

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

SIS Showcase 2024 - Madrid



SHOWCASE
MADRID 2024



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I - INTRODUCTION - STUDYING IN THE USA

The educational philosophy in American universities is based on the concept of “learning” with the aim of achieving maximum personal development for students.

The United States has one of the best educational systems in the world, thanks to its exceptional university facilities that are well-equipped with technology and human resources. The small class sizes, support for research, and, most importantly, the practical and flexible approach contribute to greater academic success and lower risk of academic failure. Students are encouraged to participate in debates, discussions, group work, presentations, and conferences. Additionally, a wide range of complementary academic activities is offered, and athletic development is highly valued. In the United States, sports are as important as academic education.

American universities actively support the internationalization of their student body, aiming to create a culturally diverse campus environment. University life in the United States is a unique experience for any international student.

Graduation is the goal for all university students. It's important to note that student-athletes must pass a minimum number of university credits per semester to be eligible to compete in sports leagues. We recommend staying on top of studies, organizing assignments and exams, and planning to graduate within four years. Each student will have a personal tutor at the university to help organize their classes.

BENEFITS OF THE SIS PROGRAM:

- **Saving Over 50% on Tuition, Housing, and Food Costs:** Many students wonder, “How can the SIS Program provide such an opportunity?” and “Where does the scholarship funding come from?” All American universities offer international students a conducive study environment. In fact, having students from all parts of the world on campus has greatly benefited universities and enhanced their prestige. The scholarship amount comes from government grants and/or the university's athletic, academic, or international departments.
- **Multiple Scholarship Offers:** We believe students have the right to choose where they want to study. This is one of the most important and appealing aspects of the SIS program. Each applicant receives scholarships from more than 3/5 universities. These offers are based on various conditions, such as sports involvement, English proficiency, academic level, and chosen field of study.



II SHOWCASE INFORMATION

1.A- Date

- I. **Full Session:** From July 8th to July 14th, 2024.
- II. **Mid-Session 1:** From July 8th to July 11th, 2024.
- III. **Mid-Session 2:** From July 8th to July 14th, 2024.

1.B - Transportation Schedule

For those who have made transportation reservations on time, transportation will be available from Barajas (Airport) and Puerta de Atocha (Train Station) to the ESC LaLiga & NBA facilities on the arrival and departure days of the Showcase event.

The email address used during the **transportation registration** contains a copy of the chosen options. In any case, you can reach out to us at info@sisbecas.com.

Generally, the transportation provided on arrival days will be as follows:

Arrivals, 8th July

From **Madrid Barajas** Airport - 14:00h - 20:00h
From **Puerta de Atocha** Train Station -14:00h

Arrivals, 11th July

From **Madrid Barajas** Airport - - 12:00h
From **Puerta de Atocha** Train Station-12:00h

Departures, 11th July

To **Madrid Barajas** Airport - 11:00h
To **Puerta de Atocha** Train Station - 11:00h

Departures, 14th July

To **Madrid Barajas** Airport - 12:00h
To **Puerta de Atocha** Train Station - 12:00h

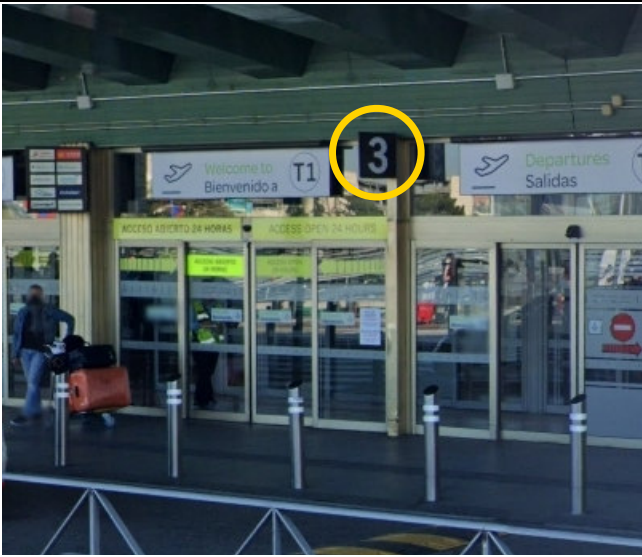
On the following pages, you can find information about the **different sessions**, including details on pickup points for transportation.

