Thank you for taking time to learn about the UC admission application and review helpful tips so that applicants can best present themselves.

This presentation is for students applying as a freshman applicant.
Overview

Before You Begin
How Applications are Reviewed
Completing the Application
The Personal Insight Questions
Submitting the Application

This presentation covers the topics indicated above.
Before you begin, it is important to understand the application process, and what should be done to prepare to complete the application.
## Application Timeline

### Freshman

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- **Fall Admission Application:** Opens August 1. For other terms (winter/spring) go to: [http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/dates-deadlines/index.html](http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/dates-deadlines/index.html)

- **Application Submission:** between November 1 and 30. It is very important to meet the deadline. Late applications are rarely accepted.

- If students take the SAT Reasoning with Writing (no longer valid for applicants graduating high school in Spring 2020 and beyond) or SAT with Essay (the new SAT) and/or the ACT with Writing tests (or choose to take SAT Subject Test) in December, they must update UC with December test scores by logging back into their submitted application as soon as possible but preferably no later than January 10.

- **Acknowledgement:** In January, each campus the student applied to will email them to create a login username and password for access to the campus’ applicant portal. This is the site at which the admission decision will be posted along with other important information—check each campus’ applicant portal frequently. Be sure to safeguard your passwords.

- **Admission Decisions:** Campuses may begin to admit students as early as February 1, but most students will receive notification of admission via the campus’ applicant portal during the month of March.

- **Waitlist Offers:** Some students may receive an offer to be placed on a waitlist at one or more campuses. If applicants receive such a message they must be sure to respond by the stated deadline. UC campuses very rarely make exceptions for a late response.

- **Guarantee of Admission:** In by mid-April, applicants who were identified as being in the Top 9% Statewide or Top 9% Local Context (ELC) and met/will meet all admission requirements, but were not offered admission to any campus at which they applied, will be sent an email message if another campus has space available to offer them a place.

- **Statement of Intent to Register:** May 1 is the deadline to submit the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) (accept an offer of admission) to ONLY ONE UC campus for all freshman admits who received an offer by April 1. Admit offers received after April 1 will include a corresponding SIR deadline.

- **Waitlist Decisions:** From May to early July, campuses will notify applicants who accepted a place on the waitlist of the final decision on their application.
For students, we recommend the following:

• Begin preparing for the application now – don’t wait until November.

• Start by researching the campuses now so you know where you want to apply, and for what major. For majors, it’s a good idea to review the curriculum of your intended major in the General Catalog for each campus; the courses required/offered for the same/similarly named major might be different from one campus to another; review the course descriptions and ask yourself “Is this a course I would want to take?”.

  • List of majors by disciplines across all nine UC campuses:
    http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/undergraduate_majors_list.pdf
  • Not all majors are open to freshmen applicants, or for every term.

• Learn about all the types of courses needed to earn the UC degree so you are fully informed about graduation requirements so you can plan how long it will take to graduate. Most students who enter as freshmen graduate in four years; some in less time, if they plan carefully.

• Gather materials that you’ll need: transcripts/academic records, list of current and planned courses, test scores, awards and honors, volunteer program timelines and hours, employment timeline and hours, etc.

• Brainstorm: take time to remember all the important things you have done throughout secondary/high school, from club involvement, to volunteering, to athletics and leadership, and more.

• UC campuses are selective: Apply to different types of campuses throughout the system for your best chance of being admitted and finding a good match. Information on each UC campus can be found at:
  • admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/campuses/index.html.

• Your short answer responses to the personal insight questions are important!
Write responses early and refer to online resources with writing tips and a worksheet (a video is also available) to help you get started.

  And, remember that these are personal insight questions—it’s about you. It is not an English essay. Admission staff want to learn about you. What you did and why; what you learned and how you applied what you learned to aspects of your life. Use “I” statements – I did this, I chose to do that, I learned about . . . . It’s your one
opportunity to ensure we get to know you.

