

## EDUCATION SYSTEM IN THE USA

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**Abstract:** *The purpose of the article is an attempt to analyze the system of higher education in USA. The types of educational institutions and the types of education they offer are considered. The system of higher education in the United States of America consists of two levels or stages. First level is basic (incomplete higher) education, after which degrees are awarded Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science. The second stage is a complete higher education, after which a master's or doctoral degree is awarded. There are several types of higher education institutions, such as colleges, universities, public two-year colleges, conservatories, art schools, military academies, etc. For admission to each level of higher education, it is necessary pass certain unified exams and prove their ability to master the educational program. The article describes the education financing system. US educational institutions vary depending on funding sources and tuition fees. They are divided into state non-governmental and commercial. The most expensive are non-state, private educational institutions. Students pay for tuition, accommodation and meals on their own. There is a system concessional targeted lending and a system of scholarships and grants that can be obtained in case of insufficient own funds. Americans are ready to invest in the education of children and their own. This is due to their confidence that education will allow them to achieve success and material well-being. Many Americans continue to learn throughout their lives. They improve their skills or learn new skills and abilities.*

### INTRODUCTION

The education system in the USA is decentralized, meaning that each state has its own system of education. However, there are similar features in education across the country. The system mainly consists of:

1. **Primary Education:** Children typically start school at age five or six, depending on the state, and attend elementary or primary school for six years. The curriculum usually includes reading, writing, math, science, and social studies.

2. **Secondary Education:** After completing primary school, students move onto secondary education, which typically covers four years of high school. During this period, students take a broader range of subjects and start to specialize in areas they are interested in.

3. **Higher Education:** After finishing secondary school, students may pursue higher education, which includes colleges, universities, and vocational schools. A bachelor's degree typically takes four years to complete, while a master's degree can take two to three years. Some additional information:

- The education system in the USA is known for its remarkable flexibility, allowing students to choose courses according to their interests.

- The cost of higher education can be high in the USA, with tuition fees varying depending on the type of institution and state.

- Standardized testing is often used to measure student achievement and help determine college admissions.

- The US education system has been known for its emphasis on extracurricular activities and sports, with many students participating in clubs and sports teams outside of regular academic work. Overall, the education system in the USA is diverse, complex, and continuously changing, providing students with various opportunities and challenges along the way. The education system in the USA varies depending on the state and type of school. However, most children start in kindergarten at age five or six and then attend elementary school (grades 1-5 or 1-6) followed by middle school (grades 6 or 7-8) and high school (grades 9-12). Public schools are funded by taxes and are free for children to attend, while private schools require tuition fees. Homeschooling is also an option for families who choose to educate their children at home. In the USA, universities and colleges typically offer four-year undergraduate programs leading to a bachelor's degree, followed by graduate programs leading to master's and doctoral degrees. Community colleges offer two-year programs and often serve as a pathway to a four-year degree. The admission process for universities and colleges can be competitive and typically involves submitting transcripts, standardized test scores, and an application essay. Financial aid, including scholarships and loans, is available to help students pay for college.

#### **ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE AND METHODOLOGY**

Another important feature of the education system in the USA is the focus on extracurricular activities. Many schools offer students the opportunity to participate in sports teams, clubs, and organizations related to their interests. These activities can play an important role in developing students' social skills, leadership abilities, and character. Furthermore, the USA has a strong tradition of higher education, with many of the world's top universities located in the country. Some of the most prestigious universities in the USA include Harvard, Stanford, and MIT. These universities are known for their rigorous academic programs, cutting-edge research, and diverse student body. Finally, it's worth noting that the education system in the USA has faced challenges in recent years, including funding issues, achievement gaps, and concerns about standardized testing. However, there are ongoing efforts to address these issues and improve the quality of education for all students. Another key feature of the education system in the USA is the wide range of educational options available to students. In addition to traditional public and private schools, there are also alternative schooling models such as charter schools, magnet schools, and online schools. Charter schools are publicly funded schools that operate under a charter or contract with a public authority, such as

