Admission to the University of California

2023–2024

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Overview

- The UC system
- How to apply
- Freshman admission overview
- Transfer admission overview
- Tuition and financial aid
- UC and campus resources

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The UC system

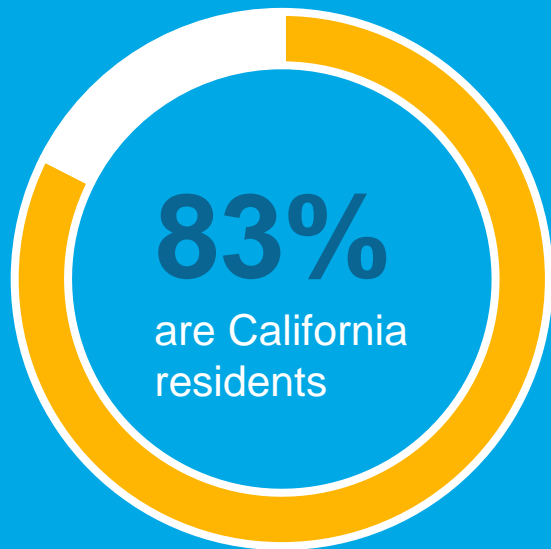**With nine amazing campuses, you can't go wrong.**

From the program, to the setting, to the vibe: each of our nine undergraduate campuses has something different to offer.

But no matter which campus you choose, you'll find a culture of academic excellence, and fellow students and faculty who'll inspire you every day.

UC DAVIS
UC BERKELEY
UC MERCED
UC SANTA CRUZ
UC RIVERSIDE
UC SANTA BARBARA
UCLA
UC IRVINE
UC SAN DIEGO

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To find your fit within UC, consider…

- Does the campus have a **major** in which I'm interested?

- What **resources and support programs** are available to me and others like me?

- What campus **environment** is best for me?

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Nine campuses, one application

- Opens August 1

- Select which campuses you'd like to receive your UC application

- $80 fee for each UC campus ($95 for international applicants)

- Fee waiver available for up to four campuses for qualified students

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Freshman admission

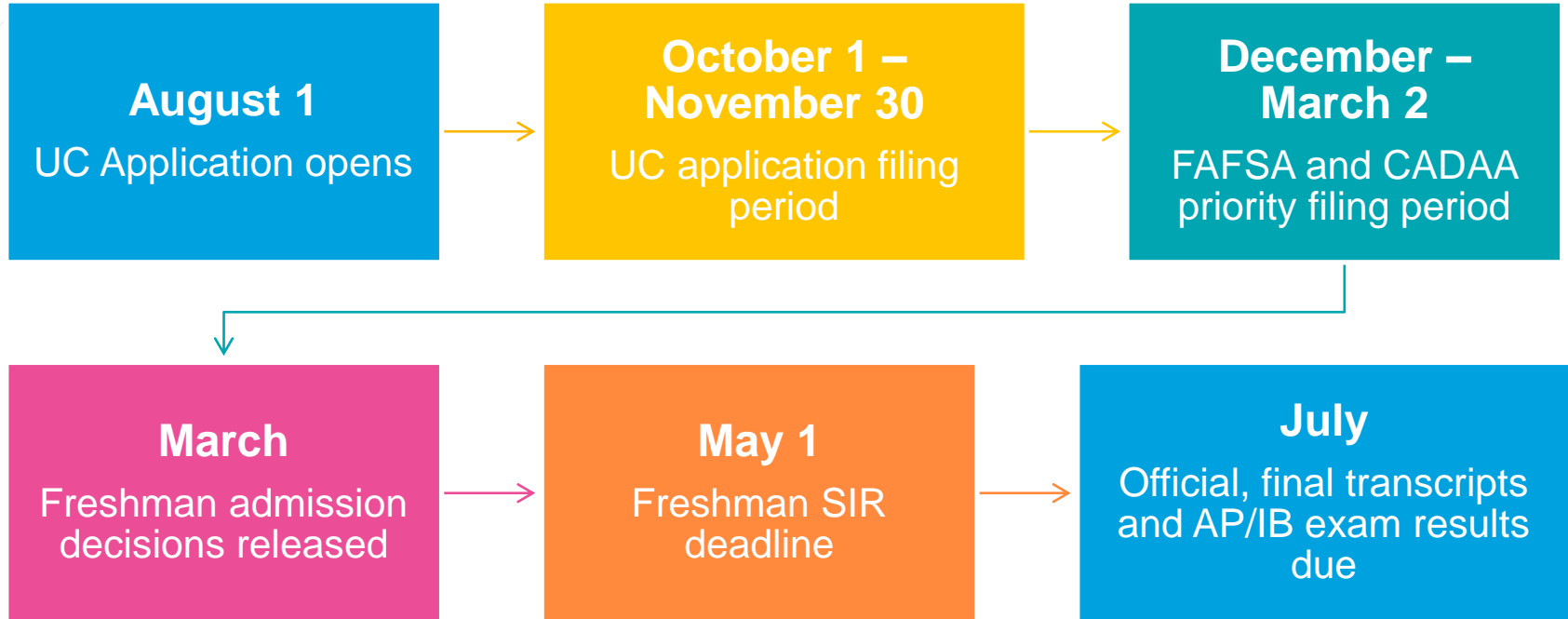**You'll start as a freshman if…**

You're currently in high school

OR

You've graduated high school, but haven't enrolled in a regular session (fall, winter, spring) at a college or university.

