

# Admissions

The Office of Admissions recruits students, evaluates applications for undergraduate and graduate degree programs, and represents the institution to external constituencies. The office also works with internal constituencies to administer various policies such as South Carolina residency, international student admissions, and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) admissions compliance.

Applicants must complete appropriate admission forms and submit them with required credentials, such as the application for admission, official high school and/or college transcripts, and standardized test scores to the Office of Admissions. Students should apply online at [www.usca.edu](http://www.usca.edu).

Applicants must apply for and take the SAT or ACT college entrance examinations well in advance of the term for which they seek admission. The applicant is responsible for having the results of all entrance examinations sent to the Office of Admissions.

Applicants over the age of 21 may not be required to submit entrance examination results. However, the applicant must submit other credentials which **provide evidence of reasonable academic potential**. Scores from college entrance examinations will be required in the absence of satisfactory credentials or evidence of academic potential.

A one-time, non-refundable \$45.00 application processing fee is required of all applicants and must accompany the online application.

Applications submitted more than one year in advance of the anticipated date of enrollment will be acknowledged, but no action will be taken until admission standards for the year in question have been established. The number of students admitted and enrolled in any year will be determined by the capacity of the institution to provide for the educational and other needs of the students and by budgetary or other appropriate considerations. Admissions policies and procedures are subject to continuous review and may be changed without notice.

**DEADLINE:** The priority deadline for Fall admission is December 1st of the previous year.

## Categories Of Admission

### Freshman Admission

To be eligible to be considered for admission, freshman students must meet minimum standards of standardized test scores, class rank, course selection, and high school Grade Point Average.

Students should prepare for the challenges USC Aiken will present by taking strong academic courses in high school, with core academic courses taken on the college-prep, honors, or higher level. Information is available at [www.usca.edu/admissions](http://www.usca.edu/admissions). Exceptions may be made for students from out-of-state who have not completed these courses, as long as they have completed a college-prep curriculum as defined by their state.

### Readmission

Students who discontinue their enrollment during a fall or spring semester must apply for readmission to return to USC Aiken at a later term. Students who attend a spring semester and do not attend the following summer terms are not required to apply for readmission for the following fall semester. A \$10.00 application fee is required of readmit students.

Readmission to the University and to the program in which the student was previously enrolled is not automatic. An interview may be requested and some basis for a favorable decision may be required.

A student who leaves the University in good standing, misses one

or more major semesters, and attends another institution while away must submit the application for readmission and official transcripts of all college-level work attempted during his/her absence from the University. Such applicants must meet the same requirements as transfer students.

A student who leaves the University by suspension must apply for readmission upon completion of the period of suspension and qualify for readmission to the major program requested. See the "Academic Regulations" section of this bulletin for additional information.

### Transfer Admission

An applicant who, having graduated from high school, has attended another college-level institution and attempted one or more courses, is a transfer student, regardless of credit earned. If fewer than 24 semester hours (or 36 quarter hours) of college-level work have been attempted, the applicant must meet both transfer and freshman entrance requirements.

Transfer applicants for admission must submit:

1. Completed application forms;
2. \$45.00 non-refundable application processing fee;
3. Complete official transcripts through the time of application from all colleges/universities attended; these to be supplemented by final transcripts to reflect complete academic work prior to beginning classes at the University;
4. Complete high school records including entrance exam results if less than 24 semester hours have been attempted at a college or university;
5. Course-by-course transcript evaluation by a National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES)-affiliated agency ([www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org)) for any college coursework attempted outside of the United States.

To be considered for admission, transfer students are required to have a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 GPA scale) in all previous college-level course work. In addition, they **must be in good standing and eligible to return to the institution last attended**. Students must request and submit *official* transcripts from each previous academic institution. (Hand delivered transcripts will be considered unofficial.) **The applicant must submit transcripts of all previous college courses attempted whether or not credit was earned and regardless of whether the applicant wishes to transfer any credit. Failure to report all attempted college courses may constitute sufficient cause for later dismissal from the University.**

### Pacer Pathway Program

The Pacer Pathway Program is an invitation-only, one-year residential program offered jointly by the University of South Carolina Aiken and the University of South Carolina Union. The Pathway provides first-time college students with structure and comprehensive support from both institutions; it offers affordability, access, academic support, and the eventual opportunity to enroll at USC Aiken. Pacer Pathway students enjoy great benefits while working to meet USC Aiken admissions requirements. Students will live on campus at USC Aiken while completing their first year of courses through USC Union. All residences, courses, and activities are on the Aiken campus; and Pathway students will have full access to all the benefits of being a USC Aiken student. After successful completion of the first year (30 credits), Pacer Pathway students will be eligible to transfer seamlessly to USC Aiken as a fully admitted student.

