Greetings from sunny Columbia, South Carolina!

On behalf of our faculty, staff, and students, welcome to the University of South Carolina, a place where expectations are exceeded, goals are realized, and boundaries are pushed every day! We’re committed to inspiring a better way of life on campus, in our state and nation, and around the world. We’re proud of our vibrant, welcoming community where people genuinely care.

At South Carolina, we’ve built innovative programs focused on academic excellence, interdisciplinary research, internships, global experiences, and service to others. Our students are practical problem solvers and cutting-edge thinkers ready to excel in today’s global economy and build healthier, safer, and more educated communities. Students leave the university not only as leaders with real-world, marketable skills, but also with a strong sense of community.

As a high school counselor, we understand you are in a unique position to help students with their college admissions and career plans, and your expertise is invaluable to students as they look to the future. This handbook is designed to answer many of your important questions as you help them find a college home. Our admissions staff, including our regional reps and admissions counselors located across the nation and on-campus, are also happy to help.

There truly are no limits to what students can achieve through a University of South Carolina experience. We welcome you and your students to visit any time to see for yourself!

Our best,

Mary Wagner, Ph.D.
Director of Undergraduate Admissions

---

12 Affordability

Estimated Expenses
Scholarships and Grants
Frequently Asked Questions
Application Information

Keep in Touch

Visit sc.edu/admissions/counselorcontact.html to update your information, stay current on our mailing list and receive notifications of counselor-specific events in your area.
COLUMBIA, S.C.

THE REAL SOUTHERN HOT SPOT

Columbia is an unexpected, urban hot spot with roots that are unmistakably Southern. Its natural beauty can be witnessed at the convergence of three rivers lined by a river walk within walking distance from campus. As a mid-size city, it feels more like a small town that’s all grown up with outstanding restaurants, great shopping and a robust arts scene, along with a never-ending roster of live music events, festivals, outdoor adventures and sporting events.

Our city is committed to fostering innovative economic development, boasting more than 30 Fortune 500 companies in the downtown area. Located just two blocks from the State House and in the midst of downtown Columbia, internship and service opportunities abound. Columbia is bursting with growth, creativity and business savvy, and we credit our students for being part of the reason Columbia is such a progressive area.
As the state’s flagship and most comprehensive university, we’re able to offer excellence in academics, state-of-the-art research, countless student organizations and opportunities to learn beyond the classroom through study abroad, internships and community service experiences.

But what really sets us apart is our spirit, warmth and Southern hospitality. There’s a strong connection among all our students — from freshmen through upperclassmen — faculty and the community. It’s a feeling that everyone understands once they step foot onto our campus.

From move-in day to their first job interview, we strive to nurture and grow our students to be successful. No matter what challenges they take on, they’ll always feel connected to their Gamecock family.

**RECENT EMPLOYERS OF USC GRADUATES**

Amazon  
Bank of America  
Bosch  
CNN  
Deloitte  
Disney  
Entertainment Tonight  
Ernst & Young  
ExxonMobil  
Fluor  
Glamour  
Google  
Harper Collins  
IBM  
Johns Hopkins Hospital  
NASCAR  
Palmetto Health  
S.C. School Districts  
Techtronic Industries  
Textron  
Vanguard
$628M technology grant awarded to USC to train the next generation of the STEM workforce

Nation’s Top-Ranked Public Honors College Since 2012
— A Review of Fifty Public Honors Programs

Undergraduate International Business Program
— U.S. News & World Report

Sports Sciences
exercise science, physical education, and sport and entertainment management
— Academic Rankings of World Universities (1st out of 361 surveyed)

ONLY “Leadership with Distinction” awarding institution

TOP 1% of Patent-Producing Universities IN THE WORLD

TOP 20 in the nation for number of study abroad students

#1 IN THE STATE for National Board Certified teachers

TOP 10 RANKING PROGRAMS

Marine Science
Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism
Global Supply Chain and Operations Management
Sport and Entertainment Management

100+ Majors
324+ Unique Degree Programs

47 Nationally Ranked Academic Programs

1 OF 32 public universities to receive the Carnegie Foundation’s “Highest Research Activity” and “Community Engagement” classifications

OF 32
CHOOSE TWO:
Students must select two majors on their application. This ensures the highest consideration for admission. Placement into their first-choice major is based on competitiveness of application. For additional information, visit sc.edu/admissions.

