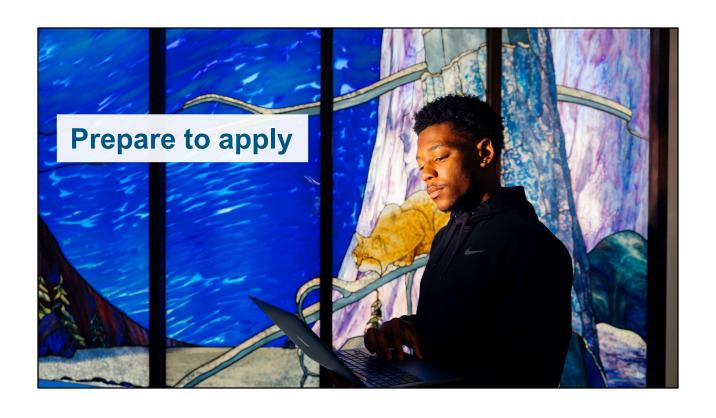
# Presenting yourself on the UC application

Transfer

2025-2026







This is a screen shot of the application showing the locations of the nine undergraduate campuses available for first-year or transfer admission. The map will display dependent on the resolution and screen size of the computer or mobile device.

UC is one of the largest university systems in the world offering undergraduate and graduate programs on campuses located across the state. Applicants are encouraged to apply to more than one UC campus. This will significantly increase your chances of being admitted to the UC system. While you may not receive an offer of admission from your first-choice campus, all of our campuses — without exception — provide outstanding opportunities for you to learn and grow.

## Additional notes for reference:

Campuses with medical centers:

**UC** Davis

**UC** Irvine

UCLA

UC San Diego

UC San Francisco

Campuses with schools of law:

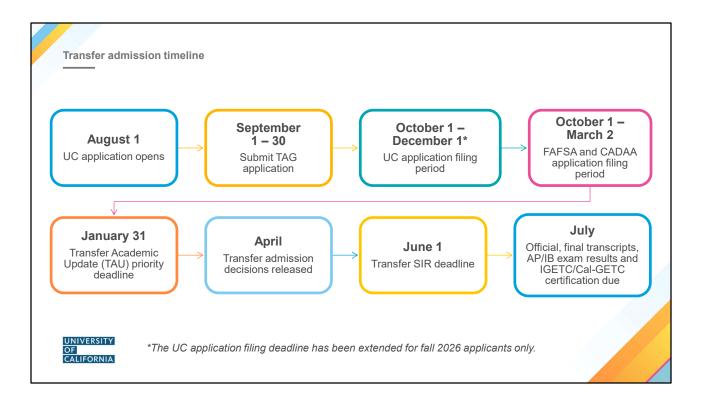
**UC Berkeley** 

**UC** Davis

**UC** Irvine

**UCLA** 

UC College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly known as UC Hastings)



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.

**September 1 – 30:** Transfer applicants interested in Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) must submit a TAG application between September 1-30. They must also submit a UC application during the filing period.

**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.

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

October – 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.

January 31: Transfer students who apply for fall admission will be asked to update their applications through the UC Transfer Academic Update (TAU) process by the end of January. Once they log in to their application, they will be able to give UC their final grades from the previous fall, as well as a list of all courses in progress or planned for winter and/or spring. All students must submit a TAU, even if not enrolled in any courses in the spring term. The priority submission deadline is January 31. The Transfer Academic Update form is open until March 15, but the priority review date is the date students should focus on as there is no guarantee TAU information submitted after January 31 will be considered in the review. Failure to submit the form may jeopardize a student's chances of admission.

**April:** Transfer admission decisions are released throughout the month of April. Campuses do not all release decisions on the same day, but will have all transfer decisions released by April 30.

**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 for admitted students who have submitted their SIR by June 1. Official transcripts for all institutions attended are due July 1, with AP/IB exam results and other certifications (such as IGETC or Cal-GETC) due by July 15.

# Before you start

- Consider your major and campus options
- Get an unofficial copy of your transcripts
- Write your responses to the Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)
- Create a document outlining all your activities, awards and work/volunteer experience





Begin preparing for the application early - don't wait until October or November!

Students should research the campuses and apply broadly across the system.

- Learn about the majors offered and all the types of courses needed to earn the UC degree to be fully informed about graduation requirements and plan how long it may take to graduate.
- Some majors have different names across the system and may be located in different departments.

Gather materials that will be needed: transcripts/academic records, list of current and planned courses, awards and honors, volunteer program timelines and hours, employment timeline and hours, etc.

• *Note*: Official transcripts should **not** be sent with your UC application. Your UC application will be reviewed using the self-reported academic history you have provided.

Responses to the personal insight questions are important.

- Write responses early; refer to UC's online resources for writing tips, a worksheet and a video to help get started.
  - https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/personal-insight-questions.html

Application integrity

# Applicants must complete the UC application thoroughly and accurately.

#### This includes:

- Academic history
- Activities, awards, work experience and community service
- Personal Insight Questions

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.

UC does **verify** information reported in the UC application. Honesty is the best policy.



