UC Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) for students applying for 2026–27 admission

Six University of California (UC) campuses offer guaranteed admission to students from **all** California community colleges (CCC). Interested students must meet both the shared TAG criteria as well as campus-specific requirements to qualify for a TAG. By participating in a TAG program, students can ensure their admission to a specific UC campus. Also, students interested in pursuing the [Pathways+](#) transfer option will use a TAG to secure their guarantee.

Shared TAG criteria

To qualify for a **fall 2026 TAG** at any one of the six participating campuses, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have completed at least 30 semester/45 quarter UC-transferable units at the time of TAG submission (end of summer 2025);
2. Must complete at least one UC-E (English) and one UC-M (Math) by fall 2025;
3. Must complete the remaining [7-course pattern](#) by spring 2026;
4. Must complete 60 semester/90 quarter UC-transferable units (junior standing) by the end of spring 2026;
5. Must complete at least 30 semester/45 quarter UC-transferable units at one or more CCC by spring 2026, and a CCC must be the last school of attendance in a regular session;
6. Must require no more than 19 UC-transferable units (semester or quarter) in spring 2026 (or in the last regular term) to reach junior standing;
7. Must not exceed 80 semester/120 quarter total UC-transferable units, after applying lower-division limits (students with **only** CCC coursework and AP/IB/A level credits will not exceed this limit);
8. Must earn a 2.0 GPA in all UC-transferable coursework in the current fall, winter and/or spring terms with no grade lower than C;
9. Must submit a TAG application through the [UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP)](#) between September 1 and September 30, 2025;
10. Must submit the [UC application](#) between October 1 and December 1, 2025, and the TAG major and application major for the TAG campus must match;
11. Must submit a Transfer Academic Update (TAU) by January 31, 2026; and,
12. Must meet all campus-specific TAG criteria outlined in the chart below.

Not eligible for TAG

The following students are not eligible for a TAG at any campus:

- Students who have already earned a bachelor's or higher degree;
- Students previously enrolled at a UC campus who intend to return to **the same** UC campus;
- Students previously enrolled at a UC campus who were not in good standing when they left that UC; and,
- Students concurrently enrolled in high school at the time of TAG submission.

Please note: Transfer students do **not** have to participate in TAG to be considered for admission. In fact, approximately two-thirds of transfer students admitted to UC do not have a TAG. Non-TAG students simply apply for UC admission during the appropriate application filing period. Transfer students are responsible for accurately reporting all college coursework on their TAG and UC applications.

Specific information about TAG at each of the six participating UC campuses is provided in the table below.

Accurate as of June 23, 2025, for the 2026-2027 TAG application cycle. Subject to change. For future TAG application cycle information refer to each individual UC campus admissions website.

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Campus	Is a pre-evaluation of coursework provided as part of TAG?	For which terms is a TAG accepted? What is the TAG filing period?	Is the major guaranteed as part of TAG?	What are the excluded majors for TAG?	Contact Information
Davis	Yes, wait for TAG decision before submitting UC application.	Accepted for fall quarter only. Filing period: Sept. 1-30	Yes, provided all TAG requirements are completed. Applicants to Landscape Architecture are approved in a "pre-major" status (no guarantee to the major).	Undeclared programs, Computer Science, Data Science and Landscape Architecture (applicants are approved in pre-Landscape Architecture with no guarantee to the major).	[UC Davis TAG contacts](#) (530) 752-2971
Irvine	No	Accepted for fall quarter only. Filing period: Sept. 1-30	Yes, provided all TAG requirements are completed.	Art, Business Administration, Dance, Music, Nursing Science and ALL majors in the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences. (The Art major requires a portfolio.)	[UC Irvine TAG](#) (949) 824-6703
Merced	Yes, wait for TAG decision before submitting UC application. Decision release dates: Fall TAG: Nov 15th Spring TAG: July 1st	Accepted for fall; filing period: Sept. 1-30 Accepted for spring; filing period: May 1-31	Yes, provided all TAG requirements are completed.	All majors now open for TAG. Subject to change.	[UC Merced TAG](#) (209) 228-7178 [transfer@ucmerced.edu](#)
Riverside	Yes, wait for TAG decision before submitting UC application.	Accepted for fall; filing period: Sept. 1-30	Yes, provided all TAG requirements are completed.	Art Studio	[UC Riverside TAG](#) (951) 827-3411 [Admissions.ucr.edu/ask](#)
Santa Barbara	No	Accepted for fall quarter only. Filing period: Sept. 1-30	Yes, for College of Letters & Science (L&S) majors that do not have a pre-major. No, for L&S majors that have a pre-major; the pre-major is guaranteed, but further requirements must be met at UCSB after transfer in order to be accepted into the full major.	All majors in the College of Creative Studies; all majors in the College of Engineering; Dance B.A., Dance B.F.A., Music B.M., Theater B.F.A. in the College of Letters & Science.	[UC Santa Barbara TAG](#) (805) 893-2881
Santa Cruz	Yes, wait for TAG decision before submitting UC application.	Accepted for fall quarter only. Filing period: Sept. 1-30	Yes, for all screening majors. For the most current list of screening majors, please visit [UC Santa Cruz TAG](#).	Computer Science B.A and B.S.	[UC Santa Cruz TAG](#) (831) 459-4008 [tag@ucsc.edu](#)

