



UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA



GRADUATE STUDENT GUIDE

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WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear USF Graduate Students,

As Dean and Associate Dean of the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS), we are very pleased to provide you with this Graduate Student Life Guide. We know that graduate education represents a major transition for many of you, and we hope the information in this guide facilitates your integration into the university and the Tampa Bay region. We hope you will find it extremely useful not only in navigating the various on-campus elements that comprise your graduate education, but also for the insights it provides about various offices, activities and assistance that exist throughout the greater Tampa Bay region.

I do hope that, as graduate students, you know you are very much valued by the university, and we strongly encourage you to become active with the **Graduate and Professional Student Council** and more. With interests that differ to a degree from undergraduates, your voices need to be heard. We hope you will make an impact in your departments, colleges and the OGS. The OGS staff and leadership are squarely focused on service, leadership and research, and we are here to partner with you, your departments and colleges to prepare you to be global leaders.

Hopefully, you will continue to find this guide useful as a reference through the various steps of your graduate education. Please take the time to visit the **Office of Graduate Studies** often and routinely consult our website. As outlined in the guide, this website contains a wealth of detailed information related to many issues critical to student success.

In closing, let us welcome you again to the University of South Florida and the Office of Graduate Studies, as well as to your college and department. We are so pleased that you have joined our dynamic community of graduate scholars.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dwayne Smith

Senior Vice Provost and OGS Dean

Dr. Ruth Huntley Bahr

OGS Associate Dean

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Established in 1956, the University of South Florida is a high-impact global research university dedicated to student success. Our school is situated in the vibrant and diverse Tampa Bay region, with campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Sarasota. Serving more than 50,000 students, USF has an annual budget of more than \$1.8 billion and an annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion. In 2018, the Florida Board of Governors designated the USF System as a Preeminent State Research University, placing us in the most elite category among the state's 12 public universities.

Our graduate programs continue to number among the best, according to U.S. News & World Report, with 13 programs ranking in the top 50 in 2021. We strive to make these stellar programs affordable and offer a number of assistantships, fellowships and grants to help graduate students fund their degrees.

Quick Facts

- USF offers more than 150 degree programs at the master's, specialist and doctoral levels, including the Doctor of Medicine.
- USF is one of only five Florida public universities classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in the top tier of research universities, a distinction attained by only 3 percent of all universities.
- USF has ranked in the top 10 among public universities for U.S. patents granted for the past ten years (2010–2019).
- In 2018-19, USF had more than \$405 million in total research expenditures.
- USF graduate-level programs continue to be ranked among the best according to the 2021 U.S. News and World Report (USNWR) Graduate School Rankings. USF graduate programs in the top 50 include:
 - Industrial and Organizational Psychology (#2)
 - Public Health (#16)
 - Audiology (#18)
 - Criminology (#22)
 - Engineering: Environmental/Environmental Health (#35)
 - Medical: Research (#47)
 - Nursing: Master's (#47)
 - Nursing: Doctor of Nursing Practice (#48)
 - Physical Therapy (#49)
 - Engineering: Industrial/Manufacturing Systems (#49)
- USF is ranked among the best in the 2020 U.S. News and World Report (USNWR) Online Education Program rankings. USF online graduate programs ranked in the top 50 include:
 - Information Technology (#10)
 - Engineering (#23)
 - Engineering Management (#6)
- The Morsani College of Medicine class of 2023 is one of USF's most selective incoming medical student cohort to date, with an average MCAT score of 515, it places among the 93rd percentile of all medical schools in the country.
- USF ranked 1st in Florida and 4th among all four-year U.S institutions in the 2020 Military Times Best: Colleges.
- USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference.

TAMPA BAY REGION

The Tampa Bay region on Florida's Gulf Coast is a thriving metropolitan area with more than 3 million residents. There are numerous attractions to explore including, social and sports venues, performance halls, museums, theaters, zoos and wildlife venues, amusement parks, shopping locations and exceptional dining.

Attractions

Below are a few highlights of area attractions. For more highlights, see our [Gulf Coast Visitor Guide](#).

- **Busch Gardens**
- **Adventure Island**
- **The Florida Aquarium**
- **Zoo Tampa at Lowry Park**
- **The Dali Museum**
- **Florida Museum of Photographic Arts**
- **Glazer Children's Museum**
- **Museum of Science & Industry (MOSI)**
- **Tampa Museum of Art**
- **Tampa Bay History Center**

Sports Teams

- **USF Bulls**
- **Tampa Bay Buccaneers (Football)**
- **Tampa Bay Rays (Baseball)**
- **Tampa Bay Lightning (Hockey)**
- **Tampa Bay Rowdies (Soccer)**



Beaches

Below are just a few of the beautiful beaches in the Tampa Bay area. For a complete list, see the [Visit Tampa Bay website](#).

- **Caladesi Island State Park**
- **Clearwater Beach**
- **Ft. DeSoto Park**
- **Honeymoon Island State Park**
- **Anna Maria Island**
- **Siesta Key**
- **Madeira Beach**
- **Pass-a-Grille Beach**
- **St. Pete Beach**
- **Treasure Island Beach**

Newspapers

- **The Oracle, the Tampa campus student newspaper**
- **The Crow's Nest, the St. Petersburg campus student newspaper**
- **Tampa Bay Times**



GETTING STARTED AT USF

USF NetID and USF Email Address

The NetID is your user ID at the university. When you **create your USF NetID**, it also activates your official USF student email account with Gmail. The email address assigned will start with your NetID and end with @usf.edu. With Gmail, you have unlimited storage and access to Google Apps.

USF Portal

MyUSF is USF's student service portal. It provides single sign-on access to your email account and a variety of online services including:

- **Canvas:** an online learning platform that enables you to complete class assignments, read course documents, post discussions, communicate with classmates, access student organization information and check email. Many professors use this site to communicate noteworthy information to their students.
- **OASIS:** USF's Online Access Student Information System (OASIS) is an online portal that offers access to your student records, personal information and more. This is where you will go to pay bills, view financial aid, register for classes, see your grades and perform many other important tasks. You can access OASIS by visiting the MyUSF portal.

Wi-Fi Access

Wi-Fi is available in nearly all academic buildings and many outdoor areas. Users can use Wi-Fi-compatible devices anywhere service is provided. This service is provided free of charge to USF students, faculty and staff. For security purposes, you must **register your device** before using the Wi-Fi network. Within two minutes of registering, you will be able to use your mobile device on the network.

Technology Help

The Information Technology Service Desk offers assistance via phone, Internet, email or in person. Service Desk teams provide support for MyUSF, student email accounts, remote connections to USF resources, enterprise business systems and more. Standard business hours are Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Phone: 813-974-1222

Email: help@usf.edu

Online: www.usf.edu/it/about-us/helpdesk.aspx

Service Centers: Tampa Campus Library (LIB 117) and The WELL (MDA 1084)

Students at the St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee campuses can access the main Information Technology Service Desk in Tampa or contact their campus-specific help desks:

St. Petersburg Campus Technology Services Help Desk:

Monday through Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Bayboro Hall 226

727-873-4357

Sarasota-Manatee Campus Technology Services

Help Desk:

Monday through Friday 8 a.m.–7:30 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m.–2 p.m.

Room A303

941-359-4350



CAMPUS GUIDE:

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

TAMPA CAMPUS

VISITING CAMPUS

Campus Map

Learn how to get here, how to get around and where to park with our detailed [campus map](#).

Visitor Accommodations

Hotels are conveniently located within a mile of USF. They include:

Quality Inn & Conference Center

2701 E. Fowler Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-971-4710

Embassy Suites Tampa

3705 Spectrum Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-977-7066

Holiday Inn & Suites Tampa N - Busch Gardens Area

11310 N. 30th St.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-971-7690

Holiday Inn Express Tampa N I-75 - University Area

13294 Telecom Drive
Tampa, Florida 33637
813-972-9800

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Tampa—USF-Busch Gardens

2807 E. Busch Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-936-8200

Hyatt Place Tampa/Busch Gardens

11408 N. 30th St.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-979-1922

La Quinta Inn & Suites USF

3701 E. Fowler Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-910-7500

Wingate by Wyndham

3751 E. Fowler Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33612
813-867-2878



STUDENT SERVICES

Athletics

USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference and currently offers eight men's and nine women's NCAA-sanctioned sports. Students receive **free admission** to all USF sporting events including football and basketball.