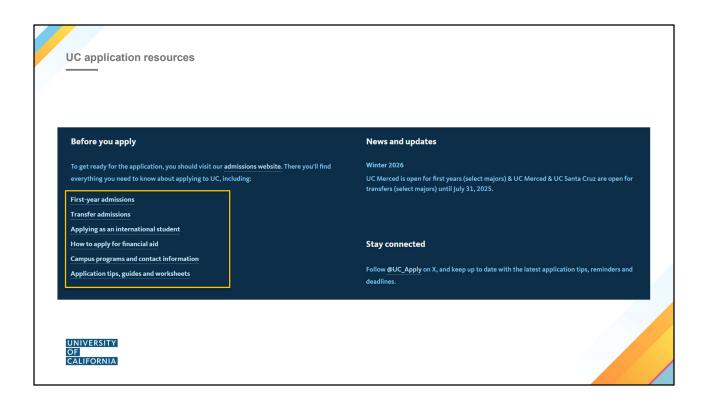
Students must thoroughly complete all sections of the application and do so accurately. This is the student's opportunity to tell the admission staff about personal details that make each applicant unique.

# **Accuracy of Details:**

- Academic History: MUST be accurately reported--all enrollment, every school/college, all courses and grades (even/especially if a course was repeated). If a student accepts an offer of admission, UC requires official academic records to verify the information reported.
- "Additional Comments" box in the Academic History section can be used to provide detailed information or explanations about specific academic issues declining grades, course selection issues, etc.
- **Activities/Awards**: Applicants should not exaggerate or fabricate awards or activities because the information submitted is subject to verification.

In fact, UC does verify information that students report on the application. It is critical that students do not misrepresent or falsify information, as this is a serious offense and will result in serious consequences. Honesty is the best policy.

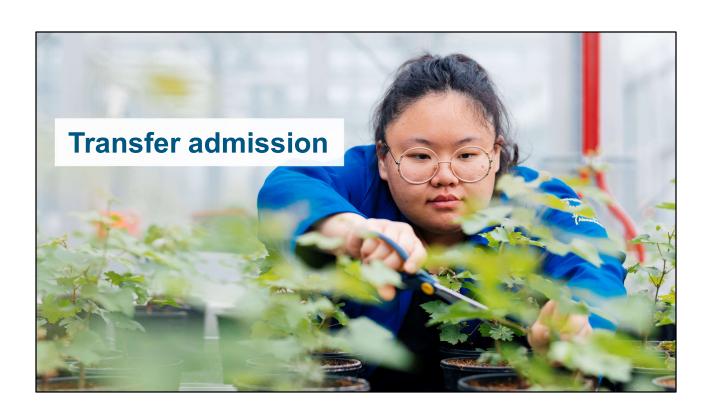
View the Statement of Application Integrity at <a href="https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/docs/StatementOfIntegrity.pdf">https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/docs/StatementOfIntegrity.pdf</a>

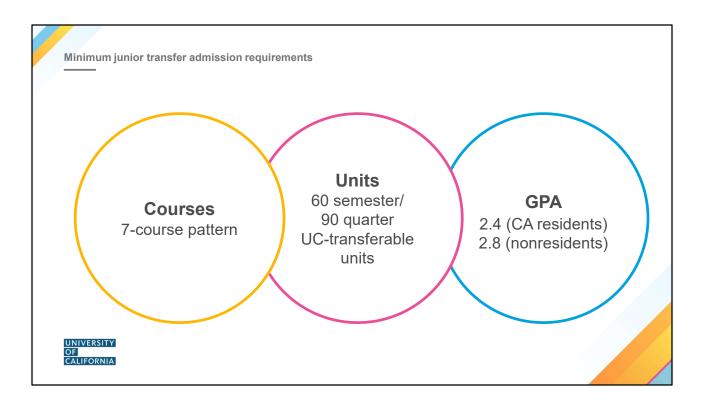


Various application resources can be found on the UC admissions website and on the UC application website.

UC admission website: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/

**UC** application website: <a href="https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/my-application/login">https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/my-application/login</a>





While there may be a few options to transfer to UC before reaching junior status, most UC campuses are primarily looking for junior-level transfer applicants. Transfer students meet requirements in 3 areas to meet minimum UC junior-transfer requirements: a specific pattern of courses, a minimum number of units, and a minimum GPA. These requirements must be completed by the last regular term prior to transfer.

#### Courses:

UC will first review your courses to verify you're meeting the seven-course pattern. We will go into detail in the next slide, but know that these 7 courses are required. In order to meet the unit requirement, however, you'll need more than these 7 courses. The rest of your courses can come from general education courses or from courses that prepare you for your major, or both!

#### Units:

- Complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of UC-transferable college credit. This is about two years' worth of full-time study but can be less if a student has dual enrollment college credit or AP/IB/A-level exam scores.
- No more than 14 semester (21 quarter) units of the required 60 units may be taken Pass/No Pass, unless the student is transferring from a college or university that awards only pass credit.

#### GPA:

• Students must have a transferable GPA of at least 2.4 (2.8 for nonresidents).