## Change of Campus

To be admitted to the USC Aiken campus, change of campus students must submit an application via Self Service Carolina, be in good academic standing at the original campus of attendance, as well as maintaining a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale). Those students who have attempted fewer than 24 hours of nondevelopmental course work must also meet freshman admission requirements.

## Non-Traditional Students

Non-traditional students at USC Aiken are typically students who are 25 years of age or older. Non-traditional students may also be students who do not attend college the semester after they graduate from high school, who transfer directly from another college to USC Aiken, or who have been employed for two years or more.

### Admissions Requirements for Non-Traditional Students

Non-traditional students must submit the same credentials as other students, (high school and college transcripts), with the exception (if over the age of 21) of not submitting SAT or ACT results. However, students without SAT or ACT scores, must submit other credentials which provide evidence of reasonable academic potential.

### Awarding Academic Credit to Non-Traditional Students

Students may validate the knowledge they have gained through work or public service experiences by submitting the results of CLEP subject exams, taking USC Aiken challenge exams (exams, portfolios, etc.), or submitting documents indicating educational experiences in the military. Appropriate scores, which have been established by the University, will result in credit being awarded for work and/or public service experience. USC Aiken policy also states that a maximum of 30 semester hours of non-traditional credit may be applied to a baccalaureate degree.

## Palmetto College

Palmetto College at UofSC Aiken offers convenient online bachelor's degree completion programs for Business-Management, Business-Accounting, Special Education, Applied Computer Science-Cybersecurity, Communication, and Psychology majors.

### Evaluation and Admissions Process

Students applying for admission to UofSC Aiken via Palmetto College will be required to meet either transfer, readmission, or change-of-campus requirements. Prior to applying, students must contact the UofSC Aiken Palmetto College Coordinator to have a pre-evaluation completed to determine if they are eligible for the program. Interested students must have 40-65 degree applicable credits completed prior to requesting an evaluation. An evaluation can be requested by contacting PC@usca.edu or calling (803) 641-3595. Once the evaluation is completed, students will be provided with application instructions and next steps.

### New Student Orientation

All newly accepted Palmetto College students must complete an online self-paced orientation via Blackboard before being advised and registering for courses. The Palmetto College Coordinator will provide new students with the instructions for how to enroll in the orientation.

### ICE Requirement

Students in the Palmetto College program are able to complete the ICE requirement online. These students will be required to view a maximum of eight events and a minimum of four events. The number of credit hours earned will determine the number of ICE events needed. At the beginning of each semester, ICE calculations will be conducted by the Palmetto College Coordinator and

approved by the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs.

## Writing Intensive Requirements

Students in the Palmetto College program will only be required to take two Writing Intensives requirements. At least one of these requirements must be in the student's major.

## Writing Proficiency Portfolio

Students in the Palmetto College Program will submit their Writing Proficiency Portfolio via an online Blackboard course. Instructions for how to enroll in the course and submit the Writing Proficiency Portfolio will be provided to the student via a Palmetto College advisor. Writing Proficiency Portfolio grades will not be uploaded into the Blackboard course and will be distributed via email.

## Immunization Requirements

Palmetto College students are not required to submit immunization records since the program is 100% online.

## On-Campus Switch to Palmetto College

On-campus students who are interested in switching to Palmetto College must contact the Palmetto College Coordinator to see if they are eligible. They will also have to complete a form requesting the switch and get approval from their current advisor and Department Chair/Dean. If they are changing majors, a major change request must also be completed.

## Military Service Member Student Admission

All Military Service Member students applying for admission: ensure you speak with your Education Service Officer or counselor within your unit/department or service branch prior to enrolling. The USC Aiken Office of Veteran and Military Student Success Director is designated as the point of contact for academic and financial advising, including access to disability counseling, to assist Service Members, Veterans and Military Family Members with completion of studies and with job search activities.

