



# UC SANTA BARBARA

Admission  
Guide  
Fall 2024



# Where the Mountains Meet the Sea

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.

**#7**

public university in the U.S. (U.S. News and World Report, 2023)

**#10**

greenest college, showing UCSB's commitment to sustainability and the environment (Princeton Review, 2022)

**#14**

in Best Career Placement among public universities (Princeton Review, 2023)

**18:1**

number of students for every professor

**90+**

companies started with UCSB technology

**10**

national institutes and centers where students can conduct research

Find more Facts & Figures here: [ucsb.edu/about/facts-and-figures](https://ucsb.edu/about/facts-and-figures)







\*Estimated times without traffic.

## 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.

University Housing offers an environment that is supportive of your educational needs. [housing.ucsb.edu](https://housing.ucsb.edu)



## Community

Many students choose UCSB for the friendly and collaborative environment. With nearly 300 days of sunshine every year, students take advantage of immersing themselves with unmatched cultural, social, professional, and physical opportunities. With 500+ campus clubs, extensive resource centers, and more, it is easy to engage in new experiences both on and off campus.

<b>9,000</b> students volunteering	<b>12,000</b> students in intramural sports each year
<b>10,375</b> students in university housing	<b>15,000</b> bikes registered





# Where Leaders are Made

## Freshman Eligibility & Selection Requirements

► [admissions.ucsb.edu/freshman](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/freshman)

### 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 [hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide](https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide).

**A. History/social science:** 2 years

► 1 year U.S. history and 1 year European or world history

**B. English:** 4 years

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

► At minimum: elementary algebra, geometry, advanced algebra

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

► Must include two of three areas: biology, chemistry, or physics

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

**F. Visual/performing arts:** 1 year from a single discipline: dance, drama theater, music, or visual art

**G. 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.

### 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](https://youtube.com/ucsb4me)

## Freshman Resources

UCSB considers holistic factors to review your achievements and personal qualities in the context of the opportunities and/or challenges you have experienced.



Freshman Selection



PIQ Guide

The UC Personal Insight Questions (PIQs) can highlight your accomplishments. Explore the PIQ Guide and join us for seasonal virtual workshops.

Join UCSB Admissions in virtual presentations on student life, academics, admissions selection, and more. [admissions.ucsb.edu/virtual-admissions-events](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/virtual-admissions-events)



Virtual Events

Freshman Admission 3



# And Futures are Paved

## Transfer Eligibility & Selection Requirements

► [admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer](https://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 a 3.4 and above.

### 3 Major Preparation

Complete required major preparation courses. See [assist.org](https://assist.org) or our Major Preparation Guide for details. [admissions.ucsb.edu/transfermajorprep2024](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/transfermajorprep2024)

## Transfer 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](https://assist.org)

**UC Transfer Admission Planner** is an online tool that helps students track and plan transfer coursework. [uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu](https://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 non-CCC courses. [admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-eligibility-selection](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-eligibility-selection)

**Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAG)** at UCSB guarantees admission to CA community college students who meet specific requirements. Full details can be found on our webpage. [admissions.ucsb.edu/tag](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/tag)

**UCSB's Transfer Prep Program** prepares entering and continuing community college students to transfer to the University of California. [admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-prep](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-prep)



Refer to our  
Transfer Student Resource  
YouTube playlist!



# Discover Your Passion

## 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 Ancient Greek Philosophy, 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 Art and Architecture, B.A.: optional emphases in Architecture and Environment, Museum Studies
- 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.
- Linguistics, B.A.: optional emphases in Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Language and Speech Technologies, Slavic, Spanish, Speech-Language Sciences and Disorders
- Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
- Medieval Studies, B.A.
- Microbiology, B.S.
- Middle East Studies, B.A.
- ◆ Music, B.M. (audition required): emphases in Bassoon, Cello, Clarinet, Composition, Double Bass, Flute, French Horn, Oboe, Percussion, Piano, Trombone, Trumpet, Tuba, Viola, Violin, Voice
- 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.
- New students are admitted to "pre-major" status and must satisfy course and GPA requirements in order to advance to the major. See UCSB General Catalog for details.
- ◆ Visit department website for available concentrations.
- 5-year combined bachelor's/master's program available for freshmen (3 years for transfers). Students apply for 5-year programs after enrolling at UCSB. Admission to the 5-year program is not guaranteed. Consult with the academic department or visit department website for information.

## College of Engineering

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

## 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.

## 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  
 Media Arts and Design  
 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

**Major Overviews**  
 Check out our  
 Majors highlight  
 on Instagram  
**@ucsbadmissions** for  
 a short overview of  
 each major.



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.