You are still considered a freshman applicant even if you have earned college credit while in high school.

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Freshman admission timeline

August 1
UC Application opens

October 1 – November 30
UC application filing period

December – March 2
FAFSA and CADAA priority filing period

March
Freshman admission decisions released

May 1
Freshman SIR deadline

July
Official, final transcripts and AP/IB exam results due

Complete 15 A-G courses

Earn a UC GPA of 3.0 or better (3.4 for nonresidents)

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A-G requirements

- Complete a minimum of **15** A-G courses with a grade of C or better

- Prior to beginning your last year of high school, you must complete 11 of these courses

Note: UC will accept Pass or Credit grades in A-G courses completed in spring 2020 through summer 2021 to meet A-G requirements.

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A. **History** – 2 years

B. **English** – 4 years

C. **Mathematics** – 3 years *(4 years recommended)*

D. **Science** – 2 years *(3 years recommended)*

E. **Language other than English** – 2 years *(3 years recommended)*

F. **Visual and performing arts** – 1 year

G. **College-preparatory elective** – 1 year

UC GPA minimum requirement

- California residents: **3.0**

- Non-residents: **3.4**

Students should aim to exceed this minimum requirement to be a competitive applicant.

How the UC GPA is calculated

- Includes all letter grades from A-G courses taken during grades 10 and 11 (including the summers after 9–11)

- Grade points are based on the letter grade received; plus (+) and minus (-) grades are not factored

- Up to 8 semesters of extra points are added for passed AP, IB, college-level or UC-approved honors courses

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Minimum requirements versus selection

Minimum requirements

- A-G coursework

- UC GPA minimum

- Consistent for all campuses

Selection

- Comprehensive review (13 factors)

- Varies by campus

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Comprehensive review for freshmen

Academic achievement — GPA, curricular rigor, academic trajectory

ELC, honors programs, special projects

Personal, school and family context

Special talents, skills, awards, leadership

Life experiences and special circumstances

Activities and awards can include:

- Awards or honors

- Educational preparation programs

- Extracurricular activities

- Coursework other than A-G

- Volunteer/community service

- Work experience

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Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)

- Respond to 4 of the 8 prompts

- All questions hold equal value

- 350 words maximum per response

- Focus on the content, not the style, of your writing

- May be used for admission and scholarship consideration

Transfer admission

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You'll start as a transfer if…

You have left or graduated high school

AND

You have enrolled in a regular term at a college or university after high school

93%

of transfers come from a California community college

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Minimum junior transfer admission requirements

Courses
7-course pattern

Units
60 semester/
90 quarter
UC-transferable
units

GPA
2.4 (CA residents)
2.8 (non-residents)

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Eligibility versus selection

Major Preparation
- Certain majors may have required or recommended coursework
- Consider taking courses from other CCCs or online UC-transferable courses if your CCC doesn't offer a major preparation course
- Take full course sequences at one CCC

GPA
- Meet or exceed the minimum transfer GPA
- For selective majors, a strong GPA is especially important

IGETC
- Not required for admission; may be recommended for certain campuses/majors
- Full or partial certification is available

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What is TAG?

A guarantee for admission to a participating campus and a major, so long as all deadlines and requirements are met.

To be eligible for TAG, students must:

- ✓ Transfer from a California Community College (CCC)
- ✓ Complete over half of their units at the CCC
- ✓ Last attend a CCC before transfer

Students with non-CCC coursework and international students with a F1 or J1 visa can also be eligible for TAG

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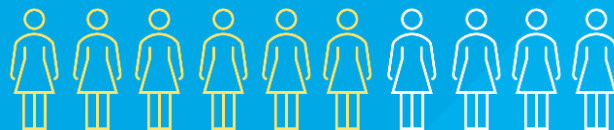CALIFORNIA

Tuition and Financial Aid

Results for California students

70%

of California undergrads receive grants and scholarships, with an average award of **$18,000**

