

## Types of Post- Secondary Institution in USA:

### Community College

Community colleges are two-year associate degree programs/certifications. Throughout the years, community colleges have begun to adopt vocational oriented programs.

### State College or University

State colleges have a wide range of degree programs available. They have lower tuition costs as compared to other universities making them an affordable and attractive option for international students

### Private College or University

Private colleges offer students with smaller class sizes that help the students build a relationship with their professors and advisors. They have a smaller list of degree programs they offer but students have the option to customize their degrees and be part of more discussion based classes. The Ivy League in the US is one of the most well-known groups of private universities in the world. Ivy League consists of the following eight schools:

- |                                   |                     |                      |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Brown University               | Columbia University | Cornell University   |
| 2. Dartmouth University           | Harvard University  | Princeton University |
| 3. The University of Pennsylvania |                     | Yale University      |

### Institute of Technology

Institutes of technology are universities that specialize in engineering, technology, applied sciences, and natural sciences.

- TOEFL scores between 60.0 and 100.0 overall
- IELTS scores between 6.0 and 7.5 with no band less than 6.0

## Working On-Campus with F1 Visa

F1 visa allows international students to work while they are studying in the US.

Students with a valid F1 visa are allowed to work on-campus only with these specific guidelines:

- Work 20-hours per week during regular full-time semesters
- Work more than 20-hours per week between quarters semester
- Work more than 20-hours per week during school breaks (including winter and summer break)

On-campus work is typically available at the cafeteria, library, research labs, or admissions offices. Students can work in more than one job but they must comply with the hour restrictions.

## Working Off-Campus with F1 Visa

International students have two options for working off-campus. It's important to note they must complete their first academic year before they are eligible for off-campus work.

### The options are:

- Curricular Practical Training (CPT): CPT allows you to do training, work or internships that may be part of your degree program. Some degree programs require students to complete an internship prior to graduation.
- Optional Practical Training (OPT): OPT provides you with the option to do an off-campus job or internship for 12 months, given it is in your field of study. For students enrolled in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs, there is an option for a 24 month OPT extension, for a total of 36 months. Students who want to apply for OPT need an additional visa.