

Office of Assessment and Accreditation Support

Admitted Graduate Student Survey Report

November 2020

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General Information about the Survey

PURPOSE

The purpose of this survey was to learn how applicants admitted to USF graduate programs perceive USF and the areas that influenced their decisions to attend, or not attend.

ORIGINATORS

The survey was developed by the Office of Assessment & Accreditation Support in collaboration with the Office of Graduate Enrollment.

DATA COLLECTION

Survey Population: The survey was sent to 2644 people who were admitted in Summer and Fall 2020 to graduate programs in the College of Arts & Sciences, School of Management, and School of Nursing & Health Professions. The School of Education and School of Law did not participate.

Instrument: Qualtrics

Period: September 15, 2020 – September 29, 2020

Response Rate: 20% (529 responses)

Executive Summary

The Admitted Graduate Student Survey, sent to Summer and Fall 2020 graduate applicants who were admitted, including those who accepted and then enrolled or did not enroll, *and* those who declined the offer, was carried out to learn how applicants perceive USF, and areas that influenced their decisions to attend or not to attend. The first of its kind at USF, the survey was developed by the Office of Assessment & Accreditation Support in collaboration with the Office of Graduate Enrollment. Three of the five schools and the college participated: College of Arts and Sciences, School of Management, and School of Nursing and Health Professions.

The Qualtrics survey was sent Sept. 15, shortly after the Sept. 4 census date, and gathered responses until Sept. 29. There was a 20% response rate, with 529 of 2,644 applicants queried participating. Of all participants, 73%, or 386 applicants, accepted their admission offer, but notably, 143 participants, or 27% or participants *did not*, providing valuable insights on their decisions. 23% of those who accepted their offers, or 89 applicants, ultimately did not enroll, in part due to COVID 19, and challenges faced by international accepts.

THE DECISION TO ENROLL OR NOT TO ENROLL

Of the participants who accepted and enrolled at USF, 89% agreed or strongly agreed that they made the right decision. 44% of those who were admitted, but *did not* begin attending agreed or strongly agreed that they made the right decision *not* to attend USF. 16% who did not attend disagreed or strongly disagreed that they made the right decision not to attend.

Of non-matriculants, the highest percentage (55%) indicated that financial cost was a factor that influenced their decision not to attend USF, followed by affordability of the Bay Area, and availability of scholarships.

Of those who did not accept their admission offer, or did not begin attending, 54% are not attending any college or university at this time, the primary reason (41%) being financial. Additional reasons were "difficulty obtaining visa," and "other," where recurring themes were career/job opportunities, COVID-19, online courses, and international student issues.

34% of participants applied only to USF. 68% of all participants indicated that USF was their first choice, and of those who accepted their offer, 80% indicated that USF was their first choice. The majority of participants were accepted to all of the institutions to which they applied.

INSTITUTIONS TO WHICH APPLICANTS ENROLLED INSTEAD OF USF

Those who did not choose USF were asked to name the college or university they began attending. The highest percentage of participants (6%) indicated the University of Southern California. This group also rated as excellent or good the college they attended for academic rigor 94% of the time, job outcomes/career opportunities 89% of the time, and location, 85% of the time. Thus, not surprisingly, applicants chose, among others, Columbia University, NYU, Rochester Institute of Technology, Boston College, Boston University, Georgetown, American, George Washington University, Northwestern University, and the University of Illinois Chicago. In California, our applicants' alternatives included virtually all of the UC's, a number of the CSU's, Santa Clara, LMU, Chapman, and USD. International institutions included Oxford University, University of Manchester, University of Edinburgh, Asian Institute

of Technology, Azim Premji University, Catolica Lisbon School of Business & Economics in Portugal, Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

COST, FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID, INSTITUTIONAL AID

Of 22 possible factors, the highest percentage (55%) of those who did not accept USF's admission offer or did not begin attending rated financial cost as a factor that influenced their decision. However, only 39% of participants indicated that they applied for federal financial aid at USF. Of those who began attending USF, the <u>highest</u> proportion (52%) did not apply for federal financial aid. The majority (85%) of those who applied for federal financial aid received aid.

71% of those who chose to attend another college or university indicated that the cost of attendance at USF is higher than the institution they are attending. 63% of all participants received a scholarship from USF; however, 81% of participants who began attending another institution indicated they received more financial assistance from the institution they are attending than offered by USF, with 80% indicating they received a scholarship.

Not surprisingly, scholarships were almost the sole source of institutional aid at USF. Of those who received more financial assistance at the institution they attended, in addition to scholarships, 32% received grants, 32% received assistantships, 8% fellowships, and 20% "other" (loans, medical insurance, work study).

COURSE DELIVERY

The highest percentage (48%) of participants who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision to attend USF indicated that courses offered remotely influenced their decision to attend USF. The highest percentage (60%) of participants who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision *not* to attend USF indicated that not wanting to take remote (online) courses influenced their decision.

INFLUENCES AND PERCEPTIONS

The majority of characteristics related to college choice for USF were most highly rated as Excellent or Good. Location was rated excellent or good 87% of the time, and the highest percentage (72%) of participants who began attending USF indicated that location influenced their decision to attend. For all participants, academic rigor was rated 82%, class size 75%, diversity of students 72%, diversity of faculty/staff 67%. USF's commitment to racial and social justice were rated 66% and 68% respectively, national rankings were rated 53%. Financial cost was rated 29%, availability of scholarships 44%.