## Transfer Student Initiatives and Services

Transfer Student Initiatives and Services, also known as the Transfer Center, is responsible for developing and sustaining academic transfer partnerships with higher education institutions, overseeing the recruitment, enrollment and transfer credit review process for incoming transfer students, and providing on-going support for transfer students as they acclimate to the UofSC Aiken community.

For additional information, prospective and current transfer students may contact the Transfer Center at transfer@usca.edu or by visiting the Penland Administration Building, Suite 101.

## Assessment of Academic Records

In addition to the general requirements for transfer admission outlined in this section, the Schools of Business Administration, Education, and Nursing, along with the Exercise and Sports Science program set additional requirements that are higher than the University's minimum standards. Initial admission to the University does not guarantee admission to these schools or programs. For more specific information concerning entrance requirements for individual schools and departments, contact the appropriate school or program.

Schools and Departments within the University have the right to consider all attempted college-level work in determining admission to particular programs and/or advancement into upper-division or

professional-level courses.

As a general rule, credits earned in courses that fall in one or more of the following categories are not acceptable in transfer to USC Aiken:

1. Courses that are occupational or technical in nature;
2. Courses that are essentially remedial in nature;
3. Courses from a two-year institution which are considered upper-division or upper-level at the University;
4. Courses from a two-year institution that are not listed as part of that institution's college parallel program.

Transfer credit will not be accepted for courses the equivalent of which a student has been enrolled in previously at the University, unless the academic work presented for transfer represents a minimum of a full year of resident work at the other institution. Similarly, a student cannot receive credit for a course taken at the University if he/she has received transfer credit for an equivalent course previously taken at another institution.

USC Aiken will *not* accept transfer credit for non-USC courses in which the student made a grade of D+ or lower.

## Evaluation of Transfer Credits

Applicants for admission with advanced standing, having completed all admission procedures and requirements, will be given a statement of credits accepted by transfer to the University. Each course will be evaluated by the appropriate department chair/school dean to determine whether to award credit. The number of credits acceptable to the University and the number which may apply toward a particular degree may differ. Students must refer to their degree audit to determine how many of those hours have been applied to their major at USC Aiken.

Original records may be required and evaluated for courses exempted at a previous college. Exemption credit or acceptance of transfer credit by another college has no bearing on the evaluation of transfer credit at USC Aiken. Typically, only undergraduate courses taken at a regionally accredited institution of higher education which are comparable in content and credit hours to specific courses offered by USC Aiken and in which grades of "C" or higher have been earned will be accepted for transfer. (State-wide policies concerning transfer credit can be found under Academic Affairs and Regulations.) It is permissible for credit from a graduate level course to be used for an undergraduate waiver of a requirement if it is carefully examined and approved by the appropriate department head/dean. This waiver will only be granted on a case by case basis for exceptional circumstances.

Evaluation of transfer credit awarded and the application of that credit to a degree program are valid only at the time the evaluation is conducted and may not apply if the student elects to change curriculum, major, degree, or university. Transfer credit awarded to a student who has been absent from the University for more than 36 months must be re-evaluated according to the standards in effect at the time the student is readmitted. Advisors and students are urged to use Degree Works to review the application of transfer credit.

Students who need additional information about a transcript evaluation or who wish to appeal an evaluation should contact the Office of the Registrar. Information about earning course credit through challenge or CLEP examinations may be obtained from the Office of Transfer Student Initiatives and Services.

## International Student Admission

All international students applying for admission to an undergraduate degree program must complete an international student application, attach a \$100 application fee, and submit it to the Office

of Admissions at USC Aiken. All international students must submit bank statements or certified statements for financial ability to provide \$28,410.00 (amount subject to change) or more for twelve (12) months' total expenses. This is required before the I-20 certificate of eligibility can be signed.

Due to the complexities of evaluating international applications, along with problems associated with postage and traveling, international students **must submit an application at least six months prior to the semester the student wishes to enter.**

## International Freshmen applicants

In addition to the application and fee indicated above, freshmen applicants from foreign countries are required to submit:

- Official copies of secondary school (high school) transcripts, certificates, and/or scores, including certified English translations of all transcripts;
- Proof of English proficiency for applicants for whom English is not their language of everyday use. This proficiency may be demonstrated in one of the following ways:
  - TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 550 or higher on the paper-based version (PBT) or 80 on the internet-based version (iBT);
  - IELTS (International English Language Testing System) score of 6.0 or higher with no sub score lower than 5.0;
  - PTE Academic (Pearson Test of English) score of 53 or higher.

