



USC University of  
Southern California

# Transferring to USC 2020





Founded in 1880, the University of Southern California is a top-tier, private research institution 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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# FIGHT ON

## USC at a Glance

**1880**

Founded

**Los Angeles**

Location

**20,000**

Undergraduates Enrolled

**27,500**

Graduate/Professional  
Students Enrolled

**226**

Size of University Park  
Campus in Acres

**8:1**

Student-to-Faculty Ratio

**26**

Average Class Size

**375,000+**

Alumni

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## 2019 Transfer Admitted Student Profile

**9,600**

Applications

**1,400**

Transfer Class Size

**2,200**

Admission Offers

**3.7**

Average College GPA

*as of July 2019*

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## Our Transfer Students Come From...

**49%**

California Community Colleges

**31%**

Colleges Outside California

**9%**

California Private Colleges  
and Universities

**3%**

International  
Colleges and Universities

**7%**

California State University/  
University of California



# Application Process

## The Common Application

To apply, please visit [admission.usc.edu/commonapp](https://admission.usc.edu/commonapp) to complete the Common Application.

## Application Checklist

In addition to the Common App please ensure each item is completed and submitted by the appropriate deadline (see below).

### College Transcripts

Official transcripts from any and all colleges you attended. We need to review your fall term grades, so be sure your current school has posted them before transcripts are sent.

### Official High School Transcripts

High school transcripts must show date of graduation. Students who completed secondary school outside the U.S. may substitute a copy of a diploma or leaving certificate. Students who did not finish high school should also submit a copy of their completion certificate (such as a GED) and may also submit a letter of explanation.

### Major-Related Requirements

Some majors also require an audition, portfolio, professional résumé, letters of recommendation or additional writing samples.

### SAT or ACT Scores

Required from applicants who have completed fewer than 30 semester units of college coursework.

We do not require the optional essay. We do not require the Common Application College Report.

## International students must also submit:

- TOEFL, IELTS or PTE Academic scores**, if the student's native language is not English.
- Financial Statement of Personal or Family Support**

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

## Notification

We will mail either an admission decision or a request for spring term grades by May 31, 2020, to applicants who submitted complete applications by the deadline.



## Application Deadlines

### December 1, 2019

Deadline for some Dramatic Arts, Music and Dance programs, the Iovine and Young Academy, and the Writing for Screen and Television program in Cinematic Arts.

### February 1, 2020

Final transfer deadline for all other programs. Students who apply for admission by February 1 will also be considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

## 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.

### **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  
Biochemistry  
Biological Sciences  
Biophysics  
Central European Studies  
Chemistry  
Classics  
Cognitive Science  
Comparative Literature  
Computational Neuroscience  
Contemporary Latino and Latin American Studies  
Creative Writing  
Earth Sciences

East Asian Area Studies  
East Asian Languages and Cultures (Chinese, Japanese, Korean)  
Economics  
Economics/Mathematics  
English  
Environmental Science and Health  
Environmental Studies  
French  
Gender and Sexuality Studies  
GeoDesign  
Geological Sciences  
Global Geodesign  
Global Studies  
Health and Human Sciences  
Health and Humanity  
History  
Human Biology  
Intelligence and 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 and Physics  
Philosophy, Politics and Economics  
Philosophy, Politics and Law  
Physics  
Physics/Computer Science  
Political Economy  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Religion  
Russian  
Sociology  
Spanish

### **USC School of Architecture**

Architecture, B.ARCH

### **Iovine and Young Academy**

Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation

### **Roski School of Art and Design**

Art, B.A.  
Design, BFA  
Fine Arts, BFA

### **Marshall School of Business**

Business Administration

### **USC School of Cinematic Arts**

Animation and Digital Arts, B.A.  
Cinema and Media Studies, B.A.  
Film and Television Production, B.A.  
Interactive Entertainment, B.A.  
Media Arts and Practice, B.A.  
Writing for Screen and Television, BFA



### **Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism**

Communication  
Journalism  
Public Relations

### **Kaufman School of Dance**

Dance, BFA

### **Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry**

Dental Hygiene  
(junior transfers only)

### **USC School of Dramatic Arts**

Theatre  
Theatre (Acting for Stage,  
Screen and Media), BFA  
Theatre (Design), BFA  
Theatre (Musical Theatre), BFA  
Theatre (Sound Design), BFA  
Theatre (Stage Management),  
BFA  
Theatre (Technical Direction),  
BFA

### **Viterbi School of Engineering**

\*Note: Areas of emphasis are  
indicated in parentheses.

