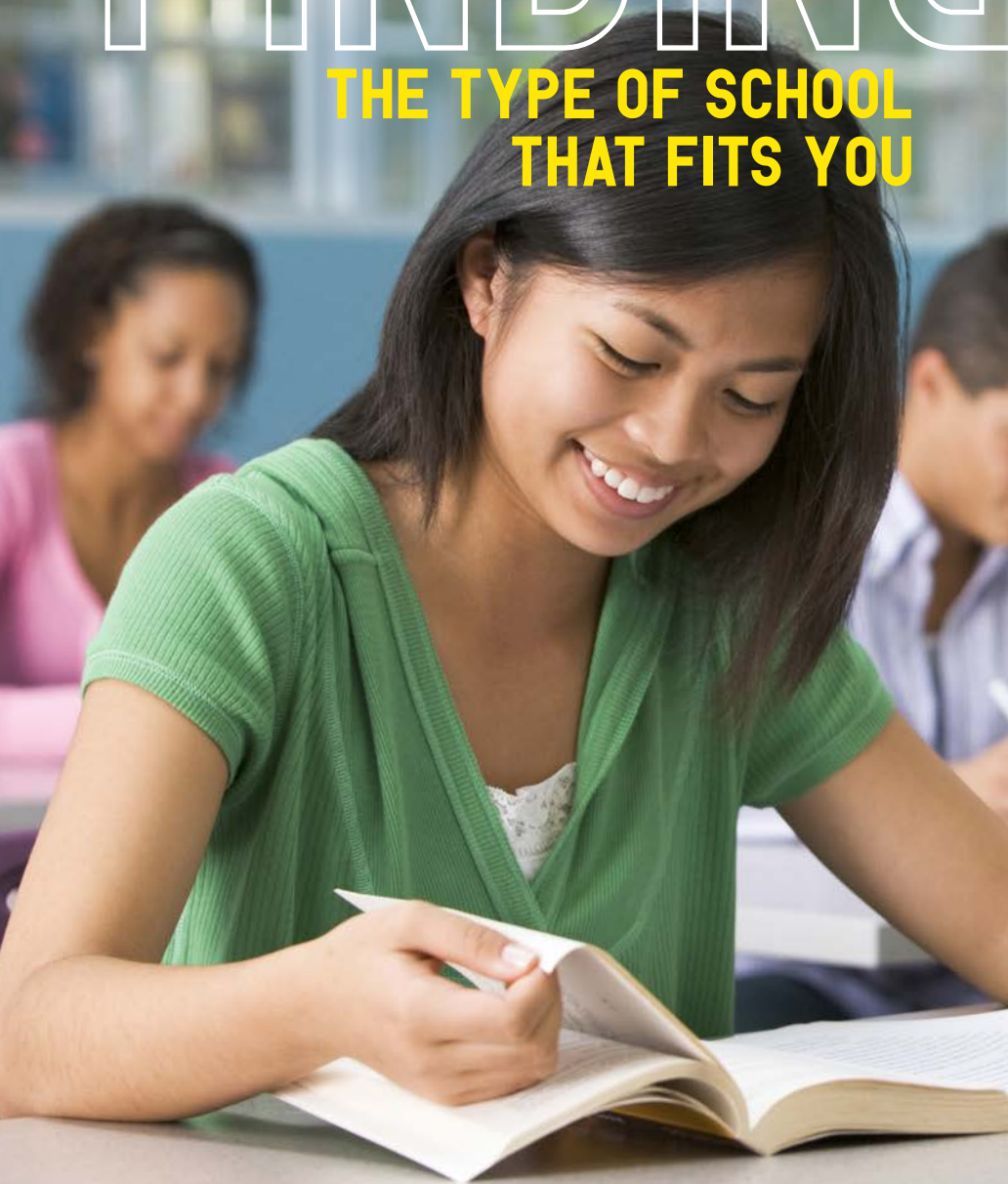
As an international student, attending school in the USA can be a little scary and expensive, but it also can be one of the best investments that you and your parents can make. It will give you a quality education and a solid foundation of skills and values for continuing studies at a university. ★

In addition to gaining a superb education at some of the best schools in the world, there are **10 VERY GOOD REASONS** why you should consider studying in the United States:

- 1 To gain independence, discipline and maturity by living away from home
- 2 To achieve admission to elite U.S. universities and colleges
- 3 To have the opportunity to be a leader in the classroom and/or on the athletic field
- 4 To become fluent in reading, writing and speaking English
- 5 To gain knowledge of United States culture, geography, economics and way of life
- 6 To make new and lifelong friends with people from around the world
- 7 To build relationships with role model teachers
- 8 To have small classes and individual help with a variety of subjects
- 9 To learn something new: a sport, acting, playing an instrument, or riding a horse
- 10 To have an opportunity to play U.S. high school sports

FINDING

**THE TYPE OF SCHOOL
THAT FITS YOU**



There are various types of boarding schools. What kind of school do you want to attend?

