# **RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT (R&E)**

**USC/** **College of Education “Boilerplate” Information for Sponsored Award Proposals**

*The following includes ‘boilerplate’ (basic) information about the University of South Carolina (USC) and the College of Education (COE):*

* *Use only what you need*. *Include only the information that is pertinent to your proposal* (not the whole thing). Note that there is some information overlap between sections.
* Be sure to add specific department, lab, equipment, and collaboration information as needed for your proposal and edit out what is not relevant to it.
* Other USC units and external institutions/organizations should be able to supply you with their R&E information upon request.
* Overview and contact information about additional COE centers and programs is at: https://sc.edu/study/colleges\_schools/education/

*Updated Summer 2024 (Arial 11 pt.)*

# **The University of South Carolina (USC)**

**The University of South Carolina (USC)** was established in 1801 and is a full-service, state- assisted research university that includes the 358-acre Columbia campus and seven regional campuses, with a total full-time student body population of more than 35,000 in Columbia and 50,000 overall. Located in the capital city of Columbia in the geographic center of the state, USC's main campus is part of a thriving metropolitan area of more than 800,000 inhabitants. USC offers a broad spectrum of educational opportunities with 14 colleges and schools that encompass 324 undergraduate and graduate degree-granting programs. USC confers 25% of all bachelors, graduate, and professional degrees awarded at institutions of higher education in South Carolina.

**USC Research Capacity.** In fiscal year 2024, USC was awarded over $300 million in extramural sponsored award funding, 72% percent of which was for research. USC is listed in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education as a Very High Research Activity University.The University provides researchers with a full range of grant and contract-related services through its Sponsored Awards Management and Grants and Funds Management offices. USC’s Office of Research Compliance oversees the institutional review processes for human and animal subjects as well as disclosure and management of financial conflicts of interest and assists with scientific misconduct regulation and export controls.

**The SC SmartState Centers of Economic Excellence** **program** was established by the state's General Assembly in 2002 with $180 million of non-tax revenue funds generated from the South Carolina Education Lottery. These funds, along with legislatively mandated dollar-for-dollar matching non-state funds, provide support for hiring world-class researchers who serve as the endowed chairs of the SmartState Centers. The 51 Centers are grouped into six industry- focused Smart Clusters to facilitate engagement with business, students, potential faculty, and the public. Each Center includes one or more endowed chair, research infrastructure, technical staff, and sustainable funding sources. USC is home to 27 SmartState Centers, including 18 that are headquartered at USC's Columbia campus and eight within which USC actively collaborates working with other SC research institutions.

**USC Libraries.** Thomas Cooper, the University’s main library, is centrally located on the Columbia campus, and the School of Medicine library is a 15-minute drive from central campus. Both libraries maintain an extensive collection of health-related resources, including books,

journals, and indices. Access to online databases and full-text journals is available through the Thomas Cooper Library Web page.

**USC’s Division of Information Technology (DoIT)**, under the direction of the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, oversees centralized and distributed computing and telecommunications services for academic, research, and administrative use to meet the needs of USC faculty, staff, and students. DoIT provides the USC community with computing, voice, and data communications, networking, data security, video transport, information technology training, Web services, customer support, desktop and server support, installation and maintenance of IT infrastructure, policies and procedures assistance, PC labs, software licensing and distribution, IT planning, applications development and support, and operational systems. The Columbia campus is covered by wireless service. USC has a licensing agreement with Microsoft that includes 5TB of secure cloud storage space for every faculty and staff member on OneDrive. Microsoft has signed legal agreements with the University that hold them liable for the security and protection of data stored on OneDrive. OneDrive provides USC researchers with the capability to share data and results with external partners by emailing them a link to securely download the data.

# **The College of Education**

**College of Education (COE).** The University of South Carolina College of Education (COE)

is a dynamic, nurturing learning community that supports the growth of aspiring and practicing educators. The College, through purposeful interaction among faculty and students, emphasizes the active construction and application of knowledge, skills, and dispositions to promote educational excellence, equity, and opportunity in the 21st century. COE honors its responsibility to contribute to the high achievement of all learners and the development of an educated populace. COE is committed to developing and sharing our expertise and leadership as well as offering a forum for educational dialogue and advancement. This commitment entails: 1) bridging the gap among theory, research and practice to promote excellence in teaching and learning within and across educational contexts; 2) conducting principled, free inquiry from diverse perspectives that promotes quantitative and qualitative scholarship to advance knowledge and educational practice; 3) partnering with government agencies; P-12 educators, schools, and districts; families; professional organizations; and other institutions of higher education and 4) preparing educators to have a sincere understanding and appreciation of diversity as we challenge ourselves and others to work for social justice. The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) was created by the consolidation of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) and is currently the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation. In April 2018, the College of Education was recognized for national excellence in educator preparation by meeting new, rigorous CAEP national accreditation standards. The University of South Carolina was the first university in South Carolina to seek accreditation from NCATE and has maintained this national standard since 1969.The College of Education, as a unit, consists of all teacher education programs in the COE, the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), and the School of Music. These initial programs were all included in the 2018 CAEP review.

