



USC

USC International Academy
at Davidson Conference Center



USC International Academy
University Park Campus
Los Angeles, California
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international.usc.edu

USC International Academy

REALIZE YOUR POTENTIAL MAXIMIZE YOUR SUCCESS



USC University of
Southern California



Premier Institution, Powerful Advantages

Anchoring a global center of entertainment, technology, and international trade, the University of Southern California is a top-tier, private research university upon which the world depends for a steady stream of innovation in education, science, and the arts. At USC, you will encounter new perspectives, experience different cultures, and collaborate with influential scholars and professionals who are making a meaningful impact in countless fields.

RANKED TOP 15 UNIVERSITY

A Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education survey of more than **1,000 U.S. colleges and universities** ranks USC **15th** nationally and **3rd** among the 150 universities in the Western United States. The university ranks **2nd** in diversity among private peer universities.

Renowned Faculty, Innovative Research

USC's faculty members produce groundbreaking research that meets the most critical challenges facing our world. Their achievements are lauded through such awards as the Nobel Prize, National Medal of Arts, National Humanities Medal, National Medal of Science, National Medal of Technology, and MacArthur Fellowships, and membership in the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine.

Our scholars advance knowledge at the university's numerous research centers and institutes, many of which are federally funded centers of excellence. Just a few of the breakthroughs that have come out of USC include:

- **An antiviral drug to inhibit HIV and influenza A**
- **The domain name system and other internet protocols used around the world**
- **Smart sensors for threat recognition and localization**
- **Preservation of genocide survivor testimonies**
- **A prosthesis to restore sight to those suffering from blindness**
- **Key principles behind computer simulations that are now indispensable in the study of chemical reactions**

USC AT A GLANCE

1880

Founded

LOS ANGELES

Location

19,000

Undergraduates
Enrolled

26,500

Graduate/Professional
Students Enrolled

11,000+

International Students
Enrolled

8:1

Student-Faculty
Ratio

375,000+

Trojan Alumni Worldwide

300+

Areas of Study

\$4.9 BILLION

Annual Budget

USC's advantages include an intimate environment that ensures all students can benefit from direct mentorship from some of the world's best faculty, along with academic programs that prepare you for success in the 21st century's global economy, high-value internships and career services, and an exceptional residential college experience.



Global Impact

- Longstanding leadership in international student enrollment
- Worldwide, lifelong network of 375,000+ alumni committed to developing strategic professional relationships
- Co-founder of Association of Pacific Rim Universities
- International offices in Beijing, Hong Kong, Mexico City, Mumbai, São Paulo, Seoul, Shanghai, and Taipei supporting global recruitment, partnerships, and exchanges
- 75+ alumni organizations around the world, including: Bangkok, Beijing, Dubai, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jakarta, Mexico City, Paris, Pearl River Delta, Saudi Arabia, São Paulo, Seoul, Shanghai, Taipei, Tokyo, and more

Trojan Network

More than 375,000 strong, the supportive community of USC alumni spans the globe. As a member of the Trojan Family, you will be part of a remarkable group shaping the future of the planet, from business moguls and government ministers to Hollywood luminaries and Olympic gold medalists.

"From the day you graduate, the USC network is there for you. And, in turn, you, as a graduate, are expected to be there for other USC alumni."

– HARVEY MACKAY, bestselling author of *Dig Your Well Before You're Thirsty*

Top-Ranked Academic Programs

Year after year, USC's diverse academic programs rank at or near the top of their disciplines. Learn more by exploring academics.usc.edu.

