EducationUSA Armenia Projects

EducationUSA Fair

Each fall, the EducationUSA Armenia organizes EducationUSA Fair. The EducationUSA Fair will provide you with innumerable opportunities to talk with representatives from U.S. colleges and universities that are actively seeking students just like you. For many of you who cannot visit the colleges you are interested in, this is your chance to learn first-hand about the particular schools, and for the representatives to meet and learn a bit about you! For more details on the upcoming Fairs please stay tuned to our <u>Facebook</u> page.

EducationUSA Alumni Fair

Each Spring, EducationUSA Armenia organizes EducationUSA Alumni Fair. U.S. Foreign Service officers and family members, other U.S. citizens, and Armenian alumni of U.S. universities volunteer to represent their U.S. colleges and universities and share their personal U.S. education experiences, creating the unique chance for visitors to learn about what it is like to study in the U.S. directly from alumni.

International Education Week (IEW)

The Yerevan EAC celebrates International Education Week (IEW) in November of every year conducting a series of events: special lectures and presentations, debates, roundtables, outreaches, visiting retirement homes, orphanages, meetings with international students etc.

EducationUSA Student Ambassador Program

The goal of the Student Ambassador Program is to establish a corps of EducationUSA Student Ambassadors to promote higher education opportunities in the United States to prospective students throughout Armenia.

The program extends the reach of the EducationUSA Armenia to prospective students outside of the capital. The program sites are changed every year. In every region, the Student

Ambassador delivers a series of 10 lectures about the U.S higher educational system, college search, application process and standardized tests.

Follow our <u>Facebook page</u> and the <u>website</u> to receive updates on the program recruitment.

EducationUSA Competitive College Club

EducationUSA Competitive College Club (CCC) is an intensive group advising program that helps highly motivated and talented Armenian students (both <u>undergraduate</u> and <u>graduate</u>) to apply to **U.S. colleges and universities.**

CCC guides its members through the admissions process, helping each student identify which programs are the best fit for their goals and figure out how to get there. Participants meet for lectures, community service activities, cross-cultural exercises, and test preparation. These activities aim to support those students who are preparing themselves academically and socially for studying in the U.S. All sessions are conducted in English.

While participating in CCC does not guarantee admission, it is designed to significantly improve self-organized and independent Armenian students' chances for acceptance to U.S. universities.

CCC participants:

- Improve their English language and critical thinking skills.
- Become more familiar with American culture and current events.
- Find their best program or university fit through EducationUSA's advising services.
- Strengthen their essay writing and other skills to develop a strong application.
- Use the common application to apply to U.S. higher education institutions appropriate to their skills and needs.
- Be eligible to apply for the Opportunity Funds program (see below the description of the program)

To be eligible for CCC, an applicant must:

- Be a high school student (10 and 11 grades), a university student or a young professional.
- Have competitive grades.
- Be interested in studying in the U.S. as an undergraduate or graduate student.

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EducationUSA Opportunity Funds

Opportunity Funds Program, financed by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, assists highly qualified students who are likely to be awarded full financial aid from U.S. colleges and universities but lack the financial resources to cover the up-front costs of obtaining admissions, such as testing, application fees or airfare. The program offers no guarantee of acceptance or financial aid awards to U.S. institutions.

Each Opportunity student undergoes a nomination and selection process overseen by the EducationUSA Regional Educational Advising Coordinator (REAC) and senior staff at the U.S. Embassy Yerevan.

To be eligible for Opportunity Funds in Armenia, a student must:

- Be a citizen of, or officially recognized refugee in Armenia
- Participate in a Competitive College Club Cohort (CCC) and work with the EducationUSA Adviser over a period of 6-12 months to enhance success for admission to U.S. colleges/universities
- Apply to Opportunity Funds via the URL sent by the EducationUSA Advisor
- Demonstrate that they and their family are not able to pay for the U.S. higher education application process
- Apply to degree programs accredited higher education institutions in the U.S.
- Apply for sufficient financial aid to meet the student's need (AA/AS, BA/BS, LLM, MA/MS, MBA, PhD., etc.)

Restrictions:

- Alumni of the Fulbright and Muskie programs or those who have graduated from a U.S. higher education institution are not eligible for Opportunity Funds. Students currently studying at U.S. higher education institutions are not eligible for Opportunity Funds.
- U.S. citizens and permanent residents, employees and immediate family of employees of EducationUSA Advising Centers, American Councils for International Education or a U.S. Embassy are not eligible for Opportunity Funds.
- FLEX and UGRAD alumni are eligible.

Application Process:

- 1. Applicant participates in CCC cohort and works with EducationUSA advisor over a period of 6-12 months.
- 2. Applicant completes the Opportunity Funds application form online (URL sent by EducationUSA Adviser to registered CCC participants).
- 3. Selection Committee* reviews completed** applications.

4. Selection Committee* nominates candidates based on financial need, prior academic achievements, potential for admission with financial aid to a U.S. higher education institution and leadership.

Funding:

Funding is approved in two phases: (1) assistance for the application process (testing, application fees, etc.) and (2) assistance to begin studies (SEVIS/visa fees, travel to U.S., settling in, etc.)

*The Selection Committee is comprised of the EducationUSA REAC and senior staff at the U.S. Embassy Yerevan. EducationUSA advisors do not serve on the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee supports equal opportunity for all without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, geographical region, or academic discipline. The Selection Committee invites nominees who otherwise would not be able to pay for their application process and who show strong test scores and positive recommendations for applying to Opportunity Funds. Finalists are required to notify their EducationUSA Adviser of any and all offers (or rejections) of admission and financial aid from U.S. universities. Nominees who are not selected for funding will receive letters notifying them of their status.

**The EducationUSA Adviser reviews each application to verify that it is complete and accurate and that the student meets all eligibility requirements. All information is confidential and is reviewed only to determine the applicant's financial need and eligibility. Applicants will be asked to submit any missing information or to verify inaccurate or incomplete information.

Contact EducationUSA Armenia if you have questions about the program.