90% of all participants indicated that job outcomes/career opportunities were Extremely or Very Important when choosing a college or university. Of these, 59% began attending USF. For those who did not accept their offer of admission the average rating for job outcomes/career opportunities was 4.53 (very important or extremely important). That same group rated USF as 2.98 (just about average) for job outcomes/career opportunities.

Social Justice and Racial Justice were important or extremely important in the college choice. Religious affiliation was not important in the college choice.

IMPACT OF COVID 19

For the majority (69%) of those who began attending USF, COVID-19 was *not* a factor in their decision to attend. However, of those who *did not* accept their admission or begin attending USF, the majority (58%) indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision, with 80% indicating they would have attended USF had the pandemic not occurred. In addition to online courses as a COVID-related factor in the decision to attend USF, 34% said that they were choosing to stay closer to home, and 31% said the emergence of COVID 19 drove them to a field of study that USF offers.

The highest percentage of non-matriculants said they decided not to attend at a time other than admission notification to USF or another institution, notification of USF/other institution grants/scholarships, or after attending a USF event. For the majority of those who responded at "another time," the time was after COVID-19 occurred.

Key Findings

DEMOGRAPHICS

The majority of participants (49%) indicated that they were admitted to the College of Arts & Sciences. 30% of participants were admitted to the School of Management, 21% to the School of Nursing and Health Professions.

DECISION TO ATTEND/NOT ATTEND

73% of participants accepted their admission to USF. Of these, 77% began attending USF and 89% agreed or strongly agreed that they made the right decision to attend USF; whereas, only 44% of those who were accepted, but did not begin attending agreed or strongly agreed that they made the right decision not to attend USF.

Of those who did not accept their offer of admission to USF or did not begin attending, a slight majority (54%) are not attending any college or university at this time. The primary reason given was financial, with 41% selecting this response option.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON DECISION TO ATTEND/NOT ATTEND

For the majority (69%) of those who began attending USF, COVID-19 was not a factor in their decision to attend; however, of those who did not accept their admission or did not begin attending USF, the majority (58%) indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision.

When asked in what way COVID-19 influenced their decision to attend or not attend USF, the most common responses were due to the move to online (remote) learning. Of those who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision to attend USF, 48% indicated that courses now being offered remotely influenced their decision. Of those who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision not to attend USF, 60% indicated that they did not want to take remote (online) courses.

Of those who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision <u>not to attend</u>, the majority (80%) said they would have attended USF if the pandemic had not occurred.

APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

The highest proportion (34%) of participants applied only to USF. The majority of participants were accepted to all of the institutions they applied to.

68% of all participants indicated that USF was their first choice. Of those who began attending USF, 80% indicated that USF was their first choice.

COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS

The highest percentage (90%) of participants indicated that job outcomes/career opportunities was Extremely or Very Important when choosing a college or university. When asked to rate characteristics of USF, 87% rated the location as Excellent or Good and 82% rated academic rigor as Excellent or Good.

Out of 22 factors to select from, the highest percentage (55%) of those who did not accept their offer of admission or did not begin attending USF rated financial cost as a factor that influenced their decision not to attend USF. However, only 39% surveyed applied for Financial Aid.

Those who began attending another college or university rated all characteristics of the college they are attending higher than they rated the same characteristics of USF, with the highest percentage (94%) of participants rating academic rigor as Excellent or Good.

The highest percentage (72%) of participants who began attending USF indicated that location influenced their decision to attend USF and 69% indicated that academic rigor influenced their decision.

FINANCIAL FACTORS

Only 39% of participants indicated that they applied for federal financial aid at USF; however, overall, the majority (85%) of those who applied for federal financial aid received aid.

Of those who began attending USF, the <u>highest</u> proportion (52%) did not apply for federal financial aid at USF.

63% of all participants received a scholarship from USF; however, 81% of participants who began attending another institution indicated they received more financial assistance from the institution they are attending than offered by USF, with 80% indicating they received a scholarship.

COST OF ATTENDANCE

71% of those who chose to attend another college or university indicated that the cost of attendance at USF is higher than the institution they are attending.

Demographics

SCHOOL/COLLEGE

Participants were asked to indicate what school or college they were admitted to from the following response options: *College of Arts & Sciences; School of Management;* and *School of Nursing & Health Professions.*

The below data indicate the proportion of participants who selected each response option:

- College of Arts & Sciences = 49%
- School of Management = 30%
- School of Nursing & Health Professions = 21%

Admission/Acceptance

DECISION TO ATTEND/NOT ATTEND

Participants were asked to indicate whether or not they accepted their offer of admission.

