

USC Global Scholars
Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
Submission Criteria



Eligibility

Global Scholars will:

- Have a minimum 3.5 overall GPA upon graduation
- Complete an undergraduate degree within five years
- Spend at least ten weeks outside the U.S. as part of their undergraduate experience. These ten weeks can be a combination of one or more programs that are founded on academic study, research, work experience, or service learning. Programs must be administered by USC or an outside institution. In the case of purely student-run international programs, the quality of the program would need to be verified by the student's school.
- Complete and submit an online application, reflective essay, and capstone project as explained below by the annual deadline.

Online Application

Submit an online application via the Global Scholars website:

<http://ahf.usc.edu/scholars/global/apply/>

Reflective Essay

Submit a brief reflective essay (no more than 3 pages, double-spaced, 12pt font) in which you reflect upon your international experience and the transformative impact it has had upon your development and learning at USC. This essay should contextualize your experience abroad and include thoughts on how your global experiences have had a major impact on your academic life at USC as well as your future as a scholar and citizen.

When writing your reflective essay, we invite you to consider how your experience(s) might reflect USC's Global Learning outcomes discussed on the Global Scholars [website](#). As explained in these objectives, USC encourages students to:

- Engage in international activities
- Raise their global literacy
- Increase their intercultural competence
- Expand their awareness of global interdependence
- Critique knowledge from a global perspective
- Develop their own global perspective

Capstone Project

Submit a capstone project according to your School's specified criteria.

*Please note: Each USC School develops unique requirements and expectations for their students' Capstone Projects. Please be sure to reference your School's criteria when developing your capstone project. Students enrolled in academic programs in multiple USC Schools (e.g. Dornsife and Marshall) may select which School's criteria they prefer to follow.

Dornsife students will submit a **capstone paper or project** that draws on resources and knowledge of perspectives on global issues encountered while overseas. Think of the capstone project as an academic translation of a transformative experience (the transformative experience could be academic, work-related, or service-oriented). The capstone project should clearly show that your global experience has had a major impact on your academic life at USC as well as your future as a scholar and citizen. Because of the diversity of academic programs within the Dornsife College it is difficult to narrow down a specific format for submission. Students are encouraged to submit a capstone project that resembles work from their field of study. Common formats include research papers, business proposals, and service leadership projects, but other formats are welcome.

All students should include a one-page **executive summary** that briefly introduces the ideas discussed in the capstone project, acting as a link between the reflective essay and the capstone project.

Students are highly encouraged to discuss their project ideas with a faculty mentor, someone they have studied with at USC or abroad, or the program advisor listed below.

School Contact

Heidi Ippolito: hippolit@usc.edu
Academic Programs Assistant