Campus Recreation

Campus Recreation offers fitness centers, group fitness classes, personal training, adventure travel, intramural sports, outdoor recreation and family memberships.

Campus Safety

To ensure the safety of students on campus there are many services offered including: **University Police, Safe Team**, emergency telephones, **emergency text notifications** and more. Download the **USF Safe App** to report tips to USF Police, make emergency phone calls and access additional resources and services.

Center for Student Involvement (MSC 2306)

The Center for Student Involvement provides a variety of programs, services and activities to enhance the out-of-class experience. This includes a large number of student organizations, Homecoming, University Lecture Series and Movies on the Lawn.

Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention (SVC 2057)

The Center for Victim Advocacy provides free and confidential services for USF students and employees who have experienced crime, violence or abuse. Services include crisis intervention, court accompaniment, victim help line and assistance filing police reports and injunctions for protection.

The Counseling Center (SVC 2124)

The Counseling Center provides free counseling services, workshop, outreach and consultation services, as well as the Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA).



Dining Services (MSC 1502)

There are over 30 dining locations on campus providing a variety of meal options. USF dining also offers a **Graduate Student Meal Plan**.

Legal Aid Services (MSC 4300)

Free consultations with local attorneys are offered through USF Student Government.

Parking and Transportation (PSB 101)

Parking and Transportation Services maintains USF's parking and the USF Bull Runner transit system.

Religious and Spiritual Life (MSC 4301)

Religious and Spiritual Life at USF is a network of member faith communities that provide access to programs, services and activities that encourage a campus atmosphere of healthy religious and spiritual expression.

Students of Concern (SVC 2058)

The Students of Concern Assistance Team (SOCAT) helps with students who may be in distress or whose behavior is of concern to others. The team identifies and provides support to a student before more significant problems arise.

STUDENT SERVICES



Student Health Services (SHS 100)

Student Health Services provides a variety of services to students, including a general clinic with no out-of-pocket charge for seeing a doctor or a nurse. Students do not need health insurance to use SHS, but insurance is accepted. SHS provides services only to enrolled students.

Student Conduct and Ethical Development (ALN 109)

The Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development provides for the safety and well-being of the University environment. The office aids in the growth and development of a student as related to a student's behavior and serves as the management agency for the University Conduct System.

Students with Disabilities Services (SVC 1133)

The Students with Disabilities Services office arranges academic accommodations and provides resources for students with disabilities.

Veterans Services (ALN 130)

The Office of Veteran Success provides specialized programs and services to veterans, eligible dependents, active-duty service members and members of the Selected Reserve.

Textbooks

- **USF Bookstore**
- **BookHolders Bookstore**
- **Amazon**

Postal Services

The **USF Post Office** is located on campus on Holly Drive west of North Palm Avenue (across from the Marshall Student Center) and offers local and international mail services.

Mailing Address:

USF Post Office
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Ave. STOP PPA109
Tampa, FL 33620-9951

USF Traditions/Events

- **Homecoming**
Homecoming occurs every fall semester and features a week of festivities, including a carnival, parade and football game.
- **WOW (Week of Welcome)**
Week of Welcome activities take place throughout the first week of the fall and spring semesters. WOW events are open to all new and returning students. Look out for special graduate student events during WOW.



OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES STUDENT SERVICES

The Office of Graduate Student Affairs (GSA)/Diverse Student Success (DSS)

The Office of Graduate Student Services (GSS), within the Office of Graduate Studies, partners with the **Graduate Professional Student Council (GPSC)**, and works with faculty and departments to create a supportive environment for students through the following activities:

- Campus-wide partnerships that are focused on student success
- Graduate Student Success workshops to promote retention, time to degree and professional development
- Graduate student orientations for fellows and diverse students
- Campus visitations
- Graduate Fellowships and other financial aid

Diversity is highly valued at the University of South Florida and the Office of Graduate Studies. Consistent with the strategic plans of USF and the Office of Graduate Studies, the Office of Graduate Student Services (GSS) provides services and resources to a highly diverse graduate student population and is focused on individual student success toward the completion of the graduate degree. Initiatives toward these goals include:

- Individual guidance and advising
- Funding through Graduate Student Success Diversity Fellowships
- Cohort workshops to promote academic success
- Partnering with office of Research and Innovation for opportunities

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) is a USF office that supplements the role of the departments and schools in implementing policies and procedures related to the appointment, roles, requirements and responsibilities of all postdoctoral scholars. The office strives to foster a robust postdoctoral community, provide opportunities to enhance the postdoctoral experience, serve as a dedicated resource for postdoctoral scholars, faculty and administrators and promote the university's dynamic program of postdoctoral opportunities.

Graduate Assistants United (GAU)

The GAU is the labor union certified as the exclusive bargaining agent for graduate assistants at USF. Graduate students may be classified as Graduate Assistants (GAs), Graduate Teaching Assistants/Associates (GTAs), Graduate Instructional Assistants (GIAs), and/or Graduate Research Assistants/Associates (GRAs). All graduate assistants at USF work under a **contract negotiated by the Graduate Assistants United (GAU) and the USF Board of Trustees**. Students must be members of GAU to be represented by the union for employment grievances. Membership fees represent one percent of each paycheck.

Graduate Assistant Policies and Guidelines

The Office of Graduate Studies provides a **Graduate Assistant Handbook** outlining relevant policies and guidelines for graduate assistants.



COMPUTER LABS, STUDY SPACES & LIBRARY

The majority of USF graduate students do not live on campus. The Tampa campus has many places to work on projects, study or relax throughout the day and evening. Check out these places!

Computer Labs

Open Use Computer Labs are available to all USF students, faculty and staff with a valid NetID account. There is also printing available in these labs. In the Library Learning Commons (LIB 113), there are computers, scanners and wheelchair-accessible machines, as well as black-and-white and color printers. Other labs are located in the Marshall Student Center (MSC 1308 and 2308) and in the Office of Graduate Studies Lounge (ALN 209).

iTeach Lounge

Need a quiet place to bring your laptop and get some work done? Then head over to the College of Education and visit the iTeach Lounge on the second floor (EDU 252). You will find helpful staff available to help answer any tech-related questions. If they don't have the answer, they know where to find the resources you need.

Study Spaces

There are a number of study spaces available on campus. Check out the open study areas on the first and second floors of the Library. The Library also offers 13 small and two large group study rooms that may be reserved.

There is a Graduate Student Lounge located in the Office of Graduate Studies (ALN 209), which is equipped with snack and beverage machines, a microwave, computers and printers. The hours are Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

In the Marshall Student Center, there are group study rooms on the second floor and individual study areas in the fourth floor Quiet Lounge. Next to this lounge is the Skypad, offering drinks and snacks, laptop bars, lounge areas, study spaces and video game areas with big screen TVs. Additionally, there are study nooks all over the building.

Library

The University of South Florida Library at the Tampa campus offers a wide array of books, articles and other resources. USF's Library offers graduate students the following benefits:

- Check out up to 20 items for three weeks
- Self-checkout and online renewal
- Numerous online databases, journals and e-books that can be accessed remotely
- Interlibrary loan services to obtain items from non-USF libraries
- Open 24 hours a day most days of the week
- Quiet areas and group study rooms
- Presentation practice rooms
- A new collaborative learning lab with more than 300 computer workstations
- Scanners, printers and copiers
- Laptop computers for checkout (in-Library use)
- Wireless Internet available on all floors

The USF Library also offers research support services, including:

- Research subject guides online
- Research tutorials online
- Help with citing sources and creating a bibliography
- Librarians available (discipline specific) face-to-face and via phone, email, chat or text

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC)

Graduate students are represented by the Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC), which fosters interaction between graduate and professional students through community service, social and academic events. GPSC provides a voice for graduate and professional students by participating in university committees and

advocating on behalf of student interests to the administration.

Our Tampa campus also hosts more than 600 student organizations on campus. There's something for everyone. **Visit the BullSync site** to browse organizations and get involved.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

There are more than 2,000 international graduate students at USF. International students are supported by the **Office of International Services**, which assists with student visa, OPT, work visa and other related processes and documents.

Friends of Internationals provides support for international students and scholars, including free airport pickups, social events, sightseeing trips, assisting with sourcing furniture and more.

State ID Cards/Driver's License

To get a Florida state ID or a driver's license, visit the **Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles**. Specific documentation is required of non-U.S. citizens.

