

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Academic Affairs Committee
June 24, 2026

SUBJECT: Specialized Admissions Request, University of South Florida

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

Consider approval of a specialized admissions request for the University of South Florida's Bachelor of Design in Architecture.

AUTHORITY FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ACTION

Article IX, Section 7, Florida Constitution; Board of Governors' Regulation 8.013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Board of Governors' Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions, authorizes the Board to approve specialized admissions status for certain undergraduate degree programs. The Board may, upon the request of the university board of trustees, consider approval of undergraduate degree programs as specialized admissions if the programs meet one of the following criteria.

- Limited resources: The number of students who meet all the requirements for admission to the university and the program exceeds available resources such as space, equipment, clinical facilities, student-faculty ratios, and fiscal limitations. If approved, the status lasts four years, after which the institution may reapply for specialized admissions status.
- Minimal skills: The undergraduate program requires applicants to demonstrate through an audition or submission of a portfolio that they possess the minimum skills necessary to benefit from the undergraduate program. If approved, the status lasts five years, after which the institution may reapply for specialized admissions status.

The University of South Florida is requesting specialized admissions for the Bachelor of Design in Architecture. The University of South Florida's Board of Trustees approved the program on March 10, 2026. The university is requesting specialized admissions for this program under the limited resources criteria, which include space limitations and faculty capacity required to support architectural design and studio-based learning.

If approved by the Academic Affairs Committee, the specialized admissions request will be forwarded to the full Board for consideration. If approved by the Board of Governors, the program's specialized admissions status will be effective in the fall of 2027.

Dr. Lynn Nelson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Innovation, will provide an overview of the request.

Supporting Documentation Included:

USF Specialized Admissions
Request

Facilitators/Presenters:

Dr. Lynn Nelson