

So You Want to Study in the United States?

U.S. Embassy Mozambique
EducationUSA Advising Program



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



QUALITY

- World-class institutions
- Widely accepted degrees

FLEXIBILITY

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

CHOICE

- +4,500 accredited universities
- +600 Fields of Study

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITY

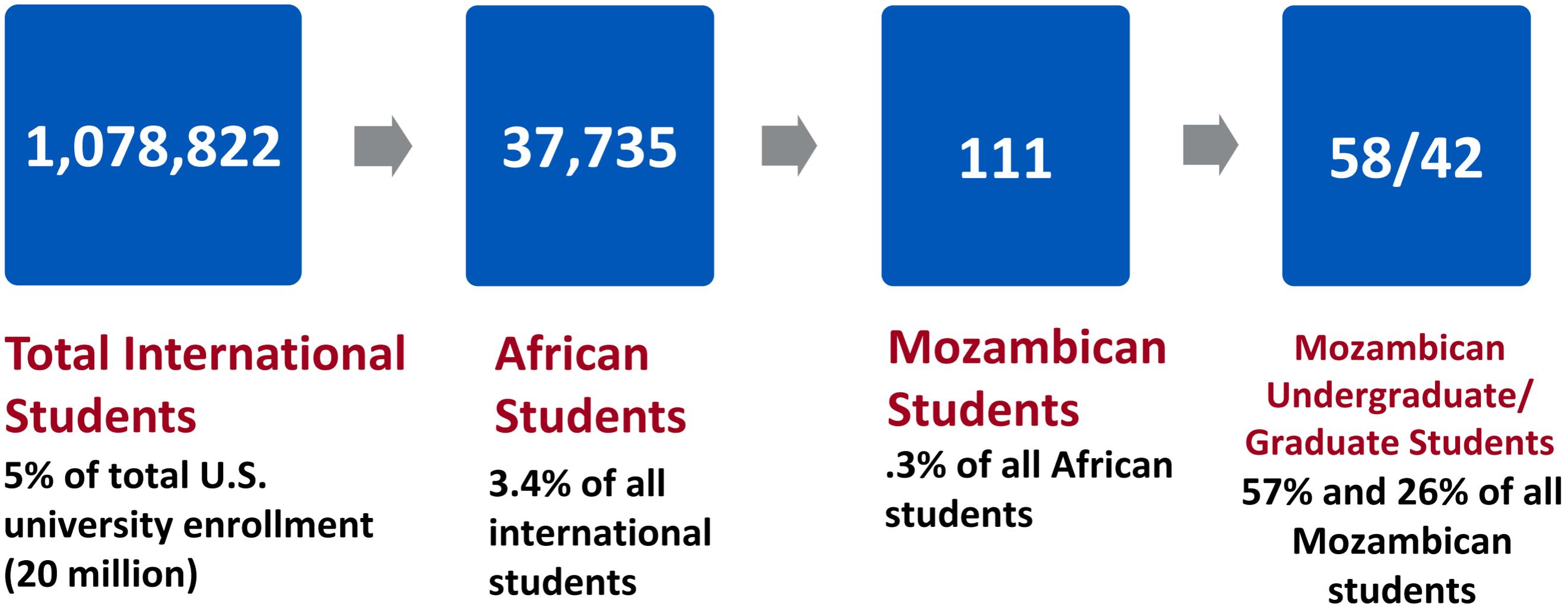
- Access to work, study, and internship opportunities
- Career counseling services

VALUE

- Schools in every price range
- Generous financial aid

Mozambicans Studying in the U.S.

2016-2017 Academic Year



Source: 2017 Open Doors Report

International Student Enrollment in the US: 2016-2017



RANK	Country	# of Students
1	Nigeria	10,674
2	Ghana	3,049
3	Kenya	3,019
4	RSA	1,813
--	Angola	1,296
--	Mozambique	120
--	Cabo Verde	80

Your 5 Steps to Study in the United States



**Research Your
Options**



**Finance Your
Studies**



**Complete Your
Application**



**Apply for a
Student Visa**



**Prepare for
Your Departure**

Before You Start: **THINK and PLAN**



General Requirements for Undergraduate Admission

- **Complete secondary school; be qualified to enter local universities**
- **Strong grades**
- **Good English**
- **Adequate finances to pay and/or eligibility for scholarships**
- **Admissions exams**
- **Submit a complete application**