Students who score between 500-549 on the PBT version or 61-79 on the iBT version of the TOEFL, or 5.0-5.5 on the IELTS (no sub score lower than 5.0), or 42-52 on the PTE Academic, may be admitted but must take English 110 (ESOL Conversational English) and/or English 111 (ESOL Reading and Writing), in their first semester at the University.

## International Transfer applicants

International students who are applying for admission and have attempted one or more courses at post-secondary institutions are considered to be transfer students, and must meet the transfer student requirements outlined in the USC Aiken Bulletin under Transfer Admission. If the applicant has completed fewer than 24 semester hours of college-level work, he/she must meet both transfer **and** freshman entrance requirements. In addition to the application and fee, the international transfer student must submit:

- Complete official transcripts of college-level courses through the time of application; these are to be supplemented by final transcripts to reflect complete academic work prior to beginning classes at the University. Transfer students who have earned a degree or taken any courses in countries outside the US must have an official transcript evaluated by a professional evaluation service affiliated with the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES - [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org)). This "course by course" evaluation must be forwarded directly to the USC Aiken Office of Admissions from the evaluation service. Costs associated with using these services are the responsibility of the student. Students will not be considered for admissions until this evaluation is received.
- Proof of English proficiency for applicants for whom English is not their language of everyday use. This proficiency may be demonstrated in one of the following ways:
  - TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 550 or higher on the paper-based version (PBT) or 80 on the paper-based (PBT) version or internet-based version (iBT);
  - IELTS (International English Language Testing System) score of 6.0 or higher with no sub score lower than 5.0;

- PTE Academic (Pearson Test of English) score of 53 or higher.

Students who score between 500-549 on the PBT version or 61-79 on the iBT version of the TOEFL, or 5.0-5.5 on the IELTS (no sub score lower than 5.0), or 42-52 on the PTE Academic, may be admitted but must take English 110 (ESOL Conversational English) and/or English 111 (ESOL Reading and Writing), in their first semester at the University.

If the applicant has attempted fewer than 24 semester hours of college-level work, the following must also be submitted:

- Official copies of secondary school (high school) transcripts, certificates, and/or scores including certified English translations of all transcripts.

The Director of Admissions reserves the right to request other information which may be necessary to evaluate the application. The English proficiency requirement will be waived for a transfer student if the student has completed the equivalent of USC Aiken's English 101 and 102 courses with a C or better at an accredited post secondary institution in the US. If the student has only completed English 101 with a C, he/she will be required to take English 111 in their first semester at the University.

## Requirement for Bilingual Speakers

Students whose native language is other than English are exempt, without credit, from USC Aiken's languages requirement if they have a minimum score of 500 on the TOEFL PBT, 61 TOEFL iBT, 5.5 IELTS, or 47 PTE Academic. English-speaking students who document or certify native or near-native proficiency in a language other than English are also exempt, without credit, from this requirement.

All exemptions must be approved by the Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and the department chair/dean of the student's degree program.

The Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures encourages exempt students to use electives to pursue other language and cultural studies.

## Graduate Admissions

The mission of graduate programs at the University of South Carolina Aiken is to promote high academic standards and best practices, embrace new and emerging technologies, and provide current and relevant excellence in graduate education. USC Aiken graduate programs are designed to give qualified individuals professional competence in specialized disciplines and trains scholars, research specialists, teachers, and experts in various professions.

The University offers the Master of Education, Master of Science, and Master of Business Administration degrees. Admission to these programs is competitive and the process is begun by completing the online application at <https://www.usca.edu/admissions/apply>. All programs do not admit students for all semesters; you should refer to the individual graduate program in order to find deadlines and requirements. While there are some variations in requirements for each program, typically, you will be required to complete the following:

- Online application and fee
- Official transcripts of all college work completed
- Test scores (GRE or GMAT)
- Statement of Intent
- Letters of Recommendation
- Resume

There are additional requirements for international students which

included transcript evaluations, English language proficiency scores, and other immigration documentation.

## Admission of Non-Degree Students

Applicants who wish to attend the University for one semester or on some limited basis may be approved to do so upon submitting an application and application fee. The Office of Admissions reserves the right to determine the proper category of admission and to determine what credentials may be required. **Applicants who have been officially denied admission are not eligible as non-degree students.**

**Dual Enrollment** is a program offered by the University of South Carolina Aiken to high school juniors and seniors. It provides an opportunity for students who are capable of meeting an increased challenge to earn college credit by taking courses offered by the university while still enrolled in high school. To be considered for this program, students must submit: an application for dual enrollment, high school transcripts, SAT/PSAT or ACT scores, a letter of approval from parent or guardian, a letter of approval from high school principal or guidance counselor.

