# ABOUT USF

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA 2018-2019 UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG

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The University of South Florida, established in 1956 and located in Tampa, is a high-impact global research university dedicated to student success. The USF System includes three separately accredited institutions: USF, USF St. Petersburg and USF Sarasota-Manatee. Serving more than 50,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of $1.8 billion and an annual economic impact of $4.4 billion. USF ranks in the top 30 nationally for research expenditures among public universities, according to the National Science Foundation. In 2018, the Florida Board of Governors designated USF as a Preeminent State Research University, placing USF in the most elite category among the state’s 12 public universities.

The University is one of only five Florida public universities classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in the top tier of research universities, a distinction attained by only 2.5 percent of all universities.

USF is a member of the American Athletics Conference, with 17 men's and women's varsity teams competing at the NCAA-level. New facilities for practice and competition, along with a completely renovated USF Sun Dome, put the university's athletic facilities on par with virtually every top program in the country.

 Ranked first among the nation's most veteran-friendly schools, USF offers a number of unique programs and resources for student veterans, including a Veterans Achievement Center and on-site Department of Veteran's Services representative.

The current president of the USF System is Judy Genshaft, who has served in the position since July 2000.

**Commitment to Honor & Living the Commitment**

As an ethical community, the University of South Florida is dedicated to the ideals of excellence in student development, academic learning, scholarship and research. By joining this community, each member is expected to accept and live these commitments.

I resolve to maintain the honor and integrity of the university community in pursuit of student development, academic learning, scholarship and research.

*Living the Commitment:* A commitment to this resolution upholds our core values of honesty, diligence and trust within our academic and professional lives. This means that authentic and sincere efforts motivate our work while we strive for genuine, trustworthy interactions.

I resolve to respect the dignity and intrinsic value of all persons.

*Living the Commitment:* A commitment to this resolution requires appreciation for another's personal right to explore freely, to express oneself responsibly, and to participate actively in building an environment of mutual respect and inclusion for each individual. This means that we will support equal rights and opportunities for all people, while exhibiting behaviors which are compassionate and considerate to others.

I resolve to contribute to the progress and greater good of the community.

*Living the Commitment:* A commitment to this resolution motivates us to serve the University with words and actions that generate a positive impact on the future of the whole community. This means that active and creative thought and contributions within a collegial environment will expand both the nature and scope of knowledge and the quality of community life.

I resolve to strive for excellence and discovery for myself, others, and the University.

*Living the Commitment:* A commitment to this resolution confirms the shared values that make the University a strong community. We hold high expectations for our own academic and professional work. Concurrently, we endeavor to support the success of others as we all seek to contribute to the mission of the University.
About the USF System

The University of South Florida System is a young and emerging system that currently includes three institutions, each separately accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools: USF; USF St. Petersburg; and USF Sarasota-Manatee. The main doctoral research campus in Tampa is home to USF Health which includes the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and Pharmacy; and to the College of Marine Science which is physically located in St. Petersburg. Serving nearly 48,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of $1.5 billion and an annual economic impact of $4.4 billion and is ranked 43rd in the nation for research expenditures among all universities, public or private.

The USF System was formed to bring its three institutions together, so that collectively and collaboratively they could serve the region and beyond in optimal ways, resulting in a stronger presence and a distinctiveness that provides an unstoppable competitive differentiation. In addition to being a strong and unified voice for higher education, the USF System seeks to find and capitalize on synergies and economies of scale among its institutions that are of benefit to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and communities.

At the heart of the USF System is a vibrant, diverse, and engaged student body. With over 240 degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, specialty and doctoral levels, including the doctor of medicine, the USF System offers a dynamic learning environment that inspires innovation and creativity and is focused on student success. More than 2,000 distinguished scholars, researchers and expert teachers, nearly all holding PhDs or the highest degrees in their fields, make up the faculty.

For more information about USF, visit http://www.usf.edu/about-usf/index.aspx

USF Facilities

Since its inception, USF has endeavored to provide facilities that assist students and scholars in achieving their educational and professional goals.

USF, which includes USF Health, is situated on more than 1,500 acres in northeast Tampa, one of the fastest growing areas in Tampa Bay. USF features more than 250 buildings valued at over $1.5 billion, including modern science and engineering labs; a communications building with a full range of broadcast facilities; foreign language listening labs; fine art studios and display spaces; education teaching labs; open-use computing labs with free Internet access in addition to being a Wi-Fi campus; a public television station; and a listener-supported radio station.

In addition, projects to enhance the campus pedestrian walkways, bikeways, and lighting have been implemented for use and enjoyment. Future planned projects include continued campus facilities enhancements.

