Authentic Intelligence: A counselor's basic guide for UC transfer

September 2026

A11Y 10/22/26

Housekeeping

- For closed captioning, click on the “Show Captions” button.
- Questions can be submitted via the Zoom Q&A. Questions will be answered live at the end of the presentation.
  - Not all questions may be answered in the allotted time for this session. Campus-specific questions are best directed to that campus.
- Recordings and presentation materials will be posted in the coming weeks to the Vision Resource Center and the UC Counselors Website.

Technical support is available. Email conferences@foundationccc.org.

Agenda

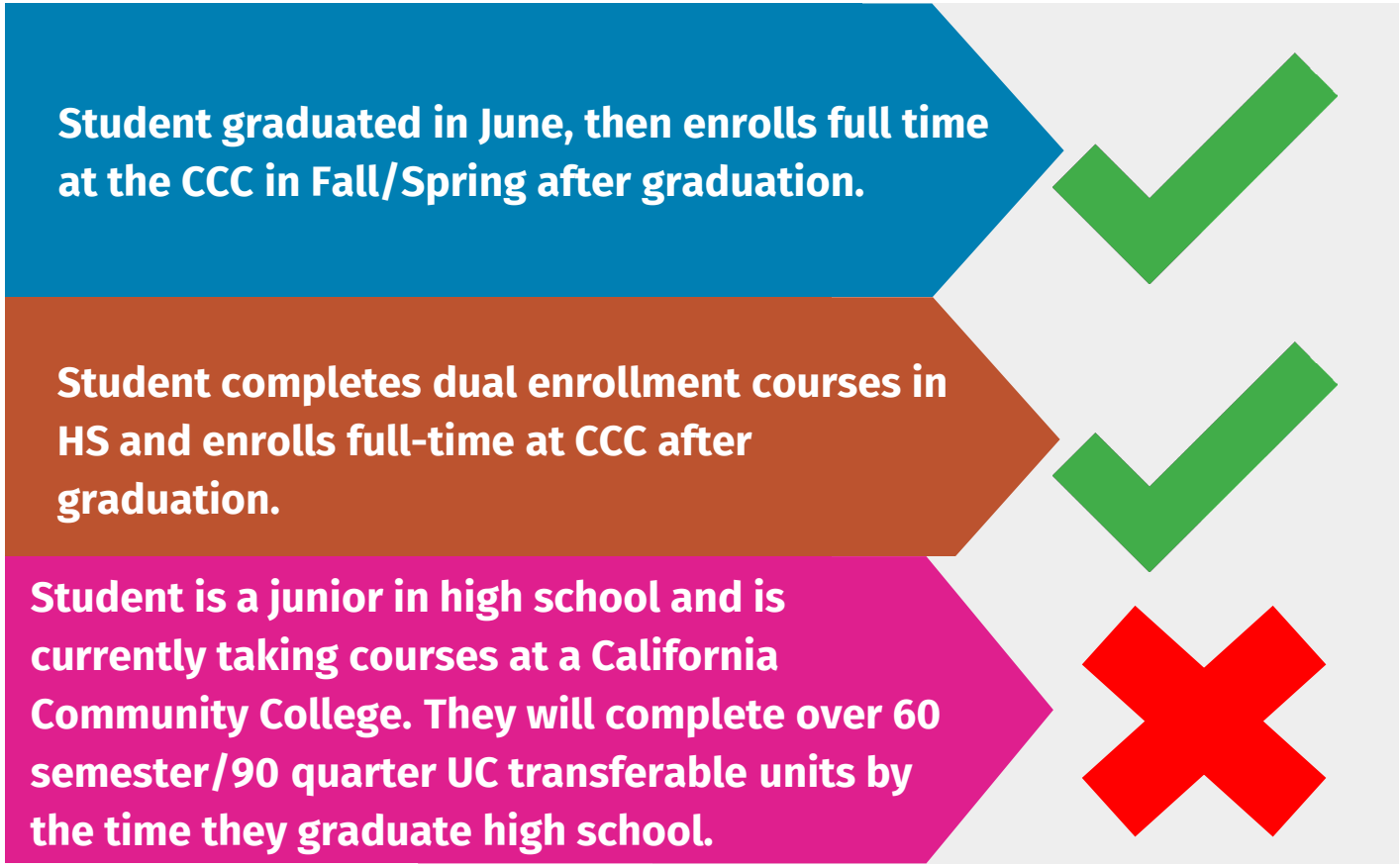
A. Defining a transfer student the machine can't deny
B. A transfer admission timeline for humans
C. Transfer admission requirements, human-verified
    A. 7- course pattern v. Cal-GETC
    B. Comprehensive review
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Defining a transfer student the machine can't deny

Definition of a transfer student

QRG p. 34

- A student who has enrolled in a regular session (fall, winter, or spring) at a college or university after high school graduation.



