

Domestic Students Frequently Asked Questions

Arrival

When should I arrive in the U.S.?

It's recommended to arrive USC before the Orientation date(s). There will be emails sent to you about the specific dates of the semester.

What documents should I bring with me to USC?

If you received a degree from an institution outside the United States and are required to complete degree verification, please follow [instructions here](#) to finish the prior degree verification.

In order to finish degree verification and other needs later, it is recommended to bring:

- Original and English translation of your diploma(s).
- Original and English translation of your full transcript(s)
- Immigration related documents (international students).

How should I go to USC campus from the Los Angeles International airport?

Please note that the following are the recommendations from students' experiences. USC does not endorse any travel operators.

1. You may ask some student organizations (e.g. Chinese Students & Scholars Association, Association of Indian Students) to see if they offer pickup services.
2. [Primetime Shuttle](#) or [Super Shuttle Los Angeles](#) are two of shuttle companies. You may reserve pickup services online ahead of time.
3. Request [Uber](#) or [Lyft](#) at the airport. Drivers can only pick up passengers on the upper departures level. Once you have your bags and are ready to go, request a ride from the app on your phone and head to Departures (Upper Level). Look for the Ride Service signs to find your driver.

I will live in USC Housing apartments, can I move in earlier than the official Move-in date?

Only the housing [Customer Service Center \(CSC\)](#) for your building can approve an early arrival request, which should be submitted in writing (an e-mail is OK). Residents may request early arrival on an individual basis. Because the University must also plan for summer school student departures, conferences and other university summer programs, individual requests cannot be guaranteed. Requests should be submitted to the e-mail address of the Customer Service Center for your housing assignment. [More details](#)

Orientation

Do I need to attend both USC and Viterbi Orientations?

No. Incoming USC Viterbi Master's students only need to attend the Viterbi Master's Orientation. Please register to the Viterbi Master's Orientation date for the which you must have received the invite based on your department. This Viterbi Orientation is all encompassing. You do not need to attend the USC-wide Graduate Orientation.

I have scheduled my Viterbi Orientation, what's next?

Please refer to the Master's student [next steps checklist](#) for more details

Can I bring guest(s) to the Viterbi Orientation?

The Viterbi Master's Student Orientation is designed for our students to learn what to expect at USC Viterbi and mingle with their classmates. With that in mind, we are only able to accommodate incoming students at the Orientation.

How or what do I need to prepare for the orientation?

Please check your USC emails frequently as the Viterbi GAPP Office will be sending you all the registrations, steps and tips for attending the orientation. Meanwhile, if you have specific questions, you are welcome to email masters@gapp.usc.edu

Class Registration (Restrictions)

When and how can I register for classes?

Review the [Web Registration Tutorial](#) for more information. Be sure you have all d-clearances (if applicable) and all holds on your account are removed to register

What classes I should take in my first semester?

[Department advisors](#) will inform all new students on class registrations via emails and at the Viterbi Orientation. In addition, please find your major/program details and curriculum [on this page](#). You may also contact your department advisor(s) for course arrangement questions.

Where can I find out information about textbooks?

Professors will upload class syllabus onto registration system, you may see the syllabus the [Schedule of Classes](#).

1. Search the course number or name in the search bar of the semester you are registering.
2. Look for the column labeled “Syllabus”. When it’s available, there will be syllabus PDF for you to download.
3. After downloading, please make sure it’s the document for the course and semester that you are registering.
4. If not available, you may email professors asking about textbooks.

MyUSC page notified me that I am required to take short online courses. What is this?

Your health, wellness and safety are essential to your success as a student at USC. On the MyUSC website, you will find two online learning modules designed to provide knowledge and skills on the critical topics of sexual assault prevention and campus safety: *Think about It* and *On the Safe Side*.

You must complete both courses by the deadline or a hold will be placed on your future semester registration. [More details here](#).

Tuition Payment and Health Insurance

When is the due date of my first semester tuition?

You need to settle all your tuition on the statement by the Friday before class begins (Jan. 5th 2018 for the spring incoming students). You can check your bill at “MyUSC—Pay My Bill”.

How can I pay my tuition and fees?

Please see this page for payment options: <http://sfs.usc.edu/payment/>

Do I have health insurance from USC?

Yes, all domestic students taking six units or more are automatically enrolled in the USC Student Health Insurance Plan.

What are USC health center requirements on new students?

- [Health Insurance Requirement and Option to Waive](#)
- [Immunizations Compliance](#)
- [Student Health Center Fee Requirement](#)

Please see more details at the [USC Engemann Student Health Center New Student page](#)

Other Questions:

Please email masters@gapp.usc.edu with your USC ID.