Resident Honors Program

2013 Application

Postmark Deadline: December 1, 2012
Welcome

Fall 2013 Applicants

The Resident Honors Program has a two-part application process: the RHP Application and the Common Application with USC Supplement.

The first step is the RHP Application, available only from the RHP website in PDF format. The forms in the RHP Application will provide us with some personal and academic information about you. Also included are the high school nomination form and teacher recommendation forms. Though the deadline for all application materials is December 1, 2012, we would like you to send in the RHP Application as soon as it is complete. Completing this section early will identify you as a serious applicant and will guarantee that you receive further information about USC and the Resident Honors Program in a timely fashion.

The second step is the Common Application with USC Supplement, available online at www.commonapp.org. Please review the USC Admission website for detailed application instructions, guidelines for certain majors, and information about financial aid. The USC Admission website may be accessed at www.usc.edu/admission.

All application materials must be completed and/or postmarked by December 1, 2012 in order to be considered for USC’s highest merit scholarships. This includes the Common Application with USC Supplement, which must be submitted online by December 1, 2012.

Please mail the RHP Application to:

Resident Honors Program
University of Southern California
3454 Trousdale Parkway, CAS 200
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0153

All application materials must be completed and/or postmarked by December 1, 2012*

We look forward to working with you, and we welcome any inquiries you may have about the application process or any other aspect of the Resident Honors Program.

*Some programs and majors require supplemental materials that have varying deadlines. Please refer to the “Additional Requirements for Selected Majors” section of the USC Admission website for further information about supplemental deadlines.

To contact the Resident Honors Program by phone, call (213) 740-2961
1. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE 2013 RHP APPLICATION PROCESS:

You can only apply to the Resident Honors Program with the RHP Application, available from the RHP website, and the Common Application with USC Supplement, available from the Common Application website.

- DO NOT mail the RHP Application to the USC Admission office (see adjacent box).
- The postmark deadline for all materials is December 1, 2012.
- Include your name on all documents.

2. APPLICATION PROCESS:

a. COMPLETE THE 2013 RHP APPLICATION
   - SECTION A: Personal Information Form (THREE PAGES).
   - SECTION B: Nomination Form (TWO PAGES): Your high school principal or counselor must complete this form. Your application will not be processed until this form is received. Please inform your counselor that additional information will be required of him or her as part of the Common Application.
   - SECTION C: 2 Teacher Recommendation Forms (TWO PAGES EACH): Give these to two of your high school teachers who know you well (one must be your English teacher). Each teacher will submit the form by mail and may attach a letter if preferred.

b. COMPLETE THE 2013 COMMON APPLICATION WITH USC SUPPLEMENT (www.commonapp.org)

The Common Application requires information from you and your high school counselor. We also recommend that the teachers who wrote recommendations for you as part of the RHP Application submit duplicate copies of their letters to the Common App. Any Common App forms that need to be submitted offline (if applicable) should be mailed to the USC Admission office, not to the RHP Office.

Note that some majors and programs have supplemental applications and deadlines. These requirements are outlined within the Common Application and on the USC Admission website. Please review these instructions carefully and submit all relevant materials to the appropriate locations.

c. SUBMIT OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

Your counselor should attach your official transcript to the Nomination Form, or you should send a sealed transcript separately. Your transcript must include course work completed in the 9th grade. The transcript should reflect a rigorous college preparatory curriculum (including honors, AP, and/or IB courses) and few grades, if any, lower than B+.

3. TEST SCORES:

- USC requires the SAT or the ACT with the writing section. A minimum combined SAT score of 2050 OR composite ACT score of 32 is required to be considered for the Resident Honors Program.
- Take the PSAT in October 2012 to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship competition.
- Take the SAT or ACT by December 2012 to be considered for USC’s highest merit scholarships. USC uses the highest composite ACT score or the best combination of SAT math, reading, and writing scores.
- Be sure to have your test scores sent directly to USC by the testing agency.
- SAT Subject Tests are not required unless you attend a high school that is not regionally accredited or are home-schooled. However, high scores in SAT Subject Tests do strengthen a student’s application, and we encourage you to submit these scores if you have them.