a school district or state government. These schools often have greater autonomy and flexibility than traditional public schools, but are also held accountable for meeting certain performance standards. Magnet schools are public schools with a specialized curriculum or focus area, such as science or the arts. These schools often attract students from a wide geographic area and offer unique educational opportunities not available in traditional schools. Online schools, also known as virtual schools or cyber schools, offer students the chance to learn at their own pace and on their own schedule. These schools can be ideal for students with special needs, those who live in remote areas, or those who need to balance work or family obligations with their education. Overall, the education system in the USA is diverse, complex, and constantly evolving to meet the needs of a diverse student population in a rapidly changing world. Recently, there has been a growing awareness of the importance of addressing equity and diversity in the US education system. Many schools and universities are implementing initiatives to promote inclusivity and address issues of racial and socioeconomic disparities in education. Additionally, there has been a trend towards incorporating more technology into the classroom, with many schools and universities utilizing online platforms and digital tools to enhance learning experiences. Furthermore, there is also an increasing focus on promoting STEM education (science, technology, engineering, and math) in the USA, with initiatives aimed at encouraging students, particularly underrepresented minorities, to pursue careers in these fields. There is also a growing emphasis on incorporating environmental education into the curriculum, to promote sustainability and climate awareness among students.

### **DISCUSS**

Another area of focus in the US education system is on improving access to education for students with disabilities. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that ensures that students with disabilities receive an appropriate education that meets their individual needs. Schools are required to provide accommodations and support services for students with disabilities to ensure that they have access to the same educational opportunities as their peers. In recent years, there has also been a growing movement towards experiential learning, which emphasizes hands-on, project-based learning experiences. This approach to education aims to help students apply what they learn in the classroom to real-world situations and can include opportunities like internships, community service projects, and study abroad programs. Finally, there is a growing emphasis on career and technical education (CTE) in the USA, which provides students with the skills and knowledge they need to pursue career paths in a variety of fields. CTE programs often include vocational training, apprenticeships, and certification programs, and are designed to equip students with the practical skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the workforce. The education system in the USA typically begins with primary education, followed by secondary education and then tertiary or higher education. Primary education usually starts at age

5-6 and lasts for six years, while secondary education usually starts at age 11-14 and lasts for six years as well. Tertiary or higher education typically refers to education beyond secondary school, including universities and colleges. The United States has a wide range of educational institutions, including public and private schools, community colleges, technical schools, and universities. Each state or territory is responsible for the regulation of education within its borders, which can lead to some variation in educational policies and practices. The education system in the USA places strong emphasis on equal educational opportunities and is designed to prepare students for future employment and overall success in life. There are also various scholarships and financial aid options available to students who need assistance with tuition costs. In addition to the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of education, there are also various non-degree-granting institutions and programs in the USA. These include certificate programs, which offer specialized training in a specific field or skill, as well as adult education programs, which provide training and education for older learners. The education system in the USA also offers various opportunities for international students, including exchange programs, study abroad programs, and English language programs. International students can enroll in any level of education in the USA and may be eligible for financial aid and scholarships. The education system in the USA is also influenced by standardized testing, which is used to evaluate students' academic performance and progress. Tests such as the SAT, ACT, and GRE are commonly used for college admissions and graduate school admissions.

### **CONCLUSION**

The education system in the USA is diverse and encompasses both public and private schools at all levels, including preschool, primary school, secondary school, and higher education. In general, children start school at the age of five or six and graduate at the age of 17 or 18. The educational system is decentralized, which means that each state independently manages and regulates its own educational policies and practices. There are also significant differences in educational quality and funding across different school districts and regions. Students can pursue a range of programs, including vocational and technical training, undergraduate, and graduate degrees. In addition, the US is home to some of the most prestigious universities and colleges in the world, including Ivy League institutions. However, attending such schools can be very expensive, and financial aid and scholarships are often required to make higher education accessible to a wider cross-section of society.

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