California community college transfer student definition

QRG p. 34

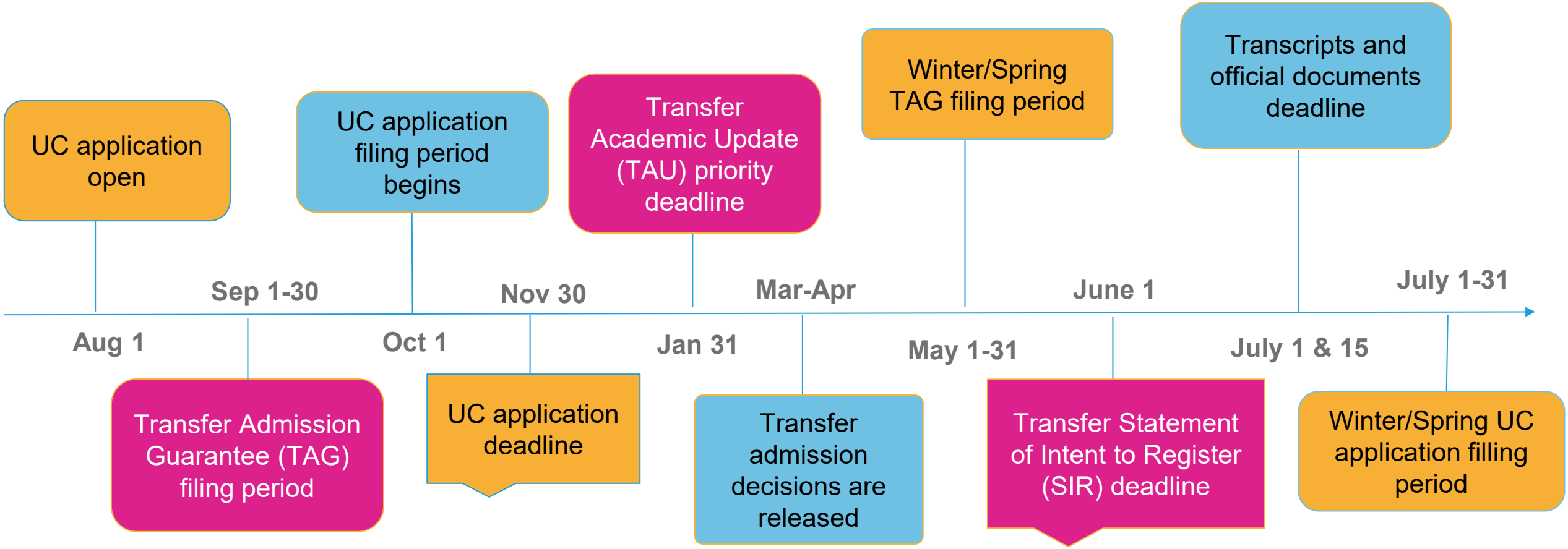
Student has completed at least 30 semester (45 quarter) UC-transferable units at one or more California community colleges

+

A California community college is the student's last college attended in a regular session before enrolling at a UC campus