Aerospace  
Astronautical  
Biomedical  
Biomedical (Electrical)  
Biomedical (Mechanical)  
Biomedical (Molecular-Cellular)  
Chemical

Chemical (Biochemical)  
Chemical (Environmental)  
Chemical (Nanotechnology)  
Chemical (Petroleum)  
Chemical  
(Polymer/Materials Science)  
Chemical (Sustainable Energy)  
Civil  
Civil (Building Science)  
Civil (Construction and  
Management)  
Civil (Environmental)  
Civil (Structural)  
Civil (Water Resources)  
Computer Engineering  
and Computer Science  
Computer Science  
Computer Science (Games)  
Computer Science/  
Business Administration  
Electrical and Computer  
Environmental  
Industrial and Systems  
Mechanical  
Mechanical (Petroleum)

### **Davis School of Gerontology**

Human Development & Aging  
Lifespan Health

### **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 only)  
Music Production  
Popular Music Performance  
Classical Performance  
*Bassoon*  
*Cello*  
*Clarinet*  
*Classical Guitar*  
*Double Bass*  
*Flute*  
*French Horn*  
*Harp*  
*Oboe*  
*Organ*  
*Percussion*  
*Piano*  
*Saxophone*  
*Trombone*  
*Trumpet*  
*Tuba*  
*Viola*  
*Violin*  
*Vocal Arts*

#### **Bachelor of Arts degrees:**

Jazz Performance option  
(Voice only)

#### **Bachelor of Science degree:**

Music Industry

### **USC School of Pharmacy**

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 Practice  
Pre-Teaching

List accurate at time of printing.  
Please refer to the *USC Catalogue*  
online at [catalogue.usc.edu](http://catalogue.usc.edu) for  
an updated list.





# Plan Ahead

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

All transfer students are expected to have acquired skills in English composition and mathematics before admission. We generally require a year of English composition coursework that culminates in a course equivalent to USC's Writing/Composition requirement, WRIT-130. To meet our Math requirement, you need to have earned a minimum grade of C in Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry in high school, or have taken Intermediate Algebra at the college level if you didn't satisfy this requirement in high school. Many programs also require further studies in mathematics.

All students must complete General Education requirements to earn a bachelor's degree, so we expect transfer students to satisfy a good number 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. Ten courses are required in eight categories. With AP/A-Level credit, or with some courses that may

count toward two categories, many students will meet these requirements with fewer. The pages that follow describe the requirements and provide tools to help you identify likely courses at your institution.

Requirements for your intended major are also a factor. You should familiarize yourself with the requirements for your intended degree and make good progress toward satisfying those requirements. 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 introductory, lower-division courses that can be completed before transferring.

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.

## Planning Tools

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 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 courses, as well as the lower-division coursework required for any major. Visit [www.usc.edu/tpg](https://www.usc.edu/tpg), then select your college and your intended major to generate a course list for the current academic year.

