



# Requesting a placement at the Graduate level in the United States

Please read the following information before answering questions 7 through 9 below.

## Applying to a U.S. University through ISEP

ISEP participants are usually admitted to U.S. universities as “special” or “non-degree” students with access to undergraduate courses. In some cases, qualified students may also have access to graduate-level courses.

Because the structure of higher education in the U.S. is different than in your country, it may be difficult to decide whether you should apply for undergraduate or graduate status. Here are some considerations:

- About half of ISEP’s member universities only accept undergraduate participants.
- Institutions that accept participants for graduate study may require GMAT scores for business students and GRE scores for other subjects; TOEFL requirements may be higher for graduate students.
- If you have completed four years at university in your home country, American institutions will usually be ready to consider you a graduate student.
- If you have completed three years of university at home, you *may* be considered a graduate student.
- Even if you do not have graduate student status, you may be able to take courses that are intended for final-year undergraduates and first-year graduate students.
- It is easier to be admitted as an undergraduate than as a graduate student. Due to visa regulations you cannot change your status.
- Admission to graduate-level business courses is especially difficult because of the high demand for these programs.

If you qualify for admission, you may be able to earn a graduate degree on an ISEP exchange. Admission to a graduate degree program is separate from the ISEP placement and is your responsibility. Moreover, ISEP cannot assure participants of placement at any particular institution, even if they have been accepted to a graduate degree program there. If you are initially admitted to a graduate degree program and your home institution approves, ISEP may be able to extend your exchange for another academic year.

It is not possible to earn an undergraduate degree on ISEP.

Courses in medicine and dentistry are not open to ISEP participants; *in exceptional cases*, it may be possible to study pharmacy and veterinary science. Students in these fields should consider other course options such as biology and biochemistry.

Admission to law school courses in the U.S. is usually not possible through ISEP. Courses taught in the Faculty of Law in your country may, however, be offered at the undergraduate level by other departments in the U.S. Law students may find courses of interest in American departments of government, international relations, political science, sociology or criminology.

7. I have the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor’s degree and plan to (choose one):

- take graduate level courses at my host institution as a non-degree student
- seek a graduate degree from my host institution

8. Remember: Admission to a graduate degree program is separate from the ISEP placement and is your responsibility. Have you applied directly to the above named institution for graduate degree status?

- yes
- no

9. I have discussed my proposed program with the appropriate faculty and advisors, and have approval for the academic program outlined. I understand that course prerequisites at the host campus must be met and that course registration at the host institution is based on the availability of offerings and cannot be guaranteed.

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Applicant’s signature

Date

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Applicant’s name (type or print)

Home institution