LAW, MEDICAL AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL DEGREES:
Students can study any major and still pursue a law, medical or other health professional degree. The Office of Pre-Professional Advising will help steer each individual in the right direction and create a plan for eventual application to professional school.
CAPSTONE SCHOLARS

Capstone Scholars is a two-year, invitation-only academic enrichment program. It fosters inquiry, personal discovery and a sense of community and is built upon four basic pillars of excellence: academics, leadership, fellowship and service. These scholars complete activities related to all four pillars each semester to provide a well-rounded, beyond-the-classroom experience.

Students live in a supportive atmosphere with other Capstone Scholars. They are encouraged to eat meals with Capstone staff once a week at Gibbes Court Bistro in Capstone residence hall. They also enjoy interacting in regular “Capstone Conversations” with faculty, staff and community leaders.

up to $3,000
for Capstone research grants

students complete a
PERSONAL CHALLENGE
of their choice — anything from conquering a fear of heights to raising funds for a charity — and beyond

students may compete for
$2,000
study abroad grants
SOUTH CAROLINA HONORS COLLEGE

The South Carolina Honors College has long been a national model and is one of the oldest programs of its kind. This “college within a college” is where passionate professors fuel the students’ imaginations with 600+ creative, challenging and often unconventional courses. They require independent thinking, deep exploration, and in some cases, a sense of humor. On average, our students take 54 honors courses during their four years, exceeding the required 45 to graduate “with Honors from the South Carolina Honors College.”

Students may pursue any major offered by the university or a Baccalaureus Artium et Scientiae degree, a unique option that allows students to design their own customized, cross-disciplinary major with the support of faculty advisers. Alternatively, students can earn a joint B.A. (B.S.)/J.D. law degree with the USC School of Law in six years or a BARSC-M.D. degree with the USC School of Medicine in seven years through the Honors College. The Honors College also offers a one-of-a-kind living and learning community and opens doors to many opportunities, including top graduate schools and employment opportunities across the country and around the world.

HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT AWARDS:

- Boren Scholarships and Fellowships
- U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships
- Fulbright Scholarships
- Goldwater Scholarships*
- Knowles Science and Math Teaching Fellowships
- Madison Fellowships
- Marshall Scholarships**
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowships
- NOAA Hollings Scholarships
- Rhodes Scholarships
- Rotary Global Grants
- Truman Scholarships
- Udall Scholarships

*USC has a record of producing Goldwater winners each year for 25 years in a row, and all have been Honors College students

**USC is the only institution in the state that has produced Marshall Scholars, and both were Honors College students.

600+ honors courses available through all 4 years

average number of students per class 16

$9,000 of competitive research funding available to each honors student

#1 NATION’S TOP-RANKED PUBLIC HONORS COLLEGE SINCE 2012
ADMISSIONS
REQUIRED COURSES FOR 2018

Students entering the University of South Carolina in the summer or fall of 2018 are expected to complete the following minimum high school curriculum.

ENGLISH — 4 UNITS
2 units with strong grammar and composition components
1 unit English literature
1 unit American literature
College prep English I, II, III and IV meet this requirement.

MATHEMATICS — 4 UNITS
Algebra I*
Algebra II
Geometry
Algebra III/trigonometry or pre-calculus, calculus, statistics, discrete mathematics or capstone math taken during the senior year

LABORATORY SCIENCE — 3 UNITS
2 units from different fields: biology, chemistry or physics
1 additional unit from biology, chemistry or physics or any other laboratory science with a biology or chemistry prerequisite**

SOCIAL STUDIES — 3 UNITS
1 unit U.S. history
½ unit economics strongly recommended
½ unit government strongly recommended
1 unit of your choice

FOREIGN LANGUAGE — 2 UNITS
Both units must be in the same language.

