



Dr. Lisa Helton | Ph.D.

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with AEI

Why parents & students

**CHOOSE**

American Education International

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Helton, Lisa

THRIVE with AEI: *Why parents & students CHOOSE  
American Education International*

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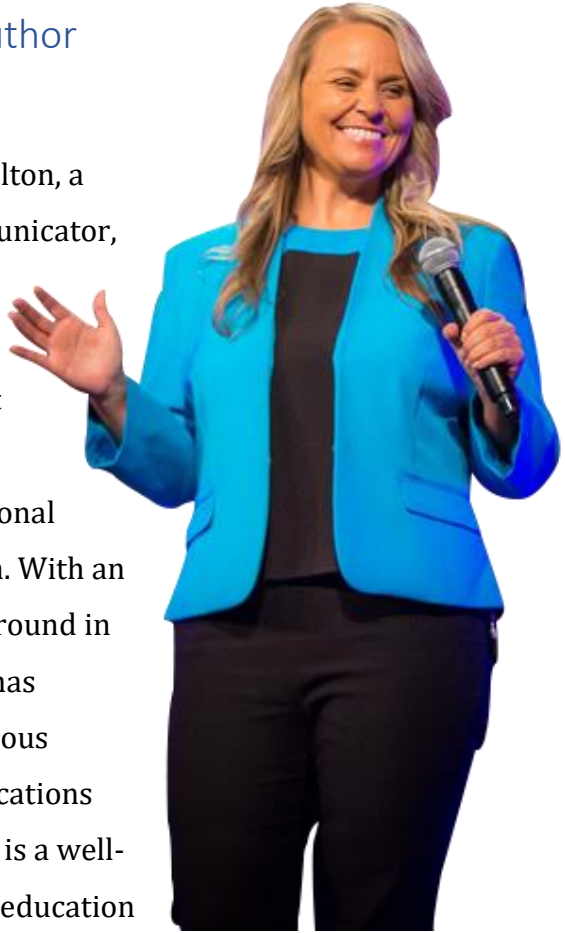
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## About the Author

Meet Dr. Lisa Helton, a seasoned communicator, consultant, coach, and cultural-thought leader with a passion for personal growth and faith. With an extensive background in education, Lisa has authored numerous books and publications on the topic and is a well-known figure in education circles as the "Transformation Teacher."



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With over 25 years of experience as a teacher, principal, superintendent, and founder and developer, Lisa has dedicated her life to empowering educators and leaders worldwide. Her mission is to transform education and

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organizations through her expertise as a change agent.

As the CEO of American Education International (AEI), Lisa has continued to provide education services worldwide, including English Language Learning for all ages and American K-12 education. Her contributions have impacted over 150,000 classroom educators and leaders worldwide.

Beyond her professional achievements, Lisa is known by those closest to her as a lover of light and a speaker of life. Her caring nature and her expertise in the field of personal growth have earned her the title of "doctor of the heart and mind." She is also known as Linda's miracle baby girl, a testament to her resilience and strength.

Get to know Lisa Helton and discover the transformative power of education and personal growth, and faith.

## Dedication

To courageous parents and students with big dreams and the educators who are serving as vessels to see them fulfilled.

## Introduction

Greetings, dear reader. I'm honored to have this opportunity to share with you a guidebook for international parents on navigating the American education system. My name is Dr. Lisa Helton, CEO of American Education International, LLC. This book is dedicated to international families with big dreams who are ready to do what it takes to achieve them. American Education International is here to be the bridge to your fulfilled purpose and prosperous future. Our mission is just four words. Training Minds. Improving Hearts. Hidden behind these words are deep downloads of knowledge, wisdom, and love.

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In "Thrive AEI: Why International Families Choose American Education International," I am inviting you on a journey of discovery and empowerment. This has been written partly as a comprehensive guide to navigating the American education system, help you avoid pitfalls, and ultimately achieve the success you have been hoping for. But "Thrive AEI" is more than just a guidebook - it is a call to action. Through personal stories and powerful examples. I hope you

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and your family is inspired to dream big and pursue your goals with confidence.

In this guidebook, we'll delve into the importance of advanced English proficiency and the benefits it brings for college admissions. We'll explore the SAT, and strategies for improving your child's English proficiency. We'll also discuss the value of an American high school diploma, its requirements, and the benefits it offers for college admissions. But we won't stop there. In this book, we'll also help you navigate the American education system and give you insights on selecting the right university or college. We'll talk about the factors to consider when choosing a school, how to research universities and colleges, and evaluate admissions requirements.

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At AEI, we believe that every student has unique strengths and interests, and in this guidebook, we'll help you identify and nurture them. We'll discuss how to research the demand for different fields of study and evaluate potential career paths, so your child's investment in higher education produces a quality career. We understand that the

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journey to the American education system can be overwhelming, which is why we've included a chapter on the differences between AEI coaches and education agents. We'll help you understand the role of an education agent and the benefits of working with an AEI coach.

Finally, we'll walk you through the student visa process, with an overview of the application process and tips on how to prepare for the visa interview, so your child can focus on their academic journey with confidence. We hope this guidebook will serve as a valuable resource for you and your child's educational journey in the United States. So, let's get started!

## Chapter 1

The global dominance of the English language is one of the most remarkable phenomena of our time.

- David Crystal

David Crystal is a British linguist, academic, and author who is well known for his work on language and linguistics. He was born in 1941 in Lisburn, Northern Ireland, and grew up in Wales. Crystal received his PhD in English from University College London in 1966 and has since published over 100 books on a wide range of linguistic topics, including language structure, history, and usage. He is particularly renowned for his work on the English language, having written extensively on its grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Crystal is also a leading authority on the language of Shakespeare and has published several books on the subject. He has been awarded numerous honors and awards for his contributions to linguistics, including the Order of the British

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Empire (OBE) in 1995 and the Queen's  
Anniversary Prize for Higher Education in 2011.



## Chapter 1: The Law of the Strong Foundation

Are you willing to build a strong foundation?

Welcome to Chapter 1, where we'll explore the "Law of the Strong Foundation" and its importance in education. Imagine building a strong structure with sturdy stones - each one carefully chosen and expertly placed to support the weight above it. Similarly, a strong foundation is the cornerstone of academic and personal success. It's like a bedrock of solid stones that can withstand the tests of time and weather. These stones represent not only academic skills, but also character traits like resilience, self-awareness, and a growth mindset. By carefully selecting and placing these stones, we can build a foundation that supports our children in achieving their dreams and reaching their full potential. So, let's dive in and discover how to choose and place these strong stones to build a foundation that will last a lifetime.

Building a strong foundation for your child's success starts with recognizing the importance of

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English proficiency, the global language of opportunity. It takes courage to take the first step towards proficiency, but with dedication and hard work, your child can master the language and unlock countless opportunities.

But a strong foundation is more than just language proficiency. It also involves developing essential skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication. It means setting clear goals, developing effective study habits, and creating a supportive network of peers and mentors.

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In this chapter, we'll explore the Law of the Strong Foundation, why it's essential for your child's success, and how you can support them in building it. We'll also connect these ideas to your experiences as international parents, charting a new course in pursuit of your dreams.

### [The Origin of English Language: How it Became a Global Phenomenon](#)

As a language model, I am fascinated by the complex and diverse evolution of the English language. From its humble origins in the Germanic

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tribes of Britain to its status as a global language, English has a rich and fascinating history.

The origins of English can be traced back to the 5th and 6th centuries AD when Germanic tribes invaded Britain. They brought with them a language that would become known as Old English or Anglo-Saxon. Old English was a highly inflected language, with complex grammatical structures and a vocabulary that was heavily influenced by Latin, Greek, and Scandinavian languages.

Over time, Old English evolved into Middle English, which was spoken from the 11th to the 15th centuries. Middle English was heavily influenced by the French language and culture after the Norman Conquest of 1066. As a result, many French words and phrases were incorporated into the language.

In the late Middle Ages, English began to undergo a major shift in pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary, known as the Great Vowel Shift. During this time, many of the vowels in English were pronounced differently than they are today,

and the language began to take on many of the features of modern English.

The Renaissance period brought a renewed interest in classical languages such as Latin and Greek, and many new words and expressions were borrowed from these languages. The invention of the printing press in the 15th century also played a significant role in the standardization and spread of the English language.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, English became a global language, with the expansion of the British Empire and the rise of American influence. Today, English is one of the most widely spoken and written languages in the world, and it continues to evolve and change over time.

The evolution of English has been influenced by a wide range of cultures and languages, from Latin and Greek to French and Scandinavian. This diversity has made English a versatile and adaptable language, capable of expressing complex ideas and concepts.

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English has also benefited from its association with the British Empire and the rise of American influence. The spread of English around the world has been fueled by global trade, technology, and the media. Today, English is used as a common language in international organizations, such as the United Nations and the European Union.

The history of the English language is a rich and complex story of evolution and adaptation. From its humble origins in the Germanic tribes of Britain to its current status as a global language, English has been shaped by a wide range of cultures and languages. It continues to evolve and change over time, reflecting the diversity and complexity of the world we live in.

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### Importance of Advanced English Proficiency for College Admissions

As international parents, you undoubtedly want the best for your children, including the opportunity to attend higher education in the United States. One of the most important factors in achieving this goal is having a strong command of the English language. In fact, advanced English

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proficiency is a critical component of the college admissions process in the United States.

Integrated language skills, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing, are essential for academic success in higher education. College coursework is heavily based on reading and writing assignments, and students are expected to communicate their ideas effectively through class discussions, group projects, and presentations. English proficiency is also crucial for standardized tests such as the TOEFL, which is required for admission to most colleges and universities.

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Furthermore, having advanced English proficiency can give students a significant advantage in the admissions process. It demonstrates their ability to communicate effectively and engage in critical thinking, both of which are highly valued by admissions committees. A strong command of the English language can also make students more competitive for scholarships and financial aid opportunities.

It is important to note that English proficiency is not just about vocabulary and grammar, but also

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about cultural understanding and communication skills. Students who can adapt to and understand American culture will be better equipped to navigate the academic and social environments of their chosen institution.

To help your child achieve advanced English proficiency, consider enrolling them in an English language program or investing in private tutoring. Encourage them to read books, watch movies, and engage in conversations in English to improve their language skills. It is also important to start preparing early and to take advantage of any resources provided by colleges and universities, such as English language support programs. The best way to prepare is to enroll your child in American Education International's AmericanK12 school which will prepare your child for ever stage and every step.

In summary, advanced English proficiency is a crucial component of the college admissions process in the United States. It is essential for academic success, gives students a competitive advantage, and helps them navigate American

culture. By prioritizing English proficiency, you can help ensure that your child is well-equipped to succeed in higher education in the United States.

### English Proficiency Exams

Demonstrating English proficiency is an essential component for international students seeking to attend higher education in the United States. There are several types of tests that measure English proficiency, including the TOEFL and IELTS.

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The TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) measures a student's ability to understand and use English at the university level. It tests four integrated skills: reading, listening, speaking, and writing. The minimum score required for admission to most colleges and universities is 80, but some institutions may require a higher score. A score of 100 or above is considered highly competitive. The TOEFL is typically taken online and is valid for two years.

Similarly, the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) measures a student's proficiency in English language skills. The test



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measures listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills, and scores are reported on a scale of 1-9. The minimum score required for admission to most colleges and universities is 6.5, but some institutions may require a higher score. A score of 7 or above is considered highly competitive. The IELTS is available in paper or computer-based format and is valid for two years.

Students typically spend several months preparing for these tests, taking practice exams, and improving their language skills. However, simply preparing for these tests does not necessarily ensure a student's overall English proficiency.

On the other hand, American Education International (AEI) offers full courses in English, providing students with the opportunity to become proficient in English through immersion in an academic environment. By enrolling in AEI, students can learn and improve their language skills while also engaging in conversation hours and workshops to help them select and prepare for their higher education chosen field of interest. This option offers a more holistic approach to

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language learning, providing students with the opportunity to fully engage in the language and culture of the United States.

In summary, while the TOEFL and IELTS are essential tests for demonstrating English proficiency, students should also consider the option of enrolling in an academic program such as AEI to fully develop their language skills. In addition, AEI also operates an online AmericanK12 international school. This option will provide all courses in English and a high school diploma. Enrolling in a full academic program can provide students with a long-term solution to achieving English proficiency instead of repeatedly preparing for these tests can take several months.

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### Advantages of American High School Diploma

For international students who have graduated from an American high school, there is a great advantage in terms of English proficiency when applying to colleges and universities. Many higher education institutions in the United States do not require an English exam score such as TOEFL or IELTS if students have completed high school

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courses in English. This is because students who have attended high school in the US have already been exposed to the English language extensively through classroom instruction and daily interactions.

