

Why Study in the US?

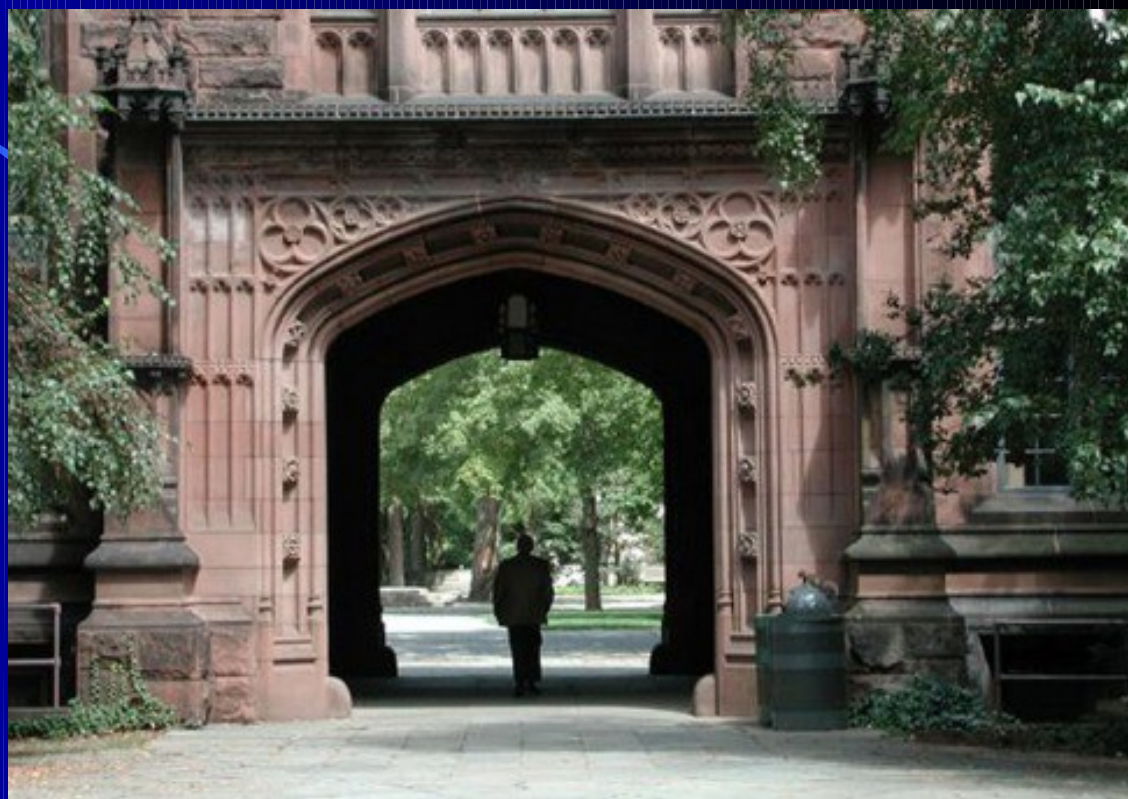


Snezhana Teneva
EducationUSA Advisor
Bulgarian-American
Fulbright Commission
www.fulbright.bg
steneva@fulbright.bg
(02) 981 6830

