
UC application overview & Q&A

UC High School Webinar Series: 2025-26

November 18, 2025





Applicant definitions

First-year (freshman)

- ✓ Currently in high school
- ✓ Has not enrolled in a regular session (fall, winter, spring) at a college/university *after* high school graduation
 - Summer after high school graduation is OK
 - Dual enrollment/college courses completed while in high school is OK

Transfer

- ✓ Has enrolled in a regular session (fall, winter, spring) at a college/university *after* high school graduation

Applying to UC



Applying to UC

Nine campuses, one application

- Select which campuses they want to receive their UC application
- \$80 fee for each UC campus (\$95 for international applicants)
- Fee waiver available for up to four campuses for qualified students
- Unsolicited supplemental materials not considered; no interviews

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UC application overview

- The UC application includes seven sections that can be completed in any order.
- The “Help” feature provides answers to frequently asked questions for any specific section.
- Applicants can save their progress and pick back up where they left off next time they log in.

Tip: A successful UC application is not completed in one sitting!

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▼ About you

> Campuses & majors

> Academic history

> Test scores

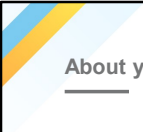
> Activities & awards

> Scholarships & support
programs

> Personal insight

Review & submit





About you

Purpose: Provides contextual information about the student and their life outside of the classroom.

- Start with this section as it contains logic that is then used throughout the application.
- Demographic, household and parent information is optional.



 About you

Personal information 

Contact information

Citizenship & residency

Demographics

Your background

Your household

Parent information

Statement of Legal Residence

Review

While the application sections can technically be completed in any order, we strongly advise that students start with the “About you” section. There is quite a bit of conditional logic built into the UC application, so their answers here will inform the rest of the application.

NOTE: Demographic information provided is only used for reporting purposes. The UC undergraduate admission process does not discriminate against, or provide preferential treatment to, any individual on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin, consistent with federal and state law.



About you — Your household

UC application fee waiver

- Family size and income information provided in this section is used to determine eligibility for the UC application fee waiver.
- If eligible, the application fees for up to four (4) campuses will be waived.

About you

Your household

* required

This section helps us get a better understanding of your parents, legal guardians or those who support you at home.

Your home address

This is the permanent home address you entered on the contact information page. We'll refer to it in the next few questions.

4321 Main St
San Francisco
California 94112

Who lives with you at your permanent home address?

Please provide information about your parents who live at this address. Your parents can be your biological or adoptive parents, stepparents or legal guardians.

☒ One Parent
 ☐ Two Parents
 ☐ Legal guardian(s)
 ☐ Other

Clear

What was the total income earned in 2024 by your parents or legal guardians?

We may use this information to help us determine if you're eligible for certain outreach programs, scholarships, and the application fee waiver. This information is not used for financial aid.

Income

\$ 125000 .00

How many people were supported by this income?

Number of people

3

Save & continue

Family Size and Income

- Information about a student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s)' education, income, and family size is used to provide contextual information about the home environment and to determine eligibility for the application fee waiver.
- For more information, students can click on the "i" icon.
- This information is **not** used to determine residency status or eligibility for financial aid.

About you — Statement of Legal Residence

Statement of Legal Residence (SLR)

- In this section, applicants can choose whether or not they would like to be evaluated for California residency for tuition purposes.
- Both options will prompt additional questions.
- Residency for *admission purposes* is different than residency for *tuition purposes*.



About you

Statement of Legal Residence


* required

To determine your University of California (UC) tuition, applicants must indicate if they would like to be evaluated for a Residence Classification via the Statement of Legal Residence (SLR). You must meet UC requirements to qualify for in-state tuition, regardless of your classification in another system. Parents is defined as natural or adoptive parents, not stepparent. Your answer below has no bearing on your admissions decision.

The following three requirements must be established more than 365 days immediately prior to the residence determination date:

- 1) Physical Presence - You and your parents must be physically present in California. If you moved to California primarily to attend the University of California or another school, you are ineligible for a Resident classification for tuition purposes.
- 2) Intent to remain in California - You and your parents must have established your intent to make California your permanent home and must have relinquished ties to any prior place of residence outside of California.
- 3) Immigration status - You and your parents must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or be present under a valid I-94 for an eligible visa, and have held that immigration status.

Applicants who do not satisfy all three parts may qualify for a Special Circumstance, Exemption, or Waiver provision (such as an [AB 540](#)  nonresident supplemental tuition exemption) and will be asked to submit additional supplemental information at a future date. For further explanation, read the full [UC Residence Policy and Guidelines](#) .

Note: Undocumented students should use [these instructions](#)  for completing the SLR.