Letters, Arts, and Sciences

Accounting

Architecture

Art and Design

Business

Cinematic Arts

Communication, Journalism

Dance

Dentistry

Dramatic Arts

Education

Engineering

Gerontology

Law

Medicine

Music

Occupational Therapy

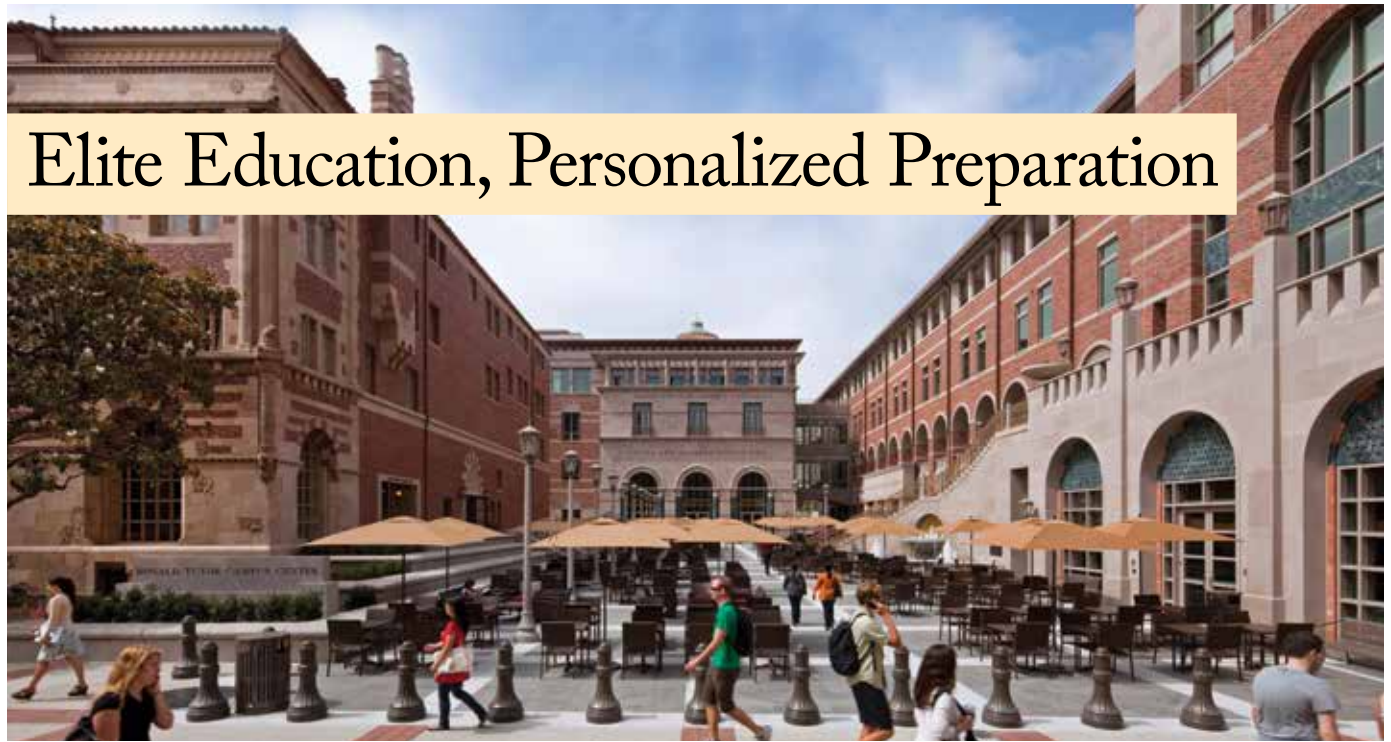
Pharmacy

Physical Therapy

Professional Studies

Public Policy

Social Work



Elite Education, Personalized Preparation

The University of Southern California ranks among the world's leading private research universities and is home to one of the most diverse and talented student and faculty populations in the United States. As the longtime leader in international student enrollment and co-founder of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities, USC is transforming the global challenges of today into the pioneering opportunities of tomorrow.

In keeping with this approach, the university invites extraordinarily talented students to cross geographic and linguistic barriers to pursue their educational goals and maximize their success through our unparalleled USC International Academy. We offer three avenues of study, all taught by USC teachers and supported by our admissions experts:

The **PRE-MASTER'S PROGRAM**, which allows qualified international students to gain admission to select USC master's programs prior to achieving their required English proficiency and before taking the GRE or GMAT.

The **MASTER'S PREPARATION PROGRAM**, which provides exclusive support by USC admissions staff and helps aspiring graduate students achieve their best results on the TOEFL/IELTS and GRE/GMAT to successfully apply for admission and succeed in elite U.S. master's programs.

The **INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM**, which offers personalized English-language instruction for academic and career advancement at six convenient start dates throughout the year. Students interested in gaining an undergraduate degree in the U.S. have access to university and college admissions workshops and SAT preparation courses.