Do you like the idea of studying at large school or a small school? Are you most comfortable in a city, small town or countryside? Are you interested in attending a school that has a religious or military orientation? Would you like to attend a school that is only for boys or girls? These are the questions you must ask yourself before you begin your search for the right school for you.

Single-Sex Schools

Single-sex schools, those for boys only or girls only, are some of the oldest boarding schools in the country. As

THERE ARE VARIOUS TYPES OF BOARDING SCHOOLS. WHAT KIND OF SCHOOL DO YOU WANT TO ATTEND?

a student at one of these schools, you will have the chance to study in a less socially distracting atmosphere. For girls, single-sex schools can often provide greater opportunity to pursue leadership roles in both academic and extracurricular life.

ESL “Bridge” Programs

English as a Second Language (ESL) “Bridge” programs, running from April until June, provide students with intensive English language training that prepares them for the academic year that begins in September. These classes concentrate on reading, writing and speaking, while incorporating U.S. culture and social expectations. It’s beneficial

to attend one of these programs during April or the summer months before you plan to enter a boarding school.

Postgraduate Programs

Many schools offer a postgraduate program, which is a one-year course of study for students who have finished their high school (secondary) program, but are not ready to enter a university. The postgraduate curriculum usually focuses on reading, writing and mathematical skills. Foreign students can especially benefit from this program since the course of study is flexible and they can structure it around their specific academic needs.

Summer Schools & Camps

Students attend summer schools for

academic credit and as a supplement to their regular academic program. Summer camps, on the other hand, specialize in outdoor recreational activities, sports, art, music and drama.

There are many summer schools and camps that offer ESL training and the opportunity to interact with English-speaking young people. Typically beginning at the end of June, these programs last anywhere from six to ten weeks. You will spend your summer months learning English, making friends and experiencing U.S. culture.

Military Schools

Military secondary schools have the same advantages as other private



The Bolles School, Florida



International School of Minnesota

schools, but they also instill the values and importance of teamwork, dedication and discipline. Uniforms and drilling are often required.

Religious Schools

Some schools have a strong tradition founded in religion and will frequently integrate religious services and classes into their regular curriculum. Most institutions, however, welcome children from all religious backgrounds and respect their differing philosophies.

Travel Programs

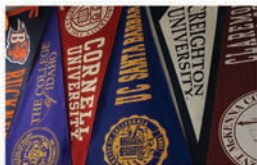
Ross School near New York City, offers a Winter Intersession which is a three-week intensive program held between the winter and spring terms, usually in March. Students and teachers travel and work on group and individual projects in a wide variety of subjects. Students are exposed to in-depth study, new interests, possible academic and career paths, volunteerism and recreational pursuits.

Many of these special projects in-

volve travel, both abroad and within the USA. For example, after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city of New Orleans the school organized a service trip to assist residents' recovery. Ross Intersession students have also traveled to Kenya to work with a boys' orphanage and a local Maasai tribe. They produced a multimedia project about the issues these groups face. On the Caribbean island of Dominica, another group planted grasses at a school cricket field to prevent erosion of the field. When they weren't tending to the field, students learned how to carve a calabash, a local gourd that when dried can be used as a water jug or utensil.

Schools with Homestays

Several schools offer a homestay option as an alternative to living in a dormitory. By living with a U.S. family you will have the comfort of a home life and may have more chances to participate in activities outside of school and within the community. ★



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SERVICE LEARNING AND LIFE EXPERIENCE

At several boarding schools, community service participation is a key component of the school's philosophy and curriculum.

The Senior Project at **Ross School** is the culmination of a graduating student's academic career thus far. The student documents the experience of creating the project, usually in the form of an online blog, and puts together a final presentation. Throughout the process a faculty mentor works individually with each student.

Recent projects have included Radical Flash Cards. A student designed and produced a set of flash cards with photographs to aid children in learning Chinese.