THINK and Plan

- **Schools are interested in who you are as a whole person: inside and outside of the classroom: extra-curriculars are important!**
- **Admission is based on how well YOU fit THE SCHOOL, as much as how well the school fits YOU.**
- **Applications period begins a year before enrollment: get started early**

U.S. Academic Calendar

August/September

- **School Year Starts**
- Application period for next year begins

September-February

- Application Period

March/April

- Admissions and Financial Aid Decisions Sent

May

- Enrollment deadline

June

- **School Year Ends**

*** Many schools also offer enrollment in January instead of September, however financial aid is limited.**

Research Your Options: 1-2 Years Before Enrollment

- What do you want to study?
- What are your career goals? What are your personal goals?
- What size school do you want to attend? In what part of the country?
- How much can you afford to spend?
- When do you want to begin school?
- What type of degree do you want?
- Gather information from reliable sources, but make your own decisions!



U.S. Undergraduate Degree Programs

Associate's degree

- Two years to complete
- Community colleges or junior colleges
- May transfer to a Bachelor's degree program afterwards
- Much cheaper, less selective, but less financial aid

Bachelor's degree

- Four years to complete
- Colleges, universities, or specialized institutions
- Highly flexible with a wide variety of courses
- More versatile degree, more financial aid, but more expensive.