FINE ARTS — 1 UNIT
Art appreciation, art history or performance in one of the fine arts

ACADEMIC ELECTIVES — 1 UNIT
College-preparatory course in computer science with significant programming content recommended***

PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ROTC — 1 UNIT

*Applied Mathematics I and II may substitute if a student completes Algebra II.
**Courses in earth science, general physical science or introductory or general environmental science for which biology or chemistry is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement. Also, it is strongly recommended that students desiring careers in science, math, engineering or technology take one course in each of the three fields.
***Alternative electives include college-prep courses in English, fine arts, foreign languages, social science, the humanities, laboratory science (excluding those for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite) or math above the level of Algebra II.

Freshman admission to the University of South Carolina is primarily based on high school courses and grades, along with SAT and ACT scores. When warranted, we will also take into consideration factors other than test scores and grades, such as extenuating personal circumstances, activities, leadership and service. Students should forward all test scores from all test attempts of the SAT and/or ACT. We will use the best test score, regardless of test date, in the final admission decision. Only SAT scores from the March 2016 test administration and beyond will be accepted. We must receive all scores, directly from the testing service, by the Feb. 1 credentials deadline. Students should use school code 5818 for the SAT and 3880 for the ACT.

2016 ACADEMIC PROFILE

25,441 freshmen applied 5,104 freshmen enrolled 25,556 total undergraduates 300K alumni worldwide 18:1 student-faculty ratio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALL FRESHMEN</th>
<th>SC HONORS COLLEGE</th>
<th>CAPSTONE SCHOLARS</th>
<th>DEMOGRAPHICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1200-1340 SAT mid-range*</td>
<td>1450-1520 SAT mid-range*</td>
<td>1340-1410 SAT mid-range*</td>
<td>53% female students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-30 ACT mid-range**</td>
<td>31-33 ACT mid-range**</td>
<td>28-31 ACT mid-range**</td>
<td>47% male students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.61-4.39 GPA mid-range</td>
<td>4.53-4.83 GPA mid-range</td>
<td>4.19-4.64 GPA mid-range</td>
<td>20% minority students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Evidence-based reading and writing plus math
**Composite score
USC students received more than $120 million in federal, state and institutional scholarships and grants in 2016.
Estimated college expenses at the University of South Carolina for the 2017-18 academic year are itemized on the chart to the left. Remember, this is the general “sticker price” of attending Carolina, and it does not take into account potential financial aid and scholarship awards. Tuition costs are set by the Board of Trustees in July for the next academic year. Please check sc.edu/admissions for the latest tuition figures.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS:

Estimated college expenses at the University of South Carolina for the 2017-18 academic year are itemized on the chart to the left. Remember, this is the general “sticker price” of attending Carolina, and it does not take into account potential financial aid and scholarship awards. Tuition costs are set by the Board of Trustees in July for the next academic year. Please check sc.edu/admissions for the latest tuition figures.

**TUITION AND FEES ESTIMATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>S.C. RESIDENT</th>
<th>NONRESIDENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUITION, TECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>$12,198</td>
<td>$32,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSING</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEALS</td>
<td>$3,700</td>
<td>$3,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOKS, SUPPLIES</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,398</strong></td>
<td><strong>$44,408</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These figures are estimates for the 2017-2018 academic year. Tuition, housing and meal plan are subject to change by the Board of Trustees. Expenses will vary depending on course selection and miscellaneous personal expenses.

**PROBABILITY OF RECEIVING MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Students who have excellent high school grades and present competitive scores on the SAT or ACT are generally considered for university merit scholarships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA RANGE</th>
<th>SAT/ACT SCORE RANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1160-1270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGHLY LIKELY</td>
<td>24-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIKELY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LESS LIKELY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNLIKELY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This chart is a guide and is not a guarantee for future awards. Each entering class competes with itself, which influences how many students are offered merit awards and the academic credentials necessary to qualify for these awards. Some merit scholarships are based upon additional or alternate criteria (e.g.: valedictorian) and/or may have other eligibility requirements (e.g.: citizenship). All freshman applicants who meet our Early Answer, Honors College or Regular application and credentials deadlines will be considered for university merit scholarships. We’ll look at students’ highest official SAT and ACT scores that we receive by Feb. 1.

