

# Promoting Community College Education to International Students Through EducationUSA and 2+2 Programs

NEW HORIZONS  
IN INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION



NAFSA  
2015

Annual  
Conference  
& Expo

MAY 24-29, 2015  
BOSTON, MA USA

NAFSA  
Association of  
International Educators



# Discussion points of this session:

- **An open question to audience – Why should we promote Community College (CC) education?**
- **Why U.S. community colleges attract international students?**
- **A brief introduction to EducationUSA and its role in promoting CC education**
- **Role of community college and 2+2 program**
  - **Lone Star Community College System**
- **2+2 program promotional strategy - SUNY Buffalo**
- **Are 2+2 Programs the only option? Case**

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# Why should we promote Community College Education?

- **To provide job oriented education to create a skilled-workforce.**
- **To provide low cost education and easy entry for college level education**
- **To create a gateway for higher education**



# Impact of international students:

## Economic Impact

- In 2012, 1.3% of students attending community colleges were international students.
- International student spending added \$2.6 billion in income to the U.S. economy in 2012

Source: The Economic Impact of Community Colleges,





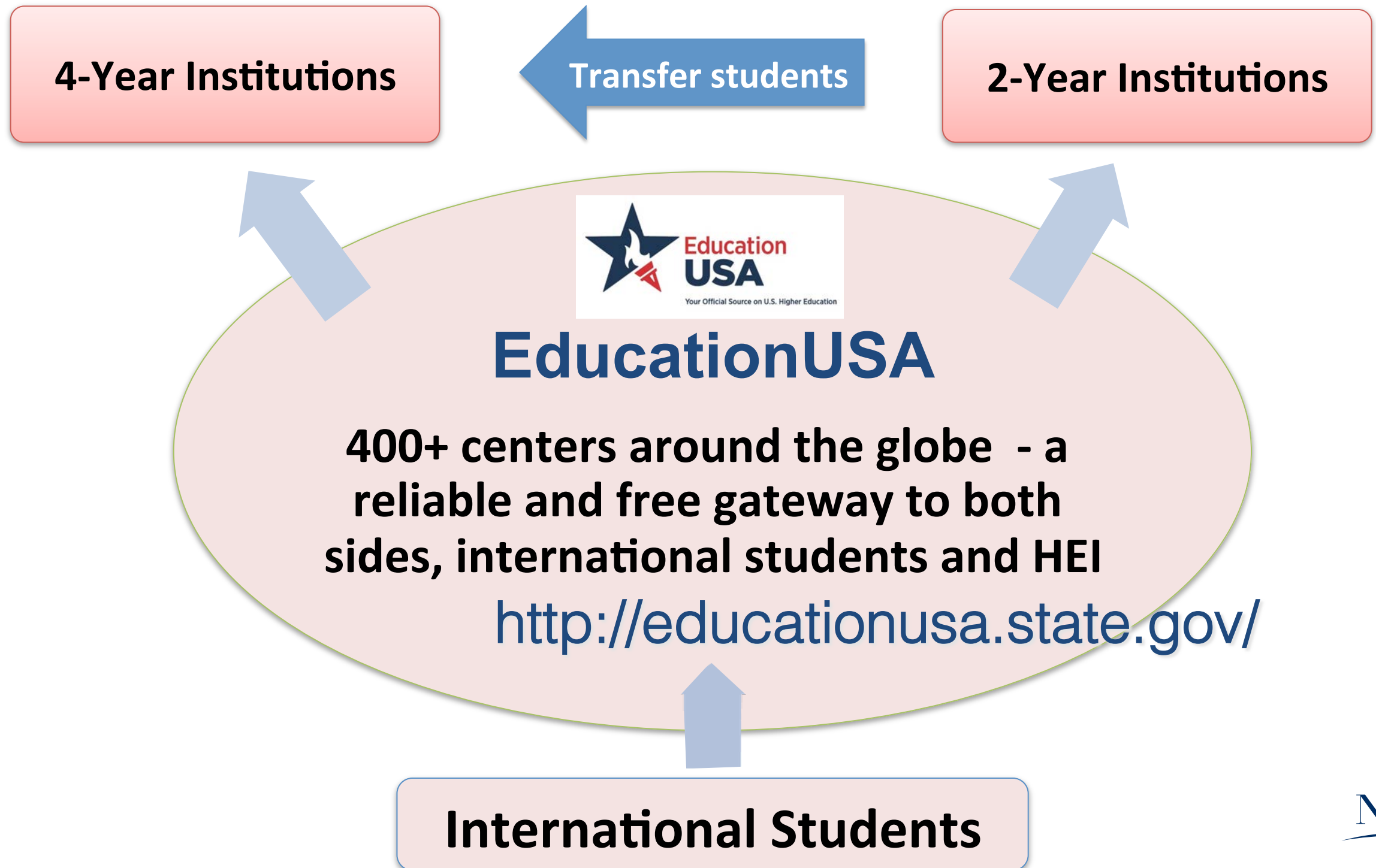
# Impact of international students:

