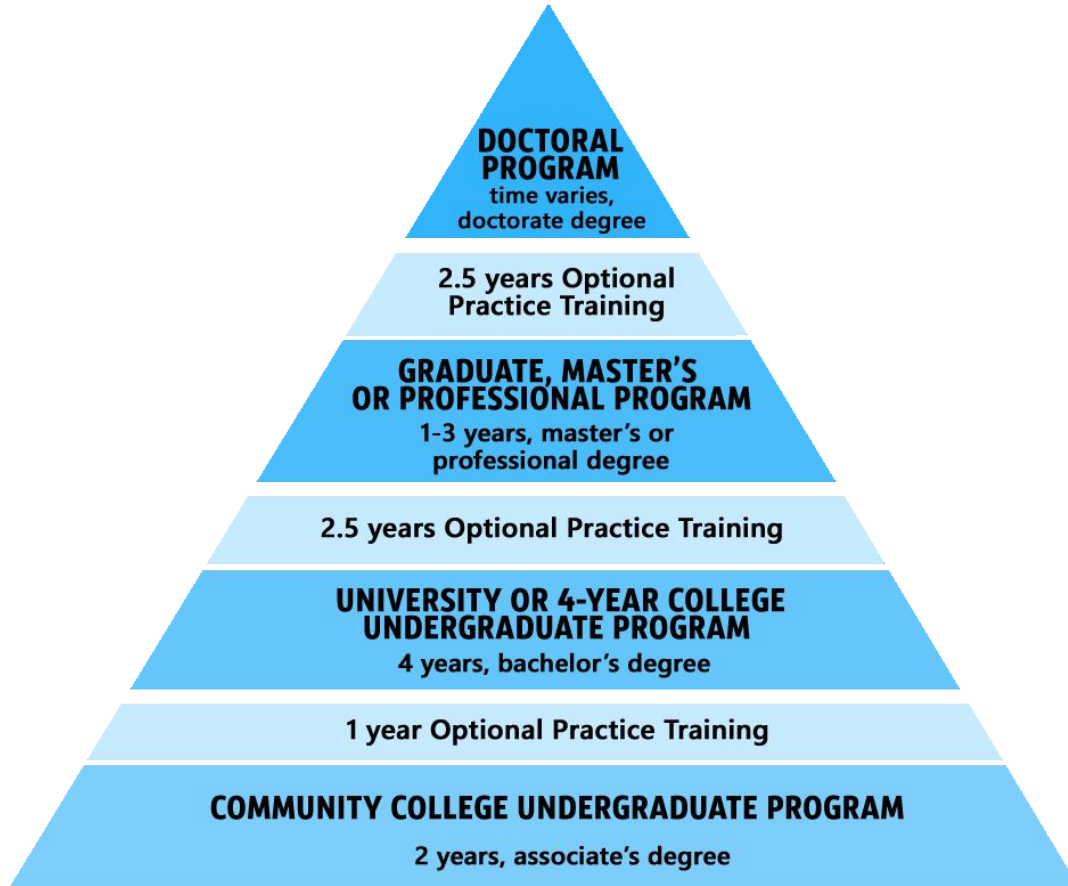


# Higher Education System in the USA

- Structure of the Higher Education in the USA
- Types of US Higher Educational Establishments
- The academic year in US institutions
- ‘Credit’ system of education
- Assessment and grading

# Structure of the Higher Education



# Types of Higher Educational Establishments

- **Community Colleges**
  - 2 year education
  - Getting association's degree (AA, AS, AAS)
  - Ability to transfer to university for later studies
- **Four-Year Colleges and Universities**
  - 4 year education
  - Getting bachelor's degree (BA, BS)
  - Ability to continue education and get master's (MA, MS) and doctorate (PhD) degree

# Advantages of Community Colleges to Universities

- Lower tuition fee

Average annual tuition and fees students can expect to pay

2-year Community College	\$5,500
Public 4-year College or University	\$12,127
Private 4-year College or University	\$29,026

# Advantages of Community Colleges to Universities

- Focus on teaching
- Additional year of Optional Practical Training
- Use of the Latest Technology
- Course Credits Transfer to University

# Disadvantages of Community Colleges to Universities

- Possible Transfer Issues
- Housing
- Earning Potential
- Class Offerings
- Lack of Resources

# Academic Year

1 FRESHMAN

**COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE**

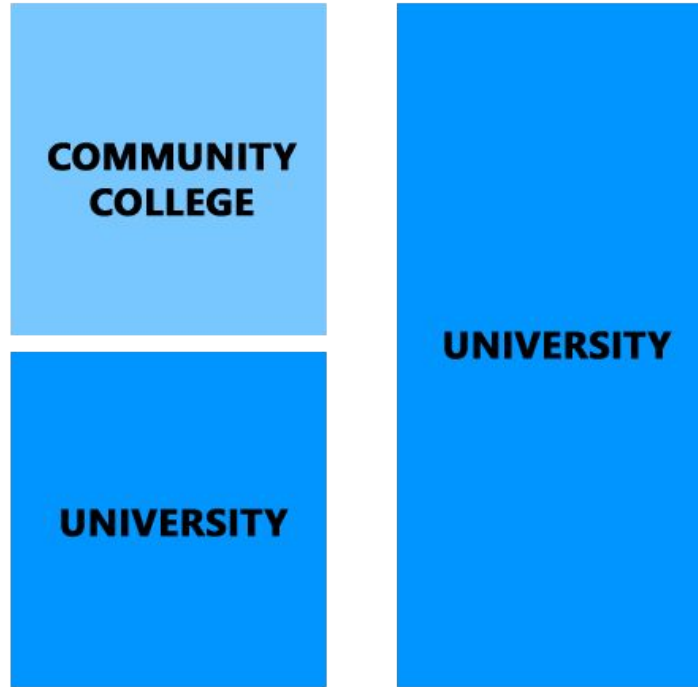
2 SOPHMORE

**UNIVERSITY**

3 JUNIOR

**UNIVERSITY**

4 SENIOR





# 'Credit' System

Credit Hours = Hours A + Additional Work  
Week

Bachelor's Degree 120 - 130 credit hours

Master's Degree 30 - 64 credit hours

# Assessment and grading

Grade		GPA
A	excellent	4.00
B	above average	3.00
C	average	2.00
D	the minimum passing grade	1.00
E	fail	0.00

- Stages of US Higher Educational System include:
  - Community college undergraduate (2 years)
  - University undergraduate (4 years)
  - Master's graduate (1-3 years)
  - Doctorate graduate
- Academic Year lasts for 9 month, divided into 2 semesters
- In USA the system of Academic Credits is introduced.
- Each course gives some credits
- Each degree “costs” credits
- Student's knowledge in each discipline is assessed
- To continue to the next year average mark should be at least 2.00