In general, you will need identification, proof of date of birth, proof of residential address, and proof of social security number. Before applying for a license or ID, be sure to review the **complete documentation requirements for non-U.S. citizens** and the **fees required to apply**.

Social Security Number

For further information on obtaining a social security number, **contact the International Services Office**.

U.S. Tax Information

If you work in the United States, taxes may be withheld from your paycheck. If you receive scholarships or fellowships from USF, part of the amounts you receive also may be taxable.

Even if you don't work in the United States, you are required to complete and file a U.S. tax return form if you are an F-1, F-2, J-1, or J-2 visa holder. Find out more about **how to file a tax return** on the International Services website.

Banking Information

International students generally need a social security number in order to open a bank account. Other requirements will vary by banking institution. At the **USF Federal Credit Union** on the Tampa campus, international students will need the following documents to open an account:

- Valid government ID or valid passport
- I-20 form/F1 visa/J1 visa
- A completed **W8 form**
- Apartment lease/rental agreement
- USF ID card
- Minimum balance of \$5 to open a savings account, \$25 to open a checking account

Foreign Currency

Foreign currency can be obtained at the Tampa International Airport or at **Florida Currency Exchange** in Westshore Plaza.

Wire Transfers

The USF Federal Credit Union provides wire transfer services to all its members.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION



Tuition and Fees

Visit the [USF Cashier's Office website](#) to learn how to pay your semester bill by eCheck, credit card, check/money order or international wire.

Graduate School Funding

USF is committed to helping you finance your graduate education. Check out these resources:

- [Fellowships & Scholarships](#)
- [Fulbright Scholarships](#)
- [Graduate Assistantships](#)
- [Graduate Student Research Funding](#)

Banking on Campus

The [USF Federal Credit Union](#) has two branches on the Tampa campus located in the Marshall Student Center and on USF Palm & Laurel Drive. There are several ATM machines across the campus as well.

USF Discounts

- The [USF Computer Store](#) offers software and service discounts to students.
- USF's [Campus Recreation Center](#) offers students free use of gym equipment and a variety of free exercise programs.
- Make use of [USF discounts](#) at participating restaurants and stores.
- Use your USF ID to ride for free on the Bull Runner (buses on campus) and HART (city buses in Tampa).
- Looking for free entertainment? Check out the [USF student calendar](#) for concerts, exhibitions, plays, lecture series, movie nights and more.

HOUSING

On Campus

Housing and Residential Education serves both graduate and undergraduate students at the Tampa campus. Graduate students are eligible to live on campus in any residence hall available to upperclassmen, including suite and apartment housing options. Housing assignments are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Off Campus — Affiliated Properties

Housing and Residential Education has formal affiliation agreements with several off-campus properties. These properties offer an enjoyable residential experience, are in close proximity to the Tampa campus, and all or most of the affiliated communities consist primarily, but not exclusively, of USF students in good standing.

- **4050 Lofts**
- **University LinQ**
- **Venue at North Campus**

Off Campus — Other Properties

Through a contractual agreement with Off-Campus Partners, USF Student Government provides an **off-campus housing service**. While this list does not constitute endorsement of any rental property, the service helps students, faculty and staff find safe and comfortable living arrangements near the Tampa campus of USF.

Neighboring Towns and Communities

The Tampa Bay area offers a multitude of diverse residential communities where graduate students may choose to live.

Hillsborough County Locations

- **Brandon:** Located in southeastern Hillsborough County, Brandon is approximately **17 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **25- to 30-minute commute**. Convenient location and plentiful shopping make Brandon a favorite for families. Brandon provides easy access to both Tampa and Orlando, and it is one of the Tampa Bay area's rapidly growing communities. Formerly a mostly rural area, Brandon is quickly becoming a place of refuge for city dwellers seeking a little peace in a convenient



location. Brandon boasts strip centers, a regional mall and a variety of neighborhoods.

- **Carrollwood:** Located in West Tampa, Carrollwood is approximately **8 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **20- to 25-minute commute**. It is an unincorporated, planned community in northwest Hillsborough County. It was one of the first planned communities in Florida and the first in Hillsborough County. It remains one of the most popular places to live within suburban Tampa because of its proximity to the city compared to newer developments. Occupying about 10 square miles, Carrollwood is 7 miles northwest of downtown Tampa.
- **Channelside District:** Near downtown Tampa, Channelside District is approximately **13 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **25- to 30-minute commute**, and **22 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **30- to 32-minute commute**. The USF Health Morsani College of Medicine, Taneja College of Pharmacy and Heart Institute (MDD) is located nearby as well. The Channelside District offers urban luxury at its best with a location where you can work and play in an upscale way. New condominium developments offer luxury lofts, office space and retail space in the heart of this vibrant area. There are also a host of fine restaurants, or you can hop on the TECO Street Car and head to Ybor City for even more dining and nightlife.

HOUSING

- **Citrus Park:** Located in West Tampa, Citrus Park is approximately **11 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **25- to 30-minute commute**, and **29 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **35- to 40-minute commute**. You will find a variety of home styles and an easy commute to just about any part of Tampa. Starter homes are available, as well as large, luxurious estate homes. Citrus Park is just minutes from Tampa International Airport, the Westshore business district and downtown Tampa. In town, you will find Westfield Shopping Town, with over 1 million square feet of shops and a 20-screen Cineplex. In addition to its great location, Citrus Park benefits include lakes, parks and sports facilities.
- **Lutz:** Located in northern Tampa, Lutz is approximately **9 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **15- to 20-minute commute**. Lutz's 100 lakes are just one reason why its residents are so proud of the community's balance of country comforts with urban growth. Not only is the area conveniently located near major highways (I-275, Veteran's Expressway, Dale Mabry), it also is peppered with beautiful Florida scenery, a welcome break from city congestion. Among the lakes and groves, you'll find an array of custom homes in rapidly growing communities. Most neighborhoods in the Lutz area are gated for security and privacy.
- **New Tampa:** Approximately **8 miles north of the Tampa campus**, or a **15- to 20-minute commute**, New Tampa spans 24 square miles and is a fast-growing community located in northern Hillsborough and southern Pasco Counties. New Tampa real estate is known for its master-planned communities, designed with recreation and leisure in mind. From sports and swimming facilities to nature trails, residents enjoy a variety of recreational activities right within their communities, or they venture just a short drive to great attractions.
- **Riverview:** Near Brandon, Riverview is approximately **22 miles north of the Tampa campus**, or a **30-minute commute**. Riverview has convenient access to city amenities in a great suburban setting. From golf to conservation areas, residents enjoy natural beauty, resources and activities within a short trip from town. Nearby are the bubbling natural springs of Lithia Springs State Park and the meandering Alafia River, which empties into Tampa Bay and affords residents direct access to the Gulf of Mexico. Fishing, surfing, boating, kayaking, waterskiing and diving are just minutes away from Riverview.
- **Seminole Heights:** A historic Tampa neighborhood, Seminole Heights is approximately **20 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **25-minute commute**. Seminole Heights is known for its bungalow architecture. A number of residential and commercial properties have been renovated recently. Several restaurants, antiques shops, a day spa and fitness club are among the amenities in the area.
- **South Tampa:** Approximately **20 miles north of the Tampa campus**, or a **30-minute commute**, and **16 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **25-minute commute**, South Tampa is one of the area's oldest and best-preserved communities. Located near the water, it offers a host of recreational activities just minutes from downtown shopping, dining and entertainment. Several of South Tampa's neighborhoods boast beautifully preserved historic homes from the 1920s in an array of architectural styles. Known for its water views, South Tampa is home to many of the region's most exclusive estate neighborhoods.
- **Wesley Chapel:** Approximately **10 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **25-minute commute**, Wesley Chapel is north of New Tampa, where undeveloped land and citrus fields are rapidly giving way to beautiful master-planned communities and golf courses. The lower tax rates in Pasco County are an added incentive for many residents to choose Wesley Chapel.
- **Westchase:** Approximately **16 miles from the Tampa campus**, or a **35- to 40-minute commute**, and **30 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **40-minute commute**, Westchase is a quiet and convenient community near the Hillsborough/Pinellas County line. West Park Village Town Center and West Chase Square provide residents with convenient retail shopping, markets, cafés, banks, restaurants, professional offices, daycare and preschools. Westchase residents also enjoy easy access to Citrus Park Mall and the Tampa International Airport.