## Immeasurable qualitative impact

- **Build bridges between Americans and other nationalities;**
- **Bring global perspectives** into U.S. classrooms and research labs;
- **Support U.S. innovation** through science and engineering coursework, making it possible for U.S. colleges and universities to offer these courses to U.S. students

Source: [http://www.nafsa.org/\\_/File/\\_/eis2014/USA.pdf](http://www.nafsa.org/_/File/_/eis2014/USA.pdf)

# Role of EducationUSA



# A Comprehensive Community College

A graphic for Lone Star College's 'Open Doors' program. It features a large white five-pointed star with a swoosh on a dark blue background. To the right is a white classical door frame with a red door slightly ajar, revealing a bright sunburst. Below the star, the text 'LONE STAR COLLEGE' is in a serif font, and 'Open Doors' is in a bold sans-serif font. At the bottom, a black bar contains the names of the college's campuses in white text.

**LONE STAR  
COLLEGE**  
**Open Doors**

LSC-CyFair • LSC-Kingwood • LSC-Montgomery • LSC-North Harris • LSC-Tomball • LSC-University Park



# The Value of a Community College Education

## The Top 10 Benefits of Attending a U.S. Community College

1. Affordable Cost
2. Course Credits Transfer to Universities
3. Flexible English Proficiency Requirements
4. Focus on Teaching
5. Small Class Sizes
6. Additional Year of Optional Practical Training
7. Use of the Latest Technologies
8. Hundreds of Programs to Choose From
9. Opportunities to Experience U.S. Culture
10. Excellent Student Support Services

# FACTS: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- 87,963 studying at community colleges in 2014
- Community colleges in California, Texas, and Washington host the largest numbers of international students and have the largest numbers of institutions hosting international students among the [leading 40 Associate Institutions](#)....
- Five of the top places of international students at community colleges are China, South Korea, Vietnam, Japan and Mexico
- LSCS top five countries are Mexico, Vietnam, Venezuela, El Salvador and Colombia

# CHOOSING A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- Community Colleges are not ranked
- There are approximately 1,160 community colleges in the U.S.
- Visit [www.EducationUSA.state.gov](http://www.EducationUSA.state.gov) or the Education USA Advising Center
- Review community college websites and send a general e-mail inquiry
- Many enroll in community college through their network of friends and family
- Transfer through the 2plus2 institution degree program
- Consider:
  - Geographic location of colleges
  - Housing-on/off campus

