

International Applicants Admission Guide Fall 2025

UC SANTA BARBARA



Get
connected
with UCSB!

University of California, Santa Barbara
admissions.ucsb.edu/apply/international

UC Santa Barbara is part of the 10-campus University of California system, one of the largest and most respected public universities in the world.

**Explore our coastal campus
by scanning the code:**

admissions.ucsb.edu/campus-visits



Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara is a tourist destination with excellent outdoor recreation, shopping, restaurants, movies and music.

Location

Santa Barbara is located 160 kilometers (100 miles) northwest of Los Angeles and less than two hours from the LAX airport.

Weather

Located on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, UCSB enjoys beautiful year-round weather with warm summers and mild winters.

Transportation

Biking is the main form of transportation on campus with 11 kilometers (7 miles) of bike paths. Students also have easy access to frequent bus transportation.

#5

public university in the United States
(Forbes, 2023)

10

national institutes
and centers,
including the
Kavli Institute for
Theoretical Physics

#8

Best Value
College - Public
Institution
(Princeton
Review, 2024)

6

faculty Nobel Prizes in chemistry,
economics, and physics

2,450

courses offered
each quarter in
UCSB's three
undergraduate
colleges

17:1

student-to-
faculty ratio

230,000+

alumni network worldwide

Three Undergraduate Colleges

UCSB offers 85 majors and 51 minors in three colleges: the College of Letters and Science, the College of Engineering, and the College of Creative Studies. admissions.ucsb.edu/majors

Pre-Professional Programs

- › Technology Management (tmp.ucsb.edu)
- › Pre-Law Program (duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law)
- › Pre-Health Program (healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu)

College of Letters & Science

- Actuarial Science, B.S.
 - Anthropology, B.A.
 - Applied Mathematics, B.S.
 - Aquatic Biology, B.S.
 - Art, B.A.
 - Asian American Studies, B.A.
 - Asian Studies, B.A.
 - Biochemistry, B.S.
 - Biological Sciences, B.A., B.S.
 - Biopsychology, B.S.
 - Black Studies, B.A.
 - Chemistry, B.A., B.S.
 - Chicana and Chicano Studies, B.A.
 - Chinese, B.A. (Mandarin)
 - Classics, B.A.
 - Communication, B.A.
 - Comparative Literature, B.A.
 - Dance, B.A., B.F.A. (audition required)
 - Earth Science, B.A., B.S.
 - 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.
 - Geography, Physical, B.S.
 - German, B.A.
 - Global Studies, B.A.
 - History, B.A.
 - History of Art and Architecture, B.A.
 - History of Public Policy and Law, B.A.
 - Hydrologic Sciences and Policy, B.S.
 - Italian Studies, B.A.
 - Japanese, B.A.
 - Language, Culture and Society, B.A.
 - Latin American and Iberian Studies, B.A.
 - Linguistics, B.A.
 - Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
 - Medieval Studies, B.A.
 - Middle East Studies, B.A.
 - Molecular & Cellular Biology, B.S.
 - Music, B.M. (audition required)
 - Music Studies, B.A.
 - Philosophy, B.A.
 - 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., B.S.
 - Theater, B.A., B.F.A. (audition required)
 - Zoology, B.S.
- *Indicates majors also available as a minor.*



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.

UCSB 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

Housing, Dining, & Student Life

Housing is guaranteed to all students in their first year.

Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu



16

Living Learning Communities including Women in STEM, Outdoor Adventure, Multicultural Experience, and more

20,000+

students live on or within 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) of campus



~500

student organizations including cultural and educational clubs like the Chinese Student Association, Hermanas Unidas/ Hermanas Unidos, Southeast Asian Union, and more

28

sports club teams



Freshman Admission Requirements

Admission to UCSB is competitive. The Office of Admissions is familiar with educational systems around the world and provides each applicant with a comprehensive review after applying.

admissions.ucsb.edu/international-freshman-eligibility-selection

Apply online: apply.universityofcalifornia.edu

Required Test

For students whose language of instruction is not English, submit scores from the TOEFL (minimum score of 80) **OR** IELTS (minimum score of 6.5) **OR** the Duolingo English Test (minimum score of 115).