No other leading American university offers such programs of this caliber or scope. We can equip you with the tools to express your ideas powerfully, pursue knowledge across boundaries, and successfully navigate academic life in the United States—all while experiencing the transformative power of USC.

SALTANAT KERIMBAYEVA

USC PRICE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY
DEGREE PROGRAM: MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL
PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
FROM: KAZAKHSTAN

Saltanat Kerimbayeva graduated from the USC Price School of Public Policy with skills that enhanced her civil service career in her native Kazakhstan. She now works in the nation's capital city of Astana, promoting diplomacy between Kazakhstan and the United States.

Kerimbayeva appreciated the global reach and influence of the Price School's Master of International Public Policy and Management degree. She adds that, while the International Academy experience provided great diversity, "it felt like family" to her. She became deeply involved in all aspects of student life, and was even a guest at USC President C. L. Max Nikias' house for Thanksgiving. He opens his home to all international students who might not have a place to go on that uniquely American holiday.


"It was evident that they really cared about us," Kerimbayeva says about the academy and USC. The faculty members, she says, were "amazing," giving "us insights into American culture and life" that enable student to feel at home and "get to know America better."

She also loved USC's location in Los Angeles, where she hopes one day to open a consulate as she advances in her diplomatic career.

No matter where Kerimbayeva journeys in representing her homeland, she feels the connections she formed at USC will stay with her. "The people make USC," she says. "I met so many creative, diverse, and intelligent people who want to make the world a better place."



"I would advise [International Academy and master's students] to take advantage of all the opportunities that USC provides educationally and in student life. It is an invaluable experience. USC is like its own city within Los Angeles—so big and diverse."



"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

USC VITERBI SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
DEGREE PROGRAM: MS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
FROM: SAUDI ARABIA

Electrical engineer Hamoud Alalyani had previously worked in Northern California and was eager both to return to the state and to advance his career. Several of his friends were already at USC and told him earning a master's degree here would be great for his future.

He says he thoroughly enjoyed his experience in the Pre-Master's Program at the International Academy, where he met students from around the world. "I learned a lot from the teachers, such as how to write in an academic way," he says. He also found the professors at the Viterbi School "very experienced in their field."

Alalyani also made many friends by playing soccer and other sports on campus. A number of them were from Saudi Arabia, so they could talk about events back home and give each other advice. "It was like a community," he says of those friendships, and he still keeps in touch with his fellow Trojans.

He will soon return to Saudi Arabia, where he already has a job lined up as a government researcher. He looks forward to applying the skills he gained at USC to that work — especially those learned from his favorite class, Computer Organization Architecture. "The professor was tough and strict," Alalyani says, "but he taught the most important content in the field."

While he will be glad to be home, Alalyani says he will miss "everything" about USC. To anyone considering applying to the International Academy and USC, he says, "just do it. It's a great opportunity."

Pre-Master's Program

Gain admission to one of USC's elite master's degree programs while improving your English-language proficiency, academic skills, and test scores, and building the foundation for your future success.

Apply prior to achieving the required English proficiency and before taking the GRE or GMAT.

Through USC International Academy's Pre-Master's Program, outstanding international students who have not yet achieved the required level of English proficiency or taken the GRE/GMAT exams can still enter select USC master's programs by successfully completing the Academy's Pre-Master's Program and achieving the required GRE/GMAT score.

Achieve your target GRE/GMAT score through world-class test preparation.

Combining proven methods with the best instructors, our intensive GRE/GMAT test preparation courses offer in-depth instruction on all content categories, including effective test-taking strategies and practice exercises to help you reach the required score for your degree program. The Academy will even cover the cost of your first exam.

Receive academic advising from the master's degree program to which you are admitted.

USC advisers are dedicated to helping you define your goals and realize your academic aspirations. Developing a relationship with your adviser early on better positions you to maximize your potential and successfully progress through your graduate degree.


Acquire skills that will prepare you for success at USC and beyond.

Pre-Master's courses smooth the transition to graduate school by increasing your capacity to adapt to American academic culture and expectations, read and critically assess academic texts, and communicate more effectively.

Split into two tracks, the comprehensive yet focused curriculum steeps you in the knowledge needed to pursue your academic and professional goals.

