

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of Admissions

Admissions Glossary

Updated February 2025

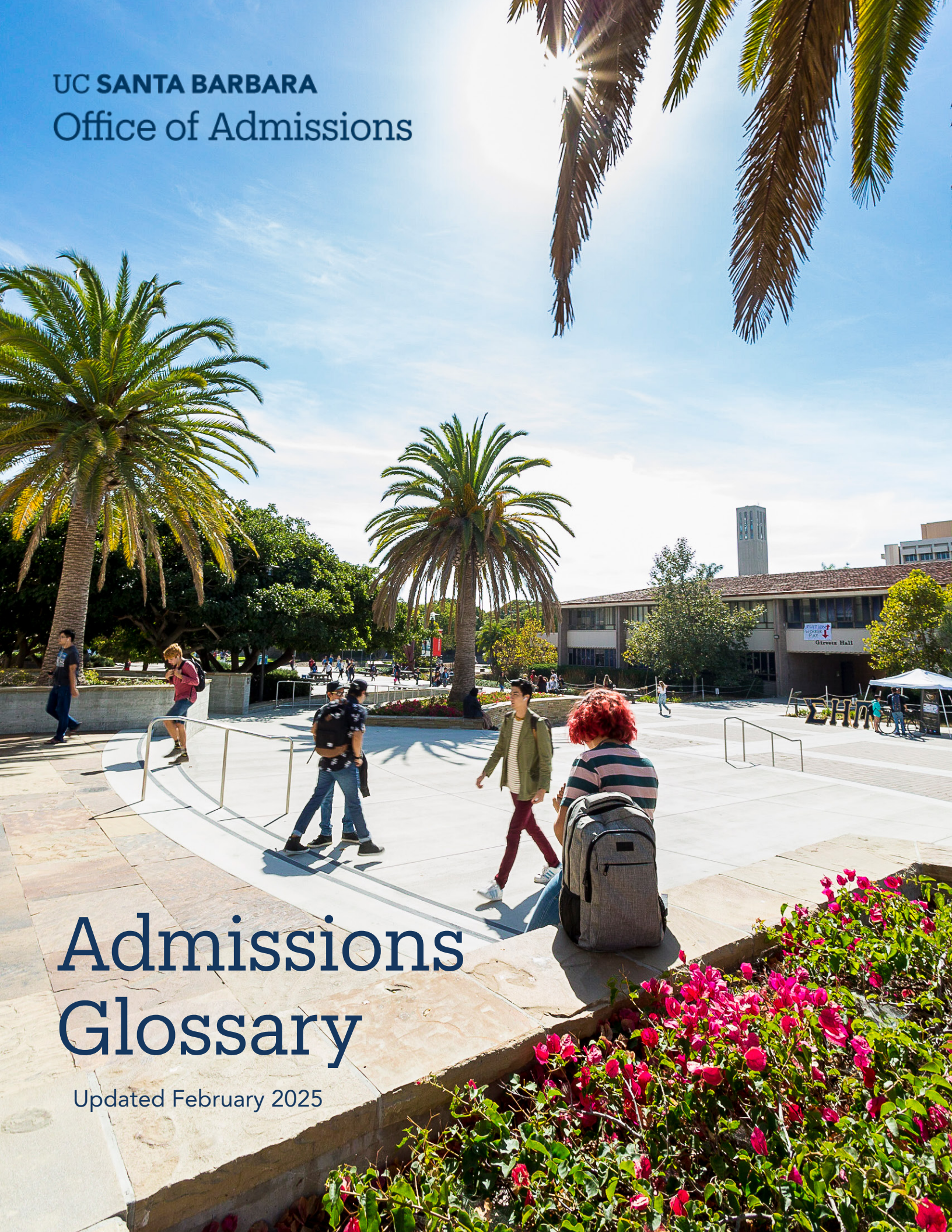


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This glossary is a tool to explain common UCSB admissions terms and acronyms. Click on each section to jump to each page.

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Admissions Terminology

Find more information on common UCSB terminology using the additional resources below:

Orientation Glossary

First-gen Glossary

Financial Aid Glossary

FAQ Mini Series

Department Contacts (English)

Department Contacts (Spanish)

Parent & Supporters Page

Accredited: A formally recognized organization affirming the quality of a higher education program. UC recognizes only U.S. colleges or universities that were formerly regionally accredited and International colleges or universities recognized by the Ministry of Education (or a higher-education authority or appropriate government agency) as a degree-granting institution in that country.

Appeal: A request for reconsideration of a decision made. This can include requests to change admission status, major status, or grades. Find the Admissions Appeal Process [here](#).

Application ID vs. Perm Number: Your Application ID is your seven-digit identification from the application you submitted to the University of California. Your UCSB perm number is a seven-character identification assigned to every UC Santa Barbara applicant and UCSB student.

Audition: An interview/sample performance that showcases an applicant's skillset. Auditions typically involve performing a rehearsed piece that fits in a specific repertoire. Dance (B.A and B.F.A) and music (B.M) majors must complete an audition before admission. Audition information can be found on each major's website.

Billing Accounts Receivable Collections Unit (BARC): BARC, a computerized system produces a monthly statement for

any amounts owed to the university, such as tuition, registration fees, campus housing charges, student health services, etc. Find more information about BARC [here](#), or email barc.info@bfs.ucsb.edu.

Conditions of Admission: A set of requirements that students must meet to be fully admitted to a college. For first-year students, review your Conditions of Admission [here](#). For transfer students, review your Conditions of Admission [here](#).

Cultural Awareness, Laws, and Immigration (CALI) Training: A required CALI training that incoming UCSB international students have to participate in. Find more details about CALI training [here](#).

Demonstrated Interest: The degree to which you show a university you are interested in attending. Examples of Demonstrated Interest include subscribing to a college newsletter and/or applying for early decision (Note: UCSB does not offer an early decision application option for undergraduate admissions). UCSB does not look at "demonstrated interest" in the admission process. We encourage students to connect with Admissions through our application overview sessions, virtual tours, and open house events. Please note that attendance at these offerings, virtual or in-person, will not affect your application for admission.

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Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

Summer Programs: EOP at UCSB offers a one-week summer program for incoming students in EOP. EOP focuses on serving those who are income eligible and first-generation undergraduates. Find details about EOP Summer programs [here](#).

- **Summer Transitional Enrichment Program (STEP):** STEP is a one-week summer residential program for incoming first-year/freshman students in EOP.
- **Summer Transitional Transfer Program (STTP):** STTP is a one-week summer residential program for incoming transfer students in EOP.

Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR)

vs. Entry Level Placement (ELPE): The Entry Level Writing Requirement is an undergraduate degree requirement. You can satisfy the ELWR through different means, such as AP test scores, or other placement exams. Find details about ELWR [here](#). The Entry Level Placement in English for undergraduate international students whose first language is not English and who have not yet satisfied the UC ELWR. Find details about ELPE [here](#).

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

(FERPA): FERPA, a federal law that protects the privacy of education records. This means that without a student's documented consent, obtaining any academic information, campus involvements, and housing information is prohibited. Find details about FERPA [here](#).

Fee Waivers: Fee waivers eliminate application fees and costs. Fee waivers are intended to make education more accessible for income eligible students.

Gacho Access Plan (GAP) vs. UCSB Student Health Insurance Plan (UC SHIP): See page 6.

Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

The IGETC is a general education (GE) course pattern available at the California Community Colleges (CCCs) that can be followed to receive completion credit for GE requirements. IGETC must be certified by the CCC, usually through the Transfer Center or counseling department. Refer IGETC questions to your community college. IGETC is not required for admissions eligibility at UCSB, however, some UC campuses may ask for IGETC to meet their selection criteria.

Letter of Intent: A college letter of intent is a letter that showcases you, your interests, and how you intend to add value to a university's program. The contents in a Letter of Intent may be similar to a cover letter and/or college essay! You will need to submit a Letter of Intent for majors in the College of Creative Studies. Find details [here](#) (under Application Requirements for Each Major).

Lived/Preferred Name: A lived, or a preferred name, is a name that a person chooses to be referred to by, instead of their legal name. People may use a lived name to better represent their sense of identity and preference. At UCSB, you must change your Lived name in multiple locations in order to keep your name consistent. Find more information [here](#).

Living Learning Communities (LLCs)

LLCs are a housing community experience through cultural, identity, or academic themes. UCSB has 16 LLCs. Find more information [here](#).

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

MFA is mandatory for key UCSB services and applications. MFA, with Duo, adds a layer of security by verifying not only that a person knows a password, but that the person also has access to a registered device, such as a

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smartphone. In the Steps to Enrollment process, applicants will need MFA for steps in residency for tuition, student health, and more. Get started with MFA [here](#).

NetID: The UCSB NetID is the username used to sign-in to services once enrolled on campus. These services and applications are only available to the UCSB community. Your NetID enables access to campus services. Find details about NetIDs [here](#).

Official vs. Unofficial transcripts: An official transcript is a certified record of a student's academic history that is issued by the university's registrar's office. Admitted students should refer to the sending freshmen documents [here](#), or sending transfer documents page [here](#) for official transcript information. An unofficial transcript is a means by which students may review their academic record; there are content differences between an unofficial transcript and an official transcript.

Partial Transcript: A partial transcript has missing or incomplete information (Ex: High school graduation date is not listed correctly, final grades are not posted, or "incomplete" grades are present on the transcript). Admitted students should refer to the sending freshmen documents page [here](#) or sending transfer documents page [here](#) for official transcript information.

Petition: A formal request to appeal a decision. Find details on UCSB petitions [here](#).

Provisional Admissions: Means that your admission to UC Santa Barbara will be official only after you have complet-

ed the requirements in your Condition of Admissions. Find the First-year/Freshman Condition of Admissions [here](#) and the Transfer Condition of Admissions [here](#). If you think you will not be able to meet the provisions of this contract, or if you do not understand the conditions, contact the Office of Admissions at admissions@ucsb.edu immediately for further advice.

Quarter System: UCSB runs on the quarter system, a system that divides the academic year into three 10-week terms, or quarters, instead of the two 15-week semesters. The four quarters are separated by season: Fall, Winter, Spring, and an optional Summer quarter. Find details about the academic calendar [here](#).

Registrar: The UCSB Office of the Registrar manages all university academic records, student registration, and other services. You may need to contact the Registrar directly to clarify residency, update student information/class schedule, and for other things. Find details on their webpage [here](#).

Secondary School: A less commonly known term, but a secondary school is largely the equivalent to high school in the US and refers to the education provided after primary school in many countries. This is the terminology used often in documents relating to international students.

Statement of Intent to Register (SIR): An SIR means that you plan to attend and enroll at a university/institution. When you SIR to a school, you typically pay a non-refundable deposit to hold your place at the institution. You can accept or decline your Offer of Admission through the UCSB Applicant Portal [here](#) by the appropriate deadline. Find details in the Steps to Enrollment webpage [here](#).

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Statement of Legal Residence (SLR): An SLR determines a student's residency for tuition and is required of all students. Failure to submit your SLR will result in the assessment of out-of-state fees, and may prevent disbursement of financial aid. It takes several weeks to verify if you qualify for California residency. Any questions regarding your residency/SLR should be directed to the Office of the Registrar.

Steps to Enrollment: A list of tasks that must be completed as you enroll in UCSB. Steps to Enrollment instructions are meant for students looking to SIR to UCSB. Find detailed a Steps to Enrollment Guide, along with a video overview, [here](#).

Summer Sessions: UCSB Summer Sessions is the department that hosts summer school/summer programming for incoming students. More details can be found [here](#). There are two summer session programs available:

- **Freshman Summer Start Program (FSSP):** FSSP is an innovative six-week summer experience designed to immerse newly admitted freshmen in a vibrant and supportive learning community.
- **Transfer Edge:** Transfer Edge is an immersive six-week summer program, designed to provide incoming transfer students with a comprehensive introduction to the rigorous academics and vibrant culture at UCSB.

Supplemental Application: An additional application that some colleges and/or programs require applicants to submit along with their primary application. At UCSB, those interested in any majors in the College of Creative Studies, music majors (College of Letters & Science), and dance majors (College of Letters & Science) will need to submit a supplemental application. Find details through each department web pages.

UCSB Student Health Insurance Plan (UC SHIP) vs. Gaucho Access Plan (GAP): The comprehensive UC SHIP includes medical, vision, dental, and pharmacy coverage. You can find the charge on your BARC account. You can waive your UC SHIP. GAP provides in-house medical care for students with approved insurance waivers. You can compare prices for common services here, comparing both UC SHIP and GAP. For details, visit the Student Health website [here](#).

Unofficial vs. Official transcripts See page 5.

Verification and Credit Evaluation (VCE): After all of your official records are received, the Office of Admissions will review all documents together and award any applicable credit towards your degree at UCSB. You will be notified by email when it's completed. Transfer student VCEs are typically completed during the summer prior to fall enrollment. New first-year student VCEs are completed late in the summer or early in fall quarter.

Academic Terminology

Need help understanding the UCSB academic process and structure? See below for terms you should know!

Articulated vs. Transferable: An articulated course is a course taken at one college/university that can be used to satisfy subject matter requirements (major or general education) at another institution. UC only articulates courses from California community colleges. Articulation agreements between campuses are entered in ASSIST. Learn how to navigate through ASSIST [here](#). Transferable courses from other approved institutions may apply to specific requirements at UCSB, but that won't be determined until a student decides to attend UCSB and sends all official records.

Canvas: Canvas is where you can access sites for your courses, find syllabus information, assignment due dates and more.

Change of Major: The process of changing your intended major in your submitted UC Application to another major selection. Find the process for Major Changes for Newly Admitted Students [here](#).

Gaucha On-Line Data System (GOLD): GOLD is the student registration system. You will use GOLD to access your grades/academic history, registration information, class schedules, personal information updates, and more. Explore GOLD [here](#). Note: Class days are listed as M/T/W/R/F - R stands for Thursday.

Lower Division vs. Upper Division Courses: Refers to the categorization of courses. Lower division courses are often general education classes or introductory major classes meant for first and second-year students. Upper division courses

are often advanced classes meant for third and fourth-year students. Within the University of California, courses appropriate for Undergraduate students are numbered 1-99 (lower division) and 100-199 (upper division).

Pass times: Registration periods are referred to as "passes" or "pass times"; they indicate when you can register/make changes to courses. UCSB students have up to three different pass times. Your pass time is based on various factors, such as class standing. Pay careful attention to your pass times!

Pre-Major: Many students begin their studies at UCSB in a "Pre-Major." Pre-major status simply means you intend to declare that particular major. To declare the full major, you must complete your intended major's pre-major requirements. This differs by major.

Registration: To register/enroll in your courses. You can register for classes during your pass time (defined above).

Orientation: UCSB designed an Orientation program that will help students understand student life, learn about important student services, and anticipate academic expectations at the university. Students attending Orientation will receive extensive academic advising, create their school schedule, and meet with staff and continuing UCSB students. This will be the first academic advising opportunity for students who choose to enroll. Learn more about Orientation [here](#).

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Transferable vs. Articulated: See page 7.

Transfer Academic Update (TAU): The TAU is an update transfer students are required to make on their application with final fall grades and confirmation/modification of upcoming winter/spring courses by the end of March (priority deadline is the end of January).

Upper Division vs. Lower Division Courses: See page 7.



Testing Terminology

UC does not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admission decisions or awarding Regents/ Chancellor's scholarships. Test scores can be used for course placement after you enroll. Admission Readers do not see exam scores when reviewing applications. Below are terms you may see in documents, websites, and in the Applicant Portal.

Advanced Placement (AP): A standardized, college-level exams on specific subjects. You can potentially get credit that counts towards your UCSB degree from your AP classes/exams. You must send your official AP test scores (after submitting your SIR) to UCSB by the deadline.

Duolingo English Test (DET): The DET is a language proficiency test, comparable to the IELTS and TOEFL. You must submit the official DET exam score (after submitting your SIR) to UCSB by the deadline.

English Language Proficiency: Both freshman/first-year and transfer students must demonstrate proficiency in English to be considered for admission to any of the UC campuses. You can demonstrate proficiency by meeting exam benchmarks or completing UC-E coursework for transfer applicants. Qualifying exams include Test of English as a Foreign Language, Duolingo English Test, and more. Find a full list of exams, required scores, and details about English proficiency requirements on the UC Office of the President page.

International Baccalaureate (IB): Often compared to the AP exams, but you can receive a full IB Diploma upon meeting specific requirements. You can also get credit that counts towards your UCSB degree from your IB exams/diploma. You must send your official IB test scores (after submitting your SIR) to UCSB by the deadline.

International English Language Testing System (IELTS): The IELTS is a type

of language test to determine English proficiency among higher education institutions. You must submit the official IELTS exam score to UCSB by the deadline.

Placement Exams: A placement exam is a test that measures a student's knowledge in a particular subject. This assesses and determines which appropriate-level courses to enroll in. Not all students are required to take placement exams. Find details about placement exams at UCSB [here](#).

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): The TOEFL is a language proficiency test administered by the Educational Testing Services. You must submit your official TOEFL exam score (after submitting your SIR) to UCSB by the deadline.

Test-Free: UCSB is test-free (also known as test blind), meaning we will not consider SAT/ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding Regents and Chancellor's scholarships for applicants. Students have the option to send SAT/ACT test scores (known as test optional), but scores will not be used in admissions selection. Test scores may be used for coursework placement post-enrollment. For details, visit the UC Exam Requirement page. Transfer students are never required to submit ACT or SAT scores.

UC Transferable: UC Transferable courses can be used for unit credit at any UC campus. However, the course must also be assessed for any specific degree requirements, such as general education or major requirements.

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