The University of South Florida is a multi-campus, comprehensive, research university strongly committed to the balanced pursuit of excellent teaching, significant research and useful public service. The University generates and disseminates new insights, knowledge and forms of expression; it prepares students for their personal lives, professional careers and contributions to society; and it serves its external communities through the citizenship and expertise of its faculty, staff, students and graduates.

The University of South Florida is committed to supporting and nurturing the free expression of ideas. It embraces the role of the University as a social critic and conscience and respects and defends the rights of faculty, staff and students to speak out and act responsibly upon the social implications of their knowledge. The University values an intellectually excellent, culturally diverse academic community of faculty, staff and students. The University strives to provide an educationally challenging environment, within and beyond the classroom, that engages students and faculty in a common inquiry into the values of society and gives them a rational understanding of the need to accept and appreciate differences among people and cultures as a foundation for national and global welfare.

The three traditional activities of teaching, research and public service are the foundation of the University’s mission. In the conduct and delivery of its programs, the University recognizes the special characteristics of its students and the opportunities provided by the location of its campuses in thriving metropolitan areas on Florida’s gulf coast. The University gives particular consideration to programs and activities that can build on these advantages to achieve national and international distinction.

As an institution dedicated to excellent teaching, the University’s fundamental objective is to evoke in its students a lifelong commitment to learning that enables them to become thoughtful, active, productive and compassionate citizens. The University provides to all undergraduates a strong common curriculum in liberal education that balances the acquisition of general knowledge with the development of intellectual honesty, curiosity, creativity, critical inquiry and personal values and ethics that include a commitment to advancing the society in which they live. Specialization in the major areas builds upon this foundation, liberal education and prepares graduates to enter graduate school or to embark directly upon their lives’ work. Advanced studies at the graduate and professional level enable students to work with faculty at the forefront of their disciplines, to increase their depth of knowledge and personal achievement and to contribute to the advancement of their professions and the larger society. The University has high expectations of its faculty as inspirational teachers and of its faculty and students as exemplary scholars.

As a comprehensive research university, USF is dedicated to the discovery of new knowledge, insights and forms of expression through significant innovative research and other creative activity and to the preservation, organization, analysis and synthesis of existing knowledge. As a leading publicly supported university, the University accomplishes its research mission by building on existing program strengths, by fostering effective, cross-disciplinary approaches and by contributing to the resolution of social, cultural, economic, medical and technological challenges facing the largely metropolitan population of our state and country within the international community of the 21st century.

As an institution serving the region, state and nation, the University actively encourages the use of the expertise of its faculty, staff and students for the advantage of the larger community—to provide intellectual, cultural, health-related and social services; to contribute to life-long learning opportunities; and to function as a catalyst for improvements within its immediate cultural, economic and social context. USF has the assigned responsibility to provide continuing education for a 10-county area.

Within the mission of the total university, the Tampa campus plays the central role. It incorporates a comprehensive range of teaching, research and service functions and provides essential academic leadership and administrative services for the University’s multiple campuses. The missions of the regional campuses at St. Petersburg, Sarasota/Manatee and Lakeland emphasize programs that respond to demonstrated regional need for undergraduate upper level and master’s level education. On a selective basis, regional campuses also undertake program initiatives involving special community interests and resources. The mission of New College at USF is to provide a high quality, undergraduate, liberal arts education. The special strengths of all four campuses contribute to an integrated, diversified, and comprehensive university dedicated to educational quality and leadership.

ABOUT USF

One of the 20 largest universities in the United States and still growing, the University of South Florida has built a solid reputation as a leader in learning, offering comprehensive state-of-the-art, student-centered programs. With growing prestige and a dedicated faculty, including more than 75 faculty Fulbright Scholars and 42 endowed chairs, USF has become a research powerhouse.

Located in the vibrant Tampa Bay area, one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas of the nation, USF has formed vital partnerships with business leaders and organizations throughout the region, and contributes to the well-being of its immediate urban neighborhoods through vast networks of social research and service projects.

As one of the top 60 public research universities in the country USF’s contracts and grants are more than $171 million annually. USF’s fast growing reputation as a superior academic institution was formally acknowledged in 2000 when the Carnegie Foundation ranked USF in its top tier of national research universities.