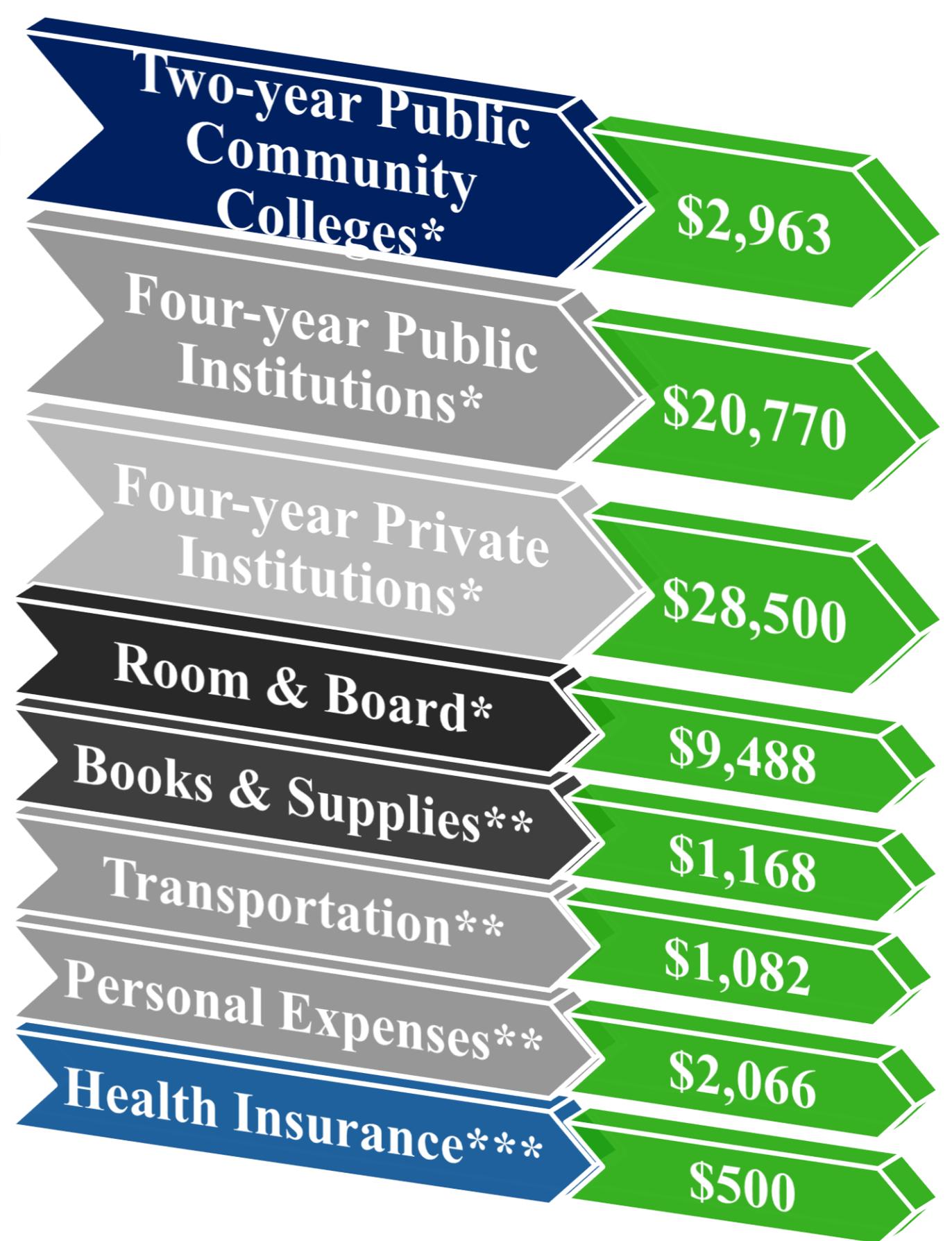


Step 2: Finance Your Studies

Costs can vary greatly from one institution to another. With planning and research, studying in the U.S. can be affordable.

Costs of Higher Education

- Comprehensive ANNUAL costs range from \$15,000 to \$60,000 for undergraduate degree programs (includes tuition, fees, and living expenses)
- Over 1,000 universities award financial aid to international students
- 250 offer full tuition scholarships for undergraduate study
- **The strongest students are the most competitive for scholarships**



* Source: [College Board Trends in College Pricing, 2011](#)