# Notes for the presenter:

- The 7-course pattern may be completed with a Pass/Credit/ Satisfactory grade if such designations are equivalent to a letter grade of C (2.0) or better
- All students must be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA or better) at the last institution of attendance and at any previous UC campus where the student was enrolled in a regular term (e.g., fall, winter, spring).

Minimum requirements vs. selection

# **Major Preparation**

- Certain majors may have required or recommended coursework
- Consider taking courses from other CCCs or online UC-transferable courses if your CCC doesn't offer a major preparation course
- Take full course sequences at one CCC

#### **GPA**

- Meet or exceed the minimum transfer GPA
- For selective majors, a strong GPA is especially important

#### **IGETC/Cal-GETC**

· Not required for admission; may be recommended for certain campuses/majors



Meeting the minimum transfer requirements alone is generally not enough to be a competitive applicant for selection.

Competitive students will not only have all required major preparation completed but will also have as many recommended major preparation courses completed as possible. Major preparation coursework may be required by each campus for your intended major. Major preparation is important not only for admission, but to ensure that you are prepared for a successful transition into that major once at UC.

You can view UC's Transfer Pathways for a roadmap to some of the more popular majors. However, it is important that you check with the campuses you are interested in applying to in order to learn which majors are selective at the transfer level and what courses are recommended/required for admission to your intended major. Many majors are highly selective, with average GPAs for admitted transfer students above a 3.0. In these cases, the GPA (overall and in the major) become important factors in selection.

Finally, IGETC or Cal-GETC is not an admission requirement and transfer students can instead choose to complete their lower-division general education requirements at the UC campus they attend. However, for students who don't yet know at which campus they would like to enroll, for majors that do not have extensive major preparation requirements, or for students who are jointly considering CSU and UC, pursuing IGETC/Cal-GETC may be helpful. However, some majors at some campuses may encourage students to complete IGETC/Cal-GETC certification prior to UC enrollment.

• Note: For students enrolling at the CCC in fall 2025 and beyond, Cal-GETC will be the new General Education pattern.

Students should stay in regular contact with UC campus admission representatives for current information on selective majors, and how students can best prepare to be competitive candidates.

Minimum requirements vs. selection

# Academic Accomplishments

- Major preparation
- GPA
- Transfer options
  - TAG
  - UC Transfer Pathway
  - · Pathways +
  - ADT

# Extra- and Co-Curricular Activities

- Special projects
- Internship/research experience
- Work/volunteer experience
- Participation in UCsponsored programs
- Leadership
- Special talents, skills or achievements
- Awards and honors

# Additional Information

- Life experiences
  - Family responsibilities
- Location of college



Campuses are looking for well qualified transfer students who have taken advantage of the educational opportunities presented to them both inside and outside of the classroom.

It is important to note that this is not a checklist. Students may meet multiple criteria of comprehensive review, but these are considered by campuses within the context of the entire application rather than as a rank or point system.

There are comprehensive review factors campuses may use to review transfer students. These include a range of factors in three major categories: Academic accomplishments, co-curricular activities, and additional information.

The faculty-approved comprehensive review factors for transfers include:

- 7-course pattern
- Major preparation
- · Grade point average
- Participation in honors courses or programs
- Special talents, achievements and awards
- Completion of special projects
- · Academic accomplishments in light of life experiences and special circumstances
- · Location of the college and your residence
- Completion of a UC Transfer Pathway or associate degree for transfer (ADT)

These factors are intended to help readers gain more insight into the academic and personal context of students in their own environment.

Note: 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.



The basics

# **Browser security**

Be sure to use a supported browser to ensure functionality of the UC application and to protect the information you provide.

# Inactivity

Use the "Save and Continue" options to avoid timing out of the application. After 20 minutes of inactivity, you will automatically be logged out.





#### **Browser recommendations**

The UC online application functions with the following browser versions: Chrome 137 or newer, Edge 137 or newer, Firefox 138 or newer, Safari 18.5 or newer.

# JavaScript and cookies

Our application uses JavaScript web page functionality and requires cookies. Please make sure JavaScript and cookies are enabled on your browser.

#### Security

Because it's important to protect the information you provide, the online application is extremely secure — so secure, in fact, that older browsers are not equipped to handle our level of encryption. Please download one of the browser versions listed above to ensure maximum security.

#### Responsive

The application is mobile friendly so you can use your tablets and other devices.

## 20-minute timeout for security

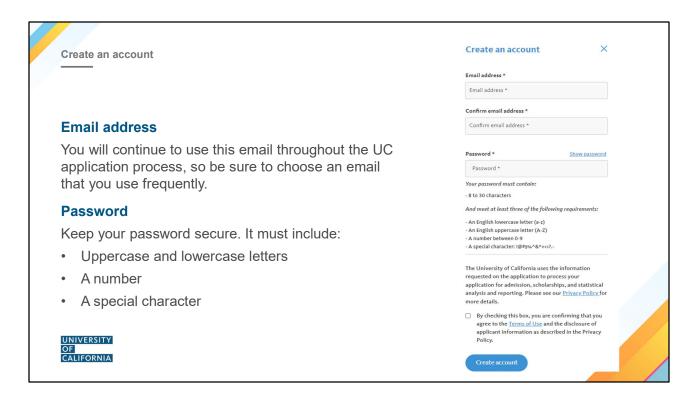
After 20 minutes of inactivity, the system will time out.