For the East Harlem Investment Opportunity project a student created a prospectus for a property in a depressed area of New York City. Using the tools of investment reasoning, the student compared the local real estate market with other nearby areas, and chose a local apartment building to renovate and eventually sell at a profit.

The Global Change in Water Chemistry research project studied the levels of dissolved oxygen and pH in the water. The project examined how these levels indicate the changing climate's effect on local water chemistry and the overall impact on global ocean health.



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- More than 70 percent of participants attend, or plan to attend, American boarding schools.



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- Swim Clinics**
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- Girls Basketball Camp**
- Soccer Camp**

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& UNIVERSITY
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UMMER GRAMS



Every year, thousands of young people from around the world attend a variety of summer programs throughout the United States. For many students, the idea of spending any portion of their long summer days in an air-conditioned classroom is simply not appealing.

But this summer, adventure-seeking teens can discover summer programs that combine fun, learning, and exploration. Many university preparatory boarding schools in the United States offer summer programs that take students outside the classroom, yet still provide enriching educational experiences designed to hone academic, character, and leadership skills. There is everything from English as a Second Language (ESL) to culture studies; academic preparation to outdoor recreation; music and dance to art and design; and computers to television and radio. Programs may be for young children or teenagers, single-sex or coed.

When considering a summer program, you will need to think about where in the United States you want to spend your summer. Do you want to be near the ocean, mountains, deserts, lakes, grassy plains, or cities? Do you want to see regions in the West Coast, Northwest, Southwest, North-

east, Midwest or South?

You should also think about your overall goal. Are you interested in ESL programs, enrichment opportunities, recreational activities, or preparation for returning to school in the fall?

English as Second Language Programs

An excellent way to improve your English language skills is by spending a few weeks or months attending a summer program in America. There are several schools and summer language programs that offer intensive English language training for beginning students. If your English is more advanced, you may wish to take other academic classes or activity classes and then supplement your studies with an English as a Second Language (ESL) course.

For students seeking a wide range of learning experiences, Southwestern Academy, in San Marino, California, near Los Angeles, operates coeducational ESL and academic programs for grades 6-12. Classes include all areas of English language instruction, art, music, computers, mathematics and sports. In



the summer, students may attend the summer American Culture Program for four weeks, or may stay for a half or full semester to earn secondary school credit.

Enrichment

You may want a summer program focused on personal enrichment in a specific area. There are specialty camps with concentrations such as studying computers, science and engineering, diplomacy and international studies, cooking and sports.

Preparation for University

Many classes may be offered for the purpose of preparing students to return to their home schools in the fall. A popular course provided by many programs gives study skills training.

In addition to their ESL summer program, Ross School offers a U.S. University Admissions Preparation program. This five-week course, combines SAT and ACT preparation with college counseling, thoroughly preparing students who are applying to U.S. colleges and universities. Students receive weeks

Many university preparatory boarding schools in the United States offer summer programs that take students outside the classroom, yet still provide enriching educational experiences designed to hone academic, character, and leadership skills.

Menaul School



- It's located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. It has more than 100 years of experience as a boarding school and students who come from Kuwait, Jordan, Vietnam, South Korea, Russia, Rwanda, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Democratic Republic of Congo, Spain, China, Argentina and various parts of the USA.
- Offers a serene park-like environment on a 32-acre campus with proximity to malls, movie theaters, the zoo, museums, parks, mountains, rivers, and important science centers such as Los Alamos National Lab, Sandia Lab, the Aero Space Corporation and the Kirtland Air Force Base.
- Provides a rigorous college preparatory curriculum including a variety of electives and an ESL program. Menaul School students have been accepted into Brown University, Penn State University, Northwestern, King's College in London, Saint Andrews in Scotland, and Purdue University among other prestigious schools.
- Offers the possibility of receiving the Lottery Scholarship that pays students a considerable portion of their tuition for any University in New Mexico.

www.menaulschool.org





of test preparation, take practice exams, and complete the common application with essays. They are also given a career assessment and develop a working list of potential universities appropriate to their strengths and assets.

Recreation

Many recreational programs take advantage of their beautiful locations. Whether you choose lake regions, ocean settings, alpine mountains, or desert floors, recreational programs across the United States offer a wide range of activities. Canoeing, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, sailing, swimming, archery, arts and crafts, and wilderness camping are available at the majority of the recreation camps.

