

Transfer Prep: Strengthening the community college pipeline to UC

September 2025

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

transferprep

Building a bridge from community college to UC.

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What is Transfer Prep?

The Transfer Prep program builds the **transfer pipeline** across the state by providing students with **admissions advising, along with academic and enrichment resources** and **opportunities needed to successfully transition** from community college to UC and other four-year institutions. Transfer Prep is a critical resource within the **university's outreach efforts** to the 116 California Community Colleges.



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Transfer Prep is part of the umbrella of Student Academic Preparation and Educational Partnerships (SAPEP) programming such as: EAOP, MESA, and Puente. Transfer Prep is the community college outreach branch of SAPEP. To learn more please visit the site linked below:

https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/about-us/information-center/sapep_outcomes

Transfer Prep services

Transfer
advising &
academic
planning

Summer
enrichment
programs

Transfer
workshops
and
webinars

Special
events
& campus
visits

Financial
literacy

UC
application
support

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<https://www.ucop.edu/outreach-educational-partnerships/programs-initiatives/transfer-prep-2/index.html>

Who do we serve?

Transfer Prep serves transfer students from **all 116**
California Community Colleges.

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Transfer Prep programs serve all community college students. In some cases, some programs offer regional support. For example, UCI Transfer Prep Summer Academy (TPSA). Currently, TPSA is in partnerships with the following California Community Colleges: Santa Ana, Santiago Canyon College, Saddleback College, Fullerton College, Cypress College, and Rio Hondo College. We encourage you to explore the partnerships in your region.

Discover Your UC webinar series



Transfer Prep collaboration

Highlights:

- Virtual platform
- Representatives from each UC campus
- Admissions requirements, major exploration, and transfer pathways

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The Discover Your UC (DYUC) webinar series is a collaborative effort where all 10 University of California Transfer Prep initiatives come together to provide important transfer information and invaluable insights directly from representatives of each UC institution. Whether you're navigating the intricacies of admissions requirements, exploring different majors, or seeking clarity on transfer pathways, the DYUC webinars provide comprehensive support tailored to your journey from community college to UC.

Participate in next year's webinar series



This year's topics

- From HS to CC to UC
 - In Spanish and English
- Campus highlights
 - Three undergraduate campuses each date
- UC TAP and TAG
- Ask UC Transfer Prep


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Expect a save the date for next year early 2026.

Transfer Prep across the system

Berkeley Community College Transfer Services (CCTS) and Transfer Alliance Project (TAP)	Davis Transfer Opportunity Program (TOP)	Irvine Community College Programs (CCP)	Los Angeles The Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCCP)	Merced UC Transfer Initiative Program (UC TIP)
Riverside Transfer Recruitment and Evaluation, Undergraduate Admissions	San Diego Transfer Student Services, Undergraduate Admissions	San Francisco Center for Science, Education and Outreach	Santa Barbara Transfer Services, Undergraduate Admissions	Santa Cruz Transfer Preparation Program, Undergraduate Admissions
UCOP	MESA	Puente	EAOP	<small>UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA</small>  <small>Building a bridge from community college to UC.</small>

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There is a Transfer Prep initiative or program at every UC campus housed under their respective community college outreach or service programs.

Collectively, Transfer Prep programs across the UC system provide services to all 116 California community colleges.

For some UC campuses, Transfer Prep is housed in their Office of Undergraduate Admissions, such as UC Riverside Transfer Recruitment and Evaluation and UC Santa Cruz Transfer Preparation Program. Whereas UC Irvine, UC Berkeley, and UCLA are housed outside of Admissions but work very closely and collaboratively with them.