#### **Character counts**

All descriptions and PIQ responses have character or word counts to show remaining available space.

#### **Save and Continue**

In order not to timeout, you will need to click save and continue. If you do not, any information you've entered since the last save will be lost.



# Start your UC application at https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/my-application/login

## Create your account

- New users must enter a unique email address and password
- Students should use an email account they will check after graduation as well (preferably not a schoolissued email address)
- Applicants will use this same account if they apply again in the future
- If the student's family has multiple applicants or has future applicants, different email addresses must be used for each applicant
- Passwords must be at least eight characters (and must include a combination of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols/special characters)
- · Create a secret question/answer combination that will be easily remembered
- Be sure to keep login information safe
- Once "Create a New Account" is complete, an email confirming the start of your application will be sent
- Campuses use email to send critical, time-sensitive correspondence to applicants, so provide an email address that is checked regularly and will be kept until enrolling in college
- Remember to adjust email filters to accept mail from UC addresses

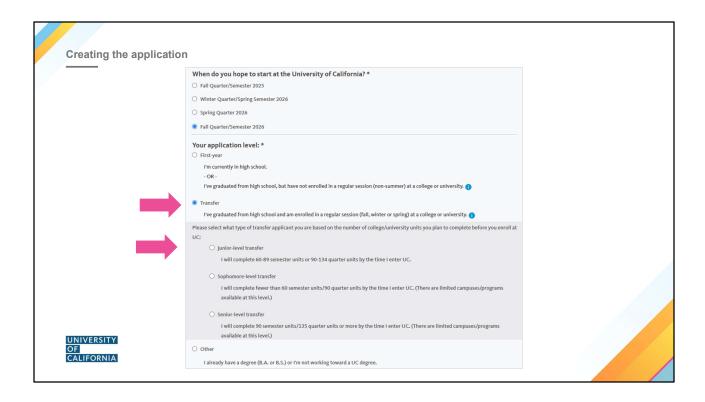
#### Log in

- First-time users start by clicking "Create a New Account"
- On return visits, enter email and password information under "Sign In"



**NEW!** Beginning with the fall 2026 UC application, students will need to verify the email address provided when creating their UC application account.

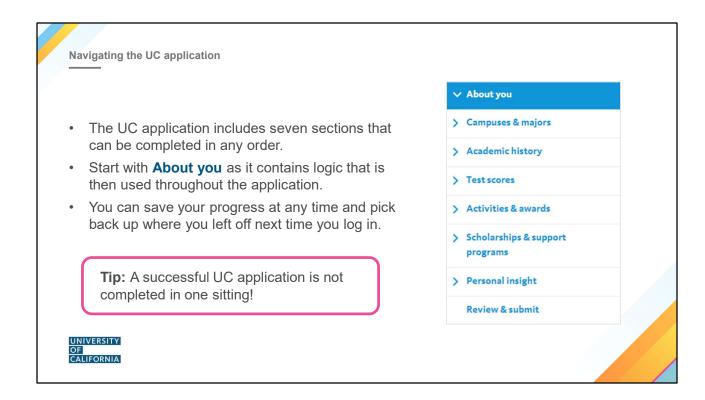
[CLICK] A verification code will be sent to the email address provided (see right screenshot) and students must enter the unique code in their web browser to continue with their UC application.



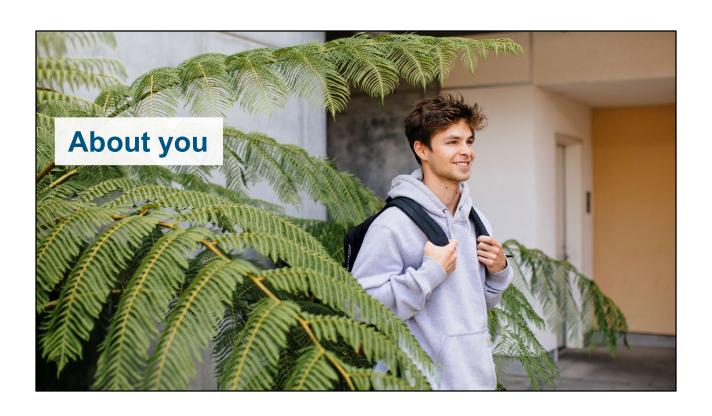
**Level:** Students must select the appropriate level for which they are applying.

