

## **University of South Carolina Columbia Mission Statement**

The primary mission of the University of South Carolina Columbia is the education of the state's citizens through teaching, research, creative activity, and community engagement.

Among America's oldest and most comprehensive public universities, USC Columbia is the major research institution of the University of South Carolina system and its largest campus, enrolling approximately 21,000 undergraduate students and approximately 8,000 students in graduate and professional programs. At the heart of its mission lies the University's responsibility to state and society to promote the dissemination of knowledge, cultural enrichment, and an enhanced quality of life.

The University serves a diverse population of students with widely varying backgrounds, career goals, and levels of aspiration. USC Columbia offers over 320 degrees at the bachelor's, master's, doctoral, and professional program levels, affording students the most comprehensive array of educational programs in the state. Additional opportunities for personal and career development, including an associate degree program at Fort Jackson, are provided to the citizens of South Carolina through outreach and continuing education activities.

Through the primary method of classroom and laboratory instruction, and through a secondary method of distance learning delivered via the Internet, teleconference, and electronic media, degree programs are offered in the following areas: arts and sciences; education; engineering and computing; hospitality, retail, and sport management; mass communications and information studies; music; public health; and social work; and in professional programs such as business, law, medicine, nursing, and pharmacy. The depth and breadth of its graduate programs in the arts and sciences, international business, public health, social work, and library and information science distinguishes USC Columbia from all other institutions of higher learning in South Carolina.

Recognized by the Carnegie Foundation as a top research and service institution, nationally ranked in start-up businesses, and conferring over 30% of all bachelor's and graduate degrees awarded at public institutions in South Carolina, the University has a profound relevance, reach, and impact on the people of the state. As the flagship institution of the state system, USC Columbia leads the way in providing all students with the highest-quality education, including the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for success and responsible citizenship in a complex and changing world through engagement in nationally and internationally ranked research, scholarship, community outreach, and artistic creation.

USC Columbia mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees - July 2010



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**

## **Carolinian Creed**

The community of scholars at the University of South Carolina is dedicated to personal and academic excellence. Choosing to join the community obligates each member to a code of civilized behavior:

As a Carolinian, I will practice personal and academic integrity; I will respect the dignity of all persons; I will respect the rights and property of others; I will discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions; I will demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their need for conditions which support their work and development. Allegiance to these ideals requires each Carolinian to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threaten the freedom and respect every individual deserves.

## **University of South Carolina Aiken Mission Statement**

Founded in 1961, the University of South Carolina Aiken (USC Aiken) is a comprehensive liberal arts institution committed to active learning through excellence in teaching, faculty and student scholarship, research, creative activities, and service. In this stimulating academic community, USC Aiken challenges students to acquire and develop the skills, knowledge, and values necessary for success in a dynamic global environment.



The University offers degrees in the arts and sciences and in the professional disciplines of business, education, and nursing. All courses of study are grounded in a liberal arts and sciences core curriculum. USC Aiken also encourages interdisciplinary studies and collaborative endeavors.

Emphasizing small classes and individual attention, USC Aiken provides students with opportunities to maximize individual achievement in both academic and co-curricular settings. The institution challenges students to think critically and creatively, to communicate effectively, to learn independently, and to acquire depth of knowledge in chosen fields. The University values honesty, integrity, initiative, hard work, accomplishments, responsible citizenship, respect for diversity, and cross-cultural understanding.

USC Aiken attracts students of varying ages and diverse cultural backgrounds who have demonstrated the potential to succeed in a challenging academic environment. In addition to serving the Savannah River area, USC Aiken actively seeks student enrollment from all parts of South Carolina as well as from other states and countries.

As a senior public institution of the University of South Carolina, USC Aiken combines the advantages of a smaller institution with the resources of a major university system. Located in beautiful, historic Aiken, South Carolina, USC Aiken is an institution of moderate size (2,500-5,000 students) that offers baccalaureate degrees in a number of disciplines, completion baccalaureate degrees at University of South Carolina regional campuses, and master's degrees in selected programs.

USC Aiken endeavors to apply knowledge, skills, and wisdom in ways that promote the common good. Accordingly, the University seeks to build strong community ties. The institution enriches the quality of life not only on campus but also throughout the surrounding region through a variety of activities including the fine and performing arts, athletics, continuing education, distance learning, and community service. In fulfilling its role as an institution of higher learning, the University of South Carolina Aiken is a community of individuals engaged in broadly based educational experiences necessary for an enlightened society.