** Source: [College Board Website, Jan 2011](#)

***Source: [EduPASS Website, Jan 2011](#)

Reducing Educational Costs

Assess personal funds

- Determine how much your family can afford for your education each year.
- Full scholarships are difficult to get--expect to pay something yourself.
- Research to identify schools that offer financial aid

Plan a budget

- Remember that overall costs include tuition, fees, and living expenses.
- Develop your budget as early as possible!

Two Types of University Financial Aid

Merit-Based (e.g., scholarships & grants)

Based on outstanding achievements in:

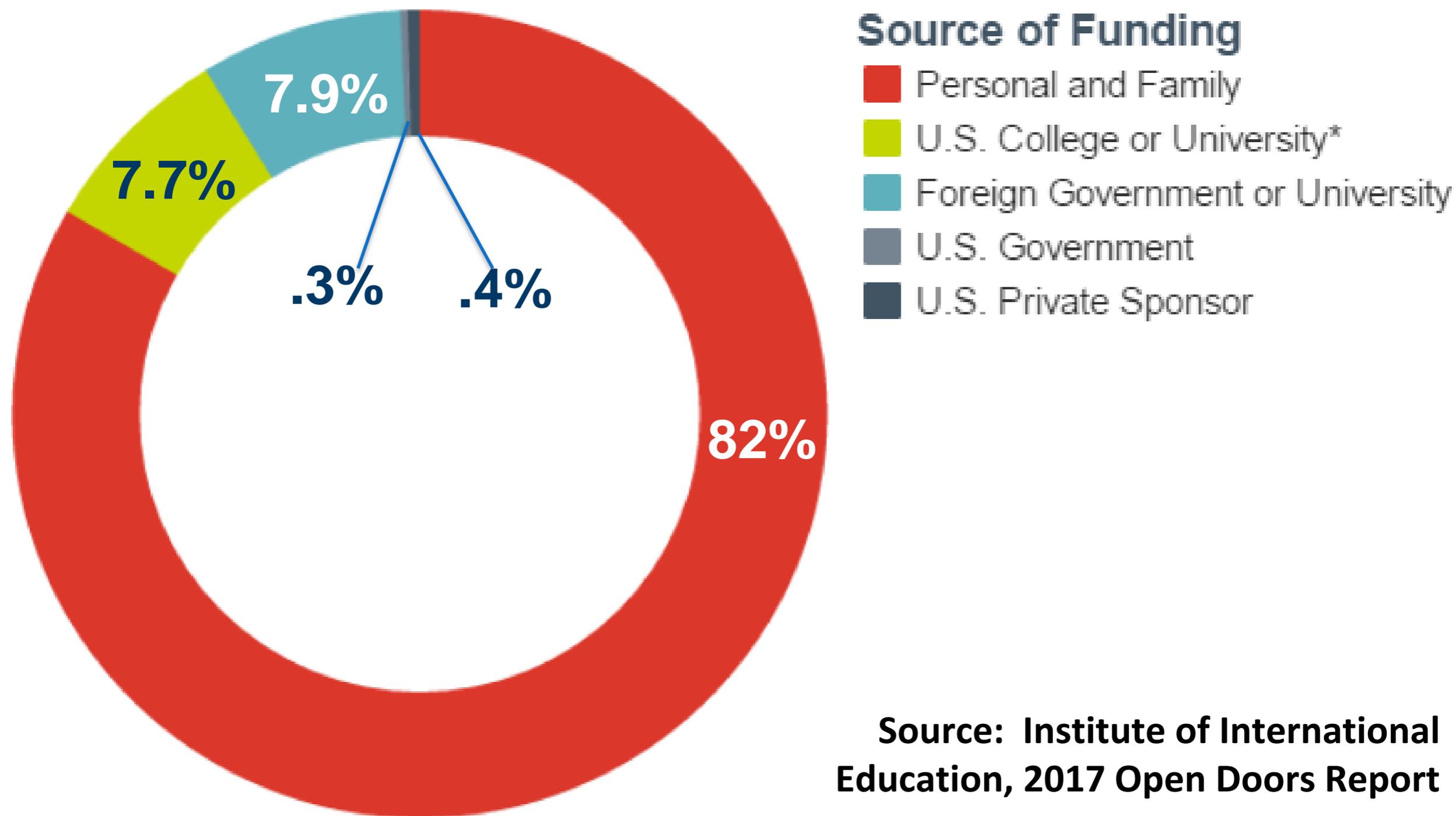
- Academics
- Athletics
- The Arts
- Leadership
- **Highly Competitive**

