STUDENT HANDBOOK
2021-2022
Congratulations on joining one of the most diverse and talented communities of scholars and professionals in the United States. We are delighted to welcome you to the Trojan Family and guide you through all of the opportunities to explore, connect, and succeed at USC.

Your journey at USC starts now and we want to do everything we can to make your start with us as pleasant as it can be. The information in this handbook will be useful to you not only in the beginning of your time with us, but also throughout the semester.

Please take some time to read through each section. If you have any questions, please ask your teacher or schedule an appointment with an advisor. Remember, we are here to support YOU, so please let us know if anything is unclear or if you would like more information.

Good luck and fight on!
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**THE ACADEMY**

5  NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST  
6  PROGRAM & COURSE OVERVIEW  
11  ACADEMY POLICIES  
14  ATTENDANCE  
15  GRADES & RECOGNITION  
17  COVID-19 GUIDELINES & CAMPUS ACCESS DURING PANDEMIC  

**LEGAL MATTERS**

20  STUDENT CONDUCT  
23  ACADEMIC INTEGRITY  
26  VISA & IMMIGRATION  
28  IDENTIFICATION  

**LOS ANGELES LIVING**

30  HOUSING  
32  ACTIVITIES  
35  EXPLORING LOS ANGELES  

**LOCAL INFORMATION**

41  SAFETY  
54  HEALTH CARE & INSURANCE  
58  MONEY & BANKING  
60  TRANSPORTATION  
62  CAMPUS DINING  
65  GENERAL STUDENT SERVICES  
67  COUNSELING & MENTAL HEALTH  
68  CAMPUS WELLNESS  
69  GOOD PLACES TO STUDY  
70  CAMPUS MAP
USC HOLIDAYS

» 2021 - 2022

USC International Academy offices will be closed on the dates listed below:

LABOR DAY
Monday, September 6, 2021

THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 25 &
Friday, November 26, 2021

CHRISTMAS
Friday, December 24, 2021

WINTER RECESS
Monday, December 27, 2021 -
Thursday, December 30, 2021

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Friday, December 31, 2021

MARTIN LUTHER KING’S DAY
Monday, January 17, 2022

PRESIDENT’S DAY
Monday, February 21, 2022

MEMORIAL DAY
Monday, May 30, 2022

INDEPENDENCE DAY
Monday, July 4, 2022

Please go to the Current Student’s website, https://iastudents.usc.edu/ for more information about program breaks, session start dates, and more.
NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST

Things to Do

☐ Pay Outstanding Tuition and Housing Fees
  • Make sure you have paid tuition and housing fees in full.

☐ Immigration Document Verification*  
  • Passport, I-20, I-94, and visa are required.

☐ Login to Blackboard and view information for your academic English studies in the Pre-Orientation Course

☐ Placement Test  
  • Pre-Master’s & Master’s Preparation students: Take a Placement Test if you did not officially report your English test scores by the deadline.
  • Intensive English Preparation students: Complete the English Placement Exam.
  • If you missed the test during Orientation, contact your advisor.

☐ Focus Skills Selection  
  • Choose your Focus Skills classes based on your level and interest.

☐ Immunizations*  
  • Receive your required immunizations before your program start date.

☐ USC Email Set-up  
  • Get set up on the Blackboard system and check your new email.

☐ Sign up for Conversation Groups  
  • This is a great opportunity to practice English outside the classroom.

☐ Sign up for One-on-one Tutoring  
  • Receive individual assistance from one of academy’s tutors (e.g. homework, GRE test preparation, etc.)

☐ USCard - USC ID Card*  
  • Find out from your advisor how to get your USCard (access to campus is limited in Fall 2021)

☐ View Introductory Videos of USC Student Health Services  
  • And complete a mandatory online training on Health, Hygiene, and Safety for Students (via Trojan Learn)

☐ Get Your Class Schedule  
  • Find your class schedule in your Student Portal.

☐ Start Classes - Fight On!

Things to Attend

☐ Program Overview  
  • Learn more about your program and what to expect.

☐ Academic Overview  
  • Learn more about what you will be studying and what to expect in the classroom.

☐ Safety Information Session*  
  • Learn how to stay safe while studying at USC International Academy.

☐ Student Conduct and “Think About it” Training Session  
  • Learn what is harassment and how to protect yourself and others.

☐ Health Information Session & Health Documents*  
  • Learn about the Health Center and what to do in case you get sick.

☐ Health Information Session  
  • Learn about required rules and regulations for studying as a F-1 student in the United States.

☐ Focus Skills Selection Form  
  • Choose your Focus Skills classes based on your level and interest.
  • If you missed the test during Orientation, contact your advisor.

☐ Permanent Record Form*  
  • Fill out your most recent information and provide the Permanent Record form to the Admissions and Immigration Advisor at the International Academy.

☐ Health Documents*  
  • Upload your vaccination documentation (proof of COVID-19 vaccine, and all other required vaccines) by accessing Student Health Portal: https://studenthealth.usc.edu/mySHR/. Please note: students who are unable to receive required vaccines in their home country can receive vaccines via USC Student Health Center.

☐ Liability Release Form*  
  • Students need to complete it in order to participate in activities.

*only students who are in the USA

IMPORTANT

If you attended the entire Orientation, you probably completed most of these tasks already! If you have any questions, stop by our Front Desk or ask the Virtual Front Desk. If you arrived late or did not go to Orientation, please make sure you check all the boxes and complete each task listed above.
PROGRAM & COURSE OVERVIEW

» LEARN ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM AND FUTURE STUDY OPTIONS

USC International Academy offers three programs. Below you will find a summary of what each program offers. For more detailed information, please visit our website, international.usc.edu.

INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM
Full-time Intensive English Program students at the USC International Academy study in three different classes each week for a total of 20 hours per week.

Reading, Writing and Grammar
Reading and Writing classes are taught at each academic level. In lower levels, you build foundational reading and writing skills, working on the sentence- and paragraph-level. In intermediate levels, you read a wider range of texts and learn to write longer compositions like essays with greater fluency and accuracy. In higher levels, the focus shifts to more academic content and styles of writing.

Listening and Speaking
Listening and Speaking classes are designed to improve students’ communications skills, including active listening, discussion, and public speaking skills. In the lower levels, these areas are covered through work with adapted materials, and there is a focus on building confidence in speaking English inside and outside the classroom. In the intermediate and higher levels, there is a more academic focus as students practice listening to and discussing/presenting academic and/or professional content.

Focus Skills and Project-Based Courses
Focus skills and project-based courses offer students the opportunity to reinforce key skills and work with interesting content to accomplish a variety of tasks. Focus Skill course options are subject to change each session, but typical offerings include TOEFL and IELTS test preparation, Service Learning, Film, and American Culture.

Undergraduate Admissions Support
Students looking to transition into a U.S. college or university are uniquely supported with expert admissions advising, test preparation, tutoring, and Intensive English courses designed to build academic language and study skills.

Optional SAT Preparation
High school graduates who reach Level 5 can choose to enroll in our SAT Preparation course, specifically designed to meet the needs of international students, at an additional cost.
PROGRAM & COURSE OVERVIEW  

PRE-MASTER’S PROGRAM

Pre-Master’s students have already been accepted to select USC master’s programs and take courses to prepare their English and academic skills for the rigors of USC graduate coursework.

In the Pre-Master’s program, you will learn how to read and critically assess academic texts, communicate effectively in writing and speech, develop a graduate-level vocabulary, and improve your GRE/GMAT test-taking strategies to help you reach your required score for your degree program. Split into two tracks, courses are tailored to the reading and writing styles of your discipline and will introduce you to topics and content relevant to your field of study.

Minimum Entry Requirements

- Bachelor’s Degree
- Cumulative GPA 3.0
- High-intermediate English level (depending on your chosen master’s program)

Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to any USC degree program. Please check the website for more details. If you have any questions about the Pre-Master’s Program, please contact: iapadm@usc.edu.

Academic Tracks

- Business, Social Science, and Arts (BSA)
- Science, Technology, and Health (STH)

Core Courses

- Academic English Skills for Graduate Studies
- Graduate Communication Skills

Focus Skills Courses

Students take two Focus Skills courses every session (seven weeks). Every session, you will receive a Focus Skills class selection form where you can indicate your course preferences. Placement is based on required courses, availability, and schedule.

Please note: All new students are required to take the Academic Integrity and Graduate Study Expectations course in their first semester. Students with a GRE/GMAT requirement are registered for a test preparation course until they reach their target score.

MASTER’S PREPARATION PROGRAM

Master’s Preparation students have the opportunity to follow the same academic tracks and take the same courses as those offered in the Pre-Master’s Program plus TOEFL or IELTS test preparation, Focus Skill Courses and comprehensive academic advising.

Minimum Entry Requirements

- Bachelor’s Degree
- High-intermediate English level (equivalent to TOEFL iBT 61+ / IELTS 5.5 / PTE Academic 44+ OR completing International Academy IEP Level 4)

If you have any questions about the Master’s Preparation Program, please contact Chiara Mirabile: cmirabil@usc.edu.
CONVERSATION GROUPS

What to expect in a Conversation Group:
Conversation Groups are limited to 4 people maximum; one current USC student who hosts the session and up to three USC International Academy students, depending on the time and day. Sessions run 45 minutes in length and provide an opportunity to practice conversational English skills with a peer, in a comfortable small group setting. There is no additional charge for the sessions and they are scheduled around class time, as not to conflict with your studies.

Where to meet:
• All Online Conversation Groups will meet in Zoom, and the link will be provided in your confirmation email.
• All In-Person Conversation Groups meet in the lobby of the International Academy (DCC) Building, in front of the Student Services desk. Please arrive 5 minutes prior to your reservation to allow time for check-in. From there, the group leader will lead students to an open classroom or spot on campus (weather permitting) where the group will sit together and talk.

Who are our Conversation Group Partners?
All of our conversation group partners are native English speakers, and current USC students, who work at the International Academy. They are warm, friendly, patient, and experienced in international education so they understand the challenges faced when mastering a new language, and would love to talk to you. Sign up for conversation groups online here.

TUTORING

Online and in-person Tutoring Center provides one-on-one support for students needing test preparation, writing support or speech preparation practice. Get more information and instructions on how to schedule tutoring here.

ASYNCRONOUS LEARNING

An online learning method where you will be able to work independently

In order to familiarize students with online tools used to participate in classes at USC, some lessons throughout the semester will be conducted asynchronously. In an asynchronous lesson, you will work independently on a specific assignment or collaboratively on a project with your classmates. You will submit your work by the end of the class or by the end of the day, depending on your teacher’s instructions.

Asynchronous lessons take place outside of your regular Zoom classes and are not conducted as an online meeting or in-person class session.
GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE LEARNING

Attending online classes is similar and different from attending in-person classes. Below are guidelines to help you understand expectations for attending and participating in online classes at USC’s International Academy. Our goal is to provide clear expectations so that students and instructors can have a positive and productive online class experience.