A transfer admission timeline for humans

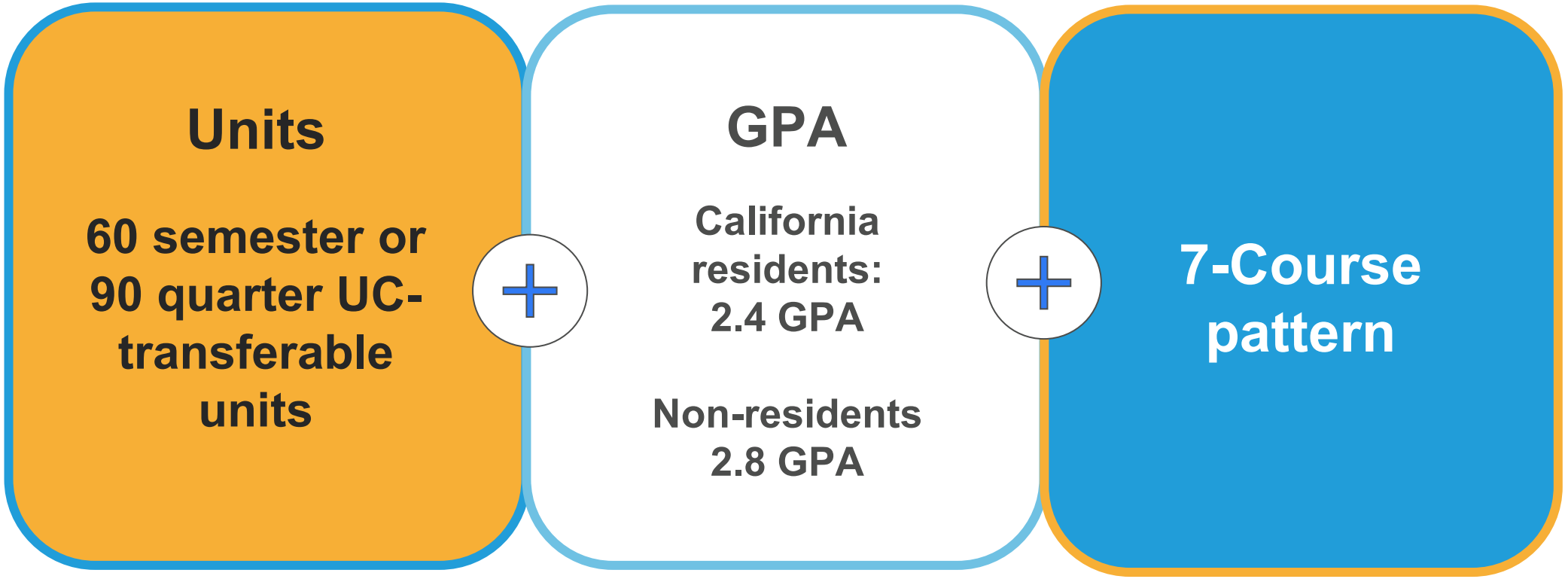
Admission timeline



Transfer admission requirements, human-verified

Transfer admission requirements

QRG p. 35-36



Unit requirements

Junior standing:

- Complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of UC-transferable college credit by the spring prior to transfer

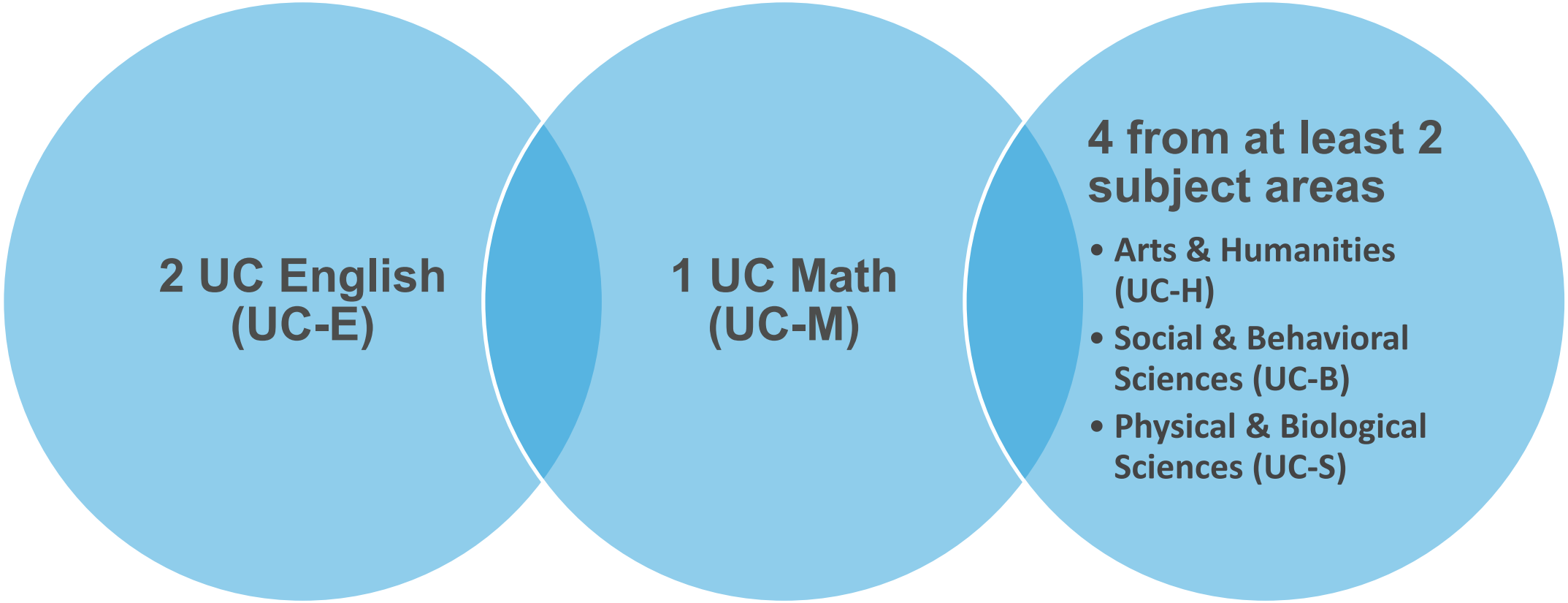
- Up to 14 semester (21 quarter) units of Pass/Credit grades can be used to reach minimum

