Faculty Led Programs

1) Are there any scholarships or funding to help cover the cost of attending a program?
   a. Yes, we have lists of EXL Scholarships [HERE] and External Scholarships [HERE].
   b. In addition, depending on the program type, part of the cost may already be covered. For Maymester and Spring Semester programs, the tuition cost is already included in your block Spring Semester Tuition. However additional travel costs (airfare, housing, food) are not covered.
   c. Some of our programs involve faculty-led research that students can partake in. In this case, students can apply for SOAR funding (for travel programs during the school year) and SURF funding (for travel programs during the summer) to help cover the cost of their travel program. Check the specific program page to see if the program you are interested in qualifies for SOAR/SURF funding and confirm with the faculty director for the program. Learn more about SOAR/SURF funding [HERE].
   d. If you have a GPA of 3.75 or higher and are taking a Maymester with over 18 units in your spring semester, you can apply for Academic Achievement Award [HERE] which will cover your units up to 21 over the block unit rate of 18.

2) How do I apply to a program?
   a. You can see a full-list of programs divided by type [HERE]
   b. Each program’s application process is handled by its respective department. Most programs have their application online and linked on their program page. You can communicate directly with the faculty director by email to confirm their application process.

3) What requirements are there to apply to a program?
   a. Each program has different requirements – some are open to all majors, some have language and/or course pre-requisites, and some are open only to specific majors. Every program has their specific requirements to apply listed on their program page.

4) When does USC charge me for the program cost?
   a. After being accepted, every program has a program deposit which is at least $400. This deposit is applied to your program costs once the program begins.
      i. For Maymester programs, your deposit is usually charged the third week of the spring semester.
b. For Maymester and Spring Semester programs, the tuition charge is included in your Spring term course load, so those charges are made in December/January with your Spring tuition bill.

5) Can I apply to more than one program?
   a. Yes, you can apply to more than one program. Since some programs fill up quickly, we recognize students may want to have a secondary option. If you choose to apply to two programs, ensure you communicate with both program directors to let them know you applied to two programs and let them know your preference for acceptance. If you do not do this, you may be subject to a deposit charge.

6) When do applications open for programs?
   a. Most applications open at the beginning of the preceding semester. For example, if you are interested in joining a Maymester, you can expect applications to open in October or earlier.
   b. However, students should check the respective program page and communicate with the program faculty director to ascertain the exact open and close dates for applications.