Faculty and student scholarship and research are supported by an outstanding library that contains more than 2.3 million volumes and that is the electronic “Virtual Library” for the State University System of Florida. The latter provides links to tens of thousands of computer databases around the world. Founded in 1956, USF opened its doors in 1960 to 2000 students. Today the University serves approximately 36,000 students — with nearly 200 programs at the undergraduate, master’s, specialty and doctoral levels, including the M.D. Entering freshmen boast an average SAT score of approximately 1,020 and a grade point average of 3.5.

USF’s commitment to inclusion is reflected in its student body. African American, Latin and Asian students comprise 24.5 percent of USF students. A growing contingent of international students, now representing well over 100 countries, demonstrates the University’s strong geographic influence and dedication to the principles of a global economy.

Collectively, our students are among the best and brightest at Florida universities, with greater-than-ever numbers of National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic Scholars. They are taught by some 2,000 highly-regarded faculty who are products of the world’s most prestigious colleges, universities and research institutes.

The University has graduated more than 175,000 students since its founding. These graduates contribute to society in numerous professional and civic activities. Those who live in the Tampa Bay area alone would nearly fill Tampa’s professional football stadium (Raymond James Stadium, which is also home field for the Bulls’ NCAA Division I football team and the 2001 Super Bowl).
USF is big in size as well as stature. Its annual operating budget is three-quarters of a billion dollars. One of the largest employers in the Tampa area, its economic impact on the Tampa Bay region totals $1.35 billion annually.

In the past 40-plus years, USF has grown into a network of regional campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota and Lakeland, serving the West Central Florida region. The main campus in Tampa covers 1,700 acres, housing more than 320 buildings, which total 6 million square feet in size. Its libraries hold some 1.4 million volumes as well as a vast computer link to hundreds of library data bases and international communications through the Internet and the World Wide Web.

The largest of USF’s colleges, Arts and Sciences, offers nearly 50 undergraduate degrees and provides special programs that prepare students for schools of medicine and other related healthcare fields. With an enrollment of more than 12,500, Arts and Sciences is larger than many other entire universities. The college’s geology program is one of the largest and highest-ranked in the Southeast. Its chemistry program is one of the top producers of chemistry graduates in the nation. Cutting edge programs include aging studies and environmental science and policy. Its marine science program is among the most prestigious in America.

The University’s most popular major is business, outpacing education, engineering, social sciences and psychology. Special programs affiliated with the College of Business Administration include the Cooperative Education Program, the Center for Economic Development Research and the Small Business Development Center. An International Study Program with an emphasis on Latin America prepares students for the growing global economy.

The largest urban education college in the country, USF’s College of Education ranks fifth in the nation. The College produces more teachers than any other Florida university; nearly 100 percent of the college’s graduates remain in the state. College facilities include the Educational Research Center for Child Development, the Gus A. Stavros Center for Free Enterprise and Economic Education and the award-winning Sun Coast Area Teacher Training (SCATT) program. The College is the only one in the state to operate its own charter school for at-risk youngsters and also works closely with Hillsborough County Public School’s Pizzo Elementary, located on the USF campus.

The College of Engineering is cultivating a world of new ideas through state-of-the-art laboratories, low student-to-faculty ratios and emphasis on cooperative learning. Faculty have ideas through state-of-the-art laboratories, low faculty-to-student ratios and a focus on cooperative learning. Faculty have

The College of Medicine is among the best in the nation in educating physicians for its home state. More than 60 percent of its residents remain in Florida. The college is also renowned for research in brain repair, cardiology, ophthalmology and immunology. Through affiliations with Tampa General Hospital, the USF-based Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute (Florida’s only National Cancer Institute-designated center), All Children’s Hospital, James A. Haley Veterans Hospital, Shriner’s Hospital for Children, Bay Pines Veterans Medical Center, and Morton Plant Mease, medical students train on the cutting edge of trauma, pediatrics and cancer treatment. The College places an increasing focus on primary care. Admission is highly selective. Each year, the college receives more than 2,000 applications to fill 96 available positions.

USF has the only College of Public Health in Florida. The College is one of only 27 fully accredited public health colleges in the United States. Within the college, the Legislature created the Florida Public Health Institute (FPHI) to serve as a statewide center for policy-oriented health services research. USF’s master’s of public health program takes a multidisciplinary approach to public health—exploring the social, behavioral, legal, medical and economic factors affecting public health. Areas of concentration include community and family health, epidemiology and biostatistics, environmental and occupational health and health policy and management.