Please refer to the detailed transportation information on pages 4, 5, and 6.

- **Full Session Transportation** - page 4
- **Mid-Session 1 Transportation** - page 5
- **Mid-Session 2 Transportation** - page 6

I. TRANSPORTATION - Full Session - July 8th to July 14th, 2024

Arrivals on July 8, 2024

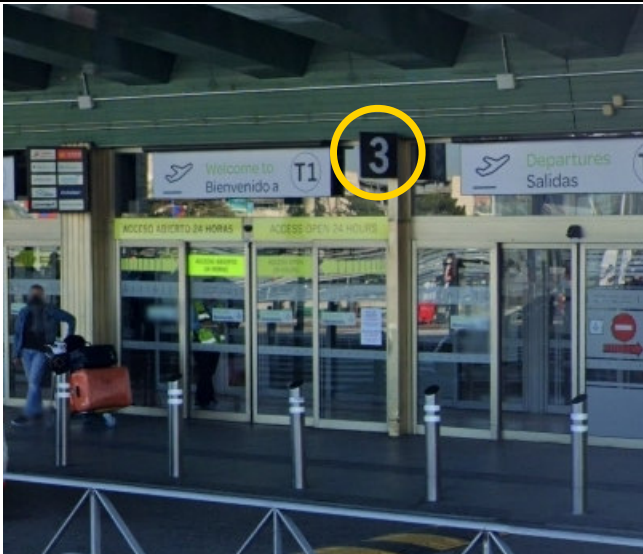
MADRID BARAJAS AIRPORT ✈️ TERMINAL 1 - GATE 3	TRAIN STATION 🚆 - MADRID PUERTA DE ATOCHA - ALMUDENA GRANDES "Día y Noche" Sculptures in Front of the Station
All participants arriving at Barajas Airport (Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas) in Madrid must go to Terminal 1, to the meeting point at Gate 3, where our STAFF will be there to accommodate you for transportation.	All participants arriving at the Madrid Puerta de Atocha Almudena Grandes train station, the meeting point will be at the location of the giant baby heads (named "Día y Noche" , Day and Night) by the sculptor Antonio López. Our STAFF will be there to accommodate you for transportation. https://maps.app.goo.gl/X3eSZUfXRjCgNZkj9
	
If your flight does not land at Terminal 1, you must take the airport's internal transportation to reach Terminal 1 at the meeting point where the transportation departs	If your train arrives at a station other than Atocha, you must go to the meeting point in Atocha by public transport or on your own (RENFE lines C1, C2, C3, and C10 go directly to Atocha from Chamartín Train Station).
Assigned transportation schedule in the form: SCHEDULE 1 = 14:00h SCHEDULE 2 = 20:00h	Assigned transportation schedule in the form: TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 14:00

Departures on July 14, 2024

MADRID BARAJAS AIRPORT ✈️ TERMINAL 1	TRAIN STATION 🚆 - MADRID PUERTA DE ATOCHA - ALMUDENA GRANDES
Departure from ESC LaLiga & NBA to the airport Terminal 1 TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 12:00h	Departure from ESC LaLiga & NBA to the train station - Madrid Puerta de Atocha Almudena Grandes TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 12:00h