4. INTERVIEW:

If we have not already met you during a previous campus visit, a phone or on-campus interview is required. If you plan to be in the Los Angeles area, please call ahead if you would like to arrange a meeting. Otherwise, we will contact you in early 2013 to schedule a phone interview. Please note that a separate on-campus interview is required to compete for the highest USC Merit Scholarships. If you are being considered for these scholarships, you will be notified by the USC Admission office in mid-February 2013.

5. APPLICATION FEE:

You will be required to pay a $70 application fee (or submit a fee waiver) as part of the Common Application.

6. HOUSING:

On-campus housing is a vital part of the Resident Honors experience. If you are admitted to the program, you will receive housing information with your formal letter of acceptance to the University. Each RHP student is required to live in a USC residence hall during his or her entire freshman year.

For more information visit usc.edu/rhp
Section A: Personal Information (page 1 of 3)
Please use dark blue or black ink.

Legal Name and Information (Indicate your name exactly as it appears on your Social Security card or passport):

LAST ______________________  FIRST ______________________  MIDDLE ______________________

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (OPTIONAL) ______________________  BIRTH DATE (MM/DD/YY) ______________________

SEX ______________________  U.S. CITIZEN ☐  U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT ☐  INTERNATIONAL ☐

Current Contact Information:

STREET ADDRESS __________________________________________________________

CITY ______________________  STATE OR PROVINCE ______________________  ZIP ______________________  COUNTRY ______________________

HOME PHONE ( _____ ) ______________________  CELL PHONE ( _____ ) ______________________  EMAIL ADDRESS ______________________

PARENT 1 MR. / MS. / MRS. / DR. ______________________  PARENT 2 MR. / MS. / MRS. / DR. ______________________

Why are you interested in the Resident Honors Program? How will attending college early benefit you personally?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What are your career goals? Why?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What is your parents’ or guardians’ attitude toward your nomination for this early entrance program?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Section A: Personal Information (page 2 of 3)

Tell us about a book you read recently that you found especially significant or meaningful. How has it impacted your life?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Describe your ideal educational environment. It could be one you have experienced or one you hope to find in the future.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any exceptional talents?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

How do you use your free time?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Do you have any friends or relatives who have participated in RHP?

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Section A: Personal Information (page 3 of 3)

Essay: Answer one of the following prompts in a thoughtful and well-crafted response of 300-500 words. Feel free to type your essay and attach it to this sheet.

A. You are given 24 hours to spend anywhere in space or time. Where do you go? Why?
B. Consider a current local or global issue that interests you. Explain your views and convince us why this topic is worthy of greater attention.
Section B: Nomination Form (page 1 of 2)

This section is to be completed by a high school counselor and reviewed by the high school principal or headmaster for his or her recommendation. Both must sign the form to show that the school endorses the student’s application to the Resident Honors Program. Please note that a high school counselor will also be asked to provide information for the Common Application with USC Supplement.

Only superior high school students who will complete their junior year by June of 2013 are eligible for the Resident Honors Program at USC. An applicant must have the support of his or her high school to apply. Please feel free to attach a letter to this form if you would like to include additional information.

**THIS NOMINATION FORM MUST BE MAILED TO:**  
Resident Honors Program  
University of Southern California  
3454 Trousdale Parkway, CAS 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0153

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Student:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.I.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School Information:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL NAME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL PHONE (         )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL ADDRESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOW LONG HAS THE STUDENT ATTENDED THIS SCHOOL?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT’S INTENDED YEAR OF GRADUATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERCENTAGE OF THE STUDENT’S GRADUATING CLASS WHO PLAN TO ATTEND FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Student’s grade point average and class ranking: |
| UNWEIGHTED GPA |
| WEIGHTED GPA |
| CLASS RANK OF |

We understand that many schools do not rank juniors. However, it is crucial to our evaluation process that we have the most accurate ranking information that you are able to provide for this student at this time. If exact rank is not available, please select a choice below.

STUDENT RANKS IN THE:  
TOP 1% ☐  
TOP 5% ☐  
TOP 10% ☐  
TOP 25% ☐  
TOP 50% ☐  
LOWER 50% ☐

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AP or IB courses the student has taken (please list):</th>
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</table>

| Test scores (please report current information on the student’s best scores to date): |
| PSAT TEST DATE | READING | MATH | WRITING |
| SAT TEST DATE  | READING | MATH | WRITING |
| ACT TEST DATE  | COMP. | ENGLISH | MATH | READING | SCIENCE | WRITING |
Section B: Nomination Form (page 2 of 2)

What are the first words that come to mind when describing the nominee’s academic traits?