Recognizing the school’s location in one of the state’s largest metropolitan areas, the School of Architecture and Community Design prepares students to find creative solutions to problems faced by aging and emerging cities. Design projects have included innovative portable classrooms, water retention projects and urban renovation that addresses traffic, parking, environmental and community needs.

The Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute is Florida’s only mental health research institute. Its Center for HIV Education and Research has trained more than 50,000 medical and mental health professionals throughout Florida. The institute also trains more than 6,000 child welfare and juvenile justice staff members annually. The de la Parte Institute is one of five national sites competitively selected by the Public Health Service to rigorously document the costs and outcomes of managed care services to adults with severe mental illness.

USF St. Petersburg is the oldest and largest regional campus of USF, and it offers a wide range of complete programs in undergraduate and graduate studies. Classes are small and students receive individual faculty attention and a full array of services. USF St. Petersburg places value on each and every individual it serves, making it a welcoming and nurturing environment for all who come to campus. It also is notable for the teaching of ethics that is infused throughout the curriculum.

Located along the waterfront of Bayboro Harbor, USF St. Petersburg is considered one of the loveliest and most inviting campuses in the nation and is the home of USF’s varsity women’s sailing team. The campus also borders the downtown area’s museums, galleries, performing arts venues and theaters. Its cultural programming is outstanding, with frequent public performances and exhibits financed and endorsed through the Florida Humanities Council, which is headquartered on campus. USF St. Petersburg also is part of a medical and scientific research hub that includes marine science and pediatrics.

Also located at USF St. Petersburg, the College of Marine Science offers graduate programs in biological, chemical,
geological and physical oceanography. Scientists do cutting-edge research all over the globe related to the effects of climate on the oceans. Marine Science is credited with being a magnet for drawing both the U.S. Geological Survey to USF St. Petersburg and oceanographic high-tech business to the Tampa Bay region.

The Sarasota/Manatee campus includes New College and is adjacent to the state-owned Ringling Museum. USF at Sarasota/Manatee has significant responsibility for historic and environmental preservation of the beautiful Ringling and Caples estates. New College is a residential, highly selective and innovative liberal arts college that made the top category of Princeton Review’s exclusive rating of college admissions competitiveness. Kiplinger’s Personal Finance Magazine ranks New College in the top 25 public university “best values” in the nation.

USF Lakeland is designed to take advantage of advanced educational technologies. Along with traditional instruction, the campus has television receiving and transmitting labs for individualized computer instruction.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

It is the goal of the University to create and maintain a work and study environment free of discrimination. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, Vietnam or disabled veteran status, handicap, or age is prohibited by University policies, federal and state laws. Any person who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination may file a complaint with the Office of Equal Opportunity Affairs, ADM 274. The telephone number is 974-4373. It shall be prohibited for any employee of USF to discriminate or take retaliatory action against any individual who, in good faith, has opposed an alleged unlawful practice or has made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the provisions of applicable law.

GUIDE TO RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

All University programs, events, and services are open and available to persons with disabilities. The University of South Florida is committed to the principles of Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities without regard to disability.

Academic Assistance for Students with Disabilities: Student Disability Services exists to ensure that students with disabilities have the technical, academic, and emotional support necessary to achieve academic and personal success at the University of South Florida. Course related assistance and academic accommodations are provided to eligible students with documented disabilities. Services may include advocacy, reader services, interpreters, alternate exam administration, note takers, and adaptive equipment such as FM systems, large print computer access, and Visualtek's. Students are encouraged to contact our office as early as possible prior to enrollment to make arrangements for appropriate services.

Admissions: Students with disabilities apply under the same guidelines as other students. If students believe that their disability has had an impact on grades, course choice or standardized test scores for admission, they may request consideration of this in the admissions process.

Course Substitution: Students with disabilities requesting substitution of course work for General Education, foreign language requirements, or CLAST should contact the Director of Student Disability Services. Students with declared majors requesting substitution of departmental graduation requirements will need to contact the chair of their department. In either case, students will be requested to submit documentation to support their request for an exception.

Disabled Parking: Students with state parking privileges need only supply their state card as documentation for eligibility for a USF disabled parking hangtag/sticker. Students without state privileges need medical documentation to be considered for on-campus disabled parking.

Housing: Accessible on-campus residence hall housing is available for students with special needs. Specific information is available through the Residence Hall Director's Office.

Students with disabilities are encouraged to participate fully in all University events, programs, and other campus activities. Information on whom to contact to request accommodation or assistance should be listed on program information and advertisements. If you are unable to secure the requested assistance or need additional help with accessibility contact the Equal Opportunity Office.