Need-Based (e.g., loans, work programs)

- Based on Family income & financial need
- Requires proof of economic need
- On-campus work up to 20hrs/week

Primary Source of Funding

International Undergraduate Students, 2016 - 2017



Undergraduate Financial Aid

Rarely covers full cost



**Must apply
early
- January 1st!**

**Extremely
competitive**

Funding Strategies

- **Find best buys**
 - Look for the highest quality of education at the lowest cost, such as public universities.
- **Think about location**
 - Apply to institutions in areas that have a lower cost of living, such as in the South or the Midwest.
- **Accelerate your program**
 - Earn college-level transfer credit in your own country.
 - Attend summer and/or online courses, if available.

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
- **SUBMIT A STRONG APPLICATION!**
 - Score high on required tests
 - Apply early and complete forms professionally

Funding Strategies

UNDERGRADUATES:

- **Attend a community college**
 - **Lower tuition by attending a community college for the first two years.**
 - **Be sure that you can transfer credits to a four-year institution to complete your degree.**
- **Work for tuition waivers**
 - **Based on your first-year grades, some colleges and universities award partial tuition waivers.**
 - **A superior academic record could save you thousands of dollars.**



Step 3. Complete Your Application

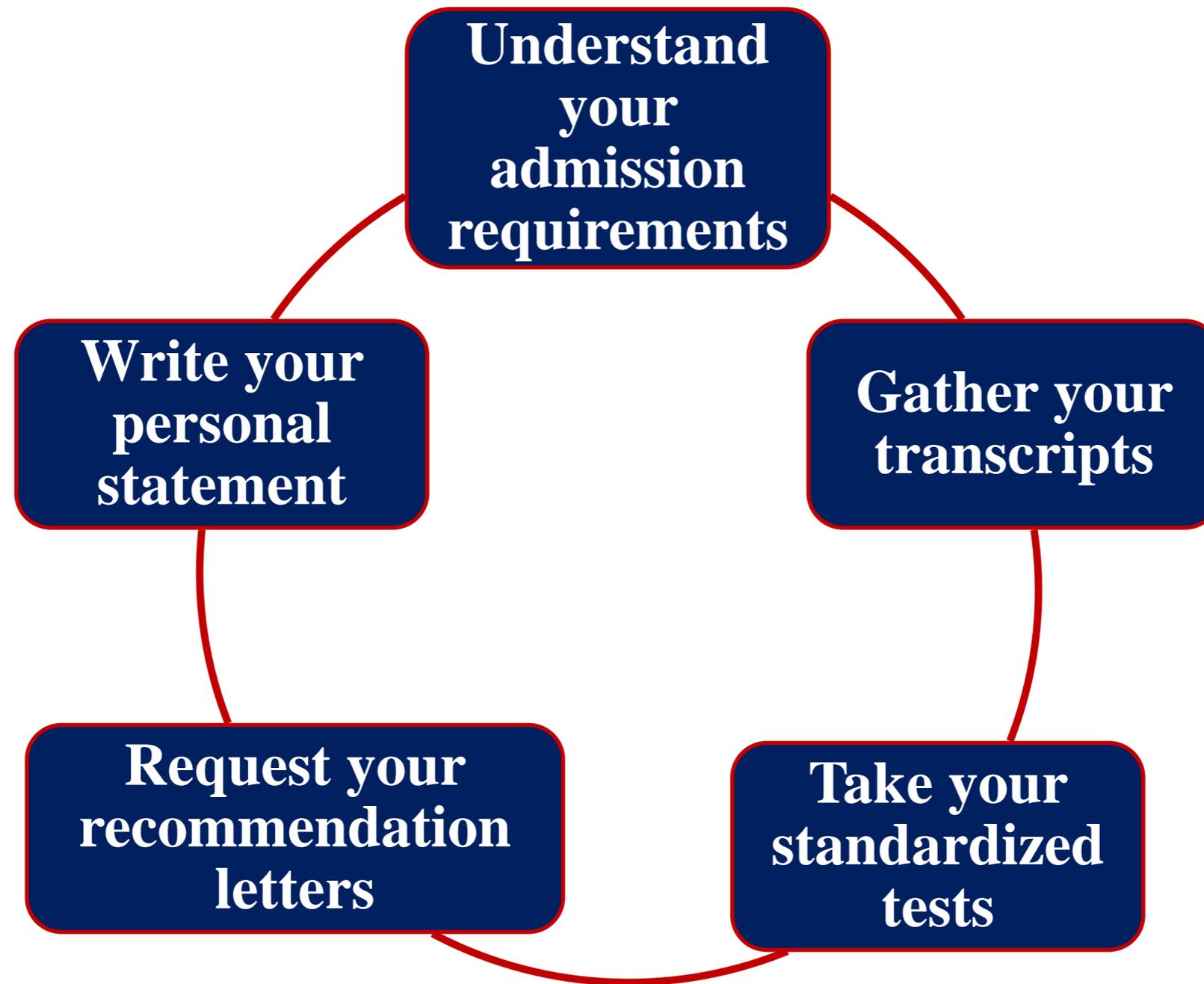
In the United States, application requirements can vary greatly from one institution to another.

Application Components

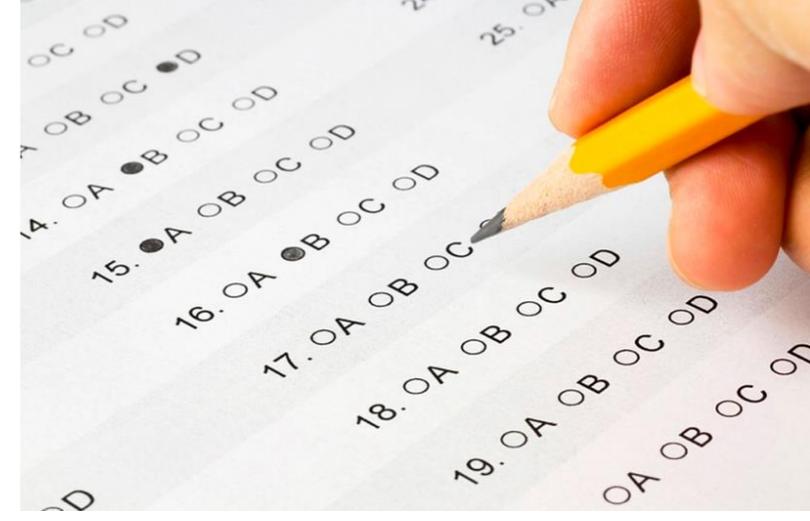
- Application forms
- Transcripts for all 4 years of high school
- Essays/Personal Statement
- Recommendation Letters
- Admissions Exams
- Financial Information
- Application fee (may be waived if you meet certain economic conditions)

U.S. Academic Calendar

Begin your application 6-12 months prior to study. Plan ahead for the time and effort involved in preparing your application package



Admissions Exams



- **Required by most schools to measure your English language skills and academic ability**
- **High test scores are critical for financial aid**
- **To perform well: become familiar with the test. PRACTICE and study hard!**
- **Study material available online, at the American Cultural Center in Maputo, and at American Spaces in Beira, Chimoio, and Nampula**