The below data indicate the proportion of participants who selected each response option:

- Accepted their offer of admission = 73%
- Did not accept their offer of admission = 27%

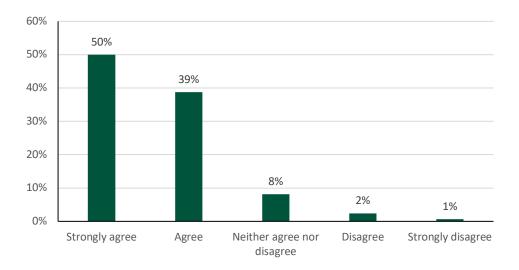
Those who indicated that they accepted their offer of admission were then asked whether or not they began attending USF. Of those who accepted their offer of admission:

- 77% began attending USF.
- 23% did not begin attending USF, representing a 23% melt among survey respondents.

Participants who indicated they began attending USF were asked the extent to which they agreed with the following statement using a 5-pt. scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree): I made the right decision to attend USF.

• The <u>highest</u> proportion of participants (89%) Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they made the right decision to at attend USF.

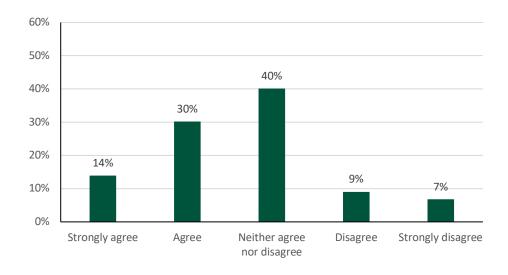
The figure below details the proportion of participants who selected each response option.



Participants who indicated they did not begin attending USF were asked the extent to which they agreed with the following statement using a 5-pt. scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree): I made the right decision <u>not</u> to attend USF.

- The <u>highest</u> proportion (44%) Agreed or Strongly Agreed that they made the right decision not to attend USF.
- 16% who did not attend **Disagreed or Strongly Disagreed** that they made the right decision not to attend.

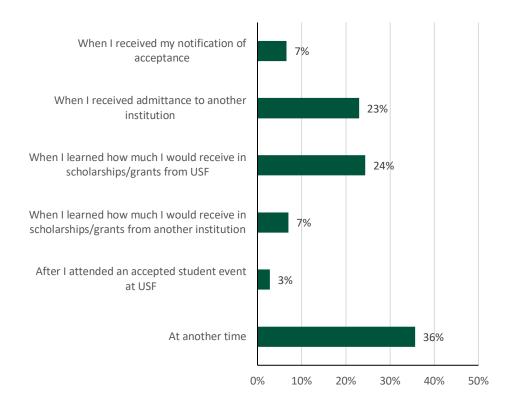
The figure below details the proportion of participants who selected each response option.



Participants who did not accept their offer of admission or did not begin attending USF were asked to indicate at what point they decided not to attend USF from the following response options: When I received my notification of acceptance; When I received admittance to another institution; When I learned how much I would receive in scholarships/grants from USF; When I learned how much I would receive in scholarships/grants from another institution; After I attended an accepted student event at USF; and At another time.

The highest proportion (36%) of participants selected At another time.

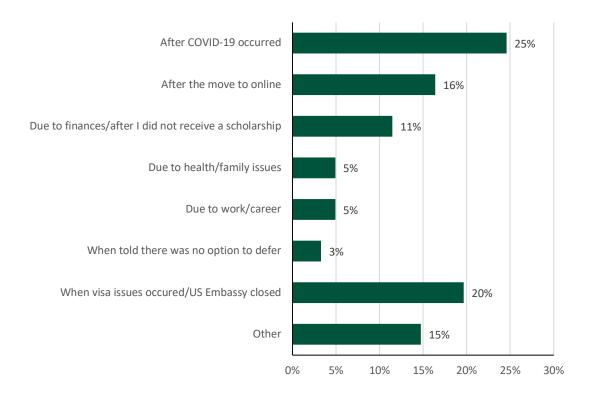
The figure below details the proportion of participants who selected each response option.



Those who responded with **At another time** were provided an opportunity to specify **at what point they decided not to attend USF**. Responses were categorized by recurring themes as follows: *After COVID-19 occurred*; *After the move to online*; *Due to finances/after I did not receive a scholarship*; *Due to health/family issues*; *Due to work/career*; *When told there was no option to defer; When visa issues occurred/US Embassy closed*; and *Other*.

The <u>highest</u> percentage (25%) of those who responded at another time indicated that they
decided not to attend USF after COVID-19 occurred.

The figure below details the percentage of responses in each category.



Those who did not accept their offer of admission or did not begin attending USF were asked to indicate if they chose to attend a college or university other than USF or if they are <u>not</u> attending any college or university at this time.

The below data indicate the proportion of participants who selected each response option:

- Not attending any college or university at this time = 54%
- Chose to attend a college or university other than USF = 46%

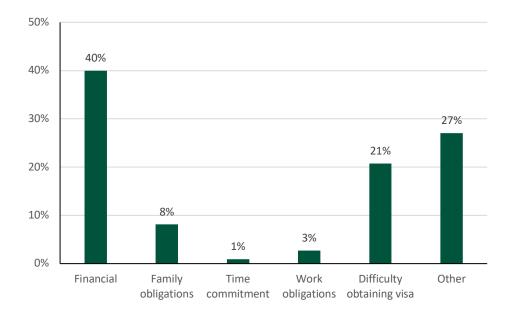
Participants who indicated that they chose to attend a college or university other than USF were asked to indicate in an open text field the name of the college or university they began attending.