Partnership - Transfer Prep and UC admissions

UC Transfer Prep	Unified goal	UC admissions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Systemwide transfer support (emphasis on UC)• Targeted support for low-sending transfer institutions• Cohort and non-cohort program models• Regular system-wide meetings to discuss opportunities for collaboration and partnership• Signature support programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programs and services that support prospective transfer students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specific to a UC campus• Application review• Major preparation advising• UC admission application workshops• UC yield efforts to support newly admitted transfer students• Collaborations with campus tours

UC Transfer Prep programs

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UC Berkeley

UC Berkeley Transfer Prep: Community College Transfer Services (CCTS)

UC Berkeley's Transfer Prep Program CCTS collaborates and partners with California community colleges and other transfer focused programs across the state to provide transfer information and resources to all California community college students interested in transferring to a University of California campus.



Program Components:

- UC Berkeley on campus experiences
- UC Application workshops
- Transfer to success webinar series

Program Contact: transfer@berkeley.edu

For more info: <https://cep.berkeley.edu/ccts>

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Formerly known as TAP (transfer alliance program)

UC Davis

Transfer Opportunity Program (TOP)

TOP's mission is to support and enhance a transfer culture for college students enrolled at 42 partner community colleges. TOP provides support that complements the college's efforts and initiatives to increase the number of transfer-ready students.

Services:

- 1-on-1 advising
- Webinars
- In-person visits to CC
- Counselor in-service
- Discover UC Davis
- VIP campus visits
- Peer Mentoring
 - Aggie to Be (A2B)
 - Aggie Transfer Scholars Weekend (ATSW)



Contact: top-soa@ucdavis.edu

For more info: ucdavis.edu/top

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Housed in UC Davis Undergraduate Admissions, the UC Davis Transfer Opportunity Program or TOP for short has a mission to support and enhance

UC Irvine

Community College Programs (CCP)

UCI Transfer Prep works with local high schools and community college partners that have significant potential for increasing transfers and assisting them in effectively utilizing the community college transfer pathway.



Program Components:

- Individual support sessions
- Hosted campus visits
- Workshops
- Conferences

Residential Programs:

- UCI Transfer Prep Summer Academy: Open to partnerships schools in 2025 Rio Hondo, Cypress, Fullerton, Santa Ana, Santiago Canyon and Saddleback.

Program Contact: transferprep@uci.edu

For more info: <https://cfep.uci.edu/transferprepprograms/>

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UCLA

Center for Community College Partnerships

The Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP) works to increase the academic preparation and competitiveness of community college transfer students. CCCP partners with community colleges and university allies to strengthen both transfer-sending and transfer-receiving cultures, fostering a more equitable and supportive transfer pathway.



Program Components:

- CCCP Scholars Program
- CCCP Peer Advising
- STEM Webinars
- PIQ Assistance Lounge
- Transfer Excelencia Scholarship
- Transfer Retention Program

Residential Programs:

- Summer Intensive Transfer Experience Plus (6-week)
- STEM Summer Intensive Transfer Experience (3-day)
- Summer Intensive Transfer Experience Lite (1-day)
- Power to the Transfer Webinar

Program Contact: cccp@college.ucla.edu

For more info: cccp.ucla.edu

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1) CCCP Scholars Program: The CCCP Scholars Program is a year-long UC Transfer Prep Program from Summer 2025 through Spring 2026. The goal is to motivate, inform and prepare California community college students to transfer to a baccalaureate degree-granting institution, including selective top-tier research universities such as UCLA.

2) CCCP Peer Advising at LA County community colleges: CCCP Peer advisors are current UCLA transfer students who support and mentor community college students aspiring to transfer to four-year, baccalaureate-granting institutions.

3) Other services: STEM Webinars, PIQ Assistance Lounges, Transfer Excelencia Scholarship, Transfer Retention Program

UC Merced

Transfer Initiative Program (TIP)

The UC Transfer Initiative Program (UC TIP) supports transfer students through the application and enrollment process by providing transfer advisement, opportunities to explore majors and transfer options, and increased access to resources and tools.



TRANSFER
INFORMATION

ADVISING

TRANSFER APPLICATION
ASSISTANCE

CAMPUS LIFE
IMMERSION

Summer Residential Programs

Transfer Academy

3 day, 2 night program in June and July (STEM and non-STEM).

