Orientation Events – Ph.D. Students

Congratulations on your admission to USC and the Price School of Public Policy! Below are a few events designed to assist in your transition to USC and Price.

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**USC International Graduate Student Orientation – Tuesday and Wednesday, August 14th and 15th**

Attendance is mandatory for all new international students. We recommend that you register for your orientation session as soon as possible. We strongly encourage online reservations. If you are unable to use the online reservation system, please contact Orientation Programs at 213-740-7767. The registration deadline is August 7, 2012. Cost is $100. For more information and to RSVP visit [http://sait.usc.edu/orientation/international/](http://sait.usc.edu/orientation/international/).

**USC Graduate Student Orientation – Monday, August 20th**

We encourage all domestic graduate students entering in the fall semester to attend the USC Graduate Student Orientation. This will provide you with information about campus services, university life and resources available to you. There is no cost to attend the USC Graduate Student Orientation. However, all new students are assessed a one-time Mandatory Orientation Fee in their first semester of enrollment in addition to tuition charges and other fees. For more information and to RSVP visit [http://sait.usc.edu/orientation/graduate/program.shtml](http://sait.usc.edu/orientation/graduate/program.shtml).

*Note: Graduate international students must attend USC International Student Orientation in lieu of the USC Graduate Student Orientation.*
Price School International Student Orientation – Thursday, August 16th from 8:30am to 2:00pm
Attendance is mandatory for all new international students. This event is designed to assist you in your transition to Price. The agenda and further information will be sent by email in July. For more information, contact Megan Curran at mecurran@usc.edu or by calling 213-740-3353.
Note: International students should attend this orientation in addition to the USC International Graduate Student Orientation.

Price School Ph.D. Programs Orientation – Tuesday, August 21st from 2:00pm to 6:30pm, Thursday, August 23rd from 10:00am – 12:00pm
Attendance is mandatory for all new students. This orientation program will offer you opportunities to get to know your fellow colleagues and faculty members, find out more about your degree program, and gather additional information about the school. For more information and to RSVP visit http://www.usc.edu/sppd/admissions/graduate_orientation. For more information students should contact Megan Curran at mecurran@usc.edu or by calling 213-740-3353.

Last day to register and settle student account without late fee – Friday, August 24th

Price Welcome Back Event – Tuesday, August 28th from 4:30pm to 6:30pm
Join us at a school-wide welcome event to celebrate the beginning of the academic year. Feel free to stop by before or after class. This event offers students the opportunity to get to know your fellow colleagues and student organizations, as well as the faculty and staff of the school. Additional information will be sent out closer to the event. For more information, students should contact Megan Curran at mecurran@usc.edu or by calling 213-740-3353.

You may have also been asked to attend one or more of the following sessions:

ITA (International Teaching Assistant) Language Institute –Monday- Friday, August 6-10
Offered by the Center for Excellence in Teaching (CET) in partnership with the American Language Institute (ALI), the ITA Language Institute introduces new international teaching assistants to USC. The ITA Language Institute does not replace the TA training program. It is offered in addition to the TA training program to better support the specific needs of international TAs. It also prepares ITAs for the ITA Oral Interview Exam, required of international teaching assistants. Students should not register themselves, please contact Chris Wilson at wilsonca@usc.edu.

ITA Oral Interview Exam – August 17, August 21, August 23 or August 24
All new ITAs for whom English is a second language must demonstrate their competence in spoken English before assuming classroom or laboratory duties. Normally this is done by taking the ITA Exam. For those students not enrolled in the ITA Institute, the ITA Oral Interview exam will be offered on August 17th, 21st, 23rd, or 24th. Students enrolled in the ITA Institute will take the exam on August 10th. Students should not register themselves; please contact Chris Wilson at wilsonca@usc.edu.

CET TA Training –Wednesday, August 22
Undergraduate teaching is central to the mission of the University of Southern California. Dedicated and effective teaching is fundamental to this mission as it affects the educational experience of all students. Your work, as a Teaching Assistant and as a partner in our educational mission, will prove to be both insightful and rewarding. To ensure a successful TA experience right from the start, all new TAs must attend a training program. Students should not register themselves; please contact Chris Wilson at wilsonca@usc.edu.