UC SANTA BARBARA

Admission Guide
Fall 2023
The University of California, Santa Barbara is ranked as one of the top teaching and research institutions in the United States. UCSB offers a world-class education in a picturesque seaside location.

**Where the Mountains Meet the Sea**

- **#5** public university in the U.S. (U.S. News and World Report, 2022)
- **#10** greenest college, showing UCSB’s commitment to sustainability and the environment (Princeton Review, 2022)
- **2015** The year UCSB was recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education
Community
Many students say they chose UCSB because of the friendly and collaborative environment. Join 500+ clubs, visit cultural resource centers, participate in Living Learning Communities in campus housing, and more.

Location
UCSB is located right on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, making it an ideal place to spend your college years. The local community features excellent recreation, internships, cultural activities, and dining. Want to get out of town? Santa Barbara has easy and accessible transportation options!

*Estimated times without traffic.
Where Brilliance Blooms In Every Classroom

In addition to outstanding majors in UCSB’s three undergraduate colleges—Letters and Science, Engineering, and Creative Studies—students have access to educational, professional, and personal resources.

**Academics**
With top-ranked programs, each major at UCSB provides an excellent learning experience beyond the classroom. A majority of UCSB students take advantage of academic opportunities and pre-professional programs, such as Health Professions Advising, Pre-Law Program, Pre-Professional Education Program, the Technology Management Program, undergraduate research, and more. Opportunities for our students don’t end on campus. 67% of UCSB students engage in professional internships within the Santa Barbara community to prepare themselves for the next step.

**Support**
Staff and faculty at UCSB want students to succeed. A variety of support programs are available, including academic advising, tutoring, resource centers, and counseling. Support programs include, but are not limited to, the Campus Learning Assistance Services, Disabled Students Program, Counseling & Psychological Services, the Health and Wellness Department, and Career Services.
Life as a UCSB student is lively. Students get involved in clubs, find their community, and engage in new experiences. With nearly 300 days of sunshine every year, students take advantage of actively immersing themselves with unmatched cultural, social, and physical opportunities on campus.

9,000 students volunteering in the local community each year

10,375 students in university housing

12,000 students participating in intramural sports each year

15,000 bikes registered
Where Leaders are Made

Freshman Admission Eligibility Requirements

1. A-G Courses
   Complete 15 UC-approved A-G courses with grades of C or better. California students may refer to their school's UC-certified course list at [ucop.edu/agguide](http://ucop.edu/agguide).
   - **History/social science:** 2 years
     - 1 year U.S. history and 1 year European or world history
   - **English:** 4 years
   - **Mathematics:** 3 years (4 recommended)
     - At minimum: elementary algebra, geometry, advanced algebra
   - **Science:** 2 years (3 recommended)
     - Must include two of three areas: biology, chemistry, or physics
   - **Language other than English:** 2 years (3 recommended)
   - **Visual/performing arts:** 1 year from a single discipline: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art
   - **College preparatory elective:** 1 year beyond the minimum A-F courses required

2. Grade Point Average (GPA)
   Students must earn a **3.0 minimum GPA (3.4 for non-residents)** in all A-G courses. Only the grades earned in A-G subjects in the tenth and eleventh grades—including summer sessions before and after these years—are used to calculate the UC GPA.

   Courses passed with a grade of C or better in the ninth and twelfth grades are used to meet the A-G subject requirement, but they will not be used to calculate the UC GPA.

UCSB Freshman Selection

Selective applicants exceed the UC eligibility requirements above.

UCSB doesn’t just look at academic accomplishments to bring in our freshman class. We look at your extracurricular activities and accomplishments in light of the opportunities available to you. UCSB considers 13 holistic review factors to review your achievements and personal qualities in the context of the opportunities and/or challenges you have experienced. [admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/comprehensive-review/](http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/comprehensive-review/)

Pandemic Grading

A-G courses completed between Winter 2020 and Summer 2021 with Pass (P) or Credit (CR) grades will satisfy appropriate A-G requirements. This applies to all students.

Examinations

UC is test-free. UCSB will not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships.

Get help navigating through the application process: [youtube.com/ucsb4me](http://youtube.com/ucsb4me)
Transfer Eligibility & Selection Requirements

All students, regardless of the institution they are transferring from, are held to the same requirements listed below, which must be completed by the end of the spring term prior to transfer. Priority consideration is given to California community college students. Admission is open to junior-level transfers for the fall term only.

- admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer

1. **Seven-Course Pattern**
   Complete the seven-course pattern requirement, earning a grade of C or better in each course:
   A. Two courses in English composition (UC-E)
   B. One course in mathematics beyond intermediate algebra, such as college algebra, precalculus or statistics (UC-M)
   C. Four courses from at least two of the following areas:
      - Arts and humanities (UC-H)
      - Behavioral and social sciences (UC-B)
      - Biological and physical sciences (UC-S)

2. **Transferable Credit**
   Complete 60 semester or 90 quarter units of UC-transferable college credit with a grade point average of at least 2.4 for California residents and at least 2.8 for nonresidents (up to 14 semester/21 quarter units of Pass/Credit grades can be used to reach the minimum unit requirement). A selective GPA for most majors is 3.4 and above.

3. **Major Preparation**
   Complete required major preparation courses. See assist.org or our Major Preparation Guide for details. admissions.ucsb.edu/transfermajorprep2023

**Additional Resources**

**ASSIST** offers online UC transferable course lists and major preparation agreements which explain in detail what will transfer from every California community college (CCC) to the University of California (UC) campuses. assist.org

**UC Transfer Admission Planner** is an online tool that helps students track and plan transfer coursework. uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu

**Guide to Course Transferability** explains what types of courses have the best chance of transferring to UCSB, as we are unable to pre-evaluate courses. admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-eligibility-selection

**UCSB Transfer Selection**

Admitted transfer students typically meet and exceed the UC minimum requirements for admission. All applicants are encouraged to complete preparation in their intended major, complete English and math requirements early, and to focus on their academic preparation. admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-eligibility-selection.
College of Letters & Science

- Actuarial Science, B.S.
- Anthropology, B.A.: optional emphases in Archaeology, Biological, Cultural
- Applied Mathematics, B.S.
- Aquatic Biology, B.S.
- Art, B.A.
- Asian American Studies, B.A.
- Asian Studies, B.A.
- Biochemistry, B.S.
- Biochemistry-Molecular Biology, B.S.
- Biological Sciences, B.A., B.S.
- Biopsychology, B.S.
- Black Studies, B.A.
- Cell and Developmental Biology, B.S.
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S.
- Chicana and Chicano Studies, B.A.
- Chinese, B.A. (Mandarin)
- Classics, B.A.: emphases in Classical Archaeology, Classical Language and Literature, Greek and Roman Culture
- Communication, B.A.
- Comparative Literature, B.A.: Multilingual Emphasis
- Dance, B.A., B.F.A. (audition required)
- Earth Science, B.A.
- Earth Science, B.S.: emphases in Climate and Environment, Geohydrology, Geology, Geophysics, Paleobiology
- Ecology and Evolution, B.S.
- Economics, B.A.
- Economics and Accounting, B.A.
- English, B.A.
- Environmental Studies, B.A., B.S.
- Feminist Studies, B.A.
- Film and Media Studies, B.A.
- Financial Mathematics and Statistics, B.S.
- French, B.A.
- Geography, B.A.: optional emphasis in Geographic Information Science
- Geography, Physical, B.S.: optional emphasis in Ocean Science
- German, B.A.
- Global Studies, B.A.
- History, B.A.
- History of Public Policy and Law, B.A.
- Hydrologic Sciences and Policy, B.S.: emphases in Biology and Ecology, Physical and Chemical, Policy
- Italian Studies, B.A.: optional emphasis in Transnational
- Japanese, B.A.
- Language, Culture and Society, B.A.
- Latin American and Iberian Studies, B.A.
- Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
- Medieval Studies, B.A.
- Microbiology, B.S.
- Middle East Studies, B.A.
- Music Studies, B.A.: optional emphases in Ethnomusicology, Interdisciplinary Studies of Music, Western Art Music
- Pharmacology, B.S.
- Philosophy, B.A.: concentrations in Core Philosophy, Ethics and Public Policy
- Physics, B.A., B.S.
- Physiology, B.S.
- Political Science, B.A.
- Portuguese, B.A.
- Psychological and Brain Sciences, B.S.
- Religious Studies, B.A.
- Russian and East European Studies, B.A.
- Sociology, B.A.
- Spanish, B.A.
- Statistics and Data Science, B.A.
- Statistics and Data Science, B.S.
- Theater, B.A.: concentrations in Design, Directing, Playwriting, Theater and Community, Theater and Performance Studies
- Theater, B.F.A. (audition required): emphasis in Acting
- Zoology, B.S.

Also available as a minor:
- Majors highlight on Instagram @ucsbadmissions for a short overview of each major.

College of Engineering

- Chemical Engineering, B.S.
- Computer Engineering, B.S.
- Computer Science, B.S.

