

Tuition Exchange Imports FAQ

1. My child is interested in USC. What is the first step?

Tuition Exchanges (TE) are initiated by your employer/institution. Please check with your own TE liaison for deadlines and application processes.

2. Is there a deadline to apply for tuition exchange at USC?

YES. The TE certification from your home school and the admission application to USC are due by the admission application deadlines (January 15 for freshmen students and February 1 for transfer students).

3. Many families ask the question, “will my freshman Import be offered a TE scholarship at USC?”

USC is unable to provide any further specific details for the upcoming TE award year; however, you are encouraged to review the USC First-year student profile and admission document available at the following link: <https://news.usc.edu/139338/usc-acceptance-rate-fall-2018-admission/> for information regarding academic details of the 2018-2019 freshman class. The most important action your student needs to do now, is apply and be admitted to USC. For the 2018-19 academic year, 11-30% of TE Imports admitted to USC attended USC with a TE award.

4. When will USC notify me of their TE decision?

Admission decisions are made before tuition exchange decisions are announced. All freshmen are notified after they are accepted for admission to USC, generally by April 1. TE decisions are typically announced prior to May 1 for freshmen. Transfer applicants to USC will be mailed either an admission decision or a request for their spring-term grades by May 31. TE decisions for transfer students are announced on a rolling basis after May 31.

5. How many semesters does the TE scholarship cover?

TE awards are based on class levels with an 8 semester maximum for entering freshmen. Sophomores would be awarded 6 semesters and juniors would be awarded 4 semesters to complete degrees. In the case of students graduating early, no additional TE funding is available.

6. Can I attend summer school at USC and use my TE award?

NO. TE scholarships are not available for summer terms.

7. Is there any other paperwork required of me?

NO. The only document required is the Certification of Eligibility submitted by your school’s TE liaison.

8. Can I attend a USC study abroad session in a fall or spring term?

YES. As a USC student, Tuition Exchange is available for USC study abroad programs. The Financial Aid office determines how your TE award is applied.

<http://financialaid.usc.edu/general/help-contact-us-general.html>

9. Are graduate studies offered through Tuition Exchange?

NO. USC, as most schools in the TE program, participates at the undergraduate level only. Progressive master’s degrees are also not covered.

10. Is there a minimum unit required to maintain the scholarship?

YES. TE students must enroll in at least 12 undergraduate units per semester.

11. Is there a required grade point average (GPA)?

YES. A 3.0 cumulative GPA is required to renew your Tuition Exchange scholarship annually.

12. Do I need to apply every year for the scholarship?

NO. There is an annual recertification process to verify eligibility, but the award is covered through graduation or a maximum number of semesters as discussed in Question 4 above, provided the other school recertifies the student and the USC cumulative 3.0 GPA is met. Parents should stay in contact with their own TE liaison regarding the annual recertification process.

13. When will USC recertify my Export TE eligibility annually?

USC will make every effort to recertify Exports each year annually in November. However, please be aware that USC reviews all Export student records at the conclusion of each semester to confirm the student met the requirements and the parent maintained employment eligibility for the TE scholarship. Should one or both of these not be met, the student will lose the TE scholarship at the conclusion of the semester.

14. What is the GPA requirement for acceptance for tuition exchange?

There is no set GPA requirement. Freshman students are ranked academically to determine awards.

15. What happens if my parent is no longer employed?

Tuition would be prorated depending on the date of departure or termination.

16. Who can I talk to about applying to USC?

The USC admission office should be the point of contact. <https://admission.usc.edu/>
Tuition Exchange is a separate process handled once the admission process is complete.

17. I was offered another full scholarship; can I keep both?

All financial questions should be directed to the USC Financial Aid office.
<http://financialaid.usc.edu/general/help-contact-us-general.html>

18. Why doesn't my TE award appear on my registration statement?

TE scholarships do not credit unless the student is enrolled fulltime (12 to 18 units).
Once your registration is complete, your TE award will credit.

19. What is the percentage of newly admitted TE candidates offered a TE scholarship at USC for the current academic year?

The percentage is 11%-30%.

20. Does USC require my family to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form?

NO. USC does not require the FAFSA. However, as the name implies, the application is free and may open additional grant, scholarship, work and even student loan opportunities.

