Introducing the University of California
As you consider which of our campuses you might apply to, you should consider what majors we each offer, where we are located, the size of campuses, and the full array of opportunities that await you at any of our campuses. We encourage you to apply broadly to the University, and no matter which of our campuses you might end up being admitted to, you will have the opportunity to earn a prestige UC degree.
The University of California system has 9 undergraduate campuses.

Our nine campuses include:

UC Davis
UC Berkeley
UC Santa Cruz
UC Merced
UC Santa Barbara
UC Los Angeles
UC Irvine
UC Riverside
And UC San Diego

UC San Francisco is for graduate studies focused on health including Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and a Global Health Sciences program.
Benefits of research university…

We teach, at both the undergraduate and graduate level. We offer majors across academic disciplines in the arts, humanities, social sciences, physical and biological sciences, engineering, business, nursing and architecture.

We are a world-class research university, meaning you will be exposed to new ideas and pioneering efforts that lead to practical knowledge and innovations that benefit the world.

And we provide public service. Since the founding of the University, public service has been at the core.
The University is recognized around the world for accomplishments such as:

Taking a global role in developing new industries – from nanotechnology to digital media to green technology.

Developing more patents than any other university in the nation and has held that top spot for the past 15 years.

UC awards 7 percent of the nation’s Ph.D.s, more than Harvard, Stanford and Yale.

UC graduates more than 55,000 students a year, over 40,000 of which are undergraduates.

UC has the highest proportion of low-income students among the country’s top research universities.
There are so many opportunities that UC students can take advantage of, and here are just a few:

Study Abroad – Educational enrollment offered in over 40 countries

UCDC and UC Sacramento – Get a taste of studying in the nation’s capital or the state’s capital

Intercampus Visitor – Take advantage of studying for a term or two at another UC campus

Undergraduate Research – Undergraduates can be a part of original research, that crosses all disciplines, not just in the sciences and engineering

Work-Learn Programs/Internships – multitudes of work experience programs possibilities
Admission to UC
These are the minimum requirements for a freshman applicant.

1. Subjects: Complete a specified pattern of college preparatory course work known as the ‘a-g’ pattern. You can view your school’s approved ‘a-g’ courses on the UC Course List web site, the web address appears on a slide later in this presentation.

2. GPA: Earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 in those ‘a-g’ courses; we calculate your GPA on your sophomore and junior year courses. Non-residents of CA need a minimum 3.40 GPA.

3. Exam: Complete the ACT with Writing or the SAT with the writing section exam no later than December of your senior year. Some SAT subject tests may be recommended, but none are required. SAT Subject Test recommendations can be found on the web:
   http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests/index.html
UC has an historic guarantee for students that are residents of California. If you meet the qualifications for UC, either through the Statewide Path or the Local Path, we will guarantee admission to one of our campuses, if you are not offered admission to any of the UC campuses to which you applied and if state funding is available. However, we do not guarantee admission to a specific campus.
There is a difference, however, between meeting the minimum admission requirements and being selected for admission. It’s important to note that each campus will receive the same application, and will review your application thoroughly.

However, each campus will complete that review independently of one another, which means that they’re going to review your application using what you’ve put in your application and they’re going to do so without asking what the other campuses have decided.

Requirements vs. Selection

Every UC Campus
• Receives the same application
• Reviews for minimum requirements
• Considers each applicant individually for admission using content of your application
In general, campuses are looking for well qualified students, which is hard to define. More specifically, we're looking for students who are prepared academically but we're also looking for students who have had a comprehensive or well-rounded educational experience. In other words, we're looking for students who have taken advantage of the educational opportunities presented to them both inside and outside of the classroom.

We also look at a student's achievement within the context of their educational and personal environments and the resources and opportunities that were available to them. This type of information can be found in a number of areas in the application, not just in the personal statement.
To give you a better idea of what we mean when we say a “Comprehensive Review,” this slide outlines the 14 criteria for freshmen applicants that we use to evaluate an application. You’ll notice that there’s a strong focus on academics, but there are also a number of criteria that are not based on numbers.