The campus also offers a wide variety of recreational facilities, including a multi-million dollar recreation center featuring a 6,500-square-foot weight room, an indoor pool, racquetball courts and various fitness studios; two outdoor swimming pools; 22 lighted tennis courts; an 18-hole golf course and driving range; a running trail; three softball fields; four outdoor basketball and volleyball courts; 10 lighted multi-purpose fields; a riverfront park/recreation activities area; and a new recreation field facility adjacent to the residence hall, Juniper-Poplar Hall.

Campuses/Locations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>University of South Florida</th>
<th>USF St. Petersburg</th>
<th>USF Sarasota-Manatee</th>
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<tr>
<td>4202 E. Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL 33620</td>
<td>140 7th Ave. South St. Petersburg, FL 33701</td>
<td>8350 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>813-974-2011</td>
<td>727 873-7748 (USFSP-4-U)</td>
<td>941-359-4200</td>
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For more information, see [http://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/maps/](http://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/maps/)
Accreditation
The University of South Florida (USF) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, specialist and doctorate degrees.

Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of the University of South Florida.

Normal inquiries about the institution, such as admission requirements, financial aid, educational programs, etc., should be addressed directly to the institution and not to the Commission's Office.

For more information, visit http://www.usf.edu/about-usf/accreditation.aspx.

In addition to SACSCOC accreditation, which applies to the institution, many academic programs are accredited by specialized accreditors that focus on specific academic disciplines.

The University of South Florida and all colleges, departments and programs therein establish certain academic requirements that must be met before a degree is granted. These requirements concern such things as curricula and courses, majors and minors, and academic residence. Advisors, directors, department chairs, and deans are available to help the student understand and arrange to meet these requirements, but the student is responsible for fulfilling them. At the end of a student’s course of study, if requirements for graduation have not been satisfied, the degree will not be granted. For this reason, it is important for all students to acquaint themselves with all regulations and to remain currently informed throughout their college careers and to be responsible for completing requirements. Courses, programs, and requirements described in the catalog may be suspended, deleted, restricted, supplemented, or changed in any other manner at any time at the sole discretion of the University and the USF Board of Trustees.

University Libraries
4202 E. Fowler Ave. LIB122
Tampa FL 33620
813-974-1611
http://www.lib.usf.edu/

The USF Tampa Library offers access to an extensive selection of print and electronic resources, including books, maps, e-journal, e-books, and countless databases. There is also a collection of audio/visual materials including videos, CDs, DVDs, and even LPs.

The Tampa Library is a comfortable and inviting place for students and faculty to meet, study, conduct research, and complete group assignments. Library facilities provide wireless access, electrical connections for laptops, individual and group study seating and instructional labs. The Learning Commons (LC) on the first floor has over 140 computer workstations, as well as the Library Services Desk, a state-of-the-art Digital Media Commons, the Digital Heritage and Humanities Collections and the IT Helpdesk. The Academic Success Center, on the second floor, includes the SMART Lab, with an additional 354 computer workstations and the Writing Studio. Other Library partners include the Office for Undergraduate Research, Division of Health Professions Advising and a Starbucks Café.

Students and faculty also have access to specialized research assistance and information literacy instruction from our librarians. Assistance is available from research and reference librarians either by appointment, on-line via our website, by phone, or in a classroom setting.

In addition to the Tampa Library, there are two affiliated regional libraries and two special libraries. At USF Tampa are the Shimberg Health Sciences Library (http://health.usf.edu/Shimberg-library/), serving the needs of USF Health consisting of the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, and Public Health; and the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute (FMHI) Research Library (http://lib.usf.edu/fmhi/) serving the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences. In addition, there is the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, home to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library (https://www.usfsp.edu), and the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee campus (https://www.usfsm.edu).
The University of South Florida System Athletic Department is committed to providing all student-athletes with opportunities to receive a world-class education, win championships, and develop into the leaders of tomorrow while embracing our partnerships within the Tampa Bay community. Programs include:

**Men's Sports**
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Track & Field

**Women's Sports**
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Sailing
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Volleyball

