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When does usc send acceptance letters for transfer students

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The University of Southern California (USC) is a high-ranking private school located in Los Angeles, and therefore attracts thousands of qualified applicants each year. If you're applying here, you're probably wondering what USC's acceptance requirements are and what you should stand out as an applicant. In this article, we explain how to get into USC by offering you specific advice on what you can improve on your application. But first, how hard is it to get into USC? Feature Picture: Ken Lund/Flickr How hard is it to get into USC? USC is a very selective university with an acceptance rate of just under 16%-that means less than 1 in 6 students is accepted. Interestingly, this acceptance rate has increased for the first time since 2017, mainly due to a smaller group of candidates (fewer than 60,000 students in 2019-2020, compared to about 64,352 in 2017-2018 and 66,000 in 2019-2020). Here's how USC's official news website describes its student body: Straight-A students make up 38% of the drop admits. The average student admitted had scores in the 97th percentile and enrolled in six to seven Advanced Placement courses in high school. Looking at this data alone, we can say with certainty that it is generally quite difficult to get into USC. So what kind of applicants is USC looking for? Let's take a look. What USC is looking for applicants because USC is so competitive, and because there are so many applicants applying every year, this school is looking for the best of the best when it comes to applicants. Here's what USC writes applicants on its website: We are looking for those students we believe will thrive at USC. The application process is designed to discover your personal history, so we can see how you will benefit from the many opportunities available at USC. ... We'll look at your performance at school, school, rigour of your program, writing skills and test results. We also look at personal qualities as revealed in community participation, leadership and achievements. In addition to strong numbers (i.e., test scores and grades/GPA), USC wishes to accept applicants with strong personal qualities. These qualities can be illuminated either through academic or non-academic achievements, community services/voluntary efforts or leadership experiences (for example, you may be the captain of the track team or once organized a successful food movement at your school). As PrepScholar co-founder and perfect SAT/ACT scorer Allen Cheng discusses in his detailed guide to getting to Harvard, USC, like Harvard and other top schools, prefers applicants with spikes in their extracurricular-those with strong passions for specific activities or interests. After all, with 60,000 USC applicants each year, you'll definitely need something to help your application stand out! Here's how USC describes its most successful students to give you more of an idea of what they're looking for in applicants: USC students pursue ambitious intellectual and professional goals by studying across disciplines and benefiting from the diversity of programs available. They're willing to venture out of their comfort zones. They care about the world, about other peoples and cultures, and enjoy looking at important issues from a global perspective. As you can see, USC is looking for applicants who are not only academically gifted, but who are also willing to challenge their limits, learn about new fields, and take on a global perspective. Can you implement timely action or timely decision to USC? Unlike many other private and prestigious universities, USC does not offer a timely action/early draft decision for first-year students. Therefore, anyone applying to USC must do so within the same time limit (see the next section for more information on important dates). While you can't apply it early at USC, if USC is indeed your first-choice school, it's a smart idea to tell the admissions committee this so they can note it in your application. Here's what USC admissions expert Joe Beltran recommends applicants do in USC's case is their first choice: Students often ask me how they can let the admissions office know that USC is their first choice. It's simple: Just tell us. Let us know in your application, by email, phone or in person. And we note that. We add these things to your files, if we And we're aware of that, too. * Bold accent mine Although you can't apply early at USC to prove your interest in attending university, you can (and certainly should) let the admissions committee know about your interest in it so they can take this into account as they sift through the thousands of applications they get. Don't hide your true feelings-if USC Your first choice for college, let them know! Getting to USC: Logistics and Deadlines All freshman candidates to USC must apply through the joint application. Here's a checklist of all major USC admission requirements: USC Writing Supplement (for Common App) Official SAT/ACT test results (OPTIONAL for students applying during the 2020-2021 school year). Applicants can also submit SAT Topics Test Results, AP test results, and TOEFL results (if international) Transcript showing all high school courses and each college course completed Letter(s) of recommendation-the number of letters they must submit to USC depends on the program/school you apply to additional materials, such as a portfolio, sample writing, or CV (only if required by your specific program/school) Drop grades-these can be submitted through the Mid-Year Report Form on the joint application as mentioned above, some schools and programs at USC require additional material from applicants. The following table shows schools and programs that require additional documents and information (except all the items listed above): School/Program Required Complementary Materials School of Portfolio Architecture, Architecture Writing Supplement Roski School of Art and Design Art/Design Essay, List of Creative Experiences, Portfolio Iovine and Young Academy for Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation Video