



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA



Office of Graduate Studies
**GRADUATE STUDENT
LIFE GUIDE**



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Hello 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 to facilitate your integration into the University and the Tampa Bay region through the information this Guide contains. We hope you will find it 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. This document could not be what it is today without the revisions and updates of Nadege Nau, our Graduate Student Services Coordinator.

We learned a lot about resiliency and possibilities during the 2020-21 academic year. With that knowledge, OGS is committed to further enhancing opportunities to assist you in navigating the ups and downs of graduate study. There are many resources (both face-to-face and virtual) that are offered to support you socially and professionally. We are especially pleased to offer a variety of professional development opportunities designed to hone your job skills, as well as wellness activities to help with work/life balance. Beyond what OGS has to offer, we encourage you to become active with the Graduate and Professional Student Council (www.gpsc.usf.edu) and other student organizations, especially those in your college. As graduate students with interests that differ somewhat from undergraduates, your voices need to be heard and there are many opportunities to do so through your departments, schools, colleges, and, of course, 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/schools and colleges to prepare you to be Global Leaders--One Scholar at a Time!

It is our hope that you will continue to find this guide useful as a reference as you proceed in your graduate education and that you take the time to visit OGS often and routinely consult our website at www.grad.usf.edu. 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, the Office of Graduate Studies, as well as to your college and department/school. We are so pleased that you have joined our dynamic community of graduate scholars and wish you much success in all of your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dwayne Smith

Dwayne Smith, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Provost and OGS Dean

Ruth H. Bahr

Ruth Huntley Bahr, Ph.D.
OGS Associate Dean

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. Established in 1956, it is operated under the laws of the state of Florida and governed by the Florida Board of Governors and the USF Board of Trustees. USF provides undergraduate and graduate students with opportunities to participate in research as well as to seek solutions to local, national and global problems. USF is committed to providing students with high-quality learning opportunities, building both community and business partnerships, and conducting research for discovery and innovation. Successes in these endeavors led to dual designations for USF by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a Very High Research and a Community-Engaged University. The USF System serves over 48,000 students in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Sarasota-Manatee.

As USF continues to grow and strengthen its reputation as one of Florida's top public research universities it will focus on the guiding principles of Student Success, Research & Innovation, Community Engagement, Global Literacy & Impact as well as Integrated, Interdisciplinary Inquiry.

Quick Facts

- USF is the first ever “Emerging Preeminent State University” in Florida, designated by the Florida Board of Governors in June 2016.
- USF offers 243 degree programs at the undergraduate, masters, specialist and doctoral levels, including the Doctor of Medicine.
- USF is one of only four 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 2.5% of all universities.
- USF is ranked 25th in the nation among public universities for total research expenditures by the National Science Foundation (2014).
- USF ranks 41st in the U.S. for total research expenditures, among all U.S. universities, public or private, by the National Science Foundation (2014). This places USF in the top 7% among the 634 universities ranked (FY2015).
- USF was awarded more than \$485.5 million in research contracts and grants in fiscal year 2016.
- USF ranks 9th in the nation among public universities and 21st world-wide for granted U.S. patents in among all universities, according to the Intellectual Property Owners Association/NIA (2015) and has ranked in the Top 10 among public universities for U.S. patents granted for the past six years (2010-2015).
- With a student body representing over 130 different countries, USF is one of the 40 most diverse public universities in the country and the second most diverse

public university in the state of Florida, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* (USWNR) recent Diversity Index ratings.

- Many USF graduate level programs continue to be ranked among the best according to the 2018 *USNWR Graduate School Rankings*. USF graduate programs in the top 50 include Industrial and Organizational Psychology (#2), Public Health (#8), Library and Information Studies (#25), and Industrial/Manufacturing Engineering (#34), Audiology (#13), Criminology (#22), Rehabilitation Counseling (#22), Clinical Psychology (#36) and Nursing (#27).
- USF was named one of the top 100 Best Values in Public Colleges (#66) by Kiplinger's Personal Finance for 2016.
- USF ranks among the top tier of colleges listed in the USNWR Best Colleges 2016, ranking in the top 100 of best public schools.
- USF is ranked among the best in the USNWR's Online Education Program rankings for 2017. USF graduate programs ranked in the top 50 include Engineering (#40), Education (#29), and Information Technology (#29).
- USF is home to 51 national scholarship and fellowship student awardees for the 2015-2016 academic year.
- According to the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) (2016-2017), USF ranks among the top 300 of the best colleges and universities in the world.
- USF is ranked 74th nationally for social mobility, research and civic engagement, according to Washington Monthly (2016).
- According to Sierra magazine's "America's Coolest Schools" rankings, USF ranks 35th among American universities and colleges for advances in sustainability in research and education (2016).
- According to the Military Times' Best for Vets: Colleges 2016 rankings, USF ranks second among the nation's most veteran-friendly schools.
- USF Tampa is a recognized "Top Producer" of Peace Corps Volunteers. Ranking 16th in the Nation (among universities larger than 15K students) for Peace Corps Volunteers in 2016.
- Stampede of Service is USF's largest day of service, drawing more than 3,000 students annually to assist in local community projects ranging from the environment and homelessness to education and youth activities.
- USF ranks #1 in student success and is the nation's top performer in "Overall Student Success" among 1,100 public research and doctoral universities according to the 2016 Eduventures Student Success Ratings.
- USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference.

Campus Map

<http://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/documents/campus-map-directory.jpg>

TAMPA BAY

Tampa Bay is a thriving metropolitan area with more than 4 million residents. There are numerous attractions to explore including social and sports venues, performance halls, museums, theatres, zoos and wildlife venues, amusement parks, shopping locations and restaurants.

www.visittampabay.com

Attractions

Busch Gardens (Amusement Park)

Adventure Island (Water Park)

The Florida Aquarium (downtown in the Channelside District)

Lowry Park Zoo

The Dali Museum (St. Petersburg) *(free admission to USF students)

Florida Museum of Photographic Arts

Glazer Children's Museum

Museum of Science & Industry (MOSI)

Tampa Museum of Art (downtown along the Hillsborough River)

Ybor City State Museum

Sports Teams

USF Bulls

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Tampa Bay Rays

Tampa Bay Lightning

Visitor Accommodations (Not a Complete List) -

Hotels near USF include:

- Embassy Suites Busch Gardens (located on USF's campus)
- Hyatt Place Busch Gardens
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites
- La Quinta Inn & Suites
- Sleep Inn
- Towneplace Suites by Marriott – Tampa North I-75 Fletcher
- The West Wing Boutique Hotel
- Wingate by Wyndham

Disclaimer: USF is not necessarily affiliated with and does not endorse any of the hotels listed.

Tampa's Weather/Climate Information

Tampa is sunny almost year round and has an average annual temperature of 73 degrees. During the spring and fall, days are mostly warm with cool evenings. Summer months are very warm and often have short afternoon showers. May through early October is characterized by day-time temperatures in the mid-80s or low 90s whereas November through March are typically cooler months (with day-time temperatures sometimes dipping below 50 degrees in January and February). June through September are often rainy months, with August typically having the most rain and thunderstorms. An umbrella, jacket or light coat are recommended for living in Tampa Bay!

<http://www.usclimatedata.com/climate/tampa/florida/united-states/usfl0481>

Beaches

<http://www.visittampabay.com/visitors/beaches/>

Newspapers

Tampa Bay Online - <http://www.tbo.com/>

Tampa Bay Times - <http://www.tampabay.com/>

The Oracle (USF's Campus Paper) - <http://www.usforacle.com/>

Sales Tax

Tampa's sales tax rate is 7%.

Florida's Cell Phone tax rate is 22.38%.

GETTING STARTED

Set up the NetID and USF E-mail Address –

<https://www.usf.edu/it/documentation/netid.aspx>

Almost all online activity at USF including MyUSF, Canvas and student email requires your USF NetID. Creating a student NetID activates your official USF student email account with Google Apps for Education.