II. Half Session 1 Transportation - July 8-11, 2024

Arrivals on July 8, 2024

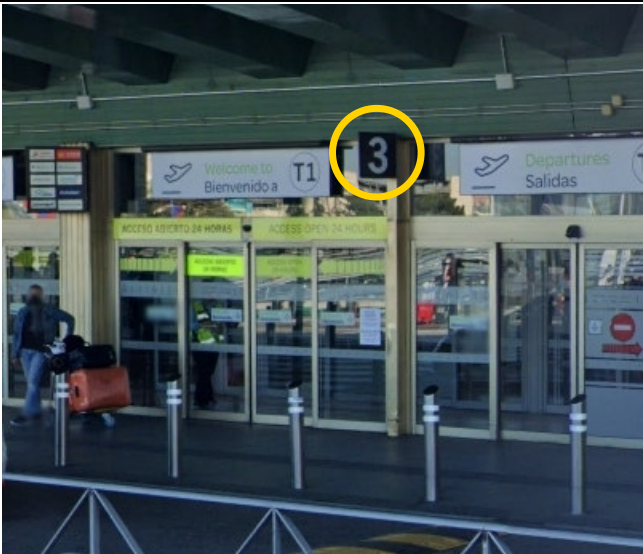
MADRID BARAJAS AIRPORT ✈ TERMINAL 1 - GATE 3	TRAIN STATION 🚆 - MADRID PUERTA DE ATOCHA - ALMUDENA GRANDES "Día y Noche" Sculptures in Front of the Station
All participants arriving at Barajas Airport (Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas) in Madrid must go to Terminal 1, to the meeting point at Gate 3, where our STAFF will be there to accommodate you for transportation.	All participants arriving at the Madrid Puerta de Atocha Almudena Grandes train station, the meeting point will be at the location of the giant baby heads (named "Día y Noche", Day and Night) by the sculptor Antonio López. Our STAFF will be there to accommodate you for transportation. https://maps.app.goo.gl/X3eSZUfXRjCgNZkj9
	
If your flight does not land at Terminal 1, you must take the airport's internal transportation to reach Terminal 1 at the meeting point where the transportation departs	If your train arrives at a station other than Atocha, you must go to the meeting point in Atocha by public transport or on your own (RENFE lines C1, C2, C3, and C10 go directly to Atocha from Chamartín Train Station).
Assigned transportation schedule in the form: SCHEDULE 1 = 14:00h SCHEDULE 2 = 20:00h	Assigned transportation schedule in the form: TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 14:00

Departures on July 11, 2024

MADRID BARAJAS AIRPORT ✈ TERMINAL 1	TRAIN STATION 🚆 - MADRID PUERTA DE ATOCHA - ALMUDENA GRANDES
Departure from ESC LaLiga & NBA to the airport Terminal 1 TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 11:00h	Departure from ESC LaLiga & NBA to the train station - Madrid Puerta de Atocha Almudena Grandes TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 11:00h

III. Half Session 2 Transportation - July 11-14, 2024

Arrivals on July 11, 2024

MADRID BARAJAS AIRPORT ✈️ TERMINAL 1 - GATE 3	TRAIN STATION 🚆 - MADRID PUERTA DE ATOCHA - ALMUDENA GRANDES "Día y Noche" Sculptures in Front of the Station
All participants arriving at Barajas Airport (Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas) in Madrid must go to Terminal 1, to the meeting point at Gate 3, where our STAFF will be there to accommodate you for transportation.	All participants arriving at the Madrid Puerta de Atocha Almudena Grandes train station, the meeting point will be at the location of the giant baby heads (named "Día y Noche", Day and Night) by the sculptor Antonio López. Our STAFF will be there to accommodate you for transportation. https://maps.app.goo.gl/X3eSZUfXRjCgNZkj9
	
If your flight does not land at Terminal 1, you must take the airport's internal transportation to reach Terminal 1 at the meeting point where the transportation departs	If your train arrives at a station other than Atocha, you must go to the meeting point in Atocha by public transport or on your own (RENFE lines C1, C2, C3, and C10 go directly to Atocha from Chamartín Train Station).
Assigned transportation schedule in the form: TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 12:00h	Assigned transportation schedule in the form: TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 12:00h