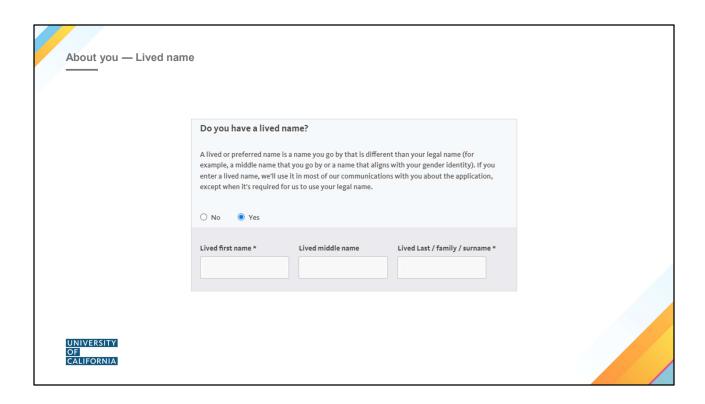
- A student who has enrolled in a regular term (fall/winter/spring) at a college or university after graduating from high school should apply as a **transfer** student.
- Most campuses consider students at the junior level only, but certain programs and campuses may also consider sophomore and senior transfers.
- Note: Students with CCC coursework only regardless of the number of units completed at the CCC –
  are not senior-level transfers and should not check the senior-level transfer button. Indicating seniorlevel transfer will significantly reduce the student's transfer options. Only UC coursework (both lowerand upper-division) and upper-division coursework from other 4-year institutions can jeopardize a
  student's junior standing.

If students want to refer to a prior application, the option to do so appears on this screen.



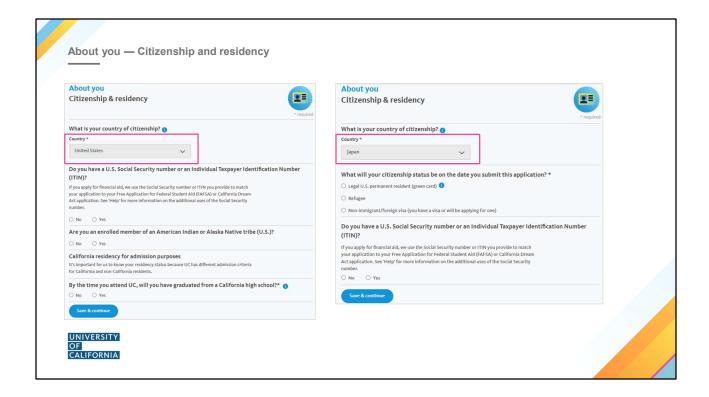
The navigation bar is on the right side of the screen. Students can complete the application in any order but should complete the "About You" section first as it contains conditional logic which will be used throughout the application.





When completing your personal details, applicants have the option to indicate a lived, or preferred name. A lived or preferred name is a name you go by that is different than your legal name (for example, a middle name that you go by or a name that aligns with your gender identity). If you enter a lived name, we'll use it in most of our communications with you about the application, except when it's required for us to use your legal name.

If your legal name is the name you go by, you can select "No" here and move forward. Do not enter your same legal name twice.

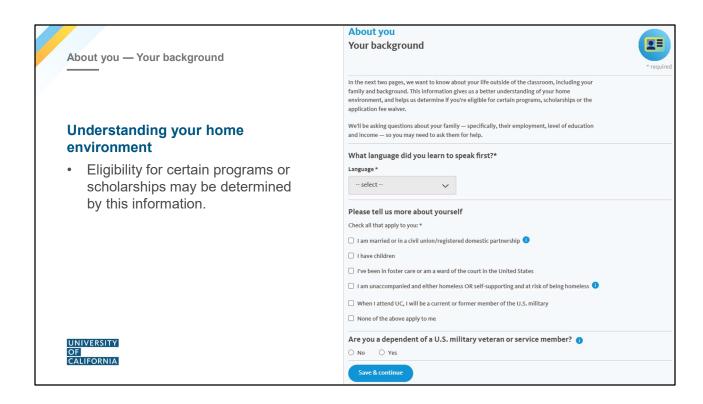


#### Citizenship

- Applicants must select a country of citizenship from the country drop-down menu.
- Students who are U.S. citizens will have a follow-up question about tribal affiliation. This response, along with CA residency status determined by the Statement of Legal Residence information, will determine whether the student qualifies for the Native American Opportunity Program.
- Those who choose a country other than the United States will have follow-up questions on permanent residency and/or visa status.

#### **Undocumented students**

- For country of citizenship, "No Selection" is an available and valid response for country of citizenship.
- If you do not have a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN), a DACA Social Security Number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), simply leave the social security question blank.
- · Respond to the questions about attending and graduating from a California high school.
- For more instructions on completing the About You section for undocumented students, visit <a href="https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/\_files/documents/slr-instructions-for-undocumented-students.pdf">https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/\_files/documents/slr-instructions-for-undocumented-students.pdf</a>

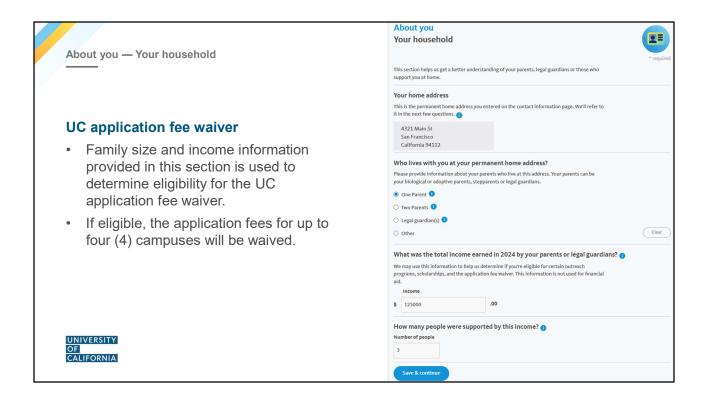


**NEW!** Beginning with the fall 2026 app, a new question has been added to this section to determine whether a student may be homeless or at risk of being homeless.

