Study Abroad Checklist for Indian Students

Phase 1: Initial Planning & Research (Indian Student Focus)

- Define your goals and preferred countries based on career aspirations and post-study opportunities.
- Research universities recognized by Indian bodies like UGC.
- Check requirements specific to Indian students (board exam scores, subjects).
- Look for Indian scholarships (Chevening, Fulbright, Inlaks, Tata, etc.).
- Explore education loan options from Indian banks and NBFCs.
- Understand RBIs Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS) for forex.
- Take English proficiency tests (IELTS, TOEFL, PTE, Duolingo).
- Prepare for standardized tests (GRE, GMAT, SAT, ACT).
- Understand visa requirements for Indian citizens.
- Consider consulting reputable study abroad consultants (like UniPlanet).

Phase 2: Application Process

- Get academic transcripts and mark sheets attested.
- Prepare attested degree or provisional certificates.
- Send official test scores (IELTS, TOEFL, GRE, etc.).
- Collect strong Letters of Recommendation (LORs).
- Write a compelling Statement of Purpose (SOP).
- Prepare your resume/CV tailored to academic strengths.
- Ensure passport validity and gather proof of funds.
- Double-check applications, pay fees, and track submissions.

Phase 3: Post-Admission & Pre-Departure

- Accept university offer and pay enrollment deposit.
- Receive Confirmation of Enrollment (CoE/CAS).
- Apply for student visa with proper financial documents.
- Complete medical exams, PCC, visa interviews, biometrics.
- Get a Forex card and plan fund transfers.
- Book flights and arrange accommodation.
- Purchase student health and travel insurance.

- Get required vaccinations and pack essentials.

- Attend pre-departure orientation sessions.

- Carry all original and backup documents in hand luggage.

Phase 4: Arrival & Settling In

- Be ready for immigration checks with documents.

- Complete university registration and orientation.

- Open local bank account and get SIM card.

- Register with local authorities if required.

- Get student ID card and understand part-time work rules.

- Join Indian student communities for support.

- Familiarize yourself with local laws and customs.