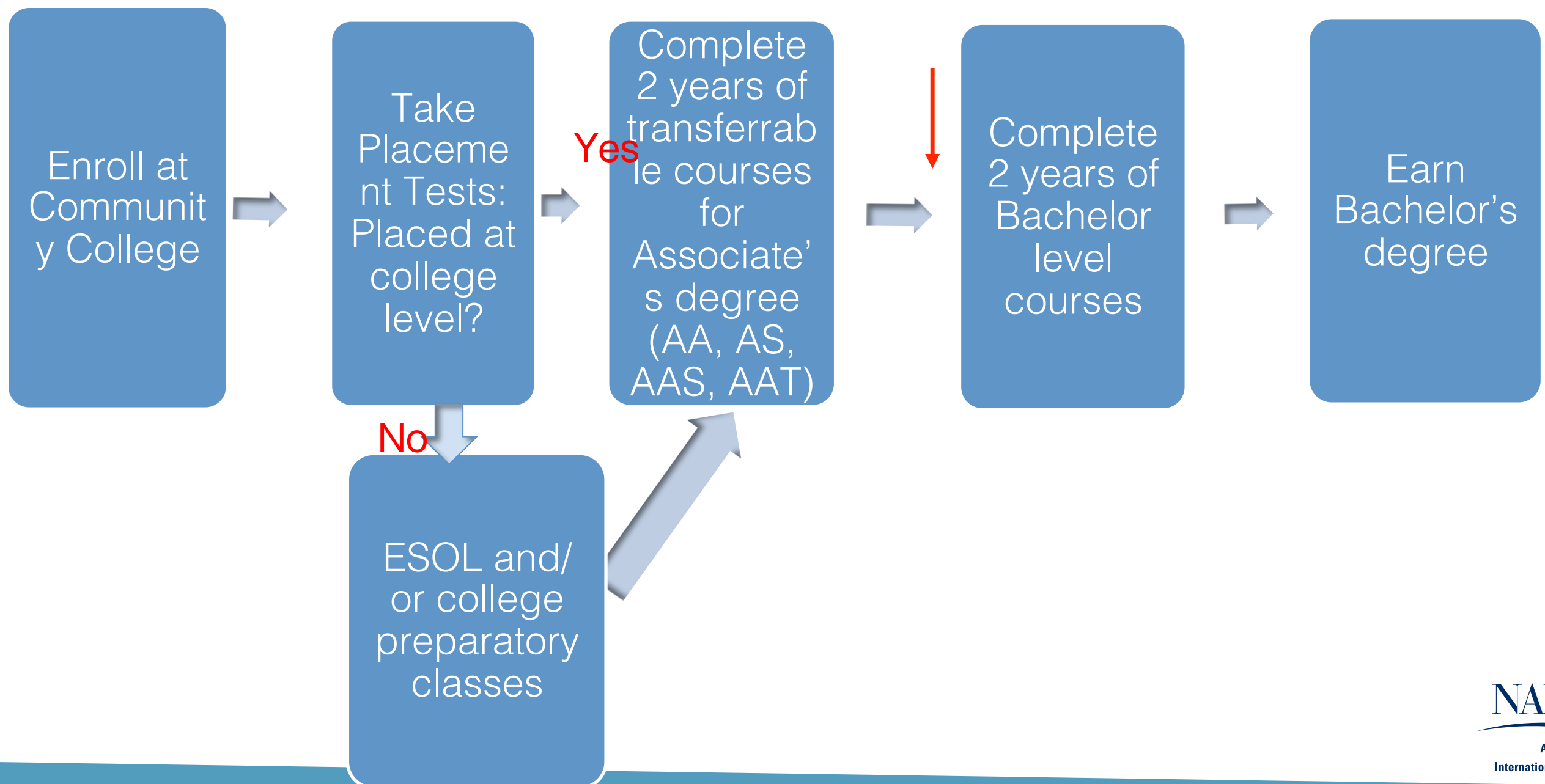


# GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Complete an International Student Application
- Provide
  - Evidence of financial support- family, sponsorships, scholarships or self
  - Proof of English proficiency
  - Evidence of high school graduation, or college-level work (i.e. official high school records, leaving certificates received upon completion of high school, college/university transcripts).
- May require test scores such as TOEFL, IELTS. Mostly community colleges use COMPASS/ESL for placement into ESOL or Academic courses. It is a computerized, non-timed placement test. It consists of three multiple choice sections: Listening, Reading, and Grammar/Usage. (Students receive their placement scores immediately after testing.)
- Proof of Immunization

# 2plus2 Enrollment

Apply & transfer  
to partner 4-year  
university



# College and University Comparison of Annual Tuition and Fees

\$ 4,446 USD Community College  
Lone Star College System

See website for details:

<http://www.lonestar.edu/international-tuition.htm>

\$ 19,722 USD Public 4-year college or  
university

See website for details, housing and fees:

<http://www.uh.edu/financial/undergraduate/tuition-fees/index.php>



**2 Years**

**+**

**2 Years**

**= Bachelor's Degree**

Community College

University

Complete 2 years at a community college plus 2 years at a university  
and receive a bachelor's degree.





FY 2012-2013

Service Area High School Graduates Attending LSCS and 4-Year  
Institutions in Fall 2013

Institutions	Students
Lone Star College System	5,848
Texas A&M University	908
U. Of Texas At Austin	660
Sam Houston State University	632
University Of Houston	563
Texas State University	468
Stephen F. Austin State University	296
Texas Tech University	280
Baylor University	182

Source: THECB High School Graduates Enrolled in Texas Higher Education

Lone Star College is the  
choice of more students:  
10x University of Houston  
6x Texas A&M

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

➤ International Student Advisors available at each campus to assist International Students with:

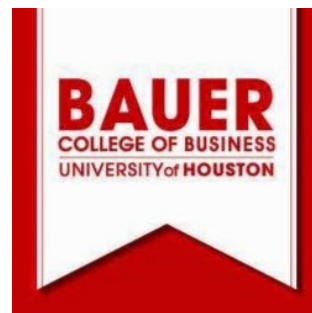
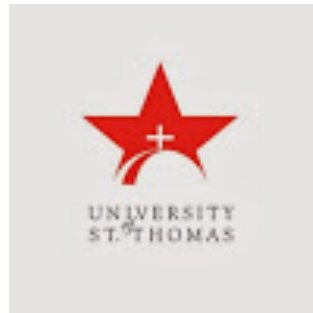
- Orientation
- F-1 visa immigration matters
- Lone Star-mandated medical insurance
- ESOL (intensive English programs)
- Academic matters
- Student clubs and leadership exploration
- Cultural Adjustment
- Transfers to a four year university (2+2)