Proposal, portfolio, interview (if selected) Marshall School of Business - World Bachelor in Business Program Introduction Video, World Bachelor's Business written intros (for USC Writing Supplement) USC School of Motion Picture Arts * Film Arts Personal Statement, sample writing, creative work sample/portfolio, creative portfolio list, video/photo sample, video introduction, ambitious portfolio, image essay, audio portrait, autobiographical character sketch, creative challenges, Most Most Moment, project question, collaboration question Glorvia Kaufman School of Dance Portfolio, which includes: dance resume, short answer, video answer to a question, two solo videos and descriptions, three video demos, two photos (one head shot and one action plan), live audition (if selected, depending on COVID-19 situation) USC School of Dramatic Arts * Headshot, cv drama, Take Three picture project, letter from drama teacher/coach, essay questions, creative submission, pre-screening audition video, live audition (depending on COVID-19 situation) Thornton School of Music Portfolio, resume, repertoire catalog, introductory video (some great only), audition recording, live audition (if selected, depending on COVID-19 status) * Exact complementary materials required for import will vary depending on the large ones. Now, let's take a look at all the long deadlines USC ordered from the earliest to the latest. December 1, 2020 Freshman deadline for examination of scholarship value (note that this is not an early action or early decision deadline) Freshman and transfer application deadline for the following schools/programs: Dramatic Arts (all programs) Cinematic Arts and Music (all programs) Kaufman School of Dance Thornton School of Music Iovine and Young Academy World Bachelor in Business (WBB) program January 15, 2021 Freshman application deadline (this is freshman's regular application deadline without scholarship exam) February 1, 2021 (For first-year applicants) Last day from which value scholarship notifications will be sent Transfer application deadline for all other programs February 13, 2021 (For freshman applicants) Financial aid deadline for FAFSA and CSS profile applications March 2, 2021 (For transfer applicants) Financial aid deadline for FAFSA and CSS profile applications April 1, 2021 (For first-year applicants) Last day on which final admission notices will be sent May 31, 2021 (For transfer applicants) Last day on which final admission notices will be sent (For transfer applicants) Last day on which scholarship status notifications will be sent, you will be the next advice so you can be the happy person. USC Admission Requirements: 5 Tips to Get Now That You Know the Logistics of The Application, Let's Take a Look at How to Get Into USC. What do you need in your application to increase your chances of getting into USC, one of the most prestigious colleges in the country? #1: Get a High GPA admitted applicants to USC usually have very strong GPAs. For the fall 2019 class, the GPA series of the 25th/75th grader high school was 3.72-3.99. This means that the majority of imported applicants have had relatively strong grades, getting mostly or all As and possibly a few Bs. If your GPA is below 3.72, you'll probably have a harder time getting into USC. Therefore, it is best to aim as high as you can, preferably at least around a 3.85, so you will be well above average, but you won't suffer too badly if you get a B in one or two categories. If you're having trouble maintaining a high GPA, figure out which classes bring down your grades and then consider spending more time studying for those classes or hiring a teacher to give you the extra support you need. #2: You have a rigorous, challenging load course Another important aspect USC wants to see in applicants is evidence of a strong and challenging course load. Ideal candidates will have gotten a fair share of AP, preces, and/or IB categories. Here's how USC its ideal candidates on its undergraduate admissions website: No specific curriculum is provided or required, although students offered admission usually seek the strictest program available to them in English, math, science, social studies, foreign language and the arts. Particular attention is paid to preparing for are intended to be major. In addition to doing well in the classes, strong candidates will have excelled in a rigorous academic program, particularly in courses related to the companies intended for them. If you're younger or younger and haven't taken any challenging classes yet, try signing up for some AP, honors, or IB classes next academic year and for each subsequent year you're in high school. It is best to choose challenging classes that focus on the fields in which you are already strong or have a great interest in studying. For example, if you're a science enthusiast, you could get AP Bio or AP Physics. While you don't have to make every class you get a super hard, aim to take about three to five top-level classes each school year, at least starting your junior year. That doesn't necessarily mean you need to get the AP tests that go with these courses, although it's not a bad idea to do so since it could earn you some college credit! Strong test scores-and possibly super strong back muscles will surely catch USC's eye. #3: Earn Strong SAT/ACT Ratings Note: For students applying during 2020-2021, USC is test-optional. However, you may still want to consider submitting test results if you have particularly high scores, or if you feel your scores represent your skills better than your GPA. Overall, USC expects fairly high SAT/ACT ratings from strong applicants. Below is the average 50%, or average, score series* for both sat and act for USC's sophomore class fall 2019: SAT Composite: 1420-1520 Documented reading and writing (EBRW): 670-740 Mathematics: 690-790 ACT Composite: 31-1 34 English: 32-35 Mathematics: 28-34 *The lowest score in each range is the 25th percentile (meaning that 25% of candidates or fewer got this score), and the highest score is the 75th percentile (meaning 75% or less got this score). Clearly, you need a fairly high SAT/ACT rating in order to be considered a competitive candidate for USC. For