International students who have completed high school in the US can prove their English proficiency by providing their transcripts as evidence. Admissions officers will typically review transcripts to ensure that the student has completed all coursework in English, including English language arts, history, social studies, and other subjects.

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It is important to note that not all-American high schools are created equal. International students must attend a high school that meets certain requirements for their transcripts to be accepted as proof of English proficiency. For example, the high school must be accredited by a recognized agency and must offer all courses in English.

Overall, international students who have completed high school in the US have a significant advantage when it comes to proving their English

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proficiency to colleges and universities. They do not need to spend time and money preparing for and taking an English exam such as TOEFL or IELTS. Instead, they can focus on other aspects of their college application, such as their GPA, extracurricular activities, and essays.

### The Importance of Certified American Teachers

One of the most important factors in ensuring a high-quality education for international students in the United States is the presence of certified American teachers. This is one of the criteria used by accrediting agencies to evaluate schools and colleges, and for good reason.

American teachers bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, and expertise to the classroom. They are highly trained and knowledgeable about their subjects, and they have a deep understanding of the American education system. This means that international students who learn from American teachers can be confident that they are receiving a top-notch education.

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In addition to their expertise, American teachers offer a unique perspective on American culture and society. They can help international students navigate the complexities of American life and understand the nuances of the language and customs. This is particularly valuable for students who hope to pursue a career in the US or who plan to live and work in an English-speaking country.

Another advantage of learning from American teachers is the opportunity to attend classes with American students. This allows international students to immerse themselves in American culture and gain firsthand experience of the US education system. They can learn from their American peers and develop important social and cultural skills that will serve them well in their future academic and professional endeavors.

Overall, the presence of certified American teachers is a crucial factor in ensuring a high-quality education for international students in the United States. It provides them with the knowledge, skills, and cultural understanding they need to succeed in a globalized world. Accrediting

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agencies recognize this importance and make it a priority when evaluating schools and colleges.

### AEI Personalized Approach

Every student is unique and has their own strengths and weaknesses. It's important to AEI educators that we recognize these differences and tailor their teaching methods to each individual student. In this way, students can be motivated to learn and develop their own interests and passions. By taking a personalized approach to education, we can empower students to achieve their full potential and become successful, independent learners. Let's focus on creating an educational environment that celebrates diversity and encourages students to pursue their own unique paths to success.

### The Importance of English Proficiency in Obtaining a Good SAT Score

If you're an international parent who wants their child to attend college in the United States, it's important to understand the role that English proficiency plays in the college admissions

process. One key factor that determines a student's readiness for college-level coursework is their score on the SAT exam, which measures a student's knowledge of English language and other subjects.

The SAT is a standardized test that assesses a student's skills in reading, writing, and math. It is administered by the College Board and is widely used by colleges and universities in the United States as a factor in the admissions process. The test is typically taken by high school juniors and seniors who plan to apply to college.

The SAT consists of four sections: Reading, Writing and Language, Math (Calculator), and Math (No Calculator). The Reading section includes passages from literature, history, social studies, and natural sciences, while the Writing and Language section focuses on grammar and writing skills. The Math sections cover algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. There is also an optional Essay section that is required by some colleges and universities.

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The SAT is scored on a scale of 400 to 1600, with 1600 being the highest possible score. The passing score for the SAT varies by college or university, but most schools require a score of at least 1000 or 1100 to be considered for admission. However, many competitive schools require scores in the 1300 to 1500 range, and some top-tier institutions require scores above 1500.

English proficiency is crucial to achieving a good score on the SAT, particularly in the Reading and Writing and Language sections. These sections require students to read and analyze complex texts, understand, and apply grammar rules, and write coherent and well-organized essays.

Students who are not proficient in English may struggle with these tasks and may score lower on the test as a result.

In addition, many colleges and universities in the United States require international students to demonstrate English proficiency by taking the TOEFL or IELTS exams. These tests measure a student's ability to read, write, speak, and understand English and are used to ensure that



students are prepared for the academic demands of college-level coursework. However, this is not required for students who graduate from an all-English school offering an American High School diploma such as AmericanK12 within AEI.

### [The SAT: Its History, Purpose, and Importance in Higher Education](#)

For many high school students, the SAT exam is a rite of passage. This standardized test has been a part of American education since the early 20th century, and it continues to play a critical role in the college admissions process. But what is the SAT, and why is it so important?

The SAT, or Scholastic Assessment Test, was first introduced in 1926 by the College Board, a nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding access to higher education. The test was originally called the Scholastic Aptitude Test, and its purpose was to measure students' intellectual ability and predict their success in college. Over time, the test evolved to include more subjects and skills, such as reading comprehension, math, and writing.

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Today, the SAT is one of the most widely used college admissions tests in the United States. It is accepted by most colleges and universities, and it is often used as a factor in admissions decisions. The SAT is also used by some scholarship programs and employers as a measure of academic ability and potential.

The SAT is designed to assess a student's readiness for college-level coursework. The test consists of four sections: Reading, Writing and Language, Math (with calculator), and Math (without calculator). Each section is scored on a scale of 200-800, and the total score is the sum of the section scores. The maximum possible score is 1600.

While the SAT is just one of many factors considered in college admissions, it can be a critical factor for many students. A high SAT score can help students stand out from other applicants, increase their chances of admission to selective colleges, and qualify them for scholarships and other forms of financial aid.

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Given the importance of the SAT, many students choose to prepare for the exam through SAT prep classes. These classes are designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed on the exam. American Education International is one organization that offers SAT prep classes for students in June of 2023. These classes are designed to help students improve their scores and achieve their academic goals. However, it's important to note that spaces are limited, so interested students should sign up as soon as possible.

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The SAT is a critical component of the college admissions process in the United States. It has a long history of measuring academic ability and potential, and it continues to play an important role in higher education. Students who are planning to take the SAT should consider preparing for the exam through SAT prep classes, such as those offered by American Education International. By doing so, they can increase their chances of achieving a high score and pursuing their academic dreams.

## Summary

English proficiency is essential to achieving a good score on the SAT and to succeeding in college in the United States. Students who are not proficient in English may struggle with the reading, writing, and analysis required by the test, which can lower their score and limit their college options.

International students should focus on improving their English skills through reading, writing, and conversation practice, as well as by taking courses in English language and literature. By doing so, they can increase their chances of success on the SAT and in college.

## Advantages of American Education International (AEI) for College Readiness and Acceptance

For international students who want to attend college in the United States, American Education International (AEI) can be a valuable resource. AEI offers a comprehensive curriculum, certified teachers, and internal programming that can help students prepare for college and increase their chances of acceptance. In this chapter, we will

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explore the advantages of AEI for college readiness and acceptance.

### 1. Top Curriculum

AEI offers a top-notch curriculum that covers all core subjects and prepares students for college-level coursework. The curriculum is designed to meet the rigorous standards of American education and is taught by certified teachers who have experience working with international students. AEI's curriculum includes Advanced Placement (AP) courses, which can help students earn college credit while still in high school. AP courses are recognized by American universities as a sign of academic rigor and can help students stand out in the college admissions process.

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### 2. Certified Teachers

AEI's certified teachers are experienced in working with international students and are trained to provide individualized instruction that meets the needs of each student. They provide support and guidance to help students succeed academically and personally. AEI teachers also

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provide assistance with college admissions, including guidance on how to write a strong personal statement and how to prepare for college interviews.

### 3. Internal Programming

AEI's internal programming includes everything students need for college and career preparation. The program includes college counseling, standardized test preparation, and career readiness programs. AEI students have access to workshops, seminars, and individualized coaching sessions to help them prepare for college and career success.

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### 4. Easier on Students and Parents

AEI's internal programming is designed to make the process of college preparation and admission easier on students and parents. AEI provides guidance and support throughout the entire process, from choosing the right courses to preparing for standardized tests and completing college applications. AEI's counselors also help

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with visa applications and other logistical aspects of the college admissions process.

In conclusion, American Education International (AEI) offers a variety of advantages for international students who want to attend college in the United States. AEI's top curriculum, certified teachers, and internal programming make it easier for students to prepare for college and increase their chances of acceptance. AEI's guidance and support throughout the college admissions process can help students and parents navigate the complexities of American higher education.

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### [More Strategies to Improve English Proficiency for International Students](#)

If you're an international student who wants to attend college in the United States, it's important to have strong English skills. However, it can be challenging to improve your English proficiency if you are not a student within American K-12 or if you are not in any programs within American Education International. Fortunately, there are several strategies that you can use to improve your English skills and increase your chances of

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being accepted into an American college or university.

1. Read, read, read.

Reading is one of the best ways to improve your English skills. It exposes you to new vocabulary, grammar, and writing styles. Start by reading books and articles that interest you, whether they are in English or your native language. As you become more comfortable with English, challenge yourself with more advanced texts.

2. Watch English-language media.

Watching TV shows, movies, and videos in English is a fun way to improve your listening and comprehension skills. Try to watch with subtitles in English to help you understand new words and phrases.

3. Practice speaking and writing.

Speaking and writing are important components of English proficiency. Find opportunities to practice these skills, whether it's through



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conversation with friends, writing essays, or participating in online discussion groups.

### 4. Use language-learning apps.

There are many language-learning apps available that can help you improve your English skills. Some popular options include Duolingo, Babbel, and Rosetta Stone. These apps provide interactive lessons and exercises that can help you practice vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.

### 5. Take English classes.

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If you have access to English classes, take advantage of them. Many universities and community colleges offer English language classes for non-native speakers. These classes can provide structured instruction and opportunities to practice speaking and writing.

### 6. Hire a tutor.

If you can, consider hiring a private tutor to help you improve your English skills. A tutor can provide one-on-one instruction tailored to your specific needs and goals.

7. Take standardized English exams.

Taking standardized English exams, such as the TOEFL or IELTS, can help you assess your English proficiency and identify areas for improvement. These exams are also required by many American colleges and universities as part of the admissions process.

Improving your English skills takes time and effort, but with consistent practice and dedication, it is possible to achieve the level of proficiency needed to be accepted into an American college or university. By using a combination of these strategies, you can develop your language skills and increase your chances of success.

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NOTES/ACTION STEPS:

## Chapter 2

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

- Nelson Mandela

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Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader, and philanthropist who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. Born in a small village in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa, Mandela was educated at the University of Fort Hare and the University of Witwatersrand, where he studied law. In the 1940s, he became involved in the African National Congress (ANC), a political organization that sought to end racial segregation and discrimination in South Africa. Mandela was a key figure in the anti-apartheid movement, and he was imprisoned for 27 years for his activism. He was released in 1990 and went on to negotiate with the South African government for the end of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic government. In 1994, he became the first black

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president of South Africa, and he worked to promote reconciliation and healing between the country's different racial and ethnic groups. Mandela was a respected international figure and was awarded numerous honors, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. He passed away in 2013 at the age of 95, leaving behind a legacy of courage, leadership, and dedication to social justice.

## Chapter 2: The Law of Navigation

### Are You Willing to Chart Your Course?

Welcome to Chapter 2, where we'll dive into the "Law of Navigation" and explore the art of charting a course through the rough waters of education. Imagine yourself on a vast and endless ocean, with no clear path or direction. It can feel overwhelming, uncertain, and even scary. But as parents, you have the power to be your child's compass, to guide them through the swells and waves of academic choices, and to help them navigate their way to success. Navigation takes courage, vulnerability, and a willingness to ask for help when needed. It's not about having all the answers or knowing the perfect course, but rather about staying focused on the destination and remaining flexible enough to adjust course as needed. With the right tools and guidance, you can steer your child towards a bright and promising future with a clear sense of direction. So, let's set our sights on the horizon, and together, chart a course towards success!

The Law of Navigation reminds us that we all need a compass to guide us on our journey. A compass helps us to stay focused on our true north, even when we encounter rough waters or unexpected storms. Without a compass, we risk getting lost in the vast and complex system of education.

So, are you willing to chart your course? Are you willing to set a clear intention for your journey and use that intention as your guiding star? By creating a roadmap for success, you can stay focused and motivated, even when the journey gets tough.

In this chapter, we'll explore the American education system and provide you with the tools and knowledge you need to chart your course towards your dreams and goals. We'll cover everything from the different levels of education to the application process, helping you to create a clear roadmap for your journey.

Remember, just like a sailor, you can't control the winds or the waves, but you can control your direction. So, are you ready to chart your course?

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With the Law of Navigation as your guide, you can navigate the American education system with confidence and purpose.

### Overview of American Education System

When it comes to understanding the American education system, it's important to begin with the basics. In the United States, education is typically divided into several levels: early childhood education, elementary school, middle school, and high school. Each of these levels has its own unique focus and requirements and understanding them can be crucial for international parents looking to help their children navigate the American education system.

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Early childhood education typically begins around age three and runs until the age of five. This level of education is designed to help young children develop social, emotional, and cognitive skills through play-based activities and structured learning experiences. In many cases, early childhood education is not mandatory, but it can be an important foundation for future academic success.



