

The University of South Carolina Upstate and its partnering two-year colleges want you to have a clear, smooth, worry-free transition to USC Upstate when you are ready to earn your bachelor's degree. You will be part of a like-minded community that shares in a spirit of service and support, helping you gain the most well-rounded experience possible.

You will be invited to an Upstate Direct Connect Orientation Program which will be scheduled before other new student orientation programs. The orientation program will give you the opportunity to register for classes before other new students, giving you a great selection of courses.

[www.uscupstate.edu/directconnect](http://www.uscupstate.edu/directconnect)

**UPSTATE**  
University of South Carolina

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**UDC**  
upstate **direct** connect



**UPSTATE**  
University of South Carolina



**Upstate Direct Connect®** is an exclusive opportunity for two-year colleges partnering with the University of South Carolina Upstate.

You qualify for Upstate Direct Connect if you are applying for or if you are working on your AA, AS or AAS from one of USC Upstate's partnering two-year colleges. Once you have indicated your participation in the program, the partner two-year college and USC Upstate will work together to prepare you for completion of your bachelor's degree.

### Join before graduating with your two-year degree

There are many reasons to join as soon as you decide a bachelor's degree is your goal. As a member of Upstate Direct Connect, you will have:

- ➔ Guaranteed entrance to USC Upstate – Students graduating with AA, AS or select AAS degrees, and 2.0 GPA are guaranteed admission to USC Upstate.\*
- ➔ Accelerated admission to USC Upstate - Provides a smooth transition through the USC Upstate admissions process including Orientation, Transcripts, Advising, and Financial Aid.
- ➔ Enhanced academic advising – Students receive comprehensive on-site advising from both two-year college and USC Upstate advisors.
- ➔ Concurrent admission to selective USC Upstate courses after completing 45 semester hours of credit at partner school.

\*Consistent with your two-year college and university policy. Limited access and restricted access programs may require an additional admission process.



### Joining Upstate Direct Connect

You can indicate your desire to join Upstate Direct Connect within the first year of attending your two-year college career by contacting the Advising Center at your school. There are no fees to join. If you are a new two-year college student:

- ➔ Submit an application to the two-year college and mark the appropriate sections to indicate your desire to join Upstate Direct Connect.
- ➔ Sign a form of intent to join Upstate Direct Connect
- ➔ Submit an electronic application to USC Upstate during the term in which you will complete 45 hours at the two-year college. (The enhanced advising for Upstate Direct Connect students will alert you when it's time to do this.)
- ➔ Provide official transcripts from any other schools you have attended to your two-year college and USC Upstate as well as any other required documents.

Meet with an advisor before initial registration and at regular intervals to maintain an appropriate academic plan. When you have completed:

**15 hours:** meet with your two-year college advisor.

**30 hours:** meet with your two-year college advisor and the USC Upstate Admissions Office.

**45 hours:** meet with your two-year college and USC Upstate faculty advisors and confirm status with USC Upstate.

- ➔ Apply for graduation from your two-year college by the published deadline in the term you will complete your requirements. Verify your acceptance to USC Upstate.



"Before I transferred to Upstate, the school I was at was just too big and too impersonal. You never got any personal time with your professors. When I came here and saw everything Upstate delivers, how accessible the faculty is and all the academic and extracurricular opportunities they offer, I knew it was the place for me."

**Midas Hampton**, Criminal Justice