

### Program Highlights 2007

- ▶ On April 25, an Information Day was organized by the EducationUSA advisers in Tartu University Library. Topics included the US education system, admissions requirements, standardized tests, financial aid, and personal reflections of former students.
- ▶ Advisers attended two large-scale Education Fairs: “Intellektika” in Tartu and “Teeviit” in Tallinn. Over 22,000 visitors attended these events. Contact EducationUSA for 2008 fair information.
- ▶ EAC-Tallinn organized an Information day titled “Even you can study in the US” on Estonia’s biggest island, Saaremaa, on May 3 to promote educational opportunities in the United States among students, teachers, and representatives of local schools and other educational institutions.
- ▶ EducationUSA advisers organized an all-day conference titled “Graduate Study in the US—New Horizons for Your Future” during International Education Week in November.



#### EducationUSA Students Who Made It

In fall 2006, one Estonian student, Toomas Laarits, started his undergraduate studies at Harvard College. He contacted EAC-Tallinn in spring 2005, and worked closely with the advising center throughout 2005/06, participating in EducationUSA events and using different study materials recommended by the advisers. In spring 2006, this gifted and hardworking student was offered full scholarships from Harvard College and Columbia University. EAC-Tallinn has close contact with Toomas, and he is always ready to share his experiences with prospective students.

#### Key EducationUSA Partners

- ▶ Embassy of the United States in Estonia
- ▶ High schools, universities, youth information and career centers, and other educational institutions in Estonia

Country Statistics	2006	2007
Number of students in the US:	321	206
Total number of center inquiries (including webhits):	22,870	22,800

# Estonia

### Advising Center Network

The EducationUSA advising centers in Tallinn and Tartu offer a full range of advising services for students from all over the country, including individual and group advising sessions, standardized testing, test preparation courses, outreach programs, and pre-departure orientations. The two centers provide additional services such as electronic mailing lists on “Scholarship News”, regular information sessions targeted at specific audiences, and help US universities to organize in-country recruiting events.

### Recent Trends: US Study ▼ -25.2%

- ▶ Joining the European Union has decreased the number of students who wish to study in the United States; there is an increasing number of students who apply to European universities.
- ▶ EducationUSA Estonia maintained the number of inquires and web-hits because of its testing activities. At least one third of center inquires are related to TOEFL and other standardized tests.
- ▶ More and more students find the strict visa regulations to be a barrier, especially limitations on work. Often, these students go to study in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK, and other European countries.
- ▶ Fields of study most inquired: economics, business, social sciences, engineering.
- ▶ Most common sports among student-athletes: track-and-field, swimming, tennis, skiing.

### Resource Links

EducationUSA Advising Center, Tallinn: [www.eac.ttu.ee](http://www.eac.ttu.ee)  
 EducationUSA Advising Center, Tartu: [www.ut.ee/america](http://www.ut.ee/america)  
 Secondary education: [www.hm.ee/?1](http://www.hm.ee/?1)  
 Higher education: [www.archimedes.ee/enic/index.php](http://www.archimedes.ee/enic/index.php) (in English)

### Education System Overview

	Secondary Education	Higher Education (Bachelor’s Degree)
Language of instruction:	Estonian	Estonian
Years of study required:	12 years	3 years
Grading system & US equivalent:	Grades from 1-5: to pass, students need grades 3-5 5 – A 4 – B-C 3 – D	A-F grading system: A-D passed, F failed A (91-100%) B (81-90%) C (71-80%) D (61-70%) E (51-60%)
Scholarship for US studies:	No	Public and private scholarships for US study – approximately (\$5,000/student)

### Partnering with EducationUSA Estonia

US international education experts are welcome to contact the educational advisers in Estonia to discuss specific project ideas for 2008. EducationUSA advisers can organize attendance at Estonian college fairs, school visits, as well as special student seminars. EAC Tallinn has served as the mediator between Estonian and US universities, facilitating student and faculty exchange programs and other joint projects.

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