How to Apply to the University of California
http://universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Fall 2015

You can begin working on the Fall 2015 application online August 1, 2014, and you can submit it during the priority-filing period of November 1 - 30, 2014.

A couple of important tips:

Remember to reference your transcripts so you can report your grades accurately on your application. Freshman applicants must submit the following test scores:

- **The ACT Assessment plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test**
- **The SAT Subject Test is no longer required for admission. However, you are welcome to submit scores if you want to:**
    - **Show your mastery of a particular subject.**
    - **Plan to apply for a competitive major for which your preferred campus recommends certain Subject Tests.**
    - **Want to use Subject Tests to satisfy "a-g" subject requirements**
    - **Two SAT Subject Tests in two different areas, chosen from the following: history, literature, mathematics (Level 2 only), science or language other than English**

Students applying for admission to the fall term should take these tests no later than December of their senior year. For more information including test dates, visit the ACT Web site at www.act.org or the SAT Web site at www.collegeboard.com.

Checklist:
To help you keep track of everything you need to do through the application process, follow this checklist:

- Report your test results. You will self-report your SAT and/or ACT results on the UC application, and you also are required to submit official test scores. Please order score reports from the testing agency no later than December 2014 for Fall 2015 admission.

- Provide your e-mail address. Most campuses communicate with applicants by e-mail. Provide a reliable e-mail account that you will check regularly and keep until you enroll. E-mail addresses must be no more than 35 characters.

- Statewide Student, each K–12 student enrolled in a California public school is assigned an ID number. If it is not printed on your high school transcript, obtain it from your school counselor or registrar.

- If your parents claim you as a dependent on their tax return, ask them for their annual pre-tax income for 2013 and 2014. Refer to tax records or pay stubs. Siblings attending college away from home should be counted in the number of family members.

- You must enter your country of citizenship (AB 540 students indicate "No Selection"). For the exception of AB 540 students, if you select a country other than the United States, you will need to provide your immigration status and the type of visa you hold (such as H-1, J-2, etc.).

- Social Security number (if you have one), your social security number helps to verify your identity, match your application to your transcript, and test score reports. It will be kept confidential.

- Students without a Social Security number should leave this item on the application blank.

- Students who have an Individual Tax Payer Identification Number (ITIN), must use the ITIN in place of an SSN on the application.

- Students who have received Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) will need to provide their assigned Social Security number.

- You will need a copy of your transcripts in order to enter courses and grades correctly from all schools you have attended, including any colleges where you have taken courses. Do not enter information from memory; misreporting your academic record can jeopardize your admission. If you took advanced math and/or a language other than English in middle school, you will need to tell us how many semesters you completed, and report the grades you received in those courses.

  - **NOTE:** On the UC application record the grades earned exactly as reported on your transcript; including "D" and "F" grades.
    - For freshman applicants, a grade of C or better is required to fulfill a subject requirement. "D" and "F" grades are not acceptable and must be cleared by repeating a class.
    - You must self-report **ALL** deficient grades and repeat grades on the UC application, and the University will determine which grade will be used in the GPA calculation. Best to list every A-G course you completed regardless of grade achieved.

- Applying to more than one UC can significantly increase your chances of being admitted to a campus that will enable you to fulfill your educational goals. We recommend applying to campuses that vary in their admit rates (visit admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/campuses for the most recent admit rates).

    - There may be different degree programs at several UC campuses that can help you achieve your career goal; knowing what they are will give you more options when you apply. Check which majors are open for the current term at admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/check-majors.

    - Consider your personal statement. The personal statement is an important part of your application for admission. The University uses it to learn more about you as an individual. Early on in the admissions process, review the prompts that you will respond to in writing your statement, and give yourself time to write, revise, and thoroughly proofread your statement before adding it to your application.