English Proficiency Tests

- Required by all U.S. schools for graduate or undergraduate study
 - Demonstrate your ability to use English in academic settings
 - Tests listening, speaking, reading, and writing
- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language): www.ets.org/toefl
 - American English test required by most U.S. schools
 - Score range: 0-120
 - Average minimum accepted score: 90
 - Offered at the American Cultural Center Maputo, \$180
 - IELTS (International English Language Testing System): www.ielts.org/
 - British English test accepted by some U.S. schools (check before you apply)
 - Offered at the British Council, 15,000 MZN

SAT

- Tests high school reading, writing and math skills
- Required by 1/3 of U.S. colleges
- Paper-based, multiple choice test
- Score scale: 400-1600. Check the minimum required score for the school you are interested in.
- www.collegeboard.com
- Offered at the American International School in Maputo, \$98

Application Procedures

- Online applications
- **Everything must be neat, organized, and on time!**
- Deadlines are very important! Make sure you follow them
- Always have someone proofread your applications and essays
- Create a CV to showcase who you are

Advice for Interested Students

Relax

- **Be reflective about your interests and experience**

Allow Time

- **To conduct research**
- **To complete your applications**

Follow Directions

- **Pay close attention to all directions**

Build Your Skills

- **Focus on your academic performance**
- **Pursue extra-curricular activity**

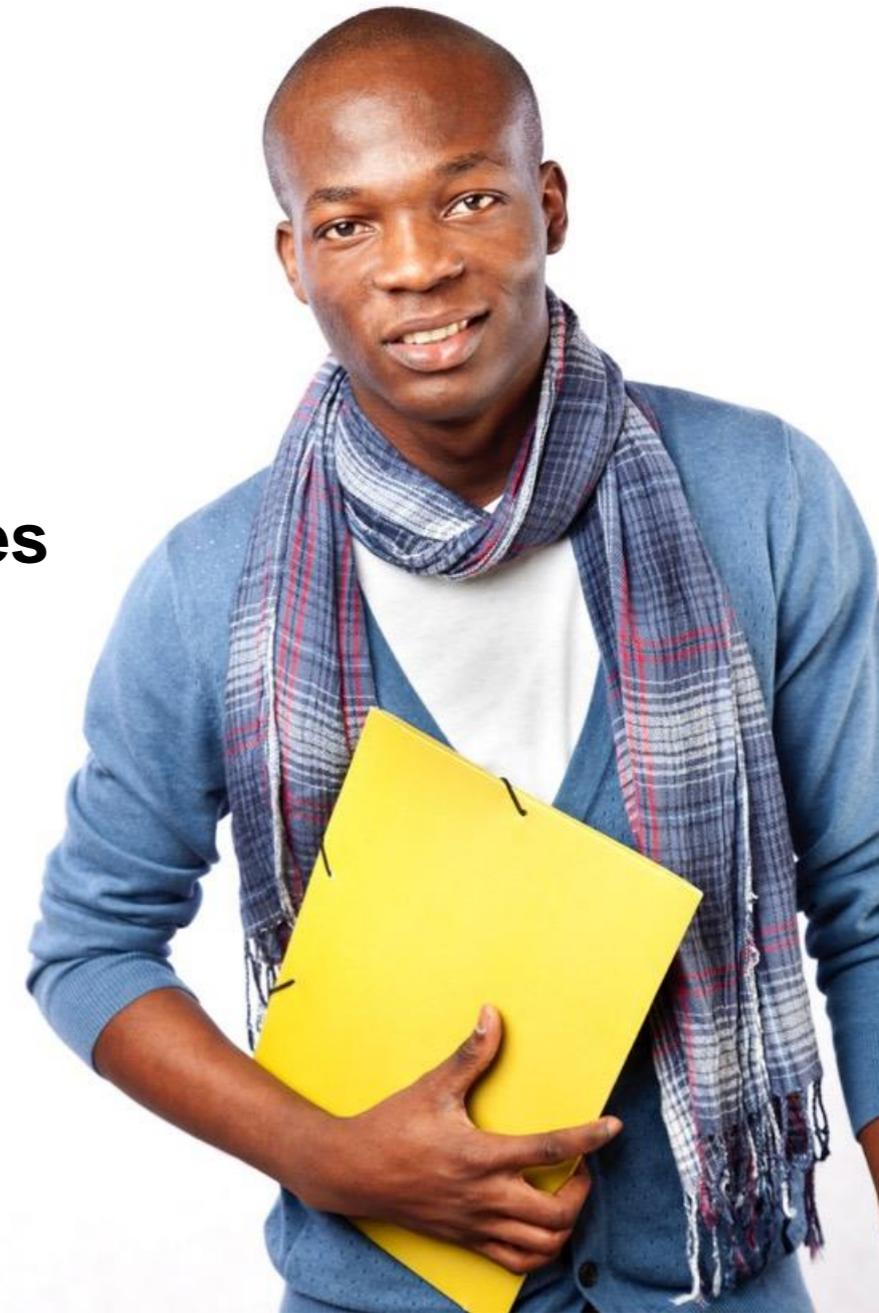
Strengthen Your English

- **Listen to and watch English Language news sources (VOA, BBC)**
- **Read English magazines, newspapers, books available at the American Cultural Center and Corners**
- **Practice English conversation, especially with native English speakers**
- **Participate in English Club at the American Embassy**

EducationUSA Advising Services

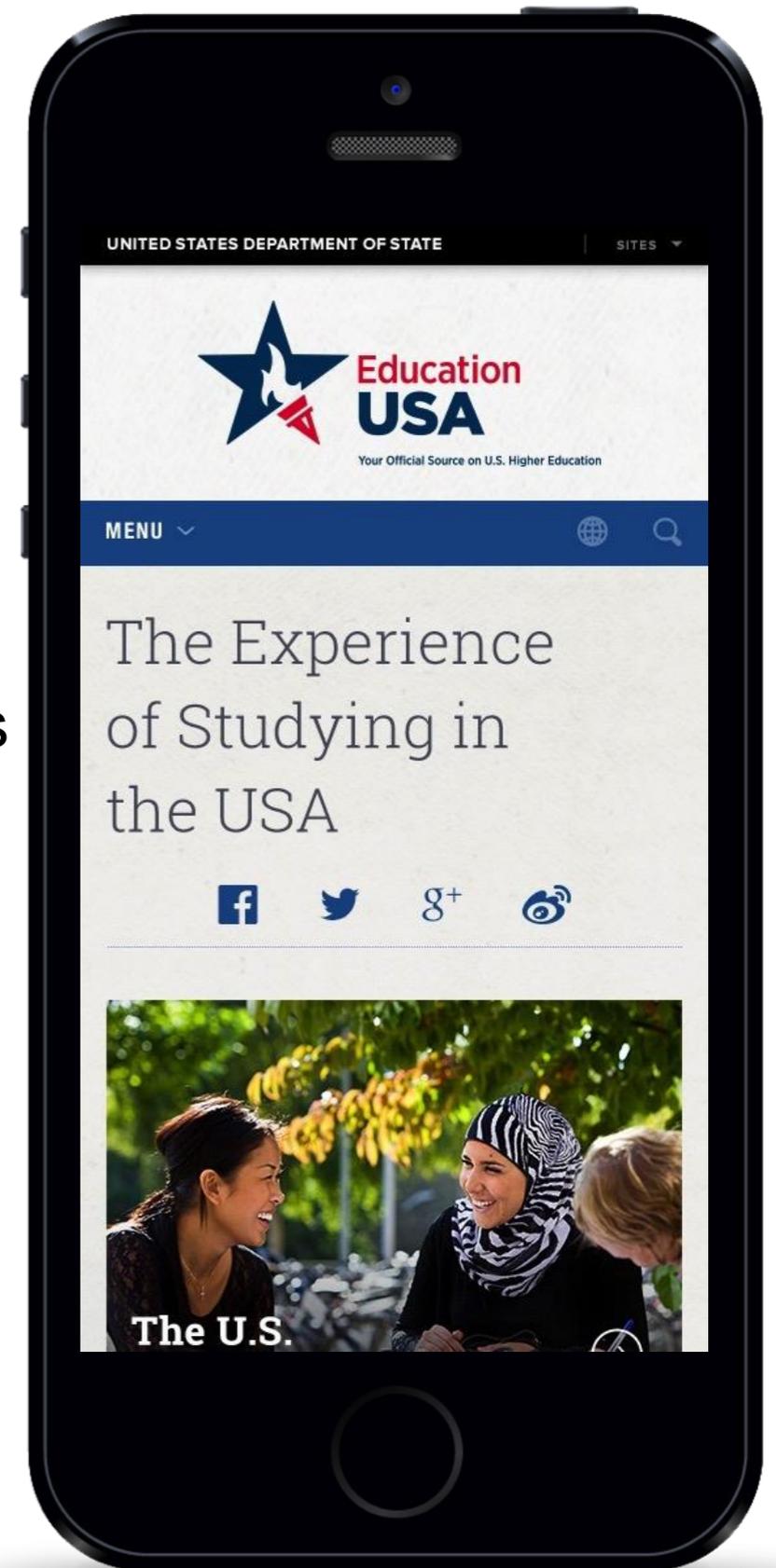
Centro Cultural Americano Martin Luther King, Av. Mao Tse Tung, 542, Maputo

