

The Carrie D. and C.J. Walker Endowed Scholarship Fund 2026–2027 Application for Travel Grants for Continuing Undergraduates

Established in the early 1900's, the Carrie D. and C.J. Walker Endowed Scholarship Fund provides assistance for students majoring or minoring in Religion at the University of Southern California. Two award categories exist:

Merit Awards are given to undergraduate students majoring or minoring in Religion who demonstrate academic excellence. The support can be used for tuition only. To apply for a merit award, please do not use this application. Instead, use the general USC Dornsife Continuing Student Scholarship online application (available at <http://dornsife.usc.edu/css>) and submit a copy of your best essay written for a Religion course at USC, which will be used as the supplemental essay for the Walker Scholarship.

Research and Travel Grants are given to undergraduate students majoring or minoring in Religion who have the best proposals to use funds for scholarly research, travel, or other departmentally approved programs. Funds will be applied to items such as travel expenses, conference fees, tuition expenses for off-campus language study, or research materials, and can be used in the summer months. To apply for a travel grant, please use this application. Grant notifications will be sent by the end of April.

To be eligible to apply for a Walker Travel Grant, you must:

1. Be a USC undergraduate student with a major or minor in Religion
2. Have either completed at least one semester at USC (12 units or more) or be enrolled full-time (12 units or more) in Spring 2026
3. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in Religion coursework

To apply for a Walker Travel Grant, send the following information to the email listed below by **5 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2026.**

Send application materials to:
scholarships@dornsife.usc.edu

Subject line: Walker Travel Grant application

1. **A COMPLETED WALKER TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION FORM:** The application form is a fillable PDF form. You may print the application and complete it by hand if you prefer. Please be sure to print and sign your application by hand before submitting it. You may scan the form via an app to create a pdf copy to send with the rest of your application, or you may take a photo of the form and email the photo along with the rest of your application.
2. **REFERENCES:** List two academic references on your application. These academic references must be USC instructors. One of the two academic references may be a teaching assistant (TA).
3. **A RESUME:** A typed, professional-style resume that lists education, work experience, extracurricular activities relevant to academic interests, and honors and awards. Include any positions held, responsibilities, and periods of service. We would like you to focus primarily on your experiences at USC, but you may include information from previous institution(s) if relevant.
4. **USC UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT:** Your USC Unofficial Transcript is available at no cost via ExperienceUSC under My Academics / Academic Records OR Advise USC. Do NOT submit an official USC transcript, which requires a fee.
5. **PROJECT PROPOSAL AND BUDGET:** Please write a project proposal of not more than 750 words describing the intended use of funds. Include relevant information about your proposed research or travel for scholarly purposes with a detailed and precise budget with accurate estimates of expenses.

For questions regarding budget guidelines or appropriate use of travel grant funds, contact Prof. Jill Hicks-Keeton, Associate Professor of Religion, Department of Religion, jill.hk@usc.edu. For other questions, contact USC Dornsife Admission and Student Success at scholarships@dornsife.usc.edu.