Campuses use email to communicate with applicants during the application process: students should create an email account (preferably one that identifies them instead of a “cute” or “non-distinct” name) and be sure to check it regularly.
When an applicant completes the UC admission application, it is important that they understand how their application information will be reviewed by the campuses. This section offers guidance on the importance of the information you present and how campuses will use the information to understand the context of the applicant’s educational experience.
Requirements vs. Selection

Every UC Campus

- Receives the same application
- Reviews for minimum requirements
- Reviews for admission individually using content of the application

Requirements: All UC campuses have the same minimum requirements for freshmen to ensure that all students are prepared to be academically successful at the University.

Selection: Selection is a process at each campus which is necessary when more applicants apply to a campus than a campus can admit and enroll. Each UC campus evaluates applicants beyond just their GPA and test scores in order to select the applicants who are best suited for their campus.

Applicant Pool: Who else is in the applicant pool? Applicants must remember that they are not just applying with students from their school and community, but also with students from all parts of California, the U.S. and from other countries, whose backgrounds may be similar or different from their own. UC receives applications from students with a variety of attributes: those living in small rural areas, students from families with low and high incomes and communities that have high and low college-going rates, out-of-state students, etc. Even if students think their background or situation is typical (or not unusual) it is important to explain (not complain) why, so UC admission staff understand the applicant better. The admission staff need more than just a school name or city to get a better sense of the applicant.

It is also important to note that each UC campus evaluates the application without knowing the status of the same application at another campus. One campus will not admit or deny due to the admission decision of another campus.
How UC reviews applications:

• In general campuses look for:
  - Strong grades & examination scores, courses beyond the minimum requirements, and in some cases, specific course preparation like advanced math and additional science for STEM majors
  - Involvement & leadership – “Well-rounded” doesn’t mean a student has to do everything, but we like to see evidence of students being involved outside of the classroom in activities they are passionate about – an inclusive educational experience
  - Evidence of hard work – Campuses want to know if an applicant can be a successful university student

• UC looks for students who have challenged themselves in many ways: students are most successful at our campuses if they have shown academic promise through their courses/grades, test scores and other academic pursuits.

• Each applicant is reviewed within the context of his or her available opportunities: if a student does well compared to peers within the same situation (school, environment, etc.) and uses the application to explain that context, the applicant will provide UC readers with a better understanding of how they were able to achieve/complete what is presented on the application.

• We ask many questions as part of the application process so that we can get to know each student. Since there is no opportunity for an interview and because most UC campuses do not consider recommendation letters, our goal is get a sense of the applicant’s life, interests and personality through their application.

• Applicants do themselves a disservice if they do not thoroughly, accurately, and completely fill out all parts of the application.
Each UC campus has a unique application review process developed by its faculty committee. Each campus may place a different emphasis or value on the information in the application in the Comprehensive Review process.

What is comprehensive review?
- Process each campus uses to consider applicants
- ALL campuses conduct a Comprehensive Review
- The faculty at each campus can determine how to implement Comprehensive Review on their campus
- Meeting minimum requirements/qualifications does not guarantee admission to a specific campus or program

Comprehensive Review:
- UC evaluates applicants based upon more than GPA and test scores. Each applicant’s academic achievements are considered in light of the opportunities and resources available to them as well as their potential to contribute to a campus
- Each campus may differ on the relative weight (if any) accorded to any criterion
- Students should visit each campus’ website for the specific selection process

Comprehensive Review Factors:
UC faculty have established 14 factors that can be considered; these factors are not listed in any priority order:
- "a-g" GPA including additional points for UC-approved AP and IB course, and college/university courses; and for California residents only, UC approved school-based honors courses
- Examination scores: SAT or ACT Plus Writing (SAT Subject Exams are optional, but may be recommended by some majors on some campuses—more information, go to: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html
- Number and content of "a-g" courses beyond the minimum
- Number of UC-approved AP and IB courses, and college/university courses; and for California residents only, UC approved school-based honors courses
- For California Residents only: if the applicant is in the Top 9% Local Context (ELC) of their high school class
- Quality ( rigor and number) of senior year schedule (both classes in progress at the time of application and courses planned for 2nd semester)
- Quality of academic performance relative to educational opportunities available at the high school
- Outstanding performance in one or more academic subjects
- Outstanding performance in one or more special projects in any academic field of study
- Recent marked improvement in academic performance demonstrated by GPA and quality of coursework
- Talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, i.e. visual and performing arts, communication, athletics;
  - Special skills i.e. demonstrated written & oral proficiency in other languages
  - Special interests i.e. intensive study & exploration of other cultures
  - Experiences that demonstrate leadership i.e. student government, significant community service, level of responsibility in paid employment
- Completion of a special project in context of high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs
- Academic accomplishments in light of life experiences & circumstances
- Location of secondary school and residence
To complete the UC admission application, go to:
https://universityofcalifornia.edu/apply
Importance of Accurate Details