IIE Open Doors 2010

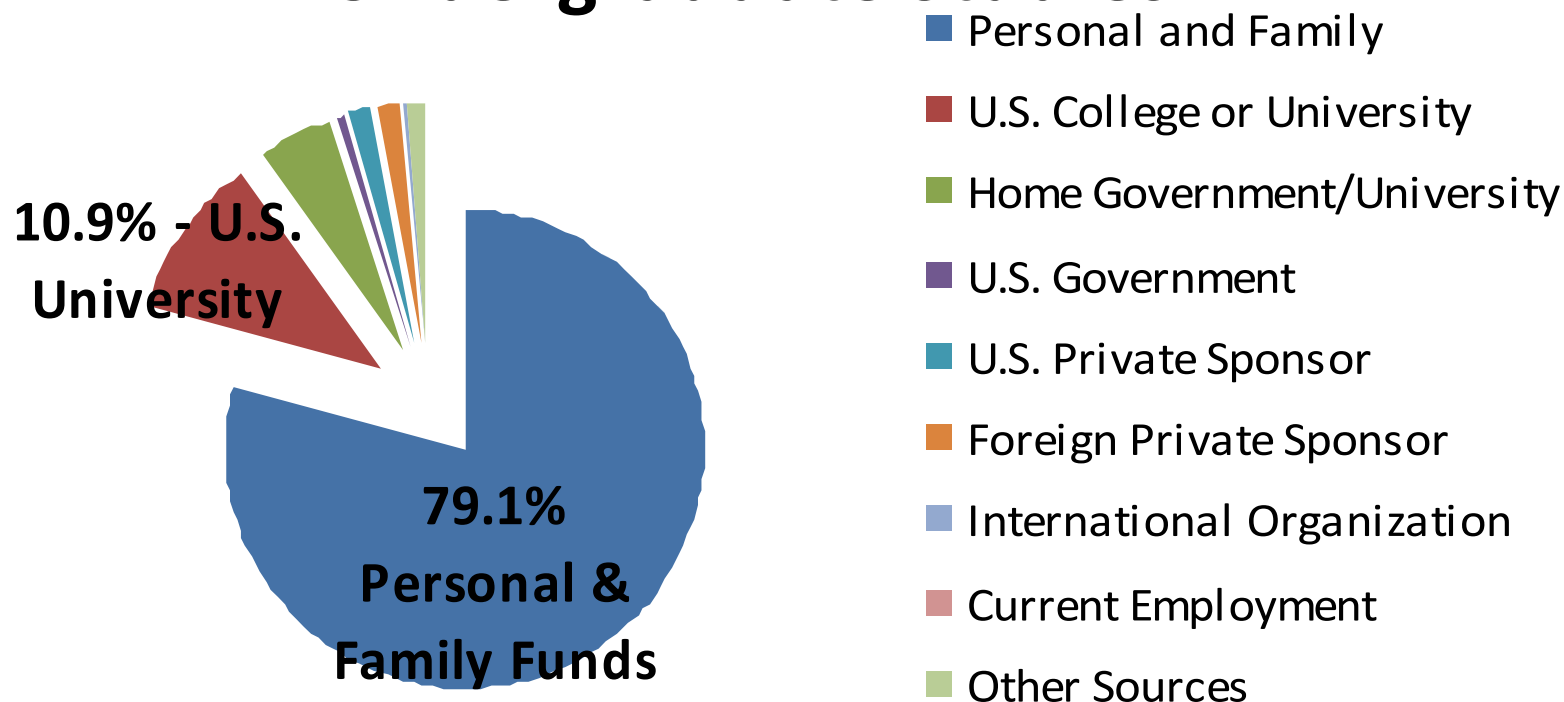
Report on International Educational Exchange

- International Students in the US
- AY 2009 – 2010
- 690,923 (+2.9%)