Sports camps involve intensive, weekly skill-building exercises. Some sports camps even offer instruction from professional athletes. There are several programs in basketball, soccer, tennis, wrestling, fencing, baseball, golf, hockey, and many other sports.

Environmental Themes

Many camps are centered on the prin-

ciples of sustainability, recycling, and environmental awareness programs that teach “Leave No Trace” practices. Some feature marine science classes, allowing campers to get hands-on experiences with ocean life, while others introduce students to the trails and rivers of North America.

While these programs vary, they generally share a common goal: teaching young people the value of working together, the sense of exhilaration and accomplishment that comes from challenging themselves physically and intellectually, and appreciating the beauty and fragility of our natural environment.

Applying to Summer Programs

With such a variety of summer options, you should consult the admission office of each program that interests you. Ask for brochures and applications.

No matter what kind of U.S. summer program you choose, you will benefit from the opportunity to develop confidence, independence, leadership, and build lasting friendships. ★

8

THINGS THAT MAKE BOARDING SCHOOLS

SAFE

- + Campuses that are **concentrated in one location**
- + **Dormitories** for boys and girls that are locked at night
- + **Full-time supervision** in the dormitories evenings and weekends
- + **On-campus infirmaries** and full-time health staff
- + Campuses typically **not located in large cities**
- + **Supervised outings** & cultural trips
- + **Curfews** and check-ins
- + **Security guards** on campus evenings and weekends





SPECIAL NEEDS



AND LEARNING DISABILITIES

Many boarding schools in the United States are dedicated to young people who have difficulty reading or paying attention in class. Other boarding schools enroll a few special needs students in each class and devote special instruction to them.

A select few schools serve students who have special needs that cannot be met by traditional or regular programs. Some are university preparatory; others have a more transitional mission and are preparing their students for a return to the mainstream.

International families oftentimes find it a daunting task to identify the right boarding school for the “special” child. Whether you use a consultant or search on your own, it is vital to find the school that is the “right fit;” one that can address your child’s unique learning style.

Learning Disabilities:

Close to 20 percent of the school age population are diagnosed with a learning difference. Most of these children have a problem using language and are said to have a language based learning disability or dyslexia. Others have a Non-Verbal Learning Disability (NLD) and struggle with organizational difficulties, poor social skills, visual-spatial weaknesses, and conceptual reasoning deficits.

Some students with learning disabilities just need small classes, academic support and minor classroom accommodations; others whose issues are severe and more debilitating, need direct and intense, skills-based language remediation.

Curriculums at these schools use multisensory approaches and experien-

tial teaching strategies. All teachers at these schools are trained in using these techniques.

Some students struggle with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). These students are often times very bright, but disorganized and unfocused.

They usually do well in small, highly structured boarding schools. Male students with this profile might do well at St. Thomas More School, a boarding school for boys in Connecticut.

Asking the Right Questions

Before enrolling your son or daughter in one of these programs, it is essential to determine whether the school can meet your child's specific requirements.

You know your child best and the school knows whom it can and cannot serve. Be honest and forthcoming about your son or daughter's learning difference, emotional problems, social deficits, medications, etc. Ask the right questions of the school. This will lead to the right fit and a successful boarding experience for your special needs child.

Special Needs Schools

Students with ability who have not yet reached their potential may benefit from programs like the one offered at St. Thomas More School in Connecticut, which provides a structured environment designed to develop good study habits. Small classes are a key aspect of the school's program. With a typical class size of 12 students, every boy gets the attention he needs. Instructors teach not only subjects such as biology or math, but also study skills such as listening and note-taking, effective time management, concentration and memory

+ Is the school accredited and by whom?

+ What kind of training/education does the faculty have?

+ Does the school offer ESL instruction?

+ Does the school have a diverse student body? How well do international students fit in?

+ Where do the students go after leaving the program?

+ What is the application process? Is an on-campus interview required?

+ What specific kinds of academic/psychological testing are needed?

techniques, and test-taking.

Sometimes a student may need more help than St. Thomas More School's regular system of study skills, extra help and evening study hall. For these boys, a weekend program of extra study or daily, supervised study may be helpful. A Peer Tutoring Program assigns older students to help others with their homework. The school finds private tutors, if necessary, for more intensive help. ★

Thomas O'Dell is an educational consultant specializing in boarding school placements for students with special needs. He can be reached at tomodelledcons.com.

