

USC ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

University of Southern California (USC) Supplemental Essay Prompt Guide. The Requirements: 2 essays of up to words; 2 short-answer lists.

How to Answer Question 1 What do you personally expect to get out of studying engineering or computer science in college? Please feel free to address your first and second-choice major selections. Admission to Specific Majors Applicants to some majors must submit a portfolio or audition. Tell a specific story. How to Answer Question 2 While the world as a whole may be more technologically advanced than ever before, the National Academy of Engineering NAE has outlined 14 Grand Challenges that engineers should focus on to improve life on the planet. This prompt is about you! USC believes that one learns best when interacting with people of different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives. Tell us about a time when you were exposed to a new idea or when your beliefs were challenged by another point of view. However, if you do have a gap in your educational history, then be sure to use this space to address it. What did you learn about the universal nature of grief? Give a brief explanation of the reasoning for the gap—be it illness, a move, etc. Choose a specific quality about yourself—maybe you love trying as many new things as possible, for example—and then tell a story about this that ties into how the quality is a key component of what makes you, you. What prompted your thinking? Dream trip 7. The second example works because it provides a resource unique to USC. Maybe a recent debate you got into with a friend sparked an interest in philosophy. To do this, you should talk about a time you were challenged, not about a time you challenged someone else. Unless otherwise noted, all deadlines are the same as those listed on the Dates and Deadlines section above. The first prompt is an opportunity to demonstrate kindness and responsibility, but you should only pick it if you feel it genuinely applies to you. Honesty is key. We do not accept images in PDF format. In addition to the Common App personal statement, USC requires two supplementary essays four for prospective engineers , and multiple short answer questions. More than two-thirds of students at USC receive financial aid. Consider your community. Be sure to include information about your home-schooling philosophy, curricular choices, and textbooks used Additional Application Requirements If you are applying to any major in any of the schools listed below, it is your responsibility to complete your application by the appropriate deadline. Or maybe her book exposed you to a new idea by proposing a novel way to approach work and leadership. The key here is to demonstrate some sort of personal growth. In addition to grades and test scores, selective colleges are interested in the rigor of the subjects taken, the competitiveness of the school, and upward or downward trends in your grades. This will just make your application seem too repetitive. Where do you hope your studies will take you? Your job is to show why USC and nowhere else can help you achieve your dreams. Too many students make the mistake of broad or unbackable statements. Seize the day. For example, majors in architecture, journalism, and cinema all require letters of recommendation. This shows you love adrenaline and enjoy taking risks!