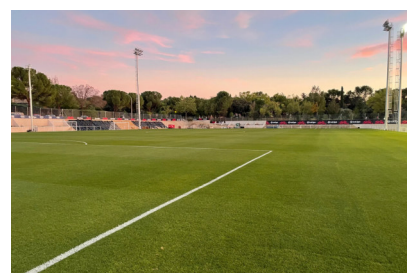
Departures on July 14, 2024

MADRID BARAJAS AIRPORT ✈️ TERMINAL 1	TRAIN STATION 🚆 - MADRID PUERTA DE ATOCHA - ALMUDENA GRANDES
Departure from ESC LaLiga & NBA to the airport Terminal 1 TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 12:00h	Departure from ESC LaLiga & NBA to the train station - Madrid Puerta de Atocha Almudena Grandes TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE = 12:00h



2 - Residence, Sports Facilities, and Ways to Contact SIS STAFF

📍 **ESC LaLiga & NBA** - Duero Street, 47, 28670 Villaviciosa de Odón, Madrid



To contact the SIS Staff, there are several methods:

- The phone number of your **PERSONAL SIS AGENTS** handling your process.
- The SIS phone number (WhatsApp only): **(+34) 691 960 863**
- Via email: info@sisbecas.com
- General Contact ESC Facilities: **(+34) 656 31 04 42**

3.- What to Bring to the Showcase

- Passport (check the expiration date)
- Personal sports equipment (boots for artificial grass, shin guards, etc.)
 - Playing with natural grass football boots with aluminum studs is prohibited.
- Sportswear and leisure clothing for the stay.
- Personal use sports towel.
- Sun protection.
- Extra money for personal needs.



4.- Check In and Check out - ESC LaLiga & NBA

CHECK IN – July 8, 2024

•11:00 h– 20:00 h- ESC LaLiga & NBA

(Duero Street, 47, 28670, Villaviciosa de Odón, Madrid)

Check-in will take place at the reception of the facilities.

CHECK IN – July 11, 2024

•7:00 h – 11:30 h - ESC LaLiga & NBA

(Duero Street, 47, 28670, Villaviciosa de Odón, Madrid)

Check-in will take place at the reception of the facilities.

CHECK OUT – July 11, 2024

•9:00 h– 10:30 h- ESC LaLiga & NBA

(Duero Street, 47, 28670, Villaviciosa de Odón, Madrid)

Check-out deadline: 10:30h.

Transportation departs at 11h.

CHECK OUT – July 14, 2024

•7:00 h – 11:30 h - ESC LaLiga & NBA

(Duero Street, 47, 28670, Villaviciosa de Odón, Madrid)

Check-out deadline: 11:30h

Transportation departs at 12h.

During Check-in

The staff will provide them with the clothing kit and the informational sheet detailing the full program activities.

Participants will have an **ALL-INCLUSIVE** regime, excluding alcoholic beverages.

It's important to remember that any additional or extra expenses incurred by the participant will be at the student's expense

5.- Participants who are NOT staying at the Residence

Participants who are not staying at the Residence will go directly to the sports facilities on competition days to participate in the showcase in their respective sports.

We will send them all the details regarding the schedule and meeting times directly.



6.- Conduct Rules at the Showcase

The success of the Showcase relies on students understanding and adhering to basic rules, for which it is important to sign Annex I of the Code of Conduct before the event.

It is also important to follow instructions from SIS staff during the stay.