The <u>highest</u> percentage (6%) of participants indicated they began attending USC.

Those who indicated they are not attending *any* college or university at this time were asked to indicate the primary reason for that decision using the following response options: *Financial*; *Family obligations*; *Time commitment*; *Work obligations*; *Difficulty obtaining a visa*; and *Other*.

• The <u>highest</u> percentage (41%) of participants indicated the primary reason they are not attending any college or university at this time is **financial**.

The figure below details the proportion of participants who selected each response option.



Participants who selected *Other* were provided an opportunity to specify the primary reasons they are not attending any college or university. Responses were then categorized by recurring theme as follows: *Career/job opportunities; COVID-19; Deferred admission; Doesn't want to study online; Financial; International student issues; and Uncategorized.*

• The <u>highest</u> percentage (34%) of participants who selected *Other* indicated that they are **not** attending any college or university due to COVID-19.

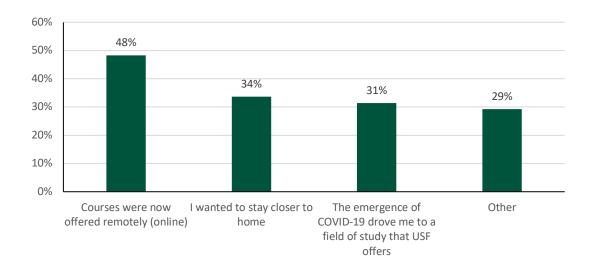
IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON DECISION TO ATTEND/NOT ATTEND

Participants were asked if COVID-19 was a factor in their decision to attend or not attend USF.

- The majority of participants (69%) who <u>began attending USF</u> indicated that COVID-19 was not a factor in their decision to attend USF.
- The majority of participants (58%) who <u>did not accept their offer of admission</u> or <u>did not begin</u> attending USF indicated that **COVID-19 was a factor** in their decision to not to attend USF.

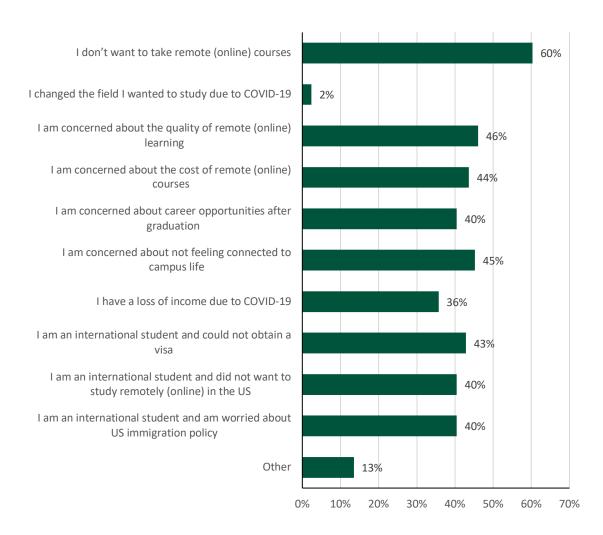
Those who indicated that COVID-19 <u>was</u> a factor in their decision to attend USF were asked to indicate in what way COVID-19 influenced their decision to attend USF from the following response options: *Courses were now offered remotely (online); I wanted to stay closer to home; The emergence of COVID-19 drove me to a field of study that USF offers; and Other.* Participants could select all that apply.

 The <u>highest</u> percentage (48%) of participants who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision to attend USF further indicated that courses now offered remotely influenced their decision to attend USF. The figure below details the percentage of participants who selected each response option.



Those who indicated that COVID-19 <u>was</u> a factor in their decision <u>not</u> to attend USF were asked to indicate in what way COVID-19 influenced their decision not to attend USF from the following response options: I don't want to take remote (online) courses; I changed the field I wanted to study due to COVID-19; I am concerned about the quality of remote (online) learning; I am concerned about the cost of remote (online) courses; I am concerned about career opportunities after graduation; I am concerned about not feeling connected to campus life; I have a loss of income due to COVID-19; I am an international student and could not obtain a visa; I am an international student and did not want to study remotely (online) in the US; I am an international student and am worried about US immigration policy; and Other. Participants could select all that apply.

 The <u>highest</u> percentage (60%) of participants who indicated that COVID-19 was a factor in their decision <u>not</u> to attend USF indicated that not wanting to take remote (online) courses influenced their decision. The figure below details the percentage of participants who selected each response option.



Participants who indicated that COVID-19 <u>was</u> a factor in their decision <u>not</u> to attend USF were asked if they would have attended USF if the COVID-19 pandemic had not occurred.

The below data indicate the proportion of participants who selected each response option:

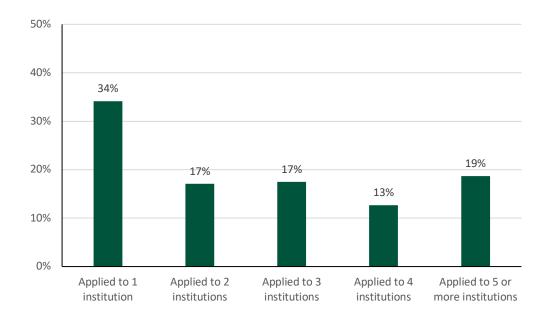
- Would have attended USF if the COVID-19 pandemic had not occurred = 80%
- Would not have attended USF if the COVID-19 pandemic had not occurred = 20%

APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Participants indicated how many institutions, including USF, they applied to from the following response options: 1; 2; 3; 4; and 5 or more.

