Located in the western region of South Carolina, Aiken is 40 miles from the capital city of Columbia and 20 miles from Augusta, Ga. The historic downtown district is home to dozens of specialty shops and eateries while the Southside features many restaurants, cafés, shopping centers, and recreational activities. For weekend road trips, the campus is 2½ hours from the Carolinas’ beaches and mountains and is also a convenient drive to Atlanta, Greenville, or Charlotte. If you prefer to stay in Aiken, Hopelands Gardens is a picturesque spot for picnicking and photography, while Hitchcock Woods, one of the largest urban forests in the United States, offers opportunities for hiking and horseback riding. There’s always something exciting happening in the Aiken community. But, above all, we hope to share with you one of our richest resources — Southern hospitality!

Excellence at USC Aiken is a tradition we’ve upheld since our founding in 1961

- 15:1 student-faculty ratio allowing for highly-engaged and interactive classes
- Selected as the college of choice by 140 international students from 29 countries
- Ranked 1st among top public regional colleges in the South in the 2015 U.S. News & World Report’s annual “America’s Best Colleges” guide
- Earned top three rankings in U.S. News & World Report for 17 consecutive years with ten total number 1 rankings.
- Talented faculty including recipients of the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Scientific Research, the Governor’s Professor of the Year, and a Grammy-Award winning Artist-in-Residence.
Modern Amenities and Suite-Style Communities

Our apartment-style suites will have you feeling right at home—or even better. Your own private and spacious bedroom awaits you in a two or four-bedroom suite, with a bathroom for every two students and chair, while living spaces feature plenty of plush seating for you to gather with friends and study, chat or watch television. Study and computer room, on-site laundry facilities, cable TV and wireless internet are all a part of our modern take on campus living.

Campus Safety

At USC Aiken the safety and well-being of our students is always at the top of our agenda. Through the cooperation of faculty, staff, and students, we daily try to achieve and maintain a truly safe campus. With the support of various community members, and USC Aiken’s University Police, there are many people contributing to the safety and security of the campus. Our police officers are commissioned as Constables and are certified with the state of South Carolina. Also, all officers are certified medical first responders.