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# Back to transfer admission basics

**CCC Webinar Series: 2025-2026**

October 22, 2025

**UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CALIFORNIA**

## Agenda

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- Introduction
- UC transfer admission requirements
- Transfer Comprehensive Review
- Helping your students plan for UC
  - Helpful tools and resources
- Q&A

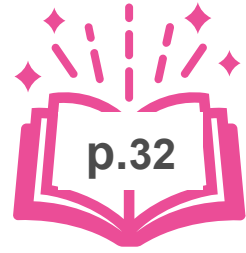


Throughout today's session  
we'll share **Quick Reference  
Guide tips!**



**UC transfer**





## **A transfer applicant is:**

A student who has enrolled in a fall, winter or spring term at a college or university after high school graduation. Students who meet this definition cannot disregard their college record and apply as first-years.

## **A CCC transfer applicant is:**

A student defined as having at least 30 semester (45 quarter) UC-transferable units at one or more California community college (CCC) and whose last college attended in a regular session before enrolling at a UC campus is a CCC.

## The transfer options to UC

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### Lower division

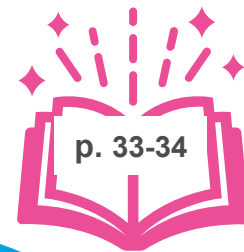
- Limited campus options
- Requirements vary

### Junior standing

- Primary transfer path
- Fall and winter/spring options

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a blue t-shirt and safety glasses, focused on working on a bicycle. The person is using a tool to adjust the front wheel. The bicycle has a colorful frame and a white tire. The background is a workshop with various tools and equipment. A white banner with blue text is overlaid on the image.

# UC transfer admission requirements



**Courses**  
7-course pattern

**Units**  
60 semester/  
90 quarter  
UC-transferable  
units

**GPA**  
2.4 (CA residents)  
2.8 (nonresidents)

## 7-course pattern

- Complete the seven-course pattern with a grade of C (or equivalent) or better in each course by the spring prior to transfer

**We recommend students complete math and English as early as possible.**

## 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)

## Unit requirement

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### 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



## GPA minimum requirement

- California residents: **2.4**
- Nonresidents: **2.8**

**Students should aim to exceed this minimum requirement to be a competitive applicant.**

## How the transfer GPA is calculated

- Includes all UC-transferable units attempted, including college courses completed while in high school
- Grade points are based on the letter grade received; plus (+) and minus (-) grades are recognized
- Academic Renewal (AR), Pass/No Pass, Credit/No Credit, Satisfactory/Non-Satisfactory, Excused Withdrawal (EW), and/or Withdrawal are not included in the GPA calculation