Virtual Video Attendance
All USC International Academy students are expected to participate in online courses using video and audio. This enables instructors to visually verify attendance for immigration purposes and to monitor student’s active participation in class. As our classes focus on English language development and academic preparation, it is necessary for instructors to be able to see students as they speak to give them feedback on their language use and non-verbal communication. If you do not use video to participate when required during class you will be marked absent.

Active Participation
Active participation is expected in an online environment the same as a face-to-face class. Students should use Zoom tools (i.e. raising a hand, asking a question in chat, joining break out groups) to respond to questions and participate in class discussions. Online work in classes may include a grade or points for active participation.

Dress Appropriately
When attending an online class, students are expected to dress appropriately as they would for an in-person class. This means no pajamas, sleepwear, or clothes you would not normally wear in public or in a university class. While it’s OK to wear your slippers (footwear is not visible online), the portion of you that is visible on camera should be dressed appropriately.

Limit Distractions
Your instructors have worked hard to prepare your online lessons. Please show your respect by actively participating and limiting distractions in your home learning environment. This means using your laptop and phone for learning during classes (i.e. no texting, playing games, or doing any activity not related to classwork.) Please also limit eating to drinks and snacks only (it’s rude/not appropriate in the U.S. to eat a meal online in class).

Resources for Online Learning can be reviewed here: https://keepteaching.usc.edu/students/student-toolkit/
ACADEMY POLICIES

» RULES ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM AND CLASSES

PROGRAM FEES
Students must pay all fees before the program begins. Students who do not pay on time will not be able to attend classes. If you have questions about this policy, please contact our Finance Department: pay-international@usc.edu

LEVEL PLACEMENT
All new students are required to attend two days of orientation which will include an English Placement Exam. If you do not test during the scheduled placement test period, you will be charged a $100 late testing fee for individual placement testing.

Pre-Master’s and Master’s Preparation students are waived from the English Placement Exam by submitting an official TOEFL or IELTS or PTE Academic Test Score Report by the application deadline.

During the first few days of classes you will take diagnostic tests and your English ability will be carefully observed to be sure your placement is correct.

CLASS CHANGES

STUDENTS IN THE INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM
New students may submit a Placement Reevaluation Form by the third day of class. Requests are reviewed carefully. Placement decisions are based on class performance, English ability, and test results. Placement changes are made for language reasons only. We do not make changes to class schedules because of classroom location, teacher preference, or class time. Continuing students are not eligible for a placement review. Level changes will be made based on your performance during the first few days of class.

STUDENTS IN THE PRE-MASTER’S & MASTER’S PREPARATION PROGRAM
Students in the Pre-Master’s and Master’s Preparation programs will move up in level by successfully completing coursework and maintaining a B average. A Placement Reevaluation Form will not be accepted for any Pre-Master’s or Master’s Preparation students. New students that do not meet the expectations of the level based on the diagnostic tests may be advised to move down one level.
FOCUS SKILLS COURSES
Focus Skills courses run for seven weeks. You will not be able to change your Focus Skills Course during the first seven weeks. At the end of seven weeks, you may change your Focus Skills course if you pass the course with a grade of “C” or higher.

Pre-Master’s students:

- If you are required to take the GRE or GMAT courses, you will be enrolled in these courses and may not be able to change until you achieve the required score for admissions to your department.

- All new students must take the Academic Integrity course for seven weeks in their first semester.

PRE-MASTER’S & MASTER’S PREPARATION DIAGNOSTIC TESTING
At the beginning of each term, students in levels 5, 6, and 7 take diagnostic tests involving speaking and writing. These tests help determine what a student already knows and if they can be successful in their initial/placement level. These tests do NOT affect students’ course grades. Academic advisors will meet with all new students who scored in the at-risk category in one or more areas on the diagnostic tests. The advisors counsel students on what the score means and how it may affect their study plan. The student will then decide if they would like to continue in their initial level or move down a level. If students are advised to move down but choose to remain in their initial level, they may be required to take a skills development course in the area(s) in which they are considered at-risk.

PRE-MASTER’S & MASTER’S PREPARATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT COURSES
Skills Development Courses may be offered in one or more areas (e.g., speaking) each term to support the needs of at-risk students. Typically, these courses meet one hour per week. Enrolled students are expected to attend and actively participate. These courses may cover material that is in the core curriculum (e.g., grammar points) and/or supplemental to it (e.g., study skills). Skills development courses are designed to provide additional support for students so they can be successful during their time at the USC International Academy and beyond. These courses are free of charge.
PROBLEMS IN CLASS
If you have a problem with your class, homework assignments, teacher, or attendance, you should first talk to your teacher. In America, people prefer that one is direct and honest with them. If you and your teacher are unable to agree on a solution, you should talk to your Program Advisor.

ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend every class every day regardless whether classes are on-campus or online. Students who are absent too often will be warned in writing that they must attend class or risk being dismissed from the school and being out of status with SEVIS. Students who are absent more than 20% of Academy courses are not awarded a certificate of completion.

All absences are counted, even those for reasons caused by medical, legal or family emergencies (there are no excused absences). Students with serious medical illnesses should notify their Program Advisor as soon as possible.

IF YOU ARE ABSENT OR LATE TO CLASS
- By five to fifteen minutes: you will be marked absent for half an hour (30 minutes).
- More than fifteen minutes late, up to 60 minutes: you will be marked absent for one hour.
- If later than that, you will be marked absent for the entire class.
- If the total hours of absence reach 20% of class time at any point in the semester, you will be placed on probation.
- If a student who is on probation continues to miss or be late for classes, the student will be dismissed from the language program and his/her I-20 will be terminated.

ATTENDANCE PROBATION
Students who have too many absences are put on probation. Students on probation are in serious danger of losing their full-time student visa status.

In order to maintain full-time student visa status with the university, a student who is on probation must attend all classes and improve attendance.

Students who meet the requirements of their probation and who finish the semester in good standing are allowed to register for the next semester. Those who fail to improve their attendance will be dismissed from the program without refund, will lose their full-time status, will need to leave USC housing, and will not be allowed to register for the next semester.

Students who are absent more than 20% are automatically considered “out of status.” Students who are out of status will not be allowed to enroll again at the Academy.

Students starting any term on probation may be dropped from the program and their I-20 may be terminated if they don’t attend all scheduled classes. Once an I-20 is terminated, students will need to leave the U.S. immediately.
GRADES & RECOGNITION
GRADES & RECOGNITION

» ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR SUCCESS

GRADES
At the end of each semester (Pre-Master’s and Master’s Prep) or session (Intensive English Program, IEP), USC International Academy students receive final grades which represent their achievement of the learning objectives for each course. Students are expected to make satisfactory progress in their program by earning passing grades for all courses.

PASSING GRADES
In order to pass a course, students must earn a B grade (83%) or higher in core classes, and a C grade (73%) or higher in focus skills and project-based courses.
• Intensive English Program: To be promoted to the next level, you must pass all classes. In general, a student is allowed to repeat a level only twice (i.e., over two 7-week sessions).
• Pre-Master’s & Master’s Preparation: If you do not pass one or both core classes, you will have to repeat the entire level the next semester. In general, a student is allowed to repeat each level only once.

PRE-MASTER’S GRADE POLICY
Pre-Master’s students must pass all their classes and maintain an overall B grade point average in order to successfully meet the conditional requirements of their USC admission offer. Pre-Master’s students must also meet any other requirement set by their university department (e.g. GRE score) before they can successfully progress into their graduate program.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)
Students will receive a grade report which lists the final grade received in each course and the student’s overall grade point average (GPA).

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION
The Academy chooses several students each term to be recognized with an “Outstanding Student” award. These students have perfect attendance and the highest grade point averages in their program.

ACADEMIC PROBATION
When a student has failing grades at the end of a term, the student may be placed on academic probation. Academic probation is a university warning system designed to alert a student that he/she has a GPA or grade performance that is lower than the program requirement. Students on academic probation are required to meet with their Program Advisors at the International Academy.

If a student is on academic probation and is not able to pass his/her classes in the subsequent term, the student may be asked to leave the program. Students are expected to make sufficient progress in their language studies as required by their student visa. When a student on academic probation completes a term with passing grades, the academic probation status is removed.

“USC is multicultural, international, and competitive. Coming here may be challenging, but that is not a barrier. From challenging moments, we can learn valuable things.”

- Dasom You, South Korea
COVID-19 GUIDELINES & CAMPUS ACCESS DURING PANDEMIC
COVID-19 GUIDELINES & CAMPUS ACCESS DURING PANDEMIC

COVID-19 GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS

USC cares for your health and safety and is committed to following the guidance of Federal, State, County, and local public health agencies. We are implementing the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Protocols for Institutes of Higher Education that identify specific actions and procedures that must be taken. Public health guidelines continue to change though, but we will adapt our plans to meet them.

In addition to adhering to public health guidelines, every student, faculty, staff and visitor coming to campus will be required to follow additional University health measures. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY

All students, faculty, and staff are required to submit proof of vaccination for COVID-19 in order to access campus facilities for the Fall 2021 semester. Your safety is our top priority.

If you are not fully vaccinated (meaning you have not been vaccinated at all, have only received one dose of a two-dose vaccination series before arrival, or have received a vaccine that is not on the WHO list), you will need to re-start your vaccine series with Pfizer, or take the single Johnson & Johnson/Janssen dose when you arrive to the United States and you must adhere to USC’s testing and quarantine guidelines:

• Testing - All vaccinated and unvaccinated students are required to test through the USC Student Health Pop Testing program once a week to have access to campus facilities.
• Quarantine — You are required to quarantine for seven (7) days after your arrival. You may leave quarantine to schedule an appointment with USC Student Health. If you are currently in the U.S. and do not travel internationally before the start of the fall semester, you are not required to quarantine.

TREATMENT & CARE FOR STUDENTS WHO LIVE IN CALIFORNIA

For any individual experiencing possible COVID-19 symptoms, the most important step to take is to stay home and practice respiratory hygiene (cover your cough and wash your hands frequently). Your health provider is USC Student Health. For medical appointments involving respiratory symptoms or any other health care services, please make your appointment on MySHR or call the USC Student Health line. Please call 213-740-9355 (WELL). Students with symptoms will have access to medical care through the Engemann Student Health Center.
COVID-19 GUIDELINES & CAMPUS ACCESS DURING PANDEMIC continued

CAMPUS ACCESS

Please note that the below policies are valid on August 6, 2021 but they may change before you start your program or during your program. USC will keep you updated via email. It is important that you check your USC email at least once per day to stay up to date with requirements.

You can access USC Campuses only after completing the below steps 1-6. You need to wear a mask inside USC buildings.

1) Plan to arrive to Los Angeles a few weeks before your program starts.
   • If you are not vaccinated, you need to arrive at least one week early (unvaccinated students need to self-isolate for 7 days after arrival to Los Angeles).

2) Before you travel to Los Angeles, complete:
   • TROJANLEARN – HEALTH, HYGIENE AND SAFETY FOR STUDENTS All students, faculty and staff must complete ‘Health, Hygiene and Safety Training’ module in TrojanLearn. It is only 10 minutes long. To log in you need to know your USC email.

