An undergraduate education provides both the means and challenges to bring forth latent capacities, skills and potential through the cultivation and enrichment of the human mind and spirit. Curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular opportunities serve as the vehicles to enrich the undergraduate experience while making it possible for students to gain and develop experience, skills, and qualities conducive to careers in graduate or professional school, fellowships, scholarships, employment, and beyond.

**Employer | Graduate School | Fellowship & Scholarship Expectations**

The following is a synthesis of qualities, skills, and experience sought by employers, graduate and professional schools, and scholarship/fellowship programs:

**Qualities**
- Ethical
- Maturity
- Potential
- Leadership
- Committed
- Self-Motivated
- Service-Oriented

**Skills**
- Adaptability
- Organizational
- Problem-Solving
- Critical thinking
- Communicative
- Interpersonal
- Collaborative
- Quantitative
- Leadership
- Analytical
- Research
- Reading
- Listening
- Quantitative
- Intrapersonal
- Cultural competency

**Experience**
- Academic
- Research
- Relevant
- Service
- Direct

**Sources**


*It takes more than a major: Employer priorities for college learning and student success.* Hart Research Associates. 2013.

*Core competences for entering medical students.* AAMC group on student affairs committee on admissions. 2015. [https://www.aamc.org/initiatives/admissionsinitiative/competencies/](https://www.aamc.org/initiatives/admissionsinitiative/competencies/)


**Extra Curricular Opportunities**

- Student organizations
- Government
- Greek life
- Clubs
- Sports
- Music
- Art
- Dance
- Vocal
- Field-work
- Volunteer work
- Part-time/Full-time work
- Civic engagement
Research

Problems without Passports (PWP)
Problems Without Passports is a program that combines summer course and problem-based inquiry with study away from the USC campus. Students may earn 4-units of course credit.

http://dornsife.usc.edu/problems-without-passports/

Maymester
USC Dornsife offers a small number courses which take place during the four weeks after graduation. Maymester courses are stand-alone course offerings. Students may earn 4-units of course credit.

http://dornsife.usc.edu/maymester/

SURF and SOAR
The Summer Undergraduate Research Fund (SURF) and Student Opportunities for Academic Research (SOAR) provides funding for undergraduate research. SURF allows students to apply for stipends of up to $3,000 for summer research projects in collaboration with Dornsife faculty. SOAR provides undergraduate students with $1,000 grants for non-course related research.

http://dornsife.usc.edu/undergraduate-research-opportunities/

Service

Joint Educational Project (JEP)
Dornsife College’s Joint Educational Project (JEP) is one of the oldest and largest service-learning programs in the country, offering students a chance to combine academic coursework and meaningful community outreach. Credit and non-credit opportunities available.

http://dornsife.usc.edu/joint-educational-project

Overseas Studies
USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts & Sciences offers exciting and diverse opportunities to study abroad in 55 unique programs in 30 countries. Students are encouraged to integrate study abroad into their overall USC experience. Major, minor and elective credit available. Financial aid is applicable for fall and spring semesters abroad.

http://dornsife.usc.edu/overseas-studies/

Internships

Gateway Internship Program
Dornsife College’s Gateway Internship Program prepares USC Dornsife students for life after college by providing opportunities to explore a career through a paid summer internship experience in for-profits, non-profits, and government agencies. Students are paired with a mentor and attend leadership seminars. Program is available to Dornsife majors and minors with a 3.5 cumulative gpa and sophomore, junior or rising senior standing.

http://dornsife.usc.edu/gatewayinternships

USC Career Center
The USC Career Center provides information and counseling to help students explore career options including internships, full-time employment and networking opportunities. The Career Center offers assistance in resume writing, interviewing techniques and sponsors such programs as the Career Fair, Internship Week, Career Fest, diversity events, the Global Fellows and Dream Dollars programs, connectSC and Career Network.

http://careers.usc.edu