2024 First-Year Application Overview

When to Apply

Early Action

November 1
Applying by the Early Action (EA) deadline enables you to plan for college sooner and ensures that you will be considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

EA applicants will receive an admission decision or deferral to Regular Decision (RD) in mid-late January 2024.

EA is non-binding, non-restrictive, and is not available for majors requiring a portfolio or audition (refer to the December 1 deadline below).

Regular Decision

For majors requiring a portfolio or audition | December 1
Final deadline to apply for Iovine and Young Academy; School of Architecture; Roski School of Art and Design; School of Cinematic Arts; Kaufman School of Dance; School of Dramatic Arts; and Thornton School of Music.

For all other majors | January 15
Regular Decision applicants will receive an admission decision by April 1, 2024.

Learn more: admission.usc.edu/deadlines

Application Requirements

• Common Application at admission.usc.edu/commonapp.
• Your application should include official high school and college transcripts, letters of recommendation (one is required from either your school counselor or a teacher from your school), and any portfolio or résumé items required for certain programs. Learn more: admission.usc.edu/firstyear
• Optional: SAT and/or ACT scores.
• International students only: Visit admission.usc.edu/international for specific requirements and more information.

Merit Scholarships

USC offers a robust merit scholarship program. EA applicants and RD applicants to majors requiring a portfolio or audition will be considered for most USC Merit Scholarships. Learn more: admission.usc.edu/scholarships

Financial Aid

Unsure if you can afford a college education? USC might be more affordable than you think.

For an estimate of the aid you might receive, visit our Financial Aid Calculators at financialaid.usc.edu/npc.

USC is need-blind: Students are considered for admission without regard to their ability to pay.

Deadlines to apply for need-based financial aid:

Submit FAFSA: studentaid.gov
Submit CSS Profile: cssprofile.collegeboard.org
• January 12: Early Action applicants
• February 7: Regular Decision applicants

Apply for a Cal Grant: csac.ca.gov
California residents only
• March 4
financialaid.usc.edu • (213) 740-4444

The University of Southern California admits students of any race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical disability or mental disability and does not discriminate on any such basis. The University’s full non-discrimination policy can be found online at eotix.usc.edu
Check out our *Introduction to USC* brochure!

Start your application today at admission.usc.edu/commonapp.