    - Apply for scholarships. Use the UC application for admission to apply for "restricted" scholarships administered by the University. These scholarships are available to students with specific backgrounds, academic interests or career goals. Many scholarship programs, including those administered by University alumni associations, may require applicants to submit additional materials. Still apply for independent scholarships as well via: scholarships.com, fastweb.com and more (see page 10 for additional resources).

    - Pay fees. Pay application fees with a credit card when you submit your application. If you want to, you may submit your receipt and payment via US Mail.

    - Print a copy. Keep a copy of your application receipt and personal statement for your files.

    - After the submitting your UC application, you may reopen your application to see if you have been designated as Eligible in the Local Context (ELC). For more information regard ELC: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman.

    - Letters of recommendation. UC does not require or solicit letters of recommendation for undergraduate admission. However, letters of

recommendation may be required for certain majors to which you will need to submit a supplemental application.

- Answers to common questions appear on every page. If you cannot find an answer, contact our help desk at ucinfo@applyUCsupport.net, or call (800) 207-1710 (toll free in the U.S.) or (661) 336-5723 (outside the U.S.).

Qualifying for a Fee Waiver - Fall and Spring

The University of California will waive application fees for up to four campuses for qualified students who otherwise would be unable to apply for admission. Students who qualify for fee waivers and who select more than four campuses must pay $70 for each additional campus choice. To be accepted for the fee waiver program, you must meet specific requirements related to your family income and size.

You can apply for a fee waiver within the online application (this section can be found at the latter part of the application) and be notified immediately whether you have qualified.

After You Apply

1. After you submit your application, print your receipt. You will want to keep a record of your application ID number and a summary of your application for reference.

2. Watch for your application acknowledgment. As soon as you submit your application, you will receive an e-mail confirming it has been successfully filed. If you do not receive this acknowledgment, contact the processing center at ucinfo@applyUCsupport.net, (800) 207-1710 (toll free in the U.S.) or (661) 336-5723 (outside the U.S.).

3. Order test score reports. Be sure to have the relevant testing agency send your official ACT and/or SAT results to the UC. If you have a report sent to one campus, it will be shared with all the campuses to which you apply.

4. Order final transcripts. If you are admitted for the fall term, you must arrange to have final, official transcripts sent to the campus admissions office no later than July 1, 2015.

5. Making changes to your application:
   a. If you change your phone number, e-mail or mailing address: Update your information at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/afterapply.

   b. If your academic record changes: If you add or drop a course or fail to earn a C or better in a course, you must send in your changes — by mail — to UC Application Center, P.O. Box 1432, Bakersfield, CA 93302. Make sure to include your full name, date of birth and application ID. Some UC campuses may have additional steps in reporting such changes.

   c. If you enroll in a new school after applying: Notify the UC Application Center (address above) and provide the institution's name and the courses you are taking or plan to take.

   d. If you want to apply to an additional UC campus: Log in to your UC application at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/afterapply. You may add a campus only if it is still accepting applications.

Applying for Financial Aid

There is money available to help you attend the UC. If you are a California resident and your family income is less than $80,000, the Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan will cover, at a minimum, your system-wide fees if you qualify for financial aid. Your family makes more? You may still be able to get other grants and scholarships. Even if you do not think you will qualify, apply. It is the only way to be considered for every type of aid possible, including low-interest student and parent loans.

Apply for aid between **January 1 and March 2, 2015**. Here's how:

- **Submit a FAFSA.** The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is available at www.fafsa.gov. You automatically will be considered for the Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan if you submit the FAFSA. In addition, you will be considered for federal, state, and institutional awards.

- **Submit the California Dream Act Application:** For AB 540 eligible students the California Dream Act Application is available online at www.csac.ca.gov. You automatically will be considered for state and institutional awards (this includes Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan consideration).

- **Submit your GPA for a Cal Grant.** If you are a California resident progressing toward your first bachelor's degree, make sure your school-certified GPA is submitted to the California Student Aid Commission. Many California high schools automatically submit their students' GPAs. If this is not the case with your school, use the GPA Verification Form, which is available at www.csac.ca.gov (click on "Cal Grant GPA Forms" under "Resources").

