美国高校招生指南

Guide to American University Admission

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美国高校招生指南
Guide to American University
Admission

WINDOW 百叶窗

本书编委会 编



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

百叶窗:美国高校招生指南/《百叶窗:美国高校招生指南》编委会编。--杭州:杭州出版社,2012.5

ISBN 978-7-80758-599-2

I. ①百··· II. ①百··· III. ①高校-留学生教育-概况-美国②高校-介绍-美国 IV. ①G639. 712. 8

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2012)第095381号

WINDOW

百叶窗

——美国高校招生指南

本书编委会 编

责任编辑 郑雅来

美术编辑 屈 皓

出版发行 杭州出版社(西湖文化广场32号6楼)

电话: (0571) 87997719 邮编: 310014

印 刷 杭州星晨印务有限公司

开 本 889×1194 1/16

字 数 270 千字

印 张 13.5

版 印 次 2012年5月第1版 2012年5月第1次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978-7-80758-599-2

定 价 48.00元

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第一章 Chapter 1



美国大学

招生第一手资料

First-hand Information on American University Application

如何选择美国大学

派克维尔大学 (University of Pikeville) 提供

一提到美国留学,很多人马上想到哈佛或者耶鲁。这是由于中国的高等教育体制下,大学之间存在着等级之分。北大和清华是一流大学,在很多人眼中相当于中国的哈佛和耶鲁。但是有多少人能上哈佛和耶鲁?好消息是,美国的大学体系不同于中国。在美国,人们注重的是大学所获得的认证。一所大学获得了认证,证明它达到了认证机构规定的标准。这基本上意味着所有获得认证的大学都达到了认证机构规定的标准,一个学生可以在一所私立大学(如派克维尔大学University of Pikeville)获得与在哈佛和耶鲁同等水平的教育。也就是说,不存在二流和三流的获得认证的大学——它们都在同一水平。因此,学生在选择美国大学时,应该首先确认这所大学是否获得区域性的认证;其次,费用如何;再次,学生想要怎样的大学经历。

让我们来做一个比较。在一所规模较大的大学,你会有更多的专业和学习领域可以选择。但是,你同样可以在一所规模较小的大学找到相同领域的许多专业。我们来看一下课堂容量。你希望与200个学生挤在一个任课教授都不知道你名字的教室上课,还是在一个容纳10—20人的、关系亲密的小班级上课?在那儿,教授不仅知道你的名字,并且在你需要的时候能给予个人的帮助。在一个规模较小的大学,你更有可能获得小班制的教学。

大学的费用也是考虑因素之一。许多就读于规模较大的美国大学的学生,其费用由州政府给予津贴补助。这使得这部分学生的学费大大降低。然而,这也意味着非当地的学生需要支付较高的教育费用。但是,在规模较小的私立大学,费用会降低许多,因为所有的学生支付同样的教育费用。同时,许多规模较小的大学提供国际奖学金来保

证支付高质量的教育费用。

你所期望的是一般性的大学经历,在校园里待上四年,永远不需要经历校园以外的生活?这种情况在规模较大的大学是有可能发生的。但是如果你想经历真正的美国生活,也许一所规模较小的私立大学会更适合你。在派克维尔大学,你会从机场一路来到位于东肯塔基州的阿巴拉契亚山脉的心脏地带。在这里,你不仅可以接受高质量的教育,同时也可以在一个风景如画且充满历史气息的环境中体验独特的美国生活。派克维尔大学位于一个小镇上,在这里你可以接触真正的美国,而不是被关在大学校园里、永远没有机会去发现真正的美国生活。

欢迎来派克维尔大学,体验真正的美国生活!

学校网址: http://www.upike.edu 或联系派克维尔大学招生办: Email: admissions@upike.edu

How to Choose an American University

Many students looking to study in America automatically think of Harvard or Yale. This is because in the Chinese system of higher education, there are different tiers of universities. Bei Da and Tsinghua are first tier universities, and many think they can be compared to Harvard and Yale. But who can afford Harvard and Yale? Good news! The system in America is different than in China. In America, what a student needs to look for is university accreditation. If a university is accredited, then it meets standards set by an accreditation agency. This basically means that all accredited universities meet the standards of its accrediting agency and that a student will find the same level of education at a small private university such as University of Pikeville in Kentucky that he/she will find at Harvard or Yale. In other words, there are no second and third tier accredited universities—they are all on the same level. When looking to choose an American university, a student first needs to check that it has been regionally accredited. Second, what is the cost? Third, what type of university experience does the student want?

Let's compare. In a big university, you will find more majors and fields of study. However, you can also find many of the same areas of study in a small university. Let's look at class size. Do you want to be in a class with 200 other students where the professor does not know your name? Or, do you want to be part of a small intimate class of 10–20 where the professor not only knows your name, but can give you individual help when needed? In a smaller university, you are more likely to have small class sizes.