CODE OF CONDUCT:

1. Respect the schedule of activities and their respective timings.
2. Inform SIS BECAS staff of any issues that may affect general safety.
3. Maintain appropriate behavior during all program activities.
4. Each participant is responsible for any damage caused to hotel/residence facilities due to misuse or misconduct. In such cases, the hotel/residence requires the participant to pay for damages before leaving. Our staff will contact parents in such situations.
5. Each participant is responsible for actions outside the program, hotel/residence, and Showcase activities. This exempts Education and Athletics USA SL and any administrators or associated personnel from any liability, consequences, indemnities, or damages caused to third parties.
6. Smoking, alcohol consumption, or any drug use is strictly prohibited.
7. Participants may not leave the hotel/residence without consent and supervision from our staff.
8. **Non-compliance with program rules may result in sanctions or expulsion from the program.**

7.- Medical Insurance for Showcase Participants

The SIS SCHOLARSHIPS group has accident insurance coverage through FIACT for participants



8.- Evaluators and University Representatives Attending the Showcase

Coaches, assistant coaches, academic representatives, official college scouts, athletic directors, and SIS staff determine the scholarships awarded to attending students at the Showcase.

Evaluation methods may vary depending on the sport played or the needs of the assistant coach.

University representatives attending the Showcase have these characteristics:

- Coaches seeking student-athletes based on their team needs
- Athletic directors evaluating and awarding scholarships across multiple sports
- Coaches, recruiters, and scouts representing a group of universities or regions
- Graduate assistants
- Universities with multiple campuses or coaches representing partner institutions
- Admissions representatives recruiting students through academic scholarships
- SIS staff offering opportunities for universities not physically attending the event
- Coaches using live streaming and online video to offer scholarships

9.- Universities Recruiting at the Showcase

All coaches attending the Showcase come with the intention of awarding scholarships to participants. Some are university athletic directors with the authority to grant scholarships in multiple sports, thus attending various sports modalities to recruit students for their universities.

We have over 150 institutions recruiting at the event, both in-person and online.

10.- Types of Scholarships Available at the Showcase

- **Athletic Scholarship (First Team Offer):** Students receiving a sports scholarship and being part of the university's first team.
- **Athletic Scholarship (Try Out):** Students receiving sports or international scholarships through our agreements must undergo a sports trial to determine their inclusion in the university team. The final decision depends directly on the university coach.
- **Academic Scholarship:** Students receiving an academic scholarship.
- **ESL Scholarship:** Students who do not have the required TOEFL score or English proficiency level for their career classes and need to improve it over a semester. The university will determine if the student can participate in training and games during this first semester, with the primary focus on improving English proficiency to adapt to their career's study system.

Note: University offers may appear similar in scholarship reports among participants due to our program's focus on international student admissions. However, costs may vary based on each student's athletic and academic potential.



11.- Communication from SIS to Participants Regarding Scholarship Offers Obtained at the Showcase

All scholarship offers made during the program will be communicated via email from academics@sisbecas.com between **July 15th and July 22nd** through a scholarship report. After completing the Showcase, we will send out university choice forms to each participant

It's important to note that there will be many participants, so we will respond promptly **VIA EMAIL, giving priority to students entering the academic year starting in August 2024 (FALL-24).**

NOTE: Priority will be given to FALL (August) 2024 intake students. Students for the 2025 academic year can contact us starting September 20, 2024, to begin admission procedures for Spring-25 starting in January 2025, and from November 20, 2024, for those starting in August 2025 (FALL-2025). For those entering in 2026, they can make their final decision in 2025, depending on their intake (Spring or Fall).

III- ADMISSION INFORMATION AT UNIVERSITIES AND ELIGIBILITY

1.- Types of Colleges and Universities in the USA

In many countries, national public universities are considered the primary institutions of learning, often having higher academic standards and generally being more affordable than private schools. This is not typically the case in America, where "public universities" more often refer to regional state universities.

The primary purpose of state universities in the United States is to provide affordable education and equal opportunity to residents. In fact, residency is often the only admission requirement for some state institutions. Unfortunately, because most public schools rely on government funding, they are often unable to provide the individual care and small class sizes that many private universities can offer.

2.- The Academic Year in the USA

Although the start date varies for each institution, the academic year for most American universities typically begins from mid-August to early September. The academic year generally runs from August to late May or early June. Some students choose to stay at their school during the summer break and participate in the 'summer session'.

