

# DORNSIFE FIRST-YEAR CHECKLIST ✓

## Summer

### Pre-Orientation/Orientation

- Check your USC email regularly
- Follow the steps for orientation on [Blackboard](#) (you can also refer to the [Newly Admitted Students page](#) for more information)

### Post-Registration

- Review the major specific video sent by your academic advisor
- Looking to change your schedule? Make sure to consult with your first-year advisor with any major changes to your schedule to ensure the courses you are taking will be intended for your degree
- Need to change your schedule due to AP/IB Scores in July? Contact your first-year advisor to adjust and request for prerequisite waivers (if applicable)
- Submit your academic records to USC to ensure you receive proper transfer credit for any college-level coursework completed: high school and/or college transcripts and standardized exam (e.g., AP, IB, and/or A-Level)
- Check your Transfer Credit Report on OASIS via [my.usc.edu](http://my.usc.edu) to see if your college-level coursework has been transferred to USC
- Complete health requirements: Detailed requirements for new students can be found on the [Student Health website](#) by clicking on the "New Students"
- Complete your [Prevention Education Modules](#): All online modules may be accessed through [Trojan Learn](#)
- Pay your tuition by the settlement deadline: To avoid late fees, you must register and have your tuition and fees paid or deferred, or enroll in a payment plan, by 5 p.m. Pacific time on the following dates listed on [Student Financial Services](#)

### For international students:

- Complete [Immigration Status Verification](#) (ISV): ISV is a mandatory online check-in procedure for international students and scholars that verifies their entry to the U.S. as well as their immigration status to ensure the student/scholar is eligible to start an academic program/appointment at USC for their upcoming start date
- (If applicable) Complete the [International Student Exam](#) (ISE): Students who were asked to demonstrate English proficiency in the application review process and who did not submit a valid USC-approved English Language Proficiency exam are required to sit for the ISE through USC's [American Language Institute](#) (ALI). You will be able to sign up for an exam date in August

### ☀️ Summer Break

- Explore [Los Angeles](#) and [Things To Do Near USC](#)
- USC offers [software](#) that is freely available for download such as Microsoft Office
- Subscribe to [Los Angeles Times](#) and [New York Times](#) with your USC email to keep up with current news
- If you are looking to commute by Metro bus or train, then register for the [USC Student U-Pass Program](#) at no additional cost
- Look at the [items](#) our Dornsife Ambassadors share for Move-In Day at USC

## Fall

### Early Semester

- Get Your [USCard](#)
- Attend the [Dornsife Welcome Experience - Student Reception](#) the week before school begins at Founders Park
- Participate in the [Trojan Welcome Experience](#) (all events on [EngageSC](#)):
  - President Carol Folt invites you to a celebration welcoming all incoming student at the [New Student Convocation](#) at Alumni Park
  - Attend [SPARK!](#): USC Visions and Voices kickoff the year and celebrate the powerful role the arts play in inspiring and connecting our community with a dynamic festival of live performances and interactive experiences
  - Attend the [Fall Involvement Fair](#): Visit the fairs to learn more about different registered student organizations (RSOs), finding your community, and getting involved!
  - Attend a [Late Night 'SC event](#): Late Night 'SC is a series of free late-night programs events offered every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night
  - And more! Visit [EngageSC](#) to see all Trojan Welcome Experience events
- Take your in-person [foreign language placement exam](#) (if applicable)
- Attend the [Dornsife EYE Kickoff Social](#) to meet your fellow first-year peers!
- Explore & More: [Schedule an appointment](#) with your first-year to discuss academic and career goals (e.g., double major, minor, and more!) or explore co-curricular and extracurricular opportunities
- Learn how a second major and/or minor(s) fit with your academic plan with the [Explore Majors & Minors](#) event and explore different Dornsife majors & minors at the Dornsife Major & Minor Fair in October on Trousdale Parkway