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Elementary school is the next level of education, and it typically begins around age six and runs until age 11 or 12. This is a critical period for children as they begin to develop fundamental academic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. During elementary school, children also learn important social skills and begin to develop a sense of independence and responsibility.

Middle school, also known as junior high school, typically begins around age 11 or 12 and runs until age 14 or 15. This level of education can be a difficult transition for many students, as they move from the structured environment of elementary school to a more complex and demanding academic setting. During middle school, students are expected to develop more advanced academic skills, such as critical thinking and problem-solving, while also navigating the challenges of social interaction and peer pressure.

High school is the final level of formal education for most students, and it typically begins around age 14 or 15 and runs until age 18. During high school, students are expected to take on increasing levels of academic rigor and independence, as they prepare for

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college or other post-secondary options. In addition to academic coursework, high school students are often involved in extracurricular activities, such as sports, music, or volunteer work, which can help them develop important skills and interests.

Within the American education system, there are also several different types of schools. Public schools are funded by the government and are open to all students, while private schools are typically funded by tuition and are selective in their admissions process. There are also charter schools, which are publicly funded but operate independently of the traditional public school system, and homeschooling, which involves parents taking on the responsibility of educating their children at home.

It's also important to note that education in the United States is governed at the state level, rather than by a national board of education. Each state has its own board of education, which is responsible for setting standards and guidelines for education within that state. This can lead to some variability in the quality and rigor of education across different states.

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In conclusion, understanding the American education system is key for international parents who want to ensure their children are prepared for college and career success. By familiarizing themselves with the different levels of education, types of schools, and state governance structures, parents can make informed decisions about their children's education and provide the support and guidance needed to succeed.

### Florida Education System

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When it comes to the American education system, each state has its own unique set of guidelines and requirements. In the state of Florida, the requirements for obtaining a high school diploma are set by the Florida Department of Education.

To earn a standard high school diploma in Florida, students must complete 24 credits of coursework across several subject areas, including language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, physical education, and electives. Students must also earn passing scores on the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in English Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as the statewide Science

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Assessment. In addition, students must complete a certain number of community service hours and earn a passing score on the statewide Civics Assessment. (AEI's AmericanK12 school is not required to take the FSA.)

These requirements are designed to ensure that Florida students have a strong foundation of academic skills and knowledge and are well-prepared for college and career success. In fact, because Florida's high school diploma requirements are aligned with national education standards, students who complete these requirements are often well-prepared for college admissions across the United States.

For international parents and students who are seeking to navigate the American education system, it can be helpful to work with a provider of private education services such as American Education International (AEI). AEI is a registered company that offers English language learning and American K-12 education services for students of all ages. By working with AEI, international students can gain access to a rigorous American curriculum and certified teachers, which can help them meet the

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requirements for obtaining a high school diploma in Florida or other states.

In addition to providing a strong academic foundation, AEI's internal programming is designed to prepare students for college and career success. This includes offering college and career counseling, as well as extracurricular activities and other opportunities to develop important skills and interests.

In conclusion, understanding the education system in the state of Florida is an important step for international parents and students who are seeking to navigate the American education system. By following the guidelines for obtaining a high school diploma in Florida, students can ensure that they are well-prepared for college and career success, and by working with a provider of private education services such as AEI, students can gain access to the resources and support they need to thrive.

### High School Diplomas & Accreditation

Accreditation is an important factor for students who wish to earn a high school diploma in the United States. Schools must meet specific criteria set forth by

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accrediting agencies. These criteria typically include a certain number of course credits in core subject areas, qualified teachers, and rigorous academic standards.

One requirement that many accrediting agencies have is that students must earn at least 25% of their courses from AmericanK12 in order to earn a high school diploma. This ensures that students have a solid foundation in American education and are prepared for higher education or the workforce.

In addition to the 25% requirement, students must also have their transcripts analyzed and approved from other accredited schools in order to be able to transfer credits. This is important because it ensures that the credits earned at other schools meet the same academic standards as AmericanK12 and are eligible for transfer.

AmericanK12 is accredited from several different agencies, including ICAA and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). This accreditation ensures that the school meets rigorous academic standards and is recognized as a legitimate institution by colleges and universities.

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The guidelines for earning a high school diploma from AmericanK12 are based upon the state of Florida education requirements for high school graduation. These requirements include a minimum number of course credits in core subject areas such as math, English, and science. By meeting these requirements, students can be confident that they have a solid foundation in American education and are prepared for their future endeavors.

### Latin American & the Caribbean

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For students from Latin American countries who are seeking to attend college or university in the United States, the cost of tuition can be a major barrier. However, in the state of Florida, there is a little-known opportunity for Latin American students to attend college or university at the same tuition rates as in-state students.

This opportunity is made possible by Florida's HB851 legislation, which was signed into law in 2014. Under this legislation, students who are citizens or residents of one of the 33 countries in Latin America or the Caribbean can qualify for in-state tuition rates at any public college or university in Florida.

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This can be a significant cost savings for students, as out-of-state and international tuition rates can be much higher. However, very few people know about this opportunity, and many students from Latin America may not realize that they are eligible for this option.

### Qualifications

To qualify for in-state tuition rates under HB851, students must meet several requirements. First, they must be citizens or residents of one of the eligible countries in Latin America or the Caribbean. Second, they must have attended a Florida high school for at least three consecutive years prior to graduation or have graduated from a Florida high school.

In addition, students must provide documentation to show that they or their parents have paid Florida state taxes for at least three consecutive years prior to enrollment. They must also provide documentation of their citizenship or residency status.

It's important to note that while this opportunity is available for public colleges and universities in Florida, it may not apply to private institutions or out-



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of-state colleges and universities. Therefore, students who are interested in taking advantage of this option should carefully research their options and consult with college admissions counselors to determine the best path forward.

In conclusion, the HB851 legislation in Florida offers a valuable opportunity for students from Latin America and the Caribbean to attend college or university at in-state tuition rates. However, it's important for students to understand the requirements for eligibility and to carefully research their options to ensure that they are making the best choices for their academic and financial future.

### Florida SEVIS Bill

HB851, also known as the "Florida Student and Exchange Visitor Information System" or "SEVIS" bill, was signed into law in 2014. The purpose of this legislation was to allow students from Latin American and Caribbean countries to qualify for in-state tuition rates at public colleges and universities in Florida, regardless of their residency status.

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Under HB851, students must meet certain eligibility requirements to qualify for in-state tuition rates.

These requirements include:

1. Students must be citizens or residents of one of the 33 countries in Latin America or the Caribbean that are eligible for this program.
2. Students must have attended a Florida high school for at least three consecutive years prior to graduation or have graduated from a Florida high school.
3. Submission of an official Florida high school transcript.
4. Application for enrollment in a state university, FCS institution, or technical center within 24 months after high school graduation.
5. Students must provide documentation of their citizenship or residency status.

It's important to note that this program only applies to public colleges and universities in Florida. Private institutions and out-of-state colleges and universities may not be eligible for in-state tuition rates under this program.

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To take advantage of this opportunity, eligible students must apply for admission to a public college or university in Florida and provide the necessary documentation to demonstrate their eligibility for in-state tuition rates. This can include documentation of their residency status, high school attendance, and tax payments.

Overall, HB851 provides an important opportunity for students from Latin American and Caribbean countries to pursue higher education in Florida at a more affordable cost. However, students should carefully research their options and eligibility requirements to ensure that they are making the best choices for their academic and financial future.

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To access the full text of the bill on the official website of the Florida Legislature at [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov). Once you are on the website, you can search for the bill by its number (HB851) or by keyword search. The website provides access to the bill's full text, summary, and legislative history, as well as any amendments or related documents.

## Rewind & Deeper Dive

The education system in the United States is divided into three levels: elementary/primary school, middle/junior high school, and high school.

Elementary/primary school typically starts at age five or six and runs through the fifth or sixth grade, depending on the state. Middle/junior high school includes sixth or seventh grade through the eighth grade, and high school covers grades nine through twelve.

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Education in the United States is largely decentralized, with each state responsible for setting its own standards and requirements for public schools. However, there are some general standards that all schools must meet. At one time most states adopted the Common Core State Standards, but this is no longer the case.

In addition to public schools, there are also private schools in the United States, which are not subject to the same regulations and standards as public schools. Private schools may have their own curriculum and may require tuition payments.

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At the end of high school, students typically receive a diploma or a certificate of completion. Many students also take standardized tests, such as the SAT or ACT, which are used by colleges and universities to evaluate applicants.

In addition to the K-12 system, there is also higher education in the United States. This includes community colleges, which offer two-year degrees, and four-year colleges and universities, which offer bachelor's degrees and beyond.

Overall, the education system in the United States is complex and multifaceted, with many different institutions and organizations involved.

Understanding the different levels and standards of the system is important for anyone interested in pursuing education in the United States.

As international parents, you want nothing but the best for your children. You want to give them every opportunity to succeed, to grow, and to thrive. And when it comes to education, you know that a strong foundation is crucial to their future success.

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That's why American Education International is such a valuable option for your children. By enrolling in American Education International during grades 6-12, your children will be immersed in a rigorous and comprehensive education system that is designed to prepare them for the highest levels of English language learning.

The education system in the United States is known for its excellence and rigor, and by enrolling your children in American Education International, you are giving them a leg up in their future academic pursuits. Not only will they be exposed to the English language in a way that will help them achieve fluency, but they will also gain valuable knowledge and skills that will serve them well throughout their lives.

And when your children graduate from American Education International, they will receive a dual diploma. This means that they will have a diploma from the school in their home country, ensuring compliance with local regulations, as well as a high school diploma from AmericanK12 registered in the state of Florida. This dual diploma will open doors for your children, helping them gain access to higher education institutions in the United States.

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The benefits of an American education are clear, and American Education International is a fantastic way to give your children the best possible start in life. By providing them with a strong foundation in English language learning and a comprehensive education system, you are giving them the tools they need to succeed in whatever path they choose.

So don't hesitate - enroll your children in American Education International today and watch them thrive!

NOTES/ACTION STEPS:



## Chapter 3

Education is not a tool for development - individual, community and the nation. It is the foundation for our future. It is empowerment to make choices and emboldens the youth to chase their dreams.

- Nita Ambani

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Nita Ambani (born 1 November 1963) is an Indian businesswoman and philanthropist who is the chairperson and founder of the Reliance Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Reliance Industries. She is also a member of the board of Reliance Industries, which is one of the largest companies in India. Ambani is known for her extensive philanthropic work in the areas of education, healthcare, rural development, and disaster response, among others. She has been recognized with numerous awards and honors for her contributions to society, including the

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Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Award, the NDTV Indian of the Year award, and the Global Philanthropist Award. Ambani is also heavily involved in sports and is the owner of the Indian Premier League cricket team Mumbai Indians. She is widely regarded as one of the most influential and powerful women in India.

## Chapter 3: The Law of Pathway

### Do You Have a Strategy to Reach Your Dream?

Welcome to Chapter 3, where we'll be exploring the "Law of the Pathway". Imagine a pathway ahead of you, stretching into the distance. The path forks in many directions, some winding and unclear, others straight and focused. It's easy to become overwhelmed and lose sight of the right direction to take. But with the right guidance and support, you can stay on a clear, focused path towards success in higher education. This chapter will provide the background and tools you need to confidently navigate the pathway ahead.

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As an international student, pursuing higher education and a successful career in the United States or abroad can be a daunting and overwhelming journey. However, it's important to remember that success is not a matter of luck or chance, but a matter of intentionality. The Law of Pathway reminds us that to reach our dreams, we must have a clear strategy and roadmap. Without a

plan, we risk getting lost or side-tracked along the way.

One important strategy for international students seeking higher education in the United States is obtaining an American high school diploma or a dual diploma. This provides a strong foundation of knowledge, language proficiency, and cultural understanding that can significantly increase opportunities for higher education and careers. But obtaining an American high school diploma as an international student is not an easy feat. It requires intentionality, dedication, and a clear roadmap. Pursuing a dual diploma can also be a challenging and complex process.

In this chapter, we'll explore the pathway towards obtaining an American high school diploma or a dual diploma, and the advantages that come with it. We'll also discuss the importance of intentionality in creating a clear strategy for success and provide you with the tools and resources to achieve your goals.

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Remember, the Law of Pathway teaches us that success is not a matter of chance, but a matter of choice. By being intentional and creating a clear strategy, you can pave the way towards a brighter future for yourself and your family. So, do you have a strategy to reach your dream? Let's navigate the pathway together.

### American High School Diploma

An American High School Diploma is an important document that represents a student's successful completion of high school education in the United States. It is the foundation of a student's academic career and opens a world of opportunities for further education and career development.