Would you like to be evaluated for California residency for tuition purposes? *

☒ Yes ☐ No

In this section, UC will collect information to help determine residency for tuition purposes.

Student must choose whether they would like to be evaluated for California residency for tuition purposes or not.

Yes, I want to be considered for California residency for tuition purposes:

- Selecting this option will bring up additional questions about the student's and their parents'/legal guardians' physical presence in California.

No, I do not want to be evaluated for California residency for tuition purposes:

- If a student selects this option, they will need to select a reason why they do not want to be evaluated for CA residency.
- They will also need to acknowledge that by selecting the "No" option, they will be classified as a nonresident for tuition purposes.



Campuses & majors

Purpose: Tells us what type of applicant they are and which campuses and major(s) they are applying to.

- No disadvantage to applying to multiple campuses; students encouraged to apply broadly.
- Alternate major selection available for most campuses.
- Each campus offers undeclared/undecided option for first-year applicants.

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> About you

▼ Campuses & majors

UC values

Term & level

Choose campuses

Choose majors

Review

Campuses & majors — UC San Diego colleges

If applying to UC San Diego, applicants have the option to rank their top four colleges in order of preference.

This information does not influence their chances of admission to UC San Diego, nor is their college assignment based on major.



UC San Diego college ranking *

If you're accepted into UC San Diego, you'll be assigned to one of eight colleges on campus. These colleges are residential neighborhoods on campus with their own residence facilities, staff and general education requirements.

On the next page, you'll be asked to rank the colleges in order of your preference.

Keep in mind: Your rankings will not affect the evaluation of your application - you're not applying to the individual colleges (you're applying to the university). Also, college assignments are not based on major. You'll be able to access the full range of available majors regardless of college assignment.

Do you want to select and rank your top 4 UC San Diego colleges? *

☐ No ☐ Yes

Save & continue

Edit campuses

San Diego colleges – NEW ranking process

- If a student is applying to UC San Diego, they have the option to rank their **top 4** colleges in order of preference to have the best chance of assignment to the college of their choice.
- This ranking process is optional. If students do not rank their top four, they will be assigned to any of the eight colleges by UC San Diego upon admission.
- The order of ranking of colleges does not affect the chances for admission to UC San Diego
- All majors are available in all of the colleges.

Note: Each of the undergraduate colleges has its own campus neighborhood, residence facilities, staff, traditions, general-education requirements, and distinctive educational philosophy.



Because students are not submitting official transcripts when they apply, Academic History is where they will provide a complete, self-reported record of all of their coursework. This information will be used to determine if they've met the minimum requirements and to calculate their GPA for admission.

This section is incredibly important!

Applicants must report all of their A-G coursework!

This includes courses that:

- Aren't "needed" to meet minimum A-G requirements
- Weren't passed/low grade was received
- Were later repeated

Accuracy matters. Students should reference their school transcripts when completing this section and not work from memory.

7th and 8th grade coursework

7th and 8th grade

- High school-level courses completed during the 7th and 8th grades can be used to fulfill the **math** and **language other than English (LOTE)** minimum requirement.
- These are the only subject areas that can be met with 7th or 8th grade coursework.

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Did you take any high school-level math courses in 7th or 8th grade?

☐ No ☒ Yes

You can select information about the course below. If you took more than one course in 7th or 8th grade, click the "Add another course" button. Remember, you should enter these courses only if you earned a grade of C or better.

Course name * Term period * Delete

--select-- --select--

Algebra I
Geometry
Algebra II
Algebra II/Trigonometry
Advanced Functions
Mathematics I
Mathematics II
Mathematics III
Trigonometry
Statistics
Pre-Calculus
Calculus
Discrete Math
Finite Math
Other Advanced Math

Full year
Less than full year

language other than English in 7th or 8th grade?

Did you take any courses in a language other than English in 7th or 8th grade?

☐ No ☒ Yes Clear

You can enter information about the course below. If you took more than one course, click the "Add another course" button. Remember, you should enter these courses only if you earned a grade of C or better.

Course name * Term period * Course category * Language * Delete

--select-- --select-- --select-- --select--

Full year Less than full year Yr 1 Lang Other Than English Yr 2 Lang Other Than English Yr 3 Lang Other Than English Yr 4+ Lang Other Than English

+ Add another course

International school experience

Did you attend school outside the United States for any part of 6th grade?

This excludes high school summer sessions, or American International or Department of Defense High School.