<http://lonestar.edu/new-international-students.htm>

# Lone Star College University Centers

- Two university centers
  - partnerships with several 4-year universities
  - junior, senior and graduate level classes
  - complete a bachelor's or master's degree (or teaching certificate)
  - without travel to the university campus
- Articulation agreements for university center programs establish course and program requirements
- Campus counselors help students begin or continue their college careers
  - create a personal degree plan
  - align course work with the major areas of study offered
- University Center advisors provide guidance





# **University at Buffalo**

## ***The State University of New York***

- **Premier, doctoral-research intensive public institution**
- **Member of AAU (Association of American Universities)**
- **30,000 students (2/3 UG, 1/3 GRAD/PROF) + overseas**
- **5,000 international students (1/3 UG, 2/3 GRAD/PROF) + 1,800 in overseas programs**
- **300+ degree programs**
- **12 Schools plus degree-granting Cancer Research Institute**

# University at Buffalo

*The State University of New York*

- **First U.S. university to establish an MBA program in China after normalization (1984-1991) and EMBA (1998 - present)**
- **UB - MUCIA project in Malaysia (1986-1991)**
- **UB - Stamford College in Malaysia (1994-1998)**
- **UB – Singapore Institute of Management (SIM) (2004 - present)**
- **UB in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Latvia**

# Two + Two Programs:

## *Who are the beneficiaries?*

**Universities and community colleges benefit with/ from:**

- **“Best fit” students when good relationships are established**
- **Steady stream of transfer-in / transfer-out students**
- **Collateral programs (study abroad exchanges, faculty exchanges, curriculum development, internship locations, service opportunities)**
- **Recruitment marketing opportunities (lower costs for initial years, special scholarships, possibly fewer admission requirements)**

# Two + Two Programs: *Who are the beneficiaries?*

## Students benefit with:

- **Lower costs**
- **Less restrictive admission requirements for initial admission**
- **Possibly smaller and more supportive initial environment**
- **Wider experience opportunities (location, school type)**



# **Two + Two Programs:**

## ***Key Criteria for Success***

- **Transparency in the process and requirements**
- **Careful planning so that students and school partners benefit maximally**
- **Written agreements so that all parties understand what they are entering into**
- **Formal course articulations whenever possible so that students understand exactly how School A courses will count toward School B's degree requirements**

# Two + Two Programs:

## *University at Buffalo Examples*

- Dual Admission programs
- SUNY Seamless Transfer Paths (<http://www.suny.edu/attend/get-started/transfer-students>)
- UB TAURUS: Transfer Articulation System (<http://taurus.buffalo.edu/>)
- INTI International University (UB-INTI agreement)

# **Are 2+2 Programs the only option?**

## **Case Study: University of California**

**Some public universities have policies that prevent participation in 2+2 programs**

- **Cannot “promise away seats” in advance of application**
- **Cannot develop articulation agreements with community colleges outside of California**
- **Cannot accept articulation that a community college articulates with foreign universities/colleges**

# **Are 2+2 Programs the only option?**

## **Case Study: University of California**

- **Alternative transfer options may be available**
- **Despite policies preventing the development of formal agreements, students are encouraged to apply!**
- **Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAG)**
- **Extensive course articulation within the state**
- **Commitment to increase transfer opportunities**
- **Enhanced diversity – more countries represented in transfer applicant pool from community colleges. Big plus!**

# Preparing to Transfer: Tips for success

- **Writing, writing, and more writing!**
- **Use caution with regard to completing transferable writing courses online -- "easier" may be more difficult in the long run.**
- **Demand for Engineering and Economics is very high---may be very competitive at some universities.**
- **Meet with college representatives in person or "virtually" through online meetings and webinars.**



# Final Thoughts

- **2+2 programs with formal transfer articulation guarantees are “cleanest” for students but require a lot of careful work between partner institutions with extensive follow-up and maintenance**
- **Dual Admission programs require even more attention and maintenance between partners**
- **Both models can be win-win for students and institutions**
- **Encourage prospective students to utilize the EducationUSA resources for the best unbiased information and results**

# Q & A



Thank you!