
Breaking down Cal-GETC for UC transfer

CCC Webinar Series: 2025-2026

March 18, 2026

UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA

Agenda

- Cal-GETC overview
 - Cal-GETC Standards
- Cal-GETC and UC admission
- Certifications for enrollment at UC
 - Optional partial certification
 - Optional LOTE competency
- Resources



Cal-GETC overview



What is Cal-GETC?

Cal-GETC is a singular lower-division general education pathway for transfer to the California State University and University of California.

Joint Governance

The Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) governs Cal-GETC. It is composed of representatives from the three segments of public higher education in California: California Community Colleges, Cal State and University of California.

Intersegmental Review

CCC courses are reviewed by CSU and UC representatives.

The Cal-GETC Standards dictate course acceptability.

Cal-GETC \neq UC 7 Course Pattern

Cal-GETC Areas

- Area 1: English Communication
- Area 2: Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning
- Area 3: Arts and Humanities
- Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences
- Area 6: Ethnic Studies

Using Non-CCC Courses for Cal-GETC

- Non-CCC courses may be used for Cal-GETC areas provided they meet the criteria listed in the Cal-GETC Standards for that area.
- CCCs as the certifying institutions determine if courses are acceptable, not UC.

A man wearing a blue cap, a light grey long-sleeved shirt, and blue jeans is sitting on the seat of an orange tractor. The tractor is parked on a grassy field. In the background, there is a large, dark brown plowed field, a line of trees, and a house. The sky is overcast. The tractor has '176040' and '1990' written on its side. The large rear tire has 'THRU-GRIP LUG' and '51.5-24' written on it. A white semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the image, containing the text 'Cal-GETC and UC admission'.

Cal-GETC and UC admission

Quick review: Minimum junior transfer admission requirements

Courses
7-course pattern

Units
60 semester/
90 quarter
UC-transferable
units

GPA
2.4 (CA residents)
2.8 (nonresidents)

Units

- UC-transferable units only
- Can include exam credits
- Need to reach 60 sem/90qtr by the spring term prior to transfer

Note: ASSIST is the official course transfer and articulation system

7-course pattern in detail

- **Two** transferable courses in English Composition (UC-E)
- **One** transferable course in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning (UC-M)
- **Four** transferable college courses chosen from at least two of the following subject areas:
 - Arts and humanities (UC-H)
 - Social and behavioral sciences (UC-B)
 - Physical and biological sciences (UC-S)



Where does Cal-GETC fall into place?

- Cal-GETC is a general education pattern.
- Prospective students attending California community colleges may complete Cal-GETC to satisfy the lower-division breadth/general education requirements at the University of California.
- Not a requirement for admission to UC.
- Cal-GETC completion can be used as a selection factor.



Completing the full Cal-GETC pattern alone is not sufficient to transfer to UC.

Cal-GETC subject areas

Cal-GETC subject area	Required courses	Units required
1. English communication	3 courses	9 sem/12qtr
2. Mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning	1 course	3 sem/4 qtr
3. Arts and humanities	2 courses	6 sem/8qtr
4. Social and behavioral sciences	2 courses	6 sem/8qtr
5. Physical and biological sciences	2 courses	7 sem/9qtr
6. Ethnic studies	1 course	3 sem/4-5qtr
Total:	11 courses	34 sem units

UC POV: Considerations while a student is preparing to transfer

Admissions advising

Campus admissions advisors will focus on helping students be **eligible**.

- Admission advising will revolve around 7-course pattern completion, units and selective GPA.
- Major preparation and major GPA

Cal-GETC

Students following the Cal-GETC pattern with CCC courses are very likely to be **on track to meet** UC eligibility.

- Campus staff won't advise on Cal-GETC areas; instead, will focus on UC eligibility.
- Refer questions on Cal-GETC back to their CCC counselor.
- Cal-GETC may be recommended based on intended major and/or campus selection.

UC POV: Considerations while a student is submitting their application

UC application

Students should report all coursework completed, in progress and planned from all colleges where the student earned credit.

- Report courses term by term under the correct college, being sure to include any college coursework completed while in high school.
- The information provided is used by evaluators to verify the student is **eligible** and selective to their campus.

Cal-GETC

A question on the application will ask students to indicate if they have or will complete Cal-GETC prior to transferring to a UC.

- Intended to help campuses know if the student will have appropriate certification.
- Evaluators do not review for Cal-GETC completion.
- Not an admission requirement.

UC POV: Considerations while a student is enrolling

Final documents and transcripts

Students admitted to a UC campus will have a June 1 SIR deadline. Final, official transcripts are required for enrollment.

- July 1 – Transcript deadline
 - Official transcripts from all colleges attended
 - High school transcript may be required by some campuses
- July 15 – Cal-GETC certification and Exam score deadline
 - Certification can be posted on transcript or on separate certification form

Cal-GETC

UC will honor the Cal-GETC certification provided by the CCC.