**COE Degree Programs.** The COE offers degree programs at the bachelor, master, and doctoral levels as well as many educator certificate programs. **Undergraduate degrees** include: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Applied Sport Psychology and Counseling; Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Early Childhood Education, BA in Elementary Education, BS or BA in Middle Level Education, BS in Physical Education, and BA in Special Education. COE, in conjunction with the School of Music, offers a BA in Music Education. COE, in conjunction with CAS, offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education, BA in Dance Education, and BA in Foreign Language Education. Also in conjunction with CAS, COE offers a BS or BA in Secondary Education with an accelerated Master in Teaching degree option. COE oversees the Master in Teaching degree, while CAS oversees the BS/BA portion. COE also offers three minor options: Education, Athletic Coaching, and Counseling Education. COE **Graduate degrees** are also offered. Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) are offered in Art Education, Elementary Education, Foreign Language, Music Education, Physical Education, Special Education, and Theater Education. Masted of Education (MEd) degrees are offered in Teaching, Educational Psychology and Research, Learning Design and Technologies, Higher Education and Student Affairs, Language and Literacy, Education Administration, Applied Behavior Analysis, and Special Education. Master of Science (MS) degrees are available in Adapted Physical Education and Coaching Education. A Master of Teaching (MT) degree is also offered in Secondary Education for Career Changers. Education Specialist (Ed.S) degrees are offered in Counselor Education (Clinical Mental Health), Counselor Education (Marriage, Couples, and Family Counseling), Counselor Education (School Counselor), and Education Administration. Doctor of Education (EdD) degrees are available in Curriculum Studies, STEM Education, Learning Design and Technology, and Education Systems and Improvement. Doctor of Philosophy degrees are offered in Counselor Education, Teaching and Learning, Foundations of Education, Educational Psychology and Research, Education Administration, Language and Literacy, Physical Education, and Special Education. **Graduate Certificate degrees** are offered in Play Therapy, Counselor Education, Qualitative Research, and Higher Education Leadership. COE also offers add on certifications in English for Speakers of Other Languages, Gifted and Talented, Literacy Teacher, Literacy Coach, and Literacy Specialist, Online Teaching, Project Based Learning, Read-to-Succeed, Early Childhood Special Education, and STEAM Education. COE also offers course revalidation for certificates which expire.

**COE Departments.** COE contains four academic departments. The goal, collectively as a college and individually for each department, is to develop strategic plans and carry out initiatives that serve the students of the university and the citizens of South Carolina. The three departments are: Teacher Education; Educational and Developmental Science; Educational Leadership and Policies; and Leadership, Learning Design, and Inquiry.

**COE Partnerships, Collaborations, and Outreach.** COE offers a variety of partnerships, outreach, and collaborative agendas – 342 schools across SC are COE partners, 87% of all SC school districts have one or more USC Partnership Sites, and 39 state organizations and agencies have partnerships with COE. These programs include: Tech2Teach Pathway to Teaching, Anna Frank House at USC, Center for Community Counseling, Carolina Collaborative for Alternative Preparation, Carolina Transition to Teaching Residency, Office of Educational Outreach, Project IMPACT, Project PRISMS, SC-DREAM, and The Center for Educational Partnerships (including CarolinaCrED, Carolina Family Engagement Center, Mira Education, SC Educational Policy Center, SC Geographic Alliance, SC Middle Grades Initiative, SC School Improvement Council, SC Teacher, The Writing Improvement Network, and Verbalizing Visions).

