

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION - FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA 2016-2017 UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG

BOG Reg. 6.002

To be considered for admission, freshman applicants must submit a USF Application for Admission, a non-refundable application fee, an official high school transcript, official GED scores if applicable, SAT or ACT score, with writing, and a IELTS or TOEFL score if applicable.

Although USF has minimum freshman admission requirements, meeting these minimum standards does not guarantee admission. Applicants selected for admission usually exceed the eligibility requirements; however, USF also considers applicants who do not fully meet minimum requirements but who have important attributes, special talents or unique circumstances that may contribute to a representative and diverse student body. These freshman applicants are considered for admission by a faculty committee on the basis of other appropriate evidence of ability to do successful academic work at USF.

For purposes of admission, USF recalculates a high school grade point average (GPA) based on grades earned in all college preparatory academic courses. In recalculating a GPA, USF assigns additional weights to grades earned in honors, Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, and Advanced International Certificate of Education courses (provided the grade earned is C or above).

The University normally requires a diploma from a Florida public or a regionally accredited high school or the state-approved General Education Development (GED) diploma. Students admitted under the Early Admission Program are exempted from this requirement. Students who are participating in an approved home schooling program are expected to provide acceptable copies of annual evaluations for the equivalent of grades 9 through 12. A portfolio or additional documentation may be requested if deemed necessary to complete an appropriate evaluation for admission, as well as, appropriate alternative evidence of academic achievement, ability, motivation, and responsibility (example: dual enrollment, AP credit). Other minimum requirements are outlined below.

1. Freshman applicants must submit an official test score from the SAT or the ACT. Students with test scores from older versions of the admissions test(s) may be required to retest for admission purposes. Effective with Spring 2017 applications, the writing score is no longer required.
2. For freshman applicants earning a high school diploma, the following college preparatory academic units (year-long courses or equivalents) normally offered in grades nine through twelve are required:
 - four units of English (three of the four must incorporate substantial writing requirements);
 - four units of mathematics (Algebra I and above);
 - three units of natural sciences (two of the three must incorporate substantial laboratory requirements);
 - three units of social sciences (history, civics, political science, economics, sociology, psychology and geography);
 - two units of the same foreign language; and
 - two additional units of academic electives.
3. The University sets admission requirements that may be found on the Undergraduate Admissions web homepage. Please refer to <http://www.usf.edu/admissions/freshman/index.aspx/> for the current admission requirements. Admission to the University is selective; therefore, meeting requirements does not guarantee admission.
4. Applicants submitting a GED diploma must have a minimum of a passing score on each section of the test. Admission to the University is selective; therefore, meeting requirements does not guarantee admission. GED holders must also submit an SAT or ACT.
5. A first-time-in-college applicant whose native language is not English may be required to present a minimum score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing service exam (IELTS), or a score of 550 (paper-based test) or 79 (Internet-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or a score of 53 on the Pearson Test of English Academic. These scores are valid for two years.
6. First-time-in-college applicants seeking admission at the freshman level to a limited access degree program must meet additional requirements specified by the program.
7. If a student has not earned the minimum scores on the SAT or the ACT listed in Florida Board of Governors Regulation [6.008](#), remedial college preparatory work generally will be required prior to the first term of enrollment at USF. Admission to the University is selective; therefore, meeting these minimum scores does not guarantee admission.
8. Please refer to the International Applicants section for additional requirements for international applicants.