### 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).

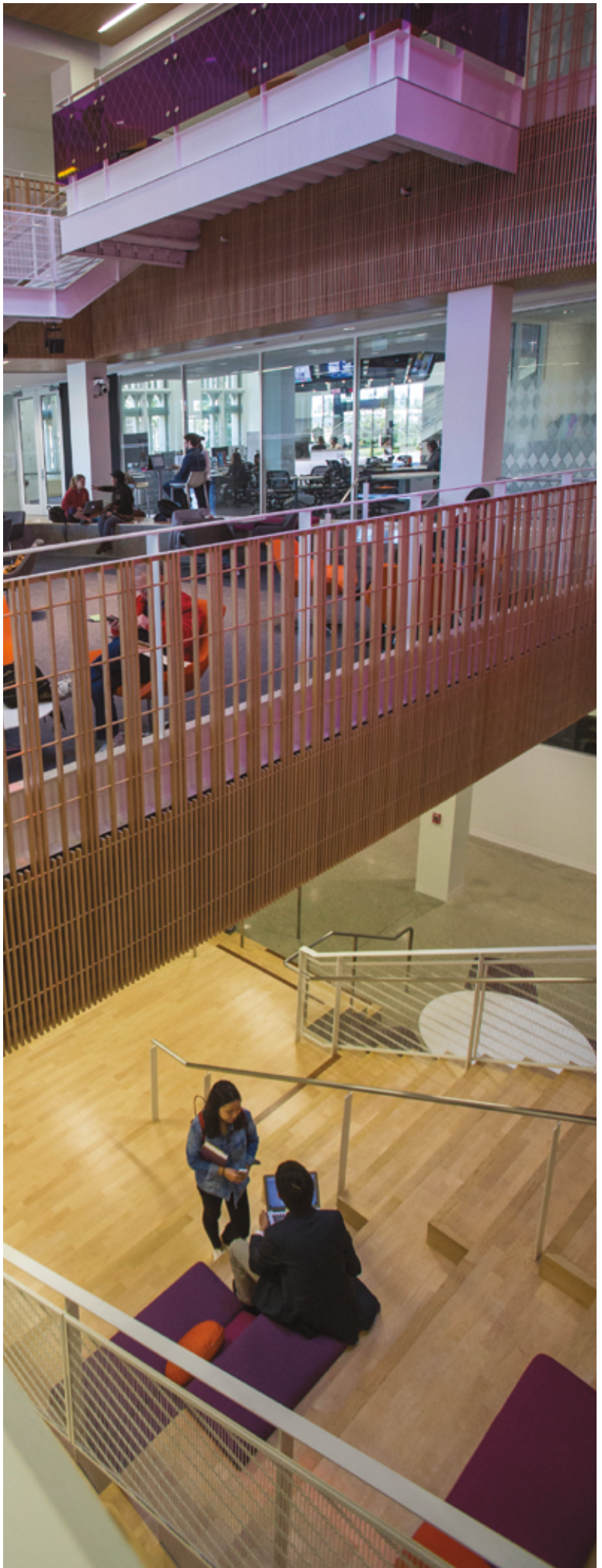
#### Transferring from out-of-state community colleges:

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 college:

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. 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. [arr.usc.edu/services/articulation/histories.html](https://arr.usc.edu/services/articulation/histories.html)



# Essential Transfer Information

## Successful Transfer Applicants Typically:

- Present at least one year of rigorous, full-time academic coursework, with strong grades. In 2018, the average GPA of admitted transfer students was 3.7. Consistent progress toward a degree and strong academic performance greatly influence our admission decisions.
- 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, dental hygiene or business.
- Students whose native language is not English must also demonstrate English-language proficiency.
- Due to the competitive nature of our admission process, meeting these typical academic expectations does not guarantee admission. Students should also make a strong case for their intended major in the Common Application essay.

## IMPORTANT:

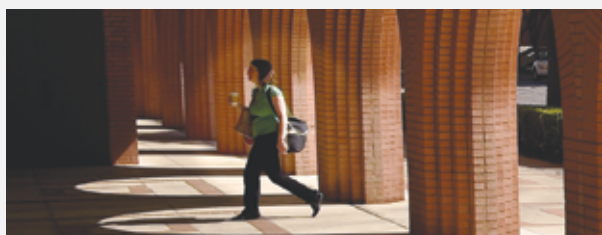
**If you began college in fall 2015 or after (excluding summer terms),** you will need to follow the revised General Education program. These new requirements are outlined in this booklet.

