Overview

- Global Context
- Understanding U.S. Graduate Education
- Admissions Process
- Testing
- Funding Strategies
**Why Study in the United States?**

The U.S. educational system values academic honesty and freedom, critical reflection, independent thinking and decision making, interactive learning, leadership skills, and diversity.

Smithee, Greenblatt & Eland, 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUALITY</th>
<th>CHOICE</th>
<th>VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• World-class institutions</td>
<td>• +4,500 accredited universities</td>
<td>• Schools in every price range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Widely accepted degrees</td>
<td>• +600 Fields of Study</td>
<td>• Generous financial aid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FLEXIBILITY**

• Design your own program
• Change fields/schools without penalty

**PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITY**

• Access to work, study, and internship opportunities
• Career counseling services

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**International Tertiary Mobility: Mozambique**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Number Abroad</th>
<th>Portugal</th>
<th>26%</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2016
Mozambicans Studying in the U.S.  
2016-2017 Academic Year

1,078,822 → 37,735 → 120 → 68/31

Total International Students  
5% of total U.S. university enrollment (20 million)

African Students  
3.4% of all international students

Mozambican Students  
.3% of all African students

Mozambican Undergraduate/Graduate Students  
57% and 26% of all Mozambican students


International Student Enrollment in the US: 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th># of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>10,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>3,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>3,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>RSA</td>
<td>1,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>1,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your 5 Steps to Study in the United States

1. Research Your Options
2. Finance Your Studies
3. Complete Your Application
4. Apply for a Student Visa
5. Prepare for Your Departure

Graduate Degree Programs

Master’s Degree

- 1-3 years
- Practical training in specialized field
- Academic Degrees: e.g., Master of Arts (MA) or Master of Science (MS)
- Professional Degrees: e.g., Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Fine Arts (MFA), Master of Public Policy (MPP) or Master of Education (MEd)
- Graduation requirement: usually Master’s Thesis

Doctorate Degree

- 5-8 years
- Prepares students for University faculty and research scholar positions, or careers that require advanced knowledge and research skills.
- Academic Degrees: e.g., Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Professional Degrees: e.g., Doctor of Education (EdD) or Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
- Graduation requirement: Comprehensive examination + dissertation

Both degrees require a combination of quantitative/qualitative research and coursework
General Admissions Requirements

- Completion of a Bachelor’s degree (*Licentiatura*)
- Demonstrated English proficiency
- Certification of Finances
- Completed Application Package:
  - Application forms
  - Curriculum Vitae
  - Transcripts
  - Statement of Purpose/Essays
  - Recommendations
  - Standardized Test Scores

Types of Admissions Tests

- **TOEFL**: Test of English as a Foreign Language  
  General exam to demonstrate English skill

- **GRE**: Graduate Record Exam  
  General exam for most graduate programs

- **GMAT**: Graduate Management Admissions Test  
  For: Business schools

- **MCAT**: Medical College Admission Test  
  For: Medical and some Health professions schools

- **LSAT**: Law School Admission Test  
  For: Law school Juris Doctor programs

- **DAT**: Dental Admission Test  
  For: Dental schools
### TOEFL
- Internet-based exam: 4 hours
- Tests English reading, writing, listening, and speaking
- Avg. Minimum score for admission: 100 out of 120
- Cost: $180
- Offered once per month at the American Cultural Center in Maputo. Check website for frequency in Johannesburg and Harare
- Register online: www.ets.org/toefl

### GRE
- Paper-based exam: 3.5 hours
- 3 sections test verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing ability
- Avg. minimum score for admission: above 50th percentile, or above 151 on Verbal/Quant Sections and 4 on writing
- Cost: $205
- Offered 3-4 times/year at the American Cultural Center
- Register online at: www.ets.org/gre

Test preparation materials for all standardized tests are available at the American Cultural Center in Maputo, American Corners in Chimoio (Universidade Catolica) and Beira (UP), and American Reading Room in Nampula (UniLurio)

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**Choose the Best Graduate Program For You**

**Step 1:** Define Your Education and Career Goals

**Step 2:** Explore Programs and Ask Questions
- Research Programs and Facilities?
- Faculty Profiles?
  - Graduate professor/supervisor is one of the most important elements of your graduate study. Choose professor as well as choosing your school.
- Accreditation?
- Time required to complete degree?
- Academic Requirements?
- Petersons.com and EducationUSA.info are helpful

**Step 3:** Make a Short List of Programs

**Step 4:** Decide Where to Apply
Graduate Financial Aid

Highly Competitive! Based on Academic Potential

Requires Strong Application

Often requires Research or Teaching Experience
Financial Aid

- Comprehensive annual costs for graduate school range from $15,000 to $70,000 (includes tuition, fees, and living expenses).
- Over 1,000 universities award partial and/or full financial aid packages to international students.
- Financial aid is highly competitive, merit-based, and awarded only to top students.

Reducing Educational Costs

Assess personal funds
- Determine how much you can afford for your education each year.
- Full scholarships are difficult to get--expect to pay something yourself.
- Raise additional funds from family and other personal sources.

