Introduction to USC
USC at a glance

Private Research University
MISSION

1880
FOUNDED

Los Angeles
LOCATION

21,000
UNDERGRADUATES

28,000
GRADUATE STUDENTS

1
LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

10
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

6
SCHOOLS OF VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS

1
ACADEMY

450,000+
ALUMNI WORLDWIDE
The University of Southern California offers exceptional students a world-class education with highly ranked programs in virtually every field—from cinema to the sciences. Our location in the heart of Los Angeles means students have unparalleled research, internship and professional opportunities in a wide array of organizations including nonprofits, Fortune 500 companies and global businesses.

At USC, students begin a journey of intellectual challenges, personal and professional achievement and lifelong friendships with alumni who excel in every field.

Now more than 450,000 members strong, the Trojan Family will be there for you, lifelong and worldwide.

Are you ready to join this dynamic community?

We offer world-class programs in virtually every field.

Trojan Voices

“The best thing about USC is the opportunity to pursue the many interests that I have. With over 200 minors to choose from and 18 academic schools, there is truly an opportunity for every student.”

HAYDEN AMERICUS RIVAS '24
SOUTH SURREY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA
Academics

Since its founding in 1880, USC has grown into a top-tier private research institution, with all the resources of a large, urban university and the nurturing environment of a smaller college.

Trojan Voices

“I chose USC because I could get the best of both worlds: a small, liberal arts education coupled with a large school spirit.”

DOMINIC BORRELLI ’24
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

Pursue unique combinations of majors and minors across interdisciplinary programs that combine academic rigor with professional development.

Thrive in pioneering undergraduate programs that include overseas travel and study.

Participate in faculty-led or original research projects, earn fellowships or scholarships to support your research, and prepare for advanced studies or the career of your choice.

Learn from our outstanding faculty members who are experts in their fields.

Gain knowledge and insights from the best to become the best.
150+ MAJORS AND MINORS

26 AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

9:1 STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

50+ CITIES ACROSS FIVE CONTINENTS WITH STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES AS SOON AS YOUR FIRST YEAR
Los Angeles

At USC, you will live and thrive in the heart of a diverse, dynamic world center, home to one of the top 20 economies in the world, where more than 100 nationalities are represented and 200+ languages are spoken. You will find a range of recreational and cultural activities—from relaxing on the beach to attending plays, concerts and gallery showings—within a few miles of campus, and in some cases, right outside your front door.
Getting Around

The city offers several ways to get around. Buses and light rail provide quick, affordable transportation throughout Los Angeles. The Metro rail E Line connects the beaches and shops of Santa Monica with USC and Downtown. Rental services such as Zipcar and Enterprise provide inexpensive alternatives to owning a car. And the university’s Lyft Rides Program can get you home safely after hours.

If you prefer to bike around campus, USC provides numerous bike lanes and bike racks, making it a truly bike-friendly campus.

Internship and Job Opportunities

The city also provides a wide array of opportunities for students looking for internships and jobs. Each year, more than 750 companies recruit on campus. careers.usc.edu

Things to do near USC
**Residential Community**

Most students live on or near campus. First-year students are housed in residential colleges with faculty in residence.

[link to housing.usc.edu]

**Student Clubs and Organizations**

Connect with fellow students and learn valuable skills through USC’s 1,000+ student clubs and organizations, including cultural and religious clubs; service-learning programs; and academic, recreational and professional organizations.

[link to campusactivities.usc.edu]

**Arts and Entertainment**

Enjoy hundreds of film screenings, theatrical performances, art exhibitions and music concerts throughout the year.

[link to visionsandvoices.usc.edu]

**Athletics**

USC has a proud tradition of supporting the scholar-athlete. More than 9,600 students participate in club sports and teams. Our 21 Division I athletic teams have earned 112 NCAA championships and 135 team titles.

[link to recsports.usc.edu and usctrojans.com]

**Dining**

The USC campus and surrounding neighborhoods offer a wide array of dining options. Dining halls serve a variety of cuisines daily for residents of USC housing, and coffee shops, restaurants and markets offer a number of grab ‘n’ go items.

[link to hospitality.usc.edu]

**Student Equity and Inclusion Programs**

USC’s Student Equity and Inclusion Programs (SEIP) are student support services and organizations that facilitate dialogue and community building with a focus on intersectionality, belonging and well-being. Programs include: Asian Pacific American Student Services (APASS), the Center for Black Cultural and Student Affairs (CBCSA), the First Generation Plus Success Center, the Latinx/Chicanx Center for Advocacy and Student Affairs (La CASA), the LGBTQ+ Student Center, and the Native American Student Assembly (NASA). Visit the SEIP website for a full list of services.