3) Before you travel to Los Angeles, log into USC’s online Student Health Portal MySHR. To log in you need to know your USC email.
   • Upload any vaccination records (more information on page 56), including your COVID-19 proof of vaccination (in English)
   • Check here for a list of accepted vaccines.
   • Make an appointment for COVID-19 vaccine, if you are not vaccinated.

4) Before your first visit to campus, reserve your first COVID-19 test (all vaccinated and unvaccinated students have to do a COVID-19 test once each week) at USC Student Health Center in the online Student Health Portal MySHR; we recommend you test not later than 3 days after you arrive to Los Angeles.

5) Before your first visit to campus, download TrojanCheck app or access it online via your device: https://trojancheck.usc.edu.

6) Each day you come to campus, use TrojanCheck (https://trojancheck.usc.edu), go to “Begin wellness assessment”. TrojanCheck will help you understand whether you have any COVID-19 symptoms. If you do, don’t worry, USC staff will help you navigate the situation.

When you come to campus, you will have to show your completed TrojanCheck App to a USC employee at the campus entrance. If you have a problem accessing the campus, please call us: +1-213-740-0080

Remember: Wear a mask while indoors and on public transportation

COVID-19 TESTING

You are required to take a COVID-19 test (it is free) via the USC Student Health Pop Testing Program once weekly (you can schedule your test through MySHR).

All information above is subject to change based on USC and public health guidelines (last updated: August 7, 2021)
STUDENT CONDUCT & ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
STUDENT CONDUCT
» LEARN ABOUT THE RULES & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

You are expected to abide by the student conduct rules of the USC International Academy, USC Student Conduct Code & Policies, as well as the laws of the United States.

You are expected to conduct yourself in a manner that is considerate of those around you. Inappropriate conduct includes -but is not limited to- disruptions to the learning environment (i.e. use of profanity, harassment); deliberate destruction, misuse or theft of USC property or the property of fellow classmates; violence or threats of violence toward persons or property of students or USC staff; improper use of email or Internet access; and failure to comply with local copyright or criminal laws forbidding the misappropriation, copying or alteration of copyright-protected materials.

If you commit a criminal offense; violate the student conduct code or school policy -such as a poor attendance record (whether or not such attendance is in breach of any visa attendance requirements); are absent for 14 consecutive days without notification; or fail to pay the remaining program and service fee amount for your program by the deadlines provided, you may be expelled or suspended.

No refund will be given and the immigration authorities will be informed. Travel and other costs incurred as a result of expulsion must be met by you or by your guardian.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more information about student life at USC, safety, important dates, and deadlines, visit the International Academy Student Portal at: https://iastudents.usc.edu.

The student portal is complete with an events calendar for upcoming activities and deadlines and also academic resources for policies and course registration.
STUDENT CONDUCT  (for online learners)

» LEARN ABOUT THE RULES & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING ONLINE CLASSES

Proper conduct in an online class is just as important as in a face-to-face class. You are expected to be on your best behavior in an online classroom.

All USC International Academy students are expected to participate in online class using video and audio. You will be marked absent if your video is turned off. Please note that academic integrity rules at USC (i.e. no plagiarism, no cheating) apply to online classes as well. Please continue to do your own work. When attending an online class, you are expected to dress appropriately, participate actively by using Zoom tools and limit distractions in your home learning environment (i.e. no texting, playing games, or eating meals).
University of Southern California’s academic programs are based upon profoundly important themes of trust, honor and responsibility, for and between all students, faculty and administration.

In alignment with the trust and honor necessary to support our community, it is expected that all members will embrace the responsibility to uphold the standards articulated in the Student Code of Conduct, found in SCampus, Part B.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY VIOLATIONS

The following are summarized examples of Academic Integrity violations (to see a full list go to: SCampus, Part B., Section 11).

Examples of the Academic Integrity Violations include, but are not limited to:

**PLAGIARISM**
- Submitting material authored by another person as though it is your work.
- Acquiring work from any source and presenting it as your own work.

**UNAUTHORIZED COLLABORATION**
- Working with others unless expressly permitted by the instructor.
- Providing a copy of an exam or answer key to others by any method, including mobile phone pictures.
- Sharing with another student by any method a solution to homework or other assignments.

**CHEATING**
- Getting assistance in doing your work from another person without the instructor’s permission.
- Allowing another student to copy your work.
- Resubmitting/reusing the same work that was produced for another assignment (or class) without the knowledge and permission of the instructor.
- Possessing notes or other materials not explicitly allowed by the professor during an exam.
- Talking with fellow students during exams.
- Looking at another student’s exam.
- Continuing to write after the allotted time period.
- Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone else to take a test for you.

**FALSIFYING ACADEMIC RECORDS**
- Attempting to change, alter, or being an accessory to changing a grade in a grade book, work submitted on a test, or any other university academic record.
- Submitting work which is false, invented, or does not represent work completed by you.
- Misrepresentation of official records including: academic transcripts, exam papers altered for re-grading, medical notes, forged signatures, and letters of recommendation.
The following process is applicable to USC International Academy Students

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY continued**

**REPORTING VIOLATIONS**

The following process is applicable to USC International Academy Students

**SUBMISSION OF A REPORT**

a. Only faculty members are permitted to report a violation. If a student/other has reason to believe an academic integrity violation has been committed, they should communicate with the faculty/designee of the course.

b. Reports shall be submitted to the Academic Integrity Coordinator (“AIC”) who will inform the Academic Director.

c. Reports may be submitted up to one year after the date of the alleged incident. This time frame may be extended under special circumstances.

d. Because the student may contest the allegation, they must be allowed to attend all classes and complete all assignments until the report is resolved.

**NOTICE TO STUDENT**

a. The Academic Integrity Coordinator will provide notice to the student of the exact allegations and subsequent process.

b. The student may not withdraw from a course in which they have been accused of committing an academic integrity violation.

c. Unless otherwise permitted, the student will have five calendar days from the receipt of the notice to respond to the Academic Integrity Coordinator and set up an initial meeting. Unless otherwise permitted, the initial meeting shall take place within five calendar days of the student’s response.

d. If a student does not respond, he/she will be notified that the decision-making process will proceed without them. A student’s failure to respond will not be assumed as an admission of guilt.

e. At the initial meeting, the Academic Integrity Coordinator shall provide the student with an opportunity to review the report and supporting documents; information about the process; an opportunity to discuss mitigating factors; and a timeline for submitting supporting documents.

**REVIEW OPTIONS**

a. Individual Review. The student will meet with the Academic Integrity Coordinator and the teacher to discuss the incident and potentially come to an agreement as to responsibility and sanction (if any). This may take place over the course of multiple meetings. No other parties are permitted during the process. The student has the right at any time prior to a final decision to opt out and pursue a Panel Review.

b. Panel Review. Panel Reviews are required at the request of a student, or if a sanction of expulsion or suspension may be warranted. The Academic Integrity Coordinator will convene the School’s Academic Integrity Panel to review the incident report and documentation, and meet separately with the student and teacher. The Panel shall be composed of: AIC, Academic Integrity Coordinator, and Pre-Master’s Program Director. The Panel shall make a determination as to whether the student is responsible, also recommend a sanction (if necessary).
APPEALS
a. The student is permitted to appeal the Individual or Panel Review within 10 calendar days of receiving notice, unless otherwise permitted. Appeals shall be submitted to the AIC.

b. Appeals are permitted only on the following grounds:

- New evidence has become available which is sufficient to alter the decision, and which the student was not aware of or could not have been reasonably obtained at the time of the initial review.
- The sanction imposed is excessive or inappropriate.
- University rules or regulations applicable to the particular student’s matter while reviewing the cited are behavior were not followed.

c. The teacher will have five calendar days to review and respond, if they so choose.

d. The Academic Director will provide the Individual or Panel decision, the Appeal, and the Response to the Appeal (if any), to the Dean or designee. The Dean or designee will have five calendar days to provide a written final decision. This decision is final and binding, and will be provided to student and the teacher.

SANCTIONS
Possible sanctions include:

- F for the course
- F (or zero points) for the assignment in question
- Expulsion
VISA & IMMIGRATION FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE IN THE USA

» STAY INFORMED ABOUT YOUR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

IMMIGRATION CHANGES/UPDATES
At this time, immigration regulations and procedures are changing frequently. It will be your responsibility to stay informed regarding these changes and how they affect your student status. The Academy office will try to keep you well informed of the new changes via email. If you have any questions or concerns, please see an Admissions and Immigration Advisor at any time.

TRAVEL DETAILS
Students on a USC International Academy I-20 who plan on traveling outside of the U.S. will need a travel signature from the Admissions and Immigration Advisor on the second page of their I-20.

Please see the Admissions and Immigration Advisor to discuss any issues regarding your travel plans.

I-20 DETAILS
Your I-20 is issued to cover the program dates listed on your SEVIS I-20’s first page and is renewable. If you are studying on a USC International Academy I-20, you are considered a full-time student and must maintain full-time status during your stay.

DOCUMENTATION
All students who are in the USA must provide the Academy with a copy of their passport, I-94, visa with the entry stamp, and I-20. Once you arrive to the U.S., please email copies of these documents to: i20-international@usc.edu

TRAVEL DETAILS
Students on a USC International Academy I-20 who plan on traveling outside of the U.S. will need a travel signature from the Admissions and Immigration Advisor on the second page of their I-20.

Please see the Admissions and Immigration Advisor to discuss any issues regarding your travel plans.

STUDENT VISA (F-1) ADVISING
If you have any questions as to your immigration status, make an appointment with an Admissions and Immigration Advisor. If you are away from school and experiencing some difficulties with U.S. Consulate officials over visa matters, please do not hesitate to call the Academy office and alert them to your problem.

TRANSFERRING OUT STUDENTS
To transfer to another school from the International Academy, a letter of admission from your new school and a Transfer Out Form must be presented to an Admissions and Immigration Advisor.

All fees for the session in which a student is enrolled must be paid prior to transfer and the student’s attendance must meet minimum requirements.

“This was the best year and a half of my life. USC is a great community with amazing students and faculty. The people here are friendly, kind, and willing to help anybody.”

- Hamoud Alalyani, Saudi Arabia
IDENTIFICATION

» CARRY OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES
» STUDENTS WHO ARE TAKING THEIR COURSES ONLINE WILL RECEIVE THEIR USC ID CARDS ONCE THEY ARE ON CAMPUS.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARD

Everyone who studies at USC receives a USC identification (ID) card, also known as a USCard. Your USCard will hold your student ID number, which is an important number that you will need during your study at USC, and which you will need to carry with you at all times.

If you did not get your card during Orientation, visit the USCard office in Parking Structure X. Fill out an application and tell the person at the counter that you are a USC International Academy student. They will have a list with your name on it. If you have any problems, ask for the manager and they will either process your card or call the Academy office for clarification. They will then take your picture and put it on a plastic card with your name and ID number.

ACCEPTED USCARD LOCATIONS

- All campus restaurants & cafés
- USC Pharmacy
- USC Bookstores
- USC Ticket Office
- USC Mail Office
- Engemann Student Health Center
- Lyon Recreation Center (Gym)
- Yellow Cab Co.
- & more!

