All applicants wishing to be considered for the Cinema and Media Studies B.A. program must follow the instructions below. All steps, where applicable, must be completed in order to be considered. Please note that the application submission to the Cinema and Media Studies B.A. program is a two-part process—you must submit the Common Application for Admission and the USC Writing Supplement as well as the corresponding supplemental materials for the Cinema and Media Studies B.A. program via the SlideRoom application. Supplemental materials sent by mail will not be accepted.

All applicants wishing to be considered for admission must complete the following steps of the application process:

**Step 1: Submit Both the Common Application for General Admission and the USC Writing Supplement**

To begin the application process, you must submit the Common Application for Admission and USC Writing Supplement:

- [http://usc.edu/commonapp](http://usc.edu/commonapp)
- Please complete all sections of the application, including USC’s Writing Supplement.
- Upon selecting the Cinema and Media Studies program in the “Academics” section of the application, a box will appear indicating that you that you will be submitting a portfolio for consideration to the Cinema and Media Studies program—a “Portfolio” link with instructions on where to submit your supplemental materials will appear on the left menu bar.

**Step 2: Submit Supplemental Materials via the SlideRoom Application**

By indicating that you wish to apply for the Cinema and Media Studies program, a “Portfolio” link will appear on the left menu bar. Here, you will find a link to the SlideRoom application. Please ensure that you complete the SlideRoom application titled: Cinema and Media Studies B.A. Program: First-Year/Freshmen Applicants.

The following supplemental materials for the Cinema and Media Studies B.A. must be submitted in PDF format via the “Forms” section of SlideRoom:

- **Cinematic Arts Personal Statement:** *Please upload under the “Forms” section in PDF format*
  The Cinematic Arts personal statement should be a carefully prepared explanation of the applicant’s goals, describing any film, television, scholarly, critical or other creative background, as well as career objectives. It should present a clear and accurate picture of the applicant, outline objectives in the field of cinema and media studies and explain how attending the School of Cinematic Arts will help reach these goals.

- **Writing Sample:** *Please upload under the “Forms” section in PDF format*
  The writing sample should be a review or analysis of some aspect of film, television, or new media; a discussion or application of critical theory; or a published article.

- **Letters of Recommendation (One letter from an academic reference)**
Three letters of recommendation are required. Letters of recommendation may be submitted via the SlideRoom references system. In addition, any letters submitted via the Common Application may be used towards the three letters of recommendation required. Applicants are responsible for requesting letters of recommendation as well as confirming that they have been received.

**Step 3: Send Official Academic Transcripts**

Official transcripts from all high schools attended must be submitted. Please request original copies of official transcripts to be sent directly from your institution to USC Undergraduate Admissions. Transcripts can be sent electronically via the Common Application or sent by mail to USC.

**Step 4: Submit Official SAT or ACT Test Scores**

USC requires either SAT or ACT scores from all first-year applicants, including international students. For students who take the SAT more than once, USC records the highest scores for each section — even if achieved in different sittings — but will not combine section scores from the old SAT (prior to March 2016) and the redesigned SAT. For students taking the ACT, USC will record the highest composite score. The essay portion of the ACT is optional. The essay portion of the SAT will be optional for students taking the redesigned test in March 2016 or after.

**Step 5: Submit Official English Proficiency Test Scores (International Applicants Only)**

Unless applicants have scored a minimum of 600 on the Critical Reading section (previous SAT), or 650 on the Evidenced Based Reading and Writing exam (redesigned SAT) of the SAT, or a of 27 on the English section of the ACT, the TOEFL, IELTS or PTE tests will be required for admission consideration. Applicants must meet the minimum required score of:

- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE Test Scores
  - **TOEFL**: Submit scores via ETS to USC: ETS code = 4852
    - **Minimum required score**: 100 on the iBT test
  - **IELTS**: To submit your IELTS results to USC, please select the “University of Southern California”
    - **Minimum required score**: 7.0 overall band score
  - **PTE**: Please submit your scores electronically to USC via the PTE website
    - **Minimum required score**: 68 on the PTE test

- **Proof of Financial Support**
  The US government requires all international students to provide proof of the ability to pay tuition and living expenses for the first academic year. Along with your application for admission, you must submit the Financial Statement of Personal or Family Support, accompanied by documentation of available funds. Visit the Office of Admission website for more information.