USC | ANNENBERG
School for Communication & Journalism

USC | DANA *and* DAVID
DORNSIFE COLLEGE
of LETTERS, ARTS *and* SCIENCES

Master of Public Diplomacy
Graduate Application Guidelines and Instructions for Fall 2012

Program Description

The Master of Public Diplomacy draws from two of the most prestigious professional schools at USC – the Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism and the School of International Relations. These schools are members of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA) which are the primary sources of education for international affairs professionals in their respective countries.

All APSIA member schools prepare students for the global workplace of the 21st Century by combining multidisciplinary, policy-oriented, intercultural studies with career development. The APSIA schools are proud of their reputations for producing diverse, well-educated and sophisticated international affairs professionals, many of whom hold leadership positions in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors throughout the United States and the world.

The two year program at USC is designed for recent college/university graduates with international studies experience, foreign language skills and a passion for diplomacy. The one-year program is designed for professional diplomats.

Application Deadline and Filing Period

Admission to the *two-year* program is limited to the fall term. The application deadline is **December 15**. Admission to the *one-year* program is limited to the summer term. The application filing period is **December 15 – April 1**.

Application Process

1) Go to *www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/apply/* and complete the online USC Graduate Admission Application. You must upload the following materials before submitting your application:
   - ◻ Statement of Purpose
   - ◻ Writing Sample
   - ◻ Professional Résumé
   - ◻ Non-refundable application fee

2) Request letters of recommendation
   - ◻ Three letters of recommendation required

3) Mail the following materials to
   University of Southern California
   Office of Graduate Admission
   3601 South Flower Street, Room 112
   Los Angeles, CA 90089-0911:
   - ◻ Official transcripts from all colleges/ universities attended, including from study abroad programs
   - ◻ Confidential statement of financial support (international applicants only)

4) Request to have your admission tests reported electronically to USC (institution code 4852)
   - ◻ Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test
   - ◻ TOEFL scores (international applicants only)

Admission Testing

All applicants must submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores.

International applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency. USC will waive the English proficiency requirement for international applicants who hold a recognized Bachelor's degree from the following countries: United States, United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, or Canada (except Quebec).

Students who have studied in other countries are not exempted from the English-proficiency requirement, even if English was the medium of instruction at their previous school. If the English proficiency requirement is not waived, applicants must submit TOEFL scores; the minimum recommended score is 114-115 (IBT). For more details pertinent to international students, refer to www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/international/application.html.

Plan to complete all admission testing at least one month prior to the application deadline.

Statement of Purpose

Focus your two- to four-page statement on answering the following questions:

- Why do you want to pursue the Master of Public Diplomacy at USC?
- With whom do you want to study and why?
- How will you utilize your training in Public Diplomacy after receiving your Master's degree?

Writing Sample

Upload one 10 – 25 page academic paper.

Résumé

Submit a current resume listing positions held, including internships, nature of work and dates of employment. Include academic and professional awards, honors, association memberships, teaching experience, subject matter expertise, language(s) other than English, and your familiarity with any research or communications technologies, e.g. Web design, television production, spreadsheets, etc., Indicate your proficiency level for each skill and area of expertise (E = expert, C = competent, F = familiar).

Letters of Recommendation

Select individuals familiar with you, your work and your potential for success in graduate studies in public diplomacy. For the two-year program, faculty recommendations are preferred. For the one-year program, professional references from managers or supervisors are expected. If you provide recommenders' e-mail addresses on the online application, they will receive online recommendation forms.

Estimated Cost of Attendance 2011-2012

$ 28,400	Tuition and fees (8 – 14 units per semester)
$ 15,800	Room and board
$ 1,008	Books and supplies
$ 1,828	Personal and miscellaneous
$ 2,295	Transportation
$ 35	USC Orientation Fee for your first semester
$600	Mandatory fees
$ 49,966	Total

Financial Aid

Limited departmental scholarships, assistantships and project associate assignments are awarded competitively to domestic and international applicants based on the completed graduate admission application. Plan to seek and apply for outside scholarships; begin researching opportunities at *www.fastweb.com*.

U.S. citizens and permanent residents may apply for need-based federal financial aid. Visit the USC Financial Aid Web site at *www.usc.edu/admission/fa/applying_receiving/graduates/* for information about need-based federal financial aid.

International applicants must provide proof of ability to pay tuition and living expenses before an I-20 can be issued. For more information, refer to the USC Graduate & International Admission Web site at *www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/international/application.html*.

Prospective Graduate Student Campus Visits

Graduate information sessions are held on campus throughout the academic year. In addition, the Annual Prospective Graduate Student Visit Day program will be held on November 11, 2011. To make a reservation for this program, or to find out more information about other events for prospective graduate students, visit our Web site at *www.annenberg.usc.edu/Prospective/VisitandSched.aspx*.

Questions

Contact Annenberg Admissions via e-mail at ascadm@usc.edu or by phone: 213.821.0770.

USC Annenberg Admissions Office
3502 Watt Way, Suite 140
Los Angeles CA 90089-0281
ATTN: Master of Public Diplomacy