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/CARD (SSN)

A Social Security number is only assigned to people who are authorized to work in the United States. International students studying English full-time at USC are NOT eligible to receive a Social Security Card. A USC ID card is enough for most purposes.

Legally, individuals are only required to give their social security number to governmental agencies. If a business or other enterprise asks you for a social security number, you can refuse to give it; this is voluntary (not required) information.

You can request a letter from the Social Security Office explaining your ineligibility to receive a Social Security Number. See the Admissions and Immigration Advisor for more information.

The nearest Social Security Office is at the following address:

**Social Security Office**
1122 W. Washington Blvd. #201
Los Angeles, CA 90015

ADD MONEY TO YOUR USC CARD

You might want the convenience of using your USCard for campus purchases at the Bookstore, library, restaurants, concessions and vending machines. It is easy to load any value you would like to your USCard online at usc.edu/vipcardservices or at the USCard office. **DO NOT add money to your card at the Leavey Library machines.**
HOUSING

» CHOOSING YOUR LA ACCOMMODATIONS

RENTING YOUR OWN ROOM OR APARTMENT

Once you arrive in Los Angeles, it may take two weeks to one month to find housing off campus; families may need more time. If you choose to rent your own apartment or room, be prepared to pay a security deposit (usually the equivalent of one month’s rent) in addition to the first month’s rent. Many landlords require a 12-month rental agreement.

We advise that you rent within the patrol areas of the USC Department of Public Safety. In general, these patrol areas are to the north of USC and straight to the west but not to the south of campus. Those considering living farther from campus will have many choices, but transportation options should be taken into consideration.

USC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY HOUSING OPTION

Cardinal Gardens Apartments

USC International Academy students may opt to live at this apartment complex steps away from campus at USC Village.
ACTIVITIES & CULTURAL IMMERSION
ACTIVITIES & CULTURAL IMMERSION

» EXPLORE LOS ANGELES

“I would advice all International Academy students to take advantage of all the opportunities that USC provides educationally and in student life. USC is like its own city within Los Angeles —so big and diverse.”
- Saltanat Kerimbayeva, Kazakhstan

ACTIVITIES
All student’s have the opportunity to participate in the Academy’s Weekly Activities, online or on campus, hosted by current USC students who work for the USC International Academy. Each session an Activities and Cultural Immersion flyer can be seen here highlighting current topics and workshops that include the date, time, and location information for each activity. Join us!

DROP IN! NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!
LIABILITY RELEASE FORMS for ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS

All students, who want to participate in in-person events on campus (when available), must fill out and sign a Liability Release Form. This is a form which states that you have health insurance and that you will not hold USC legally responsible if there is an accident. We do everything we can to make all activities safe for all students, and we have never had a serious accident on any of our events in the past. However, we want to take every precaution and make sure that everyone who participates in an activity has health insurance and can be properly treated should the need arise.

EMERGENCIES DURING ACTIVITIES

While all Academy activities are very safe, sometimes an emergency may occur. If you or someone in your group is hurt, lost, or experiencing any other emergency situation in which they need assistance, please seek help from any of the chaperones on the trip.
EXPLORING LOS ANGELES
EXPLORING LOS ANGELES

» FAMOUS SIGHTS OF LA

NEIGHBORHOODS
There are many ethnic neighborhoods in LA. Perhaps the best known are Hollywood and Downtown, both accessible by Metro train. Another well-known part of LA is Chinatown, which is a short drive north from USC. There are many stores, restaurants, and Chinese-related events that take place in Chinatown every day. Little Tokyo is also not far from USC and features the culture and cuisine of Japan. The area northwest from USC is known as Koreatown, with delicious Korean Barbeque. The historic Pueblo de los Angeles is our city’s birthplace and features an authentic Mexican marketplace. There is also a large Jewish community in the Fairfax District and many Latino neighborhoods in East LA.

MUSEUMS
From neon art to classic cars, there are museums for everyone in LA! The most famous is the Getty Museum in West LA. This museum has a beautiful garden area, sculptures, famous pictures, furniture, photographs and one of the best views of LA! This museum is free along with many others including the California Science Center and the Afro-American Museum (both are across the street from USC!), and Broad Museum (free).

There are other museums that are well known in LA such as the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), the LA County Museum of Art (LACMA), the Pacific-Asian Museum, and the Natural History Museum (that is also across from USC) that have reasonable admission prices and offer student discounts with your USCard. One museum that you will never find anywhere else is the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum. This museum and park will take you back to prehistoric times when animals were the life of LA!

BEACHES
LA has a magnificent coastline stretching 72 miles from one famous beach to another, including a 22 mile bike path that connects several beach communities from Malibu to Torrance. Visit Venice Beach, an artist community known for its unique boardwalk shops, Muscle Beach Outdoor Gym, and skate park on the sand. A little farther south there’s Manhattan and Redondo Beaches, which are quieter neighborhoods with less tourists. Malibu is known as “Hollywood-By-the-Sea” because of its many celebrity residents. Santa Monica is a fun beach with an amusement park on the pier, filled with carnival rides and games, that’s easily accessible on the Metro from the USC campus. Other beaches that may be of interest include Playa del Rey, Hermosa Beach, Marina del Rey, and Rancho Palos Verdes.

TRAVEL TIP
For a beautiful and scenic trip, drive along the Pacific Coast Highway. PCH winds all the way up the coast of the Pacific Ocean. There are beaches, mountains, surfers, wildlife, flowers, and much more to see as you ride along this famous highway.
EXPLORING LOS ANGELES continued

HIKING
There are plenty of places to go hiking and sightseeing in and around LA. The Santa Monica and Los Angeles Mountains are good places for hiking, camping, and picnics. There are many trails above Pasadena where people hike or mountain bike. San Bernardino, Lake Arrowhead, and Big Bear Lake also have spectacular mountains, but are farther away.

PARKS
Griffith Park is one of the largest parks in the world. It contains 28 tennis courts, picnic and sport areas, and also horseback and hiking trails. Within the park there is the Griffith Observatory with a planetarium theater boasting some of the best views of the city and night sky; the Greek Theatre, which hosts summer events and concerts; a transportation museum; and the Los Angeles Zoo, which is on the north side of the park. The park also contains a bird sanctuary, an equestrian center, golf courses, a merry-go-round, and a science center.

There is also Exposition Park, across the street from USC! This park is the home of many museums, including the California Science Center and the Natural History Museum. The Olympics were held here in 1932 and 1984, using the Coliseum and the LA Sports Arena.

AMUSEMENT PARKS
Everyone knows that Disneyland is in California, but did you know it is only one hour away from campus? Disney has a second park next to Disneyland called Disney California Adventure Park, and a great shopping area called Downtown Disney. There are many amusement parks within LA as well. Six Flags Magic Mountain and Knott’s Berry Farm are both packed with thrilling rollercoasters, fun shows and rides. Raging Waters is a huge water park with dozens of slides and attractions.

SPORTS GAMES
LA is a great city for sports lovers—with USC having the best teams of all! LA’s professional baseball team is the Dodgers who play at Dodger Stadium (not far from USC).

LA is lucky enough to have two professional basketball teams: the Clippers and the Lakers, who play at the Staples Center, directly north of campus on Figueroa Street. We also have two professional football teams: the Chargers and the Rams, who play at the SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California right next to campus. The LA Kings are the official hockey team, and they also play at the Staples Center. LA also has professional soccer team, the LA Football Club, who play out of the Banc of California Stadium across the street from USC.
EXPLORING LOS ANGELES continued

SHOPPING
The Beverly Center is the mall that many USC students visit. There are many stores to suit the needs of pretty much every shopper. Westside Pavilion is located in West LA, a short drive from USC, and has many great stores and restaurants. Century City is an enormous outdoor mall west of USC with a large movie theater, department stores and fun boutiques. The garment and jewelry districts downtown have great deals during the day. Hollywood and Highland is a large outdoor mall with restaurants, clubs, shops and star sightings!

Not too far from campus is the popular Grove, a luxurious extension of LA’s Farmer’s Market at Fairfax and Third Street. It has many shops and restaurants, a beautiful movie theater and a tram that runs through the center and past the fountain.

And no one’s shopping experience is ever complete without visiting the famous Rodeo Drive, where all of the stars do their shopping. This expensive strip of shops is the destination of many tourists who want to take a look at the fancy stores, or even to take a look at the famous people who might be shopping in them!

OTHER GREAT SHOPPING OPTIONS
Old Town Pasadena, the Americana at Brand (Glendale), Third Street Promenade (Santa Monica), Westwood (most frequented by UCLA students), Melrose (hip street with shops and cafes), and outlet malls such as Camarillo Shopping Outlet, Ontario Mills, and Citadel Outlet.

LA TOURS
There are many tour companies offering trips to all of LA’s sights. Drive by stars’ homes, take train tours of Southern California’s wine country, boat tours of the coastline, or a walking tour of historic downtown!

SUNSET BOULEVARD
One of LA’s most famous streets, Sunset Boulevard winds through the city past some of LA’s most well known sights. Along the drive known as the Sunset Strip, in the shadow of the Hollywood sign, you’ll pass familiar buildings (Capital Records, Paramount Studios) and clubs (the Viper Room, the Rainbow Room). Some of today’s hottest clubs and bars in this area are still loaded with stars.

As you head further west, Sunset winds through some of LA’s most elegant areas (Beverly Hills, Bel Air) with multi-million dollar homes. You will begin to head into a lush green valley and then down, straight to the ocean. This is one of the best drives in LA!
EXPLORING LOS ANGELES continued

TV TAPINGS
Have you ever wanted to sit in on the making of a television show? There are hundreds of tapings each week, from comedies to talk shows like “Jimmy Kimmel.” For more information, you can check the websites of Paramount Television Audience Shows, NBC Television Network, CBS, ABC, or www.tvtickets.com.

GRAUMAN’S CHINESE THEATRE & HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME
This is the most famous theatre in LA. It is well known throughout the world. Here lie the immortalized handprints and footprints of America’s favorite stars. Although you can still see movies in the Theatre, most people stop by to gaze at the signatures and prints in the cement. Hollywood Boulevard is known for its unique shops and the sidewalk paved with the names of famous stars. This is definitely unique to LA.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS & UNIVERSAL CITY WALK
On the back-lot tour of Universal Studios you can see the sets of famous movies like Jaws and Back to the Future, see adapting elements from popular films like the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, and even see the stars themselves! This movie-themed park offers rides, shows and games that are packed with fun. Universal CityWalk, right outside of Universal Studios, is a popular nighttime destination. It has shops, restaurants, movie theaters and clubs. Parking is the only cost to visit CityWalk (no admission fee).

OUT ON THE TOWN
• **Movies** - Visit moviefone.com for a list of the movies you want to see, the times, and the locations of the closest theaters.

• **Music** - In the 1960’s, LA’s music scene became world-famous. Some of the popular clubs from those days remain popular today. (The Whiskey A Go Go and The Roxy are two suggestions.) For information about LA’s live music, visit LA Weekly Music.

• **Night Clubs** - In Los Angeles, there are clubs for just about every type of person or event. Whether you want to go dancing, hear live jazz music, mingle with the stars or just relax, LA has many “hot spots” just for you!