**“BEST VALUE IN PUBLIC COLLEGES”**

— KIPLINGER’S 2017
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS

STAMPS SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: up to $20,000 • Four-year value: $90,000
CAROLINA SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $15,000 • Four-year value: $60,000
HAMILTON SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $10,000 • Four-year value: $40,000
• USC’s most prestigious awards
• Nov. 15 application deadline for Honors/Top Scholars application supplement
• Strong academic records, strong school and community leadership
• 2017 recipients averaged 1520 SAT or 34 ACT scores, 4.82 average weighted GPA
• Participation in an invitation-only top scholars weekend Feb. 24-26, 2018
LIEBER SCHOLARS AWARD
Annual value: up to $10,000 • Four-year value: up to $40,000
• National Merit Finalists or National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars
• Consideration begins with PSAT/NMSQT tests junior year of high school
• National Merit Finalists must list USC as first choice through the National Merit Corporation
• The National Hispanic Recognition Program will send us the names of the scholars selected for that program
• This award can be combined with another admissions-issued scholarship
ALUMNI SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $8,000 • Four-year value: $32,000
• 2017 recipients averaged 1554 SAT or 34 ACT scores, 4.92 average weighted GPA
• Outstanding achievement in academics, leadership, talent and service
• USC application and Honors/Top Scholars application supplement deadline is Nov. 15
• Legacy status is not a requirement
TRUSTEES’ ENDOWMENT SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $5,000 • Four-year value: $20,000
• 2017 recipients averaged 1540 SAT or 34 ACT scores, 4.92 average weighted GPA
• Candidates must demonstrate academic talent and financial need
Valedictorian Scholars Award
Annual value: $3,000 • Four-year value: $12,000
• Candidates must be ranked first in their class at the end of the junior year or later (noted on transcript)
DEAN’S SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $3,000 • Four-year value: $12,000
• 2017 recipients averaged 1360 SAT or 30 ACT scores, 4.53 average weighted GPA
• Palmetto Fellows automatically qualify for this award
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $2,000 • Four-year value: $8,000
• 2017 recipients averaged 1353 SAT or 28 ACT scores, 3.99 average weighted GPA
THORNWELL SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $500 • Four-year value: $2,000
• 2017 recipients averaged 1261 SAT or 26 ACT, 4.25 average weighted GPA
PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS AWARD
Annual value: $1,000 • Four-year value: $4,000
• Awarded to students who have been named a Palmetto Fellow and score a minimum of 1450 on the SAT or 32 on the ACT
USC STEM SUPPLEMENT
Annual value: $3,300 freshman year only
• For students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math fields
• Freshman-year-only award to Palmetto Fellows enrolled in STEM-eligible majors
PICKENS SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $500 • Four-year value: $2,000
• USC partnered with Raise.me to offer this scholarship. A student at any South Carolina high school listed in the Pickens description at sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships can start earning money for college beginning in 9th grade. To learn more and set up their account, students may visit raise.me/join/south-carolina.
GAMECOCK GUARANTEE*
Full tuition and technology fees
• Need-based financial and academic support initiative
• Student must be low-income S.C. resident, first-time, full-time freshmen, and the very first in their families to seek a bachelor’s degree
• There is no separate application process. Eligible students must apply for admission by Dec. 1 and submit a FAFSA by March 1.
• Visit sa.sc.edu/guarantee for more information
*May not be combined with any other general university scholarship, except for the Lieber Scholars Award, Presidential Scholars Award and/or USC STEM Supplement

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS

The state of South Carolina offers lottery-funded scholarships that can be added to any university scholarship, making an education even more affordable. For more information about Palmetto Fellows, LIFE and HOPE scholarships, visit sc.edu/admissions and select “Tuition & Scholarships.”

PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP
Annual value: up to $6,700 for the first year
Four-year value: up to $29,200
• Student is awarded up to $6,700 for the first year and up to $7,500 for the next three years
• Palmetto Fellows recipients are not eligible for LIFE or HOPE scholarships
• For the most up-to-date details on the Palmetto Fellows scholarship, please visit che.sc.gov.

LIFE SCHOLARSHIP
Annual value: $5,000 • Four-year value: $20,000
• For the most up-to-date details on the LIFE scholarship requirements, please visit che.sc.gov.

PALMETTO FELLOWS AND LIFE SCHOLARSHIP ENHANCEMENTS
Annual value: up to $2,500 beginning sophomore year
Three-year value: up to $7,500
• Scholarship enhancements are available to students enrolled in certain math and science majors
• Students must have completed 14 hours in mathematics or life or physical science, or any combination of both, during their first year
• Visit sc.edu/financialaid for more information

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP
Annual value: $2,800
• The HOPE scholarship is available during the freshman year only
• Students eligible to receive this scholarship have a final, cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 and they do not qualify for a Palmetto Fellows or LIFE scholarship.
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NONRESIDENTS

STAMPS SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: up to $20,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Enrichment fund: $10,000
Four-year value: up to $167,000
MCNAIR SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $15,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: $137,000
HORSESHOE SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $11,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: $121,000
• USC's most prestigious awards
• Nov. 15 application deadline for Honors/Top Scholars application supplement
• 2017 Recipients averaged 1533 SAT or 34 ACT scores, 4.74 average weighted GPA
• Strong academic records, strong school and community leadership
• Participation in an invitation-only top scholars weekend March 3-5, 2018

LIEBER SCHOLARS AWARD
Annual value: up to $6,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: up to $101,700
• National Merit Finalists or National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars
• Consideration begins with PSAT/NMSQT tests
• National Merit Finalists must list USC as first choice through the National Merit Corporation
• The National Hispanic Recognition Program will send us the names of the scholars selected for that program
• Lieber Scholars Award can be combined with another admissions-issued scholarship
• If selected for two university-issued awards, recipients will receive only one instance of tuition reduction

ALUMNI SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $8,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: more than $109,700
• 2017 recipients averaged 1554 SAT or 34 ACT scores, 4.92 average weighted GPA
• Outstanding achievement in academics, leadership, talent and service
• Application deadline for Honors/Top Scholar application supplement is Nov. 15

COOPER SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $4,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: $93,700
• 2017 recipients averaged 1512 SAT or 33 ACT scores, 4.74 average weighted GPA

MCKISSICK SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $2,000 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: $85,700
• 2017 recipients averaged 1442 SAT or 31 ACT scores, 4.54 average weighted GPA

FLINN SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $500 + tuition reduction to in-state rate
Four-year value: more than $79,700
• 2017 recipients averaged 1391 SAT or 30 ACT scores, 4.23 average weighted GPA

WOODROW SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $500 + tuition reduction
Four-year value: more than $57,500
• 2017 recipients averaged 1326 SAT or 28 ACT scores, 4.26 average weighted GPA

SIMS SCHOLARS AWARD*
Annual value: $500 + tuition reduction
Four-year value: more than $37,800
• 2017 recipients averaged 1299 SAT or 28 ACT scores, 3.61 average weighted GPA

*May not be combined with any other university-issued scholarship, except for Lieber Scholars Award.

All SAT scores listed in this booklet refer to Evidence Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) + Math scores only. All ACT scores refer to the composite score only. All GPA averages refer to weighted core high school GPA. This is calculated using the 18 core academic courses on student transcripts that are required by the university.

“BEST VALUE”
— FORBES 2017

OTHER AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Some academic colleges and departments at the University of South Carolina award scholarships to outstanding new freshmen. Other scholarships are available only after the freshman year. Eligibility and actual award amounts vary. Some departments award scholarships based on information provided with the application for admission, and others require additional action on the student’s part. For a complete list of departmental scholarships, corresponding criteria and application requirements, visit sc.edu/financialaid, select “Scholarships” then “Departmental Scholarships.” You’ll find a variety of scholarships listed.