IIE Open Doors 2010

Primary Source of Funding for Undergraduate Studies



IIE Open Doors 2010

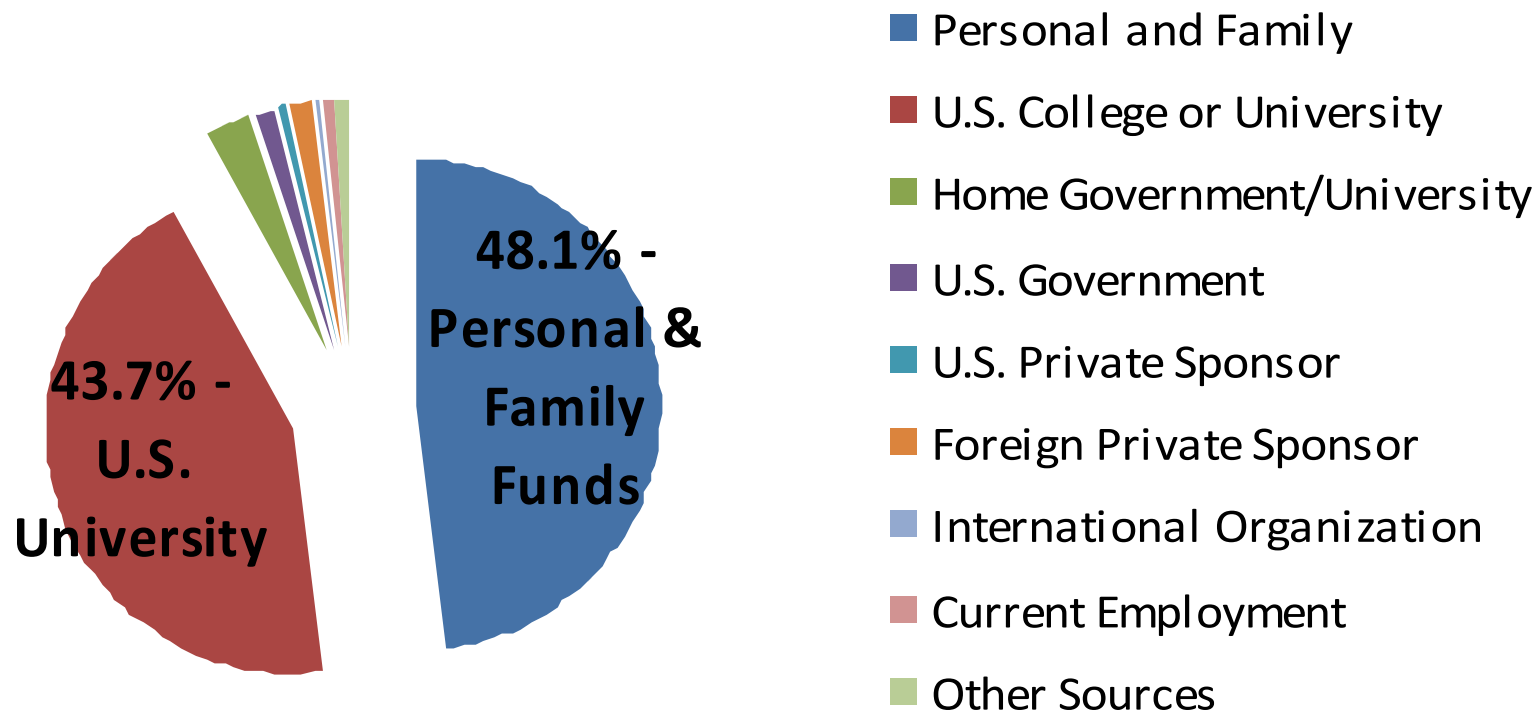
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY PRIMARY SOURCE OF FUNDING, 2008/09 & 2009/10

<u>Primary Source of Funding</u>	<u>2008/09 Int'l Students</u>	<u>2008/09 % of Total</u>	<u>2009/10 Int'l Students</u>	<u>2009/10 % of Total</u>	<u>% Change</u>
U.S. College or University	152 457	22,7	166 369	24,1	+ 9,1



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Primary Source of Funding for Graduate Students



Undergraduate Financial Aid to International Students

- Over 900 UG colleges and universities award \$10,000 or more to international students; or
- Have an annual total cost below \$15,000; or
- Can bring their annual cost to less than \$15,000 with Scholarships / financial aid

Undergraduate Financial Aid to International Students

- **Number of institutions that award over \$10,000 to individual international students: 903**
- **Number of institutions that award \$20,000-\$30,000: 195**
- **Number of institutions that award \$30,000-\$40,000: 80**
- **Number of institutions that award more than \$40,000: 105**
- **Number of institutions that have awarded full funding (defined as >90% of comprehensive annual cost): 183**