• **Restaurants** - Few places in the world can compare with the dining selection in LA. Find great places to dine by checking out the Zagat’s Guide (a popular dining resource book). There is so much to choose from in LA, you can find food from just about every corner of the Earth!
EXPLORING LOS ANGELES continued

WHERE CAN I GO TO:

- **Purchase school supplies**
  CVS on Figueroa, steps from DCC. There is also the [USC Bookstore](https://www.usc.edu/bookstore/) and Target at the [USC Village](https://www.usc.edu/village).  

- **Buy groceries**
  Groceries may be purchased at Trader Joe’s (a place known for organic produce and specialty snacks) at the USC Village or Ralphs, located just north of campus on Vermont and Adams. There is also Smart and Final located on Vermont and 36th St.

- **Buy affordable clothes**
  Target is located at the USC Village near campus and on Figueroa and 7th Street in Downtown Los Angeles. Shopping can also be found at Macy’s on 7th and Flower, the Beverly Center, 7th & Fig, or at the Grove for a more luxurious shopping experience. If you are looking for USC gear and apparel, visit the [USC Bookstore](https://www.usc.edu/bookstore/).

- **Buy pots, pans and kitchen supplies**
  Pots and pans may be purchased at Target at the University Village. IKEA and Macy’s are also great options if you want to go away from campus.

- **Get cleaning supplies**
  Cleaning supplies may be purchased at Trader Joe’s, Target, CVS, Smart and Final, or Ralphs.

- **Get a haircut**
  There are various places nearby to get your haircut. A quick search online will also pull up several options around the LA area.

- **Open a bank account**
  A bank account may be opened in person by visiting the bank and speaking to a representative. There is a Chase on Figueroa and Jefferson. You will need to bring money (for a deposit) and your passport in order to open the bank account.

OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **What are some fun things to do around USC?**
  You can visit the many museums just south of campus in Exposition Park (including [Natural History Museum](https://www.nhm.org/), [Science Center](https://sciencesciencecenter.org/), [California African-American Museum](https://www.californiaaamuseum.org/)). There is also the Rose Garden, [Staples Center](https://www.staplescenter.com/), [L.A. Live](https://www.lalive.com/), [The Shrine Concert Hall](https://www.shrineconcerthall.com/), and Fig and 7th, and a shopping center that includes popular restaurants like Morton’s Steakhouse and California Pizza Kitchen.

- **Where can I get more information about events happening in Los Angeles?**
  There are many websites that you can check to stay up to date on events happening in Los Angeles. These include: [TimeOut Los Angeles](https://timeout losangeles.com/), [Discover LA](https://www.discoverla.com/), [LA Weekly](https://www.laweekly.com/), [Yelp](https://www.yelp.com/), [LAist](https://www.laist.com/), and [Eventful](https://www.eventful.com/).

- **Where can I rent a car?**
  [Enterprise Rent-A-Car](https://www.enterprise.com/) (1944 S Figueroa St. and in Transportation office in Parking Structure X on USC campus) and [Dollar Los Angeles Car Rentals](https://www.carrental.com/dollarlosangelescarrentals/) (3515 Wilshire Blvd).

  [Maven Partnership](https://www.maven.com/) USC has partnered with General Motor’s Maven to loan you a car for $5 per hour. Reserve one of Maven’s 18 cars on campus by downloading and registering on the Maven app. These new cars feature advanced technology like free unlimited 4G LTE Wi-Fi and gas and insurance are free.
CAMPUS SAFETY
SAFETY

» BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN YOUR OWN SAFETY

USC is committed to protecting students and educating them about how to protect themselves in Los Angeles’ urban environment. The USC Department of Public Safety (DPS), one of the largest campus public safety departments in the nation, works closely with the Los Angeles Police Department to ensure the university campus and surrounding neighborhoods remain as safe as possible.

Safety is a shared responsibility. Please review the information below to learn how to exercise caution in day-to-day situations, maximize personal safety and wellbeing, and make use of the extensive safety resources and services available at USC.

FIRST STEPS TO SAFETY

1. Save the USC Emergency number in your mobile phone: (213) 740-4321
2. Sign up for TrojansAlert: trojansalert.usc.edu. Through the TrojansAlert system, university officials contact registered members of the Trojan family via text message, voicemail or email to let them know about situations that may present a risk to public safety in our campus community.
3. Download the Live Safe App, a safety app used by USC, by searching “LiveSafe” in your Google Play or Apple App Store.

CAMPUS WIDE SAFETY

USC has many security cameras, license plate recognition cameras, emergency phones, and security officers on and near campus. Additionally, using USC Campus Cruiser (see page 54) means you don’t have to walk home alone.

EMERGENCY “BLUE LIGHT” PHONES

Over 400 Emergency Blue Light Phones are conveniently located across campus, which provide immediate access to a DPS communications officer and identifies the phone location if the caller is unable to talk. The phones can be used to request an escort, report suspicious activity, and to report crimes.

AFTER HOURS VISITOR POLICY

Anyone arriving on campus between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., seven days a week, will be asked to show university identification to security guards stationed at the selected entrance points. USC students, faculty and staff must register any guests arriving to campus after 9 p.m. through the online system at visitor.usc.edu. Each guest must present their identification to enter campus.

Students have to present their USC IDs at all on-campus dorms 24 hours a day and have to register guests with their USC ID and a fingerprint scan if living on campus.
REMININDERS FOR STAYING SAFE
There are many ways you can avoid being a victim of crime or getting hurt. Please see pages 36-43 for tips on staying safe at home, on the road, and in the event of an emergency.

IMPORTANT
To report a crime in progress, suspicious or threatening behavior, or other emergencies:

- **At USC:** Call the USC Department of Public Safety: (213) 740-4321
- **Outside of USC:** Call the Los Angeles Police Department or Fire Department: 911
- **If USC has a major emergency or power failure**, your family can receive updated information by going to emergency.usc.edu

THREE THINGS WE WANT YOU TO KNOW

1. **ENHANCE YOUR SAFETY**
   Avoid walking alone or in isolated places. A city as large as Los Angeles has exciting highlights from downtown highrises to sun-drenched beaches. Like most major cities, Los Angeles has crime that occurs.

   *To enhance your safety when out late, always:*
   - Avoid talking on your cell phone while walking or riding a bike
   - Avoid taking shortcuts through alleys
   - Use the escort services provided by USC Transportation

2. **PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY**
   Avoid leaving your personal property unattended or unsecured. Even for a short while thefts can occur because it is a crime of opportunity. You may get distracted and leave your laptop, cell phone, or book bag containing valuable property or pertinent information such as identification cards, or class assignments, unattended. Most common places where thefts occur include libraries, resident hall rooms, cafeterias, classrooms, parks and athletic fields, bleachers, and locker rooms.
SAFETY continued

You can reduce your chance of becoming a victim of theft by doing the following:

- Take your property with you.
- Use anti-theft devices such as laptop cable locks or portable alarms.
- Avoid “piggy-backing” when you enter your building. Piggy back is when you allow others to follow you inside a building.
- Close and lock your room door after leaving, even for a short while.

PREVENT BICYCLE THEFT
Always lock your bicycle to a bike rack and lock the frame of your bicycle, not just the tire:

Avoid leaving your bicycle locked and free standing. Although your bike may be conveniently locked to itself, a thief can easily pick up the bicycle and walk away with it.

3. FOLLOW BICYCLING RULES

USC requires all bicycles to be registered and display to a decal issued by the Department of Public Safety. You may register your bicycle online or visit the Department of Public Safety office located at Parking Structure A. The decal and registration are FREE.

There are laws in the California Motor Vehicle Code that apply to bicycle use. These laws are enforced on the USC campus and the community surrounding the campus. If you ride a bicycle on campus, you are accepting responsibility for following the laws and the university bicycle policy.

GETTING AROUND USC SAFELY

There are many ways to avoid walking alone when traveling off campus. Listed below are some suggestions for getting around USC safely.

- If possible avoid walking alone, especially when upset, depressed, or after drinking. Instead of walking alone, get a friend to walk with you, or check the USC bus and tram schedules. Call Campus Cruiser if the tram does not operate in your area.
- Connect with roommates and others in your complex concerning class schedules and studying at libraries. Possibly others are going to the same location and you can walk together. Also connect with others in your classes to see if they are going to the same location as you after class.
- If you commute to campus: Connect with other commuter students in your classes and inquire on the possibility of parking in the same area or lot when you arrive or carpooling.
SAFETY continued

• While walking off campus, stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you - don’t become lost in thought or daydreams.
• Avoid talking on your cell phone while walking, skateboarding, or bicycling. Use of cell phones while traveling often can result in accidents and can be a target for a thief.
• Keep your keys separate from your purse or backpack. Have your keys ready before you approach your vehicle or home.
• At night, stay in well lit areas as much as possible. There are security guards in yellow jackets in the surrounding neighborhood who are in direct contact with the USC Department of Public Safety (DPS).
• Get familiar with campus locations that are open 24 hours daily; such as the campus entrance gates (Gate 3 at Figueroa and 35th Street and Gate 5 at Jefferson Blvd. and McClintock Ave.); the Department of Public Safety, located on the west side of campus in Parking Structure A on McClintock Ave. by 36th Place).
• Get familiar with the locations of the Emergency Phones (phones outside will have a blue light on top).
• Try to vary your route; some assaults are planned in advance and an irregular schedule makes it easier to avoid an attack.
• Try to keep one hand free when carrying books, packages, etc.
• When waiting to cross the street, stand a foot or two back from the curb.
• If you hear someone behind you, turn and look.
• Be wary of people requesting help (directions, change, time, a cigarette, etc.). Some rapists, purse snatchers, and other criminals use this approach to judge how compliant a person is, and to get physically close to them.

CAMPUS ACCESS POLICY

To ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff, the university implemented the following campus access policy:

From 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. each day, security personnel stationed at each open entrance will ask anyone coming onto campus—including students, faculty and staff—to provide their USC identification card or other approved photo identification.

Guests, including parents and family members, must be registered to access campus after hours. Students and employees may use the online guest registration system at http://visitor.usc.edu to register their guests. Once guests are in the system, their information will be immediately available to entrance personnel who will be admitted upon showing their photo ID.

Any vehicle driven onto campus after hours will have its license plate photographed and cross-checked by campus police. There are many security patrols, campus cruisers and cameras on or near campus.

STUDENTS LIVING ON CAMPUS

Students have to present their USC IDs at all on-campus dorms 24 hours a day and have to register guests with their USC ID and a fingerprint scan.
SAFETY continued

STUDENT SAFETY TIPS

HOME SAFETY
• Keep your doors locked
• Do not “prop” doors open
• Lock windows and block sliding doors
• Do not admit strangers into your home
• Get to know your neighbors
• Keep emergency telephone numbers on your phone

SAVE THESE EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:
DPS: (213) 740-4321 / POLICE: 911

PROTECTING YOUR PROPERTY
• Record serial numbers and descriptions of all your valuable items
• Register your bike with USC Department of Public Safety
• Report all thefts immediately
• Be alert at all times and report any suspicious activities to security

SMARTPHONES
Avoid leaving your cell phone unattended or unsecured. In the event your cell phone is lost or stolen, we recommend the following to aide you in the recovery of your device. Apple iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, or Mac Apple have an app that will allow you to locate your device on a map, remotely lock your device, or erase your data.