Contact Us: transfer@ucmerced.edu / For more info: <https://uctip.ucmerced.edu>

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The UC Transfer Initiative Program (UC TIP) at the University of California, Merced, was created to increase the number of UC-eligible transfer students from the Central California region who enroll at a University of California campus.

UC Riverside

Transfer Recruitment and Evaluation in Undergraduate Admissions

UC Riverside's Transfer Prep Program provides intentional outreach programming to support students in their transfer journey.



Services:

- One-on-one advising appointments
- Transfer center visits
- Webinar Series and workshops
- Personalized campus visits

Residential Programs:

- The Highlander Experience (July)
- UCR Puente Connection (July)

Special Partnership- Road to Riverside

Program combines the resources of RCCD and UCR to provide R2R students personalized support, guaranteed admission through TAG, concurrent enrollment with UCR, and priority housing opportunities.

Contact us: diana.medina@ucr.edu, tiffany.bonner@ucr.edu

For more info: <https://admissions.ucr.edu/transfer>

ROAD TO RIVERSIDE



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UC San Diego

Office Undergraduate Admissions

Pathway to transfer success!



Program Components:

- Virtual 1:1 advising appointments
- UC admission application workshops
- Support with the UC Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)
- Assigned Admissions Officer for each California community college
- Webinar programs highlighting UC San Diego campuses services
- National Transfer Student Week programming in October
- Campus and Enhanced Tours
- Fall and Spring recruitment efforts
- Collaboration with the Triton Transfer Hub

For more info: <https://admissions.ucsd.edu/transfer/index.html>

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UC San Francisco

UCSF Transfer Prep Program

The UCSF Transfer Preparation Program (TPP) is designed to support students along their educational journey from high school to community college and ultimately to a four-year university. Our goal is to ensure a smooth transition and to equip students with the knowledge and resources needed to successfully transfer to the University of California system or other four-year colleges and universities.



Program Components:

- Transfer academic planning and guidance
- Financial aid and scholarship information
- UC application support, including TAP and TAG
- Transfer success and readiness workshops
- Research and health science internship opportunities
- Academic tutoring and skill-building support
- Peer mentoring

Summer Program:

- EAOP+ Transfer Prep Summer Bridge Program (June)

Contact: losaline.mafuahinganomuli@ucsf.edu

For more info: <https://cseo.ucsf.edu/transfer-preparation-program>

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UC Santa Barbara

Undergraduate Admissions

The University of California, Santa Barbara Transfer Prep Program aims to prepare entering and continuing community college students to transfer to the University of California. We offer transfer webinars and virtual advising and two programs: Transfer Making It Happen and Transfer Preparation Academy.



Program Components:

- Individual student advising
- Webinars (UC application, PIQ, TAG, UCSB transfer admissions, and more!)
- Host community college groups on campus
- Visits to community colleges
- High level services provided to region 6

Summer Program:

- Transfer Prep Academy In-Person 3-day, 2-night (July)
- Virtual Transfer Prep Academy 2-day (July)
- Transfer Making it Happen (August)

Contact: admissions@ucsb.edu

For more info: <https://admissions.sa.ucsb.edu/transfer-prep>

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UC Santa Cruz

Undergraduate Admissions

The Transfer Prep Program is a free equity-based program serving transfer students from low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented backgrounds in our state who are interested in attending UC Santa Cruz, as well as other UC campuses.



Program Components:

- 1:1 Peer mentorship
- 1:1 advising for applications and UC TAP/ TAG
- Community connection
- Access to special events and workshops

Contact: transfer@ucsc.edu

For more info: <https://admissions.ucsc.edu/tpp>

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TPP provides a student with a caring community of support throughout their entire transfer journey from early readiness to smoothly transitioning to campus through individualized advising, peer mentorship, community connections, and access to special campus events.



Mesa supports students to achieve success in STEM majors and careers.