It's time to start thinking about summer in the United States!



ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL is excited to announce our **Summer@STM** line up!

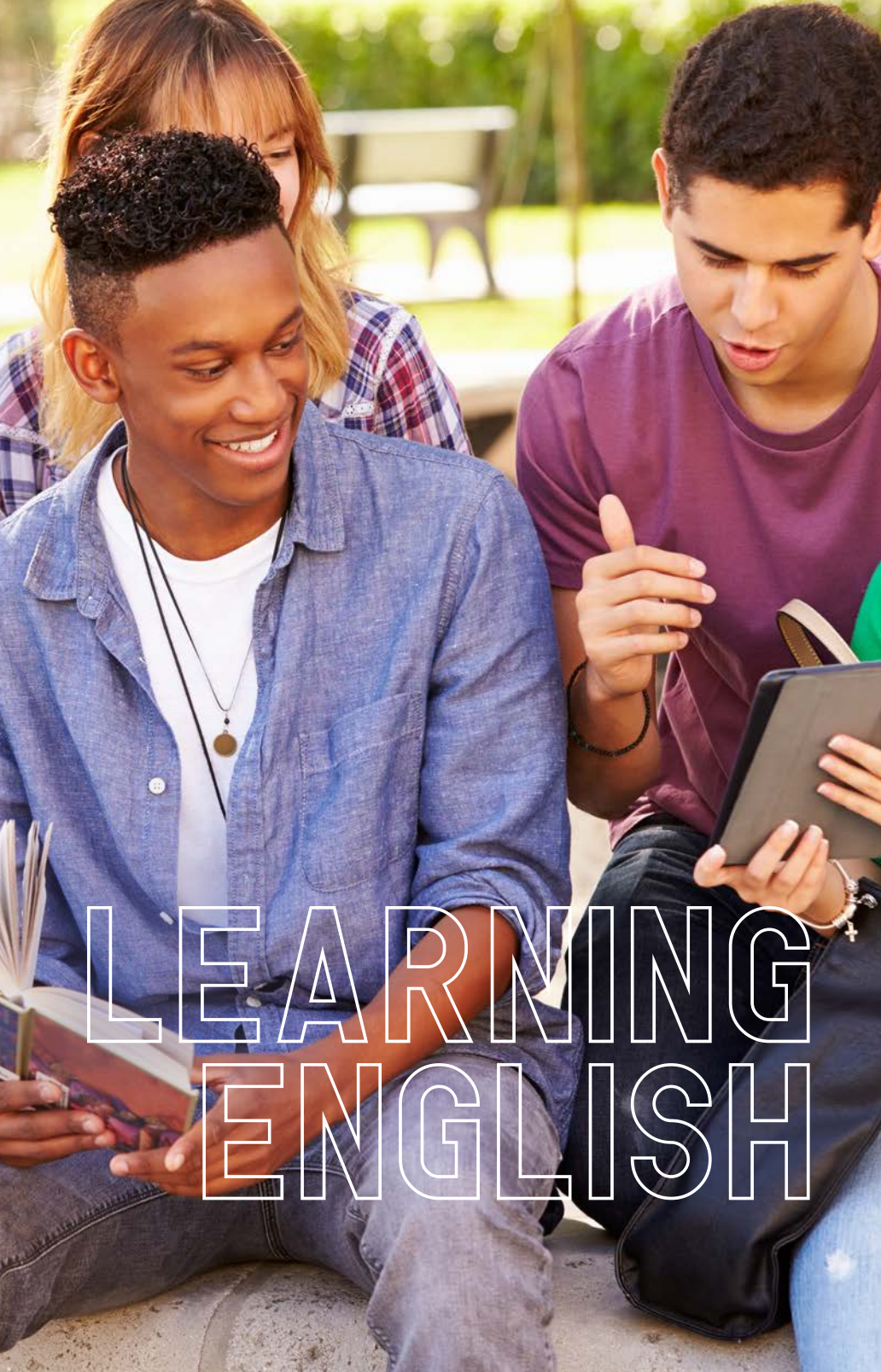
English Language Institute (ELI) – is an immersion program for students entering grades 7-11, interested in rapidly advancing their English languages skills. With its content based curriculum, students will not only improve their general knowledge of the English language, but participate fully in all the summer activities that summer@STM students enjoy (instruction in one sport, selection of a mini-course, waterfront activities, field trips, and the “University Experience” seminar) and experience residential dorm living with friends from all over the United States and the world.