Please tell us more about yourself
Check all that apply to you: *
☐ I am married or in a civil union/registered domestic partnership
I have children  I've been in foster care or am a ward of the court in the United States
✓ I am unaccompanied and either homeless OR self-supporting and at risk of being homeless
At any time before you left high school, were you unaccompanied (living without a parent or guardian) and lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including if your school identified you as an unaccompanied homeless youth under the "McKinney-Vento Act"? *
○ No ○ Yes

**NEW!** Beginning with the fall 2026 app, a new question has been added to this section to determine whether a student may be homeless or at risk of being homeless.

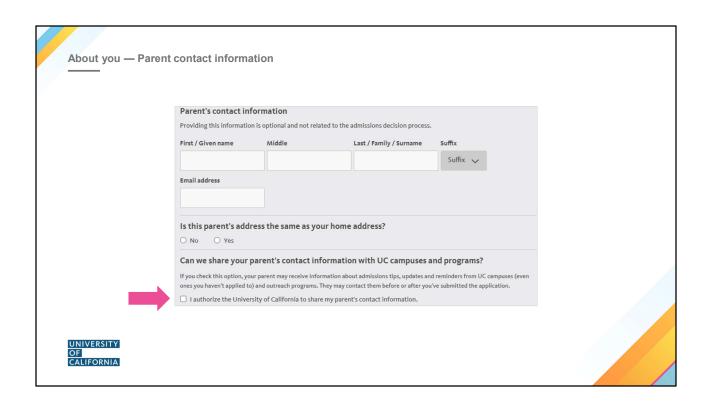
An unaccompanied homeless youth is defined as a child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, who is lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, regardless of immigration status. A self-supporting student who's at risk of being homeless is defined as someone who is financially independent but living in unstable or temporary housing and is at risk of losing that housing.



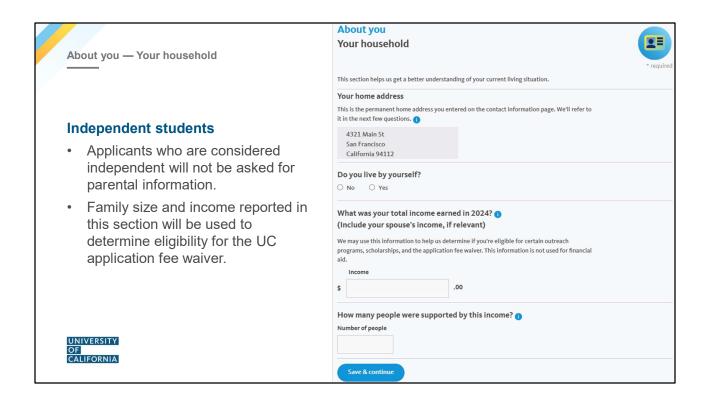
# **Family Size and Income**

This is the view for students who are under 24 and so are categorized as dependent students.

- 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.



Dependent students have the option to submit contact information for their parents. This is optional and will not influence the admission process. Doing so allows the campuses the option to send parents important admissions updates and information, though they will <u>not</u> receive information about your application or admission decision(s).



### **Family Size and Income**

If a student is over 24, they will not be asked for parental information. **This is the view for independent students.** 

- For more information, students can click on the "i" icon.
- This information is **not** used to determine residency status or eligibility for financial aid.



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

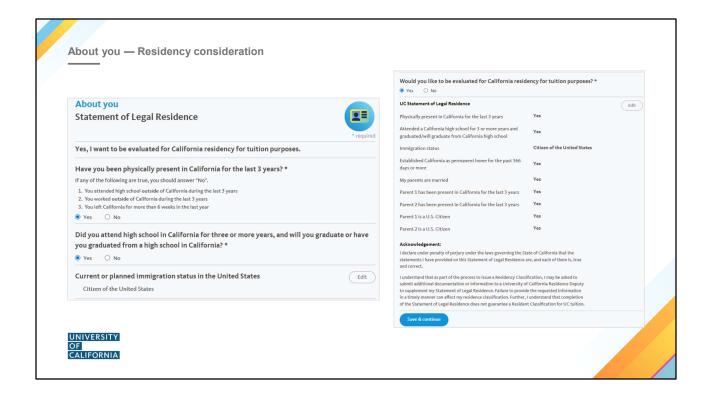
Student must choose whether they would like to be evaluated for California residency for tuition purposes or not.