How the UC GPA is calculated

- The UC GPA is calculated using **all** UC-transferable units attempted, including college courses completed during high school
- Grade points are based on the letter grade received
  - Plus (+) and minus (-) grades are recognized
- Academic Renewal (AR), Pass/NoPass, Credit/No Credit, Satisfactory/Non-Satisfactory, Excused Withdrawal (EW), and/or Withdrawal (W) are not included in the GPA calculation
  - Failed withdrawals (FW) are considered as Fs and will impact the GPA calculation

To be a competitive applicant to the UC, students should aim to exceed the minimum GPA.

7-Course pattern



Cal-GETC

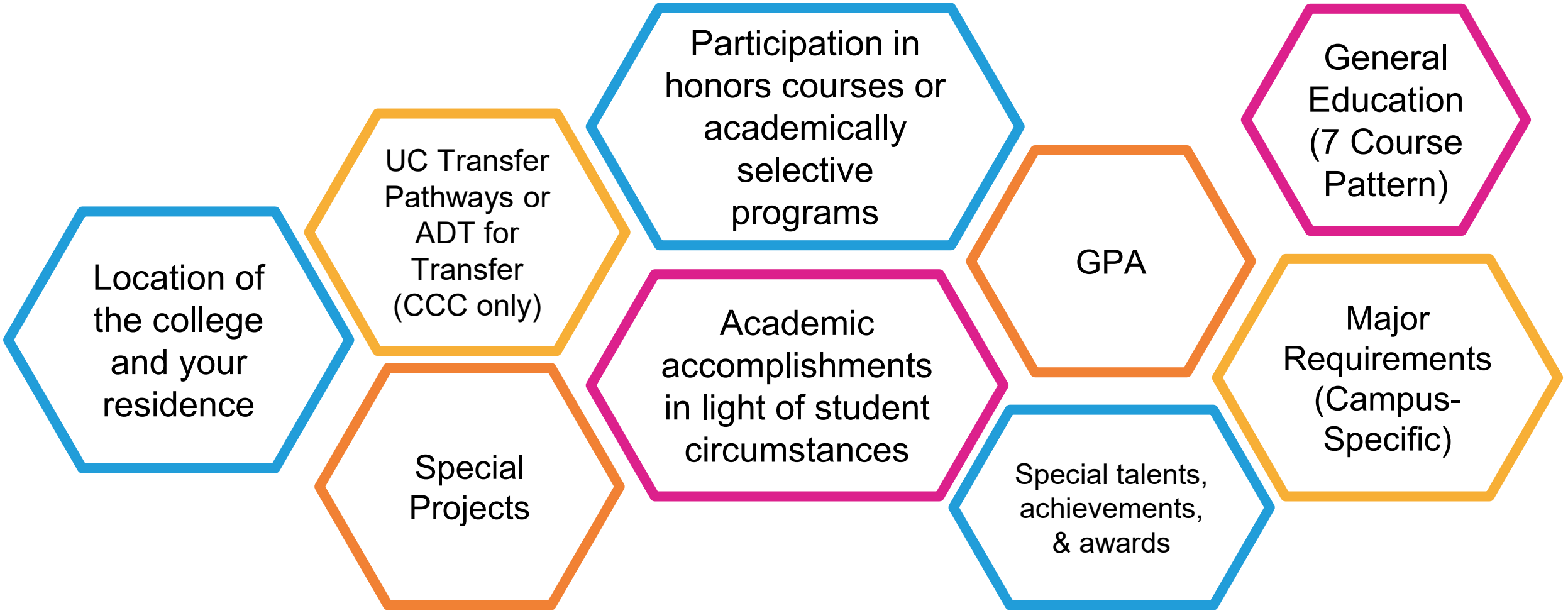
QRG p. 37-39

- A series of courses that satisfy most freshman/sophomore-level general education requirements before transferring to UC.
- Prospective students attending California community colleges may complete Cal-GETC to satisfy the general education requirements at the University of California.
- Not required for admission