The academic year at some universities is divided into semesters and at others into quarters. The vast majority of colleges and universities use the "American semester system," which breaks the academic year into two terms of 4 and a half months each (August - December, January - May). In the United States, each class is completed at the end of a semester, not at the end of the academic year.

3.- Documents Required to Obtain a Scholarship in the USA

Universities will require each student to provide all (or some) of the following documents:

1. **High School Transcript** in the original language and translated into English issued by the high school or by a certified translator. We recommend requesting two original copies of each document.
2. **High School Diploma.** Similarly, it is recommended to request two copies.
3. **Two letters of recommendation and an essay (in English).**
4. **Class Rank Top 50%** (Letter from the high school indicating the student's position in the ranking of grades among all graduates within their class. For example: personal rank 15 out of 45 graduates in their class). See a Model in ANNEX III.
5. **TOEFL or Duolingo English Test.** The TOEFL or Duolingo English Test is a requirement for most participating universities. In this case, most institutions require a minimum TOEFL score of 61/120 or Duolingo English Test score of 90 to access undergraduate classes in the United States. For students who do not have the TOEFL or Duolingo English Test score and come from non-English-speaking countries, they will need to adapt their language learning. Generally, the level of English proficiency does not affect the type of scholarship awarded because most universities offer an ESL (English as a Second Language) program where students start with English-language subjects to reach the required level in the following semester to join their career classes or subjects. It is important to understand that in many universities, if the minimum TOEFL or Duolingo score is not achieved, the student will need to focus on improving their English during the first semester before being able to participate in university sports teams.
6. **SAT Exam** is required for some universities (NCAA Division I-II). This exam can help increase the scholarship amount received by the student.



7. If any university courses have been taken in a **non-English-speaking country** (such as Spain or France), **the grades from those courses**, translated **into English**, will be required. The WES or InCred process (among others) can be used to validate these credits. Please consult your agent.
8. **Medical Certificate.** A letter from a doctor authorizing participation in sports programs.
9. **Vaccination certificate** for certain diseases. Some universities may require this.
10. **Proof of financial means** (bank statement or similar document) for the amount not covered by the scholarship in the student's first academic year. This will be required by the embassy and the university when starting the admission and visa process.

Please note that the I-20 form requires applying for an F-1 student visa. The I-20 can only be issued by the university once the above-mentioned documents have been received by the university. (As mentioned, these requirements may vary from university to university).

4.- Obtaining the F-1 Student Visa

The university offering a scholarship will require specific documentation to be submitted to formalize the admission process. Once this information is provided, the university will mail the official I-20 document to the student, which must be presented at the US embassy in the student's home country. It should be noted that the university offering the scholarship will require obtaining the F-1 student visa before the start of the first semester of study.

5.- Importance of Taking the TOEFL Exam

Yes, we recommend that all participants take these official exams. In some cases, universities may require a certain level of English proficiency for student admission. If a student has received a scholarship but needs to improve their English level, the university will allow a period of time to achieve this goal through their own English program on campus (ESL).

6.- Registration in the Eligibility Center to Participate in College Sports

Yes, all US and international athletes must complete this league registration process. Eligibility is the process of registering with American leagues. All players generally have a maximum of 4 years to compete with their university. After being admitted to the university, each player must submit all their documents to the league's Eligibility Center. This center will provide a response on how many years they can compete in the league. If all documents are in order, they will have 4 years to play or, in other words, 4 years of eligibility.



Each coach must guide the students through this process according to the instructions from their school's athletic department.

In any case, SIS will hold a session during the event specifically addressing ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY and an organization called CAEED, which assists students in achieving eligibility with a fee known as CAEED.

7. Need for Health Insurance at American Universities

Yes, it is mandatory to have continuous medical insurance coverage at all times. This coverage can be obtained through the university or through an extension of health insurance. Each university will have specific health insurance requirements that their students need to meet. Nonetheless, having medical insurance is compulsory because the American embassy is increasingly strict on this matter every year.