A Note on ACT & SAT Exams

UCSB will not use SAT/ACT scores in our admission selection.

International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma students must take a minimum of six IB exams, with three exams taken at the higher level. The overall average must be 5 with no exam score below 4.

British Systems

You must complete at least five GCSE/IGCSE (O-Level) exams with a 3.4 GPA or higher and at least three GCE (A-Level) exams with a 3.0 (unweighted) GPA or higher and no grade below C to be considered for admission. If you receive A, B or C grades on your GCE (A-Level) exams, UCSB may grant you transfer credit toward your bachelor's degree. The exact amount of credit will be determined after you are formally admitted and provide your official Statement of Results.



Curriculum Requirements by Country

Generally, an applicant to UCSB will have graduated from a secondary school and earned a certificate of completion that enables attendance at a university in that country. admissions.ucsb.edu/international-freshman-eligibility-selection

Australia

Capital Territory: Completion of Australian Capital Territory Senior Secondary Certificate with B average

New South Wales: Completion of New South Wales Higher School Certificate with 70 average in 90-0 scale or 4 in Bands of Achievement

Northern Territory: Completion of Northern Territory Certificate of Education with 14 average

Queensland: Completion of Queensland Senior Certificate with HA (B) average

South Australia: Completion of South Australian Certificate of Education with 14 average

Tasmania: Completion of Tasmanian Certificate of Education with average of HA (B) in AO-SA scale or 14 in 20-0 scale

Victoria: Completion of Victorian Certificate of Education with B average

Western Australia: Completion of Western Australia Certificate of Education with B average

Brazil Completion of Certificado de Ensino Médio (Certificate of Completion of Middle Education) with a minimum average of at least 7 on the 1-10 scale or an average of at least 70 on the 100-0 scale

Canada

Alberta: Completion of Certificate of Secondary Education Advanced High School Diploma with a minimum average of at least 65

British Columbia: Completion of Secondary School Graduation Diploma with a minimum average of at least 73

Nova Scotia: Completion of Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma with a minimum average of at least 70

Ontario: Completion of OSSD - Ontario Secondary School Diploma with a minimum average of at least 70

Quebec: Completion of Diplôme d'études secondaires (General) and two years CEGEP (Colleges d'enseignement general et professionnel)

China Completion of Graduation Certificate from upper middle school and Senior High School Graduate Certificate with B average

France Completion of Baccalauréat de l'Enseignement de Second Degré/Baccalauréat Général (Baccalaureate of Second Degree Education/General Baccalaureate) with 12 average

India Completion of both year X and XII state board or CBSE examinations, with a minimum average of at least 60 and no mark below 45

Japan Complete Kotogakko Sotsugyo Shosho (Upper Secondary School Graduation Diploma) with a minimum average of at least 4

Jordan Completion of Tawjihi or Completion of General Secondary Education Certificate (Literary or Scientific) with a minimum average of at least 70

Kuwait Completion of Shahadat Al-Thanawiya-Al-A'ma (General Secondary Education Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 80

Mexico Completion of Bachillerato with a minimum average of at least 8 average in 10-0 scale or an average of at least 80 in the 100-0 scale

New Zealand Completion of year 13 and earn the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 3 with an average of Merit (M), obtaining at least 42 credits

Peru Completion of Certificado de Estudios de Educación Secundaria Común Completa (Certificate of Completion of General Secondary Education) with a minimum average of at least 12

Philippines Completion of 12-year Elementary-Secondary education and receive a High School Diploma after the 12th year with a minimum average equivalent of at least 85

Qatar Completion of Al-Thanawiya Aama Qatari (Qatari General Secondary Education Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 70