☒ No ☐ Yes Clear

Arabic
Armenian
Chinese
Farsi
Filipino
French
German
Greek
Hebrew
Hindi
Hmong
Italian
Japanese
Khmer
Korean
Latin
Other Language
Portuguese

Seventh/Eighth Grade

- Math and Language other than English (LOTE) are the **only** subject areas that can be met by course work in middle school.
- 7th & 8th grade courses do not need to appear on the high school transcript.
- UC will accept a geometry course completed in 7th or 8th grade.
- Coursework completed prior to 7th grade cannot be used to meet A-G.

Students who indicate that they attended school outside of the U.S. will be prompted to select the language of instruction for those years.

Adding high schools

Academic history

High school information

 * required

Below you'll need to tell us some basic information about this high school and when you attended it.

JOHN F KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
SACRAMENTO, CA
School code: 052713

Specialized curriculum (if associated with this school)

☐ Career Pathway / Academy

☐ International Baccalaureate

☐ Magnet

☐ Other

When did you attend this high school? *

Start date:

End date:

What is this school's grading system? *

When selecting your high school's grading system, please choose the system used by your school prior to COVID-19 disruptions. Even if you received Pass/No Pass or Credit/No Credit grades during the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 academic years, you should still select your high school's pre-pandemic grading system such as ABCDF, 0-100 (U.S.) or 1-7 Int'l Bacc.

☐ A B C D F

☐ 0-100 (U.S.)

☐ 1-7 Int'l Bacc

☐ Other

What is this school's term system? *

☐ Full year (1 final grade per year)

☐ Semester (2 final grades per year)

☐ Trimester (3 final grades per year)

☐ Quarter (4 final grades per year)

Is this the school you will graduate from? *

☐ No ☐ Yes

If needed, multiple term systems can be selected.

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High school attendance

Applicants need to add every high school that has been attended, even if only for a single term.

Once the correct high school has been selected:

- Enter the dates of attendance.
 - If a student is graduating early, the dates of attendance should reflect.
- Students can also choose a specialized curriculum on this screen.
- If this is the same school the student is going to graduate from, enter the certificate/diploma information.
- Enter the grading and term system for the school
 - *Note:* Multiple grading and term systems may be selected for one school

Selecting coursework & entering grades

Reporting courses

- Do not round grades! UC does not use +/- grading, so a B+ or B- should be reported as a B.
- If they only took a course for a single term, select “NO” for the term in which they did not take the course.
- Senior year course grades should remain as “IP” and “PL” unless the student has already graduated.

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11th History/Social Science

Course Name	Honors Type
☐ American Government	NH
☐ History of War	NH
☐ Honors American Government	HL
☐ Honors United States History	HL
☐ Political Philosophy Honors	HL
☒ United States History	NH
Grade 1 Grade 2 -- A B C D F NO -- A B C D F NO	
☐ Western Civilization II Honors	HL
☐ Western Civilizations II (non-honors)	NH

High school grades

- If you entered multiple term types or multiple grading systems for a school, you’ll need to choose the term type and grade system for each course.
- 12th grade course grades will default to “IP – In Progress” and “PL – Planned”. If students have already graduated and have senior year grades, manually enter each grade.
- For courses that are only one semester long, select “NO” for the term for which the course was not offered (e.g. Economics offered fall term, for spring term select “NO”).
- Include all original courses/grades and enter repeated courses/grades for courses in which an original grade of D or F was earned and subsequently repeated.

Entering coursework manually

Manual entry

- For students who do not see their courses, or students not enrolled in a California high school, coursework must be entered manually as it appears on the transcript.
- International applicants should report courses based on the international transcript; don't convert any grades!

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The screenshot shows a web form for manually entering coursework. At the top, there is a checkbox labeled "I don't see my courses." which is checked. Below it, a text prompt says "Manually enter any courses you took that are not listed above." The form has three main input fields: "Subject Area/Course Category", "Course Name", and "Honor Type". The "Subject Area/Course Category" dropdown menu is open, showing a list of categories including History/Social Science, English, and Mathematics, with various sub-options like Algebra I, Geometry, and Calculus. The "Course Name" field is a text input box. The "Honor Type" dropdown menu is also open, showing options HL, IB, NH, and AP. At the bottom of the form, there are radio buttons for "UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA", "SANTA BARBARA", "SAN DIEGO", and "RIVERSIDE".

If students do not see their courses, and for all students not enrolled in a California high school, courses must be manually entered as they appear on the student's academic record.

- When entries for each grade level are complete, click save and continue.
- Repeat this process for each grade level, including 12th grade.
- 12th grade course grades will default to "IP – In Progress" and "PL – Planned". If students have already graduated and have senior year grades, manually enter each grade.
- For courses that are only one semester long, select "NO" for the term for which the course was not offered (e.g. Economics offered fall term, for spring term select "NO").
- Include all original courses/grades and enter repeated courses/grades for courses in which an original grade of D or F was earned and subsequently repeated.
- Students who attended more than one school should be sure to enter courses under the correct school.