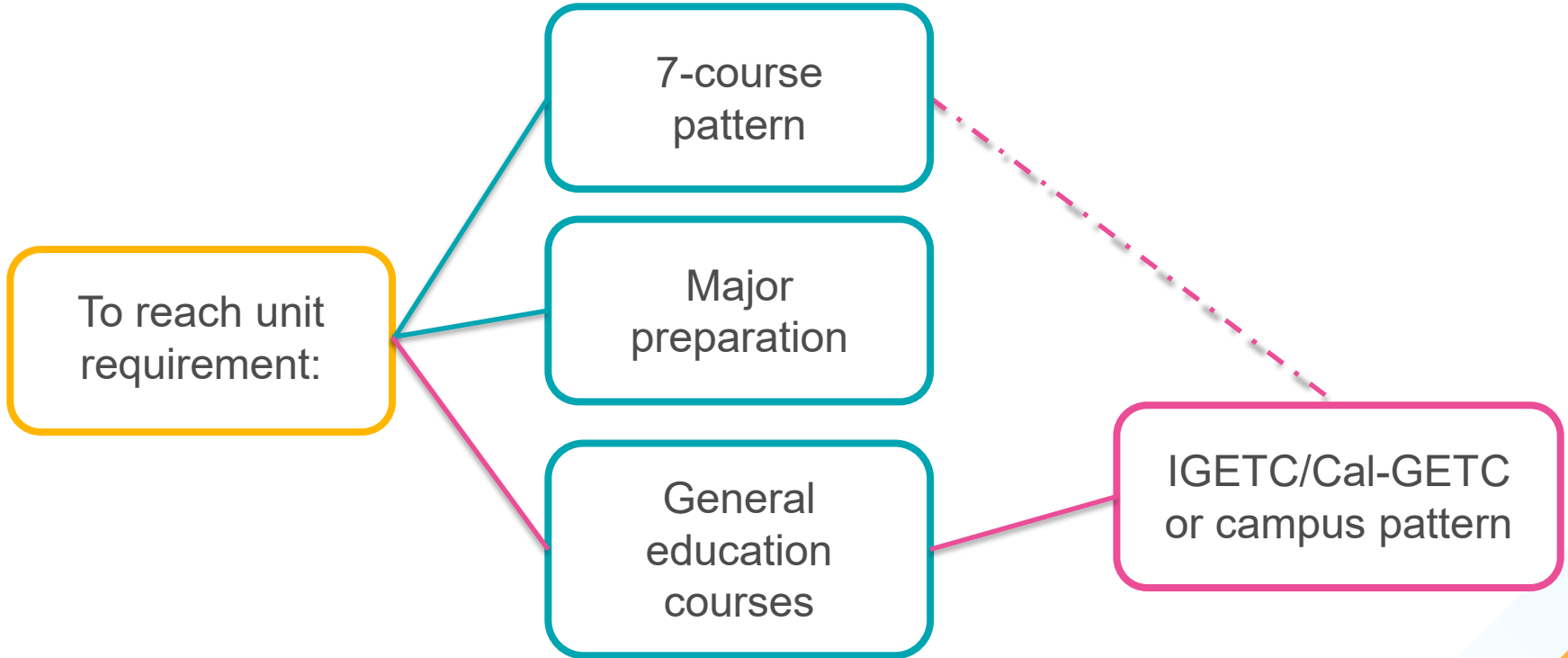
### REPEATS

- UC will honor repeats of grades of C- or lower (including NP)
- UC courses can only be repeated with UC courses
- Repeats are based on course content (not necessarily the same title)
- New grade will replace the deficient grade in the GPA
- All attempts must be reported in the application

### ACADEMIC RENEWAL

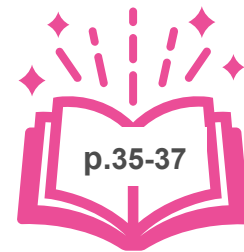
- Process at CCCs that is honored by UC campuses during our admission review
- Students should only report Academic Renewals that have been approved
- Best practice is to match what the transcript displays on the date the application is submitted

7 courses? That seems very minimal



## California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)

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The California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) is a series of courses that California community college students can complete to satisfy most freshman/sophomore-level general education requirements before transferring to UC.

Students should work with their community college counselor or advisor to make sure they take appropriate courses.

Cal-GETC is not a requirement for admission, but it may be considered by a campus in selecting among qualified candidates.

## Cal-GETC subjects and the 7-course pattern

Cal-GETC subject area	Required courses	Potential UC area
1. English composition & communication <b>(1A, 1B, 1C)</b>	3 courses	UC-E
2. Mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning	1 course	UC-M
3. Arts and humanities	2 courses	UC-H
4. Social and behavioral sciences	2 courses	UC-B
5. Physical and biological sciences	2 courses	UC-S
6. Ethnic studies	1 course	UC-B
<b>Total:</b>	<b>11 courses</b>	



Fully completing Cal-GETC may likely meet the 7-course pattern; Use ASSIST to confirm 1B courses meet UC-E

## What is recommended for students

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- Unsure of their major
- Keeping university options open (UC/CSU)
- Interested in non-STEM major