The purpose of an American High School Diploma is to demonstrate that a student has completed the required coursework and has achieved a certain level of proficiency in core academic subjects, such as English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The diploma serves as a proof of the student's knowledge and academic ability and

provides a benchmark for measuring their educational achievement.

The general guidelines and requirements for obtaining an American High School Diploma vary by state and school district, but typically include completing a minimum number of credits in core academic subjects, passing standardized tests, and meeting specific graduation requirements, such as completing a senior project or community service hours.

One of the benefits of obtaining an American High School Diploma is that it opens a wide range of opportunities for further education, including entry into colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. Admissions officers use high school diplomas as a key indicator of a student's academic potential, and having an American High School Diploma can improve a student's chances of being accepted into top colleges and universities.

In addition, an American High School Diploma can also provide students with a competitive edge in the job market. Many employers require a high school diploma as a minimum educational

requirement, and having an American High School Diploma can demonstrate a student's commitment to education and their ability to achieve academic success.

In summary, an American High School Diploma is a valuable document that represents a student's successful completion of high school education in the United States. It serves as a foundation for further education and career development and opens a world of opportunities for students both in the United States and abroad.

### Dual Diploma

In today's globalized world, education has become increasingly important to succeed in life. And for many international students, earning a dual diploma can be a strategic advantage that can set them apart from their peers.

A dual diploma refers to the attainment of two high school diplomas: one from the student's native country and one from an American high school. The benefits of earning a dual diploma are many, including increased access to higher

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education opportunities, enhanced job prospects, and the ability to communicate and work with people from different cultures and backgrounds.

One of the primary advantages of a dual diploma is the opportunity for students to gain exposure to different educational systems and styles. This can help students develop a broader perspective and a more comprehensive understanding of the world around them, which can be invaluable as they pursue further education or enter the workforce.

Moreover, a dual diploma can give students an edge in the highly competitive college admissions process. Many American universities value international students who have a dual diploma because it shows that they are capable of handling the rigorous demands of different educational systems and are more likely to succeed in a multicultural environment.

In addition, earning a dual diploma can enhance job prospects for students who plan to work internationally. As companies continue to expand their operations globally, there is an increasing demand for employees who possess strong



language skills, cultural awareness, and a deep understanding of different educational systems.

It is important to note, however, that earning a dual diploma is not an easy task. Students must meet the requirements for both diplomas, which can include completing specific courses, meeting minimum grade point averages, and passing proficiency exams. But for those who are willing to put in the work, the benefits of a dual diploma can be immeasurable.

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In conclusion, a dual diploma can be a valuable asset for international students who are seeking to broaden their educational horizons, enhance their job prospects, and gain a competitive edge in the college admissions process. It requires hard work and dedication, but the rewards are worth it. So, if you are an international student considering a dual diploma, take the plunge and invest in your future today.

### Why and How

In today's fast-paced and interconnected world, earning a dual diploma has become an increasingly

popular option for many international students. One way to achieve this goal is by enrolling in AmericanK12, a leading provider of online education services that enables students to earn both their native country's diploma and an American high school diploma.

With AmericanK12's innovative and flexible online learning platform, students have the freedom to attend their local school in person and then take courses at their own pace through AmericanK12's virtual classrooms. This allows them to fulfill the requirements for both their native country's diploma and an American high school diploma simultaneously.

The advantages of earning a dual diploma through AmericanK12 are numerous. For starters, having a dual diploma can significantly enhance a student's resume and career prospects. It demonstrates to potential employers that the student has received a well-rounded education and has the ability to excel in both their native language and in English.

Moreover, earning an American high school diploma can greatly improve a student's chances

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of being admitted to top American universities, as it shows that they have met the rigorous academic standards required by American educational institutions. In addition, many universities offer scholarships and other financial aid opportunities to international students with dual diplomas, further increasing their chances of success.

Furthermore, AmericanK12 is accredited by multiple organizations, ensuring that students receive a high-quality education that meets the standards of both American and international education systems. This means that students who earn a dual diploma through AmericanK12 can be confident that their education will be recognized and respected by universities and employers around the world.

Earning a dual diploma through AmericanK12 is a valuable opportunity for international students seeking to expand their education and career opportunities. With its flexible online learning platform and accredited curriculum, AmericanK12 offers a unique and effective way to achieve this goal.

## Blended Learning Model

In recent years, the education system has undergone a significant shift due to the technological advancements of the 21st century. One of the most significant changes in education is the implementation of blended learning. American Education International (AEI) is an ed tech company that utilizes this innovative method of instruction to provide students with a unique learning experience.

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Blended learning is a method of instruction that combines traditional classroom learning with online learning. It integrates technology into the teaching process and allows for a more personalized learning experience for students. In this model, students have access to both a live teacher and online materials.

AEI uses blended learning as its core delivery method. Students participate in live lessons with teachers who engage and interact with them in real-time. These live lessons take place virtually, providing students with the flexibility to learn from anywhere in the world. The live lessons also

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allow for real-time feedback and assessment, ensuring that students stay on track and receive the support they need.

After the live lessons, students engage in self-study and often participate in project-based learning. This allows students to apply what they have learned in real-world scenarios, enhancing their understanding and retention of the material. Students can also access additional resources and materials online to supplement their learning.

Blended learning is an effective way of delivering instruction as it combines the best of both traditional classroom learning and online learning. Students benefit from the live interaction with their teachers and peers, while also having access to the flexibility and convenience of online learning. This method of instruction also enables teachers to differentiate their instruction to meet the needs of individual students, allowing for a more personalized learning experience.

AEI offers many additional components within the program, including a learning management system, assessments, and progress tracking.

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However, blended learning remains the core delivery method because of its effectiveness in delivering high-quality instruction in a flexible and personalized way.

It has been said that blended learning is the future of education. This innovative method of instruction to provide students with a unique learning experience that combines live instruction with online resources. So, for AEI, this is why we have chosen this method. The flexibility and personalized nature of this approach allow students to learn at their own pace while still receiving the support and guidance of a live teacher. With blended learning, AEI is transforming the way students learn and prepare for the future.

NOTES/ACTION STEPS:

## Chapter 4

The future depends on what you do today.

- Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) was an Indian independence activist and a leader of the Indian National Congress who is widely regarded as the father of the Indian nation. Born in Porbandar, India, Gandhi studied law in London and then worked as a lawyer in South Africa, where he became involved in the struggle for Indian rights and independence. He returned to India in 1915 and became a key figure in the movement for Indian independence from British colonial rule.

Gandhi is known for his philosophy of nonviolent resistance, which he called Satyagraha, and for his use of peaceful civil disobedience to protest unjust laws and policies. He led several successful



## **THRIVE with AEI**

campaigns for Indian independence, including the Salt March and the Quit India movement. Gandhi's legacy is one of peace, equality, and social justice, and he is revered as a spiritual leader and a symbol of India's struggle for freedom. He was assassinated in 1948 by a Hindu nationalist.

## Chapter 4: The Law of the Mirror

Do you see enough value?

Are you adding enough value?

Welcome to Chapter 4, where we'll explore "The Law of the Mirror." Imagine standing in front of a mirror, gazing at your reflection. What do you see? Do you see the value that you bring to the world? Your unique gifts and talents? It's essential to recognize and appreciate these qualities within us. At the same time, we must also ensure that we're continually adding value to ourselves, just as we would with a cherished possession. Like a beautiful treasure that we care for, we must invest in ourselves and our growth. Let's dive into this chapter and discover how we can cultivate a deep sense of self-worth and add value to our lives.

Now, shift your focus to your child. As they stand before the mirror, do they see their own value?

As a parent, it's your responsibility to help your child recognize and cultivate their gifts and talents. But it's also important to encourage them to add

value to themselves, to push themselves to reach their full potential.

In this chapter, we delve into the exploration of the gifts and talents of our children and how we can guide them towards a fulfilling and purposeful career path. We'll discuss the value of participating in student exchange programs, which provide a full immersion experience in the United States.

As we reflect on this journey, let us consider the Law of the Mirror. Ask yourselves, do you see enough value in your child's gifts and talents? Are you adding enough value to help them realize their full potential? It's easy to get caught up in the fear of failure or the pressure to conform to societal expectations. However, it's important to remember that every individual has unique qualities that can be developed and nurtured. Let's explore this together and empower our children to embrace their gifts and talents with confidence and purpose.

Our job as parents is to reflect the potential we see in our children and help them cultivate their gifts.

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We must encourage them to explore their interests and passions and empower them to pursue a career path that aligns with their unique strengths. Through student exchange programs, they can gain valuable insight into the American education system and experience a new culture, all while further developing their skills.

So, let's dive into this chapter with an open heart and mind, and explore how we can help our children achieve their full potential and embark on a fulfilling journey towards their dreams.

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### Exploring Gifts, Interests, Talents, and Passions

As a parent of a student who is considering higher education, it is important to encourage and support their exploration of gifts, interests, talents, and passions before deciding on a specific area of study. This can be done in a variety of ways, such as:

1. Encourage extracurricular activities:  
Extracurricular activities can help students develop a range of skills and interests. For

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instance, they might participate in sports, music, theater, debate, or community service. Encourage your child to try out different activities to see what they enjoy.

2. **Attend summer camps:** Summer camps can provide students with a hands-on experience in a variety of fields, such as science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM). These camps can help students explore their interests and develop new skills.
3. **Take online courses:** Online courses are a great way to explore new subjects and develop skills in a flexible and convenient way. Many online platforms offer free or low-cost courses in a variety of subjects, such as coding, writing, and photography.
4. **Participate in internships or apprenticeships:** Internships or apprenticeships can provide students with real-world experience in a specific field. This can help them understand what a career in that field might look like and whether it is a good fit for them.

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5. Travel: Traveling can expose students to new cultures and perspectives, as well as new fields of study. Encourage your child to explore different parts of the world to broaden their horizons and gain new experiences.

It's worth noting that while exploring gifts, interests, talents, and passions is important, it's also important to keep in mind that students may not have a clear vision of what they want to do right away. In fact, it is quite common for students to change their minds multiple times during the last couple of years of high school and the first year of college. Encourage your child to be open to exploring new opportunities and to not feel pressured to have everything figured out right away.

By providing opportunities for students to explore their gifts, interests, talents, and passions, you can help them clarify their vision and find a career path that they will be passionate about.

## Benefits of Student Exchange Programs

As a parent, you want to provide your child with the best possible education and prepare them for a successful career. One way to do that is by encouraging them to participate in a student exchange program. Here are some of the benefits of such a program:

1. **Cultural immersion:** By living with a host family or in a dormitory, your child will have the opportunity to experience a new culture firsthand. This will help them develop a broader perspective and appreciation for diversity. They will learn about different customs, traditions, and ways of life, which will help them become more tolerant and understanding of others.
2. **Language learning:** Many student exchange programs offer language courses and immersion programs that will help your child improve their language skills. Learning a new language will not only help them communicate more effectively but also help them appreciate different cultures

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and connect with people from around the world.

3. **Personal growth:** Living in a new environment can be challenging, but it can also be a transformative experience. Your child will develop independence, adaptability, and resilience as they navigate a new culture and lifestyle. They will learn to be more self-reliant, confident, and open-minded, which will help them in all areas of their life.
4. **Career opportunities:** In today's globalized world, international experience is highly valued by employers. By participating in a student exchange program, your child will gain valuable international experience and develop a global perspective that will make them stand out in the job market. They will also have the opportunity to network with people from different backgrounds and build relationships that may lead to future career opportunities.
5. **Personal relationships:** One of the most valuable benefits of a student exchange program is the relationships that your child



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will form with their host family, classmates, and teachers. These relationships can last a lifetime and provide them with a network of support and friendship that will enrich their life.

In conclusion, participating in a student exchange program is a life-changing experience that offers many benefits. By immersing themselves in a new culture, learning a new language, developing personal growth, building career opportunities, and forming personal relationships, your child will gain valuable skills and experiences that will help them succeed in their future endeavors.

### Researching the Demands for Different Fields of Study

As your child approaches higher education, it's important to consider the demands for different fields of study and align them with their areas of interest. This will help ensure that they invest their time, energy, and resources in a field that not only interests them but also offers quality career prospects.

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To begin the research process, start by identifying the fields of study that your child is interested in. Then, conduct research to identify the current and future demands for those fields. This may involve reading industry reports, attending career fairs, talking to professionals in the field, or browsing online job postings.

Once you have a good understanding of the demands for different fields of study, you can start to align them with your child's passions and interests. This may involve exploring related fields or specialties within the larger field of study.

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For example, if your child is interested in computer science, you may want to research specific areas of specialization, such as software engineering, data science, or cybersecurity. By understanding the current and future demands for each of these specialties, you can help your child make an informed decision about which area to pursue.

It's also important to consider the potential career paths and earning potential for each field of study. While it's not wise to choose a career solely based

on earning potential, it's important to be realistic about the financial implications of investing in higher education. You want to make sure that your child's investment in their education will lead to a quality career that will allow them to achieve their goals.