- **Find out more** about UC's financial aid programs: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/payingfor-uc.

Next Steps

Periodically review your student portal from each of the campuses you have applied. The student portal will provide a means to check your application status, financial aid award, update your personal information, and access your "To Do List" or "Checklist", and other relevant information.

Important Dates and Deadlines

- August 1, 2014: Application opens for fall 2014 at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply.

- November 1-30, 2014: Filing period for fall 2014. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM on November 30, 2014.

- January 1 - March 2, 2015: Filing period opens for GPA Verification Form (required of California residents for Cal Grant consideration), Free Application for Federal Student Aid (www.fafsa.gov), and the California Dream Act.

- March 1-31, 2015: Notification of fall 2015 admission decisions.

- March 2, 2015: Deadline for applicants for all terms to submit FAFSA, California Dream ACT Application, and GPA Verification Form.

- May 1, 2015: Deadline for Fall 2015 admitted freshmen to submit the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) to their chosen campus.

- May 9, 2015 (tentative): ALL STUDENTS who will enter the University of California as freshmen must demonstrate their command of the English language by fulfilling the Entry Level Writing Requirement *(formerly known as Subject A requirement)* www.ucop.edu/elwr/index.html.

- June 1, 2015: Deadline for Fall 2015 admitted transfer students to submit the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) to their chosen campus.

- July 1, 2015: Final official transcripts due at campus admissions offices for students admitted for Fall 2015.

The Personal Statement

In reading your application, we want to get to know you as well as we can. There is a limit to what grades and test scores can tell us so we ask you to write a personal statement.

Your personal statement is your chance to tell us who you are and what is important to you. Think of it as your opportunity to introduce yourself to the admissions and scholarship officers reading your application. Be open, be honest, and be real. What you tell us in your personal statement gives readers the context to better understand the rest of the information you have provided in your application.

A couple of tips:

Read each prompt carefully and be sure to respond to all parts. Use specific, concrete examples to support the points you want to make. Finally, relax. This is one of many pieces of information we consider in reviewing your application; an admission decision will not be based on your personal statement alone.

Instructions and Prompts:

- Respond to both prompts, using a maximum of 1,000 words total.
- You may allocate the word count as you wish. If you choose to respond to one prompt at greater length, we suggest your shorter response be no less than 250 words.
- Stay within the word limit as closely as you can. A little over — 1,012 words, for example — is fine.

Prompt #1 (freshman applicants)
Describe the world you come from — for example, your family, community or school — and tell us how your world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.

Prompt #1 (transfer applicants)
What is your intended major? Discuss how your interest in the subject developed and describe any experience you have had in the field — such as volunteer work, internships and employment, participation in student organizations and activities — and what you have gained from your involvement.

Prompt #2 (all applicants)
Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it relate to the person you are?

Optional
Following the personal statement, there is a section called "Additional Comments". Use this space – up to 500 words – to tell us anything you want us to know about you or your academic record that you have not had the opportunity to describe elsewhere in the application.

Tips and Techniques:

Start early.
Allow time for reflection, thoughtful preparation and revision.

Choose a topic for each prompt.
Look critically at the information in your application: your grades, awards, activities and work experience, family and income. Anticipate questions an admissions evaluator will have after reading your application. The personal statement is your opportunity to answer those questions.

Compose your personal statement in a word-processing program.
Do not type it directly into the application. This way, you will have the opportunity to print copies for review.

Write in a natural style.
Present your information and ideas in a focused, thoughtful and meaningful manner. Support your ideas with specific examples. A personal statement that is simply a list of qualities or accomplishments is usually not persuasive.

Proofread.
In addition to checking your spelling, be sure your grammar is correct and your personal statement reads smoothly.