MyUSF – USF’s Portal – my.usf.edu

MyUSF is the window to all of your technology needs including access to Canvas, OASIS, your email account and much more.

Canvas – Access via MyUSF – usflearn.instructure.com/

Canvas is a single sign-on portal that enables you to complete class assignments, read course documents, post discussions, communicate with classmates and check email. Virtually all professors use this site as a way to communicate noteworthy information to their students.

OASIS – Access via MyUSF

OASIS is the online access to your personal student information. You can view grades, tuition, fees, dates and deadlines. In addition, OASIS is where you register for courses, access the USF Schedule Search and pay tuition and fees via bankcard or electronic check.

Network Access

Before you begin using the USF network, your laptop or computer must be registered with the information below. Once registered you are free to surf the USF network! The following items are needed:

- A valid USF email address
- Computer’s network adapter address (also known as physical address or mac address)
- A non-USF email address
- A valid phone number

For any university technology questions or concerns, contact the Information Technology Help Desk at (813) 974-1222 or www.it.usf.edu

Academic Calendar – <http://www.registrar.usf.edu/enroll/regist/calendt.php>

STUDENT SERVICES

Athletics – www.gousfbulls.com

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. (Visit usfbullstix.com/students for access to student tickets as well as FAQs.)

Campus Recreation – www.usf.edu/campusrec

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

Campus Safety – www.usf.edu/police or www.usf.edu/publicsafety

To ensure the safety of students on campus there are many services offered including: University Police, Safe Team, Blue-Light Emergency Telephones and Emergency Notifications.

Career Center – <http://www.usf.edu/career-services/documents/usf-gradstudent-careerguide-online.pdf>

The Career Center offers a range of services including resume writing, interview preparation, professional career counseling and a career guide for graduate students. For more information, visit <https://www.usf.edu/career-services/>.

Center for Student Involvement (MSC – 2306) - www.involvement.usf.edu

The Center for Student Involvement provides a variety of programs, services and activities to enhance the out-of-class experience. This includes Homecoming, University Lecture Series, USF Week, Patio Tuesdays and Movies on the Lawn.

Center for Victim Advocacy and Violence Prevention (SVC – 1138) – www.sa.usf.edu/advocacy

The Victim Advocacy Center 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) – www.usf.edu/counsel

The Counseling Center provides free and confidential counseling services, workshop and outreach services, and consultation services. For mood boosters, visit <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/counseling-center/feel-better-now/index.aspx>

Dining Services (MSC 1502) – <http://usf.campusdish.com/>

There are over 20 dining locations on campus providing a variety of meal options. USF dining also offers an optional [Graduate Student Meal Plan](#).

Feed-A-Bull Food Pantry (SVC 005-- next to Oracle, basement of the Student Services Building) – <https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-health-services/services/feed-a-bull-food-pantry.aspx>

Feed-a-bull is a campus food pantry available to enrolled students on the USF Tampa campus. It provides free supplemental food to students in need of assistance.

Legal Aid Services (MSC 4300) – <http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/student-legal-aid.asp>

Free consultations with Bay Area attorneys are offered through Student Government.

Marshall Student Center (4103 Cedar Circle)– <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/msc/>

The Marshall Student Center is the hub of student events and activities. It includes a Food Court, Jamba Juice, Beef O' Brady's and USF's own restaurant Top of the Palms. In addition, there are several services and amenities you may find useful throughout your time at USF. These include a Wellness Center - <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/msc/building-amenities/wellness-center.aspx>, a Pharmacy, a Bank, Study Lounges - <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/msc/building-amenities/study-lounges.aspx>, a print shop, a computer store, an art gallery, a gaming room and a Serenity room - <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/msc/building-amenities/serenity-room.aspx>.

Mothering Room (MSC 2404) – <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/msc/building-amenities/mothering-room.aspx>

The Marshall Student Center features a Mothering (Lactation) Room situated near the Oval Theatre on the 2nd floor. To gain access, please visit the MSC Information Desk on the 1st floor in the Lobby area.

Off-Campus Safety – <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/emergencies/off-campus-safety.aspx>

The USF community includes the thousands of students living in apartment communities close to campus as well as others living throughout the Tampa Bay area. The university is committed to providing resources and tips to promote off-campus living safety for all students.

Parking and Transportation – www.usf.edu/parking_services

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

Religious and Spiritual Life – www.rsl.usf.edu

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.

Student Health Services – www.shs.usf.edu

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

Student Ombuds (ALN 191) – <http://www.sa.usf.edu/ombudsman/page.asp?id=90>

The Ombuds Office can assist with providing referrals, facilitating communication and exploring solutions if you are not sure where to go for help, have a problem, concern complaint or dispute you want to discuss informally, or are unsure of USF policies and procedures that relate to your problem.

Student Organizations – A listing of all registered student organizations by category can be obtained through the USF BullSync website at www.usf.edu/BullSync. Students should contact their college departments or the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement at www.leadandserve.usf.edu for other program specific student organizations.

Student Outreach & Support (SVC 2058) – <https://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/student-outreach-support/>

The Office of Student Outreach & Support (SOS) 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 Rights and Responsibilities (ALN 109) – www.sa.usf.edu/srr

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.

Students with Disabilities Services (SVC 1133) – www.sds.usf.edu

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

The Writing Studio (Library, 2nd Floor) – <http://www.lib.usf.edu/writing/>

The Writing Studio has tutors who can assist with writing grants, provides presentation practice rooms and offers dissertation writing workshops.

Veterans Services (ALN 130) – www.veterans.usf.edu

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

USF Traditions/Events

Homecoming – www.homecoming.usf.edu

Homecoming occurs every Fall semester and includes a week of festivities including a carnival, parade and football game.

USF Week – <http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/involvement/our-events/usf-week.aspx>

USF Week occurs every Spring semester and includes a week of various events including a University Lecture, a talent show, art and athletic events and a major outdoor concert.

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.

Graduate Student Life Events

Graduate Student Appreciation Week

Graduate Student Appreciation Week is a national week of appreciation celebrated on numerous higher education campuses across the country. During this week the Office of Graduate Studies and the Graduate & Professional Students Council provide a variety of social and wellness events for graduate students. Look out for details of this annual series of events each April.

Graduate Student Life Events

Graduate student life social and professional events take place both on and off-campus throughout both the Fall and Spring semesters with limited events in the Summer semester. Look out for details about these events in Note-A-Bull news bulletin, via email or on the Graduate & Professional Students Council webpage:

<http://www.gpsc.usf.edu/>.

OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES STUDENT SERVICES

The Office of Graduate Student Services (GSS) – <https://www.usf.edu/graduate-studies/about-us/meet-the-staff/graduate-student-services.aspx>

The GSS office partners with the Graduate & Professional Students Council (GPSC), and works with faculty and departments to create a supportive environment for students through the following activities:

- Graduate student orientation
- Campus-wide partnerships that are focused on student success
- Workshops to promote retention, reduce time to degree and increase professional development
- Graduate student diversity initiatives
- Opportunities for interdisciplinary work and research

The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) – <http://www.gpsc.usf.edu/>

Graduate students are represented by the Graduate and Professional Student Council. The Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC) fosters interaction between graduate and professional students through community service, social and academic events. GPSC provides a voice for graduate and professional students through representation on university committees and advocating student interests to the administration.

The Graduate Assistants United (GAU) – <https://www.usfgau.org/>

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 1% of each paycheck. See <https://www.usfgau.org/contract/> for additional information.

Graduate Assistant Policies and Guidelines

The Office of Graduate Studies provides a handbook outlining relevant policies and guidelines for graduate assistants. See http://www.grad.usf.edu/GA_Handbook.php for more information. Graduate Assistants with at least a .25 FTE appointment receive health insurance coverage. For more information visit <https://www.usf.edu/hr/benefits/insurance/graduate-assistants.aspx>.

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs – <https://www.usf.edu/postdoctoral-affairs/>

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) is a USF System 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.

