



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**

Darla Moore School of Business

## **International Business Cohort FAQs**

### **Can I pursue multiple language studies while participating in the cohort programs?**

Yes, but please note that in order to complete the requirements for the IB program, you must complete 4 300-level courses in one foreign language. Depending on the cohort, a particular language may be required, and any additional languages would be additional courses on your schedule. It is also important to note that some languages will not be offered while you are abroad, depending on location. It is quite difficult for students to complete requirements for multiple languages, so we do issue caution to students interested in pursuing multiple languages.

### **Is it possible to apply to more than one cohort program?**

Yes, students are able to apply to as many cohort programs as they wish. Students will need to complete an application for each program in which they have interest. However, it should be noted that students should only apply to cohorts in which they have a strong interest. Applications should reflect your academic and personal interests, and how a particular cohort program will help you achieve these goals. Each cohort has a different regional, functional major and language focus, so it is important to be aware of these components when applying to different cohort programs, as each program will meet different educational goals.

### **Can I participate in more than one cohort program if admitted into more than one?**

No, students are only able to participate in one cohort program, so students will have to select one program to pursue. After committing to one cohort program, you are not able to switch cohort programs.

### **Is there a waitlist for each cohort program?**

When a program has reached its maximum capacity after admissions decisions are made, there are some instances in which a waitlist will be used. If, after the University's May 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment deadline has passed, there are open seats due to students not enrolling at the University, students on the waitlist will be notified in regards to gaining a seat in the cohort program.

**Can a student be accepted into a cohort program, even if they are not admitted to the South Carolina Honors College?**

Yes, admission into the South Carolina Honors College does not mean a student will be admitted into a cohort program, nor does it mean that a student will not be admitted to a cohort program.

**If accepted in the South Carolina Honors College, can you still participate in a cohort program, or can you only do one?**

Yes, you can do both the SCHC and an IB cohort program.

**If admitted to a cohort program, am I offered immediate admission into the IB major?**

If you successfully complete all progression requirements of DMSB first year students, and maintain a 3.65 GPA on all courses at USC, yes, you will be able to continue in the cohort track of the IB major.

**What constitutes a strong application to a cohort?**

A strong application is made up of a high GPA, high standardized test scores, strong Math skills demonstrated through higher level Math courses in high school, and a well written statement of purpose and essay responses. We are looking for students with high Math skills, a passion for language studies, cultural competence and a dedication for learning about Business on a global stage.

**Is prior language study required to participate in a cohort program?**

While we recommend prior language study, language requirements vary by cohort program. For some of the programs, prior language study is required to be eligible for the program, but we have several cohort programs in which no prior language study is required. See the chart below:

<b>Cohort:</b>	<b>Language Requirement:</b>
GBI	Prior language study is required in all language options, with the exception of Chinese. Students pursuing Chinese are able to start at the beginning level upon enrolling at USC
IBA	Prior Spanish language study is required
IBCE	No prior Mandarin Chinese language study required
IBEA	No prior language study is required in any of the languages, but students will be required to complete summer programs/courses in order to complete the language requirement if beginning a new language
MENA	No prior Arabic language study is required

**Will applying by the regular deadline hurt my chances of being admitted into one of the cohort programs?**

Not necessarily, but some of the programs will fill up after the early admissions deadline. Please apply early for full consideration.

**How many students are admitted into each cohort program?**

Spaces vary by cohort. We maintain a balance between USC and the partner institutions, so we adhere to balance guidelines every year. The GBI and IBEA cohort have 10 seats per academic year; IBCE has 20 seats per academic year; IBA and CIFA will vary, ranging from 5-20 seats per academic year.

**Are AP/IB credits accepted by the cohort programs?**

Yes, AP/IB credits are accepted by USC.

**Will I be at a disadvantage for not taking Calculus in high school?**

No, you will not be at a disadvantage as long as your Math scores and grades are of high achievement. You must be "Calculus ready" in the Fall semester of your freshman year, meaning you will be eligible to enroll in Calculus your first semester at USC, by scoring high enough on the Math placement test taken during the summer before USC Freshman Orientation.

**Do I have to be admitted into the Darla Moore School of Business to apply to a cohort program?**

Yes, you must be admitted as a pre-business student to be considered for admission into a cohort program.

**Can I apply to a cohort if I have not committed to attending USC in the fall?**

Yes, the University's enrollment deadline is not until May 1<sup>st</sup>, and therefore you do not have to commit to USC to be considered for cohort program admission.

**Can I apply to a cohort program after I start at USC in the fall?**

No, we admit all cohort students prior to starting their freshman year at USC, and there are no opportunities to apply to a cohort program after the cohort admissions process is complete.

**Are there scholarships available for the cohort programs?**

Yes, there are scholarships available through the USC Study Abroad Office, as well as the Moore School Study Abroad Office. Additionally, students in their Sophomore through Senior years are eligible to apply for the Moore School Undergraduate scholarships.

**Do I purchase my own plane tickets to travel abroad?**

Yes, all travel arrangements are made by individual students at the cost of the student.

**Can I do an internship while abroad?**

Yes, in most cases students are eligible to do internships abroad. Some visa regulations will prohibit students from interning while abroad, but there are many locations which allow students to intern overseas.

**Where do I live while abroad?**

Students will make their own arrangements for housing while abroad. In some locations, there is on campus housing available, but in other locations students will arrange homestays,

apartments, student housing, etc. Most of the partner institutions offer some type of assistance in making housing arrangements, such as providing a list of vetted housing vendors, websites, and housing location recommendations. The cost of living varies from location to location, country to country.

**What kinds of jobs do USC cohort students acquire post-graduation?**

The types of jobs are heavily dependent on the functional major and interest of the student. On a recent survey here are some of the companies where our students are currently employed: Wells Fargo; IBM; Oliver Wyman; Thermo Fisher Scientific; Hewlett Packard; Enterprise; Eastman Chemical; Urban Behavioral Associates; Integration Point, Inc; Greenpeace, China; New Oriental Vision Overseas Consulting, Co.; PWC; Eaton; Resolution Media; Techtronic Industries; AgroFresh Solutions; Teach for America; Eastman Chemical; Belden; Ernst & Young; PTS Consulting; General Electric; Manhattan Associates; Campus Ministry; Elliott Davis Decosimo; Pepsi-Frito Lay; Visa; SunTrust Robinson Humphrey; Nestle USA