

**Unparalleled opportunities, in and outside the classroom. Access to world-class faculty and the ability to conduct your own original research. Real-world experience through service-learning and internship programs.**

# **Transferring to USC**

**The possibilities are endless.**

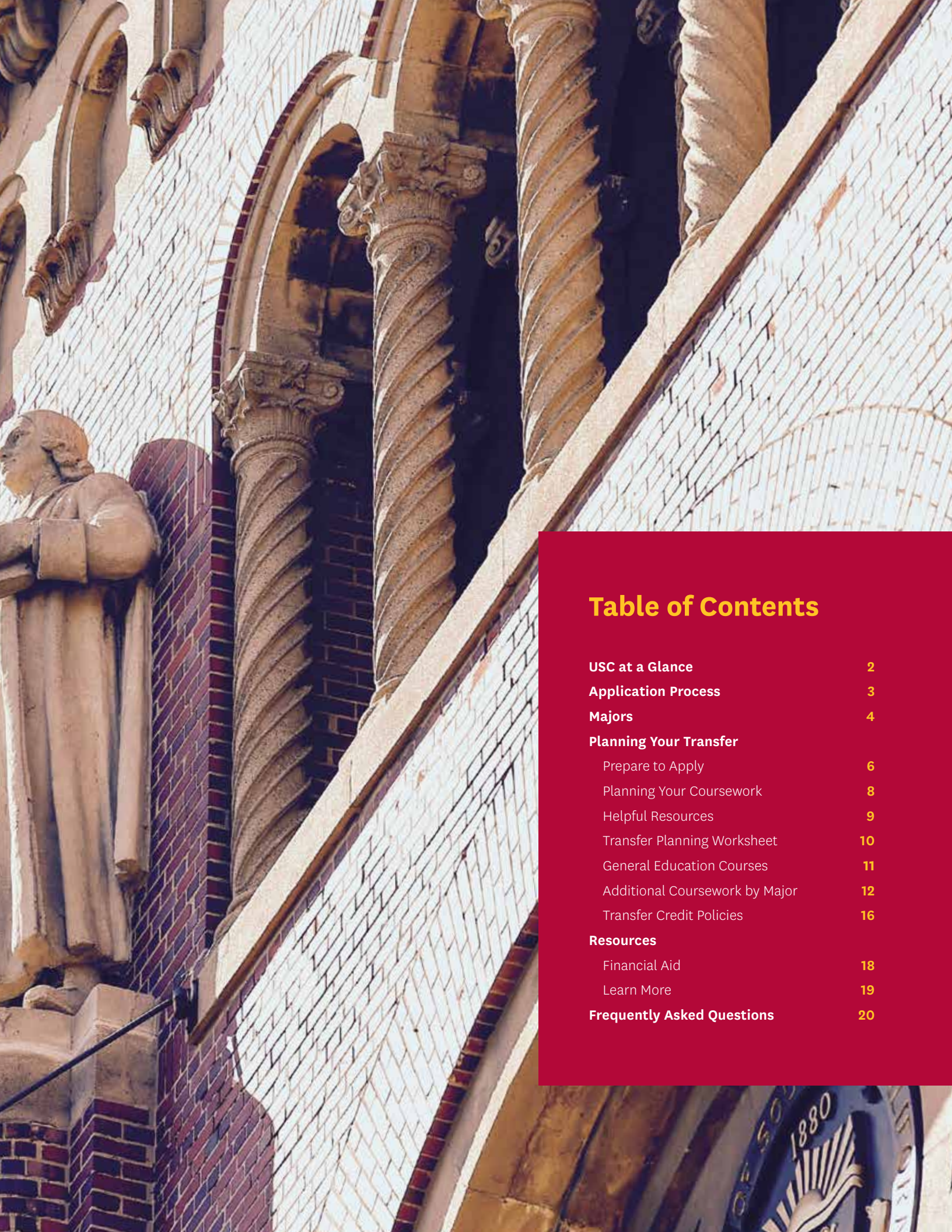
# Founded in 1880, the University of Southern California is a top-tier, private research university located in the heart of a diverse, dynamic world center.

As a transfer student at USC, you will enjoy unparalleled opportunities in and outside the classroom. From access to world-class faculty and the ability to conduct your own original research, to acquiring real-world experience through service-learning and internship programs, the possibilities are endless.

Transfer admission to USC remains highly competitive, and we look for students with outstanding academic records, talents and leadership skills. This brochure will introduce you to our admission policies, academic requirements and the courses you will need to successfully transfer to USC. We hope you find this information helpful, and we look forward to working with you in the future.

**Fight On!**





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# USC at a glance



**1880**  
FOUNDED

## 2023 Transfer Student Profile\*

## Our Transfer Students Come From...



**Los Angeles**  
LOCATION



**9,400**  
APPLICATIONS

**47%**  
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES



**229**  
SIZE OF CAMPUS IN ACRES



**2,250**  
ADMISSION OFFERS

**26%**  
U.S. COLLEGES OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA



**21,000**  
UNDERGRADUATES ENROLLED



**1,350**  
SIZE OF ENROLLED CLASS

**12%**  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



**28,500**  
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL  
STUDENTS ENROLLED



**3.81**  
AVERAGE COLLEGE GPA

**8%**  
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGES



**9:1**  
STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO



**25%**  
FIRST-GENERATION

**7%**  
CALIFORNIA PRIVATE  
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



**26**  
AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

*\*AS OF AUGUST 2023*



**450,000+**  
ALUMNI WORLDWIDE

# Application Process

## The Common Application

- Submit at [admission.usc.edu/commonapp](https://admission.usc.edu/commonapp). We do not require the Common Application College Report.

## Additional Application Materials

- Official College Transcripts**  
Make arrangements to provide USC official transcripts from all colleges you have ever attended. The transcripts should show coursework completed through the most recent fall term, so university registrars should wait until fall grades have been posted before sending documents to USC. (Electronic transcripts should be sent directly from the school — not from the student — to [uetrans@usc.edu](mailto:uetrans@usc.edu).) Submit all records, regardless of their applicability, completion status, or relevance. Failure to submit a transcript from any school you have attended may be viewed as a breach of academic integrity, which could result in revocation of admission and/or dismissal.
- Official High School Transcripts**  
Submit official, final high school transcripts that show your date of graduation or leaving status. Students who did not earn the diploma should also submit a copy of a completion certificate, such as a GED or CAHSEE, and may include a note of explanation if they wish. Students who completed secondary school outside the U.S. may submit a copy of a diploma or leaving certificate instead.
- Major-Related Requirements**  
Some majors also require an audition, portfolio, professional résumé, letters of recommendation or additional writing samples. Details can be found on the website for your department of interest.
- SAT or ACT Scores (Optional)**  
Transfer applicants for the 2024-2025 academic year may choose to submit SAT or ACT scores if they have completed fewer than 30 semester units of college coursework through the end of the spring term. SAT or ACT scores are not considered for students applying with more than 30 transferable semester units.