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) - <http://www.grad.usf.edu/ETD-res-main.php>
- Office of Research Resources - www.usf.edu/Research/
- Research Funding - <http://www3.research.usf.edu/dsr/funding.asp>
- Conference Presentation/Travel Grants - [Conference Travel Grant Application & Instructions](#) (located in BullSync under the Student Government Portal)
- Research Tools, Consultations and Services - <http://www.lib.usf.edu/research-rescue/>

Workshops

The Office of Graduate Studies Professional Development workshop series aims to assist graduate students with skill acquisition in the areas of writing, research, and networking. Several workshops are scheduled throughout the academic year focused on a variety of topics including navigating graduate studies, writing for success, and finding research funding. Workshop partners include the USF Writing Center, the Office of Sponsored Research, and USF faculty. For more information visit <https://www.usf.edu/graduate-studies/students/workshops-events.aspx>

Professional Training & Support

The Academy for Teaching & Learning Excellence (ATLE) provides Teaching Assistant training and workshops on college teaching, which are open to all graduate students.

Visit <http://www.usf.edu/atle/faculty/tas.aspx> for detailed services.

COMPUTER LAB LOCATIONS, STUDY SPACES & LIBRARY

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

Computer Labs – <http://www.usf.edu/it/documentation/labs.aspx>

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 via the Bull Buck\$ system. In Room 113 of the library, there are computers, scanners, wheelchair accessible machines and black-and-white as well as color printers. And in Rooms 1308 and 2308 of the Marshall Student Center, you can find both Windows and Macintosh computers. Computer labs can also be found in various Colleges and in the Office of Graduate Studies Lounge (ALN 209). For specific information on these labs see the link provided above.

Printing – <http://www.usf.edu/it/class-prep/printing.aspx>

Through a partnership with Student Government and USF Information Technology, enhancements have been made to the free printing program on campus. Students are given an allotment of \$2.50 per day to be used for printing on campus. Once that allocation is used up, students can continue to print by using their Bull Buck\$ account until the next day when their account is refreshed. See list of locations offering free printing throughout campus here – <http://www.usf.edu/it/class-prep/free-printing-locations.aspx>

Study Spaces

There are a number of study spaces available on campus. Check out the rooms on the second, third, fourth and fifth floors of the Library. You can find rooms for study groups, both large and small. Maximum occupancy for most rooms is up to 4 people, while the 2 larger spaces can fit up to 18 people. Visit <https://www.lib.usf.edu/services/study-room-reservations/> to reserve a study room.

Additionally, on the 5th floor of the Library there is an exclusive study space designated for graduate students. To ensure that only graduate students have access to this space, students are required to swipe in using their USF IDs to gain entry.

There is a newly renovated Graduate Student Lounge located in the Office of Graduate Studies (ALN 209) which is equipped with snack and beverage machines, a microwave as well as computers and a printer (bring your own paper for limited free printing). The hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

In the Marshall Student Center, there are individual study rooms on the second floor. Also, you will find a number of study-nooks all over the building. Explore! There is also a Commuter Study Lounge on the fourth floor of the Marshall Student Center. 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.

Library – www.lib.usf.edu or (813) 974-2729

The University of South Florida Library offers a wide array of books, articles and other resources. USF's Library features include the following:

- Check out up to 20 books for 30 days
- Self-checkout available
- Online renewal
- Numerous online journals and eBooks
- Interlibrary loan services to obtain items from non-USF libraries
- Open 24/5 (Fall & Spring semesters); Daily hours in the Summer semester
- 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
- Drones

The USF Library also offers several research features, including:

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

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

There are over 4,600 international graduate students at USF! International students are supported by the International Services office which assists with student visas, OPT, work visas and other related immigration processes, documents and concerns.

<http://global.usf.edu/is/>

Friends of Internationals provides support for international students and scholars including free airport pick-ups, social events, sight-seeing trips, assisting with sourcing furniture, etc.

<http://www.usfinternationals.org/>

Travel & Airport Transportation

While there are several smaller airports in Tampa, it is recommended when coordinating your travel itinerary that you plan to arrive at Tampa International Airport (TPA). TPA is located approximately 19 miles (about 30 minutes) from USF.

While you are responsible for your own transportation from the airport some student organizations provide free airport pick up with advanced notification. If you prefer to arrange for your own transportation please see additional airport transportation options listed in the Transportation section of this Guide.

Temporary/Short-Term Housing

If you have made arrangements to live off-campus but cannot move-in when you arrive, you may want to stay at a nearby hotel for a few days. There are several hotels close to USF's campus. You can use information from [Bing](#) or [Google](#) search engines to find a nearby hotel that meets your specific needs. Major roadways close to campus are Bruce B Downs Blvd., Fletcher Ave. and Fowler Ave. When making a reservation, be sure to ask if they offer a discounted rate to USF students.

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.

Florida law requires **identification, proof of date of birth, proof of residential address, and proof of social security number** (if issued, Chapter 322, Florida Statutes, requires the Department see proof of social security number for the issuance of driver license and identification cards) from all customers before a driver license or identification card can be issued. The name assigned to the social security number must match the name that will appear on the Florida driver license or identification card.

If you have recently changed your name, update your records with the Social Security Administration before applying for your license or identification card. See the following link for further information: <https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/general-information/>

Fees for Licenses and State ID Cards – <http://www.flhsmv.gov/fees/>

Social Security Number/Card

For further information on obtaining a social security number/card, contact the International Services Office. <http://global.usf.edu/is/cur-onCampus.php>

Filing Taxes Information – <http://global.usf.edu/is/cur-taxSoftware.php>

Bank Information (opening bank accounts for international students)

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 campus, international students will need the following documents to open an account:

- Valid passport and visa
- I-20 form/F1 visa/J1 visa
- A completed W8 form <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw8ben.pdf> (also at the Credit Union)
- Proof of address (eg. apartment lease/rental agreement, utility bill, etc.)
- USF ID card
- Minimum balance of \$5 to open a savings account, \$25 to open a checking account

Foreign Currency/Exchange

Foreign currency can be obtained at the Tampa International Airport or at Florida Currency Exchange in Westshore Plaza. Note that foreign checks typically take 4-6 weeks to clear the bank in the USA.

Wire Transfers

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

Paying Tuition & Fees Via Wire Transfers – <http://www.usf.edu/business-finance/controller/student-services/cashiers/international-payments.aspx>

<http://www.usf.edu/admissions/international/graduate/cost-fellowships/payment-methods.aspx>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Managing Money/Money Saving Tips

 <p>USF's Computer Store offers software and service discounts to students!</p>	 <p>USF's Campus Rec Center offers students free use of gym equipment and a variety of free exercise programs!</p>	 <p>USF's Wellness Clinic offers discounted health services to those with student health insurance.</p>	 <p>USF offers free lectures and workshops for academic, personal and professional development.</p>	 <p>Buy furniture and other goods from yard sales, Craigslist and second-hand stores. Always look out for sales and clearance items at regular stores.</p>	 <p>Save on gas and parking fees! Use the Bull Runner and Hartline buses for free! (Requires USF ID card).</p>	 <p>Make use of USF discounts at participating area restaurants and stores.</p>	 <p>Looking for things to do....for FREE? Attend free concerts, art exhibitions, plays and athletic games at USF.</p>
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Assistantships – <http://www.grad.usf.edu/assistantships.php>

Financial Aid Office – <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/finaid/>

Fulbright Scholarships – <https://www.usf.edu/graduate-studies/funding/fulbright-information/>

Funding – <http://www.grad.usf.edu/scholarships.php>

Office of National Scholarships – <http://ons.usf.edu/>

Research Funding – <https://www.usf.edu/graduate-studies/funding/graduate-student-research-funding/index.aspx>

Scholarship Databases – <http://www.usf.edu/financial-aid/scholarships/other.aspx>

Tuition & Fees/Cashier's Office – <http://www.usf.edu/business-finance/controller/>

USF Student Discounts – students can find Student Life coupon books with discounts from local vendors and eateries at the information desk located in the Marshall Student Center

Bank on Campus – <https://usffcu.org/>

The USF Federal Credit Union has two branches on campus located in the Marshall Student Center and on USF Palm & Laurel. There are several ATM machines across the campus.