The cost of your university education must also be a consideration. For many of the students attending large American universities the cost is subsidized by the state government this allows the cost for these students to be much lower. Unfortunately, this means students from outside the state or country will pay a much higher cost of education. However, in small private universities, the cost can be much lower because all students have the same cost of education. Also, many small universities give international scholarships to help make the cost of a quality education affordable.

Are you looking for a generic university experience where you can stay on campus all four years and never have to experience life off campus? This is possible with a large university. If you want to experience real life in America, then perhaps a small private university is for you. At the University of Pikeville, you will be met at the airport and brought to the heart of the Appalachian Mountains in Eastern Kentucky. Here you can receive not only a quality education, but also a unique American experience of living in a beautiful and historical part of America. University of Pikeville is located in a small town where you can interact with real America, and not be stuck on a university campus, never having the opportunity of discovering what life in America is really like.

Come for the Experience, Come to the University of Pikeville!

Come Visit at:

http://www.upike.edu/

or Contact the UPIKE Admissions Office at:

admissions@upike.edu

申请美国大学避免五大误区

博伊西州立大学 (Boise State University) 提供

1. 不要过分重视学校排名

排名只能说明学校的部分信息。每所大学都是独特的,有各自不同的特点和优势。你应该根据自身爱好和情况来选择相应的学校。比如,博伊西州立大学(Boise State University)的工程系本科专业在全美公立大学中排名为第15名(根据《美国新闻与世界报道》)。但这所大学除了工程系以外,还有200多个其他专业项目,可以提供学习、很好的实习选择、独特的本科生科研机会,以及多元化的留学生生活。如果你想要一份很棒的学习履历并且为你的研究生阶段做准备,那么,像博伊西州立大学这样一所位于大都市的研究型大学会是一个不错的选择。

如果你面对太多的留学信息无从选择,你可以联系当地的美国教育咨询中心获取信息(网址: http://www.educationusa.info/centers.php)。

2. 不要完全依赖留学中介获取信息

大多数的大学会将大量的信息公布在校网上,有的甚至已有中文信息,或者网站本身有翻译功能。不要怕向大学的招生办直接提问。 他们一定非常乐意通过邮件或电话听到你的心声,并且会尽快就你提出的任何疑问提供帮助。

3. 不要过分注重考试成绩

在中国,人们会认为高考成绩"一考定终生"。但是,在美国, 没有所谓的"大学入学考试"。一些美国的大学,如博伊西州立大 学,甚至不要求国际学生拥有SAT或ACT成绩。他们只需要你的高中成绩单,以及用以证明你的英语水平的TOFEL或IELTS最低入学成绩。如果你的TOFEL或IELTS不够高,你可以重新考试。不管你第一次考试时分数有多低,不管你考多少次,一旦你达到了学校的最低入学成绩,你就可以申请了!

4. 不要寄不必要的申请材料

要清楚不同学校的具体入学要求。你通常可以在学校的网站上找到。准备申请材料是一件相当费时费力的事情。不要浪费时间和金钱寄一些不在要求之列的文章或推荐信。一些学校,如博伊西州立大学,只看你的在校成绩单和TOFEL或IELTS成绩。严格按照学校的要求寄出申请材料,你的申请过程会比较顺利。

5. 不要盲从

只要做你自己!申请美国大学时,你要展现你的个性,尤其是在申请奖学金的时候。父母会让孩子学钢琴,因为有人由于这项特长被大学录取。不要简单地模仿他人!美国的大学希望看到你的独特之处,那些使你与众不同的事物也将帮助你在大学期间以及毕业以后出类拔萃,获得成功。

5 "Don'ts" When Applying to U.S. Universities

Don't take rankings for granted.

Rankings only tell part of the story. Every university is unique, with different characteristics and advantages. You should pick one according to your own preferences and situation. For example, Boise State University ranked 15th in the U.S. for engineering undergraduate programs at public universities (according to US News and World Report). But the university is made up of more than just the Engineering department. There are over 200 programs of study, good internship options, unique undergraduate research opportunities and diversity within the international student population. If you want to build your resume and get great preparation for graduate school then maybe a metropolitan research university like Boise State University is a good option for you.

If you're overwhelmed by all the universities you can choose from, you can contact your local Education USA advising center for information (http://www.educationusa.info/centers.php).

2. Don' trely just on your agent for information.

Most universities have great information posted on their websites. Sometimes that information is even available in Chinese, or the website might have a translation feature. Don't be afraid to ask a university questions directly. Admissions Offices will be more than happy to hear your voice by email or phone and will quickly assist you with any concerns.

3. Don't focus on test scores too much.

In China, people say the score of the "university entrance exam" can determine the fate of a student. However, there is no such thing as the "entrance exam" in the U.S. Some universities, like Boise State University, may not even require SAT and ACT scores from international students. They just ask for your high school record and minimum TOEFL or IETLS scores to show you can do university study in English. If your TOEFL or IELTS test scores aren't high enough, you can retake the test. No matter how low your scores are the first time you take it, or how many times you take it, once you have the minimum score, you're in!