If you own an Android phone, we suggest Lookout Mobile Security where you can immediately map the location of your phone in any browser and sound a loud alarm, even if your phone is in silent mode. If your Android is lost or stolen, Lookout Premium enables you to remotely lock it and clear your personal data.

LAPTOPS
Many options are available to protect your data and to prevent theft, such as laptop locks, alarms, security labels and laptop tracking software. Victims can lose hardware, software and sensitive data that has not been backed up, as well as give thieves access to sensitive data and personal information.

DRIVING SAFELY
• Always wear a seatbelt (it’s the law!)
  Everyone in your car MUST wear a seatbelt at all times
• Never pick up strangers
• Keep car windows and doors closed and locked
• Try to park in well-lit areas and avoid parking next to large vehicles
• Check the back seat every time before you get in your car
• Do not text or talk on the phone while driving. You can get a very expensive ticket for breaking this California law.
• Make sure children are in an appropriate car seat that meets legal requirements

Read more about this app at www.apple.com. Type the words “Find My iPhone” (or iPad, iPod, Mac) in the search engine on the Apple website.
SAFETY continued

BICYCLES
Bicycle registration is required at the university. Registration and licencing is free at the DPS Office. Go to dps.usc.edu/services/bikes to register online.

Things you must have when riding your bike:

• A bike light when riding at night.
• Working brakes - get new pads and adjustments at any bike shop.
• Helmet - California law requires all bicyclists under 18 years of age to wear a bike helmet when riding on all streets, bikeways, public paths, and trails (Section 21212 CVC). Persons 18 years or older are highly encouraged to wear a bike helmet while riding their bicycles. Helmets are available at any bike shop.

If you ride a bicycle on the road, you must follow all California Vehicle Codes, the laws for cars and moving vehicles. This includes:

• Stopping at stop signs and traffic lights, moving in the same direction as cars and not wearing a headset or earplugs that cover both ears
• Riding in bicycle lanes: New bicycle lanes have been installed on campus to ensure the safety of bike riders and pedestrians. The bike lanes run along the central median of Trousdale Parkway. Arrows and a cardinal Trojan mark the new lanes. Bicyclists and skateboarders must ride in the direction of the arrows and are required to dismount when crossing pedestrian traffic.
• You may not ride your bicycle through a crosswalk. If you are crossing the street at a light in the crosswalk, you must get off your bicycle and walk.

SKATEBOARDS
If you are riding a skateboard on the sidewalk, you cannot perform “tricks” or ride in a way that will damage property (including the sidewalk, benches, etc.) or can be unsafe to others on the sidewalk.

PEDESTRIANS (WALKING)
If you are on foot and you want to cross the street, you must cross in a marked crosswalk (between the white lines). You cannot cross diagonally unless the crosswalk is marked for crossing diagonally with white lines.

EARTHQUAKES
In the event of an earthquake, get under a table or desk and protect yourself from falling objects. Do not stand in a doorway. If outside, move away from structures, power poles and other possible hazards. Do not use elevators. After the earthquake, call Public Safety (213) 740-4321 to report any serious injuries or other immediate emergencies. Once you have exited the building (after the earthquake), do not reenter until the building has been inspected by trained USC emergency personnel and they say it is safe to return.
ONLINE SAFETY

Here are some safety tips to remember when using email, chat rooms, instant messaging, blogs, and social networking sites like Twitter or Facebook:

- Control the information you post.
- Never post your private information. Don’t post your full name, ID number, address, phone number, or bank and credit card account numbers — and do not post other people’s information either.
- Make sure your screen name doesn’t give specific information about you. Don’t use your name, your age, or your hometown.
- Be careful what you put on a webpage. Make sure only people you know can see the webpage.
- Be careful about posting a photo of yourself. It can be changed in ways you may not like. If you do post a photo, choose it wisely.
- Talking to strangers online is dangerous. People lie about who they really are, and you never really know who you are chatting with.
- NEVER agree to meet a new online friend in person.
- If someone you are chatting with says something bad or potentially dangerous, tell an RA or an Academy staff member.

Adapted from: ftc.gov
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RELATED RETALIATION

» PROHIBITED DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION

The University of Southern California believes that all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, patients, and visitors, should pursue their work, education, and engagement in University programs and activities in a safe environment, free from discrimination and harassment based on protected characteristics, and retaliation.

As a result, the University’s Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation prohibits the following conduct:

- Discrimination
- Harassment, including: Title IX sexual harassment, Sexual and gender based harassment, and Harassment based on other protected characteristics
- Sexual Assault
- Dating Violence
- Domestic Violence
- Stalking
- Nonconsensual viewing, recording, and dissemination
- Exposure
- Retaliation
- Complicity
- Violation of a University directive (such as a Mutual Avoidance of Contact Directive)

The University’s Notice of Non-Discrimination includes the following protected characteristics:

- Actual or perceived race
- Color
- Ethnicity
- Religion (including religious dress and grooming practices)
- Creed
- Sex
- Age (40 years and over in the employment context)
- Marital status
- National origin
- Citizenship status
- Employment status
- Shared ancestry and ethnic characteristics
- Medical condition (including cancer and genetic characteristics)
- Pregnancy (including childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions)
- Disability
- Political belief or affiliation
- Domestic violence victim status
- Military or veteran status
- Sexual orientation
- Gender
- Gender identity
- Gender expression
- Genetic information
- Income status
- Partnership status

For more information, including definitions of discrimination, harassment and retaliation, as well as resolution options and available supportive measures, please refer to the Policy on Prohibited, Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation. You may also visit the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX website or contact the office directly by phone at (213) 740-5086 or by email at eeo@usc.edu.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RELATED RETALIATION  
continued

WHAT TO DO IF...

...you have experienced sexual assault?

• Go to a safe location
• Get medical care as soon as possible
• Preserve all physical evidence of the assault
• Save all clothing that you were wearing at the time of the assault
• Preserving other evidence: save all text messages, emails, social media postings or anything else that might relate to the assault
• Write down the names of people who might have seen you immediately before or after
• Call a trusted friend, family member or someone else who can provide emotional support
• Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) can provide confidential support and information, 24/7. (213) 740-9355
• Reporting: Anyone who has experienced sexual assault is encouraged to make a report to the Department of Public Safety and to local law enforcement, but is not required to do so.
• Contact the Title IX Coordinator (213) 740-5085 in the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX

...someone tells you about a sexual assault?

• Listen to what they tell you. Sometimes people who have experienced sexual assault need to talk about the attack.
• Don’t blame – this is not the time to question their decisions.
• Allow your friend or the student making the disclosure the freedom to choose when, where and how to talk about their experience
• Be sensitive. Understand that they may be in distress and dealing with a wide array of feelings.
• Respect your friend’s confidentiality and don’t share information about their experience with other friends.

• Be patient. Recovery from sexual assault can be slow. Your friend sets the pace.
• Realize that you may also have strong feelings about the trauma. If needed, seek support for yourself. The USC Counseling and Mental Health offers one-on-one counseling and discussion groups for friends.
• Remember that whatever your friend did to survive an attack was exactly what they needed to do. Your friend did not cause the attack and is not at fault.
• If the person who has experienced sexual assault is a student, you may also wish to walk them over to the USC Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services, or Student Counseling Center in Engemann Student Health Center, or help the student to call them.

...you are being, or have been stalked?

• If you feel you are in danger, immediately call the USC Department of Public Safety (DPS) at (213) 740-4321 and report to EEO-TIX at (213) 740-5085. If you are off campus, contact local law enforcement.
• Contact support services such as Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services, at (213) 740-9355.
• Try to retain documentation of the stalking incidents such as messages, texts, and/or other items.
• Keep a log of the dates and ways that the other person contact you or attempted to contact you.
• Contact the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX at (213) 740-5086 to get additional information about reporting and resolution options and available supportive measures.
DOMESTIC AND DATING VIOLENCE

Dating violence includes any act of violence by an individual who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the impacted individual, based on the following factors: (1) the length of relationship, (2) the type of relationship, and (3) the frequency of the interaction between the individuals involved in the relationship. This may include situations in which only one date occurred.

Domestic or dating violence can happen to anyone. It affects people of all genders, races, and socioeconomic levels. If you or a friend or colleague is experiencing domestic or dating violence, know that help is available at Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP). Also, dating and domestic violence are crimes in California. The person experiencing this conduct may also contact the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX at (213) 740-5086 to get additional information about reporting and resolution options and available supportive measures.

REMINDERS

If you or someone you know here at USC has experienced sexual or gender-based violence, including sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, or dating violence, here are a few key points to remember:

1. Get to a safe location, and get medical care.
2. You are encouraged to make a report to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and/or local law enforcement, but no one is required to do so. Also, information shared with DPS about possible violent crimes will be forwarded to the Los Angeles Police Department, but you have a right to ask that your name be withheld.
3. To get help accessing resources, or to have CONFIDENTIAL conversations, the following are confidential resources:
   • On-campus: USC Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services or Counseling and Mental Health
   • Off-campus: Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center, or USC Violence Intervention Program
4. Please contact the following private resource for information about reporting and resolution options, as well as available supportive measures:
   • Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity and Title IX
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RELATED RETALIATION continued

ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES

Confidential

USC Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP)
Engemann Student Health Center, Suite 356
24-hour crisis counseling available by telephone:
Phone: (213)740-9355 (WELL)
Email: studenthealth@usc.edu
Website: https://studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault/

USC Student Health
Counseling and Mental Health, Medical services, pregnancy testing, and emergency contraception
Phone: (213)740-9355 (WELL)
Email: studenthealth@usc.edu
Website: https://studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/

Office of the Ombuds
University Park Campus
Health Sciences Campus
Phone: (213)821-9556
Phone: (323)442-0382
Email: hscombuds@usc.edu
Website: https://ombuds.usc.edu/

Private, Non-Confidential

Disabilities Services and Programs
Phone: (213)740-0776
Email: DSPFrontDesk@usc.edu
Website: https://dsp.usc.edu/

USC Department of Public Safety (DPS)
University Park Campus
Emergency Phone: (213) 740-4321
Non-Emergency Phone: (213) 740-6000
Health Science Campus
Emergency Phone: (323) 442-1000
Non-Emergency Phone: (323) 442-1200

Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity and Title IX
Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (213) 740-5086
Email: eeotix@usc.edu
Website: https://eeotix.usc.edu/

OFF-CAMPUS RESOURCES

UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center
Nationally recognized for its comprehensive, free treatment for sexual assault victims, including 24-hour emergency medical care.
Phone: (310) 319-4000

Sex Assault Center, Violence Intervention Program (VIP) Urgent Care at LAC+USC Medical Center
2010 Zonal Avenue, Los Angeles (Health Sciences Campus)
Provides comprehensive, free treatment for sexual assault victims under the direction of the nationally-renown Dr. Astrid Heger
Phone: (323) 226-3961

For more related resources, please refer to https://eeotix.usc.edu/report/confidential-and-private-resources/.
THE FIVE Ds of BYSTANDER INTERVENTION
Being an Upstander at USC

Direct: Direct intervention. Before you respond, assess the situation: Are you safe from harm? Is the person being harassed safe from harm? Does it seem unlikely that the situation will escalate? Can you tell if the person being harassed wants someone to speak up? If you can answer “yes” to all these questions, you may choose a direct response. Some examples of what you may say include, “That is inappropriate,” “That is disrespectful,” or “That is not okay.” Keep it succinct. Also, do not argue or debate, as this may escalate the situation.