ATHLETIC GRANTS-IN-AID
Students interested in playing on a Division I NCAA team should talk to their high school coach in their junior year. These awards do not participate in the tuition reduction benefit provided to some nonresident scholarship recipients.
Should students take the SAT or the ACT?
The university does not give any preference to the SAT or ACT. If students submit scores from more than one type of test (SAT or ACT), the university will use their highest score to make the scholarship determination. Their highest SAT score is calculated by taking the highest evidence-based reading and writing score plus math score from all test administrations. For the ACT, their single highest composite score will be used. The university must receive official scores directly from the testing service no later than Feb. 1 in order to use them in scholarship consideration. Only SAT scores from the March 2016 test administration and beyond will be accepted. Students should use school code 5818 for the SAT and 3880 for the ACT.

Should students keep taking the test?
Students should use their own judgment of their abilities to determine whether or not their scores are likely to improve with additional testing. Be aware that members of each class compete among themselves for these awards. Actual award criteria are established annually based on the size and strength of the applicant pool and the availability of scholarships. This year’s scholarship recipients may present higher or lower standardized test scores and GPAs than the averages listed in this booklet. The university does not give any preference to which test students take.

When will your students hear if they’ve been awarded a scholarship?
Most university scholarships are awarded in mid-March for the freshman class entering in the fall. Students will receive notification via email to check their admissions portal. Departmental award notification varies; students should check directly with the department about their schedule.

Will your students hear if they are NOT awarded a scholarship?
The university only sends notification to award recipients. If after mid-March students are interested in their scholarship status, they should call the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

How do students get reduced tuition?
Some scholarships include a reduced tuition benefit. Please review the scholarship descriptions on the previous pages for more information.

Can students who don’t receive a scholarship for the freshman year get one later?
The university awards listed in this booklet are only offered to entering freshmen. However, departments may offer scholarships for upperclassmen. Students should check with their academic adviser about the opportunity for any awards.

Where else can students look for scholarships?
There are many resources students can use to find non-USC scholarships. Excellent resources include collegeboard.org and fastweb.com. These websites provide detailed information about a wide variety of scholarships and financial aid. For additional scholarship sites, visit sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships, then “Non-Institutional Scholarships.”

How will students be notified about financial aid?
The university’s Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships will notify students of any awards via their university email account. This email notification refers students to Self Service Carolina (SSC) for detailed information about their awards. Admitted students receive login information for SSC and can monitor their financial aid application status, as well as view and accept their awards, on SSC.

May your students negotiate for a better scholarship?
Due to the competitiveness of our awarding process and financial aid pool, the university is unable to negotiate aid or scholarships.
The University Advising Center offers guidance and coaching to help students explore all their options.
APPLICATION INFORMATION

BE A GAMECOCK

Students can start their application online beginning in July. They can update it as many times as they need to and submit it when they’re ready. Apply online at sc.edu/admissions.

Students can also apply to the University of South Carolina via the Coalition Application: mycoalition.org.

Our admissions staff is dedicated to making the college search and application experience as smooth and seamless as possible. Feel free to reach out to us with any questions at our contact information below.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

University of South Carolina application (all students are highly encouraged to apply by October 15)

$65 application fee or fee waiver for those who qualify for ACT, College Board or NACAC waivers (applies to both S.C. residents and nonresidents)

Official SAT or ACT scores sent to USC directly from the testing service (students are required to submit all scores from all test administrations)

Honors College/Top Scholars application (available to qualified students who submit the university application prior to November 15)

DATES TO REMEMBER

*Applications must be complete, and all academic credentials and test scores must be received by Feb. 1.
** Possible decisions at this time are acceptance, denial or delay until March. Students have until Feb. 1 to submit improved test scores. Early answer decisions do not obligate students to attend USC.