The Path to Your USC Master's Degree Program

<div> <div>Complete online application</div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Upload supporting documents <input type="checkbox"/> Submit English test scores <input type="checkbox"/> Pay application fee </div> </div> <div> <div>Allow six to eight weeks after applying to receive an admission decision.</div> <div> > If admitted, confirm your acceptance. > If denied, consider our Master's Preparation program. </div> </div>		
APPLY AT ANY TIME	PRE-MASTER'S PROGRAM	MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM
Depending on your English proficiency, you will study in the Pre-Master's Program for one or two semesters. Students at lower English proficiency levels may need to study additional semesters in the Pre-master's Program.		Over 100 top-ranked USC master's degree programs across a wide array of disciplines may offer admission to qualified international students through the Pre-Master's Program, including Business, Engineering, Computer Science, Medicine, Architecture, and more. To view the full list, please visit international.usc.edu/participating-masters-programs/ .

A photograph of Jeffrey Chou, a man with glasses, wearing a black graduation cap and gown. He is also wearing a red sash with gold trim that has the name "Chou Chung Yen" and a small flag on it. He is standing in front of a large, arched window of a building.

“The International Academy is an intense program that made me ready for my master’s. They really help you learn English writing, reading—and the most important part, speaking. They enabled me to build the confidence to interact with students in an American classroom.”

JEFFREY CHOU

USC SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

DEGREE PROGRAM: MS IN MANAGEMENT OF DRUG DEVELOPMENT

FROM: TAIPEI, TAIWAN

Already a pharmacist in Taiwan’s capital, Jeffrey Chou wanted to take the next step in his career by moving to the United States and earning a Master of Science from USC’s highly ranked School of Pharmacy. The International Academy helped him on his journey, and he has now fulfilled his goal of joining a major medical device company.

Chou currently works as a quality assurance specialist at IntraMedical Imaging, a leading maker of molecular imaging devices to detect and treat cancer and other conditions. He began at the company through an internship — another area in which USC offers considerable opportunities.

“USC hosts so many professional networking events to connect people,” Chou says. “That is one way they helped me get my job.” He also took advantage of the university’s résumé-building workshops and mock interviews.

Other opportunities that Chou used to build his skills include serving as a professor’s assistant and as a coordinator for the summer exchange program offered by the USC International Center for Regulatory Science. In that capacity, he got to share his experiences with some 30 students from China, Taiwan, and Korea.

Chou’s professional path will continue forward, and he plans to eventually return to Taiwan to advance that nation’s pharmaceutical industry. But no matter where his journey takes him, he feels like USC will always be there for him. “I’m proud of being a Trojan,” he says. “And I’ll visit as an alumnus.”

Pre-Master's Program

Who is this program for?

The Pre-Master's Program is for international students who:

- ☐ Want to pursue graduate studies at USC
- ☐ Have a strong academic background
- ☐ Do not have TOEFL, IELTS, GMAT or GRE scores required for direct admission to a USC degree program

What will you study?

- GRE/GMAT Test Preparation
- Academic Writing for Graduate School
- Academic Listening and Speaking
- Graduate Communication Skills
- Academic Reading and Vocabulary Building
- Academic Integrity and Graduate Study Expectations

What are the admission requirements for the Pre-Master's Program?

- ☐ Bachelor's degree recognized by your home country's ministry of education and equivalent to a four-year U.S. bachelor's degree.
- ☐ High-Intermediate English entry level* (TOEFL iBT 61 / IELTS 5.5)

* Meeting the minimum requirement does not guarantee admission to any USC degree program.

How do you progress to the USC master's degree program?

- ☐ Maintain at least a "B" average overall, with no grades lower than a "B" in core courses and a "C" in focus skills courses
- ☐ Successfully complete the GRE/GMAT test preparation courses and achieve the qualifying score for admission to your graduate program

NOTABLE TROJANS

NEIL ARMSTRONG, astronaut and the first person to walk on the Moon

WANDA AUSTIN, former president and CEO of The Aerospace Corporation

YANG HO CHO, chairman and CEO of Korean Air

CHENGYU FU, chairman of Sinopec Corporation

FRANK GEHRY, Pritzker Prize-winning architect whose works include Walt Disney Concert Hall

BARRON HILTON, retired chairman, president, and CEO of Hilton Hotels

MING HSIEH, CEO, founder of Cogent, Inc.