the SAT, most applicants have a minimum score of 1420, or the 95th percentile nationally. Meanwhile, for the ACT, most applicants have a minimum score of 31, or the 95th percentile nationally. In other words, you need to score in the top 5% of testers in order to meet only the 25th percentile score at USC. While getting a score below USC's 25th percentile limit doesn't automatically mean you'll be rejected, it shows that it will likely be harder for you to get into USC if you don't have any more impressive properties. If you don't meet this minimum (1420 for the SAT and 31 for the ACT), the best course of action is to try to increase your SAT/ACT rating. One way to do this is to make a SAT/ACT study plan that serves your weaknesses. I would also recommend checking out our guides for some tips on how to increase your SAT or ACT rating. If you prefer to have more instructions for preparing your tests, you, using the online SAT or ACT preparation program, which is 100% tailored to your test preparation needs and includes realistic questions written by real leading indicators. #4: Write Excellent Essays In addition to the Common Essay App, you are required to write two smaller essays as part of the USC Writing Supplement. Each essay should be no more than 250 words, or about half the length of a typical college admissions essay. For USC's first essay, you need to choose one of three prompts to respond to: USC believes it learns best when interacting with people with different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives. Tell us about a time when you were exposed to a new idea or when your beliefs were challenged from another point of view. Please discuss the importance of the experience and its effect on you. USC faculty emphasize interdisciplinary academic opportunities. Describe something outside of your intended academic focus that you are interested in learning about. What is something about yourself that is necessary for your understanding? Choose the most-addressed prompt that you can respond to easily and effectively. For the first prompt, you should write about a specific incident in which a belief or opinion of yours was challenged. The key here is to focus on your reaction and what this particular incident taught you about yourself. This could be a political attitude, a religious faith, or a personal view on a social issue. The second prompt is all about a field outside your intended major that you're also interested in studying. This is a great opportunity to discuss how you became interested in this particular area and what you could do with it in the future. For example, you might be planning to major in computer science, but recently realized, by taking a required art class, that you also have a strong interest in learning about the history of paintings. The third essay prompt is fairly broad and allows you to talk about anything you feel is important for USC's admissions committee to know about you. You could enter a specific interest, skill or experience that you have, or even offer an explanation for a problem in your academic history, such as a dip in your grades a semester or a below-average SAT score. A great tip to remember as I write my best-selling novel you write your USC essays. In addition to this first essay, you should write a second essay for the USC Writing Supplement. This essay has only one prompt (so you don't have a choice here!): how you intend to pursue your academic interests and why you want to explore them at USC specifically. Feel free to turn to your important first and second choice options. This exhortation essay just wants to know what you intend to major at USC and how you achieve your academic goals as a student. Basically, what is the spiritual path you expect to USC? For example, if you plan to major in English, you could write about how you plan to take a more interdisciplinary approach by incorporating foreign literature courses into your course load. Overall, in order to ensure that you're submitting two excellent essays to USC, be sure to use specific details, be honest about your experiences and feelings, and edit and correct each essay before sending it in. Get more expert advice reading our guide to the USC supplement. It is also important to note that some programs and schools require additional essays or short answers. For example, those applying for the School of Architecture must answer additional questions in the Architecture Writing Supplement. These special schools essays are just as important as, if not more than, the three general USC essays you need to write. Why? Because these essays ask you even more specific questions related to your intended field of study. So you should be able to clearly explain exactly why you are interested in the field/program/school you are applying to. #5: Craft an impressive portfolio (Required for some programs) Some programs at USC require the submission of creative portfolios along with the general requirements mentioned above. If a portfolio is required, it will probably be one of the most important parts of your application. Make sure your portfolio follows all the instructions, is 100% original and is emblematic of your creative mind, abilities and goals. Here are all the schools at USC that require the submission of a portfolio: Roski School of Architecture School of Art and Design Iovine and Young Academy for Arts, Technology and Business Innovation USC School of Motion Picture Arts USC School of Dramatic Arts Glorvia Kaufman School of Dance Thornton School of Music What's next? USC is a great college in California, but it's not the only one there! If you want to attend college at Golden State, you will benefit from learning how to apply for UC schools and get information about the cheapest colleges in California. How does USC's selectivity compare to those of other top colleges? Get the answer to our guide to the most selective schools in the nation! USC probably isn't the only school you apply to. Check out our guides to learn more about how to get involved in Columbia and how to get involved in NYU. Want to get into USC or your personal top college pick? We can help. 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