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Campus	Minimum UC Transferable GPA required for a TAG	Is completion of IGETC required?	Majors that require major preparation
Davis	College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences: 3.2 College of Biological Sciences: 3.2 College of Letters and Science: 3.2 College of Engineering: 3.5 ***GPAs listed above required by end of summer 2025.*** There are also specific major prep GPA requirements for each selective major. For the most current information, please visit UC Davis TAG.	No	Complete course group requirements for selective majors; see UC Davis TAG criteria for details.
Irvine	3.4 minimum GPA ***by end of fall 2025.*** For the most current information, please visit UC Irvine TAG.	No	Complete major prerequisites for specific majors; see UC Irvine transfer requirements.

Merced	School of Engineering majors: 3.0
	School of Natural Science majors: 2.9
	School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts majors: 2.8
	  [Exception: Psychology 3.0]
	  [Exception: Public Health 3.0]
	GPAs listed above required by end of summer 2025.
	
	For the most current information, please visit UC Merced TAG.
		Yes, **for Public Health only.**
		No for all other majors.
			Complete minimum course prerequisites for specific majors; see UC Merced TAG.

Riverside	College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS): 2.8
	  [Exceptions: Psychology, and Theater, Film & Digital Production 3.3]
	Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering (BCOE): 3.0
	  [Exceptions: Computer Science 3.6; Computer Science w/Business Applications 3.3;
	  Computer Engineering 3.3; Mechanical Engineering 3.1]
	College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS): 2.8
	  [Exception: Data Science 3.0]
	School of Business: 2.8
	Graduate School of Education: 2.7
	School of Public Policy: 2.7
	GPAs listed above required by end of summer 2025.
	
	For the most current information, please visit UC Riverside TAG.
		No; The School of Business Administration highly recommends completion of IGETC.	All majors in the Bourns College of Engineering (BCOE), College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences (CNAS), School of Business Administration, and Business Economics, Economics, Psychology, and Neuroscience majors in the College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences (CHASS).
			
			See UC Riverside Majors Preparation Guide for major preparation and UC Riverside transfer admission for campus details.

Santa Barbara	3.4 GPA ***by end of fall 2025*** for all majors. All majors in Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Economics, Mathematics, and Physics have a minimum GPA required for major preparation courses. See "By Major" articulation agreements at ASSIST for details.	No	All Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Economics, Mathematics, and Physics majors in the College of Letters and Science. See UC Santa Barbara selective majors for more details.
Santa Cruz	3.0 GPA ***by end of summer 2025*** for all majors. Additional GPA requirements for major preparation courses for some majors. For the most current information, please visit UC Santa Cruz TAG.	No	All screening majors. See UC Santa Cruz TAG for more details.

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Spring 2027 TAG applicants

- UC Merced:
  - First UC-E must be completed by end of spring 2026.
  - Second UC-E must be completed by end of summer 2026.
  - UC-M must be completed by end of fall 2026.
  - All other TAG qualifications must be met by end of fall 2026.

2026–27 TAG Matrix summary of changes

Reminders:

- All campuses require at least one UC-E and one UC-M by end of fall 2025, with the remaining courses from the 7-course pattern completed no later than spring 2026

- No campus will allow more than 19 UC-transferable units (semester or quarter) in spring 2026 (or last term of attendance) *if all 19 units are needed to meet junior standing*

- All campuses will use the same high-unit junior/senior definition (80 semester/120 quarter UC-transferable units) for TAG purposes only; students may not exceed that total

  - *NOTE: If all coursework is from one or more CCC, students will not exceed the unit cap*

  - Only students with UC coursework and/or upper-division courses from a 4-year institution may be affected by the cap

- All campuses require a 2.0 GPA in all UC-transferable coursework during the final academic year before transfer (e.g., fall 2025, winter 2026, spring 2026) with no grade lower than C in any of those terms

Campus updates:

- The final page of the TAG Matrix includes information for spring 2027 TAG applicants to UC Merced

- UC Merced has removed the following requirements from their TAG:
  - No unrepeated grades of C-, D, F or NP in UC-transferable courses
  - No more than two W grades (including EW grades) in major preparatory courses
  - No more than one deficient grade in major preparatory courses, even if courses have been repeated

- UC Riverside will not be accepting TAG applications for winter 2027

- UC Riverside has added an exception to the Data Science major in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (CNAS). The minimum GPA for this major is a 3.0