Navigating the UC application

Tips for enhancing student outcomes

Ensuring Transfer Success Conference
University of California
California Community Colleges
Special note

• This presentation is not a step-by-step walk-through of the UC application. Instead, we will focus on specific areas with tips that you can use to help your students successfully navigate the application.
Starting the application

Create an account

EMAIL

Students will use this email throughout the UC application process so they should choose an email they use frequently!

PASSWORD

Keep the application password secure. It must include:

• Uppercase and lowercase letters
• A number
• A special character
Selecting term & level

California Community College students with only CCC coursework should choose junior-level transfer even if their total units seem excessive.

There is a limit on how many units can transfer (not courses, but units).

Students with past UC units and/or other university upper-division units are the only students who can be above the junior-level.
About you

- Personal information
- Contact information
- Citizenship & residency
- Demographics
- Your background
- Your household
- Parent information
- Statement of Legal Residence
- Review
Citizenship and residency

Citizenship

- All applicants must select a country of citizenship
- U.S. citizens will have a follow-up question about tribal affiliation to help determine eligibility for the Native American Opportunity Program (NAOP)
- Non-U.S. citizens will be asked further questions regarding visa status

Undocumented & DACA participating applicants

- Applicants should select “No Selection”
- Applicants should leave SSN blank (or include SSN for work purposes or ITIN)
- This information is confidential and encrypted, regardless of citizenship status
Statement of Legal Residence

All applicants are required to indicate whether or not they would like to be evaluated for CA residency for tuition purposes.

• This section does not impact an admission decision.

• A series of questions will follow to help determine residency for tuition.
## Campuses & majors

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<th>Campuses &amp; majors</th>
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<td><strong>UC values</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Term &amp; level</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Choose campuses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Choose majors</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Review</strong></td>
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- UC Davis
- UC Berkeley
- UC Santa Cruz
- UC Merced
- UC Santa Barbara
- UCLA
- UC Riverside
- UC Irvine
- UC San Diego

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**ENSURING TRANSFER SUCCESS CONFERENCE**

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**California Community Colleges**
Campuses & majors

Majors by College

UC Irvine

Browse by: College | Category

- Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Studies
  - Architectural and Environmental Design and Planning
    - Environmental Engineering, B.S. (Major, Alternate major)
      - The Henry Samuel School of Engineering
    - Urban Studies, B.A. (Major, Alternate major)
      - School of Social Ecology
  - Art - Applied, Fine, Performing and Art History
  - Biological and Life Sciences

Majors by Category

- Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Studies
- Architectural and Environmental Design and Planning
- Art - Applied, Fine, Performing and Art History
- Biological and Life Sciences
- Business and Management
- Communication
- Engineering and Computer Science
- Ethnic and Area Studies
- Foreign Language and Literature
- Health Professions
- Humanities
- Mathematics
- Physical Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Undeclared, Special Programs, and Other
Ranking UC San Diego colleges

- Eighth College will begin accepting transfer students in 2025.
- Transfer applicants for fall 2024 should rank Eighth College last.
- This information does not influence your students’ chances of admission to UC San Diego!
Campuses & majors: Supplemental applications

UC Irvine

Selected major
Pharmaceutical Sciences, B.S.

Selected alternate major
Not selected

Browse by: College Category

☐ show closed majors

Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Architectural and Environmental Design and Planning

Art - Applied, Fine, Performing and Art History

Art, B.A.

This major requires a supplemental application.

Claire Trevor School of the Arts
Academic history

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<td>Transfer Admission Planner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last high school attended</td>
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<td>Colleges</td>
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<td>College courses</td>
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<td>Minimum requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP)

Applicants with a UC TAP account should note the following:

- Data can be exported directly from TAP to the UC application
- Applicants should verify all information is correct after exporting from UC TAP
- After the initial UC TAP export, any changes to colleges, courses, grades, etc., must be made directly in the UC application

![Academic history form](image)
Entering colleges

Academic history

College information

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE, 004273-3
ALL LOCATIONS, CA

When did you attend this college? *

- Start date: Month * / Year *
- End date: Month * / Year *

Is this your current or most recent college? *
- No
- Yes

What is this college's grading system?
- A B C D F

During your attendance, did the college's term system (quarter or semester) change? *
- No
- Yes

What level of degree, diploma, or certification did you receive or will be receiving?
- No degree

Save & continue  Cancel

Academic history

Colleges

Enter all colleges you have attended, 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.

EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE
ALL LOCATIONS, CA

- College code: 004273 (Id:52702; ATP:CC)
- Graduation system: A B C D F
- Attended: August 2021 - May 2023
- Current or most recent college: Yes
- Term system changed: No
- Term system: Semester
- Enrolled terms:
  - Fall 2021
  - Spring 2022
  - Summer 2022
  - Fall 2022
  - Spring 2023
- Degree, diploma or certificate: Associate for Transfer (AA-T, AS-T)
- Degree Major: Social Justices Gender Studies
- Date received or to be received: May 2023

Add college  I've finished adding colleges
UC-E & UC-M

If 7-course pattern is met with CCC coursework, students will not see these questions.