**Students who began college prior to fall 2015 (excluding summer semesters)** will complete the previous General Education requirements and should not follow the GE program outlined in the following pages. Visit [admission.usc.edu/transferplanning](http://admission.usc.edu/transferplanning) to download the Transfer Planning Worksheet for the previous General Education program.

## 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.





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. 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.

**Current high school students, please note:** 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 have earned fewer than 30 transferable semester units, we will base our decision either primarily on your high school record and SAT or ACT scores, or wait to receive your spring-term grades.

### College Transcripts

You must submit official college transcripts from any and all colleges you have attended, regardless of whether or not all coursework or degree requirements were completed. Failure to do so may be viewed as a violation of academic integrity, which could result in revocation of admission and/or dismissal from the university.

### Selecting a Major

Applicants may indicate a first- and second-choice major on the application. We also consider transfer students for “open/undecided” status.

### English Proficiency Requirement

International transfer applicants whose native language is not English must submit a TOEFL, IELTS or PTE Academic score earned within two years of their application date.

### 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.

### Required Courses Taken on a Pass/No Pass Basis

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 of the GE Global Perspectives courses (categories G-H) may be taken on a Pass/No Pass basis. Please note that writing courses (categories A-F) taken on a Pass/No Pass basis will not fulfill USC’s lower-division Writing/Composition requirement.

# Transfer Planning Worksheet

## Students who began college in fall 2015 or after:

The GE requirements on the following pages apply only to students who finished high school and started college in fall 2015 or after.

## Students who began college prior to fall 2015: (excluding summer terms)

You will need to follow our previous General Education program. Visit [admission.usc.edu/transferplanning](http://admission.usc.edu/transferplanning) to download the Transfer Planning Worksheet for the previous General Education Program.

## GENERAL EDUCATION

USC's General Education program is designed to introduce you to the breadth of knowledge you will need to be a well-educated person in the 21st century.

With careful choice of classes, students can meet the following 10 requirements with eight courses:

- 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.
- Two courses in Global Perspectives: one in Citizenship 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 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.

Additional information about the 2015 General Education Program is available at [dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge](http://dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge).

## COURSES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION

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

## WRITING/COMPOSITION

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

Successful transfer applicants will complete a course equivalent to the lower-division requirement, **WRIT 130**, before applying for admission. 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 if your writing course is equivalent to **WRIT 130**, or if it does not appear on any current articulation agreements or histories, keep the syllabus and papers for later review by USC.

.....  
COURSE

Completed    In progress

## MINIMUM MATH Advanced or Intermediate Algebra

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 social sciences, business and architecture at USC require specific mathematics courses and achievement beyond this level. Science and engineering majors can become stronger candidates for admission by completing the additional coursework listed on pages 12-15 of this brochure, or found on the respective departmental website.

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 OR EXAM

Completed    In progress

# GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES RECOMMENDED FOR ADMISSION

## 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> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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, US History, Intro to Religions, Eastern Religion, Western Religion, World Religions, Old Testament, New Testament, Mythology (Greek/Roman/World)</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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 Gender Studies, Intro to Women's Studies, Intro to LGBT Studies, Intro to International Relations, Intro to Peace (or Conflict) Studies, Language and Society, Ethnic-American Histories</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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>Courses must include a lab component. Online or hybrid labs are not acceptable.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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, Intro to Chemistry, General Physics, Oceanography, Elementary Astronomy, Physical Geography</p> <p>Courses must include a lab component. Online or hybrid labs are not acceptable.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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 their 2015 General Education requirement in Quantitative Reasoning with a score of 22 on the USC Mathematics Placement Exam, if that score is earned under certain conditions. Please visit <a href="http://dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge/2015ge-requirements">dornsife.usc.edu/2015ge/2015ge-requirements</a> for complete information.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>

### GE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

### MAJOR-RELATED COURSES

GE-G CITIZENSHIP 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 (or Conflict) Studies.</p> <p><b>NOT ACCEPTABLE:</b> Courses that consider these issues in the context of a single country, like the U.S.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> In progress   <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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 religion], History of Theatre, Western Civilization, World Civilization, US 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> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> In progress   <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>	<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 further 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>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE OR EXAM</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> At USC <input type="checkbox"/> In progress   <input type="checkbox"/> Non-USC</p>
<p>Use this space to record courses listed on pages 12-15 for your intended major.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> In progress</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> In progress</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> In progress</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> In progress</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>COURSE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Completed   <input type="checkbox"/> In progress</p>		

# Additional Coursework by Major

A strong application for admission will show solid progress toward the 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, architecture and dental hygiene, completion of these courses is required for admission. Science and engineering 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/transferecredit](http://arr.usc.edu/transferecredit) to find an equivalent course at the college you attend.