Distract: Intervention through a distraction. Interrupt by engaging with the individual who is being targeted or bringing up another topic to the person or group. Some examples may include asking for the time or for directions, or starting a conversation about something unrelated, such as complimenting the person’s shoes.

Delegate: Delegated intervention. You may turn to a third party for help for help. For example, if you are in a store, you may contact the manager or if on a train, speak to the conductor or other employee. Use teamwork. If you can have a friend use one of the distraction techniques, you may use this time to find someone to help. If you are not with a friend, you may speak to someone nearby who notices what is happening and may be in a better position to intervene.

Delay: Delayed Intervention. If you cannot take action in the moment, you can check on the affected individual after the incident has occurred. For example, you may ask them if they are okay, ask how you can help, offer to sit with them or accompany them to their destination, or share resources.

Document: Documentation. Assess the situation and see if anyone else is helping the person being harassed. If not, use of the other Ds. If someone else is already helping the person, assess your own safety. If you are safe, you may record, remembering to keep a safe distance, filming nearby landmarks like street signs, and state the date and time. Also, always ask the person being harassed what they want to do with the recording and do not livestream or post online without the person’s permission. You may also take notes about what happened.
HEALTH CARE & INSURANCE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE IN THE USA

USC HEALTH INSURANCE AND THE ENGEMANN STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

USC International Academy students are insured by a plan through the USC Student Health Center during the term that they are enrolled. Health care services include doctor visits, information on health problems, allergy shots, minor surgery and X-rays, all of which are available to insured students. To use the services, students should go directly to the Student Health Center and show the receptionist the International Academy insurance card or your student ID card.

There are some small fees associated with seeing a doctor, such as fees for blood tests, x-rays, and other tests. Doctor visits can be on a walk-in basis, but appointments with specialists must be made a week in advance.

More detailed information about your health care will be given to you during the first few days of the program. Please note that if you make an appointment for services at the Health Center and do not show up, you will be charged a $20 no show fee. See Health Insurance Benefit Summary.

PRINT YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE CARD

To print your health insurance card, go to this link. Click on "Print Your Aetna Card" and enter your birthdate and USC ID number.

USC Student Health Center
1031 W. 34th Street, Los Angeles 90089
https://studenthealth.usc.edu/
(213) 740-9355

USC STUDENT HEALTH

USC Student Health is committed to providing students the highest quality primary health care during their studies at USC.

Please follow Step 1 and Step 2 listed here to access USC Student Health.

My Student Health Record (MySHR) makes it easy to manage your health, find great care, and see everything in one place.

• Schedule Health Center appointments online
• Register for text message appointment reminders
• Correspond with your provider using secure messages
• View your immunization history and compliance
• Complete necessary forms prior to your appointment
• Edit your local address and phone number (Health Center records only)
HEALTH CARE & INSURANCE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE IN THE USA

REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS
The University of Southern California requires ALL international students receive:
• 2 doses of MMR (measles, mumps & rubella) vaccine
• Tuberculosis screening (blood test) Tspot or Quantiferon Gold
• 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine
• Meningococcal: Menactra or Menveo, the most recent dose must be on or after your 16th birthday. This requirement is for students 21 years old and under.
• COVID-19 Vaccine

USC Student Health recommends that all new students receive the required vaccines prior to start of their courses and upload all health/immunization records into MySHR (https://studenthealth.usc.edu/myshr/).

Immunization requirement and checklists are available in several languages: https://studenthealth.usc.edu/immunizations/#checklist
The checklist forms may be uploaded to MySHR as proof of compliance for required immunizations - must be completed by a medical provider with their official stamp and accompanied by applicable lab results.

PLEASE NOTE: Women who are pregnant or plan to become pregnant within one month of the workshop date should not receive the MMR vaccination. If you have questions about this, please consult the Health Center staff.

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM
For the latest information check: https://policy.usc.edu/covid-19-vaccination-program/

All faculty, staff, and students eligible to receive an FDA-approved vaccine are required to receive such vaccine in order to access University campuses and premises or participate in any inperson University programs.

The vaccine will be available, per state guidelines and pending availability, at no charge, to all University faculty, staff, and students who are on-campus.

As of April 2021, USC is accepting all international COVID-19 vaccines that have received EUA through the World Health Organization (WHO). We are continually evaluating efficacy data for other vaccines and further recommendations on additional doses of a COVID-19 vaccine may be updated in the future.

Vaccination will be available for arriving students who are unable to access vaccination prior to the start of the fall semester.

Students who received a vaccine outside the USA, may receive an additional vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson and Johnson) after 28 days have passed since your previous COVID-19 vaccine. USC Student Health regularly lists appointments in MySHR for available vaccine appointments.

Proof of COVID-19 vaccination needs to be uploaded onto the student health portal MySHR (https://usc.edu/myshr/). Students can log in to MySHR when they have a USC Student ID number and active email account.
HEALTH CARE & INSURANCE FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE IN THE USA

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM continued

How to upload your COVID-19 vaccine card documentation?
Navigate to the “Upload Documents” Section and upload a copy of your vaccination card. You may also upload the appropriate exemption forms for medical or religious exemptions.

Fall 2021 students will receive updates as these become available.

OTHER HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS

The USC Insurance Plan is required for all students at the International Academy. Dependents not enrolled at the International Academy should all contact Aetna directly.

Plans purchased elsewhere will not waive you from your USC insurance requirement. As a result, we advise you not to purchase an insurance plan in your country or from other countries.
MONEY & BANKING FOR ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS

MANAGE YOUR MONEY
We recommend you do not carry large sums of cash with you when you travel.

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT
If you are staying in the U.S. for longer than three months you may wish to open a bank account. Many students use Bank of America or Chase Bank since there are many branch offices all over California and they have many account options. They also have employees who can translate in several languages. The USC Credit Union offers a full range of banking and account options as well.

GENERALLY, TO OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT YOU NEED:
1. Passport
2. Documents that prove you are currently enrolled at USC (I-20, Student ID, Admission Letter)
3. A minimum deposit of $200 or more

These requirements may vary depending on the bank.

ACCESSING FUNDS IN THE U.S.
A good way to deposit money into your account is by bank wire transfer. First, you need to open an account with a minimum of $200 (cash, travelers check, bank check or charge card).

Once the account is established, you can have funds wired directly to your account. It usually takes a few days for the money to be available. Bank fees apply to many transactions. Please check with the bank of your choice.

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES (ATM)
Debit and credit cards are common in the U.S. You can apply for a debit card (also known as an ATM card) when you open your bank account. A debit card allows you to withdraw or deposit money and check your account balance. ATM machines can be found at banks, shopping centers, supermarkets, and on the USC campus.

Some businesses allow customers to use their ATM cards to pay for purchases (most often at gasoline stations and supermarkets). When using ATM machines, be sure to follow necessary security precautions to guard against theft.

Note: There is usually no fee for using your ATM card at your bank or its branches. However, there is a small charge when using it at other banks.

NEARBY ATMs:
- **USC Credit Union**: a variety of locations on and off campus, including ATMs outside the Student Union building (in Campus Center).
- **Chase**: located at University Gateway on the corner of Figueroa Street and Jefferson Boulevard.
- **Citibank**: located just west of campus at Vermont Avenue and 36th Street near Togo’s and Taco Bell.
- **Bank of America**: several locations; outside of Student Union building, on the corner of Jefferson Boulevard and McClintock Avenue, and at the corner of Figueroa and 27th Street.
- **Wells Fargo**: on the corner of Figueroa Street and 28th Street; if going north on Figueroa (toward downtown), it is on the left side.
TRANSPORTATION

NAVIGATE THE USC CAMPUS AND LOS ANGELES CITY

GETTING TO & FROM USC

Free bus transportation to the University Park Campus is available to students living in the nearby area (sometimes referred to as "USC trams"). A bus route connects the University Parking Center at Jefferson Boulevard and Grand Avenue with various University Park Campus locations. An intercampus bus runs between the University Park and Health Sciences campuses. The bus service links both campuses to Union Station—the major Los Angeles transportation hub, serviced by Amtrak, Metrolink, Metrorail and local transit bus lines. USC buses operate designated routes Monday through Friday; limited services are provided on weekends.

DRIVING IN CALIFORNIA

During your first three months in the U.S., you may use your driver’s license from your home country together with an International Driving Permit/License and your passport.

If you stay in the United States longer than 3 months, you will need a California driver’s license to drive. Your I-20 needs to be valid for at least 2 months after the date you pass your driving test. For more information, check the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) website at www.dmv.ca.gov

METRO RAIL

Within walking distance from campus you will find a METRO train stop that you can take to Downtown Los Angeles, Hollywood, Universal Studios, Santa Monica, Union Station (where you can find train connections to other U.S. cities and states), Long Beach, the airport and many local attractions.

RESOURCES FOR GETTING AROUND

Airport Shuttle - PrimeTime Shuttle
(800) 733-8267 • https://www.primetimeshuttle.com/

Train - Union Station
800 N Alameda Street, Los Angeles 90012
(800) 872-7245 • www.amtrak.com

Metro Buses, Subway, and Light Rail
Main California Public Transport System
(323) 466-3876 • www.metro.net

Greyhound Bus Lines
1716 E 17th Street, Los Angeles 90021
(213) 629-8401 • www.greyhound.com

Taxi
Yellow Cab • (800) 200-1085
Bell Cab • (888) 235-5888

Rideshare Apps/Services
Lyft • https://ride.lyft.com/
EATING ON CAMPUS
Hungry? There are many places on campus to satisfy your appetite. USC Hospitality provides the following dining options on campus (hours may vary, please check the USC Hospitality Website).

TUTOR CAMPUS CENTER
Located between the USC Bookstore and Student Union, Tutor Campus Center offers a variety of quick service dining options, including: The Habit, California Pizza Kitchen, Lemonade, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Panda Express, Verde, Seeds Marketplace, Moreton Fig, and Traditions (the local bar).

DINING HALLS (USC VILLAGE, EVK, PARKSIDE)
These all you can eat, buffet-style cafeterias offer extensive hot and cold dining options. Meal swipes can be used here.

- Little Galen: Open for lunch only, Little Galen offers healthy grill items, sandwiches, salad bar and special hot entrées (Behind Heritage Hall).
- Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf: Coffee, tea, and grab & go items (located at the School of Cinematic Arts)
- Law School Cafe: Offers fresh panini sandwiches, salads, and snacks (Ground floor of the Law School).
- Literatea: Make your study hours more pleasant in this quiet teahouse behind Doheny Library.
- Popovich Cyber Cafe: This Business School cafe serves sandwiches, salads, coffee, smoothies, and snacks (1st floor of Popovich Hall).
- Fertitta Cafe: Another Business School cafe that features Bao, Banh mi, Dim Sum, Asian Salads, Noodle and Rice Bowls and an expansive Sushi Bar.