Five-Year Programs

Computer Science, B.S./Computer Science, M.S.
Computer Engineering, B.S./Computer Science, M.S. or Electrical and Computer Engineering, M.S.
Electrical Engineering, B.S./Electrical and Computer Engineering, M.S.
Chemical, Electrical, Mechanical Engineering, B.S./Materials, M.S.
Mechanical Engineering, B.S./Mechanical Engineering, M.S.

Additional Minors

American Indian and Indigenous Studies
Applied Psychology
Architecture and Urban History
Astronomy and Planetary Science
Educational Studies
Game Studies
Iranian Studies
Jewish Studies
Labor Studies
Language and Speech Technologies
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Studies
Mathematics for High School Teaching
Museum Studies
Poverty, Inequality and Social Justice
Professional Writing (Tracks: Professional Editing, Writing & Civic Engagement, Multimedia Communication, Business Communication, Science Communication, Journalism)
Russian
Science and Mathematics Education
Sociocultural Linguistics
Spatial Studies
Speech-Language Sciences and Disorders
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
Theater Production and Design
Translation Studies

College of Creative Studies

- Art, B.A.
- Biology, B.A.
- Chemistry/Biochemistry, B.A., B.S.
- Computing, B.S.
- Marine Science, B.A.
- Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
- Music Composition, B.A.
- Physics, B.A., B.S.
- Writing and Literature, B.A.
Pre-Professional Programs

- **Health Professions Advising:** Academic and career advising, application help, and internship connections are available to students interested in medicine, dentistry, nursing, veterinary, and other health fields. [healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu](http://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu)

- **Pre-Law Program:** Advisors assist students in applying to law school and connecting with internships locally and nationally. [duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law](http://duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law)

- **Pre-Professional Education Program:** UCSB’s teacher education program offers close collaborations with local schools to provide hands-on learning experiences. [education.ucsb.edu/tep](http://education.ucsb.edu/tep)

- **Technology Management Program (TMP):** This certificate program provides an in-depth understanding of cutting-edge entrepreneurial and business practices in global technology-based companies. [tmp.ucsb.edu](http://tmp.ucsb.edu)

- **Professional and Continuing Education (PaCE):** PaCE provides professional courses and a variety of certificates to equip students for a competitive job market after graduation. [extension.ucsb.edu](http://extension.ucsb.edu)

- **Faculty Research Assistance Program (FRAP) and Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URCA)** help fund research and creative activities under faculty guidance. [urca.ucsb.edu](http://urca.ucsb.edu)

Supporting Your Success

- **Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS)** offers tutorials, workshops, writing labs, and more. [clas.sa.ucsb.edu](http://clas.sa.ucsb.edu)

- **Disabled Students Program (DSP)** provides reading, note-taking, and test-taking accommodations. [dsp.sa.ucsb.edu](http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu)

- **Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)** commits to providing effective mental health services. [caps.sa.ucsb.edu](http://caps.sa.ucsb.edu)

- **Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)** provides mentorship, social and cultural programming, advising, and campus support referrals focusing on income-eligible and first-generation undergraduates. [eop.sa.ucsb.edu](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu)

- **Health and Wellness Department** educates students on stress reduction, meditation, sleep health, alternatives to alcohol and drug use, nutrition and meal preparation, and more. [wellness.ucsb.edu](http://wellness.ucsb.edu)

- **Career Services** sharpens interview skills and general guidance on career preparation. [career.ucsb.edu](http://career.ucsb.edu)
Facts & Figures

Freshman Class 2022

111,006 applicants  
26% admission rate  
5,100 estimated enrollment  
4.41 average weighted UC GPA, admitted freshmen

Transfer Class 2022

17,629 applicants  
58% admission rate  
2,200 estimated enrolled  
3.7 average GPA, admitted transfers

Estimated 2022-23 Student Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CA Resident</th>
<th>Non-CA Resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Campus-Based Fees</td>
<td>$15,015</td>
<td>$15,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Tuition</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$31,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room &amp; Board</td>
<td>$16,515</td>
<td>$16,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Supplies / Health &amp; Transportation / Personal Expenses &amp; Phone / Loan Fees</td>
<td>$6,831</td>
<td>$6,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$38,361</td>
<td>$69,387</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dates & Deadlines

August 1 ................................................................. UC application opens online  
September 1-30 .............................................. Transfers: Submit Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) application  
October 1-November 30 ...................................... Submit UC application at apply.universityofcalifornia.edu  
October 1-March 2 ............................................. Submit FAFSA or CA Dream Act application  
Mid-March-May 1 ................................................. View admission notification online  
May 1 ............................................................... Freshmen: Submit Statement of Intent to Register (SIR)  
June 1 .............................................................. Transfers: Submit Statement of Intent to Register (SIR)  
July 1 ............................................................... Submit official transcripts  
September 28 ..................................................... Fall 2023 instruction begins