Researching the demands for different fields of study and aligning them with your child's passions and interests is an important part of the higher education process. By doing due diligence and understanding the potential career paths and earning potential for each field, you can help your child make an informed decision that will set them up for success.

### Evaluating Potential Career Paths

As your child approaches higher education, it's important to evaluate potential career paths to ensure that they invest their time, energy, and resources in a field that not only interests them but also offers quality career prospects. Here are some key considerations to keep in mind when evaluating potential career paths:

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1. **Interests and skills:** Start by considering your child's interests and skills. What are they naturally good at, and what do they enjoy doing? Look for career paths that align with their strengths and passions.
2. **Demand:** Consider the current and future demand for the career path. Are there job opportunities available in this field? Is it projected to grow or decline in the future? Look for careers that have a strong demand and growth potential.
3. **Education and training requirements:** Research the education and training requirements for the career path. What degree or certification is required? How long will it take to complete the necessary education and training? Look for careers that offer a realistic path to achieving the necessary education and training.
4. **Salary and benefits:** Evaluate the potential salary and benefits for the career path. What is the earning potential in this field? Are there opportunities for advancement and growth? Look for careers that offer a competitive salary and benefits package.

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5. Lifestyle considerations: Consider the lifestyle implications of the career path. Will it require a lot of travel or long hours? Is it compatible with your child's personal life goals and values? Look for careers that align with your child's lifestyle preferences.
6. Values and mission: Finally, consider the values and mission of the career path. Does it align with your child's personal values and sense of purpose? Look for careers that offer a sense of meaning and fulfillment.

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By evaluating potential career paths based on these key considerations, you can help your child make an informed decision about their future. Remember, it's important to consider both personal interests and practical considerations when evaluating potential career paths. By finding the right balance, you can help your child achieve their goals and set them up for a successful career.

### Types of Degrees

Choosing an area of study for higher education can be a daunting task for many students. With so many options

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available, it can be overwhelming to decide on a specific field of study. It's important to understand the different types of degrees available: associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate. An associate degree typically takes two years to complete, while a bachelor's degree usually takes four years. A master's degree can take one to two years after earning a bachelor's degree, and a doctorate degree, the highest level of academic achievement, can take anywhere from three to seven years after obtaining a master's degree. Understanding these degree options and the time commitment required for each can help students make informed decisions about their academic and professional goals.

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### Types of Doctoral Degrees

Doctoral degrees are the highest level of academic achievement that one can attain. There are several types of doctoral degrees, including Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Doctor of Education (EdD), Doctor of Medicine (MD), Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD), Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD), Doctor of Psychology (PsyD), and Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), among others.

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A PhD degree is a research-based degree that requires students to conduct original research and produce a thesis or dissertation. It is typically awarded in disciplines such as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), as well as social sciences and humanities.

An EdD degree is a professional degree that focuses on the practical application of knowledge in the field of education. It is intended for educators who wish to become leaders in their field.

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An MD degree is a professional degree that is required to practice medicine. It is typically awarded after completing a rigorous medical program and residency.

A DMD or DDS degree is a professional degree that is required to practice dentistry. It involves a combination of classroom instruction, clinical practice, and research.

An SJD degree is a research-based degree that is similar to a PhD degree, but it is focused on legal

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scholarship. It is intended for individuals who wish to pursue a career in legal academia.

A PsyD degree is a professional degree that focuses on the practical application of psychology. It is intended for individuals who wish to become licensed psychologists.

A DBA degree is a professional degree that is focused on the practical application of business theory. It is intended for individuals who wish to become leaders in the field of business.



NOTES/ACTION STEPS:

## Chapter 5

If the ladder is not leaning against the right wall, every step we take just gets us to the wrong place faster.

-Stephen Covey

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Stephen Covey (1932-2012) was an American author, speaker, and educator who was best known for his best-selling book, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People". Covey was a professor at Brigham Young University and later founded the Covey Leadership Center, which later merged with Franklin Quest to become Franklin Covey. Covey's work focuses on personal and organizational leadership, effectiveness, and productivity. He has been recognized as one of Time Magazine's 25 most influential Americans and his books have sold millions of copies worldwide.

## Chapter 5: The Law of the Ladder

Are you going up the right ladder?

Is your ladder leaning in the right direction?

Are you taking the right steps towards growth and your dreams?

Welcome to Chapter 5, where we'll be exploring the "Law of the Ladder".

The Law of the Ladder is all about the direction of your climb.

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As Stephen Covey writes in his book *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, one of the most important habits is to begin with the end in mind. This means having a clear understanding of your destination and knowing where you are going so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.

Covey's idea is all about having a clear vision of what you want your life to look like and using that vision to guide your actions each day. When you know where you're going, you can make sure that

each decision you make is moving you closer to your goals. And when you keep the end in mind, you can be sure that you're not wasting your time on things that don't matter or going in a direction that's ultimately going to lead you to disappointment.

In this chapter, we'll be exploring how this idea applies specifically to choosing the right education path, whether that's in the United States or through an American education program overseas. By keeping the end in mind and being intentional about the steps you take, you can ensure that you're on the right ladder, climbing in the right direction towards your dreams. So, ask yourself, are you leaning the right way? What steps are you taking towards growth and achieving your goals? It's time to begin with the end in mind and start climbing that ladder to success you envision.

### Choosing the Best University or College for You

Choosing the right college or university can be a daunting task. With so many options available, it can be challenging to determine which institution

is the best fit for an individual person. However, making an informed decision is crucial to ensure that one's academic, personal, and professional goals are met. In this chapter, we will discuss the importance of selecting the right college or university and the consequences of choosing one for the wrong reasons.

### The Consequences of Choosing the Wrong School

Choosing the wrong college or university can have serious consequences. For example, if a student selects a school that does not offer the academic programs they are interested in or does not have the necessary resources to support their learning, they may struggle to achieve their academic goals. This can lead to frustration, disappointment, and a negative impact on their self-esteem. Similarly, if a student chooses a school solely based on its prestige or reputation, they may overlook important factors such as the campus culture, student support services, and the overall fit with their personal values and goals. As a result, they

may feel disconnected from the institution and struggle to find their place within the community.

### Reasons Why People Choose the Wrong School

There are various reasons why people may choose the wrong college or university. One of the most common reasons is pressure from family or friends. For example, a student may feel obligated to attend a particular institution because it is where their parents went or where their friends are going. This pressure can cloud their judgment and lead them to overlook their own needs and interests.

Another reason why people may choose the wrong school is the desire to attend a prestigious institution. While attending a highly ranked school can be a positive experience, it is important to ensure that the institution aligns with one's academic and personal goals. Otherwise, the student may find themselves struggling to keep up with the rigorous coursework or feeling overwhelmed by the competitive environment.

Finally, people may choose a school based on convenience, such as its location or affordability, rather than its academic offerings or the overall fit with their personal goals. While these factors are important to consider, they should not be the only determining factors in the decision-making process.

### How to Choose the Right School

To avoid the consequences of choosing the wrong school, it is important to make an informed decision based on individual needs and goals. One way to do this is to research the academic programs and resources offered by each institution. This can include reviewing course catalogs, speaking with current students and alumni, and attending campus tours and information sessions.

It is also important to consider the campus culture and community. For example, does the institution have a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion? Are there opportunities for student involvement in extracurricular activities and

clubs? These factors can have a significant impact on the overall college experience.

Finally, it is important to consider personal values and goals when selecting a school. For example, if a student is interested in social justice and community service, they may want to select an institution that offers opportunities for civic engagement and activism.

### Examples of Choosing the Right School

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Choosing the right college or university can have a significant positive impact on a person's academic, personal, and professional growth. For example, a student who is interested in environmental science may choose to attend an institution that has a strong commitment to sustainability and offers hands-on research opportunities in the field. This can lead to meaningful experiences and connections with faculty and peers who share their passion.

Similarly, a student who is interested in pursuing a career in the arts may select an institution that has



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a strong arts program and offers opportunities for artistic expression and collaboration. This can provide a supportive and nurturing environment for the student to develop their skills and pursue their passions.

### Prepare Your Child for Higher Education and Career Success

For parents of students who have just completed grade 12, it is an exciting time as their children prepare to embark on the next stage of their academic and professional journeys. As your child looks to the future, it is essential to consider the quality of their English language education. And that's where American Education International (AEI) comes in.

AEI offers a range of English language courses designed to prepare students for higher education and career aspirations. Our courses are taught by certified American teachers who have extensive experience in teaching English as a second language. This means that students will receive a level of instruction that is far superior to what is available abroad.

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Our curriculum is designed to meet the unique needs of each student, and we offer a range of courses for students at different levels of English proficiency. Students will be placed in the appropriate level class and could advance quickly through the levels.

In addition to our language courses, AEI also offers career exploration courses that help students explore their interests and prepare for their future careers. We believe that students should have the tools and resources to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals.

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Our students also have access to academic coaching, conversation hours, and a range of workshops that support their individual learning journeys. These resources help our students improve their English proficiency, build confidence, and prepare for success in higher education and their careers.

Enrolling in AEI over the next few months can provide your child with the support and resources they need to succeed. Our courses are flexible and convenient, allowing students to balance their busy schedules with their academic and professional goals.

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In today's global economy, English proficiency is essential for success in higher education and the workforce. At AEI, we are committed to helping students achieve their dreams and reach their full potential. Join us today and give your child the gift of quality English language education.

### Selecting the Right University or College

Choosing the right university or college is a crucial decision for any student. It's important to carefully consider all the factors to ensure that the institution is a good fit for the student's academic and personal goals. Here are some key factors to consider when choosing a school:

1. **Location:** The location of the university or college is an important factor to consider. Is it close to home or far away? What is the climate like? Are there cultural or social opportunities available in the surrounding area?
2. **Size:** The size of the institution can also be a significant factor to consider. Does the student prefer a smaller or larger campus? What are

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the class sizes like? What is the student-to-faculty ratio?

3. Academic programs: Research the academic programs offered at the institution. Are the programs of interest to the student? Are there opportunities for research, internships, or experiential learning?
4. Campus culture: The campus culture is another important factor to consider. What is the student life like on campus? What kind of social and extracurricular activities are available? Is there a strong sense of community?
5. Affordability: Consider the cost of tuition, room and board, and other expenses. Are there financial aid options available? What kind of scholarships, grants, or other aid programs does the institution offer?

### Researching Universities and Colleges

When researching universities and colleges, it's important to take the time to gather as much information as possible. Here are some tips to help you with your research:

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1. Visit the school's website: Most universities and colleges have comprehensive websites that provide information on academic programs, admissions requirements, campus life, and other important details.
2. Attend information sessions: Attend information sessions or college fairs to learn more about different institutions. These events often provide an opportunity to speak with admissions officers, faculty members, and current students.
3. Talk to current students: Speaking with current students can provide valuable insights into campus life, academics, and other important factors.
4. Research rankings and reviews: Look at university and college rankings and reviews to get an idea of the institution's reputation and academic standing.

### Evaluating Admissions Requirements

Before applying to universities and colleges, it's important to evaluate the admissions requirements. Here are some key factors to consider:

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1. Application deadlines: Make sure to note the application deadlines for each institution. Missing a deadline can severely limit a student's options.
2. Standardized tests: Check if the institution requires standardized tests such as the SAT or ACT. If so, make sure to prepare adequately for these tests.
3. Transcripts and recommendations: Make sure to obtain transcripts and recommendation letters from teachers and counselors in a timely manner.
4. Essays and personal statements: Consider the essay and personal statement requirements for each institution. These pieces can provide an opportunity for the student to showcase their strengths and interests.

Selecting the right university or college involves careful consideration of various factors, researching different institutions, and evaluating admissions requirements. By taking the time to do due diligence, students can make an informed decision and find the institution that is the best fit for their academic and personal goals.

## The Cost of Education

The cost of education in the United States can be a significant investment for many families. It's important to understand the different costs associated with higher education and the various ways to finance them. Here's a guide to help you navigate the costs of education in the United States:

1. **Tuition and Fees:** Tuition and fees are the primary costs associated with attending a college or university. These costs can vary widely depending on the institution and the academic program. In-state tuition at public universities is often less expensive than tuition at private universities, but out-of-state students may have to pay significantly more. Additionally, some academic programs may have higher tuition costs than others.
2. **Room and Board:** Room and board refers to the cost of housing and meals on campus or in off-campus housing. Again, these costs can vary widely depending on the location and the type of housing.
3. **Books and Supplies:** The cost of books and supplies can also add up quickly. Textbooks

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can cost hundreds of dollars each semester, and some academic programs may require additional materials or equipment.

4. **Transportation:** Transportation costs can vary depending on the location and the mode of transportation. Some students may need to purchase a car, while others may rely on public transportation.
5. **Personal Expenses:** Personal expenses such as clothing, entertainment, and other miscellaneous costs can also add up. These expenses are often overlooked but can be a significant part of the overall cost of education.