[link to seip.usc.edu]
USC Village

The USC Village comprises a town center with 1.2 million square feet of retail and residential space, including a full-service grocery store, restaurants and recreational spaces. Eight residential colleges provide 2,500 beds for USC students in the Village.

As a lively hub for social, residential and academic opportunities, the USC Village is transforming the undergraduate experience at USC.

housing.usc.edu • village.usc.edu

Trojan Voices

“One of the great things about USC is its proximity to Downtown L.A., where there’s no shortage of exciting things to do. You can attend an L.A. Philharmonic concert at Disney Hall, see a contemporary art exhibit at The Broad, and eat incredible food in Little Tokyo—all in a single day!”

JAMES WANG '25
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
Transfer Students

Transfer candidates are evaluated primarily by their academic record with respect to making good progress toward their intended degree. In addition to maintaining strong grades, transfer students should complete specific courses in college-level writing and mathematics and make consistent progress toward meeting USC Core Requirements, including foreign language and General Education requirements, as well as lower-division courses required for the major.

Please visit admission.usc.edu/transfer for more details.

2023 Transfer Student Profile*

- **9,400** applications
- **2,250** fall admission offers
- **3.81** average college GPA
- **1,350** expected transfer enrolled class size

*As of July 2023

Scan to view our Transferring to USC brochure.

Demographic Breakdown*

- **25%** first-generation
- **41%** California
- **21%** international
- **23%** White
- **20%** Latinx/Hispanic
- **8%** multi-ethnic
- **38%** other parts of U.S.
- **22%** Asian/Asian American
- **8%** Black/African American
- **1%** Native American or Pacific Islander

*As of July 2023

First-Year Students

Like many highly selective universities, we conduct a holistic review of your application to consider academic and personal characteristics. We will review your performance in school, the rigor of your program and your writing skills. We also consider personal qualities, as revealed through community involvement, leadership and achievements. We look for students we believe will thrive at USC. Most of our first-year students come from the top 10 percent of their high school classes.

Please visit admission.usc.edu/firstyear for more details.

2023 First-Year Student Profile*

- **80,800** applications
- **8,100** fall admission offers
- **3,650** expected first-year enrolled class size

*As of July 2023
Application Deadlines for Admission and Scholarships

First-Year Applicants

**Early Action**

**November 1, 2023**

Early Action (EA) admission is non-binding and non-restrictive, and is not available for certain majors. Check with your department of interest or review the schools listed below.

Students applying to most majors must apply EA in order to be considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

**Regular Decision**

For majors requiring a portfolio or audition

**December 1, 2023**

Final deadline to apply for admission to the following programs:

- Iovine and Young Academy
- School of Architecture
- Roski School of Art & Design
- School of Cinematic Arts
- Kaufman School of Dance
- School of Dramatic Arts
- Thornton School of Music

Candidates applying to these programs by December 1 will be considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

Transfer Applicants

**Regular Decision**

For some majors requiring a portfolio or audition

**December 1, 2023**

Transfer deadline to apply for admission to the following programs:

- BFA Cinematic Arts and Dramatic Arts programs
- Kaufman School of Dance
- Thornton School of Music

All transfer candidates will receive either an admission decision or a request for spring grades by May 31. If you receive a request for spring grades, you will be notified of an admission decision by mid-July.

**All other majors**

**February 15, 2024**

Final transfer application deadline for all other programs. All transfer students who apply for admission by this date will be considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

All other majors

**January 15, 2024**

Get more information at admission.usc.edu/deadlines.
Application Checklist and Requirements

- **The Common Application**
  USC uses the Common Application. Please visit [admission.usc.edu/commonapp](http://admission.usc.edu/commonapp) for detailed information.

- **School report**
  First-year applicants only.

- **Letter of recommendation from teacher or counselor**
  Required of all first-year applicants. Required of some transfer students, depending on major.

- **Portfolio, résumé and/or additional writing samples if required by major**
  Performance majors may also require auditions or interviews.

- **Official high school and college transcripts**

- **AP, IB and A-Level scores (optional)**
  Please visit [arr.usc.edu/transfercredit](http://arr.usc.edu/transfercredit) to find out which exams may fulfill USC course requirements.

- **Mid-Year Report/fall grades**

**Transfer Applicants:**
We do not require the Common Application’s College Report.

**International Students:**

- **Financial statement of personal or family support**

- **TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic or qualifying ACT/SAT scores**
  Required from students whose native language is not English. Please visit [admission.usc.edu/international](http://admission.usc.edu/international) for more information.

**Scholarships**
[admission.usc.edu/scholarships](http://admission.usc.edu/scholarships)

The USC Office of Admission administers prestigious scholarship programs for incoming students, including the Trustee and Presidential awards. Amounts vary but include full, half- and quarter-tuition awards. More details are available online.