EATING OFF CAMPUS
From street food to 5-star restaurants, Downtown Los Angeles is home to a wide selection of dining options.

The Grand Central Market, L.A. Live, Chinatown, and Little Tokyo are a short bus ride away. For home cooking, visit one of the specialty grocery stores along Vermont Ave.

- Starbucks: Serves coffee, pastries, and grab & go meals.
- Tutor Hall Cafe: Indian cuisine, Japanese noodle bowls, banh mi sandwiches plus grab & go items (Near PSA at the Viterbi School of Engineering, outdoor seating available).
USC BOOKSTORE
(213) 740-0066 • uscbookstore.com
You can purchase textbooks, reference and technical books, stationery, computer supplies and merchandise with the USC logo at this location.

USC Safe Ride Program
(213) 740-4911 • https://transnet.usc.edu/index.php/about-usc-safe-ride-program/
Powered by Campus Cruiser, and supplemented by LYFT, our Safe Ride Program is designed to make the USC Community a safer place for those who study, work or take classes at night.

Our Campus Cruiser program started in 1978 and now operates year round, averaging 3,000 rides per week. Students can book a ride through the web platform, mobile app or by calling 213.740.4911 at UPC or 323.442.2100 at HSC. message when your Cruiser has arrived.

UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
Parking Structure X (PSX), First floor
(213)740-3575 • usc.edu/transportation
If you need a USC Parking Permit or want to purchase discounted MTA bus passes, you must go to the Transportation Office. This office also provides the campus bus service which is very helpful if you need a ride between USC off-campus housing or parking structures and campus.

USC TICKET OFFICE
Student Union (STU), Suite 100
(213)740-7111 • usc.edu/tickets
In the mood to have some fun? You can purchase tickets to California amusement parks, concerts, games, festivals, carnivals, and on-campus events at discounted rates.

LYON & USC VILLAGE RECREATION CENTERS (FITNESS CENTERS)
(213) 740-5127 • usc.edu/recsports
The Lyon Center & the USC Village Fitness Centers offer opportunities to participate in sports, group exercise, and other recreational activities. You have full access to a variety of athletic facilities, including racquetball and squash courts, sauna and whirlpool, a weight room, gymnasiums, swimming pools and locker rooms.

IMPORTANT: If you want to use the Recreation Centers, get a liability waiver from the Lyon/USC Village Center front desk and turn it in. They will check for your name on a list generated by the International Academy and issue you a sticker for your USCard. This will give you access to the facilities there. Students only have access to the Centers during the term they are enrolled in USC.

LIBRARIES
(213) 740-2931 • usc.edu/libraries
USC has more than 20 libraries on its campus to facilitate your coursework, studying, and research. Its technology-enhanced spaces will support individual or group study as well as multimedia production and viewing. Leavey Library is open 24 hours a day beginning Sunday at 9:00 a.m. until Saturday at midnight during the fall and spring semesters. Check the website for library locations and hours.
USC GENERAL STUDENT SERVICES continued

COMPUTER ACCESS
itservices.usc.edu/spaces/computingcenters/
The following computing centers are open for student use:
  • King Olympic Hall (KOH 206)
  • Salvatori Computer Center (SAL 125)
  • Waite Philips Hall (WPH B34)
  • Leavey Library (LVL lower level, 2nd floor)

USC PHARMACY
USC Pharmacy, STU 101 • (213) 740-2738
Medical Plaza Pharmacy, PSD • (213) 821-6100
pharmacies.usc.edu/
If you have been injured or are suffering from an illness and your
doctor has prescribed medicine for you, go to one of the two
campus pharmacies to get your prescription filled. USC students
receive a discount on prescription medicines here. Consult with
certified pharmacists about any questions you may have regarding
the medication.

STUDENT INFORMATION CENTER
Ronald Tutor Campus Center (TCC) • (213) 821-7822
If you have general questions about academic and social
programs at USC, you can go to the Information Desk on the
ground floor of the Campus Center and ask. The people there
can give you literature which will help answer your questions.
There is also a Lost and Found department where you can
sometimes find belongings you may have lost.

CHILD CARE
2716 Severance Street, Los Angeles 90089
(213) 743-2446 • usc.edu/childcare
If you have children, you must arrange your own day care services,
usually for a monthly fee. There is often a waitlist for available spaces
at USC childcare, so be prepared to arrange alternative child care
if you are bringing dependent children with you when you come to
study. Children are not allowed in USC classrooms at any time.

DAILY TROJAN
daily.trojan.usc.edu
To keep yourself well-informed of campus activities, read the Daily
Trojan, USC's student newspaper. Copies of this newspaper are
located all over campus and can usually be found in the entrance
of THH, VKC, or many other places throughout campus. You can
also subscribe to The Daily Trojan Email Edition here.

THE MAIL STOP (POSTAL SERVICES)
Parking Structure X (PSX), First floor • (213) 740-2467
If you need to purchase stamps, mail a package, or other mailing
needs, this convenient stop is for you! There is also a U.S. Post Office
located across from Gate #6 on Vermont Ave and several USPS and
FedEx drop-off locations across campus.
COUNSELING & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

USC STUDENT HEALTH COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH
(213) 740-7711 • studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/
Counseling and Mental Health is committed to helping students achieve their academic and individual goals. They offer confidential services such as individual therapy, crisis support, psychiatric services, consultations, group counseling, and workshops. If you are experiencing depression, stress, or relationship difficulties, and would like to talk to a counselor, call or walk-in to the Student Health Center to schedule an appointment. Find out more about Counseling and Mental Health Support for Internationals Students here.

GROUP COUNSELING
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling/group-counseling/
Group counseling is regarded as an effective way for people to address common issues. Many students find it helpful to connect with others sharing similar experiences in a safe, supportive environment.

Log in to MySHR (in the “messages” section) to submit a Counseling Group Interest Form.

“LET’S TALK” & OTHER DROP-IN PROGRAMS
https://studenthealth.usc.edu/lets-talk-drop-in-schedule-for-students/
No appointments necessary – come to any session!

• “Let’s Talk” is an opportunity to talk to a counselor to get professional guidance on any number of social and mental health topics.
• Well-being Wednesdays offers students the opportunity to wind down with stress-relief activities and chat with a USC Student Health professional.
• Thriving Thursdays drop-in session is being converted to a facilitated group on grief and loss for the rest of the semester. No appointment necessary.

INTERNATIONAL TEA TIME
A therapeutic discussion and support group to provide space for international students to share their experience here at USC. This is a chance to discuss anything that is confusing, difficult, or amusing. Themes commonly discussed include communication, relationships, homesickness, identities, and adjusting to USC in general.

CRISIS SUPPORT
For urgent matters, please do not hesitate to walk into the Student Health Center:

• Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. OR
• Call any time for consultation (213) 710-7711.
• In case of an emergency or if you need immediate assistance, please call (213) 740-9355 (WELL).
CAMPUS WELLNESS

USC CAMPUS SUPPORT & INTERVENTION (CSI)
campussupport.usc.edu/
Campus support & Intervention (CSI) is comprised of a team of professionals to assist students, faculty, and staff in navigating complex issues. CSI services include resource referrals and recommendations, critical incident response, professor notifications, DPS incident follow-up, and Trojans Care for Trojans (TC4T).

TROJANS CARE 4 TROJANS (TC4T)
Trojans Care for Trojans (TC4T) is a private and anonymous request form that anyone can submit to connect a member of the Trojan family with the help they need. This private and anonymous request form provides an opportunity for Trojans to help a member of our Trojan family.

USC OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY LIFESTYLE REDESIGN PROGRAM
chan.usc.edu/patient-care/faculty-practice/college-students
The Lifestyle Redesign Program for College Students provides support for USC undergraduate and graduate students in establishing health-promoting habits and routines customized to help them meet their personal goals.

MINDFUL USC
mindful.usc.edu/about-us/
Mindful USC is a service from the Provost’s Office to help the USC Community build a culture of mindfulness and compassion through training, practice groups and special events such as guided meditations.
GOOD PLACES TO STUDY AT USC
This list was compiled by USC students based on some of their favorite study spots. This is only a partial list; feel free to find your own “quiet space” on campus or nearby!

MUDD HALL OF PHILOSOPHY (MHP)
There are many quiet places to study in this beautiful building, including a lovely courtyard. It is on the far end of campus (next to Exposition Boulevard), so it is not busy. The best place in this building however is the Hoose Library on the top floor: take a walk up the stairs to see it for yourself. It is breathtaking, secluded and quiet!

RONALD TUTOR CAMPUS CENTER (RTCC) TROJAN FAMILY ROOM
Situated inside USC’s student hub, the Trojan Family Room is central to everything you need – a place to study, food nearby to replenish your tired mind, and fancy furniture to cushion your bum from all those hours of studying. You’ll appreciate that the space is also aesthetically appealing for when your eyes wander away from your textbook.

LEAVY LIBRARY (LVL)
This large library is filled with floors of study space but it is busy. There are computer labs in the basement and on the second floor with plenty of studying area in each. You can also reserve a study room for individual or groupwork.

DOHENY LIBRARY (DML)
This is perhaps the best place on campus to study because there are floors of desks and tables hidden amongst the book stacks. If you like to be secluded and undisturbed, head down the elevator and sneak around to a quiet corner. If you like large open wood tables, try the first floor Cinema Library. Doheny Library is a great place to study if you love books because the entire place smells like old books! The only problem is that once you are underground, there are no windows, so keep an eye on your watch!

TAPER HALL OF HUMANITIES (THH)
There are several great places to get some work done in this building. On the fourth floor there are several chairs and couches down the winding hallway. There’s lots of sunlight and it’s always quiet here as well. Another good spot is the Language Center located on the 3rd floor.

FOUNDERS PARK
Located directly beside Bovard Auditorium (ADM), this is a prime location for studying on sunny days. You can sit on the benches or sit in the grass. Usually this area is relatively quiet and empty.

QUEEN’S COURT
This is the area next to the Music School (MUS, RHM, BMH). There are plots of flowers, grassy hills, and sculptures. This is also a great place if you enjoy calming noise while you study – there are almost always music students practicing or, if not, you can hear the relaxing sound of the fountain.

GROUND ZERO
Tucked away behind Marks Tower (DMT), Pardee Tower (PDT) and the Dean’s Halls (DXM, TRO), Ground Zero can be a good place for studying. It opens at 7 p.m. on weeknights. Known for its comfortable chairs and couches, it makes a great place for reading when there aren’t concerts or events going on. Since not many people know about Ground Zero, it is relatively quiet.

OTHER SMALL CAMPUS LIBRARIES
• VKC Library (basement of VKC)
• Cinematic Arts, East Asian Libraries (in Doheny)
• Architecture and Fine Arts (basement of WAH)
• Law Library (2nd floor of Law School)