HOUSING

On-Campus

Housing & Residential Education (Argos 229) serves both graduate and undergraduate students. Graduate students are eligible to live on campus in any suite style or apartment style residence hall. For assistance, please contact Housing & Residential Education by phone Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5p.m. ET, or by email at housing@usf.edu. Learn more at usf.edu/housing or <https://www.usf.edu/housing/housing-application/index.aspx>

Off-Campus Affiliated Housing

The University of South Florida has formal affiliation agreements with five off-campus properties. To learn more about the affiliation designation and these properties, please visit <https://www.usf.edu/housing/resources/affiliated-properties.aspx>

Affiliated Properties

The affiliated property websites you visit may contain links to other properties. Other properties are not affiliated by association.

Avalon Heights - <https://www.americancampus.com/student-apartments/fl/tampa/avalon-heights>

University Linq- <https://www.ulinqsf.com/university-linq-tampa-fl/>

40 Fifty Lofts - <http://www.4050lofts.com/>

The Province - <https://www.americancampus.com/student-apartments/fl/tampa/the-province-tampa>

The Venue - <http://venueatnorthcampus.com/>

Off-Campus (Not a Complete List) *Disclaimer: The University of South Florida does not endorse any of the non-affiliated housing options listed.*

Off-campus housing options are available on or close to the Bull-Runner Route. These properties are not affiliated with USF.

- Monticello (fully furnished, lease by room) – www.monticellousf.com
- Cambridge Woods – www.cambridgewoods.com
- Willow Brooke – www.livewillowbrooke.com
- 42nd North (fully furnished, lease by room) – www.42-north.com
- The Flats (fully furnished, lease by room and studio) – www.livetheflats.com
- Eagles Point – www.eaglespointapts.com
- Bavarian Village Condos
- The Oaks Condos
- Ashford Green Condos

- Oak Ramble – <http://www.milestonerents.com/tampa/oak-ramble/>
- Fairway Oaks – www.fairwayoakstampa.com
- Sweet Water Oaks
- Sunstone Palms Apartments – <http://www.sunstonepalmsapartments.com/>
- On50 (fully furnished, lease by room and 1-bedroom) – www.on50tampa.com
- Park Avenue – www.parkavenueapartmentstampa.com
- Urban Place – www.urbanplaceapts.com
- Malibu (fully furnished, lease by room) – www.malibuusf.com
- Greenwich Commons – www.greenwichcommonsapartmenthomes.com

Other Non-Affiliated Housing Options Near USF (Not a Complete List)

- The Retreat At Tampa (furnished & unfurnished, lease by room) – <http://www.retreatatusf.com/>
- Haven 46 (fully furnished, lease by room) – <http://haven46.com/>
- Bellarmine Newman Hall – (fully furnished, lease by room) <http://bellarminehall.com/>
- IQ Apartments (fully furnished, lease by room) – <https://liveatiq.com/>
- Uncommon Tampa (fully furnished, lease by room) – <http://www.uncommontampa.com/>
- Campus Lodge (fully furnished, lease by room) – <https://campuslodgetampa.com/>
- The Social at South Florida (furnished & unfurnished, lease by room) – <http://www.thesocialatsouthflorida.com/>
- Reflections (fully furnished, lease by room) – www.reflectionsusf.org
- Boardwalk at Morris Bridge (fully furnished, lease by room) – <https://boardwalkusf.com/floor-plan/>
- The Ivy (fully furnished, lease by room) – <http://www.livetheivy.com/>
- Hidden Palms – www.hiddenpalmsapartmenthomes.com
- The Preserve at Tampa Palms – <https://www.alapts.com/apartments/fl/tampa/preserve-at-tampa-palms/>
- Grand Reserve – www.thegrandreserveliving.com
- Mezzo of Tampa Palms – <http://www.mezzotampa.com/>
- Lakeview Oaks – www.lakeviewoaks.net
- ULake Apartments – <https://www.liveatulake.com/>
- Landmark At Grayson Park – <http://www.milestonerents.com/tampa/landmark-at-grayson-park-apartment-homes/>
- Radius Tampa Palms – <http://www.radiusstampapalms.com/>
- Lodge at Lakecrest – <https://www.lodgeatlakecrest.com/>

- Compton Place – <http://www.gardencommunitiesfl.com/Apartment-Rentals/Hillsborough-County-FL/Tampa/Compton-Place/Home.aspx>
- Carlton Arms – www.carltonarmsnorth.com
- The Vinings at Hunter's Green – <http://www.milestonerents.com/tampa/the-vinings-at-hunters-green/>
- Arbor Walk Apartments – <http://www.arborwalk-aps.com/>
- Seastone Apartments – <http://www.seastoneapt.com/>
- Summit West – <http://www.udr.com/tampa-apartments/temple-terrace/summit-west/?PPC=LS>
- Waverly Terrace – <http://www.waverlyterraceapts.com> (schedule to open in Fall 2021)

Looking for Off-Campus Housing?

You can search for apartments and roommates, post ads for roommates and find housing just for the summer semester using this website, which is free to USF students. You can search for housing by apartment style, pet policy, security and other amenities.

<https://offcampushousing.usf.edu/>

<http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/documents/choosing-an-apartment.pdf>

Local Accommodations/Temporary Housing

If you need temporary, short-term housing, there are several hotels close to USF's campus. You can use information from [Bing](#) or [Google](#) search engines to find a nearby hotel that meets your specific needs. Major roadways close to campus are Bruce B Downs Boulevard, Fletcher Avenue and Fowler Avenue. When making a reservation, be sure to ask if they offer a discounted rate to USF students.

Housing & Moving Resources

www.myidealplace.com/accounts/usftmp/

www.housing.usf.edu

<http://tampa.cort.com/storefront/?kwcid=7017000000XejnAAC>

TRANSPORTATION

Parking

Parking permits are required and are valid in designated areas. Starting Fall 2021, [parking permits will be virtual](#). You will no longer be provided with a physical permit and instead your license plate will become your parking permit. With that in mind, USF Tampa campus will now require all vehicles to be parked with their plate facing out. Additionally, you will need to confirm that your license plate and vehicle information is up-to-date on the parking portal to avoid receiving a citation.

Other parking options include hourly or daily parking and Park-N-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.

<http://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/>

Cars

Motorist emergency assistance is available free of cost to USF students. The limited service includes an air-tank for low tires and battery booster. 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 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. See the link below for locations/contact information.

<https://www.flhsmv.gov/locations/hillsborough/>

Bicycles

Bicycles are a great cost-saving transportation option, and they are welcome on campus! There are several bike-racks located throughout the campus and bicycle permits are available free of cost. The Bull Runner buses are equipped with bike carriers. USF has a bike-borrowing program offered through Campus Recreation.

<http://www.usf.edu/student-affairs/campus-rec/outdoor-recreation/share-a-bull-bikes.aspx>

USF's Bull Runner

This free shuttle service makes getting to and from campus easy! The shuttle also provides transportation to all areas of the campus, some off-campus housing locations and shopping areas such as WalMart, Winn Dixie Supermarket and the University Mall. Students are required to use their USF ID cards when riding the shuttle.

<http://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/transportation/index.aspx>

Transportation Options

USF offers several transportation options such as Zimride Ride-Share and We-Car Car Rental Other transportation choices include Emergency Ride Home and carpooling.

<http://www.usf.edu/administrative-services/parking/transportation/alternative-transportation.aspx>

Hart-Line Bus – <http://www.gohart.org/>

USF students ride Hart-Line buses for **free**. Simply show your USF ID card when you board the bus.

Bus Lines to Miami and Other Nearby Destinations – <http://www.redcoachusa.com/>

Train/Amtrak – <http://www.amtrak.com/home>

The Tampa Amtrak station is located at 601 North Nebraska Ave., Tampa, FL 33602.