ESOL & Basketball – is an immersion program for students entering grades 7-11, interested in rapidly advancing their English language and basketball skills. Students will enjoy quality instruction in the English language and in the game of basketball.

Request info at summer@stmct.org or visit www.stmct.org.   



ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL



LEARNING ENGLISH

1 How do you know if you need ESL?

Most applicants to U.S. universities have had exposure to the English language. However, your basic comprehension and grammar may not be sufficient to apply to a U.S. university or college. Ask yourself if:

- + You are able to read and comprehend most English texts
- + You have a high level of grammatical competence in writing and speaking
- + You have a strong command of vocabulary and functional language
- + You can follow and understand lectures. If not, a boarding school ESL program would be ideal for you

2 How should you evaluate an ESL program?

- + Development of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
- + Flexibility in course selection
- + Content-based instruction as well as English language classes
- + TOEFL preparation and testing
- + Individual support and tutoring for both ESL and non-ESL courses

- + Motivated and well-trained faculty
- + Small student-to-teacher ratio
- + Encouragement in expressing ideas and opinions openly
- + Focus on study and organizational skills
- + Emphasis on time management
- + Incorporation of advanced technology in classes

3 What should you look for when choosing a boarding school that offers ESL?

- + Equal distribution of international students from different cultures
- + School-sponsored activities to help integration with American students
- + A community where students feel at home, safe, and respected
- + Planned multi-cultural events
- + A strong guidance system in which students meet individually with an adviser to discuss their personal needs, worries, ideas, and goals
- + Opportunities for leadership in student government, clubs, academic areas, and dormitory life 🌟

The Bolles School

Before they begin classes at **The Bolles School** in Florida, new international students whose native language is not English are encouraged to enroll in the school's four-week Summer ESL Program. They acquire additional proficiency in English and become acquainted with the American way of life, and also get to know the faculty, students and the school activities. Because Bolles is located near a river, students enjoy swimming and boating in their free time.

In a study skills class, ESL students create personal lists of their own common errors in grammar for reference and correction in future essays. The class uses model essays for study and discussion, and students practice writing longer pieces.

INTERVIEW

Why did you decide to study in the USA?

I knew that attending a boarding school in the United States would expose me to a miscellaneous and diverse community. This would not only give me great education but would also help me gain multiple perspectives and a better understanding of different values that students bring to the school community. Also, in contrast to most educational systems in Asian countries, which are strictly academically based, schools in the United States provide a comprehensive educational environment that includes academics, extra-curricular activities, voluntary programs, and internships.

Why did you choose The Northwest School?

I liked that The Northwest School is located in the heart of Seattle; the surrounding is extremely pleasant and convenient, with the combination of a metropolis and nature. I also knew some alumni of The Northwest School who had wonderful experience at the school and had been admitted to great universities and colleges. I knew immediately this is a place where I want to go to challenge myself and become better prepared for college.

What do you like best?

Probably the Northwest School's diverse community of faculty and students.

Tyson Nguyen from Vietnam is a high school senior studying at The Northwest School in Seattle, Washington.



What do you miss most?

Definitely my family. Being in a boarding school means that you have to learn how to take care of yourself. However, because of this, I have become more responsible and independent and have learned how to manage time, control financial spending, cook, and keep my place organized.



It's not just what you learn but how.



The Northwest School offers a challenging college preparatory curriculum, thriving arts and athletic programs, and a supportive community. It is the only school in Seattle with a coeducational international boarding program. Our graduates attend many of the top universities in the nation and abroad.

Program Highlights:

- Rigorous college preparatory academics
- Integrated ESL Program
- 30 athletic teams and 6 Sports
- 57 art courses taught by professional artists in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts
- Vibrant student life with rich extra-curricular activities
- Urban campus located in Seattle, one of the most beautiful cities in the United States



The
Northwest
School

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How has this program helped you to handle future study at a U.S. university?

This is my second year at The Northwest School and my English language has improved a lot. Thanks to the school's rigorous academics and support that the teachers and advisors provide, I was admitted to my dream school, University of British Columbia, which I will start attending this September!

What was your biggest surprise?

My biggest surprise about the American educational system was the fact that art courses were considered as important as other academic subjects such as humanities, mathematics, or science. The Northwest School believes that art classes are equally crucial for students' education and development.

... your biggest disappointment?