## International students\* must also submit:

- Financial Statement of Personal or Family Support**
- English Language Proficiency Test**

International students whose native language is not English must submit an English proficiency exam. A full list of acceptable scores and exams, such as TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, SAT or ACT, and DET can be found in the English Proficiency Expectations section at [admission.usc.edu/international](https://admission.usc.edu/international). Please note that completing college-level coursework, even in English composition, does not waive the requirement.

*\*DACA and undocumented students are **not** considered international applicants.*

Please visit [admission.usc.edu/international](https://admission.usc.edu/international) for more information about the application requirements for international students.

## Dates and Deadlines

### December 1, 2023

Transfer deadline for Cinematic Arts BFA programs; Dramatic Arts BFA programs; Kaufman School of Dance; and Thornton School of Music.

### February 15, 2024

Final transfer deadline for all other programs. Students who apply for admission by February 15 will also be considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

### Admission Notification Timeline

We will release either an admission decision or a request for spring-term grades by **May 31, 2024**, to applicants who submitted complete applications by the appropriate deadline. Students who receive requests for spring grades may not receive an admission decision until mid-July.

# Choose From 150 Majors

USC offers undergraduates more majors than any other university. Students are challenged across a broad range of ideas, within the curriculum and outside the classroom. The following majors apply to prospective transfer students only.

## **Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences**

American Popular Culture  
American Studies and Ethnicity  
*African American Studies*  
*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 (Chinese,  
Japanese, Korean)  
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, Media  
and Politics  
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.

## **Irvine 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  
Business Administration

## **USC School of Cinematic Arts**

Animation + Digital Arts, BFA  
Cinema and Media Studies, B.A.  
Film and Television Production, B.A.  
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

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 Percussion  
 Cello Piano  
 Clarinet Saxophone  
 Classical Guitar Trombone  
 Double Bass Trumpet  
 Flute Tuba  
 French Horn Viola  
 Harp Violin  
 Oboe Vocal Arts  
 Organ

#### Bachelor of Science degree:

Music Industry

### Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Biopharmaceutical Sciences  
 Pharmacology & Drug Development

### Price School of Public Policy

Public Policy  
 Real Estate Development  
 Urban Studies and Planning

### Professional Emphases

These represent advisement tracks only. They cannot be declared as majors.

Pre-Dentistry  
 Pre-Law  
 Pre-Medicine  
 Pre-Occupational Therapy  
 Pre-Pharmacy  
 Pre-Physical Therapy  
 Pre-Physician Assistant Practice  
 Pre-Teaching

Please refer to the *USC Catalogue* online at [catalogue.usc.edu](https://catalogue.usc.edu) for the most up-to-date list.



# Prepare to Apply

We seek successful students who will make positive contributions to the USC community. The next few pages will help you plan your program to stay on track and maximize your chances of admission.

The key to a successful transfer is good planning. Students who achieve at a high level and make good progress toward their intended degree will have the best chance of a successful application and on-time graduation. We offer this planning guide to help you realize your goal of transferring to USC.

If you are still in high school, you should remain so and consider applying as a first-year candidate. Competitive transfer applicants complete high school graduation requirements and earn the high school diploma. USC does not prefer students who leave high school merely with the intention of starting college earlier.

All students must complete General Education requirements to earn a bachelor's degree, so we expect transfer students to

satisfy several of these before admission. Although we do not require a specific number, a good rule of thumb is one or two GE courses per term.

The pages that follow describe the requirements and provide tools to help you identify courses at your institution that are likely to count toward USC's General Education program. You should also familiarize yourself with the requirements for your intended degree and make good progress toward fulfilling them. Foreign language is a graduation requirement for many programs, including all Dornsife majors and several majors in other schools. Additionally, many programs—especially those in science and engineering—strongly recommend completing introductory, lower-division courses before transferring.



## Successful Transfer Applicants Typically:

- Present strong academic performance. In 2023, the average college GPA of admitted transfer students was 3.81.
- Show consistent progress toward a degree with at least one year of rigorous, full-time academic coursework. Competitive candidates typically take 14-16 units per term.
- Complete the equivalent of USC's writing/ composition requirement, Writing 130.
- Meet our minimum math requirement by demonstrating a mastery of Algebra II in high school or Intermediate Algebra in college with a grade of C or better. Many majors require more math. See pages 12-15 for details.
- Make satisfactory progress toward meeting USC General Education requirements.
- Complete additional lower-division courses required by their intended major, if applicable. Refer to pages 12-15 to see if your intended major requires or recommends lower-division courses that should be completed before you transfer. This is especially important for students pursuing degrees in science, engineering, architecture or business.

**Due to the competitive nature of our admission process, meeting these typical academic expectations does not guarantee admission.**



# Planning Your Coursework

## When to Transfer

USC accepts both sophomore and junior transfer students.

By transferring as early as your sophomore year, you can take more of your General Education and elective courses at USC. You will be part of the USC community for a longer time and have more opportunities to get involved with campus life and make the connections that can help you after graduation.

Alternatively, if your academic record in high school fell short of USC expectations, you may be able to position yourself as a stronger candidate if you complete two years of solid undergraduate coursework at another institution before applying to transfer. Additionally, if you complete most of your General Education requirements before transferring, you will have more time to pursue a double major, a major-minor combination, or a unit-heavy major while you are enrolled at USC.

## Still in High School?

If you are still in high school, USC considers you a first-year applicant, regardless of the number of college units completed prior to high school graduation.

If you have questions about your class standing, please call the USC Office of Admission at (213) 740-1111.

## Transfer Units

USC does not require a minimum number of transfer units. However, if you will have earned fewer than 30 transferable semester units by the end of the spring term, we will base our decision primarily on your high school record and SAT or ACT scores (if you submit them).

## Remedial Coursework

Placement exams offered at your current college will determine your need for any remedial coursework in writing and mathematics prior to your admission to USC. Remedial courses are not transferable.

## Pass/No Pass Courses

As many as 24 semester units may be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis. Only one GE Core Literacy course may be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis. Both GE Global Perspectives courses (categories G-H) may be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis. Please note that writing courses taken on a Pass/No Pass basis will not fulfill USC's lower-division writing/composition requirement.



# Helpful Resources

Several resources are available to help you determine which courses and credits will transfer to USC. As a general rule, most courses that transfer to the University of California system will transfer to USC.

Feel free to contact your USC admission counselor if you have any questions or concerns. To find your counselor, please visit [admission.usc.edu/find-your-counselor](https://admission.usc.edu/find-your-counselor).

## Transfer Planning Guide

This online resource will help you determine which undergraduate courses at other institutions will satisfy USC's General Education requirements, as well as the lower-division coursework required for any major.

Visit [usc.edu/tpg](https://usc.edu/tpg), then select your college and your intended major to generate a course list for the current academic year.