HAIFA REDA JAMALALLAIL, president of Effat University in Saudi Arabia

YOUNG-HOON KANG, former prime minister of South Korea

RAY R. IRANI, former chairman and CEO of Occidental Petroleum Corporation

GERALDINE KNATZ, former executive director of the Port of Los Angeles

GEORGE LUCAS, producer, director, and creator of the Star Wars and Indiana Jones movies

RANGASWAMY SRINIVASAN, developer of LASIK eye surgery

KEVIN TSUJIHARA, CEO of Warner Bros. Entertainment

ANDREW VITERBI, co-founder of Qualcomm and inventor of the Viterbi algorithm

WILLIAM WANG, founder, chairman, and CEO of Vizio

Master's Preparation Program

Through world-class test preparation, academic English coursework tailored to your field of study, and unparalleled support by USC admissions advisers, the Master's Preparation Program helps you stand out in applying to your chosen U.S. graduate school.

Achieve your best results on the TOEFL/IELTS and GRE/GMAT.

Combining proven methods with the best instructors, our intensive test preparation courses provide in-depth instruction on all content categories, including effective test-taking strategies and practice exercises to help you reach your required scores for graduate degree admission. The Academy will even cover the cost of your first exam.

Work closely with USC advisers to chart your path to a graduate degree.

USC admissions advisers will help you define your goals and realize your academic aspirations by facilitating your application and transfer to an American college or university. Support includes exam preparation, personal statement and essay review, interview training and more.

Meet USC International Academy partner institutions

Attend informational sessions and meet graduate admission staff from USC and other U.S. universities. Meetings and workshops are scheduled every semester. Learn about specific entry requirements and get your questions answered personally by representatives.

A number of partner institutions accept completion of the Master's Preparation Program in lieu of a TOEFL score.

Who is this program for?

The Master's Preparation Program is for international students who:

- ☐ Want to pursue graduate studies in the U.S.
- ☐ Haven't taken the TOEFL/IELTS, GRE/GMAT (or whose scores don't meet requirements for direct admission to college or university of interest)

What will you study?

You will have the opportunity to follow the same academic tracks and take the same courses as those offered in our Pre-Master's Program (see page 7) plus TOEFL or IELTS test preparation.

What are the admission requirements for the Master's Preparation Program?*

- ☐ Bachelor's degree recognized by your home country's ministry of education and equivalent to a four-year U.S. bachelor's degree
- ☐ High-Intermediate English entry level** (TOEFL iBT 61 / IELTS 5.5)

* Meeting the minimum requirement does not guarantee admission to any master's degree program.

** Students with lower proficiency levels may take Intensive English Program before progressing to the Master's Preparation Program. See our website for details.

DASOM YOU

USC LEONARD DAVIS SCHOOL OF GERONTOLOGY
DEGREE PROGRAM: MASTER OF AGING SERVICES
MANAGEMENT

FROM: GYEONGGI PROVINCE, SOUTH KOREA

No South Korean university offers a major in gerontology, so Dasom You chose USC as her destination of choice to build crucial knowledge in the field.

“USC is famous in Korea,” she says, and the International Academy immediately helped make her feel welcome. In addition to forging lasting friendships with students from different nations and cultures, You also added herself of the academy’s skill-building programs.

“I had to write many research papers for my master’s,” she says. “The International Academy helped prepare me for that, and to make presentations.”

That preparation, along with You’s diligence and hard work, led her to graduate USC with a 4.0 average. She also credits the Davis School of Gerontology faculty for being “generous, warm-hearted, and always willing to help us to improve.”


In addition, she took a course through the USC Marshall School of Business to expand her entrepreneurial abilities. “The professor was quick to give me advice and get me involved in class,” You says.

She plans to return home to apply these tools to bolstering her family’s business of designing and manufacturing massage chairs. She also wants to fight the loneliness she sees among the company’s elderly customers. She found the course Technological Innovations in Aging particularly inspiring and wants to develop a social app to connect older people with each other.

You says she will be able to achieve all this, thanks to USC Davis School of Gerontology and USC International Academy.



“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.”



“USC and the International Academy helped me become a good speaker, communicator, and listener. They help cultivate different perspectives, which aids you not just in becoming an expert in your area, but also a leader.”