Cal-GETC ≠ UC 7 Course Pattern

Comprehensive review

Comprehensive review

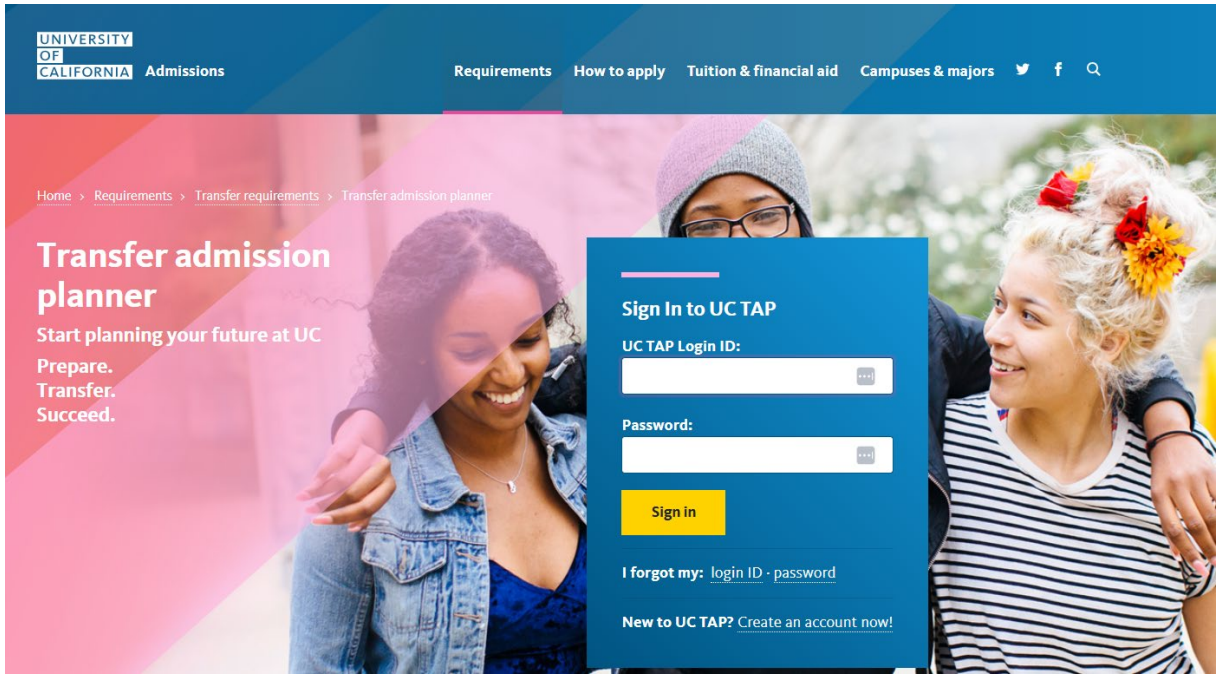


Major preparation

- Major preparation requirements (coursework/GPA) for transfer students refer to completing specific lower-division courses that are required or strongly recommended for a student's intended major before transferring to a UC
- Check with individual campus to learn about which majors require additional major preparation

Transfer programs and authentic tools

First step: UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP)



UC TAP is a free, online tool that supports prospective transfer students to track and plan their coursework as they prepare to transfer

- Required to apply for the UC Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

- TAG is guaranteed admission to 1 UC
  - Can only TAG to ONE campus
- It is offered at 6 UC campuses
- TAG is NOT an admissions requirement
- Applying for TAG is separate from the UC application so both will need to be filled out
- Requirements differ from campus to campus:
  - GPA
  - Coursework
  - Details and deadline



Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

Guaranteed admission at one UC campus for CCC students.

- A wide range of majors are available
- Shared basic requirements
- Campus-specific requirements can range:
  - GPA
  - Major preparation

View the 2027-28 TAG Matrix

Transfer Pathways vs. Transfer Pathways+

- **Transfer Pathways** are a single set of courses for students to take and get ready for their intended major—and to keep the options open from attending any of the nine undergraduate campuses
- Standardized major prep across all 9 undergraduate UC campuses

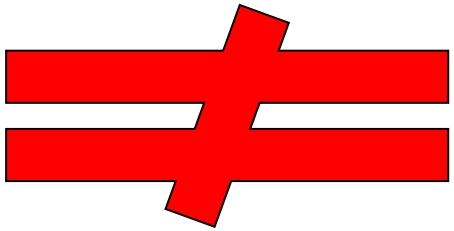
- **Transfer Pathways +** combine UC Transfer Pathways AND Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)
- Use Transfer Admission Planner (TAP) to track transfer progress and submit Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) application