### Financing the Cost of Education

There are various ways to finance the cost of education in the United States. Here are some options to consider:

1. **Financial Aid:** Financial aid includes scholarships, grants, work-study programs, and loans. These programs are designed to help students and families cover the costs of education. Students should fill out the Free



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Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine their eligibility for financial aid.

2. **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on merit or other criteria and do not need to be repaid. Many universities and colleges offer scholarships to incoming students, and there are also many private scholarships available.
3. **Grants:** Grants are similar to scholarships but are often need-based. They also do not need to be repaid.
4. **Work-Study Programs:** Work-study programs allow students to work part-time jobs on campus to help cover the cost of education.
5. **Loans:** Student loans are another option for financing education. Students can apply for federal or private loans, but it's important to carefully consider the terms and interest rates of each loan.

Understanding the cost of education in the United States is crucial for families and students to make informed decisions about higher education. By carefully considering the different costs and financing options, students can find the best path to achieving their academic and personal goals.

NOTES/ACTION STEPS:

## Chapter 6

Growth is painful. Change is painful. But nothing is as painful as staying stuck where you don't belong.

- N.R. Narayana Murthy

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Nagavara Ramarao Narayana Murthy, commonly known as N.R. Narayana Murthy, is an Indian entrepreneur, software engineer, and philanthropist. He is the co-founder of Infosys, one of India's largest information technology companies. Murthy served as the CEO of Infosys from 1981 to 2002 and later as the non-executive chairman of the board from 2002 to 2011. Under his leadership, Infosys grew from a small start-up to a global software services company, with a reputation for excellence in quality and innovation. Murthy has been recognized with numerous awards and honors for his contributions to the IT industry and for his philanthropic efforts in education and public health.

## Chapter 6: The Law of the Frog

What is the task?

What is the process?

How can I break it down into doable steps?

What steps am I taking now?

Welcome to Chapter 6, where we'll be using the "Law of the Frog" to tackle the big task of the student visa process.

Brian Tracy teaches in his book "Eat That Frog," the key to success is to break down the process into smaller, more manageable steps and tackle them one at a time. "The Law of the Frog" states that if you must eat a live frog, you should do it first thing in the morning. Why? Because once you've eaten that frog, everything else seems easy by comparison. In the same way, by tackling the student visa process step by step, you can build momentum and make progress towards your goal.

So, what is the student visa process, and what are the steps involved? Let's dive in and explore the

process together, using the principles of "Eat That Frog" to guide us along the way.

Are you feeling overwhelmed by the process of obtaining a student visa for your child to study in the United States? Don't worry, you're not alone. As parents, we want to provide the best opportunities for our children, but the process can often seem complex and confusing. That's why in this chapter, we're going to break down the student visa process step by step, using the principles of Brian Tracy's book "Eat That Frog" to guide us along the way.

So, let's start with the key questions: what is the process for obtaining a student visa, and what steps are you taking right now to make progress towards that goal?

The student visa process involves a series of steps, including completing an application, attending an interview, and submitting required documentation. It can seem like a lot to handle, but by breaking it down into smaller, manageable

steps, you can tackle the process with confidence and clarity.

Whether you're just starting the process or are further along, this chapter will provide you with the guidance and support you need to navigate the student visa process successfully. So, let's dive in together!

### Student Visa Application Process

The process of applying for a student visa can be daunting for many international students and their families. It requires vulnerability and courage to navigate the complex regulations and requirements of the United States government. But with the right preparation and mindset, the student visa application process can be a transformative experience that sets the stage for a successful academic journey.

#### Step 1

The first step in the student visa application process is to apply to a SEVP-approved school and receive an acceptance letter. SEVP stands for

Student and Exchange Visitor Program, which is a part of the Department of Homeland Security. SEVP-approved schools are authorized to issue I-20 forms, which are necessary for applying for a student visa. (More on I-20's later.) Once you have received an acceptance letter from a SEVP-approved school, you can move on to the next step in the process.

### The I-20 is a Doorway to a New World of Possibility

The I-20 form is more than just a document. It's a symbol of opportunity, a doorway to a new world of possibility. Let me tell you what this form represents.

The I-20 is a critical piece of paperwork that plays a crucial role in the process of obtaining a student visa. It serves as a certificate of eligibility and confirms that a student has been accepted into an academic program at a U.S. school. But beyond its functional purpose, the I-20 represents something much more profound: the chance to pursue a dream.

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For many international students, the I-20 is a symbol of hope and possibility. It represents the potential to gain an education, explore new cultures, and build a better future. It's a powerful reminder that with hard work and determination, anything is possible.

But the journey to obtain an I-20 is not always easy. It requires a significant investment of time, energy, and resources. There may be setbacks and obstacles along the way, but the I-20 represents the determination to overcome these challenges and achieve a goal.

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Ultimately, the I-20 represents an investment in oneself. It's a commitment to personal growth and development, to learning and exploration. It's a testament to the belief that education is the key to unlocking a world of opportunity.

In conclusion, the I-20 form is more than just a piece of paper. It's a symbol of hope, possibility, and opportunity. By obtaining an I-20, international students demonstrate their commitment to personal growth and education.



And in doing so, they open the door to a world of endless potential.

## Step 2

The second step is to pay the SEVIS fee. SEVIS stands for Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, which is a database that tracks international students and exchange visitors in the United States. The SEVIS fee is required for all F and M visa applicants, and it must be paid at least three days before the visa interview. The fee can be paid online or by mail, and the receipt must be presented at the visa interview.

## F and M Visas

International students applying for F and M visas must pay the SEVIS fee at least three days prior to their visa interview. The F and M visa categories are non-immigrant visas issued by the United States to international students who wish to study at an academic institution in the US. The "F" in F visa stands for "academic" or "student" visa and is issued to students who wish to pursue academic

studies or language training programs in the US. The "M" in M visa stands for "vocational" or "non-academic" visa and is issued to students who wish to pursue non-academic or vocational studies, such as technical training or trade schools. Both F and M visa applicants are required to demonstrate their intent to return to their home country after their studies are completed and provide evidence of financial support to cover their expenses while in the US.

### Payment Options

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The correct website for paying the SEVIS fee required for all F and M visa applicants is [fmjfee.com](https://fmjfee.com). Applicants can easily pay the SEVIS fee online using a credit card or other payment methods available on the website. However, for those who cannot pay the fee online, payment by mail is also an option. Applicants must complete the Form I-901 and include a check or money order payable to "I-901 Student/Exchange Visitor Processing Fee" and mail it to the address indicated on the form. Parents can help their children with this process by providing guidance

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on filling out the form and ensuring that the correct payment is included. It's important to note that payment by mail can take longer to process than payment made online, so it's recommended to pay the SEVIS fee online whenever possible to expedite the visa application process.

The SEVIS fee is a mandatory fee that supports the Student and Exchange Visitor Program, which is responsible for managing the entry and stay of international students and exchange visitors in the United States. By paying the SEVIS fee in advance, students demonstrate their commitment to the visa process and ensure that their SEVIS record is active and up to date. This not only expedites the visa interview process, but also ensures that students are fully prepared to begin their academic program in the United States.

Furthermore, it's important for students to keep in mind that the SEVIS fee cannot be refunded or transferred, so it's essential to pay close attention to the payment process and make sure that all information is accurate and complete. Ultimately, paying the SEVIS fee in advance is an essential step for F and M visa applicants and demonstrates their

dedication to pursuing their academic goals in the United States.

### Step 3

The third step is to complete the DS-160 form. The DS-160 is an online nonimmigrant visa application form that is used by the U.S. Department of State. The form includes questions about personal information, travel plans, and the purpose of the trip. Once the form is completed, it should be printed and brought to the visa interview.

### Details on DS-160

The DS-160 form is an essential part of the process for obtaining a nonimmigrant visa to enter the United States. It is an online application form that can be found on the U.S. Department of State website. To complete the form, applicants must provide detailed information about their personal background, travel plans, and the purpose of their trip to the United States. This includes biographical information, such as name, birth date, and passport details, as well as employment and education history. It is important to answer all

questions accurately and truthfully. It is recommended that applicants gather all necessary documents and information before beginning the application to ensure that they have all the necessary details. Once the form is completed, it should be carefully reviewed for accuracy and printed out. Applicants must bring the printed confirmation page to their visa interview, along with any additional required documentation. Completing the DS-160 form is an essential step in obtaining a nonimmigrant visa, and it is important to take the time to provide accurate and complete information.

### Nonimmigrant Visa

A nonimmigrant visa is a type of visa that is issued to individuals who wish to enter the United States for a temporary period and for a specific purpose, such as tourism, business, education, or medical treatment. Nonimmigrant visas are granted to individuals who do not intend to permanently reside in the United States and who plan to return to their home country after their authorized stay has ended. The duration of authorized stay varies

depending on the type of visa and the purpose of the visit and is typically indicated on the visa itself. Nonimmigrant visa holders are generally prohibited from engaging in unauthorized employment while in the United States and must abide by the terms of their visa.

### Step 4

The fourth step is to schedule a visa interview. The visa interview is conducted at the U.S. embassy or consulate in the applicant's home country. The interview is a crucial step in the process, as it provides an opportunity for the applicant to demonstrate their eligibility for the student visa. The interview may include questions about the applicant's academic background, their intentions for studying in the United States, and their ties to their home country.

### Step 5

The fifth step is to prepare for the visa interview. This includes gathering all the necessary documentation, such as the acceptance letter, I-20 form, SEVIS fee receipt, and DS-160 confirmation

page. It also includes practicing how to answer interview questions, dressing appropriately, and arriving early to the appointment.

### Support for Parents

International families considering studying in the United States can rest assured that they will receive expert support every step of the way throughout the process. Within AEI, students and families receive comprehensive support, including access to ongoing workshops that provide updates on any opportunities or changes related to the student visa process. The best part, however, is the strong coaching and counseling that students and parents receive, which is truly second to none. Our team of experienced professionals understands the unique challenges that international families face and provides the guidance and support needed to navigate the complex process of studying in the US. Whether it's helping with the visa application process or providing academic and personal support once students arrive in the US, we are committed to helping students and families achieve their goals and succeed in their

academic endeavors. At AEI, international families can trust that they will have the support they need to succeed every step of the way.

### Summary

The student visa application process requires vulnerability and courage, but it is an important step towards a successful academic journey in the United States. By following the steps outlined in this chapter and preparing thoroughly for the visa interview, international students and their families can navigate the process with confidence and optimism.

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### Student Visa Interview Process

The next step after submitting the student visa application and supporting documents is the visa interview. This can seem daunting, but with the right preparation, it can be a smooth process.

Here are some guidelines and tips to help you navigate the student visa interview process:

1. Schedule your appointment: After submitting your application and supporting



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documents, you will receive instructions on how to schedule your visa interview. It is important to schedule your interview as soon as possible as there may be a wait time for available appointments.

2. **Prepare your documents:** Gather all the required documents for your visa interview, including your passport, DS-160 confirmation page, SEVIS fee receipt, I-20 form, academic transcripts, and financial documents. Make sure all your documents are up-to-date, accurate, and in English.
3. **Practice your English skills:** The visa interview will be conducted in English, so it is important to practice your language skills. You can take English classes, practice speaking with native English speakers, or watch English movies and TV shows to improve your language skills.
4. **Research the university:** Be prepared to answer questions about the university you will be attending, including its location, program of study, and why you chose that particular institution. Research the

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university's website and be familiar with its history, culture, and values.

5. Understand the purpose of the interview:  
The purpose of the interview is to determine if you are a genuine student and if you intend to return to your home country after completing your studies in the United States. Be prepared to answer questions about your academic background, future plans, and ties to your home country.
6. Dress appropriately: Dress professionally for the interview to make a good impression. Avoid wearing casual or revealing clothing.
7. Be honest and concise: Answer questions truthfully and to the point. Avoid providing excessive information or unnecessary details.
8. Practice mock interviews: Practice mock interviews with a counselor or mentor to help you prepare and build confidence.

Remember, the student visa interview process can be intimidating, but with proper preparation and a

positive attitude, you can successfully obtain your visa and begin your educational journey in the United States. Good luck!

### Hidden Factors that Drive Success

When it comes to navigating the student visa process for international students, it's not just about following a set of guidelines, but about understanding the hidden factors that drive success. This is the approach that Malcolm Gladwell would take.

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One key concept is the idea of looking beyond the surface-level information and examining the "hidden logic" that shapes the visa process. For instance, why do visa processing times vary so greatly depending on the consulate or embassy you are dealing with? By understanding the underlying factors that contribute to these variations, you can better anticipate potential challenges and plan accordingly.