## Transfer Planning Worksheet

Beginning on the next page, the Transfer Planning Worksheet lays out USC's General Education requirements, as well as an overview of what writing/composition and math courses are required for admission.

You may also use this worksheet to help you keep track of the transferable courses you have completed and what courses are still in progress. Following the worksheet, you will find any lower-

division, introductory coursework that may be recommended or required for your intended major.

## Articulation Agreements

### Transferring from a California community college:

USC works with many of California's community colleges to develop lists of courses that will be accepted for transfer credit. Known as articulation agreements, these lists indicate the courses that fulfill General Education and other requirements, as well as equivalents to lower-division courses at USC. Articulation agreements are available online at [arr.usc.edu/transfercredit](https://arr.usc.edu/transfercredit).

### Transferring from out-of-state community colleges:

Although USC does not have articulation agreements with out-of-state community colleges, most courses that will transfer to the flagship four-year public institutions in your state will transfer to USC.

## Articulation Histories

### Transferring from a four-year university:

USC does not maintain articulation agreements with four-year universities. For a handful of local public institutions, we provide articulation histories that list the courses we have previously evaluated and accepted for transfer credit, though we cannot guarantee they will transfer the same way again. Courses not included on the history have not yet been reviewed and may or may not transfer. Most academic courses from four-year institutions are accepted for transfer credit. To see a list of articulation histories, please visit [arr.usc.edu/students/transfer-credit-services/histories](https://arr.usc.edu/students/transfer-credit-services/histories).





# Transfer Planning Worksheet

## General Education

USC’s General Education program is designed to introduce you to a breadth of knowledge that will help you succeed in the 21st century.

- We require eight courses within the six Core Literacies: one course each in The Arts, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Quantitative Reasoning; and two courses each in Humanistic Inquiry and Social Analysis.
- We require two courses in Global Perspectives: one in Equity in a Diverse World and one in Traditions and Historical Foundations.
- Some Global Perspectives courses will satisfy requirements in the Core Literacies as well. A single course can satisfy one Global Perspectives and one Core Literacy requirement at most.
- Transfer students must complete at least two GE courses at USC Dornsife College from among the six Core Literacy categories.
- Once enrolled at USC, students must complete all remaining GE Core Literacy requirements at USC.
- Transfer students are not required to complete the General Education Seminar (GESM) required of first-year students.
- A course taken at another institution must be at least 3 semester units or 4 quarter units to be eligible for GE credit.

## Courses Required for Admission

Writing and math are required for all transfer students. Students intending to study science, business, engineering, real estate development or architecture are required to complete additional courses before transferring. Refer to pages 12-15 for details.

Strong transfer candidates will enroll full time and complete 14-16 units, typically comprising four transferable courses, per term.

## Writing/Composition

Strong writing skills are essential to success at USC. All undergraduates are required to take two writing courses: one lower-division and one upper-division course.

The upper-division course must be taken at USC. However, successful transfer applicants will complete a course equivalent to the lower-division requirement, WRIT 130, before applying to USC. Typically the second course in a college composition sequence satisfies this requirement. If your school does not offer a course equivalent to WRIT 130, you should take the strongest composition course available. This course may not be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis.

Professional, technical, creative and remedial writing courses will not satisfy this requirement. If you are unsure whether your writing course is equivalent to WRIT 130 and it does not appear in our articulation agreements or histories, please keep the syllabus and papers for later review by USC.

Course \_\_\_\_\_  Completed  In progress

## Minimum Math

You are expected to have earned strong grades in at least three years of high school mathematics, including Advanced Algebra (Algebra II) or Intermediate Algebra at the college level with a grade of C or better. Majors in the natural and social sciences, business, real estate development, engineering, and architecture at USC require specific mathematics courses and achievement beyond this level. If lower-division mathematics courses are required by your major, we advise you to complete them early in your college studies, prior to applying to USC.

Please refer to “Additional Coursework by Major” on pages 12-15 to find out if your intended program of study requires additional coursework.

Course \_\_\_\_\_  Completed  In progress

Students who began college prior to fall 2015 should review General Education requirements at [dornsife.usc.edu/ge/prefall2015ge](https://dornsife.usc.edu/ge/prefall2015ge) and [dornsife.usc.edu/ge/prefall2015diversity](https://dornsife.usc.edu/ge/prefall2015diversity).

# General Education Courses

## CORE LITERACIES

GE-A	The Arts	GE-B	Humanistic Inquiry (2 Courses)	GE-C	Social Analysis (2 Courses)	GE-D	The Life Sciences	GE-E	The Physical Sciences	GE-F	Quantitative Reasoning
<p>Courses that meet this requirement enable students to engage with the arts by teaching them to create and analyze works of art, understanding the context of their creations and their connections to cultural issues.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> Art History (must include cultural context), Intro to Film, Art Appreciation (Great Works), History of Architecture (must include cultural context), History of Music, History of Dance, History of Photography, Intro to Theatre, Modern Art, Contemporary Art, Music Appreciation, History of Jazz, History of Rock and Roll, Dramatic Literature (plays from all eras)</p> <p><b>Not acceptable:</b> Studio, performance, theory or pre-professional courses</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC	<p>Courses that meet this requirement cultivate a critical appreciation for various forms of human expression by teaching students to evaluate works of literature, philosophy and the arts, to think critically and formulate informed opinions about ideas and values.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> Western Civilization, World Civilization, Intro to Philosophy, American Literature or English Literature, U.S. History, Intro to Religions, Eastern Religion, Western Religion, World Religions, Old Testament, New Testament, Mythology (Greek/Roman/World)</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC	<p>Courses that meet this requirement explore the causes and consequences of social phenomena by teaching students to apply the quantitative and qualitative methods of the social sciences to understand how people behave and influence the world through institutions and other cultural forms.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> Cultural Anthropology, Intro to Environmental Studies (people and policy focused), Intro to Sociology, Intro to Political Science, Intro to American Government, Intro to International Relations, Intro to Peace and Conflict Studies, Language and Society</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC	<p>Courses that meet this requirement provide a scientific understanding of a full range of living systems, from molecules to ecosystems, by teaching students to understand how data is generated, presented and interpreted, and how scientific discovery spurs technological growth and impacts society.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> General Biology, Physical Anthropology, Environmental Biology, Marine Biology</p> <p><i>Beginning fall 2022, courses must include an in-person lab component. Online or hybrid labs are not acceptable. Exceptions MAY be made for courses taken before fall 2022 if they were intended to be completed in person but moved online due to COVID-19.</i></p> <p><b>Not acceptable:</b> Anatomy, Botany, Environmental Science, Intro to Psychology, Zoology</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC	<p>Courses that meet this requirement analyze natural phenomena through quantitative description and synthesis, teaching students to solve scientific problems and to understand the processes by which scientific knowledge is obtained, evaluated and placed in the context of societal relevance.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> General Chemistry, Chemistry for Allied Health, General Physics, Oceanography, Elementary Astronomy, Physical Geography, Historical Geology, Physical Geology</p> <p><i>Beginning in fall 2022, courses must include an in-person lab component. Online or hybrid labs are not acceptable. Exceptions MAY be made for courses taken before fall 2022 if they were intended to be completed in person but moved online due to COVID-19.</i></p> <p><b>Not acceptable:</b> Preparatory Chemistry</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC	<p>Courses that meet this requirement teach students to use a set of formal tools, such as logical or statistical inference, probability, or mathematical analysis to pose and evaluate hypotheses, claims, questions, or problems within a formal mode of thought.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Pre-Calculus, College Algebra, Statistics, Finite Math, Calculus, Math for Liberal Arts, Calculus for Business</p> <p><b>Meeting this requirement with math placement test scores:</b> Students may meet this requirement by earning a score of 22 on the USC Mathematics Placement Exam under certain conditions. Visit <a href="https://dornsife.usc.edu/ge/policies">dornsife.usc.edu/ge/policies</a> for more information.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC						

## GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

GE-G	Equity in a Diverse World	GE-H	Traditions and Historical Foundations
<p>Courses that meet this requirement enhance understanding of citizenship and moral agency in today's increasingly global society by teaching students to identify social, political, economic and cultural forces that bear on human experience in the U.S. and around the world.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> Intro to International Relations, Intro to Peace and Conflict Studies, Contemporary Moral Issues</p> <p><b>Not acceptable:</b> Courses that consider these issues in the context of a single country, such as the U.S.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC	<p>Courses that meet this requirement examine the historical and cultural foundations of contemporary societies over a substantial period of time by teaching students to understand the enduring influence of literary, political, economic, philosophical, legal, ethical and religious traditions.</p> <p><b>Examples of acceptable courses:</b> Art History (must include cultural context), History of Architecture (must include cultural context), Music History, History of Religion, History of [a particular region], History of Theatre, Western Civilization, World Civilization, U.S. History, Old Testament, New Testament, Mythology (Greek/Roman/World)</p> <p><b>Not acceptable:</b> Intro to Religion (general); modern or contemporary history courses focused on the 20th century or later</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC		

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

<p>Many degree programs require the third-level course of a foreign language. See the "Foreign Lang." column next to your intended major on pages 12-15. Students are encouraged to begin, if not finish, this requirement before transferring.</p> <p>Once at USC, transfers needing additional studies in foreign language must complete a placement exam before being allowed to register for courses.</p> <p>Students attending schools on the quarter system must complete the fifth-level course of a foreign language to satisfy this requirement. At some semester schools, a fourth-level course is equivalent to the third level at USC.</p> <p>A score of 4 or higher on an AP foreign language exam (other than Latin) can fulfill this requirement.</p> <p>Language courses taken fully or partially online do not satisfy this requirement.</p> <p><i>Exceptions MAY be made for courses taken before fall 2022 if they were intended to be completed in person but moved online due to COVID-19.</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC
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## MAJOR-RELATED COURSES

<p>Use this space to record courses for your intended major listed on pages 12-15.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress
<hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress
<hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress
<hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress
<hr/> <p><b>Course or Exam</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress

# Additional Coursework by Major

A strong application for admission will show solid progress toward your intended degree. The curricula of many undergraduate majors require lower-division, introductory coursework often available at other institutions. Students wishing to be more competitive in the applicant pool should consider completing the suggested courses listed for their major. For majors in business, engineering, real estate development and architecture, completion of these courses is required for admission. Science majors can become stronger candidates for admission by completing the additional coursework listed.

The course numbers listed below are USC course numbers. Please visit [arr.usc.edu/transfercredit](http://arr.usc.edu/transfercredit) to find an equivalent course at the college you attend.

Majors that require a third-level foreign language for graduation are indicated with a checkmark in the "FOREIGN LANG." column.

Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences / <a href="http://dornsife.usc.edu">dornsife.usc.edu</a>		
MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
<b>Astronomy</b>	✓	<b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>MATH 226</b> (Calculus III); <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I); <b>PHYS 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics); <b>PHYS 152</b> (Fundamentals of Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism); <b>PHYS 153</b> (Fundamentals of Physics III: Optics and Modern Physics)
<b>Biological Sciences, Biochemistry</b>	✓	<b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105ab</b> (General Chemistry I and II); <b>PHYS 135a</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I) or <b>PHYS 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics); <b>PHYS 135b</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences II) or <b>PHYS 152</b> (Fundamentals of Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I) <i>Additional lower-division courses in mathematics are required for B.S. programs.</i>
<b>Biophysics, Chemistry, Physics</b>	✓	<b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>MATH 226</b> (Calculus III); <b>CHEM 105ab</b> (General Chemistry I and II); <b>PHYS 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics); <b>PHYS 152</b> (Fundamentals of Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism); <b>PHYS 153</b> (Fundamentals of Physics III: Optics and Modern Physics) <b>Additional recommendations per major:</b> <b>Biophysics also recommends:</b> <b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I) <b>Physics also recommends:</b> <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I)
<b>Computational Neuroscience</b>	✓	<b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry I); <b>PSYC 100</b> (Introduction to Psychology); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>PHYS 135ab</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I and II)
<b>Earth Sciences</b>	✓	<b>GEOL 105</b> (Planet Earth) or <b>GEOL 107</b> (Oceanography); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry I); <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus) or <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>CHEM 105b</b> (General Chemistry II) or <b>PHYS 135a</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I)
<b>Economics</b>	✓	<b>ECON 203</b> (Principles of Microeconomics); <b>ECON 205</b> (Principles of Macroeconomics); <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus) or <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I)
<b>Economics/Mathematics</b>	✓	<b>ECON 203</b> (Principles of Microeconomics); <b>ECON 205</b> (Principles of Macroeconomics); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>MATH 225</b> (Linear Algebra and Linear Differential Equations) or <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I); <b>MATH 226</b> (Calculus III)
<b>Environmental Science and Health</b>	✓	<b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105ab</b> (General Chemistry I and II) <i>For details regarding other course requirements visit <a href="http://dornsife.usc.edu/environmental-studies/environmental-science-and-health-major">dornsife.usc.edu/environmental-studies/environmental-science-and-health-major</a>.</i>
<b>Geological Sciences</b>	✓	<b>CHEM 105ab</b> (General Chemistry I and II); <b>GEOL 105</b> (Planet Earth); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>PHYS 135a</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I) or <b>PHYS 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics) or <b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>PHYS 135b</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences II) or <b>PHYS 152</b> (Fundamentals of Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism) or <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology)
<b>Health and Human Sciences</b>	✓	<b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry I)
<b>Human Biology</b>	✓	<b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105ab</b> (General Chemistry I and II);* <b>MATH 108</b> (Contemporary Precalculus); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I);* <b>PHYS 135a</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I) or <b>PHYS 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics)* <i>*Not required for the B.A.</i>

## Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences / dornsife.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
International Relations	✓	Requires a fourth-level course of foreign language for degree completion.
International Relations (Global Business)	✓	<b>ECON 203</b> (Principles of Microeconomics); <b>ECON 205</b> (Principles of Macroeconomics); <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus)
International Relations & the Global Economy	✓	
Mathematics, Applied and Computational Mathematics	✓	<b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>MATH 225</b> (Linear Algebra and Linear Differential Equations); <b>MATH 226</b> (Calculus III); <b>MATH 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics)* *Only required for the B.S. in Mathematics.
Neuroscience	✓	<b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry I); <b>PSYC 100</b> (Introduction to Psychology); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I) <i>The B.S. program in Neuroscience also requires CHEM 105b and PHYS 135ab.</i>
Physics/Computer Science	✓	<b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>MATH 225</b> (Linear Algebra and Linear Differential Equations); <b>MATH 226</b> (Calculus III); <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I); <b>PHYS 151</b> (Fundamentals of Physics I: Mechanics and Thermodynamics); <b>PHYS 152</b> (Fundamentals of Physics II: Electricity and Magnetism)
Political Science	✓	<b>POSC 100</b> (Theory and Practice of American Democracy); <b>POSC 120</b> (Comparative Politics)
Psychology	✓	<b>PSYC 100</b> (Introduction to Psychology); <b>MATH 114</b> (Foundation of Statistics)
Sociology	✓	<b>SOCI 200</b> (Introduction to Sociology)
All other majors	✓	Courses vary. Visit <a href="http://dornsife.usc.edu/majors">dornsife.usc.edu/majors</a> .

## Iovine and Young Academy / iovine-young.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation (B.S.)		In addition to the Common Application, applicants are required to submit a portfolio of their work. Select candidates will be invited to a virtual admission interview. Please visit the Iovine and Young Academy website for complete details. Please note the Academy curriculum is sequential and may require three to four years at USC to complete, depending on how many General Education courses are satisfied prior to transfer.

## USC School of Architecture / arch.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
Architecture		<b>Required for admission: MATH 108</b> (Contemporary Precalculus) Recommended course: <b>PHYS 125</b> (Physics for Architects) or <b>PHYS 135ab</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I & II) The five-year Bachelor of Architecture program is a professional degree accredited by the National Architecture Accrediting Board (NAAB). All transfer applicants must submit a portfolio directly to the School of Architecture via <a href="http://uscarch.slideroom.com">uscarch.slideroom.com</a> . Consult the School of Architecture program website for instructions. Placement level and the amount of time to complete the studio sequence are dependent on skill level, not unit count. Submit a recommendation from a college/university instructor or your college academic advisor via Slideroom. Letters from high school teachers or counselors will not be accepted. When selecting General Education courses, please focus on Categories B, C, D, G and H. If you are admitted to the B.Arch program, Categories A, E and F will be fulfilled by major requirements.

## Roski School of Art and Design / roski.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
Art (B.A.) Design (BFA) Fine Arts (BFA)	✓	All transfer applicants must upload a portfolio of 10-15 images of recent artwork (completed within the past two years), prompt-based artist essay, and a list of creative accomplishments to <a href="http://roski.slideroom.com">roski.slideroom.com</a> . See Roski website for more details. Submit two letters of recommendation from current or former art instructors via Slideroom. When selecting General Education courses, please focus on Categories C, D, E or F. Categories A, B, G and H will be fulfilled by major requirements. All studio courses taken outside USC are subject to an online portfolio review by Roski faculty prior to granting credit for them. For this reason, if you are admitted, prepare to submit additional portfolios of appropriate artwork and syllabi for each art or design course taken.

Majors that require a third-level foreign language for graduation are indicated with a checkmark in the "FOREIGN LANG." column.

### Marshall School of Business & Leventhal School of Accounting / marshall.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
<b>Business &amp; Accounting</b>		<p><b>Required for admission:</b> <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus) or <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I)</p> <p>The calculus course must be completed by the end of the spring semester for admission consideration. Fall completion is preferred.</p> <p>All upper-division business core courses and major electives must be taken at USC. Business courses completed at another college or university may earn general elective credit.</p> <p><b>In addition:</b></p> <p>It is recommended that students complete General Education courses, as well as financial and managerial accounting.</p> <p>Please note that prospective Accounting majors must first enter the Marshall School of Business as Business Administration majors. A formal request to transfer to the Leventhal School of Accounting can be made once the resident accounting course or courses are successfully completed.</p>

### USC School of Cinematic Arts / cinema.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
<b>Animation + Digital Arts (BFA)</b>		<p>To better prepare for all Cinematic Arts majors, students are encouraged to complete the transferable General Education categories, in addition to the math, writing and foreign language requirements. Cinematic Arts programs are project intensive, and completion of transferable General Education courses will allow students to better focus on Cinematic Arts courses.</p> <p><b>Animation + Digital Arts applicants:</b> The undergraduate animation program is a four-year sequential program of study. General Education and elective units may count in transfer. Animation applicants are not required to complete a foreign language requirement.</p> <p><b>Film &amp; Television Production applicants:</b> To be considered for admission, applicants must first obtain 48 transferable semester units (excluding AP &amp; IB). This total may include units in progress during the fall or spring semester. As such, the average time for transfer admits to complete their degrees is 2.5 years at USC.</p> <p><b>Game Art applicants:</b> Students transferring from outside USC are admitted as sophomores and follow a non-negotiable, three-year course plan for their required major coursework.</p> <p><b>Game Development and Interactive Design applicants:</b> Students transferring from outside USC are admitted as sophomores and follow a non-negotiable, three-year course plan for their required major coursework.</p> <p><b>Media Arts + Practice applicants:</b> Students transferring from outside USC are admitted as sophomores and follow a non-negotiable, three-year course plan for their required major coursework. General Education and elective units may count in transfer.</p> <p><b>Themed Entertainment applicants:</b> Students transferring from outside USC are admitted as sophomores and follow a non-negotiable, three-year course plan for their required major coursework.</p> <p><b>Writing for Screen &amp; Television applicants:</b> The undergraduate writing program is a four-year sequential program of study. General Education and elective units may count in transfer. Writing applicants are not required to complete a foreign language requirement.</p> <p>The deadline for all BFA programs is December 1, 2023. The transfer application deadline for all other programs is February 15, 2024.</p> <p>In addition to the Common Application, all undergraduate applicants must submit a SlideRoom application for supplemental and portfolio materials. Visit <a href="http://cinema.usc.edu/admissions/apply.cfm">cinema.usc.edu/admissions/apply.cfm</a> for detailed information regarding required supplemental materials.</p>
<b>Cinema &amp; Media Studies (B.A.)</b>	✓	
<b>Film &amp; Television Production (B.A.)</b>	✓	
<b>Game Art (BFA)</b>		
<b>Game Development and Interactive Design (BFA)</b>		
<b>Media Arts + Practice (B.A.)</b>	✓	
<b>Themed Entertainment (BFA)</b>		
<b>Writing for Screen &amp; Television (BFA)</b>		

### Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism / annenberg.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
<b>Communication</b>	✓	<p>The best preparation for an Annenberg major is progress toward completing the USC General Education program and having completed at least one level of a foreign language.</p> <p><b>In addition:</b></p> <p>A letter of recommendation is optional.</p> <p><b>Communication applicants:</b> Communication courses taken at another college or university will not count toward the Communication major.</p> <p><b>Journalism and Public Relations applicants:</b> You may transfer in a maximum of 12 units of advertising, journalism and public relations courses for elective credit only.</p> <p>Please visit <a href="http://annenberg.usc.edu/admissions/undergraduate-applicants">annenberg.usc.edu/admissions/undergraduate-applicants</a> for detailed information.</p>
<b>Journalism</b>	✓	
<b>Public Relations and Advertising</b>	✓	

### Kaufman School of Dance / kaufman.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
<b>Dance (BFA)</b>		<p>In addition to the Common Application, all applicants are required to submit the USC Kaufman Portfolio, which includes a pre-screening video, a dance résumé and photographs, via SlideRoom.</p> <p>Select students will be invited to audition.</p> <p>Please visit <a href="http://kaufman.usc.edu/apply">kaufman.usc.edu/apply</a> for complete details.</p> <p>Please note that although current USC and transfer students are welcome to apply, the BFA program requires four years to complete at USC.</p>

### USC School of Dramatic Arts / dramaticarts.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
<b>Theatre (B.A.)</b>	✓	<p>There is no audition or portfolio review component for B.A. applicants. The B.A. deadline for transfer applicants is February 15, 2024.</p> <p>BFA applicants are required to submit pre-screen materials or a portfolio. A select number of applicants will be invited for a second round of review. The BFA deadline for all applicants is December 1, 2023.</p> <p>In addition to submitting the Common Application, all applicants must complete a supplemental application in SlideRoom via <a href="http://uscdramaticarts.slideroom.com">uscdramaticarts.slideroom.com</a>.</p>
<b>Theatre (BFA)</b>		



## Viterbi School Of Engineering / viterbiadmission.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Engineering & Computer Science (all majors)

Applicants to any engineering or computer science degree program are strongly encouraged to review the detailed instructions and transfer course plans at [viterbiadmission.usc.edu/transfer](http://viterbiadmission.usc.edu/transfer). Specific instructions and counseling vary by degree program.

**Required for admission:** Two courses of calculus (or higher-level math beyond calculus) after high school with a minimum of **MATH 126** (Calculus II) in-progress at the point of application.

**Science or Computer Programming courses:** All applicants must complete lab-based science or computer programming courses as determined by their desired major at USC. Please see the above Viterbi School transfer website for specific course advisement.

## Davis School Of Gerontology / gero.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Human Development and Aging (Health Science track)

Courses recommended for the **Health Science track** include:

**BISC 120** (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); **BISC 220** (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); **CHEM 105ab** (General Chemistry I and II); **MATH 125** (Calculus I); **PHYS 135ab** (Physics for the Life Sciences I and II); **CHEM 322ab** (Organic Chemistry I and II)

### Human Development and Aging (Social Science track)



*There is no foreign language requirement for the Health Science track.*

### Lifespan Health



*Students pursuing the Human Development and Aging (Social Science track) and Lifespan Health degrees must meet a foreign language or computer programming requirement.*

## Gould School of Law / gould.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Legal Studies (B.S.)

There are no specific recommended preparatory courses. However, classes taken in the following fields will be valuable to entering students: writing, history, political science, and English, along with social sciences and humanities-related classes.

## Keck School of Medicine / keck.usc.edu | pphs.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Global Health



**BISC 220** (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); **CHEM 105a** (General Chemistry); **ECON 203** (Principles of Microeconomics); **MATH 125** (Calculus I)

### Health Promotion and Disease Prevention



**BISC 120** (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); **BISC 220** (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); **CHEM 105a** (General Chemistry); **MATH 108** (Contemporary Precalculus) or **MATH 125\*** (Calculus I); **PSYC 100** (Introduction to Psychology)

*\*Required for pre-health students.*

## Thornton School of Music / music.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Music Industry (B.S.)

The B.S. in Music Industry requires four units of Economics coursework, which can be satisfied with any **ECON** course number 100-499.

In addition to the Common Application, all undergraduate applicants must submit a Thornton SlideRoom Portfolio. The transfer application deadline for all Thornton programs is December 1, 2023. Visit [music.usc.edu/admission](http://music.usc.edu/admission) for detailed information about how to apply and required supplemental materials. Visit [music.usc.edu/admission/transfer](http://music.usc.edu/admission/transfer) for more information about transferring to the Thornton School.

## Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences / mann.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Biopharmaceutical Sciences (B.S.)

**MATH 108** (Contemporary Precalculus); or **MATH 118** (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus); or **MATH 125\*** (Calculus I); **BISC 120\*** (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); **BISC 220** (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); **CHEM 105a** (General Chemistry); **CHEM 105b** (General Chemistry)

### Pharmacology and Drug Development (B.S.)

*\*Required for pre-pharmacy students.*

## Price School of Public Policy / priceschool.usc.edu

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	RECOMMENDED PREPARATION
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### Public Policy

**MATH 117** (Introduction to Mathematics for Business and Economics); **ECON 203** (Principles of Microeconomics)

### Real Estate Development

**Required for admission:** The Real Estate Development major requires **ECON 203** (Principles of Microeconomics) and one of the following: **MATH 117** (Introduction to Mathematics for Business and Economics), **MATH 118** (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus) or **MATH 125** (Calculus I).

### Urban Studies and Planning

# Transfer Credit Policies

## Units That Must Be Earned at USC

With a few exceptions, transfer students must complete a minimum of 64 units in residence at USC, or half the units typically required for graduation.

### While in residence at USC, you are also expected to:

- Complete all upper-division units in your major and minor.
- Complete WRIT 340, a minimum of two Core Literacy GE courses from a Dornsife College department, and any remaining General Education courses not taken before entering USC.
- Take all your fall and spring semester courses for credit at USC. Courses may be taken at other institutions only during summer sessions, with limitations.

### Exceptions:

- **Engineering 3+2 Program:** Students must complete a minimum of 48 units in residence at USC. At least two out of three years of any transferable coursework must be completed at one of USC's four-year partner institutions.
- **Bachelor of Architecture:** Students must earn at least 80 units at USC. A maximum of 70 of the transferable units for this program may be earned elsewhere.

## Transfer Unit Limits

### USC limits the transfer of credit in certain categories. You may transfer up to:

- Sixty-four (64) units of credit from other institutions, except where noted.
- Four (4) units each of English as a Second Language, physical education activity courses and music ensemble courses.
- Eight (8) units of dance.
- Twelve (12) units of physical education theory courses.
- Sixteen (16) units of individual instruction in music.
- Other studio and performing arts classes are also limited.
- Check with your advisor for more information.