OCT. 15
Early Answer Application Deadline

NOV. 15
Honors College/Top Scholars Application Deadline

DEC. 1
Regular Application Deadline (decisions issued by mid-March)*

DEC. 11-15
Early Answer decisions announced this week**

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
sc.edu/admissions
sc.edu/admissions/audience/counselors.html
803-777-7700
800-868-5872 (toll-free)
Facebook: UofSCAdmissions
Twitter: UofSCAdmissions

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS
sc.edu/financialaid
803-777-8134
Facebook: USCFinAid

VISITOR CENTER
sc.edu/visit
803-777-0169, 800-922-9755 (toll-free)

SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENCY OFFICE
registrar.sc.edu/html/residency

UNIVERSITY HOUSING
housing.sc.edu
803-777-4283

AP/IB COURSE CREDIT CHART
sc.edu/admissions, select “Requirements,” then “For Freshmen,” then “AP/IB Credits”

USC COURSE CATALOG AND BULLETIN
sc.edu/bulletin

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER
sa.sc.edu/sds
TDD/Voice 803-777-6744

FEDERAL STUDENT AID
fafs.ed.gov
800-433-3243

NCAA DIVISION I INITIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
eligibilitycenter.org
FRESHMAN ADMISSION

For guaranteed consideration, students must apply no later than Dec. 1. We’ll send decisions the week of March 12. Students have until Feb. 1 to send us their academic credentials. To receive news before winter break, students should apply by Oct. 15 with complete application and academic credentials. These students will receive an early answer from us the week of Dec. 11. Possible decisions at this time are acceptance, denial or delay until March. Students have until Feb. 1 to submit improved test scores. Early answer decisions are nonbinding and do not obligate students to attend USC. Admitted students have until May 1 to weigh all their college options.

SELF-REPORTED HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

Students will be asked to self-report a limited portion of their academic record within the online application. They will also be required to upload a clear, legible, unofficial copy of their high school transcript with their full name and the name of their high school. We strongly encourage students to obtain a copy of their transcript before beginning the application. The official high school transcript is not a required credential. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions prefers students not send an official transcript unless we notify them that one is needed. Please note that official transcripts will be required for students who are admitted and intend to enroll at the university.

SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION

All freshman applicants who meet our Early Answer, Honors College or Regular application and credentials deadlines will be considered for university merit scholarships. We’ll look at their highest official SAT or ACT scores that we receive by Feb. 1. Students don’t have to fill out a separate scholarship application unless they wish to compete for the Stamps, Carolina, Hamilton, McNair, Horseshoe or Alumni Scholar awards (these require completion of the Honors College/Top Scholars application).

SOUTH CAROLINA HONORS COLLEGE ADMISSION

The Honors College and Top Scholars application is separate and will be accessible to qualified students in their application portal checklists within 48 hours of submitting the general university application and paying the application fee. We strongly encourage all students to complete the general admission application by the October 15 Early Answer Deadline. All Honors College application materials must be received by November 15, including any new test scores. In addition, two letters of recommendation are required. Recommenders are encouraged to submit letters by November 15, but the latest we will accept them is December 1. Honors College decisions are sent separately from regular university admissions decisions in two rounds: one in late December, and one in late February. Honors applicants are automatically reviewed for USC’s most prestigious scholarships: the Stamps, Carolina, McNair, Hamilton, Horseshoe and Alumni Scholar Awards.

**DEC. & FEB.**

Honors College decisions announced
(See SCHC admissions details above)

**FEB. 1**

Credentials Deadline (all scores must be received by this date for scholarship consideration)

**MAR. 12-16**

Regular decisions announced this week

**MAY 1**

Enrollment Deposit Deadline

Dates are subject to change.
VISIT US

Whether you live in South Carolina and have an assigned in-state recruiter, or you live out-of-state and have an assigned regional recruiter, you also have another important contact in Admissions: Suzanne Cruea, Assistant Director for College Counselor Outreach. Suzanne manages our special events for counselors and works with the USC Visitor Center to make sure you get the most out of your campus visit. Whether you participate in a student-led tour, meet with admissions staff, attend an academic information session or even join us on a personal-guided driving tour, we’re here to ensure your experience is an exceptional one. Contact Suzanne at smedlin@sc.edu or (803) 777-7700 to plan your visit.