

TRANSFER ADMISSION AGREEMENT
SOUTH CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
and
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA (COMPREHENSIVE BACCALAUREATE
CAMPUSES)

The University of South Carolina, on behalf of its comprehensive baccalaureate campuses at USC Columbia, USC Aiken, USC Beaufort and USC Upstate (collectively, USC), and the South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) recognize the need to facilitate the transfer of students from South Carolina's technical colleges to USC as they pursue their educational goals.

In an effort to ease the transfer process and to promote the closer coordination of academic courses, programs and degrees offered by our institutions, the SCTCS and USC do hereby enter into the following Transfer Admission Agreement (TAA). This collaboration serves students by providing program support and services that will facilitate the transfer process, and will help prepare and acclimate students desiring to enroll at a USC comprehensive baccalaureate campus.

TARGETED STUDENTS

"Transfer admission agreement student" refers to a student who graduates from the Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degree program at a South Carolina technical college with the necessary minimum cumulative admission grade point average (GPA) on a four-point scale, as calculated by the appropriate USC comprehensive baccalaureate campus Admissions Office. The required minimum GPA is 2.25 at USC Columbia and 2.0 at USC Aiken, USC Beaufort, and USC Upstate. Students under this agreement should intend to transfer to USC and earn a grade of "C" or higher in each course applicable to the AA and AS degrees. This agreement is generally intended for students who complete their associate degrees at a SCTCS institution after completion of high school (or equivalent).

ACADEMIC ADMISSION AGREEMENT

TAA students will be guaranteed admission to a USC comprehensive baccalaureate campus and may expect the following:

1. All of the courses that are accepted by USC will be applied to the attainment of a baccalaureate degree.
2. No distinction will be made by USC regarding college courses applicable to the AA and AS degrees that are taken through dual enrollment arrangements with high schools. Completion of the associate degree through dual enrollment will not preclude the student from eligibility under this agreement. Students entering under the terms of the TAA are transfer students and are not eligible for freshman scholarships, but may seek transfer scholarships.
 - a. If a student who completes the AA or AS degree concurrent with high school graduation chooses to enter as a freshman, they will undergo a credit evaluation that will determine what courses will be accepted by USC. Students entering as freshman are eligible for freshman scholarships, but may not seek transfer scholarships. Students must indicate on their application if they intend to apply as a transfer student or freshman.

3. USC guarantees the acceptance of all transferable credits. However, USC cannot guarantee that the student will be able to complete all requirements for graduation with the 120-credit minimum required for graduation in most degree programs at USC. During the first semester of enrollment, an Academic Advisor will inform him/her if there are any course requirements that would require credit hours beyond the stated minimum needed for graduation in the student's program of study. TAA students may also contact the appropriate USC departmental or college advising center for information on meeting requirements for various USC majors.

4. Acceptance in some colleges and departments at USC is competitive; acceptance into USC does not guarantee admission to these programs without further review and acceptance by the college or department offering the program. Students participating in this admission agreement should follow all special college and/or departmental application procedures and deadlines, as well as satisfy all grade point and course requirements listed in the appropriate USC academic catalog or bulletin.

5. Credits earned in the transfer-oriented associate degree program will be applied as appropriate to general education requirements at USC. TAA students will also need to complete any remaining core requirements, upper-level and all other university, college, and departmental requirements in order to obtain the baccalaureate degree from USC.

6. Advanced standing is determined by total credit hours earned. USC examines scores for the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) subject exams and College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Tests to award credits. USC will allow credit for scores on the CLEP subject examinations and AP Tests as outlined in the current academic catalog. AP and CLEP scores are evaluated for transfer credits in the same manner as for college transfer credits. USC will evaluate credit for International Baccalaureate, Cambridge, military service/experience and other forms of advanced standing as noted in the appropriate USC academic catalog or bulletin. See the section for Transfer Students in the appropriate catalog or bulletin for additional information regarding transfer credits.

STUDENT SERVICES:

TAA students will be treated on an equal basis with all other students with regard to award and distribution of financial aid and other scholarships, campus housing, parking, selection of courses and other student services. Continuing transfer students will also be treated identically to continuing USC students in the competition for merit scholarships funded through the University of South Carolina Educational Foundation or the USC Upstate Foundation, Inc., as appropriate.

ELIGIBILITY:

To be guaranteed admission to a USC comprehensive baccalaureate campus, students must complete the following requirements to become TAA students:

- Be a first-time attendee
- Graduate with an AA or AS degree from a South Carolina technical college with at least the necessary minimum cumulative admission grade point average on a four-point scale as determined by the appropriate USC admissions office. The required minimum GPA is 2.25 at USC Columbia and 2.0 at USC Aiken, USC Beaufort, and USC Upstate.

- Earn a grade of “C” or higher in all transfer courses required for admission to the desired program of study

TAA students must submit an official transcript showing completion of the associate degree to the appropriate USC Admissions Office prior to official enrollment.