55%

of California undergrads pay no tuition because of grant and scholarship aid

Want to estimate your financial aid? Check out our campus financial aid calculators.
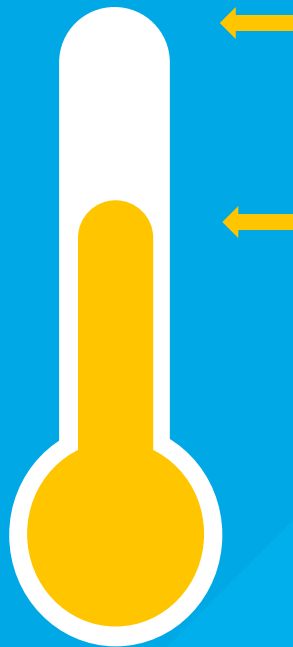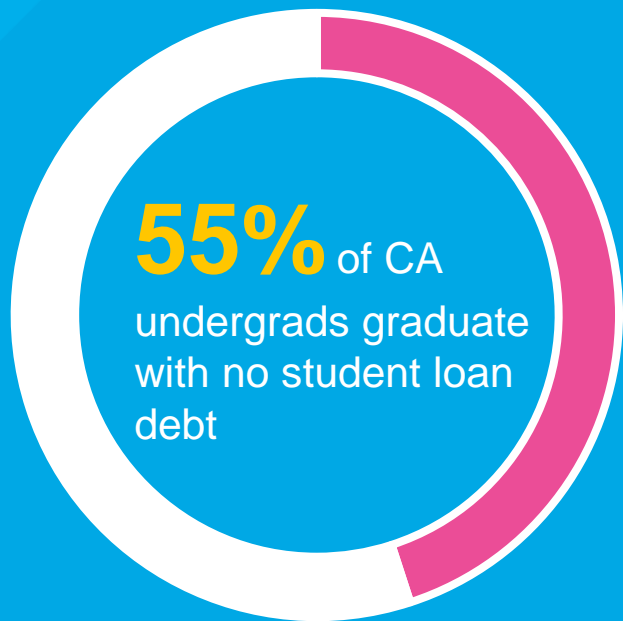
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UC financial aid programs

For California residents who are eligible for financial aid and with a family income less than **$80,000**, the Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan can cover the cost of your tuition, with extra funds available.

For California residents with family income and assets less than **$217,000**, California's Middle Class Scholarship may provide scholarships to help with paying for college costs.

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Resources

Freshman admission resources

General admission information
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu

UC admission requirements
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements

UC admission selection process
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/how-applications-are-reviewed.html

Filling out the UC application
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/filling-out-the-application.html

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Transfer admission resources

General admission information
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu

UC admission requirements
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements

UC admission selection process
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/how-applications-are-reviewed.html

Filling out the UC application
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/filling-out-the-application.html

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Campus major preparation information for transfers

UC Berkeley | admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer-admissions-information-by-college

UC Davis | ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate/transfer/selective-major-requirements

UC Irvine | admissions.uci.edu/apply/transfer-students/requirements.php

UCLA | admission.ucla.edu/apply/transfer/deciding-on-major

UC Merced | admissions.ucmerced.edu/transfer/major-preparation-schools

UC Riverside | admissions.ucr.edu/transfer/majors-preparation-guide

UC San Diego | admissions.ucsd.edu/transfer/transfer-major-preparation.html

UC Santa Barbara | admissions.ucsb.edu/selective-majors

UC Santa Cruz | admissions.ucsc.edu/transfer-students#screening-major-requirements

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Transfer programs and tools

ASSIST.ORG
assist.org

Transfer Academic Planner (TAP)
uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu/students

UC Transfer Pathways
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-pathways

Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-admission-guarantee-tag.html

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Campus admission websites

UC Berkeley | admissions.berkeley.edu

UC Davis | ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate

UC Irvine | admissions.uci.edu

UCLA | admission.ucla.edu

UC Merced | admissions.ucmerced.edu

UC Riverside | admissions.ucr.edu

UC San Diego | admissions.ucsd.edu

UC Santa Barbara | admissions.ucsb.edu

UC Santa Cruz | admissions.ucsc.edu

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Campus housing websites

UC Berkeley | housing.berkeley.edu

UC Davis | housing.ucdavis.edu

UC Irvine | housing.uci.edu

UCLA | portal.housing.ucla.edu

UC Merced | housing.ucmerced.edu

UC Riverside | housing.ucr.edu

UC San Diego | hdhughousing.ucsd.edu

UC Santa Barbara | housing.ucsb.edu

UC Santa Cruz | housing.ucsc.edu

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Campus financial aid websites

UC Berkeley | financialaid.berkeley.edu

UC Davis | financialaid.ucdavis.edu

UC Irvine | ofas.uci.edu

UCLA | financialaid.ucla.edu

UC Merced | financialaid.ucmerced.edu

UC Riverside | financialaid.ucr.edu

UC San Diego | fas.ucsd.edu

UC Santa Barbara | finaid.ucsb.edu

UC Santa Cruz | financialaid.ucsc.edu/index.html

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Thank you