The highest proportion (34%) of participants indicated that they only applied to USF.

The figure below details the proportion of participants who selected each response option.



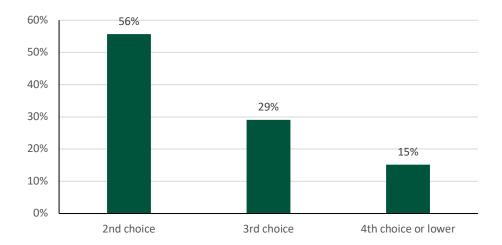
Those who indicated they applied to more than one institution were asked to indicate how many they were admitted to from the following response options: 1; 2; 3; 4; and 5 or more.

- Of those who indicated they applied to two institutions, the majority (80%) were accepted to both institutions.
- Of those who indicated they applied to three institutions, the majority (49%) were accepted to all three institutions.
- Of those who indicated they applied to four institutions, the majority (47%) were accepted to all four institutions.
- Of those who indicated they applied to five or more institutions, the majority (36%) were accepted to five or more institutions.

Participants indicated whether or not USF was their first choice. Those who indicated USF was not their first choice were asked to indicate if it was their 2nd choice, 3rd choice or 4th choice or lower.

- 68% of participants indicated USF was their first choice.
 - o Of participants who accepted their offer of admission, 80% indicated that USF was their first choice.
 - o Of participants who began attending USF, 81% indicated that USF was their first choice.
 - Of participants who chose to attend another college or university, 24% indicated that USF was their first choice.
- 32% of all participants indicated USF was not their first choice.
 - o Of those who indicated that USF was not their first choice, the majority (56%) indicated it was their 2nd choice.

The figure below details the proportion of participants who indicated that USF was their 2nd, 3rd, or 4th choice or lower.



Participants who indicated that USF was not their first choice were asked to indicate their top 3 choices to which they were admitted.

• The most common responses for 1st top choice were USC (5%) and UC Davis (5%).

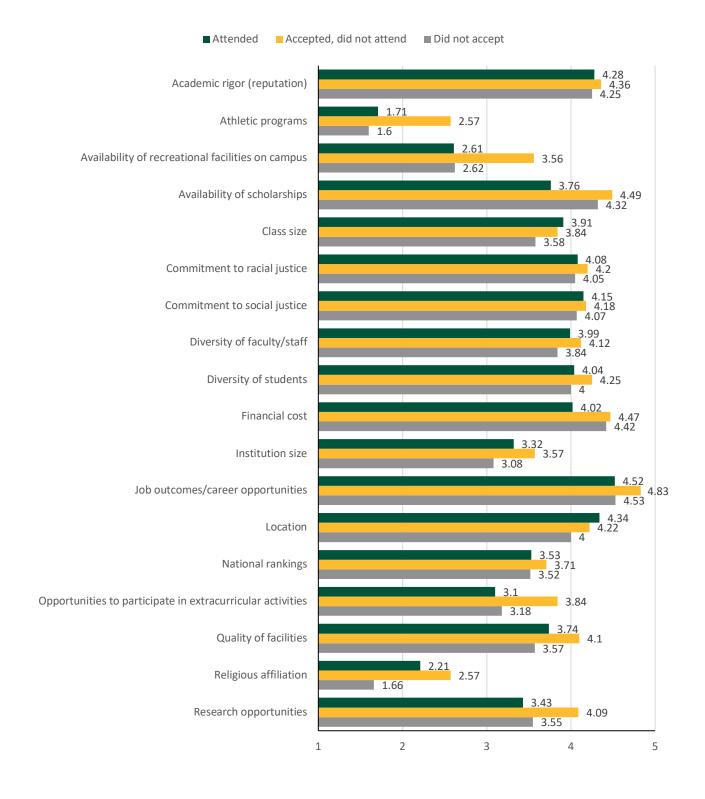
College Characteristics

ALL PARTICIPANTS

All participants indicated the level of importance each of the following characteristics had in choosing a college or university using a 5-pt. scale (1 = Not at all important, 5 = Extremely Important): Academic rigor (reputation); Athletic programs; Availability of recreational facilities on campus; Availability of scholarships; Class size; Commitment to racial justice; Commitment to social justice; Diversity of faculty/staff; Diversity of students; Financial cost; Institution size; Job outcomes/career opportunities; Location; National rankings; Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities; Quality of facilities; Religious affiliation; and Research opportunities.

- The <u>highest</u> percentage (90%) of participants indicated that *Job outcomes/career opportunities* were **Extremely** or **Very Important** in choosing a college or university. Of these:
 - o 59% began attending USF.
 - o 26% did not accept their offer of admission.
 - o 15% did not begin attending.