# 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:

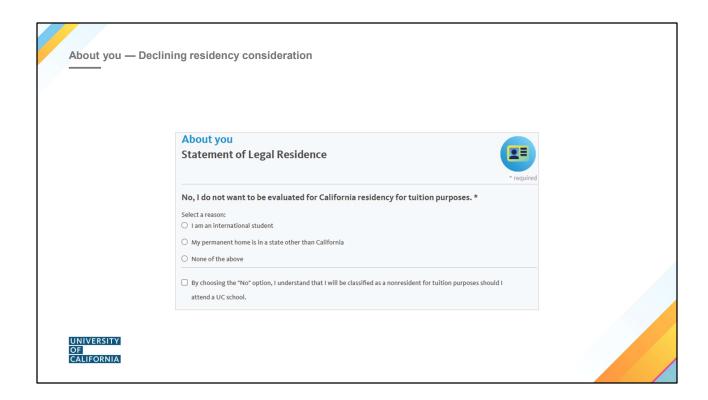
- If a student selects this option, they will need to select a reason why they do not want to be evaluated for CA residency.
- They will also need to acknowledge that by selecting the "No" option, they will be classified as a nonresident for tuition purposes.



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

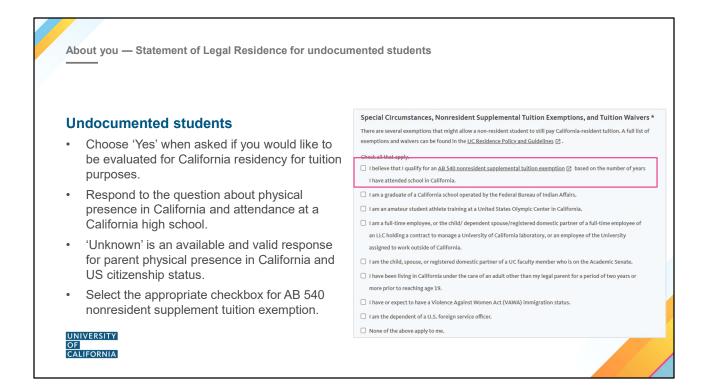
- Selecting this option will bring up additional questions about the student's and their parents'/legal guardians' physical presence in California.
- Note: Different prompts will appear for the requested parent information depending on whether the applicant's parents are married and/or live together.

Additional documentation or information may be requested by UC and/or the campuses for students who wish to be evaluated for California residency. Be sure to respond to any requests in a timely manner.



# 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.

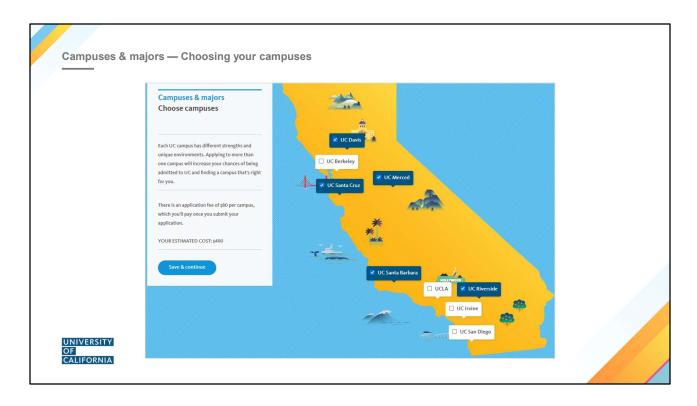


Further instructions can be viewed at

https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/\_files/documents/slr-instructions-for-undocumented-students.pdf. This is linked in the UC application.

Students who responded to the questions as instructed on this worksheet will be required to submit additional information for AB 540/residency determination through the Systemwide Statement of Legal Residence (pre-admission) OR to the campus where they choose to enroll.





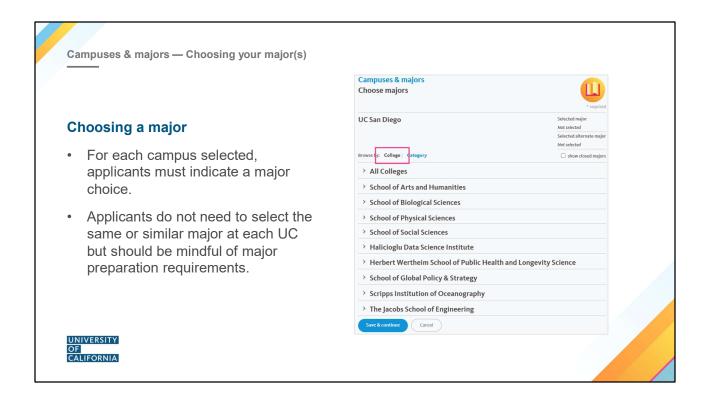
As a reminder, students should only submit ONE UC application. You can choose to send it to as many of the UC campuses as you would like.

There is a fee associated with each campus you select (\$80 per campus/\$95 per campus for international applicants), but a fee waiver is available for eligible students that will waive the application fee for up to four campuses. Eligibility for the fee waiver is determined by family and financial information provided within the UC application.

Importantly, though you will be able to apply to multiple UC campuses at once, you do not need to "rank" them or indicate any campus preference. All campuses who receive your application will give it a thorough and careful review – independently from one another. You are encouraged to apply broadly across the UC to increase your chances of being admitted to the UC system. All of our campuses – without exception – provide outstanding opportunities for you to learn and grow.