**Points of Pride**
- USF Athletics serves nearly 500 student-athletes in 19 men’s and women’s varsity teams competing in 11 different sports.
- USF has won 13 conference titles in 4 1/2 seasons in the American Athletic Conference, including four in 2016-17.
- USF has claimed 110 conference titles since it began competing in 1965.
- Ten USF programs reached national post-season competition in the 2016-17 season.
- Nine USF programs achieved a Top 25 national ranking during the 2016-17 season.
- USF Athletics has posted a combined grade-point average over 3.0 for each of the last six academic terms.
- USF Athletics has posted a Graduation Success Rate of 80% or better for four straight years, including a record 86% in 2016.
- USF football has gone 21-4 the last two seasons (2016 & 2017), one of just 14 teams nationally to win 20 or more games over that span and one of just three to also win both of its bowl games during that period.
- USF football has posted a program-record 20 straight appearances in the Top 25 rankings, finishing the 2017 ranked No. 21 in both the AP and Coaches poll. The 20 straight appearances is the longest active streak in Florida.
- USF football has appeared in three straight bowl games and nine overall in just 18 seasons of eligibility. The Bulls have six bowl victories, including defeating South Carolina, Texas Tech and Clemson in bowl games.
- The USF Lee Roy Selmon Athletic Center includes state-of-the-art space for academic advising, life skills, mentoring and team-building.
- In the past six years, USF has invested $70 million in renovating and maintaining its athletic facilities.

**USF Alumni**
Gibbons Alumni Center
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, ALC100
Tampa, Florida 33620-5455
813-974-2100
800-299-BULL (2855)
alumni@usf.edu
https://www.usfalumni.org/s/861/02-alumni/start.aspx

The USF Alumni Association is a self-funded, nonprofit organization comprised of former students and friends of the University of South Florida. We help alumni stay connected and provide meaningful ways for USF Bulls to support, promote and protect their University. There are more than 327,000 USF graduates worldwide who are critical to USF in achieving its goals. The mission of the USF Alumni Association is to foster a mutually beneficial, lifelong relationship between the University and its alumni; to inspire loyalty and pride among current and future alumni; and to advocate for excellence in teaching, research and public service.
Advancement/USF Foundation
The USF Foundation Board includes some of the University’s most enthusiastic supporters and the community’s top leaders. The primary objective and purpose of the board is to raise and administer private gifts to assist in the promotion and financial support of the University’s teaching, research, and public service activities. For more information, please visit https://giving.usf.edu/about/about-foundation.

USF Policies
The Office of General Council website has helpful links to University of South Florida System regulations and University policies. We hope that you will find these resources beneficial and we actively seek your input regarding additional content. For more information, visit http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/

Undergraduate Academic Integrity Policy Statement
USF System Regulation 3.027 - Academic Integrity of Students 
(http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/regulations/pdfs/regulation-usf3.027.pdf)

Academic integrity is the foundation of the University of South Florida System’s (USF System) commitment to the academic honesty and personal integrity of its university community. Academic integrity is grounded in certain fundamental values, which include honesty, respect and fairness. Broadly defined, academic honesty is the completion of all academic endeavors and claims of scholarly knowledge as representative of one’s own efforts. Knowledge and maintenance of the academic standards of honesty and integrity as set forth by the university are the responsibility of the entire academic community, including the instructional faculty, staff and students. The final decision on an academic integrity violation and related academic sanction at any USF System member institution shall affect and be applied to the academic status of the student throughout the USF System, unless otherwise determined by the independently accredited institution. For more information, please see http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/regulations/pdfs/regulation-usf3.027.pdf.

Non-Discrimination Policy
The University of South Florida System (USF System) is a diverse community that values and expects respect and fair treatment of all people. The USF System strives to provide a work and study environment for faculty, staff and students that is free from discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, or genetic information, as provided by law. The USF System protects its faculty, staff, and students from discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation, as well as gender identity and expression. The USF System is also committed to the employment and advancement of qualified veterans with disabilities and veterans protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act, as amended (VEVRAA). As part of the effort to maintain an environment that is comfortable for all people and to ensure consistency with state and federal laws, the USF System establishes this policy.

Discrimination, harassment and retaliation are prohibited within the USF System, and complaints of such conduct are to be filed with one of the two designated offices within the USF System, specifically the Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Equal Opportunity (http://www.usf.edu/diversity/) or the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-rights-responsibilities/index.aspx). The designated office will review such complaints and provide appropriate response including counseling, mediation, and/or referral for disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment and/or expulsion from the USF System.

In addition, DEO and OSRR will, as part of their internal processes, report any conduct that may be criminal in nature, such as bias-motivated crimes, to the appropriate law enforcement entities as set forth in section [IV.B]

Additionally, discriminatory conduct in the form of sexual misconduct/sexual harassment is also prohibited. (Please see USF System Policy 0-004, Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Harassment (Including Battery). http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-0-007.pdf)

The following actions are prohibited:
1. Discrimination and/or harassment by any USF System employee or student against any individual(s) or group(s) within the USF System.
2. Discrimination and/or harassment by any USF System employee or student while assigned to duties or academic programs of the USF System (regardless of their location) against any individual(s) or group(s) that is not an employee or student, including any USF System program invitee(s).
3. Discrimination and/or harassment by any vendor or individual external to the USF System against any USF System employee(s), student(s) or program invitee(s) during the transaction of business with the USF System, during any program or activity coordinated through the USF System, and/or while on USF System premises.