Solicit feedback.
Your personal statement should reflect your own ideas and be written by you alone, but others - family and teachers - can offer valuable suggestions. For additional feedback, you may submit a draft of your personal statement to Alejandro Delgadillo, Associate Director at UC Merced, via email at adelgadillo@ucmerced.edu.

Copy and paste.
Once you are satisfied with your personal statement, save it in plain text and then paste into the corresponding space provided in the application. Proofread once more to make sure no odd characters or line breaks have appeared. (If you submit a paper application, attach a copy of your personal statements. In the upper right corner of each page, write your name and date of birth, and the words "Personal Statement.")

Ask advice of whomever you like, but do not plagiarize from sources in print or online, and do not use anyone's published words but your own.

Things to Consider:

What the Reader May Be Looking For
In responding to the prompts above, readers carefully consider evidence provided in the personal statement, as well as in the academic record and list of honors and achievements. For example, the personal statement may reveal a level of maturity and ability to reflect on one's life experience in relation to the larger world that indicates a high potential to benefit from and contribute to the richness of the intellectual life of the campus. In addition, it may reveal special qualities of leadership and initiative that indicate unique potential to contribute to the intellectual, social and political life of the State and Nation.

Articulating Your Accomplishments or Activities
You may want to identify certain skills and/or talents that you have fostered or developed through various academic or leadership activities:

- A Special Talent or Skill (articulate how that has helped you in being the scholar or leader that you are)
- Sustained Achievement In a Field, Athletics, or Arts (something that demonstrates continuity of achievement)
- Awards for Achievement
- Special Interests (community service, leadership positions, intensive study, or other significant experiences that demonstrate personal commitment to making a contribution)

After You Have Been Admitted

Conditions of Admission
Offers of admission are provisional until the campus receives your final official transcript and verifies successful completion of **ALL** coursework required for UC eligibility. Each campus provides newly admitted students with conditions for admissions that must be satisfied prior to enrollment at the University.

Most Common UC Conditions of Admissions for Freshman Applicants are (Conditions of Admission are posted on your student portal):

▪ Complete all senior-year courses as listed on your application and maintain eligibility. You must complete all requirements for admission by the date of your high school graduation.

▪ If you change any courses from those reported on your application or if you earn a senior year grade below C, notify the Office of Admissions immediately by e-mail and/or by your student portal. Even one D or F may cause you to be ineligible for the UC. Early notification to the Admissions Office may enable us to address your situation.

▪ Request that your official standardized test results from the ACT with Writing or SAT Reasoning Test be set to arrive at the Office of Admissions by July 1, 2015.

▪ If you took Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) examinations, request that official results be set to arrive in the Office of Admissions by July 1, 2015.

▪ Arrange to have **ALL** official high school and college transcripts set to arrive in the Office of Admissions by July 1, 2015.

Review of admission decisions
Our campuses review each applicant's record thoroughly, and admission decisions are rarely reversed. However, students who are not admitted may request a review of the decision if they believe there was an error in the evaluation or can provide new and compelling information not included in the initial application. Each campus has specific procedures to handle such appeals. Contact the campus admissions office for information.

Acceptance of admission
Each campus that accepts you for admission will issue you a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) form or direct you to a website where you can declare your intent to register. Use this form or website to indicate whether you accept or decline the admission offer.

You are strongly encouraged to wait until you hear from each campus you have applied to before you declare your intent to register. **Students who are admitted as fall-term freshmen must submit the SIR by May 1. Students who are admitted as fall-term transfer students must submit the SIR by June 1.**

You may accept admission to one campus only. You may not transfer your acceptance from one campus to another after you declare your intent to register. A $100 nonrefundable deposit must accompany your acceptance.