Statement of Application Integrity
Academic History
Examination Scores
Activities Outside of School
Verification of Application Information

It is very important for students to thoroughly complete all sections of the application and to do so accurately. This is the students’ opportunity to tell the admission staff about personal details that make each applicant unique.

Begin by reading the Statement of Application Integrity. Click on the link on the log-in page for the application, or go to: https://admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/docs/StatementOfIntegrity.pdf

Accuracy of Details:

• Academic History: MUST be accurately reported— all enrollment, every school/college, all courses and grades (especially if a course was repeated). If a student accepts an offer of admission, UC requires official academic records to verify the information reported.

• “Additional Comments” box in the Academic History section can be used to provide detailed information or explanations about specific academic issues – declining grades, course selection issues, etc.

• Examination scores: report results for exams already completed and dates for planned exams (including A-Levels). Students must have official score report(s) (ACT, SAT, SAT Subject Test, TOELF) sent to ONE UC campus, and they will be shared with all campuses to which the applicant applies.
  Exception: IELTS scores must be sent to each campus.

UC encourages students to report all exam results (but does not require them to do so); there is no disadvantage in reporting all scores.

• Do not use the College Board’s “score choice” function. UC will only use the highest SAT with Essay (SAT Reasoning with Writing—to be discontinued for graduates in the class of 2020 and after) total score from one test date or the highest composite score from the ACT with Writing from one test date.

• As a reminder, SAT Subject Test scores are not required however some campuses/programs recommended specific Subject Tests, to learn which do, go to: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html

• Activities/Awards: Use the Worksheet in the Quick-start guide for applying to UC brochure
  For California students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents): admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/apply-online-freshman-cal.pdf
  For Out of State students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents): admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/apply-online-freshman-out-of-state.pdf
  For International students (non U.S. citizens on with a Visa (or planned Visa) status): admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/apply-online-freshman-international.pdf
  - Don’t use acronyms for names of clubs or awards: Spell them out and explain your level of involvement.
  - Don’t list the same activity in multiple areas (for instance listing Honors Society in “Awards and Honors” and “Extracurricular Activities”), but make sure the most important activities are reflected in some way.
  - If the applicant, for example, takes care of siblings or in other ways support their family which does not allow them to take part in as many activities outside let UC readers know in the response to the personal insight questions. We understand that students are gaining valuable life experience and consider that as part of our comprehensive review.

UC does verify information that students report on the application. It is critical that students do not misrepresent or falsify information, as this is a serious offense and will result in serious consequences. Honesty is the best policy.
• Students must carefully complete the entire application:
  - Contact information --- including an email address which UC will use to communicate with the applicant
  - Students can also provide a phone number where they can receive text messages from the campuses
  - Family background information is optional but may be helpful for UC to understand the context of resources and opportunities available to the student

• **Campus selection**: Make decisions wisely, apply broadly. Information on each UC campus can be found at: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/campuses/index.html.

• **Major selection**: Applying with an undeclared/undecided major (where applicable) is perfectly acceptable if an applicant is unsure—perhaps they have many interests that have not yet been narrowed down to one; the personal insight question responses or additional comments box is an appropriate place to discuss.

  • If, on the other hand, an applicant is sure of their intended major, tell us about how the interest developed (courses, activities, volunteer work and/or employment related to the major). In either case, any insight provided helps UC admission staff to better understand choices the student has made and helps provide context for the student’s achievements or extracurricular activities.

