UC Counselors & Advisers Bulletin – November 2014

This UC Counselors and Advisers Bulletin covers the following topics:

- Application submissions: Nov. 1-30
- Test score reminders
- Letters of recommendation and transcripts
- California residency for the purposes of tuition and fees

Application news

The application cycle is fully underway and students can submit their applications through Sunday, Nov. 30 at 11:59 p.m. PST. After the application is submitted, applicants can only make changes to contact information, update self-reported test scores, and complete application fee payments.

More important application tips and reminders:

Application fees
If students experience a problem with their online payment, please advise them to complete submission without a confirmed payment by logging back in and following the instructions to complete the submission of the application. Once submission is completed, a receipt will display and the students will receive an immediate confirmation email. Applicants can log back in 2-3 days after submission to check their payment status and complete the payment if necessary.

Application fee waivers
- UC will continue to waive application fees (for up to four campuses) for qualified students using a feature within the admission application.
- If a student is denied a fee waiver on the application, the student should indicate that they want to pay by mail and submit one College Board or NACAC fee waiver, or a letter that includes the family income and the number of people supported by that income, to the address provided on the receipt.
- Fee waivers cannot be combined to waive fees for more than four campuses. If a student chooses to apply to more than four campuses, they must pay the appropriate fee for each additional campus selected.

Help desk information

The UC Application Center should be your students’ go-to resource for all application questions. In addition to being the official UC help desk, students should send in payments and fee waivers to this central location:

UC Application Center
P.O. Box 1432
Bakersfield, CA 93302
Test scores

SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Tests

- Fall 2015 applicants must take the ACT or SAT by the last test dates in December.
- Applicants planning on taking or retaking SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Tests can list planned test dates on the application and submit their official scores by the end of December.
- All official test (SAT/ACT/SAT Subject Tests/TOEFL) scores can be submitted to just one campus to which the student will be applying. Test scores will be disseminated to all campuses to which the student applied.
- UC does not recommend that applicants use the College Board’s Score Choice. We strongly encourage students to report all scores. UC uses only the highest score at a single sitting for admission consideration, but will consider clearing subject area deficiencies, or for meeting other requirements, if necessary.
- UC only uses SAT subject tests, which are not required, as an additional piece of information.
- UC does not recommend applicants use the ACT Priority Reporting or the College Board’s Rush Score delivery.

Advanced Placement (AP)/International Baccalaureate (IB)

- AP/IB scores must be reported on the admission application. Official scores must be submitted by the testing agency, after acceptance of an offer of admission, to the one campus at which the student plans to enroll.
- Although the College Board reports all AP tests results to the UC campus, students should be aware that AP test scores lower than 3 will not adversely affect their chances for admission, nor will IB Higher Level individual subject grades below 5.

International Baccalaureate (IB) predicted scores

UC requests predicted IB scores from students enrolled in IB programs outside the United States. Prospective freshmen may provide predicted scores on the International External Exams page of the application for admission. If predicted IB scores are not available at the time of submission of the application, students do not need to worry, nor do they need to submit them at a later date. Predicted scores will not be the sole basis of admission selection by UC campuses. Completed IB exams should be reported on the IB Exams page.
NOTE: UC does not request, nor provide a place on the admission application for other types of predicted scores.

**English Proficiency Requirement**

Applicants who attend a secondary/high school or college/university where English is not the language of instruction must take the TOEFL or the IELTS examination (academic modules).

- UC is collecting the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) sub-scores.
- An official TOEFL score report can be sent to just one UC campus to which the student will be applying. Test scores will be disseminated to all campuses to which the student applied.
- IELTS scores must be reported to each campus to which a student applies.
- These scores must be received no later than January for fall term applicants. We strongly recommend that students take the test as early as possible, because their score may be a factor in whether or not UC offers admission.
- For more information, visit [http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/international/toefl-ielts-exams/index.html](http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/international/toefl-ielts-exams/index.html)

**Official transcripts & letters of recommendation**

- Transcripts: Students must refer to transcripts as they fill out the application to ensure the information they enter is accurate. However, they do not submit transcripts at this point in the process. Transcripts must be submitted only to the one campus at which the student plans to enroll by the July 1 transcript deadline (unless specifically asked by a campus prior to the admission decision).
  - Deadlines: [http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/dates-deadlines](http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/dates-deadlines)
- Letters of Recommendation: Students must not submit letters of recommendation unless specifically asked by a campus. Please do not encourage students to send letters of recommendation as part of the UC application process. Some campuses/majors may require letters of recommendation as part of a supplemental application review, so please make sure students check for an email message from a campus.

**California Residence for purposes of tuition and fees**

Students are asked to provide information to help determine California residency status for admissions purposes on the application. For information about UC's residency requirements for purposes of tuition and fees, visit [http://ucop.edu/general-counsel/guidance/educational-affairs-and-campus-services/residence-tuition-fees-student-info.html](http://ucop.edu/general-counsel/guidance/educational-affairs-and-campus-services/residence-tuition-fees-student-info.html).