

**USC Discovery Scholars
Iovine and Young Academy**
Submission Criteria



Eligibility:

Discovery Scholars will:

- Have a minimum 3.5 overall GPA upon graduation
- Complete an undergraduate degree within five years
- Complete and submit an online application, letter of recommendation and senior project, as explained below, by the annual deadline. (Note: the applicant's Garage Experience project may be considered as the capstone project).

Online Application

Submit an online application via the Discovery Scholars website:

<https://app.wizehive.com/appform/login/uscdiscovery>

Letter of Recommendation:

All Discovery Scholar submissions must include a letter of recommendation from a USC faculty member. Whenever possible, the letter should come from the faculty member who has supervised or mentored the student on their Academy senior project. The letter of recommendation should provide context for the student's work relative to: the student's overall achievement and performance in the program; the scope and quality of the student's individual contributions to the submitted project; the merit of the project relative to both the quality of work typically presented at the undergraduate level and the highest standards of the discipline; and the value and larger implications of the project beyond graduation.

Project Criteria:

Iovine and Young Academy students will document the innovative underpinnings of their individual contributions to a senior project. The work should advance a new idea or present an existing one in new or disruptive ways.

Documentation should consist of a minimum of three written pages in academic format, and should include elements such as multimedia components, working applications, websites, images of prototypes and products, etc.

The written document should not simply be a description of the project, but should highlight your individual innovative and creative contributions to the project. For example, you might identify your:

- Creative approaches to problem solving
- Innovations in UI, UX, or design
- Technological breakthroughs
- Unique business models
- Originality
- Unique contributions to a field of study

Selection Process

Discovery Scholar submission will be reviewed by an Iovine and Young Academy faculty committee, and will be judged on how the work advances a new idea or presents an existing one in new or disruptive ways.

Additional Information

IYA students are encouraged to review the university guidelines for Discover Scholar submissions found at

<http://ahf.usc.edu/commencement-honors/discovery/become/>

School Contact

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