• **Fee Waiver**: A fee waiver to apply to up to four campuses, is available online as part of the application, for applicants who meet the qualification criteria. More information is provided on Slide 42.

• The application will automatically save information when “next” or “log-out” is clicked, but not when the browser is closed without clicking next or log-out; there is a 30-minute inactivity period after which the application system will automatically log-out.
Create Your Account
• New users must enter a unique e-mail address and password
• Applicants will use this same account if they apply again in the future
• If the students' family has multiple applicants or has future applicants, different e-mail addresses must be used for each applicant
• Passwords must be at least eight characters (and must have a combination of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and/or symbols)
• Create a secret question/answer combination that will be easily remembered
• Be sure to keep login information safe
• Once “Create a New Account” is complete, an e-mail confirming the start of your application will be sent
• Campuses use e-mail to send critical, time-sensitive correspondence to applicants, so provide an e-mail address that is checked regularly and will be kept until enrolling in college
• Remember to adjust e-mail filters to accept mail from UC addresses

Review
• Statement of Integrity before starting the application
• Common questions/answers on each page
• List of Closed Majors
• Downloadable Quick-start guide for applying to UC brochure:
  http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/downloadable-guides/index.html

Log In
• First-time users start by clicking “New Account”
• On return visits, enter e-mail and password information under “Sign In”
Navigating the Application

- The highlighted step on the progress bar shows the current section of the application the student is working on.
- Each page has an “Inside This Section” and “Questions” area.
- Use the “Next” and “Previous” buttons on the bottom of the page to save and move through the application. Don’t use the browser navigation (i.e. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, Chrome).
- After the first step has been completed, “Start Application,” click on any of the top navigation boxes or steps in “Inside This Section” to move to the next step or jump ahead.
- Navigating to another page will save your work.
- If account information (e-mail, name, date of birth), needs to be changed/corrected this can be done this in “My UC application” section at the top.
- “Sign Out” stores the information entered.
**Term:** Select the term for which you are applying for admission to UC. Note: most campuses and majors are open for the fall term only. It is important to review which programs will be available during the term in which you intend to apply.

**Level:** Be sure to select the appropriate level for which you are applying. You are a freshman applicant if you’re currently in high school or have graduated from high school, but not enrolled in a regular session at a college or university after high school graduation (with the exception of the summer term immediately following high school graduation).
Citizenship
• You must select a country of citizenship from the country drop-down menu.
• Applicants who choose a country other than the United States will have follow-up questions on permanent residency and/or visa status (students who choose “No Selection” will not have follow-up questions).

Undocumented Students
• For country of citizenship, select “No Selection” and do not enter a social security number.

Social Security Number (SSN)
• All applicants who have a social security number (SSN) are required to enter it here.
• Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
  Enter a valid SSN, SSN for work purposes, or ITIN if available. Otherwise, leave it blank.

• If an applicant does not have a SSN, he/she may skip that item.
• We use the SSN to accurately and reliably merge test scores and the federal financial aid application with the admission application.
• SSN, SSN for work purposes and ITIN numbers are encrypted and kept secure.
Choosing a Major

• Applicants must select a major for each campus to which they are applying.
• The online application displays which majors are open/closed to the specific applicant level.
• Hovering over colleges/majors will cause additional information to appear (e.g. For “major closed,” it means that the major is only open to transfer students and the applicant should apply to a different major).

Examples: At UC Berkeley, freshmen cannot apply directly into the Haas School of Business – select the College of Letters and Science with an undeclared or pre-business major (for either option your application will be reviewed in the same way); At UC Los Angeles, freshmen cannot apply directly to the Film/Television major—select the College of Letters and Science with an undeclared. These programs (and others like them at other UC campuses) are only open to junior level students. Students who enroll at the University can apply for admission into the major program during their sophomore year of college.