TRANSPORTATION

Parking

Parking permits are required and are valid in designated areas. Other parking options include hourly or daily parking and park-and-ride (available in lots 18 & 43 only). Graduate assistants can apply for a limited number of E-staff parking permits and can pay for their parking permits (either annual non-resident S-student or annual E-staff) through payroll deduction.

Cars

Emergency jump-start service is available free of charge to USF students. To access this service, call 813-974-8040. For after-hours emergency or safety needs, contact the University Police at 813-974-2628.

If you drive an **electric vehicle, USF offers five electric vehicle (EV) charging stations** as part of the ChargePoint Network.

If you need to renew or transfer your driver's license, take a driving test or register a motor vehicle, etc. there are several **locations of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in Hillsborough County.**

Bicycles

Bicycles are a great, cost-saving transportation option, and they are welcome on campus! USF even offers a bike-share service called **Share-A-Bull**. There are several bike racks located throughout the campus and bicycle permits are available free of cost. Bull Runner buses are equipped with bike carriers.

USF's Bull Runner

This free shuttle service makes getting around campus easy! The shuttle also provides transportation to some off-campus housing locations and shopping areas such as Walmart and the University Mall. Students are required to use their ID cards when riding the shuttle.

Alternative Transportation Options

There are multiple alternative transportation options to and from campus, including:

- **Carpooling**
- **Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Ridematching**
- **Zimride**

HART Buses

USF students ride **HART buses** for free. Simply show your USF ID card when boarding the bus.

Train/Amtrak

The **Tampa Amtrak station** is located at 601 N. Nebraska Ave., Tampa, Florida 33602.

Air Travel

- **Tampa**
The nearest major airport is **Tampa International Airport (TPA)**, which is serviced by over a dozen major airlines. Tampa International is approximately 30 minutes from the Tampa campus.
- **Orlando**
Another option is **Orlando International Airport (MCO)**, which is serviced by over 30 airlines. Orlando International is approximately two hours from the Tampa campus.
- **St. Petersburg/Clearwater**
For some destinations, you may want to consider the **St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport (PIE)**, located approximately 45 minutes from the Tampa campus.

Airport Transportation

Need a ride to and/or from the airport from your apartment/home? Check with **SuperShuttle** for their 24-hour airport service.

RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Religious and Spiritual Life at USF hosts more than a **dozen organizations from a wide variety of religious traditions** that serve the student body at USF. Each organization commits to a set of guidelines that serve to protect the students at USF and facilitate their spiritual development.

HOSPITALS & HEALTH CARE

On Campus

USF has the following health care services and resources available on our Tampa campus:

- **The Carol and Frank Morsani Center for Advanced Healthcare**
- **Moffitt Cancer Center**
- **Student Health Services**
- **Wellness Centers**

Off Campus

There are a number of health care facilities in the Tampa Bay area that cater to ongoing health needs, as well as emergencies.

- **Tampa General Hospital**
- **AdventHealth**
- **BayCare**
- **Brandon Regional Hospital**
- **Shriners Children's Hospital**
- **Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital**



PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

Childcare on Campus

USF offers on-campus childcare options, including:

- **USF Preschool for Creative Learning**

Public Schools

Education in the United States is provided primarily by the public sector, and child education is obligatory. Education is divided into three levels:

- **Elementary School** – Offers primary education and does not always include preschool education. Typically, students attend elementary school from kindergarten to 5th grade (five to six years).
- **Middle School** – It is also known as junior high school, and it was created to bridge the gap between elementary and high school. The grades included in middle school are 6th-8th (three years).
- **High School** – It is also known as secondary education. The grades included in high school are 9th-12th (four years).

Students attend the school that is designated for their

place of residence. Below are the links to find the schools that correspond to your area of residence:

- **Hillsborough County**
- **Pasco County**
- **Pinellas County**



RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

USF and the Office of Graduate Studies provide a variety of opportunities and services related to research support and professional development.

- **Electronic Thesis Dissertation (ETD)**
- **Sponsored Research Funding Sources**
- **Graduate Student Applied Research Network**
- **Office of Research and Innovation**

Workshops

The Office of Graduate Studies **professional development services aim** aims to assist graduate students with skills acquisition in the areas of writing, research and networking. Workshops are scheduled throughout the academic year and focus on a variety of topics, including navigating the Office of Graduate Studies, writing for success and finding research funding. Workshop partners include the USF Writing Studio, the Office of Sponsored Research and USF faculty.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Colleges and Academic Programs

Arts & Sciences	813-974-6957
Behavioral & Community Sciences	813-974-4602
Business	813-974-4281
Education	813-974-3400
Engineering	813-974-3780
Global Sustainability	813-974-8368
Graduate Studies	813-974-2846
Marine Science	727-553-1634
Medicine	813-396-9459
Nursing	813-974-2191
Public Health	813-974-3623
The Arts	813-974-2301

University Departments

Athletics	813-974-2125
Bookstore	813-974-2631
Campus Recreation	813-974-7084
Card Center (Student ID's)	813-974-2357
Career Services	813-974-2171
Cashiers – University Controller's Office	813-974-6056
Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement	813-974-7595
Center for Student Involvement	813-974-1001
Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention	813-974-5756
Counseling Center	813-974-2831
Dean for Students	813-974-6677
Dining Services/Meal Plans	813-974-4499
Financial Aid	813-974-4700
Graduate Studies	813-974-2846
Housing & Residential Education	813-974-0001
Immunization Records/Medical Records Forms	813-974-4056
Information Technology	813-974-4357
International Services	813-974-5102
Library	813-974-2729
Marshall Student Center Front Desk	813-974-3180
Multicultural Affairs	813-974-5111
Oracle	813-974-1888
Parking & Transportation Services	813-974-3990
Police (USF Campus)	813-974-2628
Registrar's Office	813-974-2000
Student Affairs	813-974-5533
Student Government	813-974-2401
Student Health Services	813-974-2331
Student Ombudsman	813-974-0835
Student Conduct & Ethical Development	813-974-9443
Students with Disabilities Services	813-974-4309
SOCAT	813-974-6130
Tutoring Hub	813-974-2713
The Writing Studio	813-974-8293
Veterans Services	813-974-2291



CAMPUS GUIDE:

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

ST. PETERSBURG CAMPUS

VISITING CAMPUS

Campus Map

Learn how to get here, how to get around and where to park with our detailed [campus map](#).

Visitor Accommodations

Hotels are conveniently located in and around downtown St. Petersburg. Many offer discounts to visitors or new students. Local hotels include:

Staybridge Suites

940 Fifth Ave. S

St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

727-821-0777

Complimentary shuttle to campus

Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront

333 First St. SE

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

727-894-5000

Walking distance from campus

Courtyard St. Petersburg Downtown

300 Fourth St. N

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

727-450-6200

Complimentary shuttle to campus

The Cordova Inn

253 Second Ave. N

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

727-822-7500

About eight blocks from campus

Ponce de Leon Boutique Hotel

95 Central Ave.

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

727-550-9300

Hampton Inn & Suites St. Petersburg/Downtown

80 Beach Drive NE

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

727-892-9900

Comfort Inn & Suites Clearwater

3910 Ulmerton Road

Clearwater, Florida 33762

727-573-3334

St. Pete Beach Suites

6801 Sunset Way

St. Pete Beach, Florida 33706

727-360-7233

Holiday Inn St. Petersburg West

1200 34th St. N

St. Petersburg, Florida 33713

727-322-0770

STUDENT SERVICES

Athletics

USF students at the St. Petersburg campus enjoy all of the advantages of a large public university, including nationally-ranked NCAA football, men's basketball, women's softball and women's sailing. Students receive **free admission** to all USF sporting events.

Campus Recreation

Campus Recreation offers sailing, swimming and boating lessons; a fitness center; a 100-foot outdoor pool; a waterfront boathouse; group fitness classes; personal training; adventure travel; intramural sports; outdoor recreation and family memberships.

Campus Safety and Compliance

To ensure the safety of students on campus, there are many services offered including: **University Police**, emergency telephones, **emergency text notifications** and more. University Police Services also provides an evening escort to student vehicles. To request this service, students can call 727-873-4444.

Download the **USF SAFE App** to report tips to USF Police, make emergency phone calls, and access additional resources and services.

Wellness Center (SLC 2200)

All currently enrolled USF students at the St. Petersburg campus are eligible for free counseling and psychological services through the Wellness Center. Services include individual and couples counseling (up to 12 sessions), group therapy (unlimited sessions), consultations, psychological testing/screenings and strengths coaching. Students may also be referred to psychiatric services at the St. Petersburg campus for medication evaluation and management, diagnosis and treatment planning.