Plan a budget
- Keep in mind that overall costs include tuition, fees, and living expenses.
- Develop your budget as early as possible!
Primary Source of Funding
International Graduate Students, 2016 - 2017

- Personal and Family: 61%
- U.S. College or University*: 31%
- Foreign Government or University: 4.4%
- U.S. Government: 0.8%
- U.S. Private Sponsor: 0.2%


Sources of Funding

**Assistantships**
- Work For University in Research/Teaching
- Provides Tuition + Living Stipend
- Typically Requires an Interview and Good Academic Standing

**Fellowships**
- Sponsored by Governments, Universities, and Organizations
- Often conduct Research For Degree
- Covers Costs, Admin, Living, etc.
Sources of Funding by Field of Study

**STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
- 60-80% of grad students are funded by their universities

**Humanities and Social Sciences**
- 40-60% of grad students are funded by their universities

**Other Professions** (Business, Health, Communications, Education, Law)
- Almost 0%. Most grad students are funded by student loans

Funding Strategies

Here are some resources:

- [www.educationusa.info](http://www.educationusa.info)
- [www.opportunitiesforafricans.com](http://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com)
- [www.scholars4dev.com](http://www.scholars4dev.com)
- [www.iefa.com](http://www.iefa.com)
- [www.mastercardfdn.org/scholars-program](http://www.mastercardfdn.org/scholars-program)
- [www.internationalstudent.com](http://www.internationalstudent.com)
- [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
- [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com)
- [www.internationalscholarships.com](http://www.internationalscholarships.com)
- [www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org)
- [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)
- [www.fundingusstudy.org](http://www.fundingusstudy.org)
- [www.guaranteed-scholarships.com](http://www.guaranteed-scholarships.com)
- Email: MaputoEdAdvising@state.gov
Funding Strategies

• Find best buys
  – Look for the highest quality of education at the lowest cost, such as state universities.
• Think about location
  – Apply to institutions in areas that have a lower cost of living, such as in the South or the Midwest.
• Communicate with University faculty
  – Highlight your research interests and your abilities to increase your competitiveness for Assistantships and Fellowships
  – Research U.S. Government Fulbright Program

Funding Strategies

• Search for scholarships strategically
  – Look for the schools that provide the most funding for international students
  – Apply only to programs for which you are competitive
• Be proactive
  – Research all possible options thoroughly
  – Contact schools and ask about funding possibilities
  – Apply to at least five programs
• SUBMIT A STRONG APPLICATION!
  – Perform well on required tests (TOEFL, GRE/GMAT)
  – Apply early and complete forms professionally
  – Submit completed applications before January 1
• Full funding for maximum of two years of Master’s, PhD, or non-degree study in the United States

• Eligibility Criteria:
  - Mozambican citizens
  - Must already have Licenciatura
  - English Proficiency
  - Strong grades and leadership record
  - Commitment to country development

• Highly competitive. U.S. Embassy Awards 3-4 full scholarships to Mozambicans every year

• Application period opens in January

Fulbright 2014-15: Arsenio Lampiao, LLM in Environmental and Natural Resources Law, University of Oregon; Felix Manganhela, MA in Teaching English as a Second Language, St. Cloud State University

Elsa Lameira
Fulbright 2013-2015
Master’s in Microbiology, Oklahoma State University

Fulbright 2016-18:
Georgina Fuel, LLM, Environmental and Natural Resources Law
University of Oregon
Hello Cuvé, MA in Experimental Psychology, City University of New York
Dr. Ivandra Simao, MA in Public Health
Georgia State University

Inocencio Zandamela
Fulbright 2014-2016
Master’s in Educational Psychology
The College of St. Rose
Admissions Timeline

- U.S. Academic Calendar: August/September – May/June
- Application process begins one year before intended enrollment
- February-August: Think, read, research, select schools and programs. Plan essays and recruit recommenders
- September-December: Take GRE/GMAT/TOEFL, write essays, get transcripts and recommendations, fill out applications, and communicate with professors
- January 1: Complete and submit all applications.
- April-May: Admissions and funding decisions announced
- May-June: Apply for student visa

Profile of a Strong Graduate Application

“Your personal qualities and contributions — everything about you that makes you who you are — suggests how you see the world and what shaped the perspective you will bring to future classmates.”

MBA Admissions Director, Stanford University

**ESSAYS**
- Showcase your skills and experience beyond the transcript.
- Describe what you will contribute to the classroom and the campus
- Discuss your knowledge of the program, faculty, and their research
- Highlight your knowledge of your field of study
- Be specific about your study objectives

**PROFESSIONALISM**
- Applications submitted on time or early, without omissions or errors
- All materials are completed professionally

**FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION**
- Preceded by communication with professors/deans of the department
- Clear explanation of study objectives and career goals
- Evidence of your familiarity with school’s program/professors/research

**TESTING**
- TOEFL- at least 100
- GRE - at least 300 (or 50th percentile) /section
- Take practice tests to improve scores

**RECOMMENDATIONS**
- Demonstrate a clear professional or academic relationship with applicant.
- Discuss applicant’s attitude toward learning, knowledge of field, motivation, seriousness, and teaching/research potential
Educational Advising Services
Centro Cultural Americano Martin Luther King, Av. Mao Tse Tung, 542, Maputo

• Once-monthly group information sessions on studying in the U.S.
  (Graduate: last Wednesday of the month, 12:30-14:00)

• Individual Counseling

• Group information sessions on application-writing, scholarship opportunities, graduate programs, etc.

• Recruitment visits by U.S. university representatives

• Test preparation and application materials

• Scholarship Information

• English language programs

• Resources available at American Corners in Beira (Universidade Catolica) and Chimoio (UP) and American Reading Room in Nampula (UniLurio)

Staying Connected

1. www.educationusa.info
   For general information on studying in the United States

2. www.facebook.com/U.S.EmbassyMozambique
   Like our Facebook page for information and updates on educational opportunities and events

3. https://mz.usembassy.gov/
   For information on U.S. government-sponsored scholarship and exchange programs

4. MaputoEdAdvising@state.gov
   For questions and info regarding U.S. educational advising services
Questions?