USC University of Southern California

First-Year Student Profile and Admission Information 2026 - 2027

Class of 2030 – USC's 147th entering class

New first-year students	3,766
Enrolled at Los Angeles campus	*3,648*
Enrolled at Washington, D.C. campus	*118*
Recipients of USC merit scholarships	380
National Merit Scholars	149
First-generation college-goers	21%
Scions (legacy students)	15%
Female	60%
Male	39%
Another Gender	1%

Race / Ethnicity

White	25%
Asian / Asian American	24%
International (student visa holders)	19%
Latine / Hispanic	17%
Multiple Ethnicities	7%
Black / African American	5%
Ethnicity Not Reported	3%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	<1%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	<1%

Most Represented Public High Schools

Foshay Learning Center; Los Angeles, CA	32
Orange County HS for the Arts; Santa Ana, CA	19
Mira Costa HS; Manhattan Beach, CA	18
Palos Verdes Peninsula HS, Rolling Hills Est., CA	17
Palos Verdes HS, Palos Verdes Estates, CA	16

Most Represented Independent or Parochial Schools

Loyola HS; Los Angeles, CA	17
Brentwood School; Los Angeles, CA	16
Chaminade College Prep, Canoga Park, CA	13
Sage Hill School; Newport Coast, CA	12
Flintridge Prep; La Cañada, CA	11
Sierra Canyon School; Chatsworth, CA	11

Most Represented Geographic Locales

U.S. States	*Outside U.S.*
California	China
New York	India
Illinois	Canada
Texas	South Korea
Washington	Hong Kong
Oregon	Indonesia
Maryland	Singapore

Academic Program Distribution

Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences	41%
Marshall Sch. of Business & Leventhal Sch. of Acct.	17%
Schools of Visual, Performing & Creative Arts (Architecture, Cinematic Arts, Dramatic Arts, Kaufman School of Dance, Roski School of Art & Design, Thornton School of Music)	17%
Viterbi School of Engineering	12%
Annenberg School for Comm. & Journalism	5%
Iovine-Young Academy	2%
Gould School of Law	1%
Mann School of Pharmacy & Pharm. Science	1%
Price School of Public Policy	1%
Academic Explorer/Undeclared	1%
Keck School of Medicine (Health Studies)	1%
Occupational Therapy Program	<1%
Davis School of Gerontology	<1%
Dworak-Peck School of Social Work	<1%

	Applicants	Fall Admits	Fall Enrolls
	79,331	10,006 *12.6%* *admission rate*	3,766 *37.6%* *yield rate*
Middle 50% GPA *(un-weighted, 4.00 scale)*	3.67 – 4.00	3.89 – 4.00	3.81 – 4.00
SAT and/or ACT score submitters	44%	61%	48%
Middle 50% SAT (super-scored)	1450 – 1540	1490 – 1550	1470 – 1540
Middle 50% ACT (super-scored)	32 – 35	33 – 35	32 – 35
Early Decision & Early Action	41,202	3,840	1,303
Regular Decision	38,129	4,098	1,565
Deferred into RD from ED or EA		*2,068*	*898*

Students' Declared Pre-Professional Interests

Pre-Medicine	15%
Pre-Law	10%
Pre-Health (Dent., Pharm., OT, PT, etc.)	4%
Pre-Teaching	1%

Cost and Financial Aid

USC practices need-blind admission. A student's ability to pay has no bearing on their admission.

USC has a long tradition of fully meeting the USC-determined need of undergraduates through a combination of merit scholarships, need-based grants, Federal Work-Study, and loans. Under USC's Affordability Initiative (affordability.usc.edu), admitted first-year students from U.S. families with an annual income of $80,000 or less, with typical assets, will attend USC tuition-free.

About 10% of the 2026 entering first-year class received a merit-based scholarship from USC. Approximately two-thirds received some form of financial assistance.

Although international students are not eligible to receive federal or USC need-based aid, they may be awarded merit scholarships and/or other departmental awards. Students who meet California Dream Act requirements or undocumented students who have Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals status may be eligible for need-based aid.

Items Used to Determine Financial Aid Eligibility

- CSS PROFILE
- FAFSA
- Other specific information may be required, depending upon family's situation.

2026-27 Undergraduate Annual Cost of Attendance

Tuition and fees	$77,336
Housing	$13,510
Food/Meal Plan	$8,442
Miscellaneous expenses and transportation	$3,204
Books and supplies	$670
Annual Total	**$103,162**

2027 First-Year Application Process

USC offers Early Decision, Early Action, and Regular Decision application options.

Required Application Materials

- Completed Common Application form.
- Official high school transcripts, grades 9 – 11 (and eventually, final high school transcripts).
- Personal Statement & responses to short answer topics.
- Activities list.
- Counselor/teacher recommendation form and letter.

Other Items Required of Certain Applicants

- Supplemental materials and/or auditions
- TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic, or Duolingo English Test results are required for international applicants whose native language is not English.
- Predicted IB or A-Level Exam results from students following such curricula.

SAT / ACT Optional

- Applicants decide whether to submit scores.
- Applicants without scores will not be disadvantaged/penalized in USC's holistic admission or scholarship selection processes.
- 48% of fall 2026 enrollees submitted scores.

Dates and Deadlines

November 1, 2026
Early Decision (ED) admission & financial aid application deadline.
Early Action (EA) admission application deadline
November 15, 2026
Early Action (EA) financial aid application deadline
December 1, 2026
Regular Decision (RD) application deadline
Mid-December 2026
ED admission notification date
January 10, 2027
Regular Decision (RD) admission application deadline
Mid-January 2027
EA admission notification date
February 3, 2027
RD financial aid application deadline
March 2, 2027
Deadline for Cal Grant app (California residents only)
April 1, 2027
RD admission notification date

University of Southern California, Office of Admission · 700 Childs Way, Los Angeles, California 90089-0911
Web and Email: admission.usc.edu · Instagram & Twitter: @uscadmission · Facebook: AdmitUSC · Telephone: (213) 740-1111

USC's full non-discrimination notice can be found online at https://ocrc.usc.edu/policies-and-processes/notice-of-non-discrimination/