## Pre-Professional Programs

- **Faculty Research Assistance Program** and **Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities** help fund research activities under faculty guidance. [urca.ucsb.edu](http://urca.ucsb.edu)
- **Health Professions Advising** gives academic advising and career insight to students interested in the health fields. [healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu](http://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu)
- **Pre-Law Program** assists students in navigating through the law and policy path. [duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law](http://duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law)
- **Professional and Continuing Education** provides professional courses and certificates to equip students for a competitive job market after graduation. [extension.ucsb.edu](http://extension.ucsb.edu)
- **Teacher Education Program** offers collaborations with local schools to provide hands-on learning experiences. [education.ucsb.edu/tep](http://education.ucsb.edu/tep)
- **Technology Management Program** provides deep understanding of technology-focused entrepreneurial and business practices. [tmp.ucsb.edu](http://tmp.ucsb.edu)

## Supporting Your Success

- **Campus Learning Assistance Services** offers academic support through tutorials, workshops, and more. [clas.sa.ucsb.edu](http://clas.sa.ucsb.edu)
- **Career Services** guides students through career preparation. [career.ucsb.edu](http://career.ucsb.edu)
- **Counseling & Psychological Services** commits to providing effective mental health services. [caps.sa.ucsb.edu](http://caps.sa.ucsb.edu)
- **Disabled Students Program** provides learning accommodations. [dsp.sa.ucsb.edu](http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu)
- **Educational Opportunity Program** provides mentorship, social and cultural programming, and more to income-eligible and first-generation undergraduates. [eop.sa.ucsb.edu](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu)
- **First-Gen Community** supports first-generation college students engage with their education and find community at UCSB. [firstgen.ucsb.edu](http://firstgen.ucsb.edu)
- **Health and Wellness** educates students on stress reduction, sleep health, meal preparation, and more. [wellness.ucsb.edu](http://wellness.ucsb.edu)
- **Transfer Student Center** serves as a resource to transfer students. [transfercenter.ucsb.edu](http://transfercenter.ucsb.edu)





# Facts & Figures

**2,961**  
graduate  
students

**23,460**  
undergraduates

**26,421** total enrollment

## Freshman Class 2023

**28%** admission rate

**4.21** average weighted GPA\*

**5,000** estimated enrollment

**110,862** applicants

\*3.92 unweighted

## Transfer Class 2023

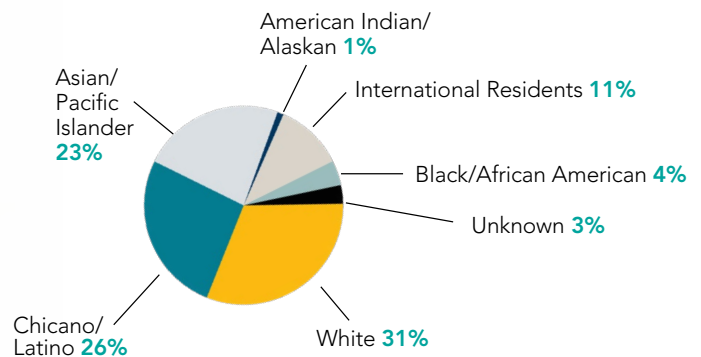
**60%** admission rate

**3.71** average GPA

**1,890** estimated enrollment

**17,069** applicants

## Demographics (U.S.):



**Fun Fact:** In 2015, UCSB was recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AAPI) by the U.S. Dept. of Education.

## Estimated 2023-2024 Student Budget

<i>Tuition subject to revision by the UC Regents</i>	CA Resident	Non-CA Resident
Tuition & Campus-Based Fees	\$15,666	\$15,666
Supplemental Tuition	—	\$32,574
Room & Board	\$18,276	\$18,276
Books & Supplies, Transportation, Personal Expenses, etc.	\$7,347	\$7,347
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$41,289</b>	<b>\$73,863</b>

Additional Resources:

[admissions.ucsb.edu/deadlines](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/deadlines)

[admissions.ucsb.edu/publications-and-videos](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/publications-and-videos)

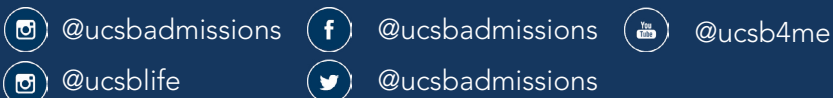
[admissions.ucsb.edu/communities](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/communities)

[admissions.ucsb.edu/faq](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/faq)

## UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014

[admissions.ucsb.edu](https://admissions.ucsb.edu) | [admissions@ucsb.edu](mailto:admissions@ucsb.edu) | (805) 893-2881



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