### Freshman Comprehensive Review

- Grade-Point Average
- Test Scores
- Courses Completed/Planned
- Honors Courses
- Top 9% Local Context (ELC)
- Quality of Senior-Year Program of Study
- Academic Opportunities in California High Schools
- Performance in Academic Subject Areas
- Achievements in Special Projects
- Improvement in Academic Performance
- Special Talents, Achievements, and Awards
- Participation in Educational Preparation Programs
- Academic Accomplishment Within Life Experiences
- Geographic Location
UC also has a very strong transfer population.
- Roughly 30% of UC undergraduates are transfers, which is far greater than any comparable research institution. This is a great path to UC for students.
- Many students consider joining our campuses as junior-level transfers. We welcome transfer students to all our campuses; in fact, the highest priority is given to students transferring from CA community colleges. 82% of the transfer students we admit come from a CCC.

- Prepare early – Start thinking about the necessary steps for UC admission your first year and use these online resources to help you prepare:
  - Assist.org - This statewide transfer student information site is a great resource for understanding what courses you need to complete to be prepared for transfer.
  - Transfer admission planner: TAP is an online tool to help prospective UC transfer students track and plan their course work.
  - And, be sure to work with a transfer advisor at the community college you attend.
Here are the minimum requirements for transfers. First, you must complete specific courses after selecting one of the three options listed on the slide.

In total, you must take at least 60 semester or 90 quarter units of UC-transferable coursework including courses required for your intended major at UC as well as general education elective courses.

You must also achieve the minimum GPA set by the specific UC campus or campuses to which you plan to apply.

Meeting these basic requirements doesn’t guarantee admission to a campus or major of your choice. To be competitive, students should focus on meeting the requirements for the campuses and majors you’re interested in. Specifically, you should focus on completing the major preparation courses and the general education requirements.

To find out more about what courses are required for any major at any campus, and which courses you should take at your community college, go to Assist.org.
Earlier this year, UC introduced new Transfer Pathways for students who want to apply to multiple UC campuses. The new Transfer Pathways will help students who know what they want to study take a common set of courses at their community college that will be acceptable for that major at ANY UC campus.

If you’re a community college student, this will help you narrow down the courses you have to take to prepare for multiple campuses. No campus will require more than the set of courses outlined for each pathway major for admission, but it’s important to note that campuses will vary in their selectivity in terms of the GPA requirements, so it’s still important to review the transfer admission website check of the UC campuses you’re interested in to learn of the GPA requirement for your major.

Right now, these pathways cover 10 of the most popular transfer majors. In the coming months, UC will be unveiling 11 more pathways.
Transfer applications are reviewed on a variety of criteria.

To give you a better idea of what we mean when we say a “Comprehensive Review,” this slide outlines the 9 criteria that we use to evaluate an application. You’ll notice that there’s a strong focus on the GPA and completion of required courses for the major, but there’s also a number of criteria that are not based on courses and grades.
• The personal statement play an important part in the application review process. Your response should supplement areas that warrant elaboration and provide context for information provided in the rest of the application.

• This is your opportunity to showcase special talent, leadership, initiative, intellectual curiosity, etc.

• The personal statement can also be used to explain any opportunities or lack of opportunity, achievements, obstacles and/or special circumstances that may have affected your academic achievement or influenced your choice of major or intended career goal in a positive (or not so positive) way.

There is an excellent video available online to help you write your personal statement, and we’ve included that url at the bottom of this slide.

You should also be aware that there is an “Additional Comments” sections after the academic record where you can explain anomalies in your academic record (such as decreasing or improved grade trends, missing courses, unique grading systems, etc.).