## Courses/Units That Will Transfer

**Accredited courses:** Coursework completed at, or degrees from, U.S. institutions accredited by the six regional accrediting agencies are generally accepted. Coursework completed at international post-secondary institutions approved by the local Ministry of Education as degree-granting institutions may also transfer.

**Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), A-Level and other standardized examinations:** We accept a maximum of 32 units for standardized examinations.

Please visit [arr.usc.edu/transfercredit](http://arr.usc.edu/transfercredit) for a list of standardized exams and the course requirements they fulfill.

**College courses taken during high school:** We accept a maximum of 16 units, which are included in the 32-unit combined maximum for exam credits. These courses must be part of the regular college curriculum, taught by college faculty and open to all full-time students at that college. They can fulfill General Education requirements, but they cannot fulfill the writing or foreign language requirements nor receive equivalence to USC courses.

## Courses/Units That May Transfer

**Nontraditional formats/time frames:** Distance-learning, online courses, concentrated "intensive" sessions, special weekend modules, and other nontraditional course formats and time frames will be considered by petition, and credit is granted on a case-by-case basis. Be sure to keep copies of course syllabi, exams and papers, as we may ask for these in making our determination.

Please note that elective units only—not equivalence to USC courses or fulfillment of requirements—are granted for foreign language and laboratory science courses taught via distance learning, TV, or in an online or correspondence course.

*Exceptions MAY be made for foreign language or laboratory science courses taken before fall 2022 if they were intended to be completed in person but moved online due to COVID-19.*



## Courses/Units That Will Not Transfer

### Unaccredited institutions:

Coursework or degrees completed at U.S. institutions not accredited by a regional accrediting agency.

**Low grades:** Courses in which your grade was lower than C- (1.7).

**No degree credit:** College extension courses and courses taken at international institutions not credited toward a degree at that college.

**Courses in areas of study not offered by USC:** These include agriculture, business office procedures, hotel management, food services, industrial mechanics, interior design, fire science, forestry, police academy, and similar professional and technical programs.

**Duplicated material:** Standardized exams or college courses covering the same material.

**Life and work experience:** Including portfolio work, continuing education, equivalency examination units, and courses offered by business and governmental agencies (even if evaluated by the American Council on Education).

**Placement exams:** Courses and/or unit credits awarded by another institution for placement exams or credit by exam.

**Remedial/college prep/personal development:** Including mathematics courses below the level of college-level algebra. (Intermediate Algebra, USC's minimum math requirement for admission, is not transferable.)

**Nontraditional formats at two-year colleges:** Including independent study, directed study, correspondence courses, internships and travel courses.

**Graduate-level courses:** Graduate-level coursework taken by undergraduate students.

## Determining Your Transfer GPA

USC calculates your transfer GPA on the basis of your grades in all USC-transferable courses, including grades of D and below. Plus and minus grading is taken into account. Expired incompletes, unofficial withdrawals and missing grades are treated as an "F". Credit/No Credit and Pass/No Pass marks are not included in the transfer GPA.

USC does not honor other colleges' academic "renewal" or "forgiveness" programs that permit students to improve a substandard grade. If you repeat a transferable course for which you earned a grade of D+ or lower, both grades will be included in your transfer GPA. If the grade on the first course was a C- or higher, only the first grade is included.

Your transfer GPA is different from the GPA earned in courses you take at USC. The transfer GPA and your USC GPA are kept separate until it is time to determine if you are eligible to graduate and earn graduation honors, as described in the *USC Catalogue*.

## Academic Standards and Requirements

The *USC Catalogue* is the document of authority on policy matters, and it changes from time to time. It provides complete information about academic standards governing coursework taken at other colleges, as well as specific requirements for your major field. Please visit [catalogue.usc.edu](http://catalogue.usc.edu) for the most current version.

# Financial Aid

USC administers one of the largest financial aid programs in the United States, with a long tradition of meeting the full USC-determined financial need of applicants who meet all eligibility requirements and deadlines. In the 2022-2023 academic year, more than \$814 million in financial aid was awarded from all sources to more than 15,000 undergraduate students.

## 2023-2024 Estimated Cost of Attendance

The following are estimated costs for a full-time USC undergraduate (taking 12-18 units each semester) living in university housing:

<b>Tuition</b>	<b>\$66,640</b>
<b>Fees</b>	<b>\$1,597</b>
<b>Housing</b>	<b>\$11,910</b>
<b>Food and meal plan</b>	<b>\$7,290</b>
<b>Books and supplies</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>
<b>Personal and miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$1,820</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>\$464</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$90,921</b>

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

### Financial Aid Calculators

[financialaid.usc.edu/calculators](https://financialaid.usc.edu/calculators)

Receive an initial estimate of any need-based financial aid you may qualify for. Designed specifically for transfer students, the **MyinTuition Quick Cost Calculator** does not require detailed financial information and takes only a few minutes to use.

Undergraduate financial aid includes federal, state and university need-based grants; merit scholarships; and Federal Work-Study and loans\* for students and parents.

More than two-thirds of USC undergraduates receive some form of financial aid. In 2022-2023, more than 80 percent of aid was in the form of grants and scholarships. Merit scholarships and need-based grants are awarded on the basis of academic merit and/or demonstrated need and do not need to be repaid.

To apply for financial aid, you must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the CSS Profile. **Transfer students must apply by March 4, 2024, to be considered for all available funding and to ensure timely notification of their financial aid eligibility.**

The USC Payment Plan and other payment options are also available. Please visit [sfs.usc.edu](https://sfs.usc.edu) for more information.

*\*Federal student loans are required by law to provide a range of flexible repayment options, including but not limited to Income-Based Repayment and Income-Contingent Repayment plans, as well as loan forgiveness benefits, which other student loans are not required to provide. Direct Loans are available to students regardless of income.*



# Learn More

A number of resources are available for transfer students—including housing, the Veterans Resource Center, and Academic Counseling Services—which can help ease the transition to life at USC.

## Housing

Most USC students prefer to live near campus. Although university-owned housing may be available, housing for transfer students is not guaranteed, and many students choose to rent privately owned apartments nearby. Visit [housing.usc.edu](https://housing.usc.edu) to learn more.

## USC Veterans Resource Center

Through an array of affiliated services and programs, the USC Veterans Resource Center helps ease the transition to USC for military veterans. Services range from academic and career counseling, to financial aid and veteran benefits information, to religious life. For more information, please visit [vrc.usc.edu](https://vrc.usc.edu).

## First Generation Plus Success Center

The First Generation Plus Success Center (FG+SC) serves as a resource hub for current first-generation, undocumented, former foster youth, and transfer students as they navigate campus. The center's mission is to create a culture of belonging and inclusion that will facilitate the transition into college life. For more information, please visit [firstgenplussc.usc.edu](https://firstgenplussc.usc.edu).