Transferability v. Articulation

Transferability vs. Articulation

Transferability

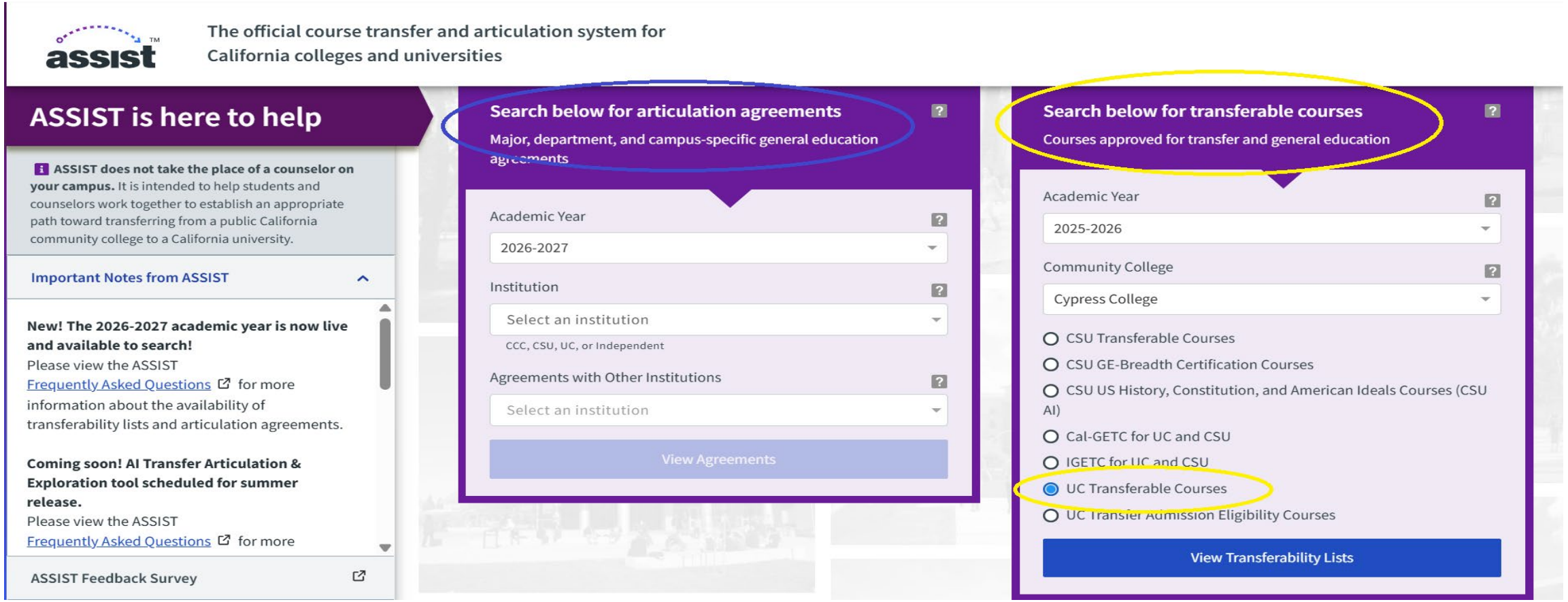
Whether a course taken at another institution can be accepted for credit at the UC



Articulation

How California Community College (CCC) courses fulfill UC major/breadth requirements

Assist.org, your best friend



Transferability: Example

UC Transfer Course Agreement (Biology)

Sacramento City College

Academic Year 2025-2026

• Since campus policies on repeatability vary, the "ea" indicator does not guarantee that UC will grant credit for every course that appears multiple times on a student's transcript. See the UC TCA for possible credit limitations.

Biology

	Course	Title	Cal-GETC Areas	IGETC Areas	Semester Units	UC Areas
	BIOL 305 (W/Lab)	Natural History	5B, 5C	5B, 5C	4.00	UC-S
o $	BIOL 308	Contemporary Biology	5B	5B	3.00	UC-S
o $	BIOL 309 (Lab)	Contemporary Biology Laboratory	5C	5C	1.00	
o $	BIOL 310	General Biology	5B, 5C	5B, 5C	4.00	UC-S
	BIOL 314	Dinosaurs and the Science of Life	5B	5B	3.00	UC-S
+	BIOL 315 (Lab)	Dinosaurs and the Science of Life Laboratory	5C	5C	1.00	
	BIOL 321	Advanced Field Botany			3.00	
	BIOL 326	Ethnobotany	5B	5B	3.00	UC-S