Air Travel

Tampa – <http://www.tampaairport.com/>

The nearest major airport is the Tampa International Airport (TPA), which is serviced by over a dozen major airlines. Tampa International is located approximately 30 minutes from USF's campus.

Orlando – <http://www.orlandoairports.net/>

Another option is the Orlando International Airport (MCO), which is serviced by over 30 airlines. Orlando International is located approximately 2 hours from USF's campus.

St. Petersburg/Clearwater – <http://www.fly2pie.com/>

For some destinations, you may want to consider the St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport (PIE), which is located approximately 45 minutes from USF's campus.

Airport Transportation - <http://www.tampaairport.com/ground-transportation>

Supershuttle – www.supershuttle.com

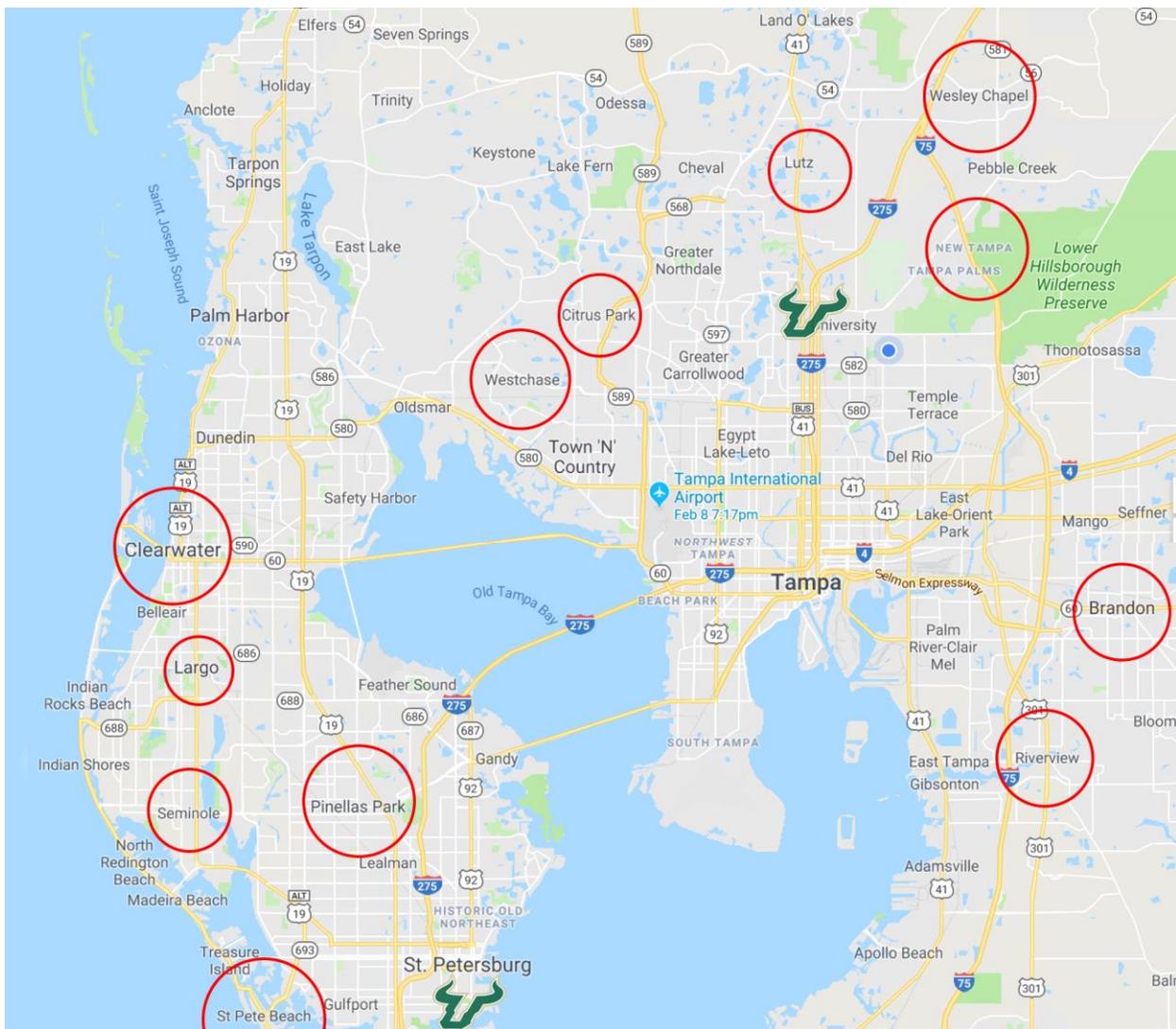
Need a ride to and/or from the airport from your apartment/home? Check with Super Shuttle for their 24-hour airport service.

Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles – <https://www.flhsmv.gov/>

To get a Florida State ID or a Driver's License, visit the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Communities in the Tampa Bay Area



Brandon

Located in southeastern Hillsborough County, Brandon is approximately **17 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **25-30 minute commute**. Convenient location and plentiful shopping make Brandon, FL 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 to suit any lifestyle.

Carrollwood

Located in West Tampa, Carrollwood is approximately **8 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **20-25 minute commute**. It is an unincorporated, planned community in northwest Hillsborough County, Florida. It is located within the Census Designated Place of Greater Carrollwood. It was one of the first planned communities within the State of Florida and the first in Hillsborough County. It remains one of the most popular places to live within suburban Tampa because of its close proximity to the city compared to newer developments. Carrollwood is about 7 miles northwest of downtown Tampa and occupies an area of 10.3 sq. miles.

Channelside District

Located near downtown Tampa, Channelside District is approximately **13 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **25-30 minute commute**, and **22 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **30-32 minute commute**. Urban luxury is at its best in the Channelside District, where you can work and play in an upscale way. New condominium developments in the area offer luxury lofts, office space, and retail space in the heart of a vibrant area. There are also a host of fine restaurants in the area, or you can hop on the TECO Street Car and head to Ybor City for even more dining and nightlife. Channelside is where luxury living meets urban convenience and style.

Citrus Park

Located in West Tampa, Citrus Park is approximately **11 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **25-30 minute commute**, and **29 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **35-40 minute commute**. You will find a variety of home styles and an easy commute to just about any part of Tampa. This large community extends through many areas. Many starter homes are available, as well as large, luxurious estate homes. Just minutes from Tampa International Airport, the Westshore business district, and downtown Tampa, residents are sure to love the community's excellent location. Should you prefer to stay 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, other Citrus Park benefits include a bounty of lakes, parks, and sports facilities.

Lutz

Located in northern Tampa, Lutz is approximately **9 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **15-20 minute commute**. The over 100 lakes in the Hillsborough County community of Lutz 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 is also peppered with beautiful Florida scenery that is a welcome break from city congestion. Among the lakes and groves, you will find an array of custom homes in rapidly growing communities. Most communities in the Lutz area are gated for the ultimate in security and privacy.

New Tampa

Located approximately **8 miles north from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **15-20 minute commute**, New Tampa spans 24 square miles and is the fastest-growing community in Hillsborough County. New Tampa real estate has splendid offerings for its residents. Not only is it home to a spread of master-planned communities, these communities were designed with recreation and leisure in mind. From sports and swimming facilities to nature trails, residents can enjoy a variety of recreational activities right within their communities, or venture just a short drive to some great attractions.

Riverview

Located approximately **22 miles south from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **30 minute commute**, Riverview is near Brandon. Riverview has convenient access to city amenities in a great suburban setting. From golf to conservation areas, residents are sure to enjoy life here. Riverview is blessed with a host of natural beauty, resources, and activities all within a short trip from the town. From bubbling natural springs of Lithia Springs State Park to the meandering Alafia River, which empties into Tampa Bay and affords residents direct access to The Gulf of Mexico. Fishing, surfing, boating, kayaking, water skiing, and diving are just minutes away from Riverview.