SHELTON SHI

USC MARSHALL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

DEGREE PROGRAM: MS IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN
MANAGEMENT

FROM: SUZHOU, CHINA

Shelton Shi is no stranger to studying abroad, having lived in Tokyo for a year while earning his undergraduate degree in Japanese. He is conversant in three languages — and credits the International Academy with helping him master English.

Shi heard about USC from friends of his parents, who called it a “best-choice school.” The International Academy helped open a pathway to a USC master’s degree in Global Supply Chain Management, which is offered jointly by the Marshall School of Business and the Viterbi School of Engineering.

The profession of supply chain management is critical to successful international commerce — especially as markets throughout Asia continue to expand. Shi also augmented his classroom learning with USC events such as the annual Global Supply Chain Excellence Summit, which assembles leaders in the field from around the world.

“You can expand your social network, get a job, and open new opportunities,” Shi says. “USC helped open those doors for me.”

Along with the training he acquired and the connections he made at USC, the university also enabled him to explore a new hobby — ballroom dancing. Shi joined the USC ballroom dance team and has even danced competitively.

He is now employed as a supply chain fellow at the Port of Los Angeles, the premier gateway for international commerce in the United States. But he still comes back to campus to practice dancing with his teammates and to learn new moves.

“There are so many opportunities at USC,” he says. “Try as many as you can.”

Intensive English Program

Achieve your academic and professional goals through personalized English-language instruction, cultural activities, and support offered at six convenient start dates each year.

Tailored teaching in small, interactive classes

With levels of instruction from beginning to advanced, the Intensive English Program courses meet the needs of each student's unique skill set and goals. Class sizes are kept small and instruction is interactive, giving you the opportunity to receive individualized attention, collaborate with one another, and optimize your learning.

You will attend 20 hours of classes each week that focus on reading, writing, listening, speaking, and pronunciation. Tutoring and conversation groups are also available.

Optional SAT preparation

Students in Level 5 (equivalent to minimum TOEFL iBT 70 / IELTS 6) can choose to enroll in our SAT Preparation course, specifically designed to meet the needs of USC International Academy students, at an additional cost.

Undergraduate Admissions Workshops

Students looking to transition to a U.S. university or college can attend application and admissions workshops led by USC

advisers and USC International Academy partner institutions, some of which accept completion of an International Academy proficiency level in lieu of TOEFL/IELTS scores.

Focus skills courses and conversation groups geared to your interests

Each term, you will be able to choose a focus course and attend weekly conversation groups based on your current English-language proficiency and interests. Additionally, teacher-led drop-in tutoring and student-led conversation groups offer additional opportunities to practice English outside of the classroom. You will have meaningful opportunities to participate in English-related tutorials or practice conversation with USC students.

Support from a dedicated team of advisers

The full-time staff of academic, immigration, and student advisers at USC are here to support your learning, cultural transition, and academic success.

Who is this program for?

The Intensive English Program is catered to international students and professionals who:

- ☐ Want to improve their English
- ☐ Need flexible start dates
- ☐ Wish to increase their English proficiency for entry to one of the Academy's Preparation Programs or are interested in improving their English for another specific purpose

What will you study?

- Reading (academic, literary, research)
- Essay Writing
- Speaking
- Vocabulary
- Pronunciation
- Listening
- Presentations and Debates
- Academic Study Skills
- TOEFL & IELTS Preparation

What are the admission requirements for the Intensive English Program?

- ☐ Be at least 17 years of age at the time of enrollment
 - ☐ Obtain an F-1 Student Visa*
- * We will issue the necessary documents for your visa application upon admission.





Bridging East and West

Los Angeles is a global center of creativity, innovation, industry, and culture. Its strong business sectors, diverse makeup, and unique setting make the “City of Angels” a truly vibrant and dynamic place to live and study in. As the city’s largest private employer, USC remains pivotal to the region’s future, just as, historically, our alumni and academic programs helped shape Los Angeles’ growth and development into the leader it is today. And it is precisely because Los Angeles is now the world’s gateway between the East and West that USC is uniquely positioned to cultivate a global presence and driving force in innovation for the benefit of society. Our strategic location in the creative capital of the world drives USC’s groundbreaking advances at the intersection of cutting-edge visual technology, the narrative abilities of our top-ranked arts disciplines, and leading research in engineering, medicine, and the sciences.