College Entrance Examination Dates 2014-2015

SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Examination Dates	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Additional Fee Required)
October 11, 2014	September 12, 2014	September 30, 2014 (by mail, phone or online)
November 8, 2014**	October 9, 2014	October 28, 2014 (by mail, phone or online)
December 6, 2014	November 6, 2014	November 24, 2014 (by mail, phone or online)
January 24, 2015	December 29, 2014	January 13, 2015 (by mail, phone or online)
March 14, 2015*	February 13, 2015	March 3, 2015 (by mail. phone or online)
May 2, 2015	April 6, 2015	April 21, 2015 (by mail, phone or online)
June 6, 2015	May 8, 2015	May 27, 2015 (by mail, phone or online)

* **SAT Reasoning Only**
** **SAT Subject: Language Tests with "Listening" will *only* be given on this date**

SAT Sunday testing is only available if you cannot test on a Saturday due to religious observance. Sunday test dates immediately follow each Saturday test date. Testing on both Saturday and Sunday is not permitted.

ACT Exam Date	Registration Deadline	Late Deadline (Additional Fee Required)
September 13, 2014	August 8, 2014	August 9 – August 22, 2014
October 25, 2014	September 19, 2014	September 20 – October 3, 2014
December 13, 2014	November 7, 2014	November 8 – November 21, 2014
February 7, 2015	January 9, 2015	January 10 – January 16, 2015
April 18, 2015	March 13, 2015	March 14 – March 27, 2015
June 13, 2015	May 8, 2015	May 9 – May 22, 2015

- **REMEMBER**: *UCs will not accept SAT-Reasoning and/or ACT scores taken after December of senior year.*

What to bring to examinations:
  - Admission ticket
  - 2 Number 2 pencils and soft eraser
  - Photo ID
  - Acceptable calculator (graphing or scientific calculators)
  - Acceptable CD player (for Language Subject Test)

Nice to bring:
- Watch
- Extra batteries
- Drink or snacks (for break times)

Test scores must be submitted for freshmen admission to the University of California: (Applicants 2014-2015)

✓ **SAT Reasoning and/or the ACT plus Writing. The SAT Reasoning score must be a composite verbal and mathematics score from the same sitting. UC will use the highest score from a composite SAT Reasoning or the ACT plus Writing.**

The SAT Subject Tests are no longer required for admission. Remember, these are recommendations, not mandates. You will not be penalized for failing to take the SAT Subject Tests. On the other hand, submission of these test scores (just like submission of AP and/or IB scores) may add positively to the review of your application. Some campuses recommend that freshman applicants interested in competitive majors take the tests to demonstrate subject proficiency. For more information: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/

If you will be applying as a freshman to the University of California's fall 2015 term, you must take the necessary tests no later than December 6, 2014 for the SAT Reasoning Test and/or the ACT by December 13, 2014. **However, it is strongly recommended to take the exams in November instead of December to ensure you can take the exam(s) again if needed**.

Any withholding of SAT Reasoning or ACT scores may jeopardize your admission to any UC campus. The UC recommends the immediate release of scores to ensure meeting deadlines.

For more information regarding SAT and ACT testing:
- SAT Testing: College Board at http://www.collegeboard.com
- ACT Testing: http://www.actstudent.org
- University of California Examination Requirements: http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/

University of California Web Sites

University of California
UC AB 540 FAQs: ucop.edu/student-affairs/policies/universitywide-program-policies-and-guidelines/AB540.html
UC AB 540 Resources: http://undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu/
UC Admissions: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/
UC Application: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply
UC Certified Course Lists: www.ucop.edu/doorways
UC Entry Level Writing Examination: http://www.ucop.edu/elwr/index.html
UC Financial Aid: www.ucop.edu/pathways/finaid
UC Majors: http://www2.assist.org/exploring-majors/browseUCs.do
UC Undergraduate Admission: www.ucop.edu/pathways

UC Berkeley
UC Berkeley: www.berkeley.edu
UC Berkeley AB 540: undocu.berkeley.edu
UC Berkeley Admissions: admissions.berkeley.edu
UC Berkeley EOP: eop.berkeley.edu
UC Berkeley Financial Aid: students.berkeley.edu/finaid
UC Berkeley Housing: housing.berkeley.edu/housing
UC Berkeley Majors: http://berkeley.edu/academics /dept/a.shtml