To be considered for USC Merit Scholarships, first-year applicants must submit their application by the Early Action deadline of November 1, or by the Regular Decision deadline of December 1 if applying to a major that requires a portfolio or audition. Transfer applicants must apply by February 15.

Additional USC scholarships are administered by organizations outside the Office of Admission. These often require a separate application and have varying deadlines and eligibility requirements. A full list of USC scholarships is available online.

**USC’s Test Optional Policy**

Students who apply to the fall 2024 academic year will not be required to submit SAT/ACT scores, although they may still submit them if they wish. Applicants will not be penalized or put at a disadvantage if they choose not to submit SAT or ACT scores. Please visit [admission.usc.edu/test-optional-policy-faq](http://admission.usc.edu/test-optional-policy-faq) for more information.
USC is need-blind in its admission process. Students are admitted regardless of their ability to pay, and we work with families to meet the full financial need for qualified students.

Nearly two-thirds of USC undergraduates receive some sort of financial aid, including need-based grants, merit scholarships, Federal Work-Study and loans.

In 2022-2023, the university awarded more than $814 million in financial aid. More than 75 percent of that amount comprised grants and scholarships—gift aid that does not need to be repaid.

**Applying for Financial Aid**
financialaid.usc.edu

All applicants should complete the FAFSA and CSS Profile by the deadlines listed below. The process for obtaining need-based financial aid is the same for all students regardless of which admission deadline they apply by.

First-Year Deadline for Early Action: January 12, 2024
First-Year Deadline for Regular Decision: February 7, 2024
Transfer Deadline: March 4, 2024

**2023-2024 Estimated Cost of Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$66,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>$1,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing*</td>
<td>$11,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food/meal plan*</td>
<td>$7,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and supplies</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal and miscellaneous</td>
<td>$1,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$464</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$90,921</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*(Add $450 New Student Fee for your first semester.)*

*Includes average rent and the standard meal plan for students living in on-campus first-year housing.*
Meet Us
Detailed information about events can be found at admission.usc.edu/meet-us.

In Person
Experience USC firsthand at on- or off-campus events, or by taking an on-campus guided tour!

Online
Learn more about USC from the comfort of your own home through virtual tours, student panels and informational webinars.

Other Ways to Connect with USC
Sign up for our mailing list:
admission.usc.edu/requestforinformation

Find your admission counselor:
admission.usc.edu/find-your-counselor

Follow us on social media:
@uscadmission

The University of Southern California prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, age, marital status, national origin, citizenship status, employment status, income status, shared ancestry and ethnic characteristics, partnership status, medical condition (including pregnancy and related medical conditions), disability, political belief or affiliation, domestic violence victim status, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, and any other class of individuals protected from discrimination under federal, state, or local law, regulation, or ordinance in any of the University’s educational programs and activities.

For questions about compliance with the notice of non-discrimination, the University has designated a Vice President for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX Coordinator, Catherine Spear, who can be reached at eeotix@usc.edu, (213) 740-5086, USC Credit Union Building, 3720 South Flower Street, 2nd Floor, Los Angeles, California 90089-0704. For disability-related questions, the University has also designated an ADA/Section 504 Coordinator, Christine Street, Associate Vice Provost for Student Affairs—Institutional Accessibility and ADA Compliance, who can be reached at streetc@usc.edu, (213) 821-4658, 3601 Trousdale Parkway, Bldg. #89, Los Angeles, California 90089.
Directory

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Accounting and Business
740–8885
marshall.usc.edu

World Bachelor in Business
740-8885
wbb.usc.edu

Architecture
740-2723
arch.usc.edu

Art and Design
740-ARTS (2787)
roski.usc.edu

Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation
821-6140
iovine-young.usc.edu

Cinematic Arts
740–8358
cinema.usc.edu

Communication and Journalism
821–0770
annenberg.usc.edu

Dance
740–9327
kaufman.usc.edu

Dramatic Arts
740–1286
dramaticarts.usc.edu

Engineering and Computer Science
740–4530
viterbiadmission.usc.edu

Gerontology
740–5156
gero.usc.edu

Law
740–7331
gould.usc.edu

Letters, Arts and Sciences
740–2531
dornsie.usc.edu

Music
740–8986
music.usc.edu

Occupational Therapy
(323) 442–2850
chan.usc.edu

Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
(323) 442–1369
mann.usc.edu

Public Health
(323) 442–7200
pphs.usc.edu

Public Policy
740–6842
priceschool.usc.edu

ADMINISTRATION

Admission
740–1111
admission.usc.edu

Athletics
740–3843
usctrojans.com

Financial Aid
740–4444
financialaid.usc.edu

Office of Student Accessibility Services
740–0776
osas.usc.edu

All area codes are (213) unless otherwise indicated.
USC offers undergraduates a wide array of majors, minors and interdisciplinary programs.

**Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences**
- American Popular Culture
- American Studies and Ethnicity
- African American Studies
- Asian American Studies
- Chicano/Latino Studies
- Anthropology
- Applied and Computational Mathematics
- Archaeology
- Art History
- Astronomy
- Behavioral Economics and Psychology
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Biophysics
- Central European Studies
- Chemistry
- Classics
- Cognitive Science
- Comparative Literature
- Computational Neuroscience
- Contemporary Latino & Latin American Studies
- Creative Writing
- Earth Sciences
- East Asian Area Studies
- East Asian Languages & Cultures
- Economics
- Economics/Mathematics
- English
- Environmental Science & Health
- Environmental Studies
- French
- Gender and Sexuality Studies
- GeoDesign
- Geological Sciences
- Global Geodesign
- Global Studies
- Health and Human Sciences
- History
- Human Biology
- Human Security and Geospatial Intelligence
- Intelligence & Cyber Operations
- International Relations
- International Relations (Global Business)
- International Relations and the Global Economy
- Italian
- Jewish Studies
- Latin American and Iberian Cultures
- Law, History, and Culture
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Middle East Studies
- Narrative Studies
- Neuroscience
- Non-Governmental Organizations and Social Change
- Philosophy
- Philosophy, Politics & Economics
- Philosophy, Politics & Law
- Physics
- Physics/Computer Science
- Political Economy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Quantitative Biology
- Religion
- Russian
- Sociology
- Spanish

**USC School of Architecture**
- Architecture, B.ARCH
- Architecture and Inventive Technologies, B.S.

**Iovine and Young Academy**
- Arts, Technology, and the Business of Innovation

**Roski School of Art & Design**
- Art, B.A.
- Design, BFA
- Fine Arts, BFA

**Marshall School of Business**
- Accounting
- Artificial Intelligence for Business*
- Business Administration
- Business of Cinematic Arts
- Real Estate Development and Finance*
- World Bachelor in Business*

**USC School of Cinematic Arts**
- Animation + Digital Arts, BFA
- Cinema and Media Studies, B.A.
- Film and Television Production, BFA*
- Film and Television Production, B.A.
- (transfers only)
- Game Art, BFA
- Game Development and Interactive Design, BFA
- Media Arts + Practice, B.A.
- Themed Entertainment, BFA
- Writing for Screen & Television, BFA

**Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism**
- Communication
- Journalism
- Public Relations and Advertising

**Kaufman School of Dance**
- Dance, BFA

**USC School of Dramatic Arts**
- Theatre, B.A.
- Theatre (Acting for Stage and Screen), BFA
- Theatre (Musical Theatre), BFA
- Theatre (Sound Design), BFA
- Theatre (Stage Management), BFA
- Theatre (Technical Direction), BFA
- Theatre (Theatrical Design), BFA

**Viterbi School of Engineering**
- Undeclared Engineering*
- Aerospace Engineering
- Astronautical Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biomedical (Electrical)
- Biomedical (Mechanical)
- Biomedical (Molecular-Cellular)
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemical (Biological & Pharmaceutical)
- Chemical (Energy & Sustainability)
- Chemical (Materials)
- Chemical (Petroleum & Subsurface)
- Civil Engineering
- Civil (Building Science)
- Civil (Construction Engineering & Management)
- Civil (Environmental)
- Civil (Structural)
- Civil (Water Resources)
- Computer Engineering & Computer Science
- Computer Science
- Computer Science Games
- Computer Science/Business Administration
- Electrical & Computer Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Industrial & Systems Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering

**Davis School of Gerontology**
- Human Development & Aging
- Lifespan Health

**Gould School of Law**
- Legal Studies, B.S.

**Keck School of Medicine**
- Global Health
- Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Studies

**Thornton School of Music**
- Bachelor of Music degrees:
  - Choral Music
  - Composition, Classical Jazz Studies (instrumental and vocal)
  - Music Production
  - Popular Music Performance
  - Classical Performance (instrumental and vocal)
- Bassoon
- Cello
- Clarinet
- Classical Guitar
- Trombone
- Double Bass
- Trumpet
- Flute
- French Horn
- Harp
- Oboe
- Organ

**Bachelor of Science degree:**
- Music Industry

**Occational Science and Occupational Therapy**

**Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science**
- Biopharmaceutical Sciences
- Pharmacology and Drug Development

**Price School of Public Policy**
- Public Policy
- Real Estate Development
- Urban Studies and Planning

**Pre-Professional Emphases**
- Pre-Dentistry
- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medicine
- Pre-Occupational Therapy
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Physician Assistant
- Pre-Teaching

* Available to first-year students only.

List accurate at time of printing. For an updated list, please refer to the USC Catalogue online at catalogue.usc.edu.