• Select an alternate major, if available (the choice for an alternate major is not available at every campus), or select “No Alternate Major” at bottom of the list if the applicant chooses not to select one.
  • If a campus is unable to offer you a place in your first-choice major, they may consider you for an alternate major—be sure the alternate major is in a subject area that you really want to study.
• After selecting major/alternate major, scroll to bottom of the page and click “Next”.
• Repeat steps for each campus you selected.
• If you find that most of the majors are closed, it may be that you have selected the incorrect applicant level or the open filing period has ended.
San Diego Colleges

- If a student is applying to UC San Diego, they must rank the colleges in order of preference to have the best chance of assignment to the college of their choice

- The order of ranking of colleges does not affect the chances for admission to UC San Diego

- Boxes to rank the colleges only appear once the student clicks the “Learn about UCSD colleges” link (opens a pop up window). Students should be sure to carefully read the information provided to understand the “theme” of each college at UC San Diego
Scholarships Page

- Scholarships available at the campuses the student has chosen to apply to will be listed

- Review each scholarship and select if a characteristic are applicable. Select up to 16 choices

- Scroll to bottom and click “Next” to save the selections

- Research other campus-based scholarships in the link provided at the bottom of the screen - Learn more: [Undergraduate scholarships](#)
After UC campuses are selected, only the scholarships offered by the campus(es) are displayed.

Each scholarship may not be identified by campus, but those offered by the selected campus are displayed.
Family Size and Income

- Information about a student’s parent(s)/legal guardian(s)’ education, income, and family size is used to provide contextual information about the home environment and to determine eligibility for the application fee waiver.

- This information is **not** used to determine residency status or financial aid eligibility.
It is important that students have all transcripts (academic records) from all schools they have attended since the end of high school. The courses/grades entered must exactly match the official academic record.

To begin this section, the applicant must have their records in front of them.
Seventh/Eighth Grade

• Students who completed high school-level math or a language other than English course(s) in middle school in which they earned a letter grade C or better, can count these courses toward the a-g requirements.

Note: A course in geometry (or a series of integrated-style math courses which include geometry content) must be completed; UC will accept a geometry course completed in middle school.
High School Attendance

- Select a location – “In California”, “U.S. (not CA)” or “Outside the U.S.”

- If applicable, indicate specialized curriculum/year-round information

- Start typing the name of the school. After three characters, matching schools will begin to appear

- As more characters are entered, the match will become refined

- Select school name/code/location, click “Add”

- If no matches are present, complete typing the full name of the school and click “Add”

- Remember to list every school attended beginning with 9th grade

- NOTE: Students will be asked for information on college/university attendance while in high school later in the application
High School Attendance (continued)

- Enter the dates of attendance

- If this is same school the student is going to graduate from, enter the certificate/diploma information

- Enter the grading and term system for the school

- Click “Add” to save the information

- The school information entered will appear in a table for edit/review
High School Coursework

• Courses are selected or entered by grade level beginning with ninth grade
• First select the Subject Area/Course Category of the course to be entered (e.g. English, Math, etc.)
• Next, if a student is enrolled in a California high school, select from the course list for the school
  • If courses do not appear on the course list, enter them in the table provided
  • To see the courses, expand each subject area

NOTE: new California high school courses being offered for the first time in the senior year may not appear until on the school's course list until Nov. 1.; if you don’t see a new course on the list, remember to come back to add it later before submission of the application.

For students not enrolled in a California high school, type in the name of the course as it appears on the student’s academic record.

• When entries for each grade level are complete, click “Next” to save and continue
• Repeat this process for each grade level, including 12th grade
• 12th grade course grades will default to “IP – In Progress” and “PL – Planned”. If you have already graduated and have senior year grades, you must manually enter each grade.
• For courses that are only one semester long, select “No Course” for the term for which the course was not offered (e.g. Economics offered fall term, for spring term enter “No Course”)
• Include all original courses/grades and enter repeated courses/grades for courses in which an original grade of with D or F was earned and subsequently repeated
• Students who attended more than one school should be sure enter courses under the correct school
High School Coursework

For students who attended high schools in California –
Self-Reporting Courses: If you do not see an A-G course that you took listed on the UC-Approved course list, you can self-enter the coursework.