**Cal-GETC is a great option**



- Determined major and campus
- STEM major
- Majors with sequences
- High-unit major

**Focus on major prep**

### Advanced Placement (AP)

- Units granted for exams with scores of 3 or higher
- Exams can satisfy parts of the 7-course pattern
- Exams in lieu of major preparation coursework is up to the campus

### International Baccalaureate (IB)

- Units granted for Higher Level (HL) exams with scores of 5 or higher
- Exams can satisfy parts of the 7-course pattern, except English composition
- Exams in lieu of major preparation coursework is up to the campus



Review UC's AP chart to view UC area designations per exam

## Non-CCC coursework – what is considered UC-transferable?

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Courses determined to be essentially the same as courses offered for an undergraduate degree at any UC campus will be awarded credit if the course:

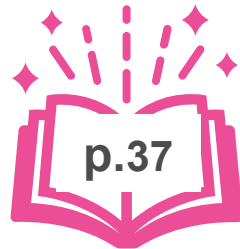
- ✓ Is listed in the institution's catalog during the correct academic year
- ✓ Includes the same or similar content
- ✓ Requires the same or similar prerequisite coursework
- ✓ Is offered at the same level of instruction

## Limits on transfer credit

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**Students are granted up to 70 semester (105 quarter) units of credit towards their degree.**

- AP or IB units are excluded from this limit; no harm to student
- Units earned at an UC campus are excluded from this limit but are added to the maximum credit allowed; may put applicants at risk of excessive units
- Students with only CCC coursework are unlikely to reach excessive units



## Common UC limits

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PE activity courses  
are limited to 4  
semester/6 quarter  
units

PE theory courses  
are limited to 8  
semester/ 12  
quarter units

College algebra and  
pre-calculus combined  
are limited to one  
course or the other

Statistics is limited  
to one course

ESL is limited to 8  
semester/12 quarter  
units

College counseling  
is limited to 3  
semester/ 4.5  
quarter units

## Limits on transfer credit in action

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### APPLICATION REVIEW

Determines **eligibility**.

- An evaluator will review courses and apply any credit limits
- We need to see at least 60 sem. (90 qtr.) units for eligibility
- Total number will cap at 70 for all lower division units; all units used in GPA calculation
- Upper division units and any UC units added to max lower division unit
  - Would determine if student is at risk of high junior or senior standing

### ENROLLMENT

Determines **credit to the degree**.

- Verify courses and units reported on the UC application
- Campus will apply units to the degree
- Degree requirements vary by campus
- Total number of lower division units cap at 70; subject credit for remaining units
- All UC units granted, transferable upper-division units also granted
  - Few campuses will admit and therefore enroll senior standing students



## Minimum requirements

- 7-course pattern
- Units
- GPA
- Primary focus on junior-transfers

## Selection

- Comprehensive review (9 factors)
- Varies by campus
- Done independently by the campuses



*Detailed charts with campus-specific policies and procedures for reviewing applicants can be found on **pages 45-53**.*

*Transfer admit data can be found on the **UC Admissions website**.*

### Major preparation is always recommended but a campus may require specific major courses for admission purposes

- Lower-division coursework at UC = major prep at a CCC
- May or may not have a *major prep GPA* requirement
- May or may not be required for *admission selection*
- Courses not completed at a CCC will need to be completed at UC
- Use ASSIST and campus-specific websites/resources for full details



ASSIST and campus-specific websites are important for major preparation

## Comprehensive review for transfer

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Pattern or number of courses that meet breadth or general education requirements

Major preparation

Grade point average in all transferable courses - especially in major preparation

Participation in academically selective honors courses or programs

Special talents, achievements and awards

Completion of special projects

Academic accomplishments in light of a student's life experience and special circumstances

Location of a student's college and their residence

Completion of a UC Transfer Pathway or an associate degree for transfer (ADT)

