Policy Hierarchy
A successful policy management framework is built upon a clearly defined program strategy and supported by policy documents and tools designed for specific applications.

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**University Mission & Vision**

...defined direction and principles to help USC develop human beings and society as a whole through the cultivation and enrichment of the human mind and spirit*

**Policy**

...indicates management intent, in support of the Program Strategy

**Standards**

...set of mandatory rules in support of the Policy and are intended to be prescriptive

**Procedures**

...documented set of steps necessary to perform a specific task or process (e.g., step-by-step checklist)

**Guidelines**

...recommended practices to augment Standards

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*Source: [https://about.usc.edu/policies/mission-statement/](https://about.usc.edu/policies/mission-statement/)