USC Aiken mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – June 2002

## **University of South Carolina Aiken Statement of University Values**

We at USC Aiken embrace the following values:

1. A High Quality Learning Environment.
  - We seek to impart a broad range of skills, knowledge, and wisdom
  - We aim to maximize each student's potential
  - We expect and value high quality teaching and individualized attention from faculty and staff
  - We expect and value high quality scholarship and creative endeavors by faculty
  - We encourage
    - Critical thinking
    - Independent learning
    - An understanding of the connections between the liberal arts and discipline-specific courses
    - Curiosity and a love of continual learning
2. Collegiality
  - We aspire to be a nurturing community where people support one another in their efforts to learn and excel
  - We encourage cooperation, collaboration and collegiality
3. Character
  - We expect integrity, honesty and taking responsibility for our actions
  - We embrace diversity and encourage respectfulness
  - We encourage initiative, effort, and pride in hard work and accomplishments
4. Citizenship
  - We strive to foster in students an understanding of the rights and responsibilities associated with membership in a community
  - We seek to develop responsible citizenship and working for the common good
  - We advocate involvement and partnerships with our external constituents to promote meaningful engagement and applied learning

## **University of South Carolina Beaufort Mission Statement**

The University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB) responds to regional needs, draws upon regional strengths, and prepares graduates to contribute locally, nationally, and internationally with its mission of teaching, research, and service. USCB is a senior baccalaureate campus (1,400 to 3,000 students) of the state's largest public university. It offers degree programs in the arts, humanities, professions, and social and natural sciences delivered through on-site instruction and distance education, along with an active program of co-curricular activities and athletics. It serves a racially and culturally diverse student body, including military personnel, veterans and their dependents, and draws students from the South Carolina Lowcountry, from around the country, and from around the world. USCB enriches the quality of life for area residents of all ages through its academic programs, continuing education, artistic and cultural offerings, community outreach, collaborations with regional initiatives, and life-long learning opportunities.



USC Beaufort mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – December 2012

## University of South Carolina Beaufort Commitment to Student Service

*As we as staff and administrators work together with faculty, students and our fellow staff members to support the mission of USCB, our interactions will be guided by the following principles:*

**Integrity:** possessing and steadfastly adhering to high moral principles or professional standards. At USCB, we view integrity as a willingness to be transparent in our dealings and a desire to treat all members of the university community with fairness and respect.

**Collaboration:** working together with one or more people in order to achieve a common goal. At USCB, we view collaboration with individuals, departments and outside partnering agencies as a means to develop better ideas and implement them more successfully.

**Innovation:** creatively inventing, introducing and implementing new ideas, approaches or tools to increase our effectiveness and efficiency. At USCB, we view innovation, both in our educational and research processes and in our internal operations, as an important measure of our growth as an institution.

**Responsiveness:** reacting quickly, strongly, and positively to a constituent's need, suggestion or proposal. At USCB, we believe that responsive individuals show compassion and genuinely desire to assist others.

**Accountability:** accepting one's responsibility to others in the organization and for one's own work role. Accountability at USCB centers on the effectiveness of our educational and student support functions and the business processes that underlie them.

**Excellence:** committing to reach a level of superior and outstanding performance. At USCB, we aim to serve our students and the communities in our region with distinctive programs tailored to their needs and strengths.

## **University of South Carolina Upstate Mission Statement**

University of South Carolina Upstate aims to become one of the Southeast's leading "metropolitan" universities ... a university that acknowledges as its fundamental reason for being its relationship to expanding populations along the I-85 corridor. It aims to be recognized nationally among its peer metropolitan institutions for its excellence in education and commitment to its students, for its involvement in the Upstate, and for the clarity and integrity of its metropolitan mission.



As a senior public institution of the University of South Carolina with a comprehensive residential campus in Spartanburg and commuting and degree completion operations at the University Center of Greenville, the University's primary responsibilities are to offer baccalaureate education to the citizens of the Upstate of South Carolina and to offer selected master's degrees in response to regional demand.

USC Upstate strives to prepare its students to participate as responsible citizens in a diverse, global and knowledge-based society, to pursue excellence in their chosen careers and to continue learning throughout life. Curricula and services are designed for the University's students, four to seven thousand in headcount, who are diverse in background, age, race, ethnicity, educational experience and academic goals. Students are drawn in large proportion from the Upstate where many choose to remain for their careers. A broad range of major curricula are provided in arts and sciences and in professional fields of study required by the regional economy, including business, education, and nursing. Through on-site instruction, distance learning, continuing education and inter-institutional articulation agreements, both traditional students and working professionals are served across the region.

Consistent with the international character of the Upstate, the University promotes global perspectives across its programs. Supporting the regional employment objectives of most of its students, it provides extensive experiential learning opportunities.

The University's metropolitan mission rests upon a foundation of partnerships with the education, corporate and service organizations of the Upstate. The faculty provides leadership in promoting the Upstate's economic, social and cultural development. This is achieved through its teaching, professional and public service, basic and applied scholarship and research, and creative endeavors.

USC Upstate mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – June 2006

## **University of South Carolina Upstate Core Values**

The University's core values not only serve as the philosophical underpinnings of the institution's mission, but they serve to govern attitudes, behaviors, and decisions in daily activities among stakeholders. As such, the University of South Carolina Upstate affirms that...

**PEOPLE** come first. We are committed to creating an inclusive environment wherein we respect our differences as we pursue our common academic purposes. Our employees, students, parents and partners are the University's most valuable assets. We aim to work hard, work smart and always do the right thing. We cooperate and collaborate with colleagues and constituents, aiming to be responsive, flexible, accessible and friendly in our service. We strive to be goodwill ambassadors for the University, and to advance its reputation and its metropolitan mission.