# Helping your students plan for UC



## Transfer course information and articulation agreements for all CCCs and each UC campus.

The screenshot displays the ASSIST website interface. At the top left is the ASSIST logo, a stylized 'assist' with a dotted arc above it, and the text 'The official course transfer and articulation system for California colleges and universities'. Below the logo is a purple banner with the text 'ASSIST is here to help'. To the left of the main content is a sidebar with a grey background containing a disclaimer: 'ASSIST does not take the place of a counselor on your campus. It is intended to help students and counselors work together to establish an appropriate path toward transferring from a public California community college to a California university.' Below this are links for 'Important Notes from ASSIST', 'New! 2025-2026 Transferable Course Lists and Articulation Agreements', 'ASSIST Feedback Survey', and 'Frequently Asked Questions'. The main content area features two search panels. The first panel, 'Search below for articulation agreements', includes dropdown menus for 'Academic Year' (2025-2026), 'Institution' (Select an institution), and 'Agreements with Other Institutions' (Select an institution), with a 'View Agreements' button. The second panel, 'Search below for transferable courses', includes dropdown menus for 'Academic Year' (2025-2026) and 'Community College' (Select a Community College), followed by radio button options for course types: 'CSU Transferable Courses', 'CSU GE-Breadth Certification Courses', 'CSU US History, Constitution, and American Ideals Courses (CSU AI)', 'Cal-GETC for UC and CSU', 'IGETC for UC and CSU', 'UC Transferable Courses' (which is selected and highlighted with a red box), and 'UC Transfer Admission Eligibility Courses'. A 'View Transferability Lists' button is at the bottom of this panel.

**assist**<sup>TM</sup>  
The official course transfer and articulation system for California colleges and universities

### ASSIST is here to help

**ASSIST does not take the place of a counselor on your campus.** It is intended to help students and counselors work together to establish an appropriate path toward transferring from a public California community college to a California university.

[Important Notes from ASSIST](#)

**New! 2025-2026 Transferable Course Lists and Articulation Agreements**  
Transferable course lists for 2025-2026 are available, and articulation agreements for 2025-2026 are currently being published. Please view the ASSIST [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for

[ASSIST Feedback Survey](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

#### Search below for articulation agreements

Major, department, and campus-specific general education agreements

Academic Year: 2025-2026

Institution: Select an institution  
CCC, CSU, UC, or Independent

Agreements with Other Institutions: Select an institution

[View Agreements](#)

#### Search below for transferable courses

Courses approved for transfer and general education

Academic Year: 2025-2026

Community College: Select a Community College

- CSU Transferable Courses
- CSU GE-Breadth Certification Courses
- CSU US History, Constitution, and American Ideals Courses (CSU AI)
- Cal-GETC for UC and CSU
- IGETC for UC and CSU
- UC Transferable Courses
- UC Transfer Admission Eligibility Courses

[View Transferability Lists](#)

## Searching for UC-transferable courses

After selecting the “UC Transferable Courses” report, select the department.

The Transfer Course Agreement (TCA) will show:

- Limits
- UC areas
- IGETC and Cal-GETC areas

### UC Transfer Course Agreement (Chemistry)

Allan Hancock College  
Academic Year 2025-2026



Chemistry					
Course	Title	Cal-GETC Areas	IGETC Areas	Semester Units	UC Areas
* CHEM 120 (W/Lab)	Introductory Chemistry	5A, 5C	5A, 5C	4.00	UC-S
+ CHEM 140 (W/Lab)	Introductory Organic and Biochemistry			4.00	UC-S
CHEM 150 (W/Lab)	General Chemistry 1	5A, 5C	5A, 5C	5.00	UC-S
CHEM 151 (W/Lab)	General Chemistry 2	5A, 5C	5A, 5C	5.00	UC-S
CHEM 180 (W/Lab)	Organic Chemistry I	5A, 5C	5A, 5C	5.00	UC-S
CHEM 181 (W/Lab)	Organic Chemistry II	5A, 5C	5A, 5C	5.00	UC-S

\* No credit for CHEM 120 if taken after CHEM 150  
+ No credit for CHEM 140 if taken after CHEM 180

END OF LIST

## UC Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

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### A guaranteed place at UC for California community college students.