4. Retaliation by any USF System employee or student against any individual(s) or group(s) who, in good faith, has made any allegation of discrimination and/or harassment, or who has testified, assisted, or participated in any way in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted under this policy or any federal or state law.

5. Knowingly making false accusations or allegations of discrimination and/or harassment or retaliation, or knowingly making false statements regarding alleged discrimination and/or harassment or retaliation in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing conducted under this Policy or any federal or state law.

Title IX Policy

http://www.usf.edu/diversity/title-ix/statutes.aspx

The University of South Florida System (USF System) community is most successful when it is based on respect and fair treatment of all people. The USF System strives to provide a work and study environment for faculty, staff and students that is free of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual violence. As part of the effort to maintain an environment that is comfortable for all people, the USF System establishes this Policy.

Sexual harassment, including sexual violence, is prohibited within the USF System, and complaints of such conduct are to be filed with the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity. The designated office will review such complaints and provide appropriate response including counseling, mediation (in limited circumstances), and/or referral for disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment and/or expulsion from the USF System.

Pursuant to Title IX, the University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities that it operates. Such protection extends to both employees and students. Any questions or inquiries concerning the application of Title IX may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, the Title IX Senior Deputy Coordinator, or to any of the University’s Title IX Deputy Coordinators. The most up-to-date information on the University’s Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Coordinators can be found in the webpage for the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity, located at http://www.usf.edu/diversity/.

The Interim Title IX Coordinator is: Cecil Howard, Interim Chief Diversity Officer
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, ALN 172
Tampa, Florida 33620
(813) 974-0537
howardc@usf.edu

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, or veteran status are also prohibited. (Please see USF System Policy Number 0-007, Diversity & Equal Opportunity: Discrimination & Harassment http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-0-007.pdf).

When appropriate, the University will take steps to prevent the recurrence of harassment, including sexual violence, and to correct any discriminatory effects of harassment on the complainant and others.

Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free Schools Policy Statement

USF System Policy 0-610 Drug-Free Workplace
(http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-0-610.pdf)
The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of alcohol or a controlled substance is prohibited on property of or in connection with any of the activities of the USF System. No employee/student is to report to work/class while under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol. Any employee or student determined to have violated this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action for misconduct. Violation of this policy by an employee/student will be reason for evaluation/treatment for a drug/alcohol use disorder or for disciplinary action up to and including termination/expulsion in accordance with applicable collective bargaining agreements, policies and procedures, or referral for prosecution consistent with local, state, and federal law.
Campus Alcoholic Beverages Policy
USF System Policy 30-023 Alcohol Policy
(http://regulationspolicies.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-30-023.pdf)
As an open public university, the USF System does not prohibit the legal consumption of alcohol on its campuses. We recognize that as part of a well-planned and structured program, the serving and consumption of alcohol may take place. Therefore, the intent of this Policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for the legal and responsible use of alcohol at USF System campus events. The use of alcoholic beverages by members of the USF System community is at all times subject to the applicable alcoholic beverages laws and ordinances of the State of Florida, and the city and county of each USF System Institution. No person may sell, furnish or give alcohol to any person under the age of twenty-one (21).

Diversity and Equal Opportunity Policy
The University is committed to creating and maintaining a system-wide work and study environment for faculty, staff, and students that is free from discrimination and harassment based on race, color, marital status, sex, gender, pregnancy, religion, national or ethnic origin, veteran’s status, disability, age, or genetic information, as provided by law as prohibited by law and University policies. The USF system protects its faculty, staff, and students from sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation, as well as gender identity and expression.

The USF System is also committed to the employment and advancement of qualified veterans with disabilities and veterans protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act, as amended (VEVRAA).

Any person who believes they have been subjected to discrimination can file a complaint with the USF System Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Equal Opportunity, John & Grace Allen Building (ALN) 172 on the Tampa Campus. The telephone number is (813) 974-4373. It shall be prohibited for any employee of USF to discriminate or take retaliatory action against any individual who, in good faith, has opposed an alleged unlawful practice or has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the provisions of applicable law or the university equal opportunity policies. For more information on the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunity, please visit their website at http://www.usf.edu/diversity/. 