## Cultural Centers

Our Student Affairs division operates USC's Student Equity and Inclusion Programs, which focus on intersectionality, belonging and well-being. For more information about these programs, please visit [seip.usc.edu](https://seip.usc.edu).



## Meet Us

Detailed information about events can be found at [admission.usc.edu/meet-us](https://admission.usc.edu/meet-us).

### Transfer Information Sessions

An admission counselor will discuss how courses transfer to USC and what makes for a competitive transfer application.

### Campus Tours

Experience our campus and learn about all that USC has to offer.

### Academic Information Sessions

Hear from department representatives about your specific major and the opportunities available at USC.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Are USC's admission requirements different for students transferring from outside California?

No. Admission requirements are the same for all students, regardless of their state of residence. Also, because USC is a private university, all students are charged the same tuition and fees.

## If my college grades are excellent, but my high school record was just average, could that affect my admission to USC?

If you complete at least 30 transferable college semester units in a strong academic program, our decision focuses primarily on that work. If you have earned fewer than 30 units at the college level, however, your admission will depend on a combination of your high school record, results of any SAT or ACT tests taken during high school, and college courses completed to date.

## What if I did not graduate high school?

If there are special or extenuating circumstances that prevented you from graduating high school, please submit your GED or similar leaving certificate with a statement of explanation. We also require transcripts listing any high school work you did complete. USC does not prefer students who leave high school merely with the intention of starting college earlier. International applicants are also expected to earn the equivalent of a full high school diploma in their home country. If your high school record indicates weak preparation for a rigorous college-level curriculum, we will expect to see a strong turnaround in your college coursework.

## Will it be difficult to transfer to USC's semester schedule if I'm at a quarter-system school?

No. Quarter-system schools are usually compatible with USC's fall and spring-semester start dates. To determine their semester equivalent, divide quarter units earned by 1.5 (for example, 45 quarter units equal 30 semester units). Courses must be at least 4 quarter units to earn equivalence or General Education credit at USC.

## Does USC have a math requirement?

USC expects students to have mastered the equivalent of Intermediate Algebra with at least a C grade. Some programs require students to take a higher level math course before applying to USC. Students who did not complete Advanced Algebra (Algebra II) in high school should plan to take Intermediate Algebra or a more advanced course at the college level.

Students will be required to complete the General Education program to meet degree requirements. Refer to the "Plan Ahead" section of this guide for more detailed information.

Due to disruptions caused by COVID-19, exceptions may apply to courses taken before fall 2022. Please note, however, that transfer applicants must still meet the minimum math requirement by earning a C or better in the required math courses.

## How can I be sure of the exact requirements of my major?

The *USC Catalogue* provides official lists of degree programs and their graduation requirements. Visit [catalogue.usc.edu](https://catalogue.usc.edu) for the most current version. Admission requirements can be found on pages 12-15 of this brochure.

## When will I get my admission decision?

You will receive either an admission decision or a request for more information, such as spring grades, by May 31. If we require more information, you may not receive a decision until mid-July.

## Can you evaluate my credits before I apply to USC?

Credit evaluations are initiated for admitted students only. For help before you apply, access our Transfer Planning Guide at [usc.edu/tpg](https://usc.edu/tpg). (See page 9 for more details.) Additionally, your college transfer counselors can help you review our articulation agreements and admission policies.

## Does the competitiveness of my intended major affect my chances of admission?

In addition to the intended major, we also consider every applicant's second-choice major. Even so, we cannot always find spaces for the many capable students who are not approved for their intended fields of study.

## Can I transfer classes taken Pass/No Pass or Credit/No Credit?

In general, we discourage students from taking required courses on a Pass/No Pass basis when letter grading is available, as this may negatively affect an admission decision. Transfer students can, however, take as many as 24 semester units on a Pass/No Pass basis, including up to four units of GE Core Literacy requirements.

## Exceptions:

- Composition courses cannot be taken as Pass/No Pass.
- If a course is offered only as Pass/No Pass, these limits do not apply.

### **Does USC consider the rigor of my college or university?**

We are primarily concerned with the specific coursework you chose and the grades you earned. We then evaluate your work within the context of your institution.

### **Does USC accept courses used to fulfill the IGETC?**

USC has its own distinct General Education requirements. The Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) was developed for the University of California and California State University systems, and coursework within IGETC does not automatically fulfill our GE requirements. However, courses used to fulfill the IGETC are generally transferable to USC.

### **Can I afford to attend?**

Because we are committed to making a USC education affordable, the university works to meet the USC-determined financial need of all eligible admitted undergraduate students. USC also offers a payment plan and other financing options.

### **How can I find out about scholarships?**

Visit [admission.usc.edu/scholarships](https://admission.usc.edu/scholarships) for complete information. Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines. All students who submit a complete application for admission by February 15, 2024, will be automatically considered for the Transfer Merit Scholarship offered by the Office of Admission.

Many agencies, foundations and corporations also offer scholarships. Check with the financial aid office or transfer center at your current college, search online, or visit a public library for books that list funding sources.

Visit [financialaid.usc.edu](https://financialaid.usc.edu) for information about some of these online sources.

### **Is it possible to attend USC part-time?**

Yes, but it is not common. Part-time students pay the per-unit tuition rate rather than the flat fee, and you must be enrolled at least half-time to qualify for financial aid. Most undergraduate students attend USC on a full-time basis. Undergraduate coursework at USC may not be completed through evening-only or fully online programs.

### **Can I complete my degree at USC by taking evening classes only?**

Probably not. Although some night courses are offered each semester, most of the courses you will need to complete your degree will be offered only during the day.

### **May I apply for the spring semester?**

We do not accept applications for spring admission, but all applicants who apply for fall admission are considered for a place in the following spring semester class.

### **What are the admission requirements for international students?**

In addition to the Common App and supporting materials listed on page 3, international students are required to provide a Financial Statement. In addition, if your native language is not English, you will be required to provide proof of English proficiency. Note that DACA and undocumented students are not considered international applicants. Details can be found at [admission.usc.edu/international](https://admission.usc.edu/international).

### **How can I receive the USC Catalogue?**

The most current version of the *USC Catalogue* is available online at [catalogue.usc.edu](https://catalogue.usc.edu).

### **If I have more questions, where can I find answers?**

Many of your questions—and some you may not have even thought about—will be answered during a Transfer Information Session (see the Meet Us section on page 19 for details).

**We encourage you to check out [admission.usc.edu/](https://admission.usc.edu/) transfer for a wealth of information, or visit [admission.usc.edu/](https://admission.usc.edu/) contact to contact the Office of Admission.**

**You can also find the USC admission counselor for your current school at [admission.usc.edu/](https://admission.usc.edu/) find-your-counselor.**

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](mailto: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](mailto:streetc@usc.edu), (213) 821-4658, 3601 Trousdale Parkway, Bldg. #89, Los Angeles, California 90089.



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