Core Support Services

- Academic/Transfer advising and graduate pathways
- Dedicated student spaces & community building
- Sense of belonging via cohorts and Learning culture
- Professional Development & Industry Engagement
- Connect with student orgs like SHPE, NSBE, and SACNAS
- Idea Accelerator & Mentorship Opportunities
- Annual Student Leadership Conference

Visit us at: <https://mesa.ucop.edu/>

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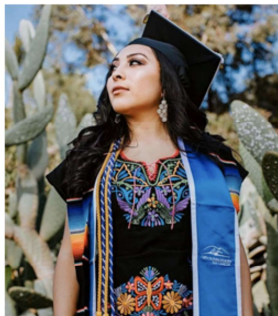
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<https://mesa.ucop.edu/>



Puente's mission is to *increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges and universities, earn college degrees and return to the community as mentors and leaders to future generations. The program is interdisciplinary in approach, with writing, counseling and mentoring components.*



Program Components:

- Supportive learning community
- Two semesters of college level writing courses with same instructor
- Emphasis on culturally relevant curriculum
- Assigned academic counselor to help with educational plan
- Personal development and career courses
- Assistance with financial aid and college applications
- Assigned professional mentor
- University Field Trips
- Cultural events

For more info: <https://www.thepuenteproject.org/site-list>

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<https://www.thepuenteproject.org/site-list>

UMOJA



Umoja, (a Kiswahili word meaning unity) is a community and critical resource dedicated to enhancing the cultural and educational experiences of African American and other students. We believe that when the voices and histories of students are deliberately and intentionally recognized, the opportunity for self-efficacy emerges and a foundation is formed for academic success. Umoja actively serves and promotes student success for all students through a curriculum and pedagogy responsive to the legacy of the African and African American Diasporas.

Services:

- Cohort and Learning Community model course offerings
- Individual counseling sessions
- Intensive transfer preparation and support
- Umoja-sponsored activities and field trips, and financial aid workshops.
- Professional development activities
- Summer Learning Institutes, annual conferences, retreats, regional symposia, UC Umoja Days

For locations visit: <https://umojacommunity.org/colleges-map>



<https://umojacommunity.org/colleges-map>

Resources

UC Transfer Admission Planner



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UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP)
An online tool for California high school and community college students on the transfer path

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT 101 FRANKLIN STREET OAKLAND CA 94607

The UC Transfer Admission Planner helps guide you on the transfer path to UC

- Plan and organize courses for your transfer journey.
- Find out if your chosen major has a Transfer Pathway, a simple way to identify requirements for popular majors.
- Track your progress toward UC's minimum eligibility requirements as you update your earned grades.
- Receive important news and updates direct from UC.

Nearly 350,000 students from California community colleges have used UC TAP to plan their transfer to UC.

Start your account at:
uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu

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Available for download in multiple languages, such as Hmong, Spanish, Vietnamese, etc.

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UC Transfer Hub – Discover our resources

Transferring to the University of California is within reach for your students.



Transfer
Prep
Programs

UC-
sponsored
programs

Transfer
planning
tools

Community



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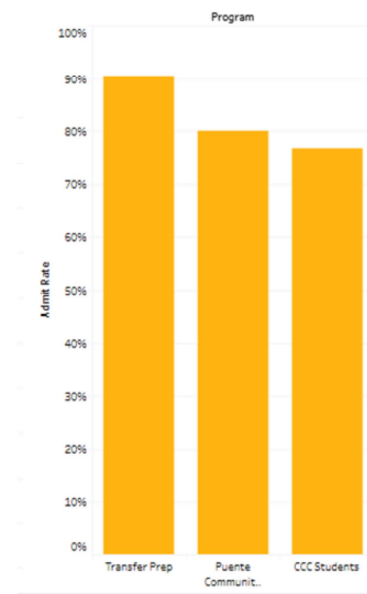
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<https://transfer.universityofcalifornia.edu>

SAPEP programs offer support and resources to transfer students from California Community Colleges

UC Transfer Admit Rate, Fall 2023



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https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/about-us/information-center/sapep_outcomes

Across all transfer serving SAPEP programs in 2022-23, 18,159 students were served. 52% of students identified themselves as part of an underrepresented group. Students in SAPEP programs show high admit rates once they apply to UC, noted by the chart on the screen; for fall 2023, Transfer Prep participants had a 90 % admit rate to UC, and Puente participants had an 80% admit rate compared to the general admit rate of CCC transfers of 77%.