For students attending school outside of California: Report all courses and grades exactly as they would appear on official transcripts or academic records, including the type of honors, if applicable. Only courses clearly designated on your high school transcript/academic record as honors, AP, or IB should be reported as such. If there is no honors/AP/IB designation on the academic record, select NH (not honors).

College courses taken while in high school

Academic history

Colleges attended while in high school

* required

If you took any college or university-level courses in high school, you'll need to enter them in this section.

You must enter all colleges you've attended while in high school—regardless of how long you attended, whether courses were completed or whether you believe your record will affect your chances for admission. Providing incomplete or incorrect information may jeopardize your UC admission or enrollment.

Add college
I don't have any colleges to add

Academic history

Find college

* required

You'll need to add information about each college you attended, one at a time. First, tell us where your college is located and enter the name of your college.

Where did you attend college? *

☒ In California
 ☐ Outside California (in the U.S.)
 ☐ Outside the U.S.

Search for college

Enter college name, city or college code.

Search

Cancel

Note: Dual enrollment courses should not be reported in both the high school and college sections! If A-G appropriate, report the college course **only** as it appears on the college transcript in the College Coursework section.

College courses taken in high school

- If any college/university-level courses were completed while in high school, add the college information *after* the high school information. This includes courses completed through a dual enrollment or middle college program.
 - Note:* Dual enrollment courses should NOT be reported in both the high school and college sections.
- The process is very similar to entering the high school information.

***Only courses worth at least 3 semester/4 quarter units should be reported here. Courses that earned fewer units (or do not fit into the A-G areas) should be reported in the Activities & awards section of the application.**

College courses taken in high school – finding a college

If courses were taken at a California Community College (CCC), a UC-transferable course list will appear.

- Select the course(s) taken, grade earned (or enter IP for In Progress, PL for Planned courses), and the A-G subject area in which the course fits.
- Only report courses taken for a letter grade; courses in which a Pass/Credit/No Credit grade were earned should not be included
- Non UC-transferable English and math courses can also be reported in this section of the application but will need to be entered manually.
 - If there are other CCC courses that are not UC-transferable, report them in the “Other coursework” area later in the application.
- IF** college/university courses were not taken at a CCC, manually enter each course and grade earned as it appears on the official academic record from the college/university attended.

Students must enter all UC-transferable, as well as non-transferable English and math, courses taken in A-G subject areas; missing/inaccurate information may be viewed as falsification and result in cancellation of the application.

Additional comments (Academic history)

Examples of comments to share can include:

- Clarifying unusual grading systems or scales
- Explanations for being unable to enroll in specific courses
- Change in curriculum
- School or student name change
- Gap year
- Unusual decline in grades

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Academic history Additional information



* required

Additional comments

If there's anything else you want us to know about your academic history, you can do so in the space below. But remember, you should use this space only if you want to describe anything that you have not had the opportunity to include elsewhere in this section (for example: a break in attendance, poor grades in a particular course or year, specific information about your school environment or policies that affect your academic record or choices for classes).

International applicants: If you selected Other as your school's grading system, please explain the grading system here.

550 characters remaining

Save & continue

The additional academic comments text box is an opportunity for students to share any information about their academic history they want campuses to know. Campuses will use this information to better understand the student's academic context. This section is not required, but for applicants who choose to submit information, there is a 550-character limit.

Counselors are welcome to create comments that students can copy and paste in their UC application if there is important school-wide context we should be aware of (e.g., "As of the 2024-2025 academic year, _____ High School no longer offers AP courses")



Test scores

UC will not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships.

- SAT or ACT scores can only be added *after* submission if needed to meet minimum requirements or course placement after enrollment.
- Report all exams; students aren't penalized for non-passing scores.

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Test scores

AP exams

IB exams

English language proficiency tests

International exams

Review

UC does not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships. Test scores submitted as part of the application may be used as an alternate method of fulfilling minimum requirements for eligibility or for course placement after matriculation at UC.

Students can self-report SAT and/or ACT scores in the admission application, but they must first submit the application without scores. Once the application has been submitted, the student can log back into the application to report scores. If a student self-reports a test score, they should provide the official score report when they receive an offer of admission from UC.

Students who plan to use test scores to meet a minimum subject requirement or for course placement should take their tests no later than December of the senior year/last year prior to high school/secondary school graduation.

