



Transfer from SMC to USC for Engineering or Computer Science

Keep in Mind:

If you meet the minimum requirements, you can apply to transfer after one year!

There is no minimum GPA to apply.

Completing all GE Classes is not required or recommended.

Engineering classes are not required or recommended.

Recommended Preparation at SMC Includes:

Courses listed below can be in progress at the point of application submission.

1. Two math courses (either calculus or higher-level math beyond calculus) after high school with a *minimum of your Calculus II equivalent listed below*:
 - a. SMC equivalent to Calculus II: MATH 8
2. Two Chemistry or Calc-Based Physics Courses*
 - a. For Chemistry, Start with CHEM 11
 - b. For Physics, start with PHYSCS 21 with PHYSCS 23
 - c. Computer Science Applicants may take C++ Programming classes in lieu of science courses if they prefer***
3. USC Writing Requirement: ENGL 31*
4. Be enrolled in 4 classes/semester or 3 classes/quarter (strongly recommended). This is best represented as a calculus class, a science or programming class, a writing class, and a General Education equivalent.
5. Continued Academic Rigor and progress toward the intended degree are expected if a student has completed the minimum requirements

*Effective fall 2022, lab science courses should be taken in the traditional classroom format, not online/hybrid.

** Substitute Course(s) may exist at your institution. Please refer to the articulation agreement for details.

*** Computer science students may take programming courses instead of, or in addition to, lab-based science courses. While programming courses very rarely transfer for course-equivalent credit at USC, they can be good preparation for placement exams. If a student does well enough on a placement exam for a particular course at USC, the student may be able to waive that course requirement. More info at viterbi.link/programming.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our coursework recommendations are dependent on each student's individual academic plan and may vary by intended degree. Please consult our transfer webpage for specific course plans by major. We are happy to provide individual advisement via email should you need to confirm current or future coursework is on track to meet our minimum requirements.

See more at:

viterbiadmission.usc.edu/transfer

Questions: email us at vadmit@usc.edu or call us at 213-600-9919

This document was last updated in September 2026. All information and course listings have been compiled according to USC articulation agreements or histories. Although every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information found herein, the most up-to-date articulation websites/databases should be considered the authority for course equivalencies at your institution. Information in the articulation databases supersedes any information which may be contained in this or any other publication of any school or department.