The following offices arrange academic accommodations and assistance for students with disabilities:

CAMPUS CONTACTS FOR STUDENT DISABILITY SERVICES

Tampa Campus
Director of Student Disability Services
SVC 1133 (voice) 813-974-4309
(PMD 223 (TDD) 813-974-5651

Sarasota Campus
Coordinator for Advising for Special Needs Students
PMD 223 813-359-4330

Lakeland Campus
Office of the Director for Academic Services
Building C, USF Offices
941-677-7000

St. Petersburg Campus
Office of the Director, Student Affairs
DAV 118 813-893-9162

FACILITIES AND ATMOSPHERE

The facilities of the USF Tampa campus, now including more than 200 major buildings, are currently valued at more than $300 million. The buildings are of similar modern architectural design and all are completely air conditioned. The Tampa campus has a variety of recreational facilities, including: a gymnasium that features a weight room and natatorium; a 400-meter track; two outdoor swimming pools; 22 tennis courts; six handball/racquetball courts; an 18-hole golf course; two parcourses, one for running and one for walking; one baseball and four softball fields; four outdoor basketball and volleyball courts; and a new multi-million dollar recreation center.

In St. Petersburg, students can enjoy an outdoor pool or take part in the waterfront program that features sailboats and canoes available for use. In Sarasota, there is a 400-meter track and a new library.

The campus atmosphere is informal. Students and faculty dress casually and enjoy an unusually close relationship. Some classes are even held outside to take advantage of the area’s extraordinary climate (average annual temperature is 72°F). Most buildings have open hallways, which blend colorful interiors with spacious exteriors, symbolically and architecturally suggesting the casual accessibility that has become a USF trademark.

UNIVERSITY POLICE

The University of South Florida Police Department provides a full range of public safety services to the community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the Tampa, Sarasota, and St. Petersburg Campuses. All University Police officers are certified by the State of Florida after completing minimum standards training at the local Regional Police Training Academy. The University of South Florida Police Department is accredited through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement accreditation. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards, and has long been recognized as
a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism.

General services provided by the University Police include car patrol, foot patrol, bicycle patrol, criminal investigation of all misdemeanors and felonies, traffic law enforcement, traffic crash investigation, special events management, and crime prevention programs.

The University Police Department has an excellent working relationship with all local law enforcement agencies. The University Police maintain 24-hour contact with local, national, and international law enforcement agencies via computer networks such as the Florida Crime Information Center and the National Crime Information Center. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement and other local, state, and federal agencies are available to assist the University Police upon request.

UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CAMPUS LOCATIONS:
- On the Tampa Campus the University Police Department is located at the corner of Fletcher Avenue and Maple Drive. The emergency number is "9-1-1" and the non-emergency number is (813) 974-2628.
- On the Sarasota Campus the University Police Department is located near the intersection of Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) and General Spaatz Boulevard. The emergency number is "5-9-1-1" and the non-emergency number is (941) 359-4212.
- On the St. Petersburg Campus the University Police Department is located near the intersection of Fifth Avenue South and Second Street South. The emergency number is "1-9-1-1" and the non-emergency number is (813) 553-1140.
- The Lakeland Campus of the University of South Florida is located at Polk Community College. Basic public safety services are provided by the security department of the community college. Law enforcement services, including the investigation of criminal acts, are provided on a routine basis by the Polk County Sheriff’s Office in Lakeland. The University Police Department provides law enforcement or crime prevention services at this location on an as needed basis.

VICTIMS’ ADVOCACY PROGRAM
The Victims’ Advocacy Program is available to assist all USF students, staff, faculty and visitors who are victims of actual or threatened abuse/violence. Offenses may include but are not limited to battery, assault, stalking, relationship/domestic violence, childhood victimization, sexual battery (date/acquaintance/stranger rape), hate crimes and prior abuse. Victims at USF may be eligible for reimbursement from the State for related expenses.

Advocates are available 24 hours a day to provide crisis intervention, options, assistance and referrals. Police reports are not necessary to receive services from an advocate, and services are free and confidential. Office hours are 8:00 - 5:00 Monday through Friday.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS
Services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

USF POLICE EMERGENCY 911 OR 974-2628
USF VICTIM ADVOCATE
24-Hr. Crisis Line 974-5757
Regular Office Number 974-5756
Location ADM 273
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CRISIS LINE 234-1234