English proficiency exams

- Students who will have fewer than three years of high school in the U.S., whose primary language of instruction outside the U.S. was **not** conducted in English and who are not native English-speakers are required to self-report scores from an acceptable English language proficiency test (TOEFL, IELTS, or DET) in the application. Students may use scores from specific sections of the SAT or ACT, as well as certain AP and IB scores, to satisfy English proficiency in lieu of TOEFL, IELTS or DET.
- Only students who need to demonstrate English proficiency should report SAT or ACT scores here.** Students who wish to report SAT or ACT scores for the purpose of meeting the Area B (English) subject requirements or for placement purposes after enrollment at UC will report their scores **AFTER** submitting the application.
- Official English proficiency or SAT/ACT scores are not required unless/until a student is offered admission to UC. Students will then submit their official scores directly to the campus where they intend to enroll.



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Activities & awards

Purpose:

Showcases the applicant's extracurricular activities, interests and commitments.

• Can enter up to **20** activities including awards/honors, educational prep programs, extracurriculars, volunteer/community service, work experience and non-A-G coursework.

• Quality over quantity.

Activity/Award [1]

Category*

Educational preparation program ▾

What was the program name? *

-- select -- ▾

Briefly describe the program. *

Think about the program's main focus, your experience, and what you accomplished and learned while participating in the program.

350 characters remaining

When did you participate in the program? *

If you participated in the program during the summer, select the grade you were in before that summer.

☐ 9th grade

☐ 10th grade

☐ 11th grade

☐ 12th grade

☐ After 12th grade

How much time did you spend in the program? *

Hours spent per week:

Weeks spent per year:

Save & continue

Cancel

- UNIVERSITY
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- CALIFORNIA

Activity/Award [1]

Category*

Educational preparation program

What was the program name? *

-- select --

Briefly describe the program. *

Think about the program's main focus, your experience, and what you accomplished and learned while participating in the program.

350 characters remaining

When did you participate in the program? *

If you participated in the program during the summer, select the grade you were in before that summer.

☐ 9th grade

☐ 10th grade

☐ 11th grade

☐ 12th grade

☐ After 12th grade

How much time did you spend in the program? *

Hours spent per week:

Weeks spent per year:

Save & continue

Cancel

Depending on the type of activity, students will be prompted to enter different information to help describe what it is, explain their role, and indicate the estimated time commitment (if applicable). There isn't a lot of space here, so students should really focus on their role, responsibilities, and accomplishments, rather than just describing the activity itself.



Scholarships & support programs

Scholarships & support programs

Purpose: Easily apply to UC-specific scholarships and indicate interest in EOP and/or UC's Foster Youth programs.

- No limit to the number of scholarships a student can select.
- Not all listed scholarships are available at every UC campus.

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Scholarships & support programs

Apply for scholarships



You can apply to a number of UC scholarships (that means free money) right here in the application. The scholarships listed below are awarded to students with specific backgrounds, academic interests or career objectives. If you don't see any categories that are relevant to you, don't worry. In addition to these scholarships, each campus and many alumni associations award a variety of scholarships that recognize students' achievement and potential.

You'll also need to file a [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) ☐ or a [California Dream Act Application](#) ☐ (if you're an undocumented student) to be considered for every type of financial aid possible, including the scholarships listed below. International students should not file these.

Click on a category to view the list of scholarships and check the boxes for the scholarships that you'd like to apply to.

[Expand All](#)

> Academic major or interest

> Affiliation with group, program or organization

> Career plans

> Extracurricular activities & work experience

> Family circumstances and relationships

> Health / disabilities

> School or geographic affiliation

> Transfer students

Save & continue



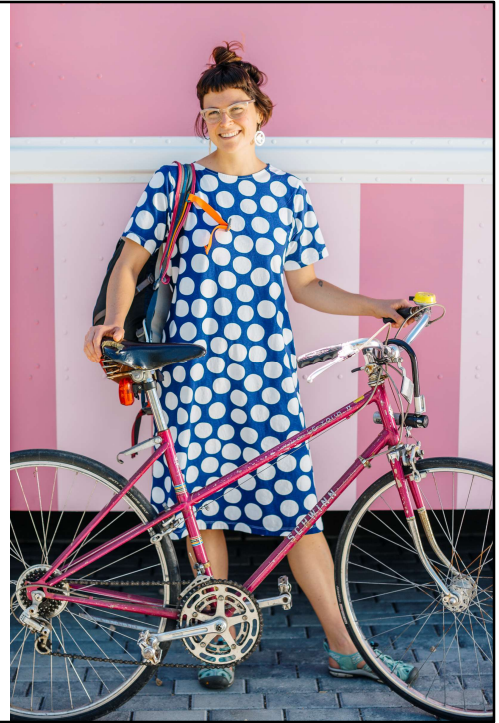
Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)

Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)

Purpose: Allows us to get to know the applicant in more detail; the written section of the UC application.