Majors that require a third-level foreign language 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.	
Astronomy	✓	<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)
Biological Sciences, Biochemistry	✓	<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>
Biophysics, Chemistry, Physics	✓	<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 requirements per major:</b> <b>Biophysics also requires:</b> <b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution) and <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology) and <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I) <b>Physics also requires:</b> <b>MATH 245</b> (Mathematics of Physics and Engineering I)
Computational 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); <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II); <b>PHYS 135ab</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I and II)
Earth Sciences	✓	<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)
Economics	✓	<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)
Economics/Mathematics	✓	<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)
Environmental Science and Health	✓	<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>See website for details regarding other course requirements.</i>
Geological Sciences	✓	<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)
Health and Human Sciences	✓	<b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry I)
Health and Humanity	✓	<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>See website for details regarding other course requirements.</i>
Human Biology	✓	<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>

Majors that require a third-level foreign language are indicated with a checkmark in the “Foreign Lang.” column.

**Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences | dornsife.usc.edu**

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
International Relations	✓	Requires a fourth-level course of foreign language.
International Relations (Global Business), International Relations and the Global Economy	✓	<b>ECON 203</b> (Principles of Microeconomics); <b>ECON 205</b> (Principles of Macroeconomics); <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus)
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>PHYS 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) The B.S. program in Neuroscience also requires <b>CHEM 105b</b> and <b>PHYS 135ab</b> .
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. See website for more information.

**Iovine and Young Academy | iovine-young.usc.edu**

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation (B.S.) Design (BFA)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to the Common Application, applicants are required to submit a video proposal and are encouraged to submit a portfolio of creative work. The application deadline is December 1. Select candidates will be invited to a required interview that will take place in late February. Please visit the Iovine and Young website for complete details: <a href="http://iovine-young.usc.edu">iovine-young.usc.edu</a>.</li> <li>Transfer students are welcome to apply but should be aware that the Academy curriculum is cohort-based and requires a full four years to complete at USC.</li> </ul>

**USC School of Architecture | arch.usc.edu**

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (USC course numbers listed)
Architecture		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prerequisite: <b>MATH 108</b> (Contemporary Precalculus). Recommended course(s): <b>PHYS 125</b> (Physics for Architects) or <b>PHYS 135ab</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I &amp; II).</li> <li>The five-year Bachelor of Architecture program is a professional degree accredited by the National Architecture Accrediting Board (NAAB).</li> <li>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 or website for instructions.</li> <li>Placement level and the amount of time to complete the studio sequence are dependent on skill level, not unit count.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>

**Roski School of Art and Design | roski.usc.edu**

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Art (B.A.) Design (BFA) Fine Arts (BFA)	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All transfer applicants must upload a portfolio of 10-15 images of recent artwork (completed within the last two years), artist statement, and a list of creative accomplishments to <a href="http://roski.slideroom.com">roski.slideroom.com</a>. See Roski website for more details.</li> <li>Submit two letters of recommendation from current or former art instructors via Slideroom.</li> <li>When selecting General Education courses, please focus on Categories C, D, E or F, as Categories A, B, G and H will be fulfilled by major requirements.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>

# Planning Your Transfer

Majors that require a third-level foreign language are indicated with a checkmark in the “Foreign Lang.” column.