- 6 campuses participate
- A wide range of majors available
- Prescribed course and minimum GPA requirements



## Who can TAG?

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### To be eligible, students must:

- ✓ Transfer from a California community college (CCC)
- ✓ Last attend a CCC before transfer
- ✓ Can include students with non-CCC coursework

### Not eligible for TAG:

- × High school students
- × Students previously enrolled at a UC campus who intend to return to the same campus
- × Students previously enrolled at a UC campus who were not in good standing when they left that UC
- × Students who have already earned a bachelors or higher degree

## A helpful resource for counselors and students.

- Shared TAG criteria
- TAG eligibility information
- Campus-specific information
- Summary of changes (*New!*)



View the 2026-27 TAG matrix



### Uniform major preparation for some of UC's most sought-after majors – now up to 27 pathways which equal ~250 majors at UC.

- By fully completing a UC Transfer Pathway's course expectations, students are on track to move into upper-division coursework at UC and thus increases the likelihood of a 2-year graduation timeline
- Note: There is no recommended GPA for these pathways; we encourage students to review selective GPA ranges at the UC campuses of interest
- Fully completing a UCTP and submitting a TAG application in an available major = **Pathways+**



Course expectations for each Pathway are set at the **highest level of selection**; No campus can require more, some can ask for less

## HOW TO USE UC TRANSFER PATHWAYS WITH YOUR STUDENTS

- If your student is interested in any of the available pathways, use the course expectations to help plan major preparation
- Economics Transfer Pathway course expectations:
  - **Microeconomics** (one course)
  - **Macroeconomics** (one course)
  - **Single variable calculus** (one-year sequence)



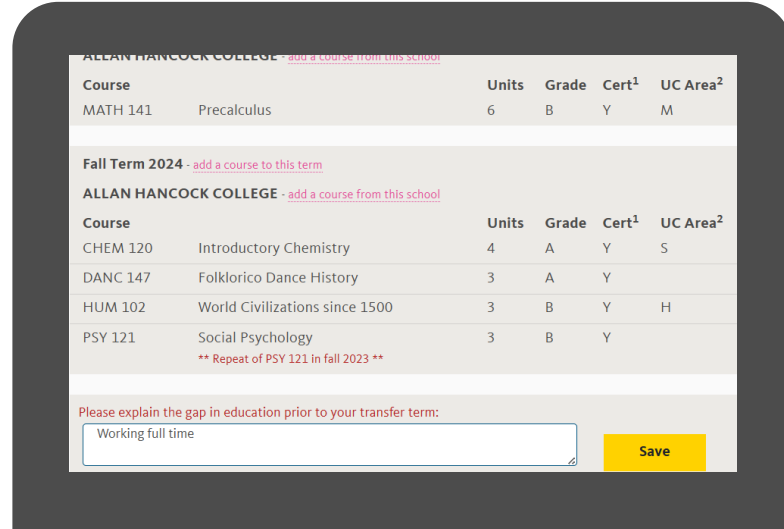
### Majors available:

- Business Management Economics, B.A. at Santa Cruz
- Economics, A.B. at Davis
- Economics, B.A. at Berkeley
- Economics, B.A. at Irvine
- Economics, B.A. at Los Angeles
- Economics, B.A. at Merced
- Economics, B.A. at Riverside
- Economics, B.A. at San Diego
- Economics, B.A. at Santa Barbara
- Economics, B.A. at Santa Cruz
- Economics/Mathematics, B.A. at Santa Cruz
- Global Economics, B.A. at Santa Cruz

## UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP)

### Online tool for UC transfer-bound students.

- Useful for transfer admission advising; counselor interface
- Indicate interest for support programs and UC campus attendance
- UC TAP uses ASSIST-verified information to calculate units, GPA and completion of the 7-course pattern
- TAG application



# Applying to UC

A young woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a maroon hoodie, sits in a lecture hall. She is looking thoughtfully to the right, with her chin resting on her hand. A silver laptop with a Windows logo and a small sticker is open on the desk in front of her. The lecture hall is filled with other students in the background, some looking at their phones or laptops, creating a blurred background effect.