- Must respond to 4 of the 8 questions (*one mandatory question for transfer applicants*).
- All questions hold equal value.
- 350 words maximum per response. Focus on content, not style!

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<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-first-year/personal-insight-questions.html>

Tip: Work on PIQ responses in a separate document to check for spelling and grammatical errors. Once ready, copy and paste them into the UC application.



 * required

Email questions

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Answer

Continue

This is a screen shot of the PIQ page. The word count is listed here, and students can opt to have the PIQ questions emailed to them on this screen.

Applicants should work on their PIQ responses in a separate document (e.g., Word document) and then copy and paste them into the UC application once ready. The UC application does not allow for tools such as grammar and spell check!

A note on AI and the PIQs...

- Generative AI can be helpful in the early stages of writing.
- **Authenticity** and **detail** are what add value to PIQ responses. Not evaluated as writing samples.
- Applications reviewed for plagiarism. Unintentionally plagiarized content generated by AI could lead to cancellation of their UC application!

All applicants must agree to the **Statement of Application Integrity** in order to submit the UC application.

This acknowledges that the information reported in the UC application was done so by the student and is accurate.

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Guidance on Using AI Tools for PIQs

We understand that many students are already exploring or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as they work on their personal insight questions. Below are some initial perspectives from our Admissions Directors on this topic:

First, we acknowledge that AI tools may be useful in certain parts of the writing process — such as brainstorming, outlining or helping students clarify and organize their thoughts. That said, it's important to remember the **University of California's Statement of Application Integrity**, which states that "all information must be complete, accurate, and reflect the applicant's own work and ideas." Submitting a response that relies heavily — or entirely — on AI-generated text could potentially violate this policy, especially if the writing doesn't reflect the student's independent thinking or is flagged for plagiarism. (You can read the full statement here: [UC Statement of Integrity](#))

More importantly, the value of the PIQ responses comes from a student's **authentic voice** and **personal experience**. The most effective answers speak specifically to who the student is, what they've done and how they think. No AI tool can truly replicate that. A generic 350-word essay about leadership, creativity, or resilience that lacks personal insight or specificity won't be as meaningful or compelling to an admissions reader.

Finally, we encourage students to write in a natural, clear and conversational style — similar to how they might speak in an interview. This approach not only makes the process more accessible but also aligns with what readers are actually looking for. In fact, it may take longer to develop an effective prompt for an AI tool than it would to simply write a thoughtful, authentic response from scratch. Ironically, the same details a student would need to feed into an AI prompt are exactly what should be included in the final response.

Bottom line: If used thoughtfully, AI tools might assist in the early stages of the writing process. But students should ensure that their final PIQ responses are entirely their own in voice, substance and reflection.

Additional comments (Personal Insight Questions)

Personal insight

Additional comments

* required

If there's anything else you want us to know about you, now's your chance. But remember, you should use this space only if you want to describe anything that you have not had the opportunity to include elsewhere in the application. This shouldn't be an essay, but rather a place to explain unusual personal or family circumstances, or anything that may be unclear in other parts of the application.

550 words remaining

Save & continue

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Students can use the additional comments section to explain any situation, circumstance or experience that does not appear anywhere else in the application or is not fully explained in the application. The Additional Comments section is not an opportunity for an additional PIQ response.



Submitting the UC application

Submitting the UC application

Applicants should thoroughly review their UC application prior to submission!

- Only minimal personal details can be updated post-submission.
- Ensure all sections are complete and acknowledge any gaps or deficiencies.

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Review & submit

Here's your chance to review all of the information you've entered in the application. If you've skipped or missed any required questions, you'll see a "To do" button next to the page below.

Before you submit your application, you should review all the pages and sections below, even if they are marked as complete (indicated with a checkmark). Remember, we want to learn as much about you as possible — so it's a good idea to fill out as much as you can and review all the information you'll be sharing with us.

Fall quarter/semester 2026

> Expand all

Print version

> About you	✓
> Campuses & majors	✓
> Academic history	✓
> Test scores	✓
> Activities & awards	✓
> Scholarships & support programs	✓
> Personal insight	✓

Start submission

Billing summary and fee waiver

If eligible for the UC application fee waiver, that will be noted on this screen. Applicants must accept and apply the fee waiver.

Application fees may be paid by credit card or check.

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Billing summary * required

Please review your campus selections and application fees below.
The application fee is \$80.00 for each UC campus.