**STEWARDSHIP** of resources is critical to accomplishing the University's mission. We understand the importance of evaluating and reflecting on our daily activities in order to gain the highest value in return for the University's and our own professional investments. As employees, we aim to apply principles of honesty and fiscal responsibility in order to conserve student, partner, and University resources as though they were our own.

**INTEGRITY** as an academic institution drives our daily activities. That integrity includes a passion for teaching and learning, and a belief that every employee and student has a right to learn and progress as far as he or she is able. We seek, therefore, to provide a distinctive learning environment that supports and encourages employee growth and personal and professional development.



## **University of South Carolina Lancaster Mission Statement**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership to its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Lancaster offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts, focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.



The University of South Carolina Lancaster recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. Enrollment varies with community need, but is expected to remain at approximately 1600 students.

The University of South Carolina Lancaster was established to encourage higher education in the counties of Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, and York. The design of the early institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demand of constituents.

The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees, as well as focused Associate in Science degrees in Business; Criminal Justice; and Technical Nursing, and provides for the completion of selected bachelor degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Lancaster also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide. In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.

The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Lancaster. In a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities, USC Lancaster promotes courses, activities, and attitudes which influence the life of the mind in men and women and instills in them a thirst to continue learning throughout life.

USC Lancaster emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. Core competencies including the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech; computational and quantitative mastery, creative and critical thinking, the duties of citizenship are strategically integrated within the curriculum. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning.

USC Lancaster mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – July 2010

## **University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Mission Statement**

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Salkehatchie offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.



The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. Enrollment varies with community need, but is expected to remain at approximately 950 students.

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie was established to encourage higher education in the counties of Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Colleton and Hampton. The original design of the institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demands of constituents.

The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor's degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Salkehatchie also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide. In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.

The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Salkehatchie. In a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities, USC Salkehatchie promotes courses, activities, and attitudes which influence the life of the mind in men and women and instill in them a thirst to continue learning throughout life.

USC Salkehatchie emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. Core competencies, including the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech; computational and quantitative mastery; creative and critical thinking; and the duties of citizenship are strategically integrated within the curriculum. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships, all contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning.

USC Salkehatchie mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – July 2010

## **University of South Carolina Sumter Mission Statement**

The University of South Carolina Sumter, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Sumter offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.



The University of South Carolina Sumter recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. Enrollment varies with community need, but is expected to remain at approximately 1200 students. The University of South Carolina Sumter was established to encourage higher education in the counties of Clarendon, Lee, Kershaw, Sumter, and Williamsburg. The original design of the institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demands of constituents.

The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor's degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Sumter also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide. In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.

The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Sumter. In a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities, USC Sumter promotes courses, activities, and attitudes which influence the life of the mind in men and women and instill in them a thirst to continue learning throughout life.

USC Sumter emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. Core competencies, including the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech; computational and quantitative mastery; creative and critical thinking; and the duties of citizenship are strategically integrated within the curriculum. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships, all contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning

USC Sumter mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – July 2010

## **University of South Carolina Union Mission Statement**

The University of South Carolina Union, a regional campus of the University of South Carolina, has as its mission to provide higher education and intellectual leadership for its service area. At the heart of this mission is a teaching faculty of high quality dedicated to excellence in instruction, scholarship, public and professional service, and creative endeavor which enrich the classroom experience. USC Union offers a varied curriculum grounded in the liberal arts and focused on preparing students to continue their education in the University and throughout life.



The University of South Carolina Union recruits students prepared to succeed in completing a baccalaureate-level education. While the institution does not offer remedial instruction, it is nonetheless able to admit most students who apply due to the close working relationship between students and faculty. Enrollment varies with community need, but is expected to remain at approximately 500 students. The University of South Carolina Union was established to encourage higher education in the counties of Chester, Cherokee, Fairfield, Laurens, Union, and York. The original design of the institution incorporated a flexibility that has allowed changes in institutional capability with increasing educational demands of constituents.

The institution awards the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees and provides for the completion of selected bachelor's degrees on campus through cooperative agreements and delivery structures with other USC System institutions. USC Union also provides general education and upper division coursework applicable to baccalaureate degree programs offered through colleges and universities nationwide. In addition to academic coursework, the mission of the campus includes non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops made available to the community for cultural enrichment and professional development.

The traditions of cultural diversity and freedom of thought are valued at USC Union. In a learning environment that develops respect for racial, geographical, intellectual, and economic diversity and an awareness of individual, societal, and global responsibilities, USC Union promotes courses, activities, and attitudes which influence the life of the mind in men and women and instill in them a thirst to continue learning throughout life.

USC Union emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. Core competencies, including the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech; computational and quantitative mastery; creative and critical thinking; and the duties of citizenship are strategically integrated within the curriculum. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships, all contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning.

USC Union mission statement approved by the Board of Trustees – July 2010