### Nine campuses, one application

- Campus choice is up to the student
- Application fee is \$80 per campus (\$95 for international applicants)
- Fee waiver is available for up to four campuses for qualified students
- TAG applicants must also submit the UC application
- Transfer Academic Update (TAU) is required for transfer students

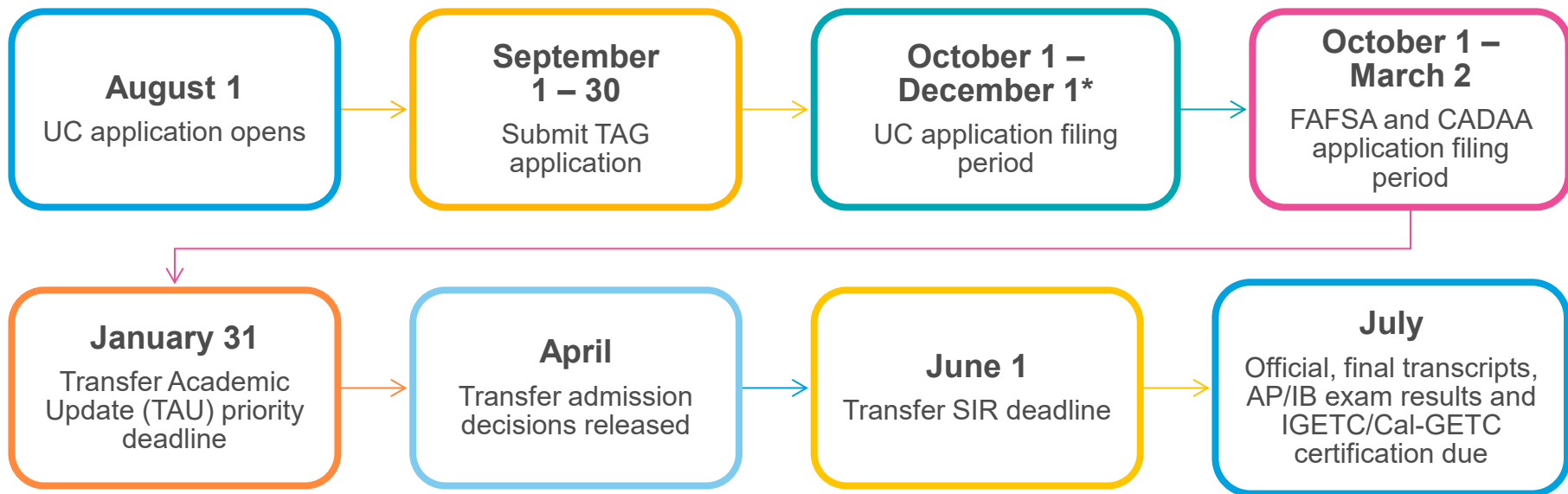


## The transfer application process

- Application process begins about one year in advance
- Campuses use completed, in progress and planned coursework to evaluate an applicant
  - Includes college coursework completed while in high school and any exam credits (AP/IB)
- Major selection is very important



## Transfer admission timeline



# Resources



## Important resources for counselors

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### [UC Counselors website & Resource Library](#)



### [Quick Reference Guide to UC Admission](#)



### [UC TAP for Counselors](#)



*When in doubt, ask! Email the Undergraduate Admissions team with any systemwide questions at [AskUC@ucop.edu](mailto:AskUC@ucop.edu).*

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# Thank you