The City of Angels

- USC is the largest private employer in Los Angeles.
- Los Angeles County is the most populous in the United States and Los Angeles is the nation’s second-largest city, with a greater metropolitan-area population of more than 10 million.
- One of the most diverse counties in the country, Los Angeles’ population includes more than 3 million non-native residents, representing more than 140 countries, 224 languages, and 600 religious groups.
- Los Angeles was first in the U.S. to achieve a population mix in which no single ethnic or racial group constitutes a majority.
- More artists, writers, filmmakers, actors, dancers, and musicians live and work in Los Angeles than in any other city at any time in the history of civilization.
- Los Angeles is home to 100 museums and more than a thousand performing arts groups—more than any other U.S. city.
- LA’s subtropical climate boasts 292 days of sunshine per year.
- The region features 76 miles of coastline, bordered by four mountain ranges and crisscrossed by thousands of miles of nature trails.





A Dynamic, Supportive Environment

Campus Life

At USC, students enjoy the beauty and tranquility of a traditional American university campus in the midst of a hugely diverse and exciting urban center. USC International Academy students benefit from countless opportunities to engage in campus life, explore the community, and create lasting experiences.

Among the resources you will be able to access are:

- 22 libraries, computer labs (some available 24/7), parks, fitness centers, an Olympic swimming pool, restaurants, and cafés
- Student health center for medical, counseling, and health promotion services
- 850+ student organizations to explore academic, professional, social, artistic, and spiritual interests
- Sporting events, lectures, conferences, art performances, film screenings, and more

Accommodations

Students are placed in convenient, comfortable living environments while studying at USC. You can choose to live in an on-campus dormitory, private apartment, or with a homestay family.

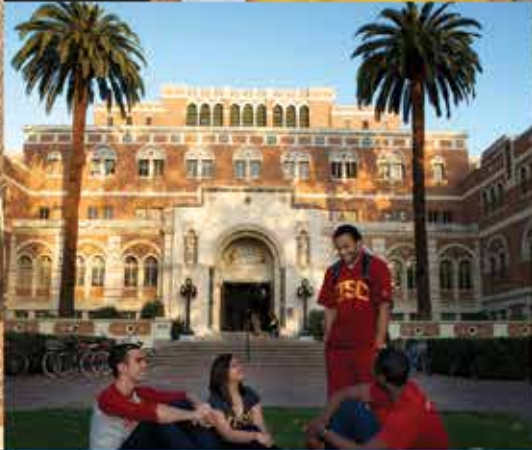
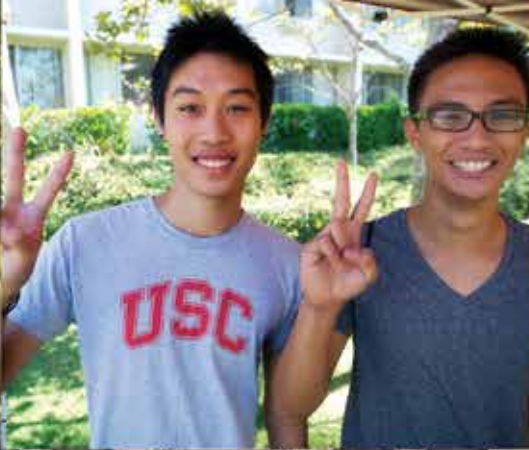
Housing options are carefully selected by USC International Academy staff, who are committed to supporting you throughout your experience at USC.

For more details on accommodations, please visit our website, international.usc.edu.

Student Services

Among the services provided to USC International Academy students to help facilitate a smooth transition to life in Los Angeles and at USC include:

- Health insurance
- Airport transportation
- Orientation program
- Official USC identification card and email setup
- Access to state-of-the-art campus facilities: recreational, banking, medical, dining, computing, and libraries
- Discounted rates for public transportation and cultural activities





APPLY TO THE USC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

Each USC International Academy program has its own application procedures. Generally, only three steps are needed to apply:

- COMPLETE THE ONLINE APPLICATION
- PREPARE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
- PAY THE APPLICATION PROCESSING FEE

For program-specific application details, please visit our website: international.usc.edu

LEARN MORE

For general inquiries, please email: info-international@usc.edu