Student Visas

- **The Department of State issued 715,093 student, exchange and vocational visas in FY2010**
- **The top 5 countries were: China, South Korea, India, Germany, and Russia**
- **Worldwide, 86,5% of student visas are approved**
- **97% of students receive their visas within a few days**

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- **Bulgarian Students in the US**
- **AY 2009 – 2010: 2,495 (-14%)**
 - 1,154 UG Students (46%)**
(-24% change from last year)
 - 4-Year Institutions – 83%*
 - 2-Year Community Colleges – 17%*
 - 900 Gr. Students (36%)**
(-11% change from last

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Top 5 UG Institutions for Bulgarian Students in the US

- Ramapo College of New Jersey
- St. John's University, NY
- Quincy College, MA
- Mount Holyoke College, MA
- Princeton University, NJ
- Northeastern Illinois University, IL

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Top 5 Graduate Institutions for Bulgarian Students in the US

- Harvard University, MA
- New York University, NY
- Columbia University, NY
- Boston University, MA
- Stanford University, CA
- USC, CA

Why Study in the US

- **Quality**

Facilities, resources & faculty are considered the best in the world: accreditation systems and strong financial base ensure high standards.



Why Study in the US

- **Power**

\$49 billion spent annually on research in US universities.



Why Study in the US

•Choice

Approximately 5 000 universities offer UG study to over 19 million students in different types of institutions.

•17 of the top 20 world universities are US universities



Academic Ranking of World Universities - 2010

World Rank	Institution	Region	Regional Rank	Country	National Rank
1	<u>Harvard University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	1	USA	1
2	<u>UC, Berkeley</u>	<u>Americas</u>	2	USA	2
3	<u>Stanford University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	3	USA	3
4	<u>MIT</u>	<u>Americas</u>	4	USA	4
5	<u>University of Cambridge</u>	<u>Europe</u>	1	UK	1
6	<u>CIT</u>	<u>Americas</u>	5	USA	5
7	<u>Princeton University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	6	USA	6
8	<u>Columbia University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	7	USA	7
9	<u>University of Chicago</u>	<u>Americas</u>	8	USA	8
10	<u>University of Oxford</u>	<u>Europe</u>	2	UK	2
11	<u>Yale University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	9	USA	9
12	<u>Cornell University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	10	USA	10
13	<u>UC, Los Angeles</u>	<u>Americas</u>	11	USA	11
14	<u>UC, San Diego</u>	<u>Americas</u>	12	USA	12
15	<u>University of Pennsylvania</u>	<u>Americas</u>	13	USA	13
16	<u>University of Washington</u>	<u>Americas</u>	14	USA	14
17	<u>UWisconsin - Madison</u>	<u>Americas</u>	15	USA	15
18	<u>Johns Hopkins University</u>	<u>Americas</u>	16	USA	16
18	<u>UC, San Francisco</u>	<u>Americas</u>	16	USA	17
20	<u>The University of Tokyo</u>	<u>Asia/Pacific</u>	1	Japan	1

Source: An annual list produced by Shanghai Jiao Tong University - <http://www.arwu.org/ARWU2010.jsp>

Why Study in the US

- **Flexibility**
 - You have two years to choose your major.
 - You can gain practical experience in your field, attend conferences.



Why Study in the US

- **People**
Dynamic,
respected, and
diverse, with
high proportion
of international
students.