This page will display if student is using non-CCC courses or AP scores to meet UC-E or UC-M.
### Meeting UC-E with AP

**College / University English composition**

The following CA Community College course you reported in Academic History section meets 1 of the English composition requirement, if completed with grade C or better.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept</th>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>First-Year College Composition and Reading</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is the status of the second course? *
- [ ] In progress
- [ ] Planned
- [x] None planned / not completed
- [ ] Completed with a grade of C or better

The AP English Language & Composition exam or AP English Literature & Composition exam with a score of 3, 4 or 5 can be used to fulfill 1 of the 2 English composition requirements. You can enter your AP exam scores in the "Test scores" section.
Enrollment gap & additional information

Explanation must include:
- Activities during the gap
- Confirm that they were not enrolled at any college or university during the gap
Enrollment gap & additional information

- Must disclose any academic probation
- Will not disqualify student from being admitted

- Poor grades/dip in grades
- Break in attendance
- School environment/policies affecting academics
- Classroom availability
- Grading scales or credit/unit
Test scores

Applicants should enter any AP or IB scores they may have.

Students whose language of instruction in 9th grade or higher was not English and who are not native speakers are required to self-report scores from an acceptable English language proficiency test (TOEFL, IELTS, or DET)

Exam scores can only help students in the application to meet eligibility and/or unit requirements.
Activities & awards

There is nothing in this section that can directly harm a student’s chances of admission.

Applicants should describe the focus of the program, their experiences, accomplishments and what they learned throughout.

Applicants should focus on post-high school activities.

Context is considered when reviewing this section.

Quality vs quantity.
### Activities & awards continued...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sections</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Creative Tips</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award or Honor</td>
<td>- Academic excellence awards</td>
<td>Have your student think about awards or honors in the context of their whole lives. For example, if a student doesn’t have an outstanding service award, they should consider other honors they have received for service, like employee of the month.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Outstanding service awards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Research or capstone project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Scholarships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Preparation Programs</td>
<td>- Transfer preparation programs</td>
<td>If your student hasn’t participated, what opportunities have they utilized? Have they developed a working relationship with a counselor?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- MESA, Puente, Umoja, EOPs, 1st Year Learning Communities, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular Activity</td>
<td>- Student government</td>
<td>These could include hobbies, clubs, sports or anything else. If a student claims they do not do anything, have them consider what they use their free time for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Clubs and organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Performing arts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Childcare and/or family care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Activities & awards continued...

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Examples</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteering/Community Service</td>
<td>• Community service organizations</td>
<td>Have your student think about things they have done that they were not paid for. Do they help their parents on weekends with childcare? Do they assist elderly family or community members?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Tutoring and mentoring programs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Family responsibilities / Childcare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Experience</td>
<td>• Research assistantships</td>
<td>This section helps us understand students’ responsibilities professionally through work or academically through internships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Part-time or full-time jobs (employee of the month, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Internships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scholarships

Applicants should select all categories that apply to them.

This section does not affect an applicant’s chances of admission.

Not all scholarships listed are offered at every campus.
Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)

PIQ responses provide the opportunity for students to advocate for themselves in the UC application. Each question is relevant to the selection criteria of each UC campus.

Please note the following:

- There is one required question all transfer students must answer.
- Transfer students will then choose 3 more questions to answer from the remaining 7.
- All questions have equal value.
- There is no wrong way to answer a PIQ.
Additional comments

• Changes in family circumstances
• How the student plans to engage with the UC community if admitted
• Add context to something that briefly appears earlier on the application
• This section may be left blank
Friendly reminders

- Validate your students’ experiences.
- There is no perfect formula for a “strong” PIQ response.
- Encourage students to make use of all narrative components of the UC application.
- There is a misconception that students are not allowed to write about their identities, ideals, values, or beliefs.
  - While not true, it is more important to focus on how these have impacted, or why they are important to, the student.
Review & submit

Submit between October 1 and November 30

Fee waiver is calculated automatically

Applicants will know they submitted successfully when they:

- Pay $80 per campus ($95 for international students) unless they qualify for fee waiver (4 free applications)
- Receive a UC application ID number and email confirmation
Application timeline

- **August 1**: UC application opens
- **Oct 1 – Nov 30**: UC application submission
- **January 31**: Transfer Academic Update (TAU)**
- **March – April**: UC campuses will post decisions
- **June 1**: Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) submission

**September 1-30**: TAG application submission

- Waitlist activity typically happens between June and July
- * Priority Deadline
- ** Opens December 15, 2023
Need additional support?

If students have questions, they can contact the application help desk:

**Email**

ucinfo@applyucsupport.net

**Phone within the U.S.**

(800) 207-1710

**Phone outside the U.S.**

(925) 298-6856
Counselor resources

• Counselor resource library
  • Personal Insight Questions guides (*English & Spanish versions available*)
  • Presenting yourself on the UC application guide

• UCOP community college webinar series
  • PIQ workshop: Wednesday, October 11 at noon
Thank you