Any freshman applicant who meets minimum admission requirements as stated in Florida Board of Governors Regulation 6.002 is encouraged to submit an application. Each state university reserves the right under Florida BOG regulation to establish admission criteria that exceeds Florida BOG minimums.

To be considered for admission, freshman (First Time in College) applicants must submit:

- USF Application for Admission
- Non-refundable $30 application fee
- Official high school transcript
- Official GED scores if applicable
- SAT or ACT scores
- IELTS or TOEFL scores, 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 based on other appropriate evidence of ability to do successful academic work at USF.

The University sets admission requirements found on the Undergraduate Admissions web homepage. Please refer to http://www.usf.edu/admissions/freshman/ for the current admission requirements. Admission to the University is selective; therefore, meeting requirements does not guarantee admission.

The institution reserves the right to request the testing agency to validate any applicant’s admission materials including transcripts and test scores such as SAT, ACT, TOEFL, PTE-A or IELTS used in the admission process if, in the judgment of University officials, there is reason to warrant this validation. See http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/regulations/pdfs/regulation-usf3.018.pdf.

1. A diploma from a public or regionally accredited high school or the state-approved General Education Development (GED) diploma is required for freshman admission. Early Admission Program students are exempted from this requirement.

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 (4) units of English (three of the four must incorporate substantial writing requirements);
   - Four (4) units of mathematics (Algebra I and above);
   - Three (3) units of natural sciences (two of the three must incorporate substantial laboratory requirements);
   - Three (3) units of social sciences (history, civics, political science, economics, sociology, psychology, and geography);
   - Two (2) units of the same foreign language; and
   - Two (2) additional units of academic electives.
3. USF System institutions recalculate high school grade point average for admission that enhances credits for accelerated coursework with a grade of C or higher by adding one quality point for grades earned in Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses, AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) and dual enrollment courses; and one-half quality point for any grade earned in certain courses designated as honors or advanced by school districts or independent schools.

4. Official admission test scores from the College Board SAT administered by the Educational Testing Services or scores from the ACT exam must be submitted. When scores are provided from multiple administrations of an admission test, the combination of the highest individual subtest scores are used to determine eligibility for admission.

5. As a minimum, each freshman applicant must meet one of the following:
   a. At least a “B” average (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) as computed by the USF System in required high school academic units in English, mathematics, natural science, social science and foreign language; or
   b. A combination of high school GPA and admission test scores equivalent to a 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) as computed by the USF System in the required high school academic units in English, mathematics, natural science, social science and foreign language, and scores on the College Board SAT of 500 on Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, 500 on Mathematics or comparable sub-scores on the ACT of 18 on Reading and 19 on Mathematics as indicated by the Florida Board of Governors.

6. Applicants with a GED diploma must have an average score of 580 or higher (58 on the old GED exam) with a minimum score of 500 on each of the five tests (50 on the old GED exam), and a total score of at least 1070 on the SAT (Critical Reading, Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Mathematics) or 21 on the ACT.

7. Any freshman applicant who does not graduate from a regionally accredited secondary school, including those applicants who are home schooled or those who have earned a GED, must provide official results from the SAT Subject examinations in mathematics (Level II-C), foreign language, science and social science. This requirement may be waived if the student provides an official secondary or postsecondary transcript or official AP or CLEP examination results demonstrating college readiness in each of the four core subject areas above. For the purposes of the admission decision, the USF System will use the SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing scores or ACT Reading and English sub-scores if the applicant has completed no senior-level or postsecondary coursework in English. Please refer to the International Applicants section for additional requirements for international applicants.