**COE Office of Democracy, Education, and Inclusivity.** The COE Office of Democracy, Education, and Inclusivity (ODEI) works to propel the COE’s pursuit of equity and justice as matters of academic and institutional excellence. The COE ODEI has responsibilities include: 1) promoting diversity, inclusion, equity, and justice throughout the College; 2) facilitating the recruitment, retention, and success of a diverse community of students; 3) creating programs, practices, policies, and partnerships that address issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion; and 4) supporting high-quality diversity research, teaching, outreach, and advocacy that advances social, civil, and educational rights. Under the ODEI, the **COE Diversity Committee** provides leadership in the College’s efforts to improve student, staff and faculty recruitment, retention, support and mentoring, informed by regular self-study and through ongoing collaboration with the ODEI. The Diversity Committee is comprised of representatives from all of the College’s academic departments, as well as the Staff Council. In addition, two COE students serve on the committee. ODEI also houses two student retention and recruitment programs: The Apple Core Initiative and The AACTE Holmes Scholars Program. **The Apple Core Initiative (ACI**) seeks to recruit, enroll and retain high school South Carolina students from historically underrepresented populations, and who may also be first-generation college attendees, into teacher education programs at USC. ACI students receive a scholarship for their four years of study. ACI is guided by theoretical and pedagogical perspectives grounded in culturally relevant teaching and cultural competency. ACI students support students in gaining a deep understanding of how to teach using culturally responsive strategies in order to bolster their effectiveness with the culturally and linguistically diverse K-12 students they will teach. **The AACTE Holmes Scholars Program** supports students from historically underrepresented communities who are enrolled in doctoral programs in the College of Education. Students receive financial support for up to 3 years. There is no specific deadline or application for the Holmes Scholars Program. Holmes Scholars are selected during the Ph.D. admissions process by the Department to which they are applying. If selected as a Holmes Scholar, your department will notify ODEI and you will be notified and provided next steps.

**COE Research Office.** The COE Office of Research supports college-wide research, grant, and contract efforts, and promotes interdisciplinary efforts within and external to the college/university community. The mission of the COE Office of Research is to support faculty research efforts within the College. The office assists researchers seeking external funding–from proposal development through financial administration of funded projects and award closeout procedures. The office provide pre-award and post-award administrative services for all sponsored grants, contracts, and projects. The Office of Research also serves as a liaison with the University Office of Sponsored Awards Management (SAM).

**COE Resarch Units and Initiatives.** In addition to its academic departments, COE houses multiple interdisciplinary research units. These include: Bilingualism Matters at USC; Carolina Family Engagement Center; Center for Transition Research and Leadership; Institute for Rural Education and Development; Consortium for Family Strengthening Research; Museum of Education; Office of International and Comparative Education; Pedagogy Research Lab and Human Performance and Development Lab; Physical and Developmental Disabilities Research Lab; Research Evaluation and Measurement Center; South Carolina Center for Assistive Technology and Educational Research; and Yvonne and Schuyler Moor Child Development Research Center.

**COE Faculty Offices.** Each faculty member has a private office with a printer and personal computer with Microsoft Office and additional software relevant to his or her teaching and research, Internet access, telephone, and general office support. Faculty members are furnished with additional office and laboratory space as needed for project support.

**Physical Activities Program.** Part of the Department of Educational and Developmental Science, the Physical Activity Program’s (PAP) mission is to help students become physically educated and enthusiastic about physical activity. PAP strives to instill the value of physical activity and influence students to choose to be active on a regular basis. PAP does this by providing instruction in rules, terminology, and strategy - all while developing and enhancing student skills in sport and exercise programs. PAP offers more than 50 different courses taught by a combination of adjunct faculty and graduate students. The talented instructors have a wide range of experience and knowledge, guaranteeing the highest quality instruction. Through PAP courses, students will come away prepared to participate safely and enthusiastically in the activity of their choice long after the class is over. Classes are offered in the following disciplines: dance and rhythm, sports, outdoor, fitness, and aquatics.

**CarolinaLIFE.** CarolinaLIFE is an individualized, non-degree program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The program provides support and instruction in the following areas: academic instruction, career education and training, independent living, social and community engagement, and personal development. The program philosophy is founded on inclusion and individualization, based on each student’s interests and support needs. The application process is simple, but selective, and many students qualify for financial aid to help with tuition and other program costs. CarolinaLIFE students have access to opportunities offered to other University of South Carolina students such as participation in USC courses, on-campus housing, student organizations, sporting events, work-study, and commencement.

**Gamecock EdQuarters.** Gamecock EdQuarters serves as the student services team to support both undergraduate and graduate education students from the time students consider becoming a Gamecock through their entire educational experience. Gamecock EdQuarters focuses on student recruitment, retention and career support as well as provides student advising and standardized testing preparation. Other services include student engagement, financial assistance, clinical experience and internships, and new teacher support through the Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP). Gamecock EdQuarter is COE’s the College of Education's one-stop student service center and coordinates placement for candidates in teacher preparation programs and maintains positive collaborative relationships between USC's educator preparation programs and over 140 P-12 schools in 33 districts in Columbia and surrounding communities. This center places practicum and internship candidates in Partnership Sites interested in mentoring future educators and also organize professional development and research projects in 18 Professional Development Schools. In addition, Gamecock EdQuarters serves as the link between the university and 11 local Teacher Cadet programs designed to introduce high school students to the teaching profession.