About Us

The Graduate School at the University of South Carolina supports more than 240 graduate programs. We provide administrative services, fund strategic awards, and host professional development programs to enrich the graduate student experience and promote the importance and value of graduate education.

Contact Us

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gradschool.sc.edu

GradSchoolAtUSC
GradSchoolatUSC

Paying for Grad School

Graduate school requires a big investment of time and resources. However, for many it promises even greater rewards. At the University of South Carolina, we offer competitive award packages and hundreds of advanced programs (including certificate, master’s, doctoral and dual-degree) so you can choose the type of program and level of investment that works for you. A highest tier research institution, USC is commended by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance and The Princeton Review for its stellar education and affordable rates. Meanwhile Columbia, South Carolina—the state’s capital and largest city—consistently ranks among the nation’s most livable and affordable midsize towns.

USC offers competitive financial aid packages to attract students from across the country and around the world. More than half of graduate students receive financial support.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
Things to know before you come

2013-2014 Tuition and Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition Rates/ Semester</th>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>Mandatory Insurance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FT Resident $5820</td>
<td>FT/Semester $369</td>
<td>Optional USC Provider $1457/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT Resident $485/credit hour</td>
<td>PT/Semester $130</td>
<td>Study Abroad Insurance $360</td>
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<tr>
<td>FT/Non-Resident* $12480</td>
<td>International Student Enrollment $500/one time fee</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT/Non-Resident $1040/credit hour</td>
<td>Carolina Card $10</td>
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To see USC fee descriptions, visit the Office of the Bursar at sc.edu/bursar/fees.shtml.

*Tuition Reduction
Graduate Assistants usually receive tuition assistance and automatically qualify for in-state tuition.

Living Expenses
Cost of living in Columbia, South Carolina is lower than the national average. Estimated living expenses for August to May are approximately $17,000 USD. This includes housing, clothing, insurance, textbooks, transportation, entertainment, and food.

Create a Funding Portfolio
gradschool.sc.edu/pfg

1. ASSISTANSHIPS
Graduate Assistants receive stipends, tuition assistance, and valuable teaching, research and workplace experience. Most assistantships are awarded by home departments. Contact your program for details and to get started.

2. USC RECRUITING FELLOWSHIPS
The Graduate School administers the award-winning Presidential Fellowship program, plus numerous other fellowships and awards. Visit gradschool.sc.edu/pfg.

3. OTHER CAMPUS FELLOWSHIPS
- The college or school that houses your program can be a great place to find awards, such as Dean’s Doctoral, Presidential Teaching, and Dissertation Fellowships.
- USC supports more than 100 research centers and institutes, many of which offer fellowships. Find the list of centers at sc.edu/research/centers.php.
- The University of South Carolina supports several diversity fellowship programs, including the African American Professors Program, GEM Consortium and SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program.

4. NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS
Graduate students at the University of South Carolina have a proud history of winning national fellowships and awards. Interested students should contact the Office of Fellowships and Scholar Programs at sc.edu/ofsp.

5. EXTERNAL AWARDS
Students are urged to seek out funding from a variety of sources, including foundations, corporations, research centers, and federal, state and local agencies.

6. TRAVEL GRANTS
The Graduate School annually awards $150,000 in travel grants to students in doctoral and MFA programs.

7. RESEARCH GRANTS & AWARDS
USC supports innovation through programs such as the SPARC Graduate Research Fellowship and the Proving Ground Entrepreneurial Challenge.

8. PART-TIME WORK
Full-time students may work up to 20 hours a week. The Career Center can help you find assistantships, jobs and co-ops. Learn more at sc.edu/career.

9. LOANS
Students are generally advised not to take out loans that will total, upon repayment, more than 8 percent of their expected monthly income. The Career Center can help you estimate projected earnings. For more information on loans visit the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships at sc.edu/financialaid.

10. BUDGETING
Our flagship university offers hundreds of services and free activities to help save you money and enhance quality of life. Visit sc.edu for details.

Financial resources once you’re here

USC Career Center resources range from financial decisions about graduate programs to how to write a résumé or C.V. See sc.edu/career.

Start Smart Workshops provide women and men with the skills to negotiate salary and benefits and tips on how to budget while in school. Visit https://sites.google.com/site/uscstartsmartworkshops/home.

Students can meet with an attorney for free consultations on a variety of issues, including landlord tenant questions and consumer protection. Details at sa.sc.edu/stlife/student-legal-services.

Eligible students may borrow up to $500 for 30 days through the University’s emergency loan Program. Contact the Student Success Center at 803-777-1000.

Find fellowships, grants, postdocs and awards using PIVOT (sc.edu/researcher/funding.shtml) and INFO (sc.edu/ofsp/search.php) funding databases.

Visit www.GradSense.org for useful information on median debt and income, loan repayment advice, and career guidance.