Marshall School of Business & Leventhal School of Accounting   marshall.usc.edu		
MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (USC course numbers listed)
Business & Accounting		<p>Prerequisites for admission to the Marshall School of Business:  <b>Writing 150</b> (Analytical Writing); <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I) may be substituted for <b>MATH 118</b>.</p> <p>These courses must be completed by the end of the spring semester for admission consideration; fall completion is preferred.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that students complete General Education courses, as well as financial and managerial accounting.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>
USC School of Cinematic Arts   cinema.usc.edu		
MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (USC course numbers listed)
Animation & Digital Arts, (B.A.)	✓	<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>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.</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 transfer application deadline for all programs, except Writing for Screen &amp; Television, is February 1, 2020. The deadline for the Writing for Screen and Television program is December 1, 2019.</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>
Cinema & Media Studies, (B.A.)	✓	
Film & Television Production, (B.A.)	✓	
Interactive Entertainment, (B.A.)	✓	
Media Arts + Practice, (B.A.)	✓	
Writing for Screen & Television, (BFA)		
Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism   annenberg.usc.edu		
MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (USC course numbers listed)
Communication	✓	<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. You may transfer in a maximum of 64 units of credit for all majors.</p> <p><b>In addition:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit a letter of recommendation from a college instructor or college academic adviser.</li> <li>Include a 250-word response to the Annenberg supplemental question.</li> <li><b>Communication Applicants:</b> Communication courses taken at another college or university will not count toward the Communication major.</li> <li><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.</li> <li>Please visit <a href="http://annenberg.usc.edu/transfer">annenberg.usc.edu/transfer</a> for the complete Annenberg transfer guidelines.</li> </ul>
Journalism	✓	
Public Relations	✓	
Kaufman School of Dance   kaufman.usc.edu		
MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (USC course numbers listed)
Dance (BFA)		<p>In addition to the Common Application, all applicants are required to submit the Kaufman School Supplement, which includes a pre-screening video, a dance résumé and photographs, via SlideRoom. The deadline to apply is December 1. Select students will be invited to audition live.</p> <p>Please visit <a href="http://kaufman.usc.edu/admission">kaufman.usc.edu/admission</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>
Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry   dentistry.usc.edu		
MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (USC course numbers listed)
Dental Hygiene		<p>The Dental Hygiene Supplemental Application is required and can be downloaded from <a href="http://dentistry.usc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/how-to-apply">dentistry.usc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/how-to-apply</a>. The deadline is February 1.</p> <p>Prerequisites for admission into the Dental School include courses comparable to:</p> <p><b>BISC 120L</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>CHEM 105ab</b> (General Chemistry I and II); <b>PSYC 100</b> (Introduction to Psychology); <b>SOCI 200</b> (Introduction to Sociology)</p> <p>These courses must be taken prior to enrolling at USC. Please contact the School of Dentistry or visit our website for a complete list of requirements.</p>

Majors that require a third-level foreign language are indicated with a checkmark in the “Foreign Lang.” column. Majors that have other foreign language requirements are indicated with an asterisk (\*) in the “Foreign Lang.” column.

### USC School of Dramatic Arts | [dramaticarts.usc.edu](http://dramaticarts.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Theatre (B.A.) Theatre (BFA)	✓	All undergraduate transfer applicants must submit a supplemental application via <a href="http://usc.dramaticarts.slideroom.com">usc.dramaticarts.slideroom.com</a> . <i>BFA applicants will be expected to schedule an audition or portfolio interview for admission consideration.</i>

### Viterbi School Of Engineering | [viterbiadmission.usc.edu](http://viterbiadmission.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Engineering & Computer Science (All Majors)		<b>Math Courses:</b> All applicants to the Viterbi School should take a minimum of <b>MATH 126</b> (Calculus II). <b>Science Courses:</b> Science courses vary by major. Applicants are strongly encouraged to visit <a href="http://viterbiadmission.usc.edu/transfer/#plans">viterbiadmission.usc.edu/transfer/#plans</a> to review specific transfer course plans for individual engineering and computer science degree programs. Math and science courses may be in-progress during the spring semester.