Seminole Heights

Seminole Heights is a historic Tampa neighborhood located **approximately 6 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **15- 25 minute commute**. Seminole Heights is known for its neighborhood's bungalow architecture. A number of residential and commercial properties have been recently renovated. Several restaurants, antique shops, a day spa and fitness club are among the amenities conveniently located in the area.

South Tampa

Located approximately **20 miles south from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **30 minute commute**, and **16 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **25 minute commute**, South Tampa is one of the area's oldest and best-preserved areas. Located right near the water, it offers a host of recreational activities at a more comfortable pace than in the city. Still, anywhere you live in the area will be conveniently located just minutes from downtown shopping, dining, and entertainment. Several of South Tampa neighborhoods boast beautifully preserved historic homes from the 1920's in a vast array of architectural styles. Most anywhere you go will offer a water view that will be a daily reminder of just how wonderful it is to live among Florida's natural beauty. Several exclusive neighborhoods can be found in South Tampa, featuring enormous estate homes that will delight both their owners and visitors.

Temple Terrace

The City of Temple Terrace, **located right next door to USF Tampa**, offers a variety of housing opportunities, outdoor recreation venues, and unique dining options to meet the needs of a diverse community. The city is home to several hotels and apartment communities just minutes from the university. Whether you are looking for temporary lodging, affordable student housing or high-end luxury apartments, Temple Terrace has

something for everyone. The city also maintains more than a dozen public parks where amenities include outdoor fitness equipment, sports fields, hiking and mountain bike trails, as well as direct access to the beautiful Hillsborough River. If unique dining is of interest, Temple Terrace hosts a diverse collection of restaurants featuring cuisines of the world, including Asian, Brazilian, Greek, Italian, Middle Eastern, Russian, and of course, traditional American. *Temple Terrace: Close to everything, but nowhere else comes close.*

Wesley Chapel

Located approximately **10 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **25 minute commute**, Wesley Chapel is located north of New Tampa, where undeveloped land and citrus fields are rapidly becoming beautiful master-planned communities and golf courses. The luxurious Saddlebrook Resort is in the center of this community, and offers visitors and residents the ultimate resort experience. The lower tax rates in Pasco County are just an added incentive to make Wesley Chapel a desirable location to buy a home.

Westchase

Located approximately **16 miles from the USF Tampa Campus**, or a **35-40 minute commute**, and **30 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **40 minute commute**, Westchase is a quiet and convenient location situated near the Hillsborough/Pinellas County line. Westchase boasts a 2,030-home award-winning community featuring the best in recreational enjoyment for its residents, including an 18-hole golf course, parks, swimming, tennis, nature preserves, and soccer fields. The added convenience of West Park Village Town Center and West Chase Square provides residents with retail shopping, markets, cafes, banks, restaurants, professional offices, daycare, and preschools. With easy access to Citrus Park Mall and the Tampa International Airport, residents of Westchase enjoy a host of amenities as well as the ultimate in convenience.

Communities in Pinellas County (USF St. Pete)

Clearwater Beach

Located approximately **22 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **35 minute commute**, Clearwater Beach is not only a tourist destination, but many people are realizing it's a fantastic place to live too. 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. This beach offers shopping, dining, and outdoor activities to attract people of all ages. The Clearwater Beach Marina houses many charter boats which cater to a great day of fishing for a large assortment of fish. It also has a pirate ship, dolphin site seeing adventure, and wave runner and jet ski rentals.

Downtown St. Petersburg

Located **less than a mile from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **5 minute commute**, Downtown St. Petersburg features six world-class museums and more than 20 galleries. More than 700 events take place each year in St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg's

shoreline is 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

Located approximately **18 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **30 minute commute**, Largo is found just south of Clearwater and north of St. Petersburg. Tampa is a short commute eastbound across either of the two scenic bridges that cross over Old Tampa Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. Largo covers about 14.1 square miles and has enjoyed rapid growth, with great values, and a population of more than 68,500. Largo is a quiet, largely residential community, with friendly stores and shops, beautiful parks and recreational facilities, and diverse affordable neighborhoods.

Pinellas Park

Located approximately **9 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **15-20 minute commute**, Pinellas Park is just east of Seminole between the larger cities of Clearwater and St. Petersburg. It is still located close to the beaches and other attractions the Tampa Bay area has to offer. The larger cities of Clearwater, St. Petersburg and Tampa are so close that a commute to either city is surprisingly short.

Seminole

Located approximately **15 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **30 minute commute**, Seminole is conveniently found close to all the major cities such as Clearwater, St. Petersburg and Tampa owning only a short commute to each. Seminole is located just south of Largo and northwest of St. Petersburg. Parts of this city are considered to be within Largo, lending to Seminole's smaller hometown feel within a larger metropolitan area. Real estate in Seminole is very appealing in this well-established town located so close to some of Florida's most beautiful beaches and lakes.

St. Pete Beach

Located approximately **11 miles from USF St. Petersburg**, or a **20 minute commute**, St. Pete Beach has a large variety of condominiums, and single family homes that have a private boat dock to get you to enjoy the water near your own backyard. Each condominium community has a large swimming pool and many offer waterfront views that are second to none. This beach is perfect for those who need to commute to nearby cities such as Tampa or Bradenton. Hop on I-275 or the Sunshine Skyway Bridge and you'll arrive at any destination in minutes.

CAMPUS MINISTRIES & PLACES OF WORSHIP (Not a complete list)

The Campus Ministries webpage provides an overview and links to congregations housed on campus:

<http://campusministries.usf.edu/page.asp?id=80>

Baptist

Belmont Baptist Church – <http://www.belmonttampa.org/>
7830 N 56th St., Tampa, FL 33617
(813) 988-1501

First Baptist Church of New Tampa – <http://www.fbcnewtampa.org/>
28125 County Line Road, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543
(813) 907-1685

Mission Hill Church – <https://missionhillchurch.com/>
10002 North 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 988-1138

Buddhist

Wat Thai Temple – <http://www.wattampa.com>
5306 Palm River Rd, Tampa, FL 33619
(813) 626-8850

Catholic

Catholic Student Center – www.catholicusf.org
13005 50th Street North, Tampa, FL 33617
(813) 988-3727

Episcopal

Grace Episcopal Church – www.gracenewtampa.com
15102 Amberly Drive, Tampa, FL 33647
(Off Bruce B Downs Blvd on Amberly Drive)
(813) 971-8484

Islamic

Islamic Society of Tampa Bay – www.istaba.org
7326 East Sligh Ave, Tampa, FL 33610
(813) 628-0007

Jewish

USF Synagogue
13207 N. 52nd Street Tampa, FL 33617
(813) 832-3018

Chabad on Campus Jewish Student Center – www.usfchabad.com
4506 Sweetwater Lake Dr., Tampa, FL 33613
(813) 978-8723

USF Hillel – www.usfhillel.org
13101 USF Sycamore Dr., Tampa, FL 33620
(813) 899-2788

Lutheran

Family of Christ Lutheran Church – www.familyofchristtampa.com
16190 Bruce B Downs Blvd., Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 558-9343

Methodist

Temple Terrace United Methodist Church – <http://ttumc.org/>
5030 E. Busch Blvd., Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 988-4141

Presbyterian

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church of New Tampa – <http://standrewnewtampa.org/>
5340 Primrose Lake Circle, Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 907-3057

Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church (PCA) – www.tampabaypresbyterian.org
19911 Bruce B Downs Blvd., Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 973-2484

United Church of Christ

First United Church of Christ – <http://ucctampa.org/>
7308 East Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33617
(813) 988-4321

HOSPITALS & HEALTHCARE

On-Campus

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

The Carol and Frank Morsani Center for Advanced Healthcare -

<https://health.usf.edu/care>

Moffitt Cancer Center - <http://www.moffitt.org/>

Student Health Services - <http://www.shs.usf.edu/>

Wellness USF - <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/wellness/>

Off-Campus

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

General Health Care in Tampa Bay - http://www.tampachamber.com/ti_healthcare.asp

Tampa General Hospital - <http://www.tgh.org/>

AdventHealth Tampa- <https://www.adventhealth.com/hospital/adventhealth-tampa>

Brandon Regional - <http://brandonhospital.com/>

Urgent Care & Walk-In Clinic – <https://www.adventhealth.com/hospital/adventhealth-tampa/urgent-and-emergency-care>

St. Joseph's Children's Hospital – <https://baycare.org/sjch>

Shriners Children's Hospital – <https://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/tampa>

PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

USF offers on-campus childcare options, including the USF Family Center, managed by Bright Horizons, and the USF Preschool for Creative Learning.