### Student Eligibility

- Student must be a junior or senior in high school.
- Students must score at least 1020 on the SAT or PSAT or 21 on the ACT.
- Students must submit a high school transcript and rank in the top 25% of their high school class or show a 3.5+ GPA on the SC UGP scale.
- Students must submit approval from their high school (Principal or Guidance Counselor signature).
- Students must submit approval from parent or guardian (signature).
- Students must avoid courses which are offered by the students' high school
- Students must meet the prerequisites of any USC Aiken course before enrolling in that course.

Students admitted to this program will be enrolled in regular college courses in general subject areas chosen in consultation with the student so as to complement their high school program. Students who are successful in their first course(s) may be able to continue their enrollment in this program during subsequent terms.

**Early Admission.** Under exceptional circumstances, a high school student wishing to leave high school prior to graduation and enroll full-time at USC Aiken may apply to this program. The student must demonstrate both academic and social skills needed for college. To be considered for this program, the student must submit:

- An admissions application and application fee;
- A cover letter requesting admission;
- A letter of approval from parent or guardian;
- A letter of comment from his/her principal;
- High school transcripts;
- Achievement and PSAT or SAT scores if available.

**Non-Degree** students are those wishing to take course(s) for personal enrichment or professional enhancement. Entrance exams, transcripts, and recommendations are generally not required. Students admitted in this classification may *not* earn more than 30 semester hours of credit and *must* be admitted as regular, degree-seeking students before credits may be validated and applied toward any USC degree. **Applicants who have been officially denied admission as degree seeking students are**



**not eligible as non-degree students.** Non-degree students are subject to all standard University regulations.

**Auditing.** A person may audit courses of his/her choice at USC Aiken. A person desiring to audit courses must apply as a special student. Auditing is granted on a space-available basis only. An admission application and the application fee must be submitted.

**Once audited, a course may not be taken for credit.** See Registration in the "Academic Regulations" section of this bulletin for further information.

**Transient.** Admission to undergraduate courses for one semester or two summer terms may be granted to students from other colleges and universities who are certified to be in good academic standing and whose program of study at USC Aiken has been approved by their academic dean or registrar.

Such students must also provide evidence that they have met the prerequisite of any USC Aiken course which requires them.

**Unclassified Students.** Students who hold a baccalaureate degree may be admitted to undergraduate credit courses upon submission of an application and transcript showing graduation with a bachelor's degree from a college or university, or a copy of their diploma. This category is designed for those students not desiring to attend graduate school but seeking instead credits for teacher accreditation and similar purposes.

The period of enrollment in these categories is limited by either time or number of allowable credits. Non-degree students are not eligible for financial aid or housing during the fall or spring terms.

**Special Students.** Those persons not meeting the above criteria for admission may petition for special consideration and may do so by request through the USC Aiken Office of Admissions. The right of personal interview and appeal is available (also see Right of Petition under Academic Affairs and Regulations). Students wishing to petition for admission must meet the following deadlines:

Fall Semester	—	August 1 <sup>st</sup> ;
Spring Semester	—	December 1 <sup>st</sup> ;
Summer I Session	—	May 1 <sup>st</sup> ,
Summer II Session	—	June 1 <sup>st</sup> .

For information on academic advisement for non-degree students, see Academic Advisement under Academic Affairs and Regulations

## Admission of Senior Citizens

South Carolina state law (59-111-320) authorizes USCA to permit legal residents of South Carolina at least sixty years of age to attend classes without the payment of tuition, **on a space available basis**, provided that such persons meet admission and other standards deemed appropriate by the University, and do not receive compensation as full-time employees. Senior citizens interested in registering for classes should contact the Office of the Registrar for directions and assistance. (Application fee, books, supplies, parking decals, and other fees are not covered by this law and will be the responsibility of the senior citizen).

## Enrollment Requirements

### Citizenship Verification

USC Aiken students must present proof of citizenship or lawful presence in the U.S. before enrolling in order to comply with section 59-101-430 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, which requires that lawful presence in the United States is verified before enrollment at any public institution of higher education. Students who are not verified as citizens during the federal financial aid application (FAFSA) process must present proof of citizenship. Verification of immigration status for non-citizens will be conducted

by International student officials.

