

# USC Annenberg

School for Communication  
and Journalism

## DEGREE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The online Master of Communication Management teaches students to understand communication's centrality in human activity today, across complex, global, technology-fueled contexts. Students learn how to shape communication dynamics and use communication to impact professional and organization success, through critical skills in thinking, writing, and presenting. Students are admitted fall, spring and summer. Full-time enrollees may complete the degree in as few as 16 months.

## When is the application deadline?

Application deadlines are unique to each term. Please consult with an enrollment advisor to obtain current deadlines: **(213) 284-7976**

The online Master of Communication Management admits year-round and admission decisions are released on a rolling basis.

## What should I include in my résumé?

List all internships and paid employment *separately*. Describe the nature of work and dates of employment. Include academic and professional awards, honors, teaching experience, subject matter expertise, and language(s) proficiency other than English.

## What is the personal statement, and what should I address?

This statement should convey your interest in the field and be at least 1-2 pages long, typed, and double-spaced. Care should be taken to submit a clear, concise, and well-written essay. Writing is a core competency for the Master of Communication Management, and the personal statement should reflect this. The statement should answer the following questions:

1. How will a degree in Communication Management enhance your professional development? What skill sets are you looking to develop through your graduate studies?
2. How have your academic and/or professional work experiences influenced your decision to pursue a graduate degree in Communication Management at USC Annenberg?
3. What will you contribute to the Master of Communication Management program?

## Application Guidelines

Go to <https://usc.liasoncas.com> to apply.

Contact an enrollment advisor today to start the application process: **(213) 284-7976**

Upload official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended (including USC) to the Academic History section of the application.

- Include the legend for domestic institutions and the grading scale for international institutions.
- International transcripts should include the original language and the English translation as one document.
- Do not upload transcripts from your student portal.

Upload the following documents before submitting your application:

- CV/ Résumé
- Personal Statement
- Writing Sample

## Official Transcripts

After receiving your USC ID\*, mail official transcripts (original language and English translation) from all colleges and universities attended and any study abroad programs to:

USC Office of Graduate Admission  
Attn: MCM Transcripts  
50 Northwest Point Blvd, 5th Floor  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1032

\*USC Graduate Admission will send your USC ID via email 2-3 days after you submit your online graduate admission application.

All program materials must be submitted online with the application in English. Once the application has been submitted, you may not upload or change any program materials. Once submitted, all materials and documents become the property of USC and will not be returned.

## What type of writing sample is required?

The writing may take various forms: a report for your organization, press releases for clients, news articles, a set of substantial memos to your superiors successfully arguing for a particular position, or an academic paper for a college or university course. The writing sample should not exceed 10 pages.

## How many letters of recommendation are needed, and from whom?

Submit two letters of recommendation. One recommendation should be from an instructor, and the other should be from a professional reference (direct supervisor or manager, not peers or co-workers). Select your recommenders based less on their rank, but rather more on their ability to give in-depth insights about the quality of your work. If you are unable to obtain both an academic and a professional recommendation, two of the same type (i.e., two academic recommendations or two professional recommendations) are acceptable.

## What test scores must I submit to apply?

Valid GRE scores are required from applicants who do not qualify for a waiver. GMAT scores will be accepted in lieu of GRE. When required, international applicants must submit valid TOEFL or IELTS scores.

## What if English is not my first language?

The online Master of Communication Management is a rigorous program that demands written and verbal English language proficiency. Applicants with significant international coursework may be required to complete an interview as part of the admission process.

## What financial support is available?

For information about financing your USC graduate education, U.S. citizens and permanent resident applicants may visit USC Financial Aid at <http://www.usc.edu/admission/fa>. The Master of Communication Management is a Yellow Ribbon designated degree program.

International applicants will find critical information at <http://gradadm.usc.edu/international-students-financial-documentation>.

## What are the opportunities to meet faculty, current students and admissions officers?

Annenberg regularly hosts webinars and Q&A sessions about the online program and provides many opportunities to visit campus and meet with faculty, staff, and admissions officers. Please contact an enrollment advisor to learn more about these opportunities: **(213) 284-7976**

## Recommendations

Create online profiles in the Program Materials section of the application by providing names and email addresses of your recommenders. Your recommenders will be sent instructions on how to submit a recommendation. USC Annenberg only accepts online recommendations.

## Testing Requirements

Valid test scores must be reported electronically from the testing agency to USC (code 4852 for GRE and TOEFL; 389-QS-87 for GMAT. For IELTS, select University of Southern California Graduate Programs).

- GRE and GMAT scores are valid if taken within the past 5 years.
- International applicants must submit valid TOEFL or IELTS scores; scores are valid if taken within the past 2 years.
- International applicants who completed their *entire* undergraduate degree in the United States or another Anglophone country where English is both the language of instruction and the only official language of the country are exempt from submitting TOEFL or IELTS scores. Completing a graduate degree in an Anglophone county does not exempt you from submitting TOEFL or IELTS scores.
- Complete all admission testing as early as possible, and no later than one month prior to the application deadline.

## Application Fee

Pay the **\$90** non-refundable application fee with a credit card or request an application fee waiver prior to submitting an application. Fee waiver requirements may be found at USC Graduate Admission website <http://gradadm.usc.edu/lightboxes/us-students-fee-waivers/>.