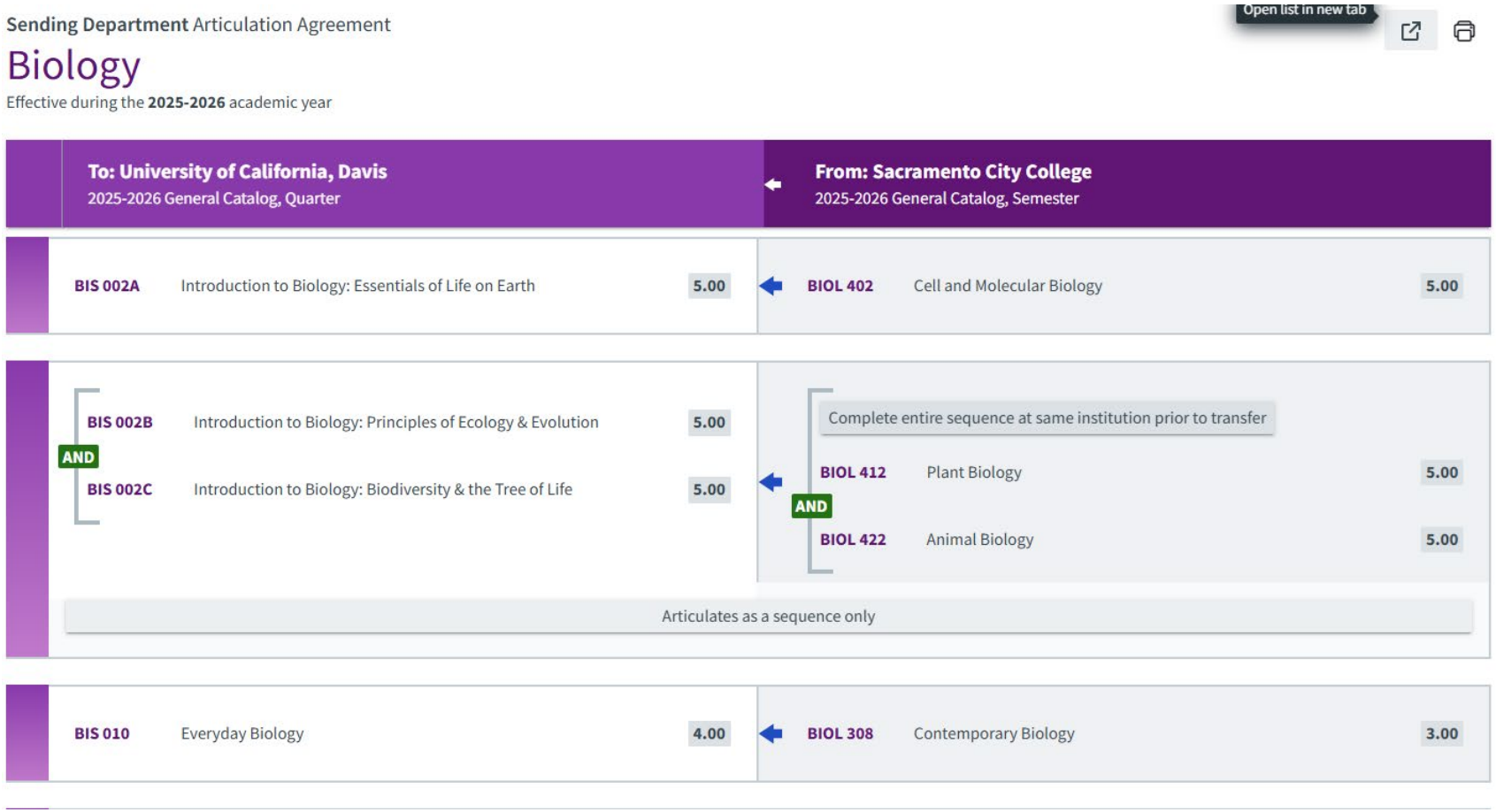
Be sure to check the bottom of the transferability list for any applicable footnotes and possible limitations.

o Credit for either BIOL 308 and BIOL 309 or BIOL 310

$ No credit for BIOL 308, BIOL 309 or BIOL 310 if taken after BIOL 402

+ BIOL 315 must be taken after or concurrently with BIOL 314 to receive transfer credit