### Mid-to-Late Semester

- Visit the [Kortschak Center](#) for test-taking resources, stress management & more!
- Studying for Midterms? Utilize any of the academic resources (e.g., [Dornsife Tutoring](#), [Economics Tutoring Center](#), [Math Center](#), [Supplemental Instruction](#), [Writing Center](#), etc.)
- Prepare for Spring registration with the [Pre-Registration Info Session](#)
- Review your STARS report on OASIS via [my.usc.edu](http://my.usc.edu): The undergraduate STARS report includes all requirements necessary for degree completion, such as skill level, general education, major, minor and grade point average requirements.
- Pre-Registration Advising (Mandatory): [Schedule an appointment](#) with your first-year advisor to discuss Spring registration
- Explore 1 to 2-unit courses: [FSEM 100](#), [MDA 300](#), MEDS courses etc.
- Learn more about Pre-Professional Programs and their events for the different pre-professional pathways (e.g., [Pre-Health Advising](#), [Pre-law Advising](#), [Pre-Graduate School Advising](#))
- Familiarize yourself with career resources and steps for career preparation and exploration with [Career 101: Career Preparation for Freshmen](#)
- Interested in [faculty-led programs](#) designed for you to take part of meaningful learning experiences beyond the classroom? In Mexico? In Senegal? Learn more about [Maymesters](#), [Julumesters](#), and [Problems without Passports](#)
- Destress for finals with [Mindful USC](#) & our [Thriving Through Your First Year](#) event

### ☀️ Winter Break

- Check your grades on your Grade Report on OASIS via [my.usc.edu](http://my.usc.edu)
- Take the time now to binge watch the shows you have been waiting for with your free access to [Max](#) (select "Univ of Southern California" as the TV provider)
- Rest up and recharge for Spring semester

## Spring

### Early Semester

- Missed the Fall Involvement Fair? Attend the [Spring Involvement Fair](#) in January
- Meet your peers in the same major at the "[Meet Your Major](#)" [Social](#)
- Looking for an on-campus job? Find one at the [USC On-Campus Student Job Fair](#)
- Interested in service-learning, work-study, and volunteer opportunities? Learn more about the [USC Joint Educational Project \(JEP\)](#)
- Join the [Office of Overseas Studies](#) to learn more about studying abroad during the [Study Abroad Week](#)
- Join the [Career Fest](#) for a week of events with panels, discussions, and workshops that will cover everything from networking, interviewing, personal branding, navigating recruiting, and more!
- Apply to [scholarships](#) for the next academic year (e.g., [Dornsife Continuing Student Scholarship](#), [Other USC Scholarships](#), [USC Scholarship Universe](#), etc.)
- Explore & More: [Schedule an appointment](#) with your first-year advisor about your academic interest and additional degree exploration processes
- Attend a [Visions and Voices](#) event: USC Visions and Voices is a university-wide arts and humanities initiative that was launched in 2006.

### Mid-to-Late Semester

- Looking for a cool study space? Explore our [Student Equity and Inclusion spaces/identity centers](#) (e.g., [APASS](#), [CBCSA](#), [EG+SC](#), [La CASA](#), [LGBTQ+SC](#), [Cultural Affirming Lounges](#))
- Attend the [Midterm Toolkit: Study & Success Strategies](#) for study strategies, stress management tips, and success skills
- Prepare for Fall registration with the [Pre-Registration Info Session](#)
- Review your STARS report on OASIS via [my.usc.edu](http://my.usc.edu)
- Pre-Registration Advising (Mandatory): [Schedule an appointment](#) with your first-year advisor to discuss Fall registration
- Explore 1 to 2-unit courses: [MDA 300](#), [OT 100](#), [PHED courses](#), MEDS courses etc.
- Take a break and visit the Rose Garden, [Natural History Museum](#), and/or the [California African American Museum](#) for free with your USC Student ID card!
- Build your course plan through graduation at [Crafting Your Academic Plan](#) event
- Explore research opportunities at [Dornsife Undergraduate Research](#) and [beyond!](#)
- Visit your professor(s) during office hours to discuss course material, academic goals, etc. and to become comfortable with making faculty contact
- Attend the [Faculty Chat: Connecting with Professors and Finding Research](#) event for tips on engaging with faculty both inside and outside of the classroom
- Learn more about supported offered at [USC Counseling & Mental Health Services](#) and [Office of Religious & Spiritual Life](#)
- Attend [Springfest](#): USC Concert Committee's yearly concert on campus featuring live music, food trucks, student vendors, and more!
- Explore internship options for the summer/fall at [Dornsife Career Pathways](#), [USC Career Center](#), [ConnectSC](#), and/or [Courses for Internships](#) at USC
- Celebrate the end of your first-year and meet your new academic advisor at [Freshman Finale](#) in late April