<http://www.usfpcl.org/>

<http://child-care-preschool.brighthorizons.com/FL/Tampa/usf/>

<http://tampafamilyguide.com/Education.php>

<http://tampabayparenting.com/>

Children's Hospitals

St. Joseph's Children's Hospital – <https://baycare.org/sjch>

Shriners Children's Hospital – <https://www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org/tampa>

Public Schools

Education in the U.S. is provided primarily by the public sector, and child education is obligatory. Education is divided in three levels:

- **Elementary School** – Offers primary education and does not always include pre-school education. Typically, students attend elementary school from kindergarten to 5th grade (5-6 years).
- **Middle School** – It is also known as junior high school, and it was created to bridge the gap between the elementary and the high school. The grades included in middle school are 6th, 7th, and 8th.
- **High School** – It is also known as secondary education. The grades included in high school are 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th.

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

- Hillsborough County – <http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/>
- Pasco County – <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/>
- Pinellas County – <https://www.pcsb.org/>

SHOPPING, RECREATION/ENTERTAINMENT & OTHER SERVICES NEAR USF

Groceries

Aldi
Publix
Target
Trader Joe's
WalMart Superstores
Winn-Dixie

Basics

Bed Bath & Beyond
Dollar Tree
Ikea
K-Mart
Target
WalMart Superstores

Computers & Study Supplies

Best Buy
Office Depot *(USF Discount)
Staples
USF Computer Store (Marshall Student Center 1st Floor)
Computer Repairs - <http://www.usf.edu/it/computer-store/service-center/datarecovery.aspx>

Pharmacies & Drug Stores

USF Pharmacy – Marshall Student Center 1st Floor (does not take cash)
CVS
Publix
Walgreens
WalMart
Winn-Dixie

Textbooks

USF Bookstore <https://www.bkstr.com/usftampastore/home/en>
Bookholders Bookstore www.bookholders.com
Amazon www.amazon.com
Ebay <http://www.ebay.com>

Photocopying/Poster & Flyer Printing

USF Ricoh Print Shop

<http://usfprintshop.myprintdesk.net/DSF/SmartStore.aspx?6xni2of2cF0Yny0kSi9xsT3cc5Y9CI5joLDr31C2IZR4dGdIJgLtUJAKWa0pCS1A#!/Storefront>

Fed-Ex Print & Ship Center <http://www.fedex.com/us/office/>

Pro-Copy (open 24-hours) <http://www.pro-copy.com/>

Staples <http://www.staples.com/sbd/content/copyandprint/>

Shopping Malls

University Mall www.universitymalltampa.com

Wiregrass Mall www.theshopsatwiregrass.com

Westshore Plaza <http://www.westshoreplaza.com>

Westfield Brandon Mall <http://www.westfield.com/brandon>

Westfield Citrus Park <http://westfield.com/citruspark>

International Plaza Mall www.shopinternationalplaza.com

Ellenton Outlet Mall <http://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/ellenton>

Tampa Outlet Mall <http://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/tampa>

Restaurants

American

Applebee's Neighborhood Bar & Grille - 5779 E. Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

The Cheesecake Factory - 2223 NW Shore Blvd, Tampa, FL

Chili's – 2794 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Ciccio Cali Tampa Palms – 17001 Palm Pointe Dr., Tampa, FL

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store – 3125 Cove Bend Dr., Tampa, FL

Firehouse Grill & Pub – 8814 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL

Five Guys Burgers & Fries – 2702 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Gator's Dockside – 5840 E Fowler Ave, Temple Terrace, FL

Graffiti Junkton – 11401 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL

Peabody's – 15333 Amberly Dr., Tampa, FL

Steak N Shake – 1450 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

TGI Friday's – 2501 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Village Inn – 11302 N 30th St, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)

Bagels/Doughnuts

Bagels Plus – 2706 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL

Dunkin Donuts – 1505 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Einstein Bros Bagels – 5003 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Hole in One Donut – 14406 N Florida Ave, Tampa, FL

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts – 8425 N Florida Ave, Tampa, FL

Breakfast/Bakery

Bob Evans – 12272 Morris Bridge Rd., Temple Terrace, FL

Central Park Diner – 13418 Telcom Dr., Temple Terrace, FL

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store – 3125 Cove Bend Dr., Tampa, FL
 Denny's – 1700 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount on Thursdays)
 First Watch – E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 IHOP – 3501 E Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL
 Panera Bread – 11878 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa, FL
 Perkins Family Restaurant – 5002 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Savvy Jack's Southern – 11404 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL

BBQ

Big John's Alabama BBQ – 5707 N 40th St, Tampa, FL
 Big Papa's Pit BBQ – 2802 E Bearss, Tampa, FL
 Four Rivers Smokehouse – 14330 N Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa, FL
 Lupton's Buffet – 5299 E Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL
 Mission BBQ – 13612 Bruce B Downs, Tampa, FL
 Skipper's Smokehouse & Oyster Bar - 910 Skipper Rd, Tampa, FL
 Sonny's Real Pit BBQ – 2802 E Bearss, Tampa, FL

Coffee/Tea

Café Kili Coffee Lounge – 5731 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Kaleisia Tea Lounge – 1441 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL
 Starbucks Coffee – 5006 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Chicken

Boston Market – 5501 E Fowler Ave, Temple Terrace, FL* (USF Discount)
 Chick-Fil-A – 5302 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Kentucky Fried Chicken – 2212 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Popeye's Chicken – 2216 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL

Chinese/Japanese

China First Buffet – 2811 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Fushia Asian Bistro – 15317 Amberly Dr., Tampa, FL
 Happy Wok – 13606 University Plaza St., Tampa, FL
 Ichiban Japanese Cuisine – 2786 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Panda Express – 2214 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Sake House – 5104 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Tung Tung – 10829 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL

Caribbean/Jamaican

Caribbean Delights – 2920 E Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Golden Krust Bakery – 14913 N. Florida Ave., Tampa, FL
 Jerk Hut – 926 E Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Pollo Tropical - 3285 W Hillsborough Ave, Tampa, FL
 Alez Caribbean Restaurant & Lounge – 1428 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL
 Tara's Roti Shop - 10006 N 30th St., Tampa, FL

Fast Food

Burger King - 2902 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL
 McDonald's – 11707 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL
 Sonic - 1915 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Wendy's - 13712 Bruce B. Downs Blvd, Tampa, FL

Food Court/Eateries at University Mall - 2200 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Auntie Anne's Pretzels
 Cajun Cafe
 Charley's Grilled Subs* (USF Discount)
 Chick-Fil-A* (USF Discount)
 Combo Wok
 Great American Cookies* (USF Discount)
 Ice-Cream Fantasia & Smoothies* (USF Discount)
 Perry's BBQ
 Sarku Japan
 Sbarro Pizza* (USF Discount)
 Subway

German

Mr. Dunderbak's – 14929 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa, FL

Greek/Middle Eastern

Acropolis Bar & Grill – 14947 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Byblos – 734 University Square Dr., Tampa, FL
 Golden Bakery and Cuisine – 12822 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL
 Little Greek - 2548 East Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL (USF Discount)
 Persian House of Kabobs – 1441 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL
 Petra Restaurant – 4812 E Busch Blvd., Tampa, FL
 Pita's Republic – 5105 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Pita Pit – 2309 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Stefano Greek Italian Restaurant – 8600 N 56th St, Temple Terrace, FL
 Zeko's Express Mediterranean Grille – 3609 Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL

Ice-Cream/Smoothies

Baskin-Robbins – 1505 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Cold Stone Creamery – 2774 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Dairy Queen – 10830 N 56th St, Temple Terrace, FL
 D'lites Emporium - 5001 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Jamba Juice - 5004 East Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Papalani Gelato – 13312 Telcom Dr., Temple Terrace, FL
Planet Smoothie - 11852 Bruce B Downs Boulevard, Tampa, FL
Smoothie King – 5702 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Indian

Cilantro Indian Cuisine – 11009 N 56th St, Temple Terrace, FL
Jai Ho Indian Cuisine – 2311 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
Taste of India – 1241 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
Taj Indian Cuisine – 2734 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Italian

Carrabba's Italian Grille – 5515 E Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL
CDB Pizza & Italian Restaurant – 5104 E Fowler Ave., Temple Terrace, FL
Olive Garden Italian Restaurant – 2801 E Busch Blvd., Tampa, FL
Romano's Macaroni Grill - 1500 N Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL
Sweet Tomatoes - 1902 N Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa, FL

Mexican/Southwestern

Chipotle Mexican Grill – 2576 E Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL
Moe's Southwest Grill – 13238 N Dale Mabry, Tampa, FL
Taco Bus - 2320 E Fletcher Ave., Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
Taco Son Mexican Grille – 7521 N 56th St., Tampa, FL
Tijuana Flats – 2782 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
Qdoba Mexican Grill – 5001 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)

Pizza

CDB Pizza – 5104 E Fowler Ave, Temple Terrace, FL* (USF Discount)
Domino's Pizza – 2316 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL
Papa John's Pizza – 9307 N 56th St, Temple Terrace, FL* (USF Discount)
Pizza Hut – 4011 E Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL
Wood Fired Pizza Wine Bar – 2822 Bearss Ave, Tampa, FL

Seafood

Bone-Fish Grill – 13262 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa, FL
Red Lobster – 2625 E Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL
Shells – 2101 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
Skipper's Smokehouse & Oyster Bar – 910 Skipper Rd, Tampa, FL

Steak

Longhorn Steakhouse – 2110 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
Outback Steakhouse – 11308 N 56th St., Temple Terrace, FL

Subs/Sandwiches/Deli

Firehouse Subs – 2710 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Jason’s Deli – 2702 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Jersey Mike’s Subs – 14925 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Jimmy John’s – 2345 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Lenny’s Sub Shop – 8225 Park Edge Dr., Tampa, FL
 McAlister’s Deli – 11402 N 30th St, Tampa, FL
 Old World Cheese Shop – 11001 N 56th St, Temple Terrace, FL
 Pita Pit – 2309 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL* (USF Discount)
 Ruben’s Cubans - 4941 E Busch Blvd, Tampa, FL
 Quizno’s – 5509 E Fowler Ave, Temple Terrace, FL
 SoFresh Salads & Grill – 2774 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Subway – 1819 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Wawa – 2325 E Fletcher Ave., Tampa, FL
 Which Wich – 5004 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Vegetarian/Vegan

Kaleisia Tea Lounge – 1441 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL (serves a few vegan meals)
 Loving Hut – 1905 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL
 SoFresh Salads & Grill – 2774 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Vietnamese/Thai

Bangkok Jazzthai Restaurant – 6840 E Fowler Ave, Temple Terrace, FL
 Pho Quyen Vietnamese - 2740 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Saigon Bay Vietnamese Restaurant – 2373 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Thai Ruby – 15319 Amberly Dr, Tampa, FL
 Trang Viet Cuisine – 1524 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL

Wings

Hooters – 13606 Bruce B Downs, Blvd, Tampa, FL
 Wing-Stop – 2776 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL
 Wing King – 1132 E Fletcher Ave, Tampa, FL

<http://www.visittampabay.com/visitors/restaurants/> (Restaurant Guide)

<http://tampabay.citysearch.com/> (Tampa City Search Restaurant & Services Guide)

Recreation & Entertainment

<http://www.tampabay.com/things-to-do/>

<http://www.visittampabay.com/visitors/entertainment-nightlife/>

AMC Highwoods 20 movie theater– 18002 Highwood Preserve Parkway, Tampa, FL -

<https://www.amctheatres.com/movie-theatres/tampa-st-petersburg/amc-highwoods-20>

<https://www.carmike.com/> * (USF Discount Sun.-Thurs.)

Studio Movie Grill – at University Mall, Tampa, FL – www.studiomoviegrill.com

College of the Arts - <http://fastbook.cvpa.usf.edu/fbonline/calendar.asp> - Art, Theatre & Music events, Contemporary Arts Museum (CAM), Center Gallery (in the Marshall Student Center)

USF Athletics - www.gousfbulls.com

USF Botanical Gardens - <http://gardens.usf.edu/> *(USF Students - \$1 with Valid ID)

USF Riverfront Park - <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/CampusRec/outdoor/riverfront.html>

Postal Services

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

Contact them at:

- (813) 974-2606
- Fax: (813) 974-9700

Mailing Address:

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

General Tampa Resources

<http://www.safetampabay.org/resourceguide/communityservresources.html> (Tampa Community Services Guide)

<http://www.crisiscenter.com/>

Relocation Resource

<http://www.mymove.com/guide/moving-to-tampa.html>

**By providing the information above, the University of South Florida does not guarantee, approve, or endorse any restaurants, stores, pharmacies, supermarkets or services.*

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Colleges and Academic Programs

Arts & Sciences	813.974.6957
Behavioral & Community Sciences	813.974.2365
Business	813.974.4290
Graduate Studies	813.974.2846
Education	813.974.3400
Engineering	813.974.2684
Marine Science	813.973.1130
Marine Science (St. Pete Campus).....	727.553.1130
Medicine	813.974.2196
Nursing	813.974.2191
Public Health	813.974.3623
The Arts.....	813.974.3660

University Departments

Athletics	813.974.2125
Bookstore	813.974.2631
Campus Recreation	813.974.3177
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	813.974.7912
Center for Victim’s Advocacy and Violence Prevention	813.974.5756
Counseling Center (for regular office hours <i>and</i> after-hours emergencies)	813.974.2831
Dean of Students	813.974.6677
Dining Services/Meal Plans	813.974.4499
Division of Student Affairs	813.974.5533
Financial Aid.....	813.974.4700
Office of Graduate Studies	813.974.2846
Housing & Residential Education.....	813.974.0001
Immunization Records/Medical Records Forms	813.974.4056
Information Technology (Email & Canvas)	813.974.1222
International Services.....	813.974.5102
Library	813.974.2729
Marshall Student Center Front Desk.....	813.974.3180
Multicultural Affairs	813.974.5111
Oracle.....	813.974.2617
Parking & Transportation Services	813.974.3990
Police (USF Campus)	813.974.2628
Registrar’s Office.....	813.974.2000
Student Government.....	813.974.2401
Student Health Services	813.974.2331
Student Ombuds Office.....	813.974.0835
Student Rights & Responsibilities	813.974.9443
Student Support Services	813.974.4301
Students with Disabilities Services	813.974.4309
Student Outreach & Support (SOCAT)	813.974.6130
Tutoring & Writing Services.....	813.974.2713
Veterans Services	813.974.2291

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We hope that you have found the USF Graduate Student Life Guide to be a useful resource that will serve you throughout your education at USF! This Guide was created to provide USF's graduate students with information about services, resources and support to enhance graduate student life and success.

The Student Life Guide is designed to familiarize students with places to socialize, eat, shop, live, worship and how to get involved in campus life. It is hoped that it will be helpful as you balance and survive your busy graduate student lives!

Sincerely,

Gary Oliver
Assistant Director, Graduate Student Services
Office of Graduate Studies

**The Office Of Graduate Studies values your input! We welcome any feedback to improve this Guide. You can direct your comments to oliverg@usf.edu.*