Counseling services are primarily by appointment, but the center offers some walk-in services for urgent needs or emergencies Monday-Wednesday and Friday, 8 p.m.-5 p.m., and Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Students can call 727-873-4422 (Option 2) to make an appointment or speak to an on-call counselor after hours.



Dining Services

On-campus dining locations provide a variety of meal options, including regional, international, home foods, and comfort foods, all with a focus on health and wellness. There are also specific dietary options.

Parking and Transportation (BAY 132)

Parking and Transportation Services maintains USF's parking and provides free motorist assistance (such as help with jump-starting vehicles) Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (except holidays). Call 727-873-4480 for assistance.

Student Outreach and Support (Piano Man Building, 101)

Student Outreach and Support (SOS) is a student-first, direct-care case management team that supports students in managing stress that impacts their academics and overall health and wellness. To contact SOS, call 727-873-4278.

Support, Outreach, and Care Action Team (Piano Man Building, 101)

The Support, Outreach and Care Action Team (SOCAT) is the St. Petersburg campus Behavioral Intervention Team and serves as an administrative, interdisciplinary team that assesses referrals, collaborates with SOS to develop action plans, and monitors red flag behaviors and concerning trends across the campus community. SOCAT enhances the well-being of students and helps create a safe learning environment.

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Health Services (SLC 2200)

Any registered USF student at the St. Petersburg campus is eligible to receive health care at the Wellness Center, which provides a variety of services, including treatment of minor acute illnesses, management of chronic illnesses, referrals to specialty care, prescriptions and testing for sexually transmitted infections. Preventive care includes contraceptive services, immunizations, physical exams, women's health and more.

Student Accessibility Services (SLC 1203)

The Student Accessibility Services office arranges academic accommodations and provides resources for students with disabilities. Students can contact SAS at 727-873-4990.

Military and Veterans Success Center (TER 301/302)

The Military and Veterans Success Center provides educational benefit programs and other supportive services to veterans, active-duty military, national guardsmen, reservists and eligible dependents enrolled at the St. Petersburg campus of USF. Students can contact the center at 727-873-4467.

Multicultural Affairs (SLC 1100)

The Office of Multicultural Affairs facilitates student engagement and development through educational programming, trainings, and workshops. Its mission is to cultivate an awareness and firm appreciation of all people through exposure of differences and similarities of culture, ideas and backgrounds regardless of age, ethnicity, race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, ability or physical qualities. Annual events include the MLK Parade, the Multicultural Banquet and the St. Pete Pride Parade.

Victim Advocacy Services (SLC 2200)

The Wellness Center at the St. Petersburg campus of USF offers free and confidential Victim Advocacy services to any student who has been the victim of a violent crime (i.e., date rape, assault, domestic violence). Services include emotional and academic support, campus and community referrals, court accompaniment, assistance with Title IX and legal processes, and addressing specific issues related to safety planning and relocation to prevent further victimization. Consultation services are available to all USF students at the St. Petersburg campus 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 727-873-4432

Textbooks

- [St. Petersburg campus Bookstore](#)
- [BookHolders Bookstore](#)
- [Amazon](#)

Postal Services

The St. Petersburg campus of USF offers mail service for on-campus residents. Students can receive mail and packages at the University Student Center front desk. To send packages, students can use the drop boxes on First Street S.

Mailing address:
(Your Correct Legal Name)
(Your Mailbox Number)
200 Sixth Ave. S
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701



STUDENT SERVICES



St. Petersburg Campus Traditions/Events

- **Week of Welcome** provides each student an opportunity to start the semester off right with signature programs and engaging activities.
- **Screen on the Green** offers a chance for students to hang out and watch one of the latest movies on Harbor lawn, with popcorn and drinks included.
- **USF Homecoming Superbull** is a weeklong celebration of USF pride and Bull spirit.

The Office of Graduate Studies (PNM 102)

The Office of Graduate Studies offers a wealth of resources and services, including test prep courses, new student orientations, guidelines for thesis submissions and more. The office can be contacted at 727-873-4567 or usfsp-gradstudies@usf.edu.

St. Petersburg Graduate Council

The Graduate Council's responsibilities include advising the Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs on the development of future graduate programs of the St. Petersburg campus of USF.

Graduate Assistants United (GAU)

The GAU is the labor union certified as the exclusive bargaining agent for graduate assistants at the St. Petersburg campus of USF. Graduate students may be classified as Graduate Assistants (GAs), Graduate Teaching Assistants/Associates (GTAs), Graduate Instructional Assistants (GIAs), and/or Graduate Research Assistants/Associates (GRAs). All graduate assistants at the St. Petersburg campus of USF work under a **contract negotiated by GAU and the USF Board of Trustees**. Students must be members of GAU to be represented by the union for employment grievances. Membership fees represent one percent of each paycheck.

COMPUTER LABS, STUDY SPACES & LIBRARY

The St. Petersburg campus of USF has many places to work on projects, study or relax throughout the day and evening. Check out these places!

Computer Labs

Open-use computer labs provide students access to computers, university licensed software and printing services. A USF NetID may be required to log into lab computers. Computer labs are intended only for currently enrolled students with a USF Net ID.

Computers and color printing are available in the Information Commons (located on the first floor of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library); computers and black-and-white printing are available at the Debbie Nye Sembler Student Success Center (located in DAV 107); and computers without printing services are available at Campus Computing (located in Bay 226). The St. Petersburg campus also offers a virtual computer lab.



Study Spaces

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library offers study zones on the first floor (intended for group work), the second floor (intended for quiet group or individual work) and the third floor (a silent study space for individuals). There are also 16 study rooms available on a first-come, first-served basis. Keys to the study rooms may be checked out at the circulation desk.

Library

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library offers a wide array of books, articles and other resources. The Library offers graduate students the following benefits:

- Check out up to 100 items, for four months (with shorter due dates for certain items such as recreational reading, audiobooks, etc.)
- Self-checkout and online renewal
- Numerous online databases, journals and e-books that can be accessed remotely
- Interlibrary loan services to obtain items from non-USF libraries
- Quiet areas and group study rooms
- Student technology center
- Academic computing helpdesk
- Laptop computers for checkout (in-library use)
- Wireless internet available on all floors

The USF Library also offers research support services, including:

- One-on-one **appointments** for research help
- Research **subject guides** online
- Help with citing sources and creating a bibliography
- Librarians available via walk-ins, appointments, phone, email or chat.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The St. Petersburg campus of USF hosts more than 100 **student clubs and organizations** on campus. There's something for everyone. **Visit the PeteSync site** to browse organizations and get involved.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

There are more than 2,000 international graduate students across all three USF campus locations.. International students are supported by the St. Petersburg campus's **International Student Services** (PNM 102), which assists with student visas, enrollment requirements, employment and other related processes and documents. Contact International Student Services at +1 727-873-4313.

The **International Club** at the St. Petersburg campus also provides support to international students who are far from home.

State ID Cards/Driver's License

To get a Florida state ID or a driver's license, visit the **Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles**. Specific documentation is required of non-U.S. citizens.

In general, you will need identification, proof of date of birth, proof of residential address, and proof of Social Security number. Before applying for a license or ID, be sure to review the **complete documentation requirements for non-U.S. citizens** and the **fees required to apply**.

Social Security Number

For further information on obtaining a Social Security number, contact the **International Student Services** office.

U.S. Tax Information

If you work in the United States, taxes may be withheld from your paycheck. If you receive scholarships or fellowships from USF, part of the amounts you receive

also may be taxable.

Even if you don't work in the United States, you are required to complete and file a U.S. tax return form if you are an F-1, F-2, J-1, or J-2 visa holder. Find out more about how to file a tax return on the **International Services website**.

Banking Information

International students generally need a Social Security number in order to open a bank account. Other requirements will vary by banking institution.

At the **USF Federal Credit Union** on the Tampa campus, international students will need the following documents to open an account:

- Valid government ID or valid passport
- I-20 form/F1 visa/J1 visa
- A completed **W-8 form**
- Apartment lease/rental agreement
- USF ID card
- Minimum balance of \$5 to open a savings account, \$25 to open a checking account

Foreign Currency

Foreign currency can be obtained at the Tampa International Airport or at **Florida Currency Exchange** in Westshore Plaza.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Tuition and Fees

Visit the **St. Petersburg campus Cashier's Office** to learn how to pay your semester bill by eCheck, credit card or international wire.

