

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 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: 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
- 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
- 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
- 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:

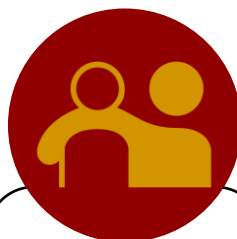
- What experiential learning opportunities have I explored? Volunteer opportunities? On-campus job? Internships? Research?
- What adjustments do I need to make to my study strategies?
- Have I introduced myself to my professor(s) and visited their office hours to discuss academic goals or course material?
- 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.



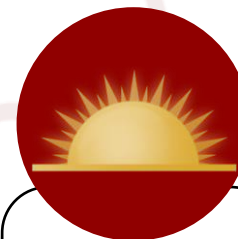
CREATE A SCHEDULE

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.