Financial Aid Guide:
New Undergraduate Students
2018-2019
The family contribution represents the estimated amount a family can expect to pay out of pocket for an academic year. It is determined by subtracting the financial aid total from the student’s Cost of Attendance.

You can use the COA to assist in your financial planning, but keep in mind that your actual costs may differ. Estimated costs for students in some majors may be higher due to special laboratory or studio supply fees, or other additional costs incurred by all students in the program. Tuition is the same for in-state and out-of-state residents.

**Things to Remember:**

**Direct Costs:** Charges billed by and payable to the university, such as tuition and university housing. These costs are fixed for the academic year.

**Indirect Costs:** Charges payable to third parties, such as personal expenses and books and supplies. These amounts can vary based on the choices you make and give you more discretion in your spending.

Students have more living and dining options after their first year.

### Managing the Family Contribution

The family contribution represents the estimated amount a family can expect to pay out of pocket for an academic year. It is determined by subtracting the financial aid total from the student’s Cost of Attendance.

You can manage the contribution in several ways:

1. **Determine how much you can pay out of savings.**
   If you would like to pay all or part of the student account balance from your savings, you can pay the Cashier’s Office online, by phone, by mail or in person.

2. **Consider the USC Payment Plan.**
   The USC Payment Plan enables you to pay your balance in monthly installments over the course of the semester, through a program managed by USC Student Financial Services. For more information visit [sfs.usc.edu](http://sfs.usc.edu).

3. **Review and consider long-term educational financing options** such as the Direct Parent PLUS Loan. We recommend that families consider the PLUS Loan program before borrowing through a private student loan program. Direct Parent PLUS Loans are available regardless of income or financial need.

### Calculating Your Bill

Our Planning Worksheet is an interactive tool designed to help you understand your current semester charges and estimate your university billing balance, after financial aid has been applied. The worksheet also details the resources available to help you manage your expenses. Visit the Planning Worksheet tab on your Financial Aid Summary & Tasks (FAST) page at [financialaid.usc.edu](http://financialaid.usc.edu).

### Re-applying for 2019-2020 Financial Aid

Continuing students must re-apply for financial aid each year. Application deadlines and instructions for 2019-2020 will be available at [financialaid.usc.edu](http://financialaid.usc.edu).

It is your responsibility to obtain application instructions online and to apply on time. We must reevaluate your financial aid each year based on your current financial circumstances. We also adjust the estimated Cost of Attendance each year to reflect any changes made in university tuition and other charges or fees. **Students who miss any deadline may be considered for reduced financial aid based on available university funding.**

Please visit [financialaid.usc.edu](http://financialaid.usc.edu) for more information.

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### USC Estimated Cost of Attendance

The USC estimated Cost of Attendance (COA) is used to determine your financial aid eligibility and is based on average amounts for standard expenses — including tuition, fees, books, supplies, room, board and other living expenses — for two semesters (nine months) of undergraduate study.

You can use the COA to assist in your financial planning, but keep in mind that your actual costs may differ. Estimated costs for students in some majors may be higher due to special laboratory or studio supply fees, or other additional costs incurred by all students in the program. Tuition is the same for in-state and out-of-state residents.

#### Direct Costs

- **Tuition (12-18 units for two semesters):** $55,320
- **Fees:** $905
- **University housing and meal plan:** ** $15,395
- **New Student Fee (fall only):** $450

#### Indirect Costs

- **Books and supplies:** $1,200
- **Personal and miscellaneous:** $1,452
- **Transportation:** $553

**Total:** $75,275

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### Annual Costs 2018-2019*

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*The figures above are estimated annual amounts used to help determine the Cost of Attendance for financial aid purposes. Rates listed above are subject to approval by the Board of Trustees in May 2018.

** Housing and dining expenses vary depending on accommodations and meal plan.

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### Cost of Attendance

Financial Aid Received

Family Contribution

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### The repayment terms of federal loan programs may be more favorable than those for private loan programs.

Federal student loans are required by law to provide a range of flexible repayment options, including but not limited to, Income-Based Repayment and Income-Contingent Repayment plans, and loan forgiveness benefits, which other student loans are not required to provide. Federal Direct Loans are available to students regardless of income.
Next Steps for Undergraduate Students

The following chart details your next steps to receive the funds for these awards. For more information about any of these programs, please visit [financialaid.usc.edu](http://financialaid.usc.edu).

<table>
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<td>Federal and State Grants, USC Scholarships or University Grants</td>
<td>No action necessary. The Financial Aid Office will process the awards internally and the funds will be credited automatically if you meet all disbursement requirements.</td>
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</table>
| Scholarships from Outside Agencies*          | Contact the agency and have them forward all payments to:  
USC Financial Aid Office  
University of Southern California  
700 Childs Way, JHH 325  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0914  
Attn: Aid Coordination Unit  
If you received any scholarships not listed in your financial aid package, please submit a copy of the notification letter from the agency, listing the name and the amount of the award. The letter may be sent to the address above. |
| Federal Work-Study                           | If you choose to take advantage of your Federal Work-Study award, you must find a job. The annual USC Job Fair is held the week before the start of fall classes. Visit the Career Center website ([careers.usc.edu](http://careers.usc.edu)) for more information and on-campus job postings. |
| Direct Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized Loans  | 1. Complete the Direct Loan Request form online by logging in to your Financial Aid Summary & Tasks (FAST) page at [financialaid.usc.edu](http://financialaid.usc.edu). You will find the form in the Document Library. Once the Financial Aid Office processes your loan and notifies the Department of Education, we will email you confirmation.  
2. Sign your Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov). To log in, follow the instructions provided on the homepage.  
3. First-time undergraduate borrowers must complete Federal Student Aid loan counseling online and attend or view a USC Cash Course webinar. Visit [financialaid.usc.edu/loans](http://financialaid.usc.edu/loans) for more information. |
| Direct Parent PLUS Loans                     | 1. Parents will need to request the Direct Parent PLUS Loan by visiting [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov) and following the instructions provided. Click on Request Direct PLUS Loan to submit your information. Once you have completed the process, the Department of Education will notify us electronically.  
2. Parents will need to sign the Master Promissory Note (MPN) for their PLUS loan online at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov) after their loan has been approved.  
**If you did not yet apply for need-based aid:**  
1. Complete and submit the 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Once the Financial Aid Office processes your PLUS loan and notifies the Department of Education, we will email you confirmation.  
2. You must also submit a Financial Aid Supplement Form to the Financial Aid Office. Log in to your Financial Aid Summary & Tasks (FAST) page at [financialaid.usc.edu](http://financialaid.usc.edu) and click on the Document Library to access it. |

* When coordinating scholarships, our office makes every attempt to preserve any university need-based grant you may have been awarded. In most cases, scholarships will reduce the amounts of work-study and federal loans. The total financial aid amount may also increase, allowing your Direct Loan to assist with the family contribution. In some cases, however, the amount of the university need-based grant will be reduced.
How to Estimate Your USC Billing Balance

The Planning Worksheet is available through your FAST page at financialaid.usc.edu. Estimate your semester charges and learn more about the resources available to help you manage your expenses.