Selected campus	Fee
Berkeley	\$ 80.00
Irvine	\$ 80.00
Los Angeles	\$ 80.00
Riverside	\$ 80.00
Santa Cruz	\$ 80.00
Total due	\$ 400.00

Fee waiver
You've qualified for a UC application fee waiver.
The fee waiver allows you to apply to up to four campuses for free.
Would you like to accept the fee waiver? *
☐ Yes ☐ No

Application Fees:

- For U.S. citizens or permanent resident students, the application fee is \$80 per campus.
- For International and non-immigrant applicants, the application fee is \$95 for each campus selected.
 - If an international or non-immigrant student currently attends school in the U.S., however, they may be eligible to pay the lower application fee of \$80 per campus.
- The application tool will advise of the fee amount on this page.

Fee Waiver:

- A fee waiver is automatically calculated for California and domestic residents. The fee waiver calculator is activated from answers about the applicant's family size and income.
- If a fee waiver is granted, **the applicant must select "Yes" to accept the fee waiver.**
- If an applicant decides not to answer those questions, they *may* qualify for a fee waiver but would not receive one.

If the applicant makes a mistake on the family income amount, they can correct the information with an 'edit' button; eligibility for the fee waiver will automatically re-calculate with the revised information .

Fee Waiver Eligibility

- For U.S. citizens or permanent residents or students who have attended a CA high school for at least 3 years, if students meet the low-income criteria used to qualify for free and reduced lunch, they will qualify for a UC application fee waiver for up to 4 campus choices but will be responsible for payment for any additional campus(es) to which they choose to apply.
- Students in California on a visa are not eligible for the UC application fee waiver.
- UC also accepts the College Board, ACT or NACAC fee waiver. Only one waiver may be used.

Payment:

- Application fee payment is required and non-refundable.
- Payment may be submitted by credit card in the application tool; **or** by mailing a check or fee waiver if a student didn't qualify for the UC application fee waiver but meets criteria established by the waiver provider.

Submission confirmation

After submission, be sure to make note of the following:

- Application ID
- Date submitted
- Payment method
- Confirmation ID

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GOOD JOB!

you did it! You've successfully submitted your UC application! Before you leave, make sure to review the information below about your payment and what steps to take after you submit.

Submission confirmation

Here's a summary of your application and fees. Please print a copy of your submission confirmation and your application using the buttons below. You'll want to keep both of these documents for your records. You will also receive an email at _____ with this information.

Selected campus	Fee
Berkeley	\$ 80.00
Irvine	\$ 80.00
Los Angeles	\$ 80.00
Riverside	\$ 80.00
Santa Cruz	\$ 80.00
Subtotal	\$ 400.00
Fee waiver	- \$ 320.00
Total paid	\$ 80.00

Application ID:
Date submitted: 10/25/2025
Payment method: Credit Card
Confirmation ID: 6892826864666173403005

Print a receipt

View & print your application

Students should keep their application ID in a secure place, as this will be used throughout the admission process, including decision release occurring in the spring.

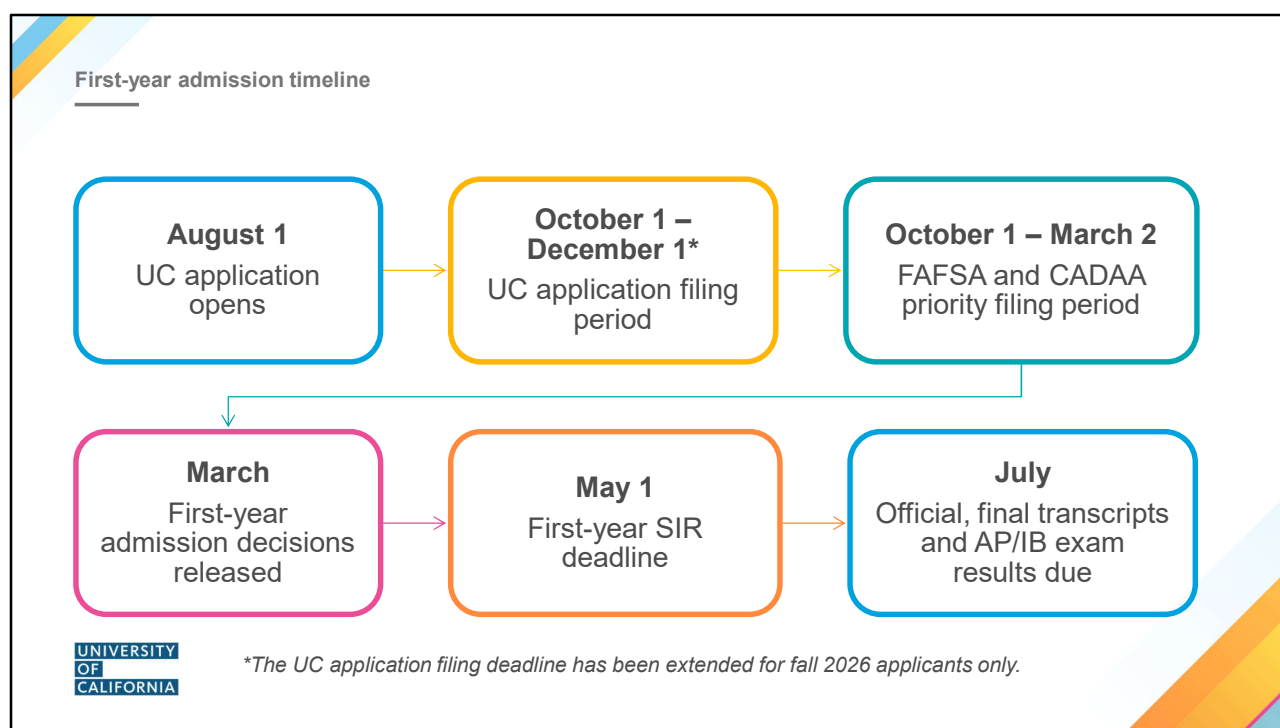
This screen will show the complete list of campuses applied to, fees, fee waiver, application ID, date submitted, and payment method. Applicants will also receive confirmation via email.