Another important factor to consider is the "tipping point." In the context of the student visa process, this could mean identifying the specific

documents or information that could make or break your visa application. By focusing your efforts on the most critical aspects of the application process, you can increase your chances of success.

Perhaps the most crucial factor is what Gladwell calls the "Outliers." These are the people or organizations that defy conventional wisdom and achieve extraordinary success. In the case of the student visa process, the Outliers might be the individuals or families who have successfully navigated the process before you. By studying their methods and strategies, you can gain valuable insights and increase your own chances of success.

In conclusion, understanding the hidden factors, identifying the tipping point, and learning from the Outliers are key elements of successfully navigating the student visa process for international students. By adopting this approach, you can increase your chances of success and achieve your dream of studying in the United States.

## Tips for Avoiding Common Mistakes

As you prepare your child for the student visa application process, it's important to remember that wisdom is key. One way to gain wisdom is by learning from the experiences of others who have gone through the process before you.

I remember one family who applied for their child's student visa without fully understanding the requirements. They thought they had everything they needed, but when they went to their visa interview, they were denied because they didn't have enough documentation to prove their child's financial support.

This is a common mistake that many families make. To avoid this, it's important to do your research and understand all the requirements before you begin the application process. Make sure you have all the necessary documentation, including proof of financial support and academic transcripts.

Another common mistake is not preparing for the visa interview. Many families think that the

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interview is just a formality, but it's a critical part of the process. The interviewer will ask questions to assess whether your child is a genuine student and whether they have sufficient ties to their home country.

To avoid this mistake, prepare your child for the interview by practicing common interview questions and discussing how to demonstrate their ties to their home country. Encourage them to be honest and confident in their answers and remind them to bring all the necessary documentation to the interview.

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In addition to these tips, it's important to stay positive and patient throughout the process. Remember that the visa application process can be complex and time-consuming, but with the right preparation and guidance, you and your child can succeed.

By using wisdom and avoiding common mistakes, you can help your child secure their student visa and start their journey towards a brighter future in the United States.

NOTES/ACTION STEPS:

## Chapter 7

To acquire knowledge, one must study. But to acquire wisdom, one must observe.

- Marilyn vos Savant

Marilyn vos Savant is an American magazine columnist, author, lecturer, and playwright who is known for having one of the highest recorded IQ scores in the world. She gained fame in the early 1980s when she was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the highest recorded IQ score. Vos Savant has written a popular weekly column called "Ask Marilyn" in Parade magazine since 1986, where she answers a variety of questions from readers about topics such as science, math, and general knowledge. She has also written several books on various subjects and has been a frequent guest on television shows discussing topics related to intelligence and education.



## Chapter 7: The Law of Awareness

### What must I know?

Welcome to Chapter 7, where we'll be exploring the "Law of Awareness" and its critical role in making informed decisions about your child's education. At its core, the "Law of Awareness" is about identifying what we need to know to make informed decisions.

We all want the best for our children, but sometimes we can be uncertain about what information we need to make the right decisions. That's why building awareness is so important. By identifying what we need to know, we can gain the knowledge and understanding necessary to make informed decisions that align with our values and goals.

In this chapter, we'll be examining the question of "What must I know?" and exploring the importance of building awareness before making decisions about your child's education. We'll also be discussing the role of education agents versus

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the role of AEI academic coaches in supporting you through the decision-making process.

So, let's explore the "Law of Awareness" together and discover what we must know to make informed decisions about our child's education. By building awareness, we can create a foundation of knowledge and understanding that will guide us in making the best decisions for our children's futures.

### AEI Coaches vs. Education Agents

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In the world of education, parents are faced with a daunting task: choosing the best path for their child's academic journey. For many, the default option is to seek guidance from education agents, who offer a range of services to help navigate the complex landscape of education options. But what if I were to tell you that there is a better way? What if I were to tell you that AEI academic coaching provides a more comprehensive and effective approach? By comparing the differences between these two options, we can see that AEI's academic

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coaching offers a personalized and holistic approach that goes beyond what education agents can provide. So, let's delve deeper into this topic and explore why AEI's academic coaching may be the better choice for your child's education.

### Noticing Sharks in the Water

In today's fast-paced and highly competitive world, students are graduating from high school and college and being released into a sea of opportunities and challenges. While this can be exciting, it can also be a time of concern and anxiety for many educators and parents. They worry about the dangers and risks that their students may face, including the sharks that swim in the water of the business world.

The concept of a shark in the water is not new. It has been used for decades to describe the ruthless and cutthroat nature of the business world, where individuals and organizations will stop at nothing to achieve success and gain an advantage over their competitors. However, as educators, we have a responsibility to prepare our students for this reality and equip them with the knowledge, skills, and tools they need to navigate these dangerous waters.

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This is where American Education International comes in. We are an organization dedicated to helping students succeed in the global marketplace by providing them with the language and academic skills they need to compete at the highest level. But we also go beyond that. We provide coaching and counseling, workshops and training, and a range of other resources to help students develop the resilience and awareness they need to succeed in the face of adversity.

One of our key priorities is to help students see the sharks in the water not as a danger, but as just another type of fish. We help them understand that these individuals and organizations are not inherently evil or out to get them, but rather are simply trying to succeed in a highly competitive environment. By building the strength and awareness of our students, we help them to see the opportunities and potential rewards that lie ahead, while also preparing them to face any challenges and risks that they may encounter along the way.

At American Education International, we believe that education is about more than just academics. It is about building the skills, confidence, and resilience

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that students need to thrive in the world around them. We are committed to helping our students succeed, not just in the classroom, but in every aspect of their lives. So, if you are a parent, educator, or student looking for the support and guidance you need to navigate the complex and challenging waters of the global marketplace, contact us today and discover how we can help you reach your goals.

### Education Agents vs. Support of AEI

For international parents, sending their children to study abroad can be a courageous and exciting decision. However, it can also be daunting and overwhelming. While education agents provide valuable guidance, American Education International (AEI) offers comprehensive support that empowers students to succeed academically and personally.

Education agents are professionals who specialize in guiding students through the complexities of the study abroad application process. From selecting the right school and program to obtaining visas and finding accommodation, education agents offer valuable support to ensure students have a successful experience. However, the cost of working with an

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agent can range from a few hundred to several thousand dollars.

In contrast, AEI provides students with comprehensive support that includes coaching, college admissions counseling, ongoing workshops, and guidance on test preparation, all for a single fee. While education agents provide valuable services, students who work with AEI receive the same services an agent would provide, and much more.

With AEI, students are part of a lifelong community of support. From the moment they enroll, they receive coaching and college admissions counseling that prepares them for the application process. Throughout their studies, students have access to ongoing workshops and coaching from education experts in the USA. The value of this ongoing support cannot be overstated, as it empowers students to succeed academically and personally.

Moreover, students who study with AEI receive guidance on test preparation, which is critical for gaining admission to universities in the USA. AEI's comprehensive approach ensures that students have

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everything they need to achieve their academic and career goals.

While education agents provide valuable support to students looking to study abroad, American Education International offers a more comprehensive approach to coaching and college admissions counseling. With a single fee that covers all their services, students who work with AEI receive ongoing support throughout their studies and beyond. By empowering students to have the courage to pursue education abroad, AEI is transforming lives and building a brighter future for all.

NOTES/ACTION STEPS:



## Chapter 8

Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832) was a German writer, poet, philosopher, and polymath who is widely considered as one of the most important literary figures of the Western world. He is best known for his masterpiece, *Faust*, a dramatic poem that explores the struggle between good and evil, and the human desire for knowledge and understanding.

In addition to his literary works, Goethe was also a scientist, a philosopher, and a statesman. He made significant contributions to the fields of botany, geology, and color theory, among others, and his

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theories on natural history and evolution influenced later thinkers such as Charles Darwin.

Goethe's influence extends far beyond his own time and place, and his ideas and works continue to be studied and appreciated today. He is widely considered as one of the most important figures of German literature and culture, and his impact on the Romantic movement in art and literature cannot be overstated.

## Chapter 8: The Law of Tenacity

Do I have the right tenacity for the task?

Welcome to Chapter 8, where we'll be exploring the "Law of Tenacity" and its importance in navigating the world of higher education. At its core, tenacity is about cultivating courage, vulnerability, and resilience in the face of challenges and uncertainty.

As parents, we all want our children to succeed in their academic pursuits, but the process of finding the right school can be overwhelming and even scary. With so many options to choose from, it's easy to feel lost and unsure of where to turn. But here's the thing: the journey of finding the right school is not about having all the answers or being perfect. It's about having the courage to take the first step, to be vulnerable enough to ask for help, and to stay resilient in the face of setbacks and challenges.

In this chapter, we'll be exploring the question of "Do you have the right tenacity?" and providing

resource guides to help you find the right schools for your child. We'll also be discussing strategies for making difficult decisions and preparing your child for the transition to higher education.

At American Education International, we believe that cultivating tenacity is key to success in higher education. That's why we're committed to supporting you and your child every step of the way, with compassion, empathy, and a deep understanding of the challenges you may be facing.

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So, let's explore the "Law of Tenacity" together and discover how we can cultivate the courage, vulnerability, and resilience necessary to navigate the world of higher education. With the right tenacity, we can overcome obstacles, find the right school for our children, and prepare them for a bright and fulfilling future.

### Being Tenacious with School Decisions for Our Children

As parents, we all want to provide our children with the best education possible. We want them to thrive,

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learn, and grow into their full potential. However, the reality is that making decisions about our children's education can be daunting and overwhelming. We fear making the wrong choices and causing harm to our children's future.

But here's the truth: we can't control everything. We can't predict the future or know with certainty which educational path will lead to success. However, what we can control is how we approach the decision-making process. We can choose courage over fear and lead our children with intention.

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Choosing the right school option for our children requires us to embrace vulnerability and be willing to ask the tough questions. It requires us to examine our own biases, fears, and insecurities. It's easy to fall into the trap of following the crowd, listening to the loudest voices, or making decisions out of convenience. However, when we choose the courage to ask questions, seek out new information, and challenge our assumptions, we can make informed decisions that align with our values and goals.

One crucial aspect to consider when choosing an educational path is understanding how the world has

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changed and how education options have evolved. The traditional model of education may no longer be the best fit for our children. It's essential to explore alternative options that can cater to individual needs, interests, and access to 21<sup>st</sup> century learning.

At the same time, we must begin with the end in mind. We must ask ourselves, "What kind of future do I envision for my child?" Whether it's high education in the USA or advanced English proficiency, we must choose the educational path that aligns with our long-term goals.

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Choosing American Education International (AEI) can be a wise and courageous choice for parents seeking high-quality education that prepares their children for success in American universities and beyond. American parents, specifically those in Florida are choosing the homeschooling option with AEI. AEI's unique opportunities for international families are quickly becoming the solution to the problems of many and the newfound hope.

Many international parents are beginning to discover this option and realizing their children can get a leg up with this option by graduating with a dual diploma

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from AmericanK12. Parents are learning about access to certified highly qualified teachers and advanced learning. They also discover the components of the program include academic coaching and college admissions counseling and support and SAT prep. Which means they have all they need within American Education International without needing to hire external education agents and test prep companies to help our children succeed.

Choosing the right school option for our children requires us to embrace vulnerability and choose courage over fear. By asking tough questions, examining our assumptions, and being intentional about our values and goals, we can make informed decisions that serve our children's best interests. Let's have the courage to choose wisely and lead our children towards a bright and fulfilling future.

### Tenacity Preparing for Transition

The transition from high school to college can be a challenging time for many students, especially for those who are studying abroad. It's important for parents to prepare their child for this transition by providing guidance, support, and resources. Here are

some tips for preparing your child for the transition to college life:

1. Encourage independence: College is a time for students to develop independence and responsibility. Encourage your child to take ownership of their academic and personal life by making decisions and solving problems on their own.
2. Help with practical matters: Help your child with practical matters such as setting up a bank account, getting a cell phone plan, and buying necessary items for their dorm room or apartment.
3. Discuss cultural differences: If your child is studying abroad, it's important to discuss cultural differences and prepare them for potential challenges they may face. Encourage your child to be open-minded and to embrace new experiences.
4. Discuss academic expectations: College academics are typically more rigorous than high school academics. Discuss academic expectations with your child and encourage



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them to take advantage of resources such as tutoring, academic advising, and study groups.

5. Discuss social expectations: College is also a time for students to develop social connections and relationships. Discuss social expectations with your child and encourage them to get involved in extracurricular activities and to meet new people.
6. Talk about mental health: The transition to college can also be stressful for students. Talk to your child about mental health and encourage them to seek help if they are struggling.
7. Stay in touch: While it's important to encourage independence, it's also important to stay in touch with your child. Set up regular communication times and check in with your child to see how they are adjusting to college life.
8. Provide emotional support: Finally, provide emotional support to your child. Encourage them, listen to them, and help them navigate any challenges they may face.