Don't send unnecessary documents.

Be aware of the specific requirements of different schools. You can usually find them on the school's website. Preparing documents is an important investment of your time and money. Don't waste it sending essays or letters of recommendation if they aren't required. Some schools like Boise State University just look at your academic record and TOEFL or IELTS score Send the necessary documents exactly as they are requested by the university and your application process will go smoothly.

5. Don't follow the crowd blindly.

Just be yourself! When applying to U.S. universities, you want to show your own personality, especially in scholarship applications. Parents will ask their children to learn the piano because someone else was accepted because of this specialty. Don't simply copy others! Universities want to see the uniqueness in you, and what makes you special will help make you successful during and after university too.

个人陈述中常见的七类错误

特洛伊大学 (Troy University) 亚特兰大校区提供

下文列出了中国学生在撰写个人陈述时常见的七类错误。这些错误出卖了不是以英语为母语的作者。如果你仔细学习语法书,对这些错误予以重视,你会发现它们还是很容易被纠正的。

冠词:单数名词前不要忘记加上不定冠词"a/an"或定冠词"the"。试着想象一下,名词就好比在一个宴会中四处乱转的陌生来宾:他们需要被适当地引介给其他人,冠词的作用正是如此。"I spoke to a professor. The professor told me about an essay. I will read the essay."不定冠词"a"或"an"的作用是初次引入一个单数名词。定冠词"the"的作用是引入之前已提到过的名词。

介词:如果你是"on"a train,"on"a plane,"in"a taxi或"in"a car,那么你是一位乘客。如果你是"at"the movies,那么你是在观看电影。但如果你是"in"the movies,那么你就是一位电影明星。你居住:"in"Atlanta,"on"Peachtree Street,"at"711Peachtree Street。介词很容易混淆,是吗?是的。但如果你能熟练地掌握介词的用法,你的文章将会更加流畅。

词性:要记住英语的许多词汇有名词、动词、形容词或副词的词性区别,取决于它们在句子中的形式或语境。所以,在应该使用名词"success"的时候不要使用动词"succeed"。

主谓一致:如果句子的主语是单数形式,谓语动词也必须是单数形式;如果主语是复数形式,谓语动词也必须是复数形式。不论句子中的主语和谓语相隔多远,它们必须保持一致。"Mr. Johns, in spite of eating at fancy restaurants, likes his wife's cooking."这个句子的谓语是"likes",主语是"Mr. Johns",尽管最靠近谓语动词的是复数

名词 "restaurants"。主语 "Mr. Johns"是第三人称单数形式,因此谓语动词是单数形式的"likes",而不是复数形式的"like"。不可数名词和集体名词的情况更加复杂,所以要认真学习。

"英式英语":美式英语与英式英语有所不同。如果你写 "have not"而不是 "do not have", 你就是在使用英式英语。英式英语没有错, 但在那些阅读你的文章的美国人看来就不是很恰当。

长句:理想状态下,一篇文章中的句子应长短变化,错落有致。 但如果你的长句会让你的读者觉得信屈聱牙、异常费解,你就必须将 长句分解成短句。

主动语态vs被动语态:在一个主动语态的句子中,主语是行动发出者。如在 "I closed the door."这个句子中,主语是 "I", "I"做出了关门这个动作。在一个被动语态的句子中,主语不是行动发出者。如在 "The door was closed by me."这个句子中,主语是 "door", "door"没有自己做出关门这个动作。一般而言,你的个人陈述中90%的句子应该是主动语态的。主动语态的句子越多,文章就越好。

现在, 开始撰写你精彩的个人陈述吧!

供稿:特洛伊大学,亚特兰大校区 ELS项目主管 Robert Wm. Klein Email: rwklein@troy.edu

Seven Mistakes to Avoid When Writing a College Essay

The following are seven common areas in which mistakes are made by Chinese students writing college essays in English. They betray the fact that the writer is not a native English speaker. If you study your grammar books and pay particular attention to these errors, you will find that they are easily corrected.

Articles:Do not forget to use "a/an" or "the" with singular count nouns. If it helps, think of nouns as strangers milling about at a party: They need to be introduced properly, and an article does just that. "I spoke to a professor. The professor told me about an essay. I will read the essay." "A" or "an" introduces a singular count noun for the first time. "The" refers to a noun you have already encountered.

Prepositions: You are a passenger if you are "on" a train, "on" a plane, "in" a taxi, or "in" a car. You are watching a movie if you are "at" the movies, but you are a movie star if you are "in" the movies. You live "in" Atlanta, "on" Peachtree Street, and "at" 711 Peachtree Street. Are prepositions confusing? Yes, they are, but a mastery of prepositions will make your essays read smoothly.

Parts of Speech: Remember that many words in English can be nouns, verbs, adjectives, or adverbs, depending on their form or their context in the sentence. So don't write the verb "succeed" when you mean the noun "success."

Subject/Verb Agreement: If the subject of your sentence is singular,