There is also an additional comments section in the admission application after the personal statement section which is a good location for you to let us know about anything else you didn’t had a chance to tell us about throughout the rest of the application. Please note that there is a limit is 550 words.
Applying for Admission:

- UC Application is available starting on August 1st but a student may not submit an application until November 1st.
- One application to apply to each of the 9 undergraduate campuses of UC.
- Application Fee= $70 domestic residents; $80 for International per campus
  - Application fee waivers are available for California residents – up to four campuses. Fee Waivers cannot be combined to cover the cost of more than four campuses.
- The fee waiver for low-income students/families is available online as part of the application
- Applications are not necessarily reviewed in the order in which they are submitted. (So students that submit on Nov. 1st will not be reviewed any earlier than students who submit on Nov. 30th.)

Admission notifications generally begin in March of the following year for freshmen, and in April for Transfers.
Paying for UC
California-resident undergraduates at all UC campuses pay the same $12,240 in tuition and fees for the 2015-16 school year.

The fees figure above includes the average cost of additional campus-based fees.

Your total costs will vary depending on your personal expenses and the campus you attend. All fees are subject to change without notice.

- Note: The student health insurance cost can be waived if you provide proof that you have your own adequate insurance coverage

- This chart shows a breakdown of cost for all expenses a student is expected to have while attending UC

The student **budget covers**

- Fees/tuition
- Housing
- Meals and snacks
- Books and supplies
- Transportation to and from home, and
- personal expenses such as laundry, toothpaste, etc.

Nonresidents pay an additional $24,024 in non-resident tuition.
1. UC financial aid programs are designed to help families pay the expenses associated with attending college.
2. Parents are expected to contribute to the extent they are able from current income, savings and/or from borrowing.
3. Student loans and work-study are included in a typical aid package.
4. We incorporate grants and scholarships students can receive (from the state and/or federal government and private sources) into a comprehensive aid package.
   Our aid packages also include non-need based federal student and parent loans you may apply for to help cover more of your cost.

- **Grants** – Free money, does not have to be paid back
- In order to be considered for a Cal Grant you must postmark both the FAFSA and the GPA Verification Form by March 2

- **Scholarships** – Fall into three areas: Academic, Athletic and Private. Students do not have to pay back scholarships.

- **Work Study** - Requires student to work to earn part of their financial aid award

- **Student Loans** – Requires repayment after the student has graduated. Make sure you know what you’re borrowing and when re-payment is due. (Parent loans may be available and repayment is often required while the student is still in school.)

- Last year 6 out 10 UC undergraduate students received some type of aid

- Undocumented students should also take a look at resources that are available for them at UC through the Undocumented Students Resource website, undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu
1. The Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan is a University of California sponsored guarantee for undergraduate students who are in their first four years of attendance at UC -- or two for transfer students.

2. The plan is intended to expand access to the University for lower-income students by establishing a minimum level of grant aid for undergraduates with financial need and a family household income at or below $80,000 per year.

3. The Blue and Gold plan covers education and registration fees only. Other fees, including campus fees, are not covered.

   • To qualify students must be California residents and meet other basic eligibility requirements for need-based financial aid, including meeting the March 2 FAFSA deadline.

   • Grants and scholarships from all sources are used to meet this guarantee including state, federal, private and UC grants and scholarships.

   • In California, we also have the Middle Income Scholarship, which helps families who make more than $80,000 pay for college.
Useful links for you

General admissions information
universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions

UC Admissions selection process
universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/general_info/how_uc_reviews.html

Application procedures
universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/index.html

Determine which courses transfer to UC from a California community college
assist.org

SAT Registration
collegeboard.com

ACT Registration
act.org

SAT Subject Test recommendations
universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/SAT-subject-tests
More useful links for you

UC Financial Aid information
universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/paying-for-uc/index.html
including information about the Blue & Gold Plan

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
fafsa.ed.gov

Middle Class Scholarship
csac.ca.gov/mcs.asp

Resources for Undocumented Students
undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu/

Free Scholarship search
fastweb.com
We wish you great success!