### ☀️ Summer Break

- Check your grades on your Grade Report on OASIS via [my.usc.edu](http://my.usc.edu)
- Purchase [discounted theme park tickets](#) at the [USC Ticket Office](#) (located at the Galen Center) to visit over the summer

# DORNSIFE FIRST-YEAR CHECKLIST ✓

## Summer

### Questions to Ask Yourself:

- Have I completed everything on my pre-registration checklist?
- How can I be flexible with my course choices?
- What hobbies and interests from high school would I like to continue to college?
- What small goals am I setting for myself in my first year? What are my academic goals? What are my extracurricular or co-curricular goals? What are my social goals?
- What new knowledge and skills do I want to gain in college?
- How am I going to establish my support system, especially if I am away from home?

## Fall

### Questions to Ask Yourself:

- What new extracurricular or co-curricular am I excited about?
- What is something new that will push me outside of my comfort zone?
- Am I feeling connected to my peers? to the campus community? What events can I attend to meet new people?
- What majors or minors am I interested in learning more about? How does a second major or minor fit with my academic plan? Have I made an appointment with my first-year advisor to discuss these interests?
- Do I want to continue pursuing this major or am I considering a change?
- Have I maintained a good study-life (or work-study-life) balance? If not, how can I better manage my time?
- What study habits can I add to my daily life?
- Am I utilizing the resources available to me to prepare for midterms and finals?
- Am I taking care of my physical and mental health? What am I doing to contribute to my wellness and stress management?
- How might I use what I have learned this semester inside and outside of the classroom?
- What is one way you surprised yourself this semester?

## Spring

### Questions to Ask Yourself:

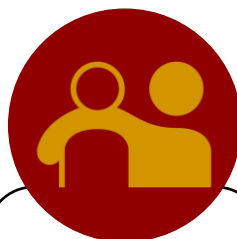
- What experiential learning opportunities have I explored? Volunteer opportunities? On-campus job? Internships? Research?
- What adjustments do I need to make to my study strategies?
- Have I introduced myself to my professor(s) and visited their office hours to discuss academic goals or course material?
- Do I know how to build my academic plan through graduation by looking at my STARS report? Do I know how to understand my STARS report?
- Looking back at your first year, have I accomplished what I intended to do? My academic goals? Social goals? Extracurricular or co-curricular goals?
- What have I learned this year about myself and my academic interests?
- What is one thing you achieved this year that you will remember for the rest of your life?
- What have I enjoyed in your first year? What have I not enjoyed?
- What skills or experience am I hoping to gain next year?
- What am I hoping to be involved with next year?

## 5 Tips for A SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR



### CONNECT W/YOUR FIRST-YEAR ADVISOR

Your FYA advisor is your resource for academic and career information in Dornsife and throughout USC.



### ASSEMBLE YOUR SUPPORT TEAM

Your support team includes your FYA advisor, professors, TAs, tutors, study buddies, and everyone else invested in your success.



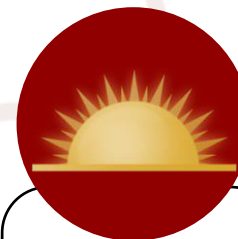
### CREATE A SCHEDULE

Organizing your time – including classes, socializing, study, and sleep – will help you visualize your goals and how you can achieve them.



### KNOW YOUR CAMPUS

Locate the best places where you can study, workout, eat, relax, and recharge.



### EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

Opportunities await inside and outside the classroom! Your FYA Advisor can help find experiences that support your interests and goals.