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By following these tips, parents can help their child make a smooth transition to college life. Remember, the transition to college is a process, and it's important to be patient and supportive as your child adjusts to their new environment.

### You've Got This

Are you feeling overwhelmed with the task of finding the right university or college for your child's higher education? Take a deep breath and know that you are not alone. This is a big decision that can bring up a lot of emotions, but I'm here to offer some resources to make the process easier.

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First, let's start with the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) College Navigator. This resource is designed to help you find schools based on your child's unique needs and interests. It's important to remember that your child's education is about more than just a degree, it's about finding an institution that aligns with their values and passions. You can access this resource at <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>.

Next, consider the Database of Accredited Postsecondary Institutions and Programs (DAPIP).

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This database includes all institutions that are accredited by recognized accrediting agencies, ensuring that your child's education is of the highest quality. You can access this resource at <https://ope.ed.gov/dapip/#/home>.

The College Board's Big Future search tool is another great resource. It provides information on over 3,800 colleges and universities in the United States and allows you to search by location, size, and program offerings. This tool can help you find the right fit for your child's unique needs. You can access this resource at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>.

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The Princeton Review and U.S. News & World Report also offer valuable insights into colleges and universities, including information on admissions, academics, and student life. Use these resources to gain a better understanding of each institution and make an informed decision. You can access The Princeton Review at <https://www.princetonreview.com/college-search> and U.S. News & World Report at <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges>.

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Remember, this process can be overwhelming, but it's important to take the time to do the research and find the right fit for your child's unique needs. Trust your intuition and trust the process. You've got this!

NOTES/ACTION STEPS:

## Student Success Stories

From India to the US: Overcoming College  
Admission Setbacks with American Education  
International

As a student from India, I always dreamed of studying in the United States. I had heard so many stories about the opportunities available there, and I was determined to make the most of them. But when I decided to work with an education agent to help me navigate the complex admissions process, I never imagined it would end in disaster.

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For months, I worked with the agent to prepare my application, gather all the necessary documents, and take the SAT. But when the day finally came to receive my acceptance letter, I was met with a crushing blow: I had been rejected. I was devastated. I had put so much time, money, and energy into this process, only to be turned away.

To make matters worse, I soon discovered that the education agent I had worked with was a fraud. They had taken my money and promised to help me get into a good school, but they had provided

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me with little guidance and no useful advice. I was left feeling betrayed and alone.

That's when I heard about American Education International. At first, I was hesitant to trust anyone again, but I decided to give them a chance. And I'm so glad I did. The academic program they offered was affordable and highly reliable. They provided me with academic coaching and SAT prep, which was much more effective than the education agent I had previously worked with.

Through their personalized approach to education, AEI helped me identify my strengths and weaknesses and provided me with the tools I needed to succeed. Their SAT prep program was rigorous and challenging, but I felt supported every step of the way. And when it came time to apply to colleges again, I felt much more confident and prepared.

Thanks to AEI's help, I was able to secure a spot at a top university in the United States. I couldn't have done it without them. They helped me overcome the disappointment and betrayal of my previous experience and showed me that there



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was still hope for my dreams of studying in America.

To anyone out there who's struggling with the college admissions process or feeling lost and alone, I urge you to reach out to American Education International. They will provide you with the guidance, support, and expertise you need to succeed. I can't recommend them highly enough.

*Rohit*

## Overcoming the Emotional Pain of Not Being Prepared for College as an International Student

As an international student, I arrived in the United States full of hope and dreams. I was convinced that I was going to conquer the world, that I was going to become the next Steve Jobs or Elon Musk. But the reality was quite different. I quickly found myself struggling to adapt to a new culture, a new language, and a new education system. My grades plummeted, my confidence shattered, and my dreams faded away.

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For months, I suffered in silence, hiding my struggles from my family and friends back home. I felt like a failure, like I didn't belong here. I spent countless hours in the library, trying to catch up on the work that I should have learned in high school. But no matter how hard I tried; I couldn't seem to make any progress.

That's when I discovered American Education International. At first, I was skeptical. I had tried so many different tutoring services and study groups before, and none of them had helped me. But something about AEI felt different. Maybe it was

their reputation for excellence, or maybe it was their personalized approach to education. Whatever it was, I decided to give them a try, so I enrolled.

And boy, am I glad I did. From the moment I started, I knew I was in good hands. The staff was warm and welcoming, and I was provided with an academic coach. Not only did they help me academically but also personally. They took the time to listen to my story and understand my struggles. They didn't judge me or make me feel ashamed. Instead, they encouraged me and challenged me to be my best self.

Over the next few months, I worked tirelessly in my classes with live virtual teachers to improve my English, my study habits, and my test-taking skills. They didn't just teach me the material; they also taught me how to think critically, how to approach problems creatively, and how to believe in myself again. And slowly but surely, I began to see results.

My grades improved, my confidence grew, and my dreams rekindled. I started to believe that maybe,

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just maybe, I could succeed in this country after all. And that's exactly what happened. Thanks to American Education International, I was able to not only graduate from college, but also land my dream job in Silicon Valley. I'm now living proof that with the right support, anything is possible.

So, to anyone out there who's struggling like I was, I want you to know that there's hope. You don't have to suffer in silence or give up on your dreams. Just reach out to American Education International, and they'll help you overcome your challenges and achieve your goals. Trust me, it worked for me.

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*Emily*

## Overcoming Personal Tragedy and Finding a New Family

As a student from Saudi Arabia, I always thought my future was bright. But after losing both of my parents in a tragic accident, I felt like my dreams had been shattered. I had no one to turn to, and I thought my chances in life were over.

That's when I discovered American Education International. They became the family I never had. Despite living with relatives, I felt alone and isolated. But AEI provided me with a support system that helped me get through some of the toughest times of my life.

I started with AEI's online English Acquisition program. It was challenging, but I felt like I was making progress. AEI's personalized approach to learning made all the difference. They helped me identify my strengths and weaknesses and provided me with the tools I needed to improve my language skills.

But AEI didn't stop there. They also provided me with SAT prep and coaching for college admissions

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in the United States. I was thrilled to receive a scholarship and was accepted into medical school at Johns Hopkins University in the USA.

Without AEI, I don't know where I would be today. They gave me the confidence and support I needed to pursue my dreams. And even though I'm far from home, I feel like I have a new family in AEI. They are always there for me, providing me with the guidance and support I need to succeed.

To anyone out there who's feeling lost or alone, I urge you to reach out to American Education International. They will become your family, just like they did for me. And they will help you overcome the toughest challenges life can throw your way.

*Aisha*

## Battling Transience

Hi, my name is Alex, and I want to share my story with you. When I was younger, my family moved around a lot because of my dad's job. We had to pack up and leave every few years, which made it hard for me to make friends and feel like I belonged.

Sometimes we lived in areas where the schools weren't great. The teachers didn't seem to care much about the students, and the other kids weren't friendly. It was tough for me to focus on my studies and feel motivated in such an environment.

But then my mom found out about an online school called AEI, which was part of a homeschool network. She thought it would be a good idea to enroll me in the program so that I could have some stability in my studies.

At first, I was skeptical about the idea of studying online. I was worried I would miss out on making

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friends and being part of a real classroom. But I soon discovered that AEI was different.

I was able to connect with international students from all over the world who were studying online just like me. I even made friends with a boy from Japan named Hiro, who shared my passion for anime and manga. We would chat during class and share our artwork, and it was a highlight of my day.

But what made AEI truly special was the fact that no matter where my family moved, I still had the same school with the same teachers and the same kids in my classes. I didn't have to start all over again, and I could continue to build on the friendships I had made.

Thanks to AEI, I was able to find some sense of stability in my studies and my social life. I felt more motivated and engaged in my studies, and I was excited to log on and see my friends from all over the world.

Now I'm in 12th grade, and I look back on my time at AEI with gratitude. It was a place where I could



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be myself, make friends, and learn at my own pace. Even though my family continues to move, I know that I can always count on AEI to be a constant in my life.

*Alex*

### Traveling Athlete

I want to share my story with you. I'm an athlete, and I travel a lot for my sport. That's why my parents decided to homeschool me, so that I could keep up with my studies while also pursuing my athletic dreams.

But it wasn't always easy. My parents weren't very good in school, and they struggled to help me with some of the subject areas where I was falling behind. I was worried that I wouldn't be able to keep up with my peers, and that I would miss out on opportunities because of my struggles.

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That's when my mom found out about AmericanK12, an online school that would allow me to study at my own pace and keep up with my studies, even while I was traveling.

At first, I was skeptical about the idea of online school. I wasn't sure if I would be able to stay focused and motivated without the structure of a traditional classroom. But AmericanK12 was different.

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I was able to log on for less than 2 hours a day and still keep up with my studies. I had access to great teachers who helped me understand the subjects that I was struggling with, and I was able to work at my own pace without feeling rushed or left behind.

Thanks to AmericanK12, I was able to get back on track with my studies and even improve my grades. I was able to focus on my athletic training without worrying about falling behind in school.

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Now I'm getting ready to graduate from high school, and I've been offered a scholarship to play baseball in college. I never thought that would be possible, but thanks to AmericanK12, I was able to keep up with my studies and pursue my dreams. I'm grateful for the opportunity to have studied at AmericanK12. It allowed me to be an athlete and a student at the same time, and I know that I wouldn't be where I am today without it.

*Ryan*

New to America

My family and I came to America a few years ago, and none of us knew a word of English. It was tough, especially since I was the oldest of three siblings, and I felt like it was my responsibility to help my family adjust to our new life.

We went to school, but nobody seemed to want to help us learn English. It was frustrating and discouraging, and it took a long time for us to start making progress.

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One day, my mom ran into a lady at the grocery store who told her that the same thing had happened to her family. She had found out about AmericanK12, an online school that could help us catch up with our studies and learn English at our own pace.

My mom was excited about the possibility of us finally getting the help we needed, and she enrolled us in AmericanK12. And it made a huge difference.

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We all loved school again. We were able to learn English and catch up with our studies without feeling lost or left behind. And because AmericanK12 is registered in Florida, we were even able to qualify for scholarships, which was a huge relief for my family.

Now, all of us know how to read and write in English, and not only are we caught up with our studies, but I'm even above grade level in math. It's been an incredible journey, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity that AmericanK12 has given us. For me it wasn't just about learning English or catching up with our studies. It was about having the opportunity to pursue our dreams and create a better life for ourselves and our family. And AmericanK12 was a crucial part of that journey.

*Miguel*

## Limited Opportunities

I grew up in a small rural town where opportunities for education were limited. My family didn't have a lot of money, and the public schools in my area were underfunded and understaffed. I struggled to keep up in class and often felt like I was falling behind.

That all changed when a new teacher named Ms. Kirkley moved to our town. Ms. Kirkley was a science teacher from AmericanK12 who was passionate about education and believed that every child deserved a chance to succeed. She saw potential in me and took me under her wing, offering me extra help after school and encouraging me to pursue my interests. Ms. Kirkley spoke to my mom about enrolling in AmericanK12 to give me the help I needed, and I did.

With Ms. Kirkley's support, I began to thrive. I discovered a love for science and started spending my free time doing experiments and learning about the world around me. Ms. Kirkley helped me

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apply for scholarships and grants to attend summer science camps and even helped me start a science club at school.

My hard work paid off when I was accepted into a top university with a full scholarship to study chemistry. I went on to become a successful chemist, developing new medicines and treatments that helped people all over the world.

But I knew I wanted to give back to other students who were like me, so I decided to study education and become a teacher myself. I wanted to be like Ms. Kirkley and make a difference in the lives of young students who needed someone to believe in them.

Looking back on my journey, I knew that I wouldn't have been able to achieve my dreams without Ms. Kirkley's support and guidance. I was grateful for the teacher who believed in me and helped me see my own potential.

*Lily*

New Beginnings

My name is Lucas and I'm from Brazil. My family and I moved to Florida just after the pandemic hit. When I first arrived, I wasn't ready to enroll in school because my English wasn't at the developmental level that was required. I was worried about how I would ever catch up and make friends with students who only spoke English.

At home, my family only spoke Portuguese, so it was difficult to practice my English skills. When I started school, nobody spoke Portuguese, and nobody could teach me English, so I struggled a lot.

But then, my mom found out about AmericanK12, and she enrolled me in English classes. I started attending classes and working on my English skills. I worked really hard, and in just five months, I had advanced so much that I was ready to be enrolled full time in AmericanK12.

It was such a relief to finally feel like I was catching up with my peers. I was able to make friends with students from all over the world and it was so great to finally have a sense of community.



## THRIVE with AEI

Thanks to AmericanK12, I'm now excelling in my studies and doing well in school. My dream is to become a doctor, and I know that with the help of AmericanK12, I can make it happen. I am forever grateful for the opportunities this school has given me, and I know that my future is bright.

*Lucas*