NOTE: SCTCS graduates who do not meet the eligibility requirements described herein are encouraged to apply and may be considered for admission under the regular admission procedures of USC, but will not be guaranteed admission under this agreement.

Participation is voluntary and students should self-identify upon matriculation at the technical college. Students may also be referred by USC to participate, or the technical colleges can promote this program to newly matriculated students. Once students are identified, their names and contact information should be forwarded to the appropriate admissions office for tracking and monitoring.

BENEFITS OF THE TAA FOR SOUTH CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE STUDENTS:

TAA students enrolled at a USC comprehensive baccalaureate campus may meet the graduation requirements listed in the appropriate *University of South Carolina Undergraduate Academic Bulletin or Academic Catalog* in effect at the time of the student’s initial enrollment at such USC campus, or the individual may select to meet the requirements in any subsequent bulletin or catalog published between enrollment and graduation, as long as the bulletin or catalog is no more than five years old and the student continues to be enrolled in each major semester. A break in enrollment in a major semester may require a student to graduate under the bulletin or catalog in effect at the time of readmission.

TAA students may contact the appropriate USC departmental or college advising center for information on meeting requirements for various USC majors.

Program components will include admission and transfer advising, financial aid planning and counseling, student success programming, and career planning services. Pre-enrollment on-campus events may be offered to further acclimate students to USC.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

TAA students will:

1. Assume primary responsibility for understanding and following the requirements for the AA and AS degrees, as well as degree requirements and the specific requirements for their intended major at USC, as stated in the appropriate USC bulletin or catalog.
2. Follow all USC application for admission processes and timelines, and participate in all USC pre-enrollment activities, including new student orientation.
3. Meet minimum grade criteria and prerequisites for courses in specific programs at USC.
4. Assume primary responsibility for understanding and adhering to applicable rules for federal and state financial aid during their matriculation as a TAA student.

SCTCS colleges will:

1. Advise students regarding courses needed to complete the AA and AS degrees. In an effort to assist with seamless transfer, students will also be directed to the admission requirements for specific program majors at USC.
2. Notify students of transfer opportunities to USC under this TAA by promoting program details widely, including on the SCBTE website.
3. Advise students regarding options for federal and state financial aid so that they are equipped to make informed decisions as a transfer student (e.g., maintaining LIFE Scholarship eligibility).
4. Work collaboratively with USC to implement training and consistency in advising services for TAA students.

USC will:

1. Treat TAA students on an equal basis with all other students with regard to award and distribution of financial aid and other scholarships, campus housing, parking, selection of courses and other student services.
2. Monitor and regularly evaluate the progress and success of students in the program, and periodically provide performance data on TAA students (e.g., enrollment status, program major, GPA). The specific performance data and the timing of the report will be determined by Institutional Research staffs from the SCTCS and USC and provided on a mutually agreed upon annual schedule.
3. Work collaboratively with the SCTCS colleges to implement training and consistency in advising services for TAA students, to include continuous sharing of information on admission processes and program pathways.

REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT:

1. The SCTCS will designate officials who will be responsible for all aspects of the TAA at the SCTCS. Each USC comprehensive baccalaureate campus will designate individuals responsible for all aspects of the TAA at USC. Representing USC Columbia will be the Office of the Provost designee or other executive level staff. The Office of the Sr. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs designee or other executive level staff will represent USC Upstate. The Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs designee or other executive level staff will represent USC Aiken. The Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs designee or other executive level staff will represent USC Beaufort. Representing the SCTCS will be the SCTCS Executive VP or designee.
2. Both parties are to communicate the conditions of this agreement to their respective clientele (external and internal constituents). USC and the SCTCS will review this agreement every three years and make adjustments or amendments as deemed appropriate to maintain the integrity of all

institutions as well as for the improvement of the transfer process and student articulation. Such changes will not adversely affect students already enrolled and covered under the provision of the existing TAA.

3. The agreement will remain in effect until terminated by either party upon written notice. Such notice should be given at least one year in advance of the effective date of termination, and students who entered under the agreement may take advantage of its terms for two years after termination becomes effective.

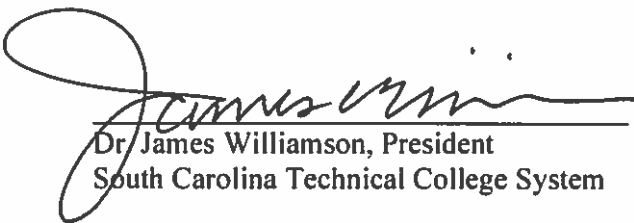
SIGNATURES:



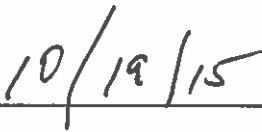
Dr. Harris Pastides, President
University of South Carolina



Date



Dr. James Williamson, President
South Carolina Technical College System



Date