The below figure details participants' <u>average level of importance</u> of each characteristic, disaggregated by those who began attending; those who did not accept their offer of admission; and those who accepted their offer of admission, but did not begin attending.



All participants (whether they began attending USF or not) were asked to rate the following characteristics of USF using a 6-pt (0 = No opinion, 5 = Excellent): Academic rigor (reputation); Athletic programs; Availability of recreational facilities on campus; Availability of scholarships; Class size; Commitment to racial justice; Commitment to social justice; Diversity of faculty/staff; Diversity of students; Financial cost; Institution size; Job outcomes/career opportunities; Length of time passed between application and letter of admission; Location; National rankings; Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities; Quality of facilities; Religious affiliation; and Research opportunities. This rating gauges participants' perception of USF.

The below data indicate the percentage of participants who rated the below characteristics as **Excellent** or **Good**:

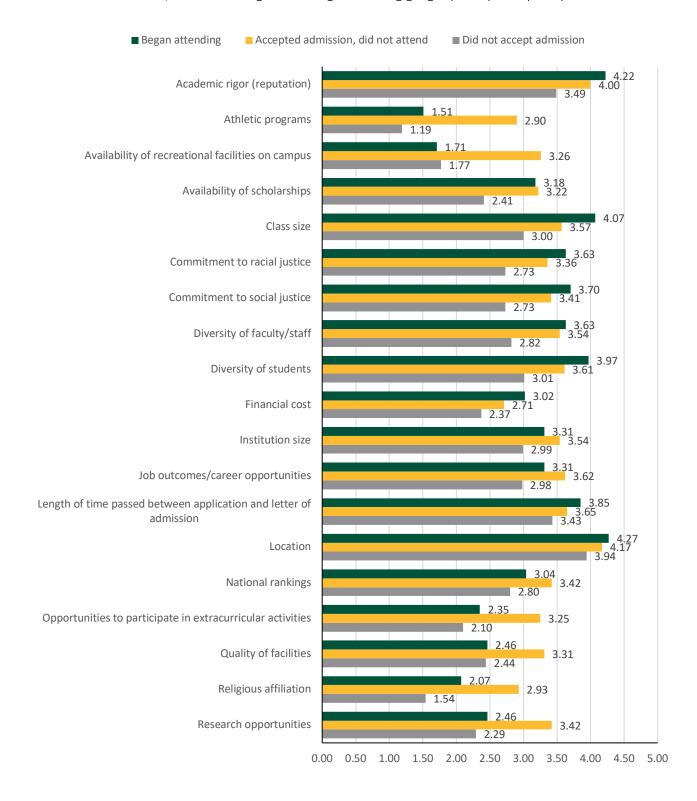
- Academic rigor (reputation) = 82%
- Athletic programs = 27%
- Availability of recreational facilities on campus = 34%
- Availability of scholarships = 44%
- Class size = **75%**
- Commitment to racial justice = 66%
- Commitment to social justice = 68%
- Diversity of faculty/staff = 67%
- Diversity of students = 72%
- Financial cost = 29%
- Institution size = 61%
- Job outcomes/career opportunities = 66%
- Length of time passed between application and letter of admission = 72%
- Location = 87%
- National rankings = 53%
- Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities = 43%
- Quality of facilities = 51%
- Religious affiliation = 39%
- Research opportunities = 47%

The majority of characteristics were most highly rated as Excellent or Good, with the exception of Athletic programs, Availability of recreational facilities on campus, and Financial cost.

The data below indicate the rating given by the <u>highest</u> percentage of participants for Athletic programs, Availability of recreational facilities on campus, and Financial cost

- Athletic programs = 57% had no opinion
- Availability of recreational facilities on campus = 49% had no opinion
- Financial cost = 37% rated as Average

The below figure details all participants' average rating of each characteristic of USF, disaggregated by those who began attending; those who did not accept their offer of admission; and those who accepted their offer of admission, but did not begin attending. This rating gauges participants' perception of USF.

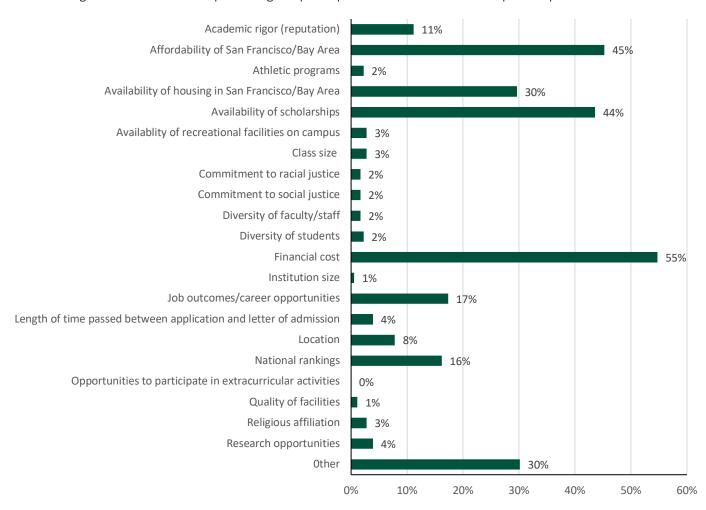


THOSE WHO DID NOT ATTEND USF

Those who did not accept their offer of admission or did not begin attending USF were asked to indicate the factors that influenced their decision <u>not</u> to attend USF from the following response options: Academic rigor (reputation), Affordability of San Francisco/Bay Area; Athletic programs, Availability of housing in San Francisco/Bay Area; Availability of recreational facilities on campus; Availability of scholarships; Class size; Commitment to racial justice; Commitment to social justice; Diversity of faculty/staff; Diversity of students; Financial cost; Institution size; Job outcomes/career opportunities; Length of time passed between application and letter of admission; Location; National rankings; Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities; Quality of facilities; Religious affiliation; Research opportunities; and Other. Participants could select all that apply.