## Immunization Requirements

All students born after December 31, 1956 must furnish proof of receiving two doses of measles (rubeola), mumps, and rubella (German measles), known as the MMR vaccine on or after their 1st birthday prior to registration. Proof of Immunity requests documentation of one of the following:

1. Receiving two MMR vaccines (shots) after January 1, 1968 and on or after 1st birthday (Initial vaccination acceptable no earlier than 4 days before the first birthday), OR
2. Positive serum titers (blood antibodies) to measles, mumps, and rubella (German measles). Positive serum titers must have been performed within the last 5 years and a copy of the lab results sent to confirm results.

Freshman who live on campus must also comply with the housing requirement regarding the meningococcal meningitis vaccine. For additional information, please visit the following website: <https://www.usca.edu/admissions/apply/forms>

The following vaccines are **strongly recommended** for all students but are not mandatory: Meningococcal, Hepatitis B, Varicella (if no prior history of chicken pox), and Tdap (tetanus/diphtheria/acellular pertussis. Pertussis is also known as 'whooping cough'.)

International Students additional requirement:

International Students should have a tuberculosis screening if they are not from the following countries:

Canada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, USA Virgin Islands (USA), Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, San Marino, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, American Samoa, Australia, or New Zealand.

## Additional Credit

### College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations

The University of South Carolina Aiken supports the College Board's Advanced Placement Program, which allows high school students the opportunity to pursue college level courses in their own schools and to be taught the material by their own teachers. After completion of the AP courses, students take the appropriate AP test to determine their level of achievement. For college credit to be awarded, a student must have official score reports from the College Board sent directly to the Office of Admissions at USC Aiken.

In accordance with policies established by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, USC Aiken will award credit for AP scores of three or higher, unless evidence is presented for good cause not to do so. In addition, the S.C. Commission on Higher Education has issued the following policies:

Because of the major overlap in course content between the two English AP exams, the awarding of AP credit in English should be treated separately from that of other disciplines as follows:

1. If a student receives a score of "3" or "4" on either English AP exam, credit would be awarded for English A101 or its equivalent (three credits);
2. If a student receives a score of "3" or "4" on both English AP exams, or a "3" on one and a "4" on the other, credit would be awarded for English A101.
3. If a student receives a score of "5" on either or on both English AP exams, credit would be awarded for English

A101 and A102 or their equivalent (six credits).

For additional information concerning the awarding of AP credit, contact the USC Aiken Office of the Registrar.

## International Baccalaureate (IB) Policy

The University of South Carolina Aiken recognizes the academic challenge inherent in the IB Program and encourages students who have completed the IB diploma to apply. IB graduates who score well (4-7) on their *Higher Level* exams will be awarded college credit as determined by the academic departments. No credit is awarded for subjects passed at the Subsidiary level of IB, nor for scores below 4 on the higher level exams. IB credit is awarded for IB *Higher-Level* examination scores in the following areas: English A1, Biology, Business and Organization, Chemistry, Computing Studies, Economics, Foreign Languages, Geography, History, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Psychology, Social Anthropology. To receive credit, the student must have the official examination results sent to the Office of the Registrar, USC Aiken, Aiken, SC, 29801.

For additional information concerning the awarding of IB credit, contact the USC Aiken Office of the Registrar.

## College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

For more information see College Level Examination Program (CLEP) under Academic Affairs and Regulations.

## Credit by Examination (Challenge Exam)

For more information see Credit by Examination under Academic Affairs and Regulations.

## Credit Granted for Educational Experiences in the Military

USCA recognizes the educational experiences and training that members of the armed forces receive during their time of enlistment. Academic credit may be awarded for educational experiences in the military if they are in accordance with recommendations published by the American Council on Education (ACE) and are consistent with University policy on transfer of credit. Credit will be evaluated by the appropriate department chair/school dean to determine whether to award credit. Credit awarded for educational experience in the military may be extremely limited and may not be applicable in certain degree programs.

For additional information concerning the awarding of credit for military training, contact the USC Aiken Office of Admissions.