I would say the high cost of living. Yet, it helped me better understand the value of money and learn how to manage my finances.

How have you handled: ... language differences?

The school is very welcoming and supportive to international students and everybody understands that making mistakes is a part of the learning process.

... adjusting to a different educational system?

At first, it was very difficult to adjust to a new educational system. Writing essays in a specific format, rules of citations, certain lab equipment, or specific vocabularies in science and math, were entirely new to me. It certainly takes

time and effort to adapt to the new academic environment. However, when you finally get the hang of it, everything becomes simple and makes sense!

What are your activities?

I am a middle fielder on our school soccer team and I am also a member of the Model United Nations interest group.

How easy or difficult was making friends?

Of course, at first, I felt somewhat nervous and not very confident to reach out to new people, especially the ones who come from different cultures or speak different languages. However, if you are open-minded and interested in getting to know people who might be different than you, then it should not be a problem to make new friends and establish relationships with students from all over the world that will probably last well beyond your school years.

What will you remember most?

Definitely the time when my soccer team played against other schools' teams under the soaking rain of Seattle!

What is your advice to other students who are considering a U.S. education?

Don't hide your talents, abilities, or interests from other people. If you can sing, dance, play sports, or draw, do not be afraid or feel embarrassed to do this in front of others, even if you are a beginner. People will better understand and appreciate who you are. This will also help you connect with the broader community of students and faculty outside of your classroom. ✨

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Premier Boarding Schools *of the World*

U.S. SUMMER CAMPS

LEARN A NEW SKILL, IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH AND EXPLORE THE USA WITH A SUMMER CAMP

Students don't need to wait until university to experience American education. With the vast and rich variety of summer programs in the U.S., there are many opportunities for kids and teens to learn and grow in a fresh new environment. Here are some of the benefits international students gain by participating in U.S. summer camps.

1 *Gain a New Perspective*

You can research a place, learn the language, and study the customs, but there's no substitute for actually getting out there and getting immersed in a new experience. International students who attend U.S. summer camps are treated to different experiences, providing them with a fresh perspective. At such a key point in a young person's life, this new perspective can make an impact long after they head home from camp.

2 *Build Independence and Self-Confidence*

Attending U.S. programs helps international students get out of their comfort zones. While a high-quality summer camp can build students' self-confidence, improve their creativity, problem solving skills, and communication, travelling to a different country is a skill-building experience in and of itself. International students feel the thrill of navigating an unexpected environment, learn to cope with unfamiliar settings, look to peers and mentors for support, and become increasingly more self-reliant.

3 *Test Drive the University Experience*

For international students who would like to spend their university years in America, attending a U.S. summer camp can be the perfect way to test-drive that experience. With summer programs held at top U.S. universities, students can even stay on campus, explore the surrounding neighborhood with supervision, and feel more confident about their decision to study abroad. Regardless, all students will benefit from international study.

4 *New Friends and Peer Networking*

For many students, meeting new friends is one of the key benefits of attending a summer camp in the United States. Engaging with students of different backgrounds and cultures will make students more well-rounded. Plus, the friendships made often last long after the summer programs end. For students who choose to return to the U.S. for further study, knowing a few friends can make them feel much more confident and comfortable in a new place.

5 *Improve Your English*

As international students chat with new friends and instructors, they'll practice their English without even realizing it. There's no better way to learn subtle language cues and U.S. idioms than by diving into an international summer program.

These are just a handful of the benefits international students can gain from attending a summer program in the USA! 🌟 —*Tips provided by iD Tech*



iD Tech

CAMPS, ACADEMIES & ONLINE

Code **Apps**

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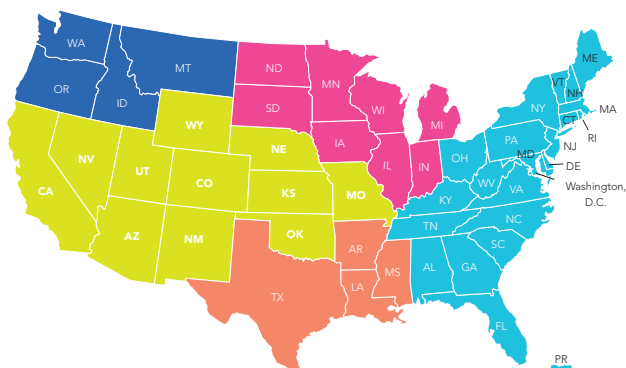


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