Of participants that <u>did not accept</u> their offer of admission <u>or did not begin attending</u> USF, the <u>highest</u> percentage (55%) indicated that <u>financial cost</u> was a factor that <u>influenced their decision</u> not to attend USF.

The figure below details the percentage of participants that selected each response option.



Those who indicated that they began attending a college or university other than USF were asked to rate the following characteristics of the institution they are attending using a 6-pt. scale (0 = No opinion, 5 = Excellent): Academic rigor (reputation), Athletic programs; Availability of recreational facilities on campus; Availability of scholarships; Class size; Commitment to racial justice; Commitment to social justice; Diversity of faculty/staff; Diversity of students; Financial cost; Institution size; Job outcomes/career opportunities; Location; National rankings; Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities; Quality of facilities; Religious affiliation; and Research opportunities.

The below data indicate the percentage of participants who rated the below characteristics as **Excellent** or **Good**:

- Academic rigor (reputation) = 94%
- Athletic programs = 36%
- Availability of recreational facilities on campus = 53%
- Availability of scholarships = 69%
- Class size = 77%
- Commitment to racial justice = 70%
- Commitment to social justice = 77%
- Diversity of faculty/staff = 70%
- Diversity of students = 70%
- Financial cost = 50%
- Institution size = **74%**
- Job outcomes/career opportunities = 89%
- Length of time passed between application and letter of admission = 69%
- Location = **85%**
- National rankings = 76%
- Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities = 72%
- Quality of facilities = 72%
- Religious affiliation = 25%
- Research opportunities = 71%

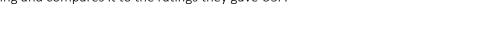
The majority of characteristics were most highly rated as Excellent or Good, with the exception of Athletic programs and Religious affiliation.

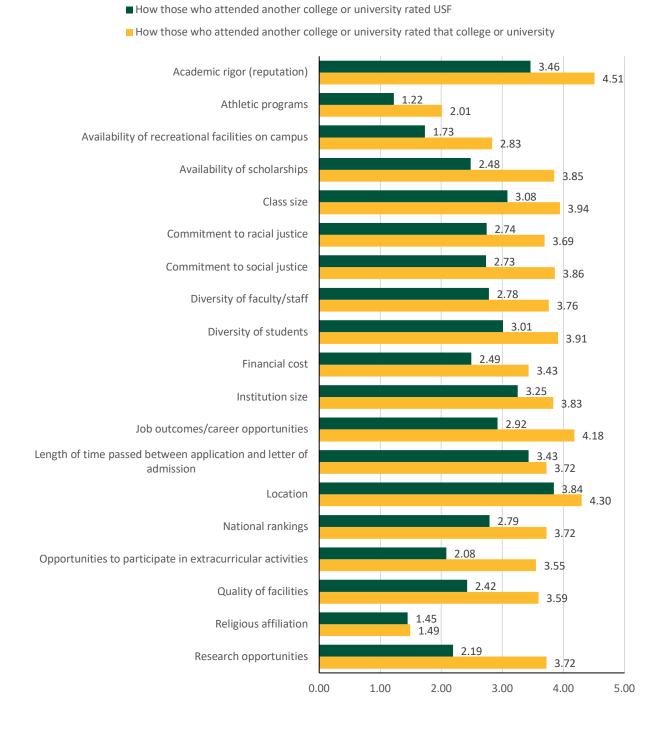
The data below indicate the rating given by the <u>highest</u> percentage of participants for Athletic programs and Religious affiliation:

- Athletic programs = 48% had no opinion
- Religious affiliation = 63% had no opinion

Participants who attended another college or university rated the characteristics of the college or university they are attending higher in all areas than they rated the same characteristics of USF.

The below figure details participants' average rating of each characteristic of the college or university they are attending and compares it to the ratings they gave USF.