### Davis School Of Gerontology | [gero.usc.edu](http://gero.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Human Development and Aging (Health Science Track) Human Development and Aging (Social Science Track) Lifespan Health	✓ ✓ ✓	Courses recommended for the Health Science track include: <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 125</b> (Calculus I); <b>PHYS 135ab</b> (Physics for the Life Sciences I and II); <b>CHEM 322ab</b> (Organic Chemistry I and II) <i>There is no foreign language requirement for the Health Science track.</i> <i>Students pursuing the Human Development and Aging (Social Science track) and Lifespan Health degrees must meet a foreign language or computer programming requirement.</i>

### Keck School of Medicine | [keck.usc.edu](http://keck.usc.edu) | [hdpd.usc.edu](http://hdpd.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Global Health	✓	<b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry); <b>ECON 203</b> (Principles of Microeconomics); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I)
Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	✓	<b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry); <b>MATH 116</b> (Mathematics for the Social Sciences) or <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I) (required for pre-health students); <b>PSYC 100</b> (Introduction to Psychology)

### Thornton School of Music | [music.usc.edu](http://music.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Music Industry (B.S.) Music (B.A.) - Jazz Voice	 ✓	The B.S. in Music Industry requires four units of Economics coursework, which can be satisfied with any ECON course number 100-499.

### USC School of Pharmacy | [pharmacyschool.usc.edu](http://pharmacyschool.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Pharmacology and Drug Development (B.S.)		<b>MATH 108</b> (Contemporary Precalculus); <b>MATH 118</b> (Fundamental Principles of the Calculus); <b>MATH 125</b> (Calculus I)*; <b>BISC 120</b> (General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution); <b>BISC 220</b> (General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology); <b>CHEM 105a</b> (General Chemistry); <b>CHEM 105b</b> (General Chemistry)  <i>*Required for pre-pharmacy students.</i>  <i>Additional requirements for transfer students on the pre-pharmacy track.</i>

### Price School of Public Policy | [priceschool.usc.edu](http://priceschool.usc.edu)

MAJOR	FOREIGN LANG.	
Public Policy Real Estate Development Urban Studies and Planning		<b>MATH 117</b> (Introduction to Mathematics for Business and Economics) and <b>ECON 203</b> (Principles of Microeconomics)

# Transfer Credit Policies

## Units That Must Be Earned at USC

Transfer students must complete a minimum of 64 units in residence at USC, or half the units typically required for graduation. A few exceptions are noted below.

### 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, 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. Two-thirds 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 an advisor.

## 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/transferecredit](http://arr.usc.edu/transferecredit) 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, included in the 32-unit combined maximum for exam credits. These courses must be taught by college faculty on a college campus, appear on your college transcript as part of the regular college curriculum and must not be applied to your high school diploma. 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

Courses in these categories 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.

### Nontraditional formats/time frames:

Distance-learning, online courses, concentrated “intensive” sessions, special weekend modules, and other nontraditional course formats and time frames.

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.



## 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 less than C- (1.7).

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

### 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:** A standardized exam or college course 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 examinations or credit by exam.

**Remedial/college preparatory/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 USC-determined financial need of applicants who satisfy all eligibility requirements and deadlines. In the 2018-2019 academic year, more than \$641 million in financial aid was provided from all sources to more than 13,800 undergraduate students.

## 2019–2020

### Estimated Cost of Attendance

Tuition (12-18 units for two semesters)	\$57,256
Fees	\$939
Housing	\$9,616
Meal Plan	\$6,300
Books and supplies	\$1,200
Personal and miscellaneous	\$1,564
Transportation	\$584
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$77,459</b>

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

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

Approximately two-thirds of USC undergraduates receive some form of financial aid, most of it in the form of gift aid, which does 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 2, 2020, to be considered for all funding available and to ensure timely notification of their financial aid eligibility.**

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.

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



### NET PRICE CALCULATOR

Find out if you might qualify for need-based financial aid.

Visit our Net Price Calculator to receive an estimate of your cost, based on your family's financial circumstances.

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

\* 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, and 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.