Student spotlights

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Slide 27

- MC1** I love the student spotlights! For your final PPT, I would ask that the formatting be consistent for all student spotlights please
Melissa Chavez, 2025-07-03T18:25:53.688
- JR1 0** I updated your font color, size and style to add some more consistency across the formatting of these slides
Jayne Reimel, 2025-07-11T17:45:06.983

Paige Lyles



Diablo Valley College
UC Berkeley

“Getting to speak to this year’s admits, gave me the opportunity to reflect on my own transfer experience. It was nostalgic to hear bits and pieces of some of the students’ stories, and I am so excited for them as they take this next step in autonomy over their futures. Participating in UC Berkeley’s transfer prep program prepared me not only to transfer but to navigate higher education. Whether it was the workshops or one on one advising I never felt alone during this challenging process.”

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Paige Lyles transferred from DVC to UC Berkeley as a Civil Engineering Major. She recently graduated this spring with her Master's in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research and was the commencement speaker at the College of Engineering's Master's graduation ceremony. Throughout her time at UC Berkeley Paige has participated in numerous on campus events to inspire future community college transfer students.

Andrew Alvarez



Grossmont College
UC Berkeley

"UC Berkeley Transfer Prep and the guidance of their transfer specialists has been paramount in my successful transfer application process, my preparation for my undergraduate education, and my career trajectory after graduation. Their support and constant motivation allowed me to set my standards high and not let any person or circumstance bring me down. As a Latino low-income first-generation community college student, it was difficult to find mentors who could encourage me and challenge me to uphold the standards necessary not only to be accepted into a prestigious 4-year university but thrive and graduate on time. I can truthfully say that UC Berkeley Transfer Prep has changed my life. Because of their guidance and support, I was able to transfer from community college to UC Berkeley where I graduated with honors and high distinction, received many scholarships and fellowships, and did not (and will never have to) pay a single penny out of pocket for my education. I am now working at UCLA Health as a lab coordinator for one of the nation's leading suicide prevention experts. I will be applying to Ph.D. programs in Clinical Psychology next year and hope to pursue a career as a professor where I plan to conduct research on suicide, discrimination, and access to health resources. I am forever grateful for UC Berkeley Transfer Prep and believe it is of utmost importance to fund this program so other students can thrive like I did."

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Rafael Rosiles



“Being a Puente Ambassador during the UCR summer conferences and supporting incoming transfer and Puente students was the highlight of my undergraduate career. It brought me full circle from my first day at community college to my last at UCR. The conferences was a turning point that gave me the courage to apply to the UC system and share my story.”

College of the Sequoias
UC Riverside

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Alexander Salazar



Merced College
UCLA

“Without the UC Transfer Initiative Program (TIP), my transfer process wouldn’t have been as smooth as it was. Being a first gen college student, I didn’t have much info about many things like deadlines, what to write about, and how to give it my best shot for application. MJ was right by my side this whole process even helping get in touch with representatives from my dream school, helping with ideas on what to write, and helping me use my full potential for the application. Words cannot explain how helpful it has been being able to meet with her during the transfer process. I would not have been where I am without her help and the program.”

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Alexander Salazar transferred from Merced College is transferring to UCLA as a Psychology major. She will be entering UCLA this Fall semester. During his graduation ceremony from Merced College he had the honor t be one of the speakers. He was extremely honored to be able to speak especially since he is a first-generation college students. Alexander hopes to one day obtain an EdD with dreams of coming back to the Central Valley to improve the education system and make high education more accessible for his community.

Discussion questions

Considering budget limitations in this next academic year, what are some creative ways Transfer Prep can support your students?

Are there other transfer-related topics you would like to see added to our DYUC webinar series in the coming academic year? Do students continue to find value in the virtual format for workshops?

Thank you!

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