



## University of Southern California Graduate Student Preparation Program Diversity Outreach & Academic Professional Development

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The University of Southern California (USC) has a longstanding tradition of welcoming and promoting the achievements of talented students from historically underrepresented backgrounds. USC is one of the world's leading private research institutions with outstanding faculty, students, research centers, and community-focused projects that contribute in incalculable ways to society's scholarship and advancement. Through first-rate graduate programs, the university prepares students for successful careers in research, teaching, business, the arts, technological fields, entertainment, and public service, to name a few sectors. We are pleased to offer the Graduate Student Preparation Program (GSPP) for eligible students interested in pursuing a Ph.D. Program. GSPP is a USC Diversity Outreach Initiative under Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE), a program sponsored by the National Science Foundation; USC Graduate School, Office of the Provost; USC Graduate Admissions; USC Dana & David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, & Sciences; USC Viterbi School of Engineering; USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism; and other USC academic and administrative departments. GSPP is a national initiative that helps promote access and diversity in graduate-level education.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Learn about the Graduate School Admissions Process
- Receive Information on Funding for Graduate School (e.g., Different Types of Financial Aid including Fellowships, TA Positions, & Loans)
- Develop Your Graduate School Application: Statement of Purpose/Personal Statement, CV/Résumé, & Letters of Recommendation Strategies
- Network with Faculty, Graduate Students, & Topnotch Undergraduates from across the country
- Participate in Special Panel Presentations, Workshops, Campus Tours, & Meal Sessions

### DATES:

- The program will begin on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 during early evening hours and end on Friday, March 14, 2014 at noon. After your selection to the program, you will acquire a more detailed agenda.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- At least a 3.0 GPA in major and overall (3.5 GPA or higher is preferred).
- Junior or Senior Standing (Students considering applying to graduate school in the fall of 2014, for matriculation to a program in 2015).
- Strong Interest in Pursuing Graduate Studies, specifically a Ph.D. Program (All majors welcomed).
- Come from a historically underrepresented background in higher education, including Black/African American, Latino/Hispanic American, & American Indian/Native American.
- **SUBMIT:** (1) online application (<http://bit.ly/1jAMoUB>); (2) CV/Résumé; (3) Reference (Contact Information or Letter); & (4) Two-Page Essay on how the program can assist you or a Sample Personal Statement/Statement of Purpose.
- Be available **ALL DAY** to accommodate travel arrangements on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 & Friday, March 14, 2014.

### SCHOLARSHIPS, TRAVEL, AND PROGRAM-RELATED DETAILS:

Selected students will receive a Scholarship from the USC Graduate School, Office of the Provost, which will be used to cover all travel and program-related expenses including flights, ground transportation, parking, lodging (if required), meals, and workshops. If students have access to their own institutional travel funds (not required) and would like to use them, they should contact the program office (contact information noted below).

### DUE DATES, APPLICATION PROCESS, AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

- **Step One:** Complete your online application (<http://bit.ly/1jAMoUB>) and submit all required documents by Monday, February 24, 2014, *before* 9:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time.
- **Step Two:** Acceptance Letters will be sent beginning Wed., Feb. 26, 2014, along with instructions on booking flights and other program details.
- **Step Three:** If selected, and if you need a flight, be prepared to make your reservation with USC, via STA Travel Representatives, between February 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Due date to book flight: February 28<sup>th</sup>, 12 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. The cost of your flight will be covered. **Notes for Selected Students:** All hotel arrangements will be made on your behalf. If you **DO NOT** need a hotel and flight, specify this in your application. If you drive in **AND** do not stay at the hotel, the program will cover parking. Note this in your application.

#### Address:

USC Graduate School, Office of the Provost  
Diversity Outreach & Academic Professional Development  
3601 Watt Way, GFS 315, Los Angeles, CA 90089-1695

#### Websites:

[www.usc.edu/](http://www.usc.edu/)  
[www.usc.edu/schools/GraduateSchool/](http://www.usc.edu/schools/GraduateSchool/)  
[www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/](http://www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/)

#### Email:

[edgesbe@usc.edu](mailto:edgesbe@usc.edu)

#### Telephone & Fax:

213-740-3429  
(213) 740-9048 (fax)