Graduate School Funding

The St. Petersburg campus of USF is committed to helping you finance your graduate education. Check out these resources, and ask your college for additional graduate aid specific to your field:

- **Fellowships & Scholarships**
- **Fulbright Scholarships**
- **Graduate Assistantships**
- **Graduate Student Research Funding**

USF Discounts

- The **USF Computer Store** offers software and service discounts to students.
- The Campus Recreation Center at the St. Petersburg campus offers students free use of gym equipment and a variety of free exercise programs.
- Use your USF ID to ride for free on any of the 200 Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) buses and trolleys.
- Looking for free entertainment? Check out our **upcoming events!**

HOUSING

On Campus

The St. Petersburg campus of USF offers three residence halls on campus: Pelican Apartments, Ibis Hall and Osprey Suites.

Off Campus

Graduate students can search for St. Petersburg area property listings and roommates through the St. Petersburg campus **housing portal**.

Neighboring Towns and Communities

The Tampa Bay area offers a multitude of diverse residential communities where graduate students may choose to live.

Hillsborough County Locations

- **South Tampa:** Approximately **16 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **25-minute commute**, South Tampa is one of the area's oldest and best-preserved communities. Located near the water, it offers a host of recreational activities

just minutes from downtown shopping, dining and entertainment. Several of South Tampa's neighborhoods boast preserved historic homes from the 1920s in an array of architectural styles. Known for its water views, South Tampa is home to many of the region's most exclusive estate neighborhoods.

- **Westchase:** Approximately **30 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **40-minute commute**, Westchase is a quiet and convenient community near the Hillsborough/Pinellas County line. West Park Village Town Center and West Chase Square provide residents with convenient retail shopping, markets, cafés, banks, restaurants, professional offices, daycare and preschools. Westchase residents also enjoy easy access to Citrus Park Mall and Tampa International Airport.

HOUSING

Pinellas County Communities

- **Clearwater Beach:** Approximately **22 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **35-minute commute**, Clearwater Beach is not only a tourist destination, but also a fantastic place to live. With its gorgeous beaches and view of the Gulf of Mexico, it's easy to see why. It offers a great place to relax while swimming, fishing or just sunning on the sand. Nearby are shopping, dining and outdoor activities for locals and visitors of all ages. The Clearwater Beach Marina houses many charter boats for fishing excursions. It also has a pirate ship, dolphin sightseeing adventure and personal watercraft rentals.
- **Downtown St. Petersburg:** Located **less than a mile from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **5-minute commute**, **downtown St. Petersburg** features world-class museums and more than 20 art galleries. Host to more than 700 events each year, St. Petersburg has a shoreline longer than Delaware's and New Hampshire's combined. Known as the sailing capital of the South, the city's municipal marina is the largest in the state.
-
- **Largo:** Approximately **18 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **30-minute commute**, Largo is just south of Clearwater and north of St. Petersburg. Tampa is a short commute eastbound across either of the two scenic bridges that cross Old Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Rapidly growing Largo is a quiet, mostly residential community, with friendly stores and shops, beautiful parks and recreational facilities, and diverse, affordable neighborhoods.



- **Pinellas Park:** Just east of Seminole, approximately **9 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **15- to 20-minute commute**, Pinellas Park sits between the larger cities of Clearwater and St. Petersburg. You will still be close to beaches and other Tampa Bay area attractions. Clearwater, St. Petersburg and Tampa are so close that a commute is relatively short and easy.
- **Seminole:** Approximately **15 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **30-minute commute**, Seminole is a short commute to Clearwater, St. Petersburg and Tampa. Located just south of Largo and northwest of St. Petersburg, parts of Seminole are considered to be within Largo, lending to Seminole's hometown feel within a larger metropolitan area. Because it is a well-established town close to some of Florida's most beautiful beaches and lakes, Seminole's real estate market appeals to many buyers and renters.
- **St. Pete Beach:** Approximately **11 miles from the St. Petersburg campus**, or a **20-minute commute**, St. Pete Beach has a variety of condominiums and single-family homes with private boat docks. Condo communities on St. Pete Beach are known for their large swimming pools and waterfront views. Perfect for those who need to commute to Tampa or Bradenton, St. Pete Beach is short ride to nearby cities via I-275 or the Sunshine Skyway Bridge.

TRANSPORTATION

Parking

Parking permits are required to park at the St. Petersburg campus of USF 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Valid and current St. Petersburg campus parking permits are required at all times. Single-Day Permits may be purchased in the garage at the walk-up permit machine located on the first level by the elevators.

Cars

Emergency jump-start service is available free of charge to St. Petersburg campus students. To access this service, call 727-873-4480 Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (except holidays). For after-hours emergency or safety needs, contact the University Police at 727-873-4444.

If you drive an electric vehicle, the St. Petersburg campus offers six **electric vehicle (EV) charging stations** on campus.

If you need to renew or transfer your driver's license, take a driving test or register a motor vehicle, etc., there are several **locations of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in Pinellas County**.

Bicycles

Bicycles are a great, cost-saving transportation option, and they are welcome on campus! The St. Petersburg campus even offers a bike-share service called **Bike-A-Bull**. Students only need their university ID to rent a bike for 24 hours.

Alternative Transportation Options

There are multiple alternative **transportation** options to and from campus, including:

- **Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit**
- **Zimride**: A private ridesharing network for USF students, faculty, staff and alumni.

PSTA Buses

St. Petersburg campus students ride **PSTA buses** for free. Simply show your USF ID card when boarding the bus.

Train/Amtrak

The **St. Petersburg Amtrak station** is located at Pinellas Park Square, Suite 101, 5251 110th Ave. N, Clearwater, Florida 33760-4846.

Air Travel

- **Tampa**
The nearest major airport is **Tampa International Airport (TPA)**, which is serviced by over a dozen major airlines. Tampa International is approximately 35 minutes from the St. Petersburg campus of USF.
- **Orlando**
Another option is **Orlando International Airport (MCO)**, which is serviced by over 30 airlines. Orlando International is approximately two and a half hours from the St. Petersburg campus.
- **St. Petersburg/Clearwater**
For some destinations, you may want to consider the **St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport (PIE)**, located approximately 20 minutes from the St. Petersburg campus.

Airport Transportation

Need a ride to and/or from the airport from your apartment/home? Check with **SuperShuttle** for their 24-hour airport service.

HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CARE

On Campus

The St. Petersburg campus of USF offers an on-campus Wellness Center (SLC 2200).

Off Campus

There are a number of health care facilities in the Tampa Bay area that cater to ongoing health needs, as well as emergencies. In case of a medical emergency, call 911.

Walk-In Clinics

AFC Urgent Care

1530 Fourth St. N
St. Petersburg, Florida 33704
727-351-8633

CVS Minute Clinic

8001 Ninth St. N
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702
727-577-6888

Walgreens Take Care Clinic

3851 Fourth St. N
St. Petersburg, Florida 33703
727-822-6896

Signature Urgent Care

120 Second St. S
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
727-851-9993

Emergency Rooms

Bayfront Medical Center

701 Sixth St. S
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
727-823-1234

St. Anthony's Health Care

1200 Seventh Ave. N
St. Petersburg, Florida 33705
727-825-1100

All Children's Hospital

880 Sixth St. S
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
727-767-4257

PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

Public Schools

Education in the United States is provided primarily by the public sector, and child education is obligatory. Education is divided into three levels:

- **Elementary School** – Offers primary education and does not always include preschool education. Typically, students attend elementary school from kindergarten to 5th grade (five to six years).
- **Middle School** – It is also known as junior high school, and it was created to bridge the gap between elementary and high school. The grades included in middle school are 6th–8th (three years).

- **High School** – It is also known as secondary education. The grades included in high school are 9th–12th (four years).

Students attend the school that is designated for their place of residence. Below are the links to find the schools that correspond to your area of residence:

- [Hillsborough County](#)
- [Pasco County](#)
- [Pinellas County](#)

RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The St. Petersburg campus of USF provides a variety of opportunities and services related to research support and professional development.