Articulation: Example



Sending Department Articulation Agreement

Biology

Effective during the **2025-2026** academic year

Open list in new tab

To: University of California, Davis 2025-2026 General Catalog, Quarter			From: Sacramento City College 2025-2026 General Catalog, Semester		
BIS 002A	Introduction to Biology: Essentials of Life on Earth	5.00	BIOL 402	Cell and Molecular Biology	5.00
BIS 002B AND BIS 002C	Introduction to Biology: Principles of Ecology & Evolution Introduction to Biology: Biodiversity & the Tree of Life	5.00 5.00	Complete entire sequence at same institution prior to transfer BIOL 412 AND BIOL 422	Plant Biology Animal Biology	5.00 5.00
Articulates as a sequence only					
BIS 010	Everyday Biology	4.00	BIOL 308	Contemporary Biology	3.00

Make sure you check the subtitles and headings for articulation notes

Transfer and counselor resources

Transfer resources

UC Resources

- UC TAP
- UC Transfer Pathways
- ASSIST.ORG
- UC Undergraduate Admissions Staff

CCC Resources

- Career and Transfer Center
- Transfer Counselor Network (TCN)
- CCCtransfer.org/resources
- Regional Partnerships & Events
  - Transfer Fairs and College Day Events/Visits

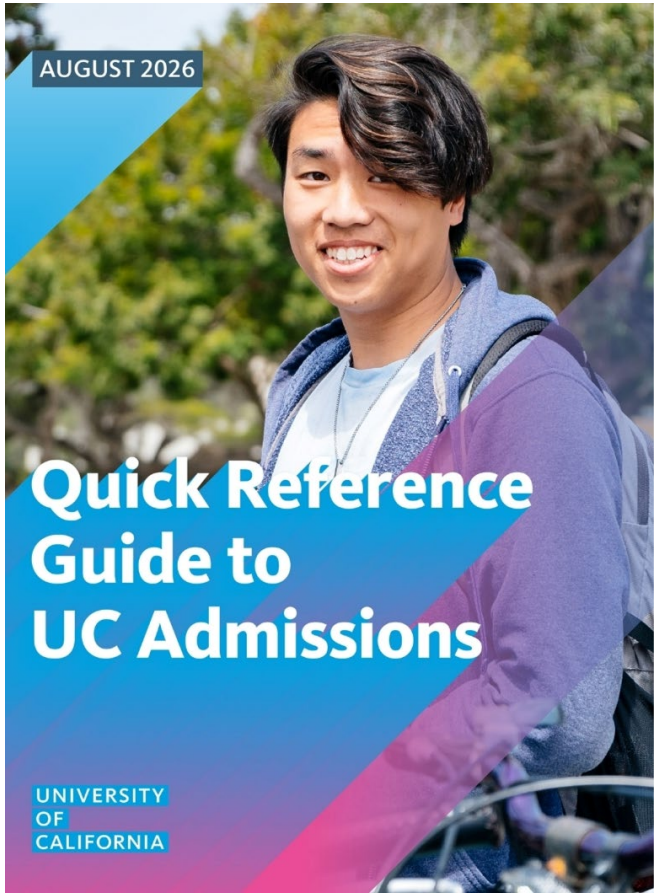
Counselor Resources: CAB



Counselors & Advisors Bulletin

Sign up to receive the UC's monthly newsletter and see past issues as well

Counselor Resources: QRG



Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions

Your go-to guide on systemwide admission requirements, policies and practices.

Campus Major Preparation

Campus	Major Preparation Website
Berkeley	https://admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer-admissions-information-by-college
Davis	https://www.ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate/transfer/selective-major-requirements/
Irvine	https://www.admissions.uci.edu/apply/transfer/requirements.php
Los Angeles	https://admission.ucla.edu/apply/transfer/deciding-on-major
Merced	https://admissions.ucmerced.edu/transfer/major-preparation-schools
Riverside	https://admissions.ucr.edu/transfer/majors-preparation-guide
Santa Barbara	https://admissions.ext-prod.sa.ucsb.edu/selective-majors
Santa Cruz	https://admissions.ucsc.edu/transfer-students#screening-major-requirements
San Diego	https://admissions.ucsd.edu/transfer/transfer-major-preparation.html

UC Transfer Prep Programs

Campus	Transfer Prep Programs
Berkeley	Community College Transfer Services (CCTS)
Davis	Transfer Opportunity Program (TOP)
Irvine	Community College Programs (CCP)
Los Angeles	Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP)
Merced	Transfer Initiatives Program (UC TIP)
Riverside	Transfer Success Program (TSP)
Santa Barbara	Transfer Preparation Academy
Santa Cruz	Transfer Preparation Program (TPP)
San Diego	Pathway to Transfer Success Program

Questions?

Thank You