For students who attended high schools in outside of California –
Self-Reporting Courses: There is no pre-approved course list for schools outside of California. Review the subject area headings for the required “a-g” course pattern: a. **History/social science**, b. **English** (for international students, the language of instruction for composition/literature courses), c. **Mathematics**, d. **Laboratory science**, e. **Language other than English** (for international students the “foreign language”), f. **Visual and performing arts** and g. **College-preparatory elective** (courses that not fit into the subject categories of a-g above). Referring to the A-G Course List (a database of UC-approved courses offered in California schools) can provide guidance on the types of courses that have been UC-approved. A-G Course List: hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist

For all students:
• Courses such as physical education (PE) cannot be reported; only academic subjects. In addition, courses/class periods for teacher assistant, yearbook and student government, may or may not be UC-approved courses. If they are approved, enter them. If they are not approved they should not be entered. An opportunity to enter these types of courses is provided later in the application.
Colleges courses taken during high school

• If any college/university-level courses were completed while in high school, add the college information AFTER the high school information
• The process is very similar to entering the high school information

If courses were taken at a California Community College (CCC), a UC-transferable course list will appear.
• Select the course(s) taken, grade earned (or enter IP for In Progress, PL for Planned courses), and the “a-g” subject area in which the course fits.
• Only non UC-transferable English and math courses can be reported in this section of the application.
  • If there are other CCC course that are not UC-transferable report them in the Non a-g Coursework area later in the of the application.
• If college/university courses were not taken at a CCC, enter each course and grade earned as it appears on the official academic record from the college/university attended.

Students must enter all courses taken missing/inaccurate information may be viewed as falsification and result in cancellation of the application.
Admission staff look at this section for an explanation of abnormalities in a student’s academic record. For example, a break in attendance, poor grades in a particular course or year, or for specific information about the school environment/policies that affect the academic record and/or choices for classes.

The additional comments in the academic history section cannot be used as an extension of a personal insight question response or to answer an additional question beyond the four required.
There are six categories of Activities and Awards, each limited to five entries. Here are just a couple of examples of the questions in two of the categories.

- **Coursework Other Than A-G** - Academic courses that do not fit in the categories “a-g” of history/social science, English, math, laboratory science, language other than English (foreign language), and/or visual and performing art should be reported in this section. For example, leadership course, or religious studies courses. But do not include non-academic courses, such as PE, office/teacher assistant, etc.

  Choose experiences that have meaning, illustrate interests, and/or demonstrate leadership.

- **Educational preparation programs including but not limited to: AVID, Upward Bound, and Gear Up.** A list of common programs appear in a drop menu. If a program is not included, manually enter it.

- **Awards & Honors** – significant in nature – county-wide, state-wide and national awards indicate a high level of achievement with significant competition. School-based awards are more meaningful to readers if context is provided, such as: X number of X to earn award, but even “perfect attendance” can be insightful.

- **Extra Curricular Activities** – depth and time – continued participation over time.

- **Community Service** – consistent participation over time may indicate commitment and dedication.

- **Work Experience** – demonstrates time management, responsibility and perhaps leadership.

Enter details about each activity.

If an applicant did not have the time/opportunity to participate in school and/or community activities, volunteer/paid employment, it is helpful to application readers to know why – how else did the applicant use their time and explain if it was a choice or a requirement for example: caring for siblings, elder-care, commitment to doing homework (research projects, papers, etc.)

Applicants should not exaggerate or make things up because the information submitted is subject to verification, and if an applicant is unable to provide proof of the information provided, the application will be cancelled.
• ACT with Writing and/or SAT with Writing/Essay scores must be completed by December of the senior year (last year of secondary school).
  • Report completed test with date(s)/scores or planned test date(s) on the admission application.
  • If an examination was completed more than once, enter highest score.

• SAT Subject tests: Are not required but may be recommended for specific programs at some campuses as an additional piece of information to consider during the review process.
  • SAT Subject Test Recommendations can be found at: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html

• UC does not recommend that applicants use the College Board’s Score Choice function because it might delay delivery of test scores.
  • We strongly encourage students to report all official scores although we only use the highest score at a single sitting for admission consideration.