## Visit USC

### Transfer Information Sessions

These one-hour presentations by our admission counselors provide information about the application process, transfer credit policies and academic programs. Question-and-answer sessions follow. Transfer Information Sessions are held on Tuesday afternoons.

### Transfer Days

These comprehensive half-day programs include presentations about the admission process, transfer credit, financial aid and academic programs; a campus tour; and group meetings with representatives of academic departments (if available). Transfer Days are generally held monthly from September through January.

Reservations are required for all programs. Visit [admission.usc.edu/transervisit](https://admission.usc.edu/transervisit) to reserve your space.

## Housing

Most USC students prefer to live near campus. Although university-owned housing may be available, housing for transfer students is extremely limited and not guaranteed. 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 veterans benefits information. For more information, please visit [vrc.usc.edu](https://vrc.usc.edu).

## Academic Counseling Services

Housed within the Office of Undergraduate Programs, Academic Counseling Services (ACS) provides additional advising and academic support to all USC undergraduate students. Students who need academic advising are encouraged to meet with their departmental major advisor first. However, ACS advisors can help transfer students identify challenges in their transition to USC and any obstacles to academic success.

During the academic year, Academic Counseling Services also sponsors TransferMation, a series of one-hour workshops designed to highlight opportunities for transfer students to maximize their USC experience. For more information, please visit [undergrad.usc.edu/services/counseling](https://undergrad.usc.edu/services/counseling).

# Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. 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.

## 2. 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 SAT or ACT tests taken during high school, and college courses completed to date.

## 3. What if I did not graduate high school?

If there are special or extenuating circumstances which prevented you from graduating high school, please submit your GED or similar leaving certificate with a statement of explanation. We do not prefer candidates 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.

## 4. 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.

## 5. 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 [www.usc.edu/tpg](http://www.usc.edu/tpg). (See page 7 for more details.) Additionally, your college transfer counselors can help you review our articulation agreements and admission policies.

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

The *USC Catalogue* provides official lists of degree programs and their requirements. Visit [catalogue.usc.edu](http://catalogue.usc.edu) for the most current version.

## 7. 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 4 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.

## 8. 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. As of fall 2015, USC's new General Education program includes a Quantitative Reasoning requirement. Refer to the Plan Ahead section for more detailed information.

## 9. 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.

**10. Does the competitiveness of my intended major affect my chances?**

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.

**11. 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. Courses used to fulfill the IGETC are generally transferable to USC, however.

**12. 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 admitted undergraduate students. USC also offers a payment plan and other financing options.

**13. How can I find out about scholarships?**

Visit [admission.usc.edu/scholarships](http://admission.usc.edu/scholarships) for complete information. Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines. Students interested in merit scholarships must submit a complete admission application by February 1, 2020. All students who apply for admission by February 1 will be automatically considered for USC Merit Scholarships.

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](http://financialaid.usc.edu) for information about some of these sources. Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/USCFinancialAid](https://www.twitter.com/USCFinancialAid) to find out about additional scholarship opportunities.

**14. 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 online programs.

**15. 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.

**16. May I apply for 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.

**17. How can I receive the USC Catalogue?**

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

**18. 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 USC Transfer Day or Transfer Information Session (see page 19 for details).

We also encourage you to visit [admission.usc.edu/transferring](http://admission.usc.edu/transferring) for a wealth of information, or call the Office of Admission at (213) 740-1111 if you still have questions.

The University of Southern California admits students of any race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical disability or mental disability to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical disability or mental disability in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. The university's full non-discrimination policy can be found on the Web at [policy.usc.edu](http://policy.usc.edu).

The University of Southern California complies with all federal and state laws that protect individuals with disabilities when such modifications and services are necessary to fully access the institution's programs and services. Disability Services and Programs (DSP) provides accommodations and services to enrolled students with disabilities. Applicants and registered students with questions may contact the Office of Disability Services and Programs, at [dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu). The university's ADA/504 Coordinator is Christine Street. She may be reached at [streetc@usc.edu](mailto:streetc@usc.edu).





**Office of Admission**

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