Fact Sheet: Freshman Admission Laboratory Science Requirement And Next Generation Science Standards Courses

UC’s revised course criteria for area D
UC has issued updated area D course criteria, effective for the 2019-20 school year, for high school courses to be eligible for approval in the laboratory science subject area, including allowing for online labs.

As of February 1, 2019, courses submitted to UC in the laboratory science (D) subject area for the 2019-20 school year and onwards must include a laboratory that can be classroom-based, fully online, or a hybrid. Lab activities must still be supervised by a teacher (synchronous or asynchronous, depending on the learning environment) and give students hands-on learning opportunities (i.e., lab activities that demonstrate practical/real-world applications).

For more information about area D course criteria and guidance, please see the A-G Policy Resource Guide.

Updated laboratory science (area D) disciplines
Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, UC introduced revised science discipline options for courses submitted under the laboratory science (D) subject area. These updated science disciplines align with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for California public schools that many high schools across the state have been
implementing.

In a future announcement, we will provide more guidance on aligning all previously approved area D courses to the revised discipline options. In the meantime, if you would like to update the science discipline for an approved area D course aligned to NGSS, visit the A-G Policy Resource Guide for the list of disciplines and information about revising courses.