## Placement Examinations

The purpose of the mathematics placement test is to assess each student's ability in mathematics and help place her/him in the proper initial mathematics course. The test is required for all incoming students who plan to enroll in Math A108 (Applied College Algebra) or above. Students who have scored a 3, 4, or 5 on the Educational Testing Service Calculus Advanced Placement (AP) Exam will not need to take the mathematics placement test.

The mathematics placement test is for **initial** placement only. Students who have completed a mathematics course at USC Aiken (regardless of the letter grade earned) **cannot** later take the math placement test in an attempt to place into a higher level course or to exempt a prerequisite. Students who wish to get credit for a mathematics course through testing should take the CLEP exam for the desired course.

**Transfer Students:**

- Transfer students who have already earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college do not have to take the placement test.

- Transfer students who receive transfer credit for MATH A104 or higher (excluding MATH A170, MATH A221 and A222) do not take the placement test and may proceed to the next required mathematics course for their major or the next mathematics course for which they have the required prerequisite. Courses that transfer as statistics courses with the prefix STAT do not qualify as mathematics courses for placement purposes.

- Transfer students who have not received transfer credit for MATH A104 or above (excluding MATH A170, MATH A221 and MATH A222) must take the placement test.

For additional information regarding the mathematics placement test, contact the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.

## Placement in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (French, German, Italian, Latin and Spanish)

- Students beginning to study a new language enroll in A101.

- Students enrolling in a second language that they have previously studied (whether in high school or college) will be placed at the appropriate level based on previous second-language courses and grades. Each student's advisement folder will contain written information that specifies the level of the language in which they have been placed.

- Students who place in A210 or in any of the second language courses above A210 that are listed below and pass the course with a grade of C or better will have fulfilled USCA's second language requirement. Students who transfer courses equivalent to A210 or those listed below will have fulfilled USCA's second language requirement. Credit will be assigned only for the course the student passed or transferred with a C or better.

**FREN:** A300, A301, A302, A303, A305, A306, A307

**GERM:** A300, A301, A303, A305

**SPAN:** A303, A308, A316, A317, A318, A319, A320, A321, A340, A426, A488

### Chart 1. High School Course Prerequisites for Freshmen who graduated from high school between 1988-2000

Area	Units
English	4: At least two units having strong grammar and composition components; at least one unit in English literature; and at least one unit in American literature
Mathematics	3: These include Algebra I (for which Applied Mathematics I and II may count together as a substitute, if a student successfully completes Algebra II); Algebra II, and Geometry. A fourth unit is strongly recommended (i.e., precalculus, calculus, statistics, or discrete mathematics).
Laboratory Science	2: At least one unit each of two laboratory sciences chosen from biology, chemistry or physics. A third unit of laboratory science is strongly recommended for prospective science, mathematics and engineering students.
Foreign Language	2: Two units of the same foreign language.
Social Sciences	3: One unit of US History is required; a half unit of Economics and a half unit in Government are strongly recommended.
Electives	1: One credit of advanced math or other computer science, or combination of these; or, one unit of world history, world geography or Western civilization.
Physical Education or ROTC	1

### Chart 2. High School Course Prerequisites for Freshmen who graduated from high school in 2001 and beyond

Area	College Prep Units
English	4: At least two units having strong grammar and composition components; at least one unit in English literature; and at least one unit in American literature
Mathematics	4: These include Algebra I (for which Applied Mathematics I and II may count together as a substitute, if a student successfully completes Algebra II); Algebra II, and Geometry. It is strongly recommended that the fourth unit be a higher-level mathematics course (i.e., precalculus, calculus, statistics, or discrete mathematics).
Laboratory Science	3: Two units must be taken in two different fields and selected from biology, chemistry, or physics. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (biology, chemistry or physics) or from advanced environmental science with laboratory or marine biology with laboratory for which biology and/or chemistry is a prerequisite. Courses in earth science, general physical science, or introductory or general environmental science for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement.
Foreign Language	2: Two units of the same foreign language.
Social Sciences	3: One unit of US History is required; a half unit of Economics and a half unit in Government are strongly recommended.
Electives	4: Four college preparatory units must be taken from three different fields selected from among Computer Science, English, Fine Arts, Foreign Languages, Humanities, Lab Science (excluding earth science, general physical science, general environmental science or other introductory science courses for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite), Mathematics above the level of Algebra II, and Social Sciences. It is strongly recommended that one unit be in Computer Science which includes programming (not just keyboarding) and one unit in Fine Arts (appreciation of, history, or performance).
Physical Education or ROTC	1

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