



## **TIMELINE FOR APPLYING TO U.S. UNIVERSITIES**

### **Years 9, 10, 11**

- Study hard and get the best grades you can. Practice your English, and work on writing skills.
- Participate in school sports, clubs, and competitions (like speech competitions)
- Join community clubs and participate in community service projects.
- For athletes, continually improve in your sport
  - Have your coaches and parents start talking to scouts.
  - Start compiling video footage of your performances.
  - Keep track of any records and accomplishments you earn.

### **Year 12**

- Study hard, pay particular attention to your English scores.
- Start to research U.S. Universities and collect important information, like requirements and deadlines
- Sit the School C and advance to year 13.
- Continue to participate in school clubs and activities, as well as community service projects
- For athletes, look for any opportunity to play sports on a distinguished level (national sports team, school championship, etc.)
- Prepare for and sit the SAT exam after Year 12. This test is currently offered at Pesega each January.

### **Year 13**

- Continue to achieve good grades. Universities look favorably on students with grades that stay consistently high or improve over time.
- Strive to be Head Boy/Girl or a Prefect.
- By May, create a short list of 4-6 universities that match your academic profile and interests. Collect information packets, and be clear about their admission requirements. Collect scholarship and financial aid information at this time.
- Prepare for and sit the SAT exam again, if needed. This test is currently offered at Pesega each January.
- Beginning in August, apply for university *if the school does not require foundation year*.

- Sit the PSSC and advance to NUS Foundation Year
  - Even if you have applied to universities, still enroll in Foundation Year

### **In Foundation Year**

- If you have not applied to a university yet, begin looking seriously. By May, have your search narrowed down to 5 schools you want to apply to.
  - Narrow down your search by thinking about what part of the country you would like to live in, and your preferred area of study. Think about areas where you already have family nearby or attending school. Think about what school is the right fit for your academic abilities.
    - Choose 2 schools you hope to get into but are not sure if you will gain admission.
    - Choose 2 schools you hope to get into and will likely gain admission.
    - Choose 1-2 schools that you are guaranteed an admission.
  - Most applications are online, so be sure to familiarize yourself with all requirements and deadlines in advance. Collect scholarship and financial aid information from these schools as well.
- Contact the U.S. Educational Adviser and inform him/her of your plans. This person will help you through the application process.
- Apply to universities and for additional scholarships. Most application windows are from August to December, so upon completing foundation year is when you would apply. Be sure you know the application deadlines!

### **General application materials**

- Get letters of reference from your favorite teachers and/or principal.
- Inform your secondary school of where you will need your official transcripts sent. Transcripts must be sent directly from secondary schools, not from the student.
- SAT/ACT results, if required by the university
- English language proficiency may be required at some universities. This could include TOEFL, IELTS, or MELAB
- Be prepared to write an essay for your application.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions:

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