• Official SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Tests examination scores can be submitted to just one campus to which the student will be applying. Scores will be disseminated to all campuses to which the student applied.

• If official scores are/were sent to UC prior to an applicant filing an admission application, please note that the UC system office maintains scores received for three years. So, for example, if official scores were submitted for an examination date for a student’s sophomore year then the student applies during their senior year, the UC system office will still have those scores.
In the Test Score section, students report results of their AP, IB; and TOEFL/IELTS exams, if applicable.

Official TOEFL scores can be submitted to ONE UC campus and we will share the scores with all campuses to which the applicant applies. **NOTE:** IELTS scores must be sent to each campus."

Official TOEFL/IELTS score report must be submitted no later than January.

International students can report their national or external examination results as well.

**Advanced Placement & International Baccalaureate Exams:**

- Scores can demonstrate academic mastery in individual subjects and be used to satisfy freshman admission subject requirements not satisfied with coursework.
- Scores must be self-reported on the application. Don’t worry about “low” scores, UC treats that as neutral but does acknowledge an attempt was made.

**IMPORTANT:** Official AP/IB scores are **not** required until after a student has accepted an offer of admission; do not send scores at time of application submission.
The personal insight questions are an integral part of the UC admission application. It is not reviewed as a stand-alone part of the application. These are short answer responses about the applicant, not an essay. The content of the personal insight question responses should add clarity, richness, and meaning to the information presented in other parts of the UC application, enabling the admissions officer to form the best impression of the applicant. The personal insight question responses must be about and completed by the applicant.
The Personal Insight Questions

Each question aligns to one or more of the 14 comprehensive review factors campuses consider in their admissions decisions.

- Freshmen must choose 4 out of 8 questions
- Maximum of 350 words for each response
- All questions have equal value; there is no advantage or disadvantage to choosing certain questions over others

- Freshman applicants must choose four out of eight questions to answer
- Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words.
- All questions will have equal value in the admissions selection process.
- There is no advantage or disadvantage to choosing certain questions over others.
Select any 4 of the 8 personal insight questions. It does not matter which 4 are selected and you may only answer 4.

- Students should select the questions that are most applicable to them.
This is view of how the personal insight questions appear in the UC application.

Click the blue “answer” button for the questions you choose to respond to.
Now that all of the data and the personal insight questions response sections of the application have been completed -- it’s time to go through the application submission steps.
Submitting the Application

Additional Comments
• Include when appropriate

Don’t Forget to Click Submit

Updates
• Return to the application to make updates
The application is not ready to submit unless all solid green circles are shown on the right.

Use the navigation buttons on the top banner to jump to the section(s) that need to be completed.

Use the View Application button to see and print the entire application.
The application performs a completeness check, drawing attention to any course deficiencies. If an applicant plans to use a test score to meet a subject requirement, it must be included in the Test Scores section of the application.
Finally, the application cannot be submitted without the electronic signature and acknowledgement of the Statement of Integrity.

UC feels very strongly about student integrity on the application. The Statement of Integrity is to affirm that all information in the application is accurate and the personal insight question responses were written by the applicant. If information is withheld, such as poor grades, or falsification is detected, the application is subject to cancellation.

And, students are asked to provide authorization to release information. Without this authorization, UC is not allowed by law to discuss or share information with anyone. So be sure to check off the appropriate box(es).

**Signature Releases**

- Review and check the release authorizations to share application information with scholarship agencies, parent/guardian, counselors and/or UC organizations and alumni groups.
- Electronically sign and date the application to verify accuracy and acknowledge that the applicant is the author of their the personal insight question responses.
- The electronic signature also authorizes the release of official examination score(s) to all UC campuses to which the student applied.
- **Official** examination scores for the ACT Plus Writing, SAT, SAT Subject Test, and TOEFL only need to be sent to one UC campus. Scores will be provided to all campuses to which you apply. IELTS scores must be sent to each campus to which the applicant applied.
- Information in the application is subject to verification. If an applicant is selected for verification, non-compliance will result in cancellation of the application and the application fee will not be refunded.
Starting fall 2018, a fee waiver is automatically calculated for California and domestic residents. The fee waiver calculator is activated from answers about the applicants family size and income.

