

PARENTS GUIDE TO

DORNSIFE UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISING

WE SUPPORT STUDENTS AS THEY NAVIGATE THEIR UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE TO FORM MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THEIR PERSONAL VALUES AND ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PURSUITS. WE FOCUS ON THE EDUCATION OF THE WHOLE STUDENT AS THEY DEVELOP INTO GLOBAL CITIZENS WHO DRAW ON THEIR INTERDISCIPLINARY KNOWLEDGE TO POSITIVELY IMPACT THEIR COMMUNITIES.

WHAT IS ACADEMIC ADVISING?

Advising is an ongoing process between academic advisors and students through which students clarify, pursue, and reevaluate their goals; navigate their academic journey; and engage with their campus community. In an effective advising partnership both students and advisors play active roles, including the following:

ADVISORS WILL

- ✓ Support academic and career exploration
- ✓ Explain degree requirements and policies
- ✓ Assist with course planning
- ✓ Connect students with faculty, resources, and opportunities

STUDENTS WILL

- ✓ Read and respond to emails
- ✓ Be mindful of important dates and deadlines
- ✓ Prepare for advising appointments
- ✓ Follow-up on referrals
- ✓ Communicate with advisors and support system

WHEN IS ACADEMIC ADVISING?

Academic advisors connect with students throughout the school year. To discuss academic progress, explore goals, learn about opportunities, and plan for future semesters, students can [reserve individual appointments](#) with their Academic Advisor through [Advise.USC](#).

WEEKS 1 & 2	WEEKS 2-5 & 13-15	WEEKS 6-12
Finalize Registration Optional appointment with Academic Advisor to discuss registration changes and questions.	Explore & More Optional appointment to explore opportunities, multi-semester course plans, and more.	Pre-Registration REQUIRED appointment to prepare for next semester. To register when permit opens, complete this in advance.

PARTNERING WITH YOUR STUDENT

In accordance with the federal [Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act](#), Academic Advisors share student information with individuals outside the university only if that student grants their permission. Students can give this permission by visiting [MyUSC](#) > OASIS > Other Services > Establish Guest Access and completing the prompts.

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD



However, there are many ways parents can partner with their students, including the following:

MONTH	IMPORTANT STUDENT DATES	HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT STUDENTS
AUG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 17-21: Move in and settle on campus • Thursday, August 22: Dornsife Welcome • Friday, August 23: Student Job Fair • Monday, August 26: Fall semester begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep open lines of communications • Encourage your student to attend Trojan Welcome Experience events and other campus activities • Recommend that your student get to know their Academic Advisor, RA, and Professors
SEPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, September 13: Last day to add classes for Session 001 • September 26-29: Trojan Family Weekend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind your student to check their USC email • Encourage your student to utilize on-campus resources such as Academic Advising, Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity and other learning support services • Participate in Trojan Family Weekend events
OCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October & November: Schedule and attend Pre-Registration Advisement with advisor; do so before permit to register opens • Tuesday, October 8: Dornsife Major/Minor Fair • October 10-11: Fall recess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen and be supportive as your student navigates midterms and the stresses of the semester • Encourage your student to make their Mandatory Pre-Registration Advisement appointment with their advisor
NOV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November: Spring 2025 registration opens by permit to register • Friday, November 15: Last day to drop classes with an official transcript “W” • November 27-December 1: Thanksgiving Break 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss plans for Thanksgiving and Winter Recess • Recommend that your student join academic and social events
DEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, December 6: Fall classes end • December 7-10: Study days • December 11-18: Final exams • December 19-January 12: Winter recess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask about your student’s upcoming spring plans • Encourage them as they prepare for and complete final exams • Check in with your student about fall grades • Be patient as your student balances their newfound independence with life at home

VISIT THE [SCHEDULE OF CLASSES](#) FOR ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION DEADLINES AND THE [USC EVENT CALENDAR](#) FOR MORE UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES.