

# UC SANTA BARBARA

## Admission Guide

Fall 2026

[admissions.ucsb.edu/next-stop](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/next-stop)



# Applying to UCSB

## Freshman Eligibility

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



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

### 1 A-G Courses

Complete UC-approved A-G courses with a posted grade of "C" or better. Refer to [hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide](https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide).

- A. History/social science: 2 yrs
- B. English: 4 yrs
- C. Mathematics: 3 yrs (4 recommended)
- D. Science: 2 yrs (3 recommended)

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

F. Visual/performing arts: 1 yr

G. College preparatory elective: 1 yr beyond the minimum A-F courses required

### 2 Grade Point Average (GPA)

Earn a weighted **3.0 minimum GPA (3.4 for nonresidents)** in A-G courses.

### 3 Holistic Admissions

UCSB considers 13 holistic review factors showcasing achievements in the context of opportunities and/or challenges a student has experienced.

## Transfer Eligibility

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



### UCSB Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

TAG guarantees admission to CA community college students who meet specific requirements.  
[admissions.ucsb.edu/tag](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/tag)

### 1 Seven-Course Pattern

Complete the seven-course pattern with a "C" or better:

- A. 2 courses in English composition (UC-E)
- B. 1 course in mathematics beyond intermediate algebra, like precalculus or statistics (UC-M)
- C. 4 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/90 quarter units** of UC-transferable credit.

### 3 Major Preparation

Complete required major preparation courses.  
[admissions.ucsb.edu/TransferMajorPrepGuide2026](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/TransferMajorPrepGuide2026)

### Pre-Professional Programs:

- Undergraduate Research | [urca.ucsb.edu](https://urca.ucsb.edu)
- Health Professions Advising | [healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu](https://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu)
- Pre-Law Advising | [duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law](https://duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law)
- Business & Entrepreneurship | [tmp.ucsb.edu](https://tmp.ucsb.edu)

### Supporting Your Success:

- Career Services | [career.ucsb.edu](https://career.ucsb.edu)
- Counseling & Psychological Services | [caps.sa.ucsb.edu](https://caps.sa.ucsb.edu)
- Education Abroad Program | [eap.ucsb.edu](https://eap.ucsb.edu)
- Educational Opportunity Program | [eop.sa.ucsb.edu](https://eop.sa.ucsb.edu)
- Transfer Student Center | [transfercenter.ucsb.edu](https://transfercenter.ucsb.edu)



### UCSB Pre-College Programs

Explore programs for high school students. [summer.ucsb.edu/programs](https://summer.ucsb.edu/programs)



**UC Application Help:** Watch the UC application tutorial on our YouTube channel ([ucsb4me](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsb4me)).



## 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.
- 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.: 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, Geology, Geophysics, Geobiology and 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 Policy, Law, and Governance, 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.

- Middle East Studies, B.A.
- Molecular & Cellular Biology, B.S.: optional emphases in Biochemistry-Molecular Biology, Cell and Developmental Biology, Microbiology, Pharmacology
- ◆ Music, B.M. (audition required): emphases in Cello, Composition, Piano, Viola, Violin, Voice
- Music Studies, B.A.: optional emphases in Ethnomusicology, Interdisciplinary Studies of Music, Western Art Music
- ◆ 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, emphasis in Theater Design
- Theater, B.F.A. (audition required): emphasis in Acting
- Zoology, B.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
- Legal Humanities
- 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

## 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

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

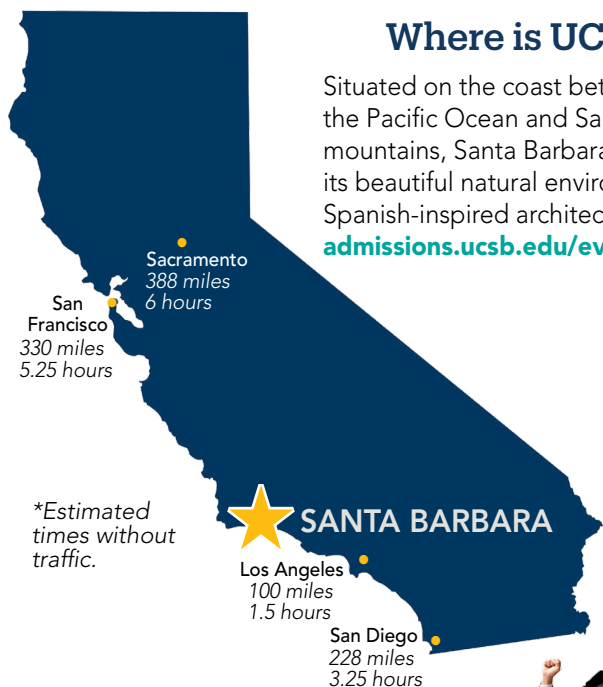
- Also available as a minor.
- New students are admitted to "pre-major" status and must satisfy course and GPA requirements in order to advance to the major. See UCSB General Catalog for details.
- ◆ Visit department website for available concentrations.
- 5-year combined bachelor's/master's program available for freshmen (3 years for transfers). Refer to the respective department for details.



**Major Overview:** Visit our webpage for more resources ([admissions.ucsb.edu/majors](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/majors)).



# Facts & Figures



## Why UCSB?



Discover why UCSB is the right fit!



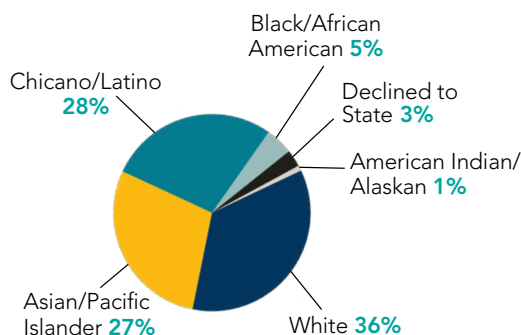
You belong here! Find your community at UCSB. [admissions.ucsb.edu/communities](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/communities)



Register for webinars about student life, admission selection, and more. [admissions.ucsb.edu/events](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/events)

## Current Student Enrollment

UCSB is recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution by the U.S. Department of Education.



## By the Numbers

### Freshman Class 2025

**110,184**  
applicants

**4.18**  
average  
UC GPA

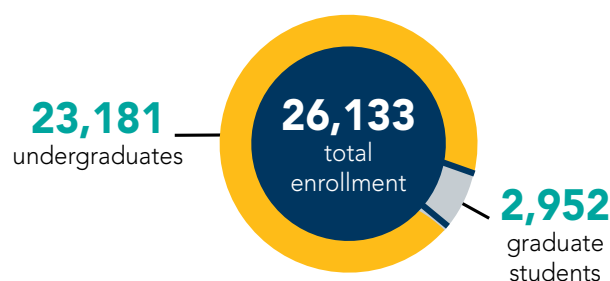
**38%**  
admission  
rate

### Transfer Class 2025

**18,847**  
applicants

**3.70**  
average  
GPA

**59%**  
admission  
rate



## Estimated Student Budget

	CA Resident	Non-CA Resident
Tuition & Campus-Based Fees	\$16,929	\$16,929
Supplemental Tuition	—	\$37,602
Room & Board	\$21,627	\$21,627
Academic Supplies, Personal Expenses, etc.	\$8,862	\$8,862
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,418</b>	<b>\$85,020</b>

Tuition subject to revision by the UC Regents.



Scan to find a detailed, estimated cost of attendance to UCSB.

**\$27K**

average UCSB award for need-based scholarship & grant aid



## UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014  
admissions.ucsb.edu | admissions@ucsb.edu | (805) 893-2881

**Connect with us:** [admissions.ucsb.edu/mailling-list](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/mailling-list)

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