- **Research at the St. Petersburg campus of USF**
- **Graduate Thesis**

Workshops

USF offers various **workshops**, including CV and cover letter assistance.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Academic Programs

Accountancy:

813-974-4516

Business Administration:

727-873-4749

Conservation Biology:

727-873-4567

Digital Journalism and Design:

727-873-4567

Educational Leadership Development:

941-359-4277

Elementary Education/ESOL Dual Track:

813-974-3460

Elementary Education: STEM:

813-974-3460

Elementary Education: Teacher Leadership:

813-974-3460

Environmental Science & Policy

813-974-9854

Exceptional Student Education:

813-974-1398

Florida Studies:

(727) 873-4395

Liberal Arts:

813-974-9380

Psychological Sciences:

727-873-4156

Middle Grades STEM Education:

727-873-4567

Reading Education:

813-974-3460

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

University Departments

Boathouse	727-873-4589
Bookstore	727-873-2665
Campus Computing.....	727-873-4357
Card Center (Student IDs).....	727-873-4409
Career Center	727-873-4129
Cashier's Office.....	727-873-4107

Counseling Center 727-873-4422 (OPTION 2)

Dean of Students	727-873-4278
Dining Services/Meal Plans.....	813-974-5021
Financial Aid.....	727-873-4128
Fitness Center	727-873-4589
Graduate Studies	727-873-4567
Housing and Residence Life Office	727-873-5101
Immunization Records/Medical Records Forms.....	727-873-4422
International Student Services.....	+1 727-873-4270
Library (Nelson Poynter Memorial Library)	727-873-4405
Military and Veterans Success Center	727-873-4467
Motorist Assistance.....	727-873-4480
Motorist Assistance After Hours	727-873-4444
Office of Leadership and Student Organizations	727-873-4532

Police (USF Campus)..... 727-873-4444

Recreation Field (The Edge)	727-873-4108
Registrar's Office.....	727-873-4645

Student Health Services 727-873-4422 (OPTION 1)

Student Life	727-873-4596
Student Ombuds	813-974-0835
Student Accessibility Services	727-873-4990 or 727-873-4837
SOS	727-873-4278
SOCAT	727-873-4278
Student Success Center (Tutoring).....	727-873-4632
Technology Help Desk	727-873-4357
University Student Center Front Desk	727-873-5179
Victim Advocacy Services	727-873-4422



CAMPUS GUIDE:

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SARASOTA-MANATEE CAMPUS

VISITING CAMPUS

Directions to Campus

Find out **directions** to the Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF, located at 8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida 34243.

Visitor Accommodations

The Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota

1111 Ritz-Carlton Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34236-5594
941-309-2000

The Westin Sarasota

100 Marina View Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34236-5513
941-217-4777

Hotel Indigo Sarasota

1223 Blvd. of the Arts
Sarasota, Florida 34236-2901
941-487-3800

Hampton Inn & Suites Sarasota-Bradenton Airport

975 University Parkway
Sarasota, Florida 34243
941-355-8140

SureStay Hotel

5340 N. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34234
941-355-8867

Hyatt Regency Sarasota

1000 Blvd. of The Arts
Sarasota, Florida 34236-4808
941-953-1234

Holiday Inn Sarasota-Lido Beach-@The Beach

233 Benjamin Franklin Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941-388-5555

Holiday Inn Sarasota – Airport

8009 15th St. E
Sarasota, Florida 34243-2713
941-355-9000

Homewood Suites by Hilton Sarasota

3470 Fruitville Road
Sarasota, Florida 34237-9024
941-365-7300

Aloft Sarasota

1401 Ringling Blvd.
Sarasota, Florida 34236-2394
941-870-0900

Comfort Suites Sarasota-Siesta Key

5690 Honore Ave.
Sarasota, Florida 34233-3247
941-554-4475

Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Bradenton-Lakewood Ranch

5610 Manor Hill Lane
Bradenton, Florida 34203-8075
941-256-0466

Hampton Inn & Suites Bradenton Downtown Historic District

309 10th St. W
Bradenton, Florida 34205-8637
941-746-9400

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Bradenton West

4450 47th St. W
Bradenton, Florida 34210-2961
941-795-4633

Carlisle Inn Sarasota

3727 Bahia Vista St.
Sarasota, Florida 34232
844-369-2275

Best Western Plus Siesta Key Gateway

6600 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34231-4832
941-924-4900

Courtyard Sarasota University Park / Lakewood Ranch Area

8305 Tourist Center Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34201-2030
941-360-2626

STUDENT SERVICES

Athletics

Students receive **free admission** to all USF sporting events.

Campus Recreation

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF promotes healthy lifestyle choices through competition, sports and personal wellness. The campus features a basketball and volleyball court and a **fitness center**, equipped with free weights, cardiovascular machines and multistation gym equipment. **Recreation programs** include group yoga classes, dodgeball and flag football tournaments and a March Madness basketball game.

Campus Safety

To ensure the safety of students on campus, the Sarasota-Manatee campus offers a **Campus Police Department**, a Security Team, Emergency Management, **safety escorts**, **emergency phones** and **emergency notifications**. Download the **USF Safe App** to report tips to USF Police, make emergency phone calls, and more.

Crisis Services and Victim Advocacy

A victim advocate is available to assist students who have experienced crime, sexual assault or partner violence. Students can contact a victim advocate 24/7 by calling 813-974-5757.

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF is committed to providing students with **resources and support**, including a **Title IX deputy coordinator**. Other campus and community contacts include:

Campus Police
941-487-4210

Safe Place & Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)
941-365-1976

Bayside Center for Behavioral Health
941-917-7760

Manatee Glens
941-782-4800

HOPE Family Services
941-755-6805



The Counseling and Wellness Center

Students have access to a wide variety of counseling, wellness and health services, thanks to the Sarasota-Manatee campus's partnership with New College of Florida. The Counseling & Wellness Center (CWC) at New College of Florida is located less than half a mile south of the Sarasota-Manatee campus on US 41 and offers services and assistance to all Sarasota-Manatee campus students.

Mental health services include crisis intervention, brief individual or couples counseling, group counseling, psychiatric services, wellness workshops and more. The CWC can be contacted at 941-487-4254.

Dining Services

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF offers an on-campus **café**.

Parking Services

Parking Services maintains the Sarasota-Manatee campus's parking. Parking permits are required to park at the Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Students of Concern

The Students of Concern Assistance Team (SOCAT) helps with students who may be in distress or whose behavior is of concern to others. The team identifies and provides support to a student before more significant problems arise.

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Health Services

Through a partnership with New College of Florida, Student Health Services provides a variety of medical services to students, from primary care and community referrals to sexual health services. At SHS, students can receive initial diagnosis, treatment and follow-up care for a variety of illnesses. Standard office visits are free, and specialized services such as gynecological visits and immunizations are also available. For specific cost information or to make an appointment, students can contact 941-487-4254.

One does not need health insurance to use SHS, but insurance is accepted. SHS provides services only to enrolled students.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities provides for the safety and well-being of the university environment. The office aids in the growth and development of a student as related to a student's behavior and serves as the management agency for the University Conduct System.

Student Accessibility Services

Students Accessibility Services supports students with both temporary and permanent disabilities and works to develop a personalized plan for academic accommodations that will enable each student to participate fully in an enriching academic experience.

Military and Veterans Success Center

The Military and Veterans Success Center provides military and veteran students with the support they need to excel academically and professionally. The Center can be contacted at 941-359-4330 or 941-359-4291.

Textbooks

- [Sarasota-Manatee campus bookstore](#)
- [BookHolders Bookstore](#)
- [Amazon](#)



Postal Services

The Sarasota-Manatee campus Mail Room address is:

Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF
8350 N. Tamiami Trail, SMC-A120
Sarasota, Florida 34243-2049

Sarasota-Manatee Campus Traditions/Events

- **Homecoming**
Homecoming occurs every fall semester and includes a week of festivities.
- **WOW (Week of Welcome)**
Week of Welcome activities take place throughout the first week of the fall and spring semesters. WOW events are open to all new and returning students.

COMPUTER LABS, STUDY SPACES & LIBRARY

Computer Labs

Eight open-use **computer stations** are available on a first-come, first-served basis in Information Commons. Students can **print** from any of the computers in the Information Commons group study area.

Study and Student Commons Spaces

Information Commons offers group and individual study areas, collaborative workspaces, classrooms and computers stations. The nearby Jane Bancroft Cook Library also provides study space during library hours for all Sarasota-Manatee campus students.

The Sarasota-Manatee campus' Student Commons area features a student lounge with amenities, a gaming area, television monitors, a coffee bar, study carrels, a pool table, foosball table and pingpong tables. It also offers access to the café and a conference room.