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What's next?

- UC application will be shared with each of the selected campuses.
- Each individual campus will share information on their student portal and when to expect admission decisions.
- Applicants should check their email regularly and respond to any requests from UC or the campuses.

UC applications are not reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. They should ensure the UC application is complete and accurate prior to submission.



The UC application and admission process is a year-long cycle.

August 1: The UC application opens. Students can begin to craft each part of their application. Remember, since UC does not use letters of recommendation, interviews, or portfolios unless required for admission to a specific major, the UC application is the only way for students to present and advocate for themselves. Some campus majors do require supplemental materials, such as Nursing, or some fine arts majors. Students should speak with the campuses they're interested in for information on applications for those majors. The UC application will also indicate whether a supplemental application or materials are required.

October 1 – December 1: UC students can submit applications beginning October 1. **The deadline has been extended to December 1 for Fall 2026 applicants** given the timing of the Thanksgiving holiday. The typical deadline is November 30. Applicants are not considered on a first-come, first-serve basis, so applicants should take their time in filling out the application thoroughly before submitting.

Important: Once submitted, applicants can update very little in the UC application. Students should ensure their UC application is accurate and complete before submission.

October 1 – March 2: All students should submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a California Dream Act Application (CADAA). The majority of students at UC receive financial aid and scholarships. We'll cover that in more detail later in this presentation. Campuses use information from the FAFSA and CADAA for both admission and scholarships. The FAFSA for the fall 2026 admission cycle is anticipated to become available on October 1.

March: First-year admission decisions are released throughout the month of March. Campuses do not all release decisions on the same day, but will have all first-year decisions released by March 31.

May 1: This is the deadline for students to submit the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR). Students must submit

the SIR by that date in order to ensure a place on campus in the fall. Students may only SIR to one UC campus.

July: Campuses use self-reported information to admit students, so UC does not require (nor want) students to submit any transcripts when they apply for admission. Instead, UC will ask for official transcripts only from admitted students who have submitted their SIR by May 1. Official transcripts for all institutions attended are due July 1, with AP/IB exam results due by July 15.



admission.universityofcalifornia.edu

Includes:

- Admission requirements for both first-year and transfer applicants
- Comprehensive review factors and selection information
- PIQ tips and worksheets
- Tuition & financial aid information
- Campus-specific information about majors, admit data and ways to learn more about each UC campus.

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/>

Counselor resources

Counselor website
& resource library



“Presenting Yourself”
presentation PDF



We’re here to help!
AskUC@ucop.edu



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Counselor website: <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/>

Counselor resource library: <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/connect-to-resources/resource-library.html>

“Presenting yourself on the UC application” PDF:
https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/_files/documents/presenting-yourself-on-the-uc-application-first-year.pdf

ucinfo@applyucsupport.net

Phone: (800) 207-1710 (U.S.) | (925) 298-6856 (Outside U.S.)

Helpdesk hours

- November 17–21: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. PST
- November 22–23: Saturday – Sunday, 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. PST
- November 24–26: Monday – Wednesday, 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. PST
- **November 27: Thursday – closed**
- November 28–29: Friday – Saturday, 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. PST
- November 30 – December 1: Sunday – Monday, 7 a.m. – midnight PST
- December 2: Tuesday 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. PST

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Q&A

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