If a fee waiver if granted, the applicant select “Yes” to accept the fee waiver. If an applicant decides not to answer those questions, they may qualify for a fee waiver but would not receive one.

If the applicant makes a mistake on the family income amount, they can correct the information with an ‘edit’ button; with revised information eligibility for the fee waiver will automatically re-calculate.

Fee Waiver Eligibility:
For U.S. citizens or permanent residents or students who have attended a CA high school for at least 3 years, if students meet the low-income criteria used to qualify for free and reduced lunch, they will qualify for a UC application fee waiver for up to 4 campus choices but will be responsible for payment for any additional campus(es) to which they choose to apply.

Students in California on a visa are not eligible for the UC application fee waiver.

UC also accept the College Board or NACAC fee waiver. Only one waiver may be used.

For U.S. citizens or permanent resident students, the application fee is $70 per campus.

For International and non-immigrant applicants the application fee of $80 for each campus selected. If an international or non-immigrant student currently attends school in the U.S., however, they may be eligible to pay the lower application fee of $70 per campus. The application tool will advise of the fee amount on this page.

Application fee payment is required and non-refundable.

Payment may be submitted by credit card in the application tool; or by mailing check or fee waiver if a student didn’t qualify for the UC application fee waiver but meet criteria established by the waiver provider.
This is an example in which the family size and income was omitted so the fee waiver eligibility can’t be calculated.
This is an example where the entered income ($900,000) was too high to qualify for a fee waiver.
New for fall 2018: if total due is $0.00 or if there's an amount due and the applicant selected “check” as the payment method, the "SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR UC ADMISSION" button is displayed. If the applicant clicks the button, a confirmation message is displayed. If they click YES on the confirmation page, then the Receipt is displayed - Application Submission page is **not** displayed; instead next the applicant see a confirm choice screen (see next slide).
This is the confirmation page when the balance is $0.00 (zero)
When the total due is great than zero and an applicant selects 'Check by mail' as the payment method, this screen appears.
This is an example of the confirmation page when the balance is greater than zero and ‘check’ as the payment method is selected.
When the applicant is at the “Submit” stage, they must carefully review all information and the personal insight question responses entered into the application.

While it may seem like a very simple step, don’t forget to click the submit button. Failure to do so, especially on the last day of application filing period, will lead to disastrous results.

Once “submit” is selected, that’s it, the application is gone and applicants will not be able to say “Oh no, I forgot to include X” or “I pasted in the wrong personal insight question response” or “I made a mistake on one of my courses or grades”.

Click here and expect this
Check your email for a submission confirmation.
What can be done after submission?

• Changes to: name, email or password -- go to “Update Account Information”.
• From “View Application,” a copy of the application can be printed.
• Address changes are made in the Personal Information section.
• Before November 30th all campuses are still open, additional campuses can be added.
• Under application status, California resident students are notified if they meet the Top 9% Local Context (ELC) status.

If a student changes schools, adds or drops a course, or fails to earn a C or better in a course during the current academic year after submission of the application, they must notify the UC Application Center by email or postal mail. Correspondence must include the full name, UC Application ID number and signature (if you mail a letter) of the applicant, and will be made available to all the campuses to which you applied.

Email: docs@applyUCsupport.net

Mail to:
UC Application Center
P.O. Box 1432
Bakersfield, CA 93302

Minor changes to your activities, awards, volunteer work, employment or personal insight questions are unlikely to have an impact on the admission decision. However, if a student has significant updates in any of these areas, they may notify us— by mail — at the UC Application Center.
Download the “Undergraduate Admissions Application Guide”

California freshman [PDF]
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/apply-online-freshman-cal.pdf

Out-of-state freshman [PDF]
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/apply-online-freshman-out-of-state.pdf

International freshman [PDF]
admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/apply-online-freshman-international.pdf
After a student has successfully submitted their UC admission application and printed a copy for their records – they can jump for joy – it's done!