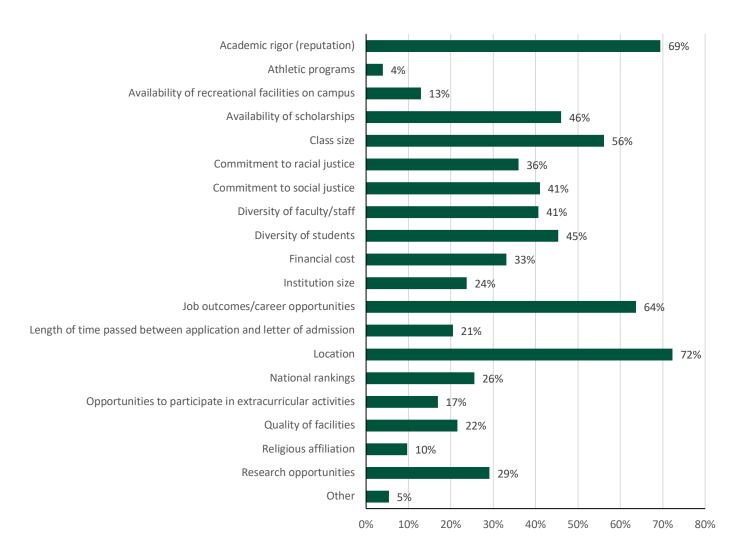


THOSE WHO BEGAN ATTENDING USF

Participants who indicated that they began attending USF were asked to select the factors that influenced their decision to attend USF from the following response options: Academic rigor (reputation); Athletic programs; Availability of recreational facilities on campus; Availability of scholarships; Class size; Commitment to racial justice; Commitment to social justice; Diversity of faculty/staff; Diversity of students; Financial cost; Institution size; Job outcomes/career opportunities; Length of time passed between application and letter of admission; Location; National rankings; Opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities; Quality of facilities; Religious affiliation; Research opportunities; and Other. Participants could select all that apply.

• The <u>highest</u> percentage (72%) of participants who began attending USF indicated that **Location** influenced their decision to attend.

The figure below details the percentage of participants that selected each response option.



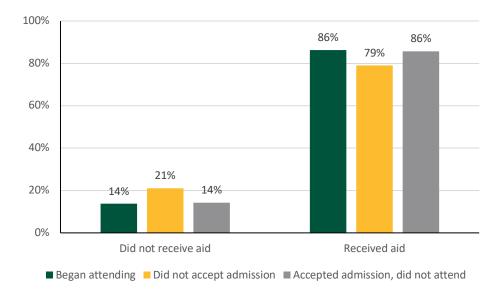
Financial Factors

FINANCIAL AID/ASSISTANCE

Participants indicated if they applied for federal financial aid (Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans and/or Direct Plus Loans) at USF and, if so, whether or not they received federal financial aid.

- 39% of all participants indicated that they applied for federal financial aid at USF.
- 61% of all participants indicated that they did not apply for federal financial aid at USF.
 - o Of those who began attending USF, the <u>highest</u> proportion (52%) did not apply for federal financial aid at USF.
 - o Of those who did not accept their offer of admission to USF, the <u>highest</u> proportion (68%) did not apply for federal financial aid at USF.
 - o Of those who accepted their admission to USF, but **did not begin attending**, the <u>highest</u> proportion (90%) **did not apply for federal financial aid at USF**.
- Overall, the majority (85%) of all those who applied for federal financial aid at USF received aid.

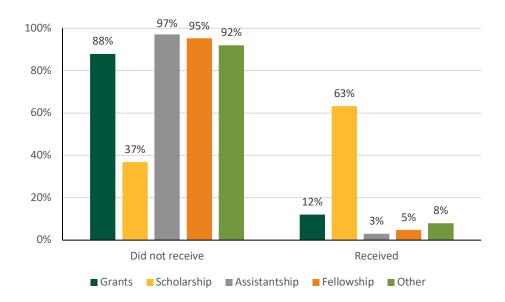
The figure below details the proportion of participants who received aid or not, disaggregated by those who began attending; those who did not accept their offer of admission; and those who accepted their offer of admission, but did not begin attending.



Participants indicated if they received any of the following from USF: *Grant*; *Scholarship*; *Assistantship*; *Fellowship*; and *Other*.

• Of those who received a grant, scholarship, assistantship, fellowship or other, the <u>highest</u> percentage (63%) of participants received a scholarship from USF.

The below figure details the percentage of participants that received or did not receive each kind of aid.



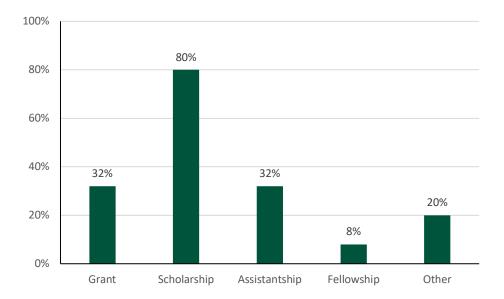
Those who indicated that they chose to attend a college or university other than USF were asked if the institution they are attending offered them more financial assistance than USF. Participants could select Yes; No; or I did not apply for financial assistance at the institution I am attending.

• The <u>highest</u> proportion (81%) of participants that attended another college or university **received** more financial assistant from the institution they are attending than from USF.

Participants who indicated that the institution they are attending offered them more financial assistance than USF were asked to indicate the kind of assistance the institution they are attending offered them from the following response options: Grant; Scholarship; Assistantship; Fellowship; and Other.

• The <u>highest</u> percentage of participants (80%) received a scholarship from the institution they are attending.

The figure below details the percentage of participants who selected each response option.



COST OF ATTENDANCE

Participants who indicated that they chose to attend a college or university other than USF were asked if the cost of attendance at USF is higher or lower than the institution they are attending.

• 71% of participants indicated that the cost of attendance at USF is higher than the institution they are attending.