

## **ADVISORY FOR INDIAN STUDENTS GOING ABROAD FOR EDUCATION**

### **USA**

#### **Do's**

1. Comprehensive resources are available, both free and paid, to find out about the quality and background of institutions in the US. You should conduct a thorough research before applying to relatively unknown institutions.
2. Consult with friends/relatives/Indian student associations already in the US before taking a final decision.
3. Read all contractual obligations carefully, specially the fine print, before making any payments to the institution.
4. Register your presence with the foreign students association and, if available, Indian students association at your educational institution immediately after arrival, which could go a long way in acclimatizing in a new environment.
5. Accommodation, whenever possible, should be sought within the campus of the institution for obvious security reasons. Seek advice from the educational institutions housing department on appropriate areas to live in if you decides to live off campus. You may also contact the local Indian American Associations(s) for similar advise.
6. Participation in cross cultural events is important for speedy integration with the local students.
7. Keep faculty/students welfare department informed about any racial discrimination or abuse.
8. Passport should reflect the 'Given names' and 'Surname /family /last' name correctly. This is a major issue in the US.
9. The passport should be got extended in India if it is about to expire before you set out.
10. In case you are married, your spouse's name should be entered in the passport.
11. All the entries in the passport should be correct.
12. A coloured scanned copy of the main pages of the passport should be retained by you in your e-mail box, in case of loss of passport.
13. While acquiring visa, the proper details - name, place of birth etc should be noted.

14. When arriving in the US, the importance and correctness of the I-94 should be highlighted.
15. Upon loss of passport, you should file an immediate FIR with local police and then should approach the Consulate/ Embassy, of your jurisdiction, for re-issuance of passport facilities.

### **Don'ts**

1. For non-academic institutions such as flying schools, do not pay the full amount up-front. Most schools offer the scheme of pay as you go.
2. Do not enroll in institutions which offer a fast track programme as most of these are dubious.
3. Do not enroll in institutions which are catering only to Indian students. Do a thorough check about the nature of students enrolled in the institutions.
4. Do not fall prey to solicitation through agents or online advertisements.
5. Avoid taking up accommodation outside the campus just because it works out cheaper.
6. Avoid drug and alcohol abuse
7. Avoid driving under the influence of alcohol.
8. Avoid getting embroiled in fights and rivalries with other students.
9. Please check with the Embassy/Consulate or on their website about the reputation of the school and problems with previous students, if any.

<b>Indian Diplomatic Missions/Posts in USA</b>	
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<b>Consulate General of USA</b> Paigah Palace, 1-8-323 Chiran Fort Lane, Begumpet, Secunderabad -500003 Hyderabad Tel : 91-40-40338300 Fax : 91-40-40338301	<b>Consulate General of USA</b> 5/1 Ho Chi Minh Sarani Kolkata – 700016 Tel : 033-39842400 Fax : 033-22822335 Website : <a href="http://usembassy.state.gov/calcutta/">http://usembassy.state.gov/calcutta/</a>
<b>Consulate General of USA</b> Lincoln House, 78, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Mumbai-400026 Tel : 022-23633611 Fax : 022-23630350 Website : <a href="http://Mumbai.usconsulate.gov">Mumbai.usconsulate.gov</a>	

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