- If a full certification is provided, the specific lower-division breadth/general education requirements of the UC school or college will be marked as satisfied.
- If a partial certification is provided, the student will need to work with their UC school or college to satisfy the remaining areas post-transfer.

To recap: Cal-GETC and UC admission



- UC advises on eligibility and campus selection
- Cal-GETC can be recommended based on major
- **UC honors Cal-GETC certification when a student enrolls**



- Cal-GETC alone is not sufficient to meet UC admission requirements
- Some majors advise focusing on major prep over Cal-GETC
- UC staff won't advise on Cal-GETC

Certifications for enrollment



Students should request a certification from the last CCC they attend for a regular term prior to transfer.

Certification may be recorded as a notation on the transcript or issued as a separate certificate.

Either method of certification is acceptable as long as it indicates full certification for UC and the date of completion.



Questions about the certification process will be referred to the CCCs.



That's right, partial certification is an option for UC!

- California community colleges may grant partial certification of Cal-GETC to students who are missing no more than two eligible requirements.
- Students should verify that their UC school/college/major program will accept partial certification.
- After transfer, students submitting partial Cal-GETC certification should complete the missing requirements at either UC or a California community college as **designated by their college/school**.
- Sample Cal-GETC certification form in the Standards has a partial UC certification checkbox.

Optional Language Other than English (LOTE) competence

Language Other Than English is no longer a required area of the intersegmental General Education pattern.

- However, the Cal-GETC certification form will have an optional LOTE certification available.
- Students transferring to the University of California are encouraged to demonstrate competence (proficiency) in a language other than English equivalent to two years/second level of high school instruction.
- **UC strongly recommends the use of the optional certification with a preference for a transcript notation.**

**[Guidance on
optional
Cal-GETC LOTE
certification](#)**



Students without Cal-GETC certification

Students who do not complete Cal-GETC before transferring will be required to satisfy the lower-division general education/breadth requirements of the UC college or school they attend.

- Credit will be granted based on the courses completed and the GE areas at the enrolling UC college or school.
- If available, students can use the General Education articulation agreements in ASSIST.

2025-2026

to **University of California, Santa Barbara**
from Allan Hancock College

View Agreement by: ?

- Major Department Prefix
 General Education / Breadth

Filter General Education / Breadth List

Start typing to filter the list below

All General Education

College of Engineering General Education Requirements

College of Letters and Science General Education Requirements

Resources





A lot of detail – all in one place.

The Quick Reference Guide has comprehensive information about Cal-GETC and UC admission.

- Completion options
- Use of AP or IB exams
- First-years with certifications

Charts also available in the selection portion of the guide (pg. 46-47).

Which schools/colleges accept partial IGETC or Cal-GETC certification from California community college transfers? **

Berkeley	None
Davis	All, but a student submitting a partial IGETC or Cal-GETC may not be missing more than two requirements. Students have one year to complete missing requirements at UC Davis and must notify the college once requirements are completed.
Irvine	All
Los Angeles	All, except School of Engineering and Applied Science, School of Nursing, and School of Theater, Film and Television
Merced	None
Riverside	All, except the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
San Diego	All
Santa Barbara	All
Santa Cruz	All

* Students planning to transfer to UCSB into a major in biological or physical sciences, computer science, economics, engineering, mathematics, psychological and brain sciences, or statistics must be careful to complete lower-division major preparation courses to ensure competitiveness and make normal, timely progress through the major.

** Please refer to [IGETC standards version 2.4 \(pdf\)](#) for guidance on partial IGETC and [Cal-GETC standards version 1.3 \(pdf\)](#) for a sample Cal-GETC certification form, which includes a partial certification option for UC.

Common questions and where to refer them

- **Catalog rights**
 - ICAS site, implementation guidance, your CCC/AO
- **Using IGETC courses for Cal-GETC areas**
 - Standards document
 - Transfer Articulation team
- **What can be used to certify LOTE**
 - Standards document
 - Transfer Articulation team
- **Specific questions**
 - Transfer Articulation team or AskUC – it depends on the question

UC contact information

For questions about Cal-GETC standards and guidance, contact UC Transfer Articulation:

Molly Thompson

Molly.Thompson@ucop.edu

Chase Fischerhall

Chase.Fischerhall@ucop.edu

For questions about Cal-GETC for enrollment, contact Undergraduate Admissions:

Policy & Communication team

AskUC@ucop.edu

Melissa Chávez

Melissa.Chavez@ucop.edu

Important resources for counselors

[UC Counselors website & Resource Library](#)



[Quick Reference Guide to UC Admission](#)



[ICAS website](#)



Thank you!