8. Traveling to the Chosen University

Each participant is responsible for their own transportation to the university and will be in contact with the International Student Office of their university for arrival instructions. In many cases, the university will arrange for the participant to be picked up from the airport.

9. How to Pay for University Costs

Payment varies by university; in many cases, participants will be required to pay the semester's portion not covered by the scholarship in advance. Some universities offer payment plans, while others may require 30% payment upfront with the remainder paid later.

Payments are directly handled between the UNIVERSITY and the STUDENT. SIS will only assist in cases where the university requests our involvement in the initial admission process.

10. Living on the University Campus

Most institutions require international students to reside on campus. At certain universities, students who are of legal age (21 years old in the USA) may choose to live off-campus.

11. Working at the University

Yes, there is an option to work at the university while pursuing a degree. This opportunity must be requested by the student from the university, and the student's eligibility will be evaluated to determine if they are suitable for employment. The student's earnings from work can either offset their scholarship costs or be paid via checks to be cashed at the bank.

12.- Books and Materials Needed for the University Course

In the scholarship report, students will be notified if books and materials are included within each scholarship. If not included, students will be responsible for covering these expenses. Most universities make books available in their libraries. Additionally, books can often be rented on a monthly basis through various electronic platforms..



APPENDIX I:

Commitment Letter for Rules of Conduct and Penalties SIS Showcase

Commitment Letter

The participant..... with identity document number as a participant in the SIS Showcase 2024 Madrid event, convened by Education and Athletic USA S.L., commits to comply with the rules of conduct established in this document. Failure to comply with the mentioned rules may result in Education and Athletic USA S.L. denying the granting of my scholarships and expulsion from the program.

And for the record, I signed this on 2024.

RULES:

1. Respect the schedule of activities and their respective timings.
2. Inform SIS BECAS staff of any issue that may affect general safety.
3. Maintain appropriate behavior during all program activities.
4. Each participant is responsible for damages caused to hotel/residence facilities due to misuse or behavior. In the event of such a situation, the participant must settle these damages before vacating the hotel/residence. In this case, our staff will contact parents or guardians to inform them of the situation.
5. Each participant is responsible for actions taken outside of the program, hotel/residence, and Showcase activities, thereby exempting Education and Athletics USA S.L., its administrators, and associated personnel from any liability for consequences, indemnities, or damages to third parties.
6. Smoking, alcohol consumption, or drug use is strictly prohibited.
7. Under no circumstances may participants leave the hotel/residence without consent and supervision from our staff.
8. Non-compliance with program rules will result in sanctions or expulsion.
9. In the unfortunate event of testing positive for COVID-19 prior to the Showcase, you will be unable to participate in the event for the safety of other participants. SIS BECAS will offer you the opportunity to participate in the next edition of SIS Showcase 2023 at no additional cost.

Participant's Signature: _____

If the PARTICIPANT is a minor, one or both parents, legal guardian, and/or representative must sign below.

Full Name: _____

Identity Document No.: _____

Signature: _____



APPENDIX II: Sample Ranking Letter (50% Ranking)

To fill out this letter, you must first calculate the average of your grades during high school. Follow these instructions to equate the average grades in your country to the American grade point average (GPA) scale and complete the following letter in English:

60-73%	> 2.0
74-86%	> 3.0
87-100%	> 4.0

(Example: average grade of 6 out of a maximum score of 10 = 60% = 2.0 GPA)

Dear Eligibility Center:

Federico Zimbron (NAIA OR NCAA #0240070) graduated from St. Michael's High School.
in London, United Kingdom (YEAR).

Mr. Zimbron final class position at graduation was _____ out of a graduation class of _____ students. The final class rank includes grades through the conclusion of the student's final term at St. Michael's High School.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (Number of telephone)

Sincerely,

High School Principal



SHOWCASE
MADRID 2024