

What to Expect at Your First Year Advising Appointment

Meeting with your academic advisor is an integral part of being a student here at USC—whether you want to plan your upcoming courses, explore other majors and extracurricular opportunities, or make sure you’re on track to graduate. In addition, you’ll meet with your academic advisor every semester for pre-registration advising to prepare for the upcoming term. Here are some things to know before your advising appointment, to make meeting with your First Year Advisor a breeze!

- **Find Your Advisor**

- First year students get a specific **First Year Advisor** based on your major and last initial. [Find your advisor here!](#)
- Next year, you will get a **different advisor** in your major department. This will be your advisor for the rest of your time at USC.



-
- **Schedule Your Appointment Ahead of Time**

- Advisors rarely take walk-ins, especially during busy periods like pre-registration advising.
- Schedule an appointment on **myUSC > Undergraduate Advising**, or using your advisor’s provided [appointment scheduling link](#).

- **In Person or On Zoom?**
 - Advisors hold appointments **virtually** and **in person**. Make sure you know which option you selected when you scheduled your appointment!
 - For in person appointments, our office is in **GFS 320**. See “How to Find GFS & DFYA” on the First Year Corner resources page for more information.
 - Your advisor will send you a Zoom link for virtual appointments!

- **Preparing for Your Appointment**
 - Know your appointment type: Are you meeting with your advisor for **pre-registration advisement**, or **explore & more advising**? For focused meetings like the mandatory pre-registration advising appointment, there won't be time for general questions exploring majors, minors, etc.
 - Review your **STARS report**, any **course plans** or materials your advisor has sent you before, and take a look at the **Schedule of Classes** for next semester.
 - Write down any **questions** you may have to ask during your appointment.

- **What to Expect at Your Appointment**
 - Arrive a few minutes early to your appointment to find our office. Once in the **GFS 320 lobby**, you'll check in for your appointment at our iPad using your **USC ID number**, so bring your ID!
 - Your advisor will greet you in the lobby and bring you back to their office for your appointment. All of our First Year Advisors are here to help you transition into life at USC; your advisor will check in on you and ask how your semester is going, and assist you with any questions.
 - After your meeting, your advisor will send you an **email recap** with any links, resources, or course plans you discussed.

- **You're done!**
 - You've successfully met with your academic advisor. Follow any instructions your advisor gave you to get D-clearance, lift registration holds, etc. You're ready to register for classes!
 - After Orientation, students register for classes on their own during their **registration appointment time**, not in a meeting with their advisor, so make sure you remember your registration time!