

## First-year waitlist and appeal information — Fall 2026

### FIRST-YEAR WAITLIST INFORMATION

All UC campuses, except UC Merced, plan to use a waitlist process for first-year applicants to manage their enrollments. Waitlist processes vary by campus. More specific campus information is outlined below.

#### Waitlist invitation

For all campuses utilizing a first-year waitlist, the deadline to accept a waitlist invitation is **April 15**.

Applicants who are invited to one or more campus waitlists should note the following:

- Students **must** opt in to a waitlist. It is not automatic.
- Students can opt in to waitlists from multiple campuses.
- If offered admission to multiple UC campuses, students can only accept one offer of admission by the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) deadline of May 1.
- Even if students opt in to a UC campus waitlist, they should submit a SIR to a college or university where they have been offered admission to ensure they have a place to attend in the fall.

#### Waitlist admission decision release timeline

Campuses generally plan to release admission decisions from the waitlist between May and July. Campuses have the flexibility to release admission decisions prior to May.

#### Financial aid offer for waitlist admits

For most campuses, financial aid packaging will not be available at the time of waitlist invitation; however, if admitted, award packaging will be made available in accordance with campus policies and procedures providing that the applicant has submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) by the priority deadline.

#### Waitlist SIR deadline

Campuses are allowed to establish their own deadline to accommodate their unique campus needs. Deadlines will be included in communications to the student, along with instructions for accepting an offer of admission from the waitlist. Campuses generally use a three (3) to seven (7) day deadline from the date that an admission offer was made to the waitlisted student.

#### First-year waitlist appeals

None of the campuses utilizing a first-year waitlist allow students to appeal their admission decision while awaiting a waitlist decision. Some campuses may allow students who are denied admission from the waitlist to submit an appeal once that decision has been made.

## FIRST-YEAR ADMISSION APPEAL INFORMATION

All UC campuses will accept and review appeals when a student has not been offered admission. However, it's important for students to understand that each application has already received a thorough and careful review. Therefore, if a student chooses to submit an appeal, they must provide *new and compelling information* for further consideration.

### Appeal submission deadline

The deadline to appeal an admission decision will vary by campus. Students should reference the deadline that is shared by each campus within the applicant portal if they are not offered admission.

*Note: Timelines may be subject to change. For current information, please contact individual UC campuses.*