- **Once-monthly group information sessions on studying in the U.S. (third Thursday 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 writing materials**
- **Scholarship Information**
- **English language programs**
- **American Corners in Beira (UP) and Chimoio (UCM) 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



Staying Connected



The screenshot shows the website for the US Embassy in Maputo, Mozambique. The page is in English. The header includes the US Embassy logo, the text 'EMBAIXADA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DA AMERICA MAPUTO • MOÇAMBIQUE', a search bar, and a date stamp 'Thu Oct 02 2014 08:46:46 GMT+0200 (CAT)'. The navigation menu includes 'Início', 'Sobre a Embaixada', 'Vistos', 'Notícias', 'PEPFAR', 'Topicos de Interesse', 'Recursos Educacionais', and 'Comunidades'. The 'Recursos Educacionais' menu is circled in red and has a dropdown menu with 'Intercâmbio Educacional' and 'Links dos Mídia'. The main content area features a photo of Ambassador Griffiths speaking at a podium, with the headline 'Embaixador Griffiths discursa na cerimónia de' and a sub-headline 'Programa de Pequenos Projectos do PEPFAR - Solicitação de Propostas'. To the right, there is a 'LibraryWorld' logo and a section titled 'DESTAQUES DOS E.U.A.' with a list of news items.

English Contacte-nos

EMBAIXADA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DA AMERICA
MAPUTO • MOÇAMBIQUE

Entre o(s) termo(s) de Busca

Thu Oct 02 2014 08:46:46 GMT+0200 (CAT)

[Início](#) [Sobre a Embaixada](#) [Vistos](#) [Notícias](#) [PEPFAR](#) [Topicos de Interesse](#) **[Recursos Educacionais](#)** [Comunidades](#)

Intercâmbio Educacional
Links dos Mídia

DESTAQUES DA EMBAIXADA DOS

Programa de Pequenos Projectos do PEPFAR - Solicitação de Propostas
Como parte do Plano de Emergência do Presidente dos Estados Unidos para o Alívio do SIDA (PEPFAR), a Secção de Cultura e Imprensa da Embaixada dos Estados Unidos da América em Maputo administra um programa de financiamento comunitário que apoia projectos de assistência por um período de 1 ano, focalizado na prevenção da transmissão do HIV e fornecimento de cuidados e apoio para os afectados e infectados. A Secção de Cultura e Imprensa está actualmente a solicitar propostas de organizações comunitárias de base, organizações de fé, não-governamentais e da sociedade civil nacionais legalmente registadas, bem como de instituições de comunicação social que trabalham na resposta ao HIV/SIDA em Moçambique

RELATÓRIO INTERNACIONAL SOBRE LIBERDADE RELIGIOSA MOÇAMBIQUE

Embaixador Griffiths discursa na cerimónia de
O Embaixador Griffiths anunciou uma importante mudança na política de desminagem dos Estados Unidos da América durante a cerimónia de encerramento da 3ª Conferência de Revisão da Convenção de Otava, no dia 26 de Junho de 2014.

DESTAQUES DOS E.U.A.

- Discurso de Obama na 69ª Assembleia Geral das Nações Unidas
- Obama promete degradar e destruir o EI
- Declaração de Kerry sobre o acordo de paz em Moçambique
- Declaração de Kerry sobre o assassinato de Steven Sotloff pelo grupo terrorista EIIL
- Informativo sobre a resposta dos E.U.A. ao vírus Ebola
- Pronunciamento de Obama na sessão de abertura da Cúpula de Líderes EUA-África
- Informativo: Relatório sobre Liberdade

assy.gov/pt/resources.html

Questions?