Library

Sarasota-Manatee campus students have access to the Jane Bancroft Cook Library, a joint-use facility shared by New College and the Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF. A 10-15-minute walk from the Sarasota-Manatee campus main building, the library is located at 5800 Bayshore Road. It is open 7 days a week, except on major holidays.

Students also benefit from access to the extensive holdings of the USF Library System, which include over 1.3 million print books; over 52,000 e-journal subscriptions; over 443,000 e-books; and over 800 databases containing articles, media and other materials. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is available. Physical materials are delivered directly to the Sarasota-Manatee campus Information Commons Resource Desk.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS



The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF hosts more than 30 recognized student organizations. Students are invited to get involved in their area of interest by searching the student organization **listing** or contacting the **Coordinator of Student Organizations & Leadership at the Office of Student Engagement**.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

There are more than 2,000 international graduate students across our three USF campuses. International students at the Sarasota-Manatee campus are supported by the **Global Engagement Office**, which offers advice regarding immigration compliance, visa status maintenance and acculturation issues. The office also provides new student orientation programs and workshops on employment, medical insurance and tax matters, cultural adjustment and other topics.

State ID Cards/Driver's License

To get a Florida state ID or a driver's license, visit the **Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles**. Specific documentation is required of non-U.S. citizens.

In general, you will need identification, proof of date of birth, proof of residential address, and proof of Social Security number. Before applying for a license or ID, be sure to review the **complete documentation requirements for non-U.S. citizens** and the **fees required to apply**.

Social Security Number

For further information on obtaining a Social Security number, contact the **Global Engagement office**.

U.S. Tax Information

If you work in the United States, taxes may be withheld from your paycheck. If you receive scholarships or fellowships from USF, part of the amounts you receive also may be taxable.

Even if you don't work in the United States, you are required to complete and file a U.S. tax return form if you are an F-1, F-2, J-1 or J-2 visa holder. For more information on **how to file a tax return**, contact the **USF World**.

Banking Information

International students generally need a Social Security number in order to open a bank account. Other requirements will vary by banking institution.



At the **USF Federal Credit Union** on the Tampa campus, international students will need the following documents to open an account:

- Valid government ID or valid passport
- I-20 form/F1 visa/J1 visa
- A completed **W-8 form**
- Apartment lease/rental agreement
- USF ID card
- Minimum balance of \$5 to open a savings account, \$25 to open a checking account

Foreign Currency

Foreign currency can be obtained at the Tampa International Airport or at **Florida Currency Exchange** in Westshore Plaza.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Tuition and Fees

Visit the [Sarasota-Manatee campus's Business Office webpage](#) to learn how to pay your semester fees and fines.

Graduate School Funding

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF is committed to helping you finance your graduate education. Check out these resources:

- [USF Research and Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Council of Graduate Schools](#)
- [Graduate Fellowships](#)
- [James Madison Fellowships](#)
- [National Science Foundation](#)
- [Vern LaMarr Lyons Memorial Scholarship](#)

USF Discounts

- The [USF Computer Store](#) offers software and service discounts to students.
- The Sarasota-Manatee campus's [fitness center](#) offers students free use of gym equipment and a variety of free exercise programs.
- [USF offers discounts](#) at participating restaurants and stores.
- Use your Sarasota-Manatee campus ID to ride for free on the MCAT and SCAT bus system.
- Looking for free entertainment? Check out the [Sarasota-Manatee campus calendar](#) for upcoming events!

HOUSING

On Campus

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF does not offer on-campus housing.

Off Campus — Sarasota Region

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF is a hometown campus, located in the heart of Sarasota and Manatee counties just south of the Tampa Bay region. The surrounding community is comprised of many residential neighborhoods where graduate students may choose to live. Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as one of the best places to live in the nation, Sarasota offers top-ranked beaches, abundant nightlife and the best in arts and entertainment — all within a few miles of the Sarasota-Manatee campus.

TRANSPORTATION

Parking

Parking permits are required and can be purchased **online**. Students can use the **Sarasota-Manatee campus Parking Map** to navigate campus.

Cars

Emergency jump-start service is available for Sarasota-Manatee campus students. Campus police are also equipped with a vehicle unlocking kit and can assist students who have locked themselves out of their vehicles. To access these services, students can call 941-487-4210.

If you need to renew or transfer your driver's license, take a driving test or register a motor vehicle, etc., there are several locations of the **Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in Sarasota County**.

Alternative Transportation Options

There are multiple alternative transportation options to and from campus, including:

- Carpooling
- **Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Ridematching**
- **Zimride**

MCAT and SCAT Buses

Use your USF ID to ride for free on the MCAT and SCAT bus system.

Train/Amtrak

The Sarasota Amtrak station is located at 5600 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, Florida 34232.

Air Travel

- **Sarasota**
The Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport is a two-minute drive from the Sarasota-Manatee campus. The airport is serviced by eight airlines, including Delta, American, Jet Blue and United.

- **Tampa**

The **Tampa International Airport (TPA)** is serviced by over a dozen major airlines. Tampa International is approximately an hour and a half from the Sarasota-Manatee campus.

- **Orlando**

Another option is **Orlando International Airport (MCO)**, which is serviced by over 30 airlines. Orlando International is approximately two and a half hours from the Sarasota-Manatee campus.

- **St. Petersburg/Clearwater**

For some destinations, you may want to consider the **St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport (PIE)**, located approximately an hour from the Sarasota-Manatee campus.

Airport Transportation

Need a ride to and/or from the Sarasota airport? Check out these **transportation options**.

HOSPITALS & HEALTH CARE

Sarasota-Mantee Campus Services:

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF offers Student Health Services in partnership with New College of Florida.

Community Services:

There are a number of health care facilities in the Sarasota-Manatee area that cater to ongoing health needs as well as emergencies.

AFC Urgent Care Sarasota

2901 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34239
941-208-1556

Sarasota Memorial Hospital

1700 S. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34239
941-917-9000

Doctors Hospital of Sarasota

5731 Bee Ridge Road
Sarasota, Florida 34233
941-342-1100

Blake Medical Center

2020 59th St. W
Bradenton, Florida 34209
941-792-6611

Lakewood Ranch Medical Center

8330 Lakewood Ranch Blvd.
Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202
941-782-2100

Manatee Memorial Hospital

206 Second St. E
Bradenton, Florida 34208
941-746-5111

PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

Public Schools

Education in the United States is provided primarily by the public sector, and child education is obligatory. Education is divided into three levels:

- **Elementary School** – Offers primary education and does not always include preschool education. Typically, students attend elementary school from kindergarten to 5th grade (five to six years).
- **Middle School** – It is also known as junior high school, and it was created to bridge the gap between elementary and high school. The grades included in middle school are 6th–8th (three years).
- **High School** – It is also known as secondary education. The grades included in high school are 9th–12th (four years).

Students attend the school that is designated for their place of residence. Below are the links to find the schools that correspond to your area of residence:

- **Sarasota County**
- **Manatee County**
- **Hillsborough County**
- **Pasco County**
- **Pinellas County**

RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF provides a variety of opportunities and services related to research support:

- **Research at the Sarasota-Manatee campus**
- **Seed Funding Opportunities**
- **Rick’s Research Café**
- **Grant Writing Workshops**
- **Research Assistantships**

Workshops

The Sarasota-Manatee campus of USF offers a variety of workshops.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Academic Programs

Graduate Admissions

941-359-4331

University Departments

Admissions	941-359-4331
Bookstore	941-355-5252
Campus Safety and Security	941-993-8548
Career Services.....	941-359-4586
Cashier’s Office.....	941-359-4220
Counseling Center	941-487-4254
Emergency Management.....	941-359-4227
Housing.....	941-359-4331
Immunization Records.....	941-487-4254
Information Commons	941-359-4225
International Student Services (Global Engagement Office)	941-359-4314
Library (Jane Bancroft Cook)	941-487-4305
Library Services (2nd Floor Rotunda).....	941-359-4225
Military and Veterans Success Center	941-359-4330 or 941-359-4291
Multicultural Affairs.....	941-359-4263
Office of Student Engagement	941-359-4711
Parking Services	941-359-4220
Police (Sarasota-Manatee campus).....	941-487-4210
Student Health Services	941-487-4254
Student Ombuds	941-359-4469
Student Rights & Responsibilities.....	941-359-4268
Students with Disabilities Services.....	941-359-4714
Technology Help Desk	941-359-4350
Tutoring (Learning Support Services)	941-359-4330
Victim Advocacy	941-504-8599