UC Davis
UC Davis: www.ucdavis.edu
UC Davis Admissions: admissions.ucdavis.edu
UC Davis EOP: eop.ucdavis.edu
UC Davis Financial Aid: financialaid.ucdavis.edu
UC Davis Housing: housing.ucdavis.edu
UC Davis Majors: http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors

UC Irvine
UC Irvine: www.uci.edu
UC Irvine Admissions: www.admissions.uci.edu
UC Irvine Financial Aid: www.ofas.uci.edu
UC Irvine Housing: www.housing.uci.edu
UC Irvine Learning & Academic Resource Center: http://www.larc.uci.edu
UC Irvine Majors: www.admissions.uci.edu/academics/majors_and_minors.html

UCLA
UCLA: www.ucla.edu
UCLA AB 540: www.brc.ucla.edu/
UCLA Academic Advancement Program: www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/aap
UCLA Admissions: www.admissions.ucla.edu
UCLA Financial Aid: www.fao.ucla.edu
UCLA Housing: www.housing.ucla.edu
UCLA Majors: www.admissions.ucla.edu/majors

UC Merced
UC Merced: www.ucmerced.edu
UC Merced AB 540: undoc.ucmerced.edu
UC Merced Admissions: admissions.ucmerced.edu
UC Merced Fiat Lux Scholars Program: learning.ucmerced.edu/fiat-lux-scholars-program
UC Merced Financial Aid: financialaid.ucmerced.edu
UC Merced Housing: housing.ucmerced.edu
UC Merced Majors: www.ucmerced.edu/academics/ undergraduate-majors

UC Riverside
UC Riverside: www.ucr.edu
UC Riverside Academic Resource Center: http://arc.ucr.edu
UC Riverside Admissions: my.UCR.edu
UC Riverside Financial Aid: finaid.ucr.edu
UC Riverside Housing: housing.ucr.edu
UC Riverside Majors: www.ucr.edu/academics/undergradmajors.html

UC San Diego
UC San Diego: www.ucsd.edu
UC San Diego Admissions: admissions.ucsd.edu
UC San Diego Financial Aid: fao.ucsd.edu
UC San Diego Housing: hdh.ucsd.edu
UC San Diego Majors: www.ucsd.edu/currentstudents/academics/majors- minors/undergraduate-majors.html
UC San Diego Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services: students.ucsd.edu/academics/_organizations/ oasis/

UC Santa Barbara
UC Santa Barbara: www.ucsb.edu
UC Santa Barbara Admissions: admissions.ucsb.edu
UC Santa Barbara EOP: www.sa.ucsb.edu/eop
UC Davis Financial Aid: www.finaid.ucsb.edu
UC Davis Housing: www.housing.ucsb.edu
UC Santa Barbara Majors: www.admissions.ucsb.edu/allmajors.asp

UC Santa Cruz
UC Santa Cruz: www.ucsc.edu
UC Santa Cruz AB 540: eop.ucsc.edu/ab540/
UC Santa Cruz Admissions: admissions.ucsc.edu
UC Santa Cruz EOP: eop.ucsc.edu
UC Santa Cruz Financial Aid: financialaid.ucsc.edu
UC Santa Cruz Housing: www.housing.ucsc.edu
UC Santa Cruz Majors: http://admissions.ucsc.edu/majors

General Financial Aid
AB 540 Scholarships: www.ab540.com
CA Dream Act: http://www.csac.ca.gov
CA Student Aid Commission: http://www.csac.ca.gov
College Board Scholarship List: www.collegeboard.com/paying
Fast Web: www.fastweb.com
Financial Aid: www.finaid.org
Scholarship Resource Network Express: www.srnexpress.com
Scholarship Searches & Financial Aid: www.scholarships.com

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