__________________________________________________________________________________

What are the first words that come to mind when describing the nominee’s personal traits?

__________________________________________________________________________________

Why do you believe this student will succeed in the Resident Honors Program?

__________________________________________________________________________________

Do you feel this student has the emotional maturity and self-confidence necessary to begin college now? Why or why not?

__________________________________________________________________________________

High School Counselor’s Approval:

SALUTATION ___________________ FIRST NAME ___________________ LAST NAME ___________________

CONTACT PHONE ( ___________________ )

CONTACT ADDRESS _________________________________________________

JOB TITLE _________________________________________________________

SIGNATURE __________________________________ DATE ______________

High School Principal or Headmaster’s Approval:

SALUTATION ___________________ FIRST NAME ___________________ LAST NAME ___________________

CONTACT PHONE ( ___________________ )

CONTACT ADDRESS _________________________________________________

JOB TITLE _________________________________________________________

SIGNATURE __________________________________ DATE ______________
Section C: Teacher Recommendation #1 (page 1 of 2)

Name of Student:

The student whose name appears above has been nominated for the Resident Honors Program at the University of Southern California. We appreciate your frank evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate. Please feel free to attach a letter to this form.

How do you rank the applicant’s intellectual promise as compared to your other college-bound students? (Check one)

- BEST EVER
- TOP 1% □
- TOP 5% □
- TOP 10% □
- TOP 25% □
- TOP 50% □
- LOWER 50% □
- OTHER

If lower than the top 10%, for what reasons do you believe the student will succeed in the Resident Honors Program?

What are the student’s strengths?

Do you feel that the student has the social and emotional maturity required for university life? Why or why not?

Is this student active in high school activities? If so, in what areas?

In what way(s) is this student still developing?

Can this student work independently and manage coursework without assistance?
Section C: Teacher Recommendation #1 (page 2 of 2)

Please describe the work of the student in your subject.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please select one of the following three options:

[ ] I strongly recommend this student without reservation.

[ ] I do not recommend this student.

[ ] I recommend this student, but with reservation(s) noted below.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Other comments:

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Teacher’s Information:

SALUTATION ___________________ FIRST NAME ___________________ LAST NAME ___________________

CONTACT PHONE ___________________

CONTACT ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________

SUBJECT TAUGHT ___________________

SIGNATURE ___________________ DATE ____________________________

THIS FORM MUST BE MAILED TO:

Resident Honors Program
University of Southern California
3454 Trousdale Parkway, CAS 200
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0153
Section C: Teacher Recommendation #2 (page 1 of 2)

Name of Student:

The student whose name appears above has been nominated for the Resident Honors Program at the University of Southern California. We appreciate your frank evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate. Please feel free to attach a letter to this form.

How do you rank the applicant’s intellectual promise as compared to your other college-bound students? (Check one)

BEST EVER  □   TOP 1%  □   TOP 5% □   TOP 10% □   TOP 25% □   TOP 50% □   LOWER 50% □   OTHER ________________

If lower than the top 10%, for what reasons do you believe the student will succeed in the Resident Honors Program?

__________________________

What are the student’s strengths?

__________________________

Do you feel that the student has the social and emotional maturity required for university life? Why or why not?

__________________________

Is this student active in high school activities? If so, in what areas?

__________________________

In what way(s) is this student still developing?

__________________________

Can this student work independently and manage coursework without assistance?

__________________________
Section C: Teacher Recommendation #2 (page 2 of 2)

Please describe the work of the student in your subject.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Please select one of the following three options:

I strongly recommend this student without reservation. ☐

I do not recommend this student. ☐

I recommend this student, but with reservation(s) noted below. ☐

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Other comments:

__________________________________________________________________________

Teacher’s Information:

SALUTATION ___________________ FIRST NAME ___________________ LAST NAME ___________________

CONTACT PHONE (______________________________)

CONTACT ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________

SUBJECT TAUGHT _____________________________________________________________

SIGNATURE ___________________________________ DATE ____________________________

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University of Southern California
3454 Trousdale Parkway, CAS 200
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0153