



PRO FUTURO SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOLS & PREP ACADEMIES ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



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ACCOMMODATION WHILE IN HIGH-SCHOOL:

Accommodation can be either in a boarding-school or with a U.S. family.

Private High-Schools can have their own dorms for accommodation with supervisors who oversee the pupils and tend to their needs. Also, boarding-schools can rent houses and use them for student accommodation. The accommodation is not necessarily close to the school and in those cases the students have arranged transportation to school and sports grounds. It is part of the culture in the USA that the dorms are not fully equipped at the beginning of the school year so that the pupils can arrange the space as they wish. The items that are and aren't in the room differ depending on the schools. Students acquire what they need with the help of the supervisors in charge, of course. For example, you never get bedclothes but you have to buy them for yourself.

Another option is accommodation with a family. The families are carefully chosen by the school. They will give you all the support and assistance you need and will make your stay as pleasant as possible. You will be a part of the family and you will share some of Serbian customs and traditions as an ambassador of Serbia.

SCHOOL SYSTEM:

Secondary education in the USA is divided into four school years: ninth (freshman), tenth (sophomore), eleventh (junior) and twelfth (senior) class. Some schools offer Preparatory Year. Prep year is for those who, for some reason, haven't managed to enroll in university or they have but they want to enroll to a better one. In those cases they attend Preparatory Year where they improve their high school grades and prepare for the tests necessary to enroll in universities (SAT and TOEFL). In addition, the students engage in sports, of course, on a level higher than the high school and lower than the university level, and they have a year to improve and develop their skills and to be seen by college coaches who pay a lot of attention to competitions between preparatory schools. The school year starts every year in late August or early September.

The school system in the USA is MUCH different than in Serbia. High school students have a much wider range of subjects they can choose from, but they also have a general norm they have to meet. The norm is based on points i.e. credits. The system prescribes a minimal norm which every student must have met by the time they complete the school in order to graduate.

Schools in the USA differ from schools in Serbia in many aspects including size. The schools are often small, with fewer students. The classes are fairly small to ensure a higher quality of teaching and allow teachers to pay more attention to every student individually. The classrooms are separate and students move between classrooms and not the other way around, like in Serbia.

There are no oral exams and all testing is done solely in written form. Tests usually don't last the entire lesson and are graded with A, B, C, D or E. A is an equivalent to Serbian grade "5" whereas E is the unsatisfactory grade.

Teachers constantly assign homework for which points are given. The more homework you do and the better you do it the more points you get. Homework is a very important part of the educational system in the USA so teachers pay much attention to it. Active participation in classes is also very important. Answering the questions and taking part in discussions as well as giving any form of active contribution to class activities related to the subject of the class is highly valued. It all depends on you; in order to be successful you have to participate!

WHAT EXPENSES DO I HAVE TO FINANCE ON MY OWN?

- Possible expenses of enrollment application – you have to possess a credit card, for example Master Card, VISA, American Express
- Health insurance expenses – (from \$400 to \$800 annually)
- Book purchase expenses (in most cases this is included in the scholarship)
- Every school may charge additional fees (athletic taxes, entry test taxes...) which can add up to a couple hundred dollars in additional expenses
- Expenses at the embassy:
 1. Visa acquisition tax – paid via Internet by credit cards for Internet payments (American Express, Master Card, Visa)
 2. SEVIS (a program for monitoring students) - paid via Internet exclusively by credit cards for Internet payments e.g. American Express, Diners club, MasterCard, Visa
- Plane ticket fare
- Pocket money and other everyday expenses – Parents are obligated to provide pocket money. You bear the costs of going out, phone calls, field trips, excursions, supplies.



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