Republic of South Korea Completion of Senior High School Diploma with a minimum average of at least B or an 80 on the 1-100 scale or 4 or lower average in 1-9 ranking

Saudi Arabia Completion of Shahadat Al-Marhalat Al-Thanawiyat (General Secondary Education Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 75

Singapore Completion of at least 5 General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE, GCSE, O-Levels) with at least a 3.40 GPA and at least 3 General Certificate of Education (GCE, A-Levels) with a minimum average of B and with no grade below C

Switzerland Completion of Eidgenössisch anerkannte Kantonale Maturität or Maturité cantonale reconnu par la Confédération or Eidgenössisches Maturität, Maturité fédérale, Baccalauréat or Maturità cantonale riconosciuta dalla Confederazione with 5 average

Taiwan Completion of Senior High School Leaving Certificate with a minimum average of at least 70

Thailand Completion of Mathayom 6 (Certificate of Upper Secondary Education) with a minimum average of at least 70 or 3 average in 4-0 scale

Turkey Completion of Lise Diploması (General Secondary School/ Lyceum Diploma) with 4 average in 5-0 scale or 70 in 100-0 scale

United Arab Emirates Completion of Shahadat Al-Thanawiya-Al-Amma (General Secondary Education Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 80

Vietnam Completion of Bằng Tốt Nghiệp Trung Học Phổ Thông (Secondary School Graduation Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 7

Cost of Attendance 2024-2025

Tuition and Fees	\$16,407
Supplemental Tuition and Fees	\$34,200
Books and Supplies	\$1,380
Room and Board	\$19,623
Health and Transportation	\$4,689
Personal Expenses and Phone	\$2,469
Total	\$78,768

Calculate Cost:
finaid.ucsb.edu

Costs in this table are subject to change.

* Average origination fees for student borrowers.

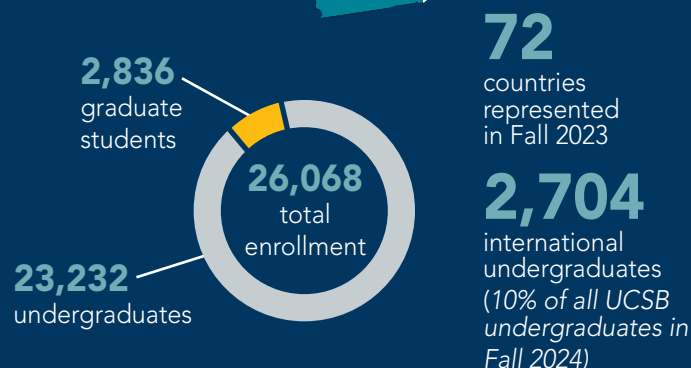
Tuition and Fees are set for a student's tenure, details are online through the Financial Aid site: finaid.ucsb.edu

Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS)

OISS helps international students secure a student visa, plan an academic program, and learn about studying in the U.S. through the Culture, Academics, Laws and Immigration (CALI) training. oiss.ucsb.edu

- › **I-20:** After deposit, the I-20 will be issued by OISS.
- › **Minimum Financial Requirement:** After deposit, financial documentation is required.
- › **Working:** Employment for F-1 visa students is limited.

UC Santa Barbara Facts & Figures



72 countries represented in Fall 2023

Top Countries of Origin:

China, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Canada, Hong Kong, Brazil, Turkey, Mexico, Vietnam

Freshman Class 2024

110,256 applicants

33% admission rate

4,986 estimated enrolled

Transfer Class 2024

18,425 applicants

62% admission rate

2,155 estimated enrolled

Bookmark Now:

Dates and Deadlines: admissions.ucsb.edu/deadlines

Resources: admissions.ucsb.edu/publications-and-videos

Celebrate Diversity: admissions.ucsb.edu/communities

General Questions: admissions.ucsb.edu/faq

UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014

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