First-Year Student Profile and Admission Information
2023 - 2024

USC Class of 2027
New first-year students 3,633

USC Trustee Scholars (full tuition) 96
USC Presidential Scholars (half tuition) 388
USC Dean’s Scholars (quarter tuition) 181
Recipients of other USC merit scholarships 101

First-generation college-goers 25%
Scions (legacy students) 14%

Female 52%
Male 47%
Another Gender 1%

Race / Ethnicity
White 23%
Asian / Asian American 22%
Latine / Hispanic 20%
International (student visa holders) 17%
Black / African American 8%
Multiple Ethnicities 8%
Not reported 1%
Native American or Pacific Islander 1%

Most Represented Public High Schools
Foshay Learning Center, Los Angeles, CA 25
Orange County HS for the Arts, Santa Ana, CA 15
La Cañada HS; La Cañada, CA 14
Arcadia HS; Arcadia, CA 12
Lincoln HS; Los Angeles, CA 12
Santa Monica HS; Santa Monica, CA 12

Most Represented Independent or Parochial Schools
Shanghai Pinghe School; China 14
Loyola HS; Los Angeles, CA 12
United World College; Singapore 12
Brentwood School; Los Angeles, CA 11
Valley Christian HS; San Jose, CA 11

Most Represented Geographic Areas
U.S. States Outside U.S.
California China
New York India
Texas Canada
Illinois United Kingdom
New Jersey South Korea
Washington Singapore
Oregon Hong Kong

Academic Program Distribution
Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences 42%
Schools of Visual, Performing & Creative Arts 17%
(Architecture, Cinematic Arts, Dramatic Arts, Kaufman School of Dance, Roski School of Art & Design, Thornton School of Music)
Marshall School of Business 16%
Viterbi School of Engineering 13%
Annenberg School for Comm. & Journalism 5%
Iovine-Young Academy 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%
Gould School of Law 1%
Davis School of Gerontology 1%
Occupational Therapy Program <1%

Students’ Declared Pre-Professional Interests
Pre-Medicine 13%
Pre-Law 11%
Pre-Health (Dent., Pharm., OT, PT, etc.) 4%
Pre-Teaching 2%

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 students from U.S. families with an annual income of $80,000 or less, with typical assets, will attend USC tuition free.

About 21% of the 2023 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. All 540 students may be eligible to receive a Cal Grant. Undocumented students meeting certain criteria 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.

2023-24 Undergraduate Annual Cost of Attendance
Tuition and fees $68,237
Housing $11,910
Food/Meal Plan $7,290
Miscellaneous expenses and transportation $2,284
Books and supplies $1,200
Annual Total $90,921

2024 First-Year Application Process
USC accepts the Common Application.

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, depending upon major.
• TOEFL, IELTS, PTE Academic or Duolingo English Test results 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.
• 44% of fall 2023 enrollees submitted scores.

Important Dates and Deadlines
November 1, 2023 Early Action (EA) & scholarship application deadline for most majors
December 1, 2023 Regular Decision (RD) & scholarship application deadline for audition/portfolio majors
January 11, 2024 EA Financial Aid deadline (PROFILE & FAFSA)
January 11, 2024 Regular Decision (RD) application deadline
January 25, 2024 EA admission notification date
February 7, 2024 RD Financial Aid deadline (PROFILE & FAFSA)
March 4, 2024 RD decision notification date
April 1, 2024 RD admission notification date

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USC admits students of any race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical disability or mental disability. USC’s full non-discrimination policy can be found online at policies.usc.edu.