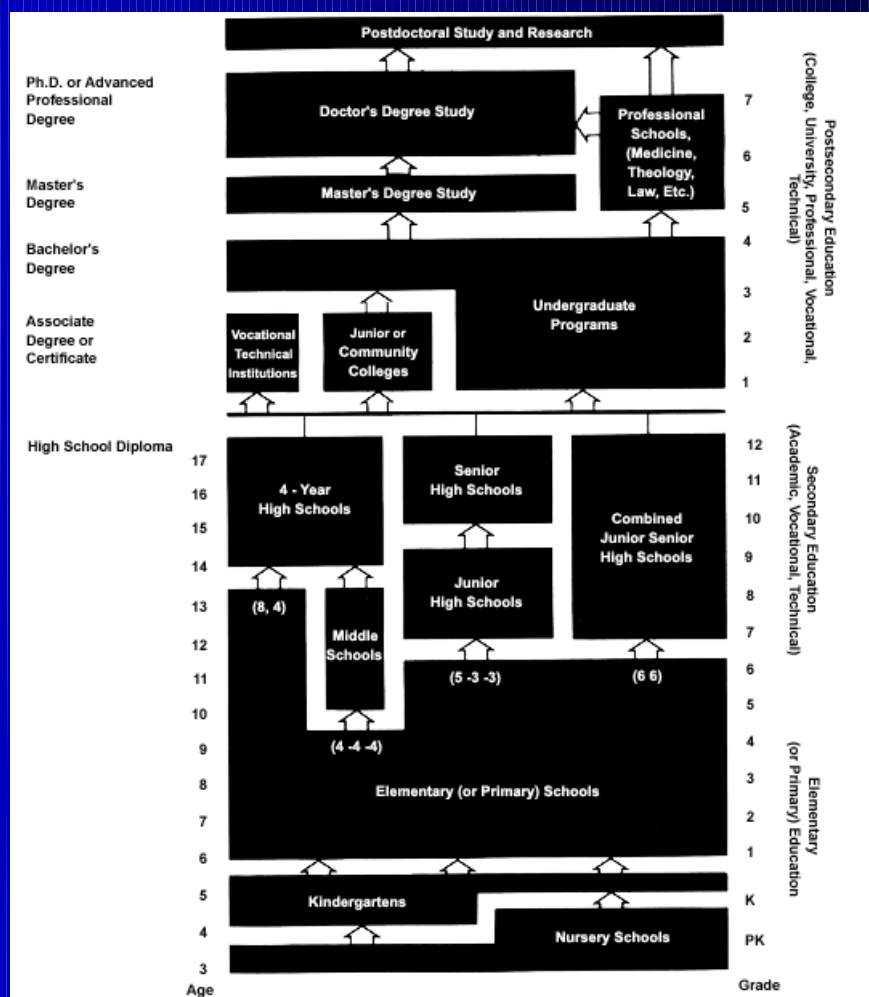


Why Study in the US

- **Personal**
Leadership,
independence,
challenge,
experience,
networking,
relationships,
communication skills,
collaboration, etc.



The U.S. Higher Education System



Types of Institutions

- Colleges, Universities, and Institutes
- Community Colleges
- Technical and Vocational Colleges
- Private and Public Institutions
- Women's only
- Religiously affiliated



Academic Degrees

- **Associate**

Degrees: A.A., A.S.

- **Bachelor's**

Degrees: B.A., B.S.

- **Master's Degrees**

- **Academic**

Master's: M.A. , M.S

- **Professional**

**Master's: M.B.A., M.S.W.,
M.Ed., M.F.A., M.P.A.,
M.P.P.**

- **Doctoral Degrees:**

Ph.D., Ed.D., D.B.A.



The Liberal Arts Philosophy

**Well - rounded
academic
education
that develops
the student's
verbal, written,
and reasoning
skills**



Key Factors in Undergraduate Admission

For scholarships, the admissions requirements include:

- **Outstanding academics (GPA, Honors Program)**
- **Level of courses (IB Program, AP courses)**
- **Extraordinary letters of recommendation (three + one)**
- **Impressive essay(s)**
- **Honors and awards**
- **Leadership**
- **Extracurricular activities (academic and non-academic)**
- **Volunteerism (service and giving back)**
- **Excellent English language proficiency**

How to make your application stand out?

- **Excellent High School Diploma**
- **Strong test scores on the iBT TOEFL and SAT**
- **For top schools students need to have excellent scores on the Subject Tests in sciences and Mathematics, Level II**
- **Students need to have some science research through school**
- **Students need to have competed and won olympiads in mathematics or physics**

How to Prepare a Winning College Application?



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