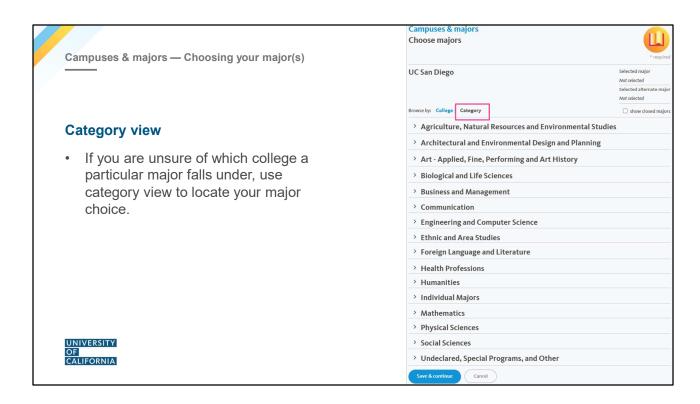
**Hint:** If only a few campuses show as "open", this might mean you indicated either a sophomore or senior-level transfer option, or you are applying during the winter/spring term.

**Note:** Dual **Admission** participants who submit a TAG application within their three-year window will have their Dual Admission campus and major pre-authorized in this section.

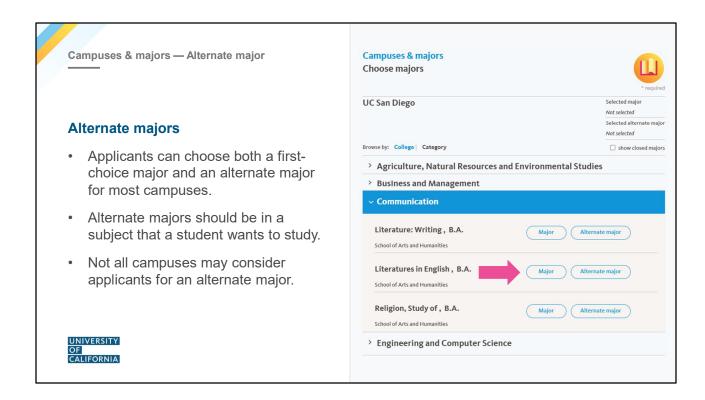


Once you've selected your campus choices, applicants will need to indicate a major selection for each campus. The default view is "College" view, which shows you all available majors by their college placement. By default, closed majors will not appear unless you choose to select the checkbox that reads "show closed majors".

**Note:** You do not need to select the same or similar major at each UC campus you've selected. However, transfer applicants should be advised that they need the appropriate major preparation for the major(s) they have selected within the UC application. This is an important factor in transfer admission.



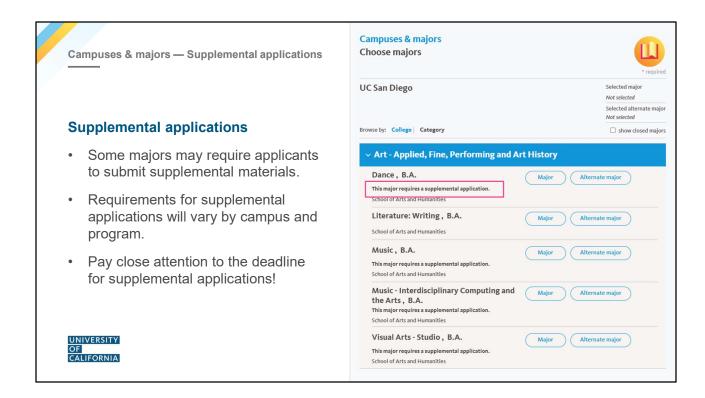
If preferred, applicants can view available majors for each campus by "Category" instead of "College". This may be helpful if you don't know which college a particular major falls under.



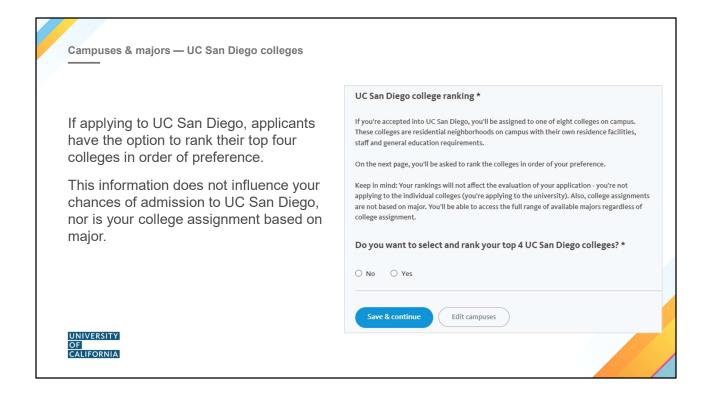
Students can select both a major and an alternate major at most campuses, but not all majors at a particular UC may be available to be selected as an alternate major choice.

If a campus is unable to offer the applicant a place in the first-choice major, they <u>may</u> consider them for an alternate major—be sure the alternate major is in a subject area that the student really wants to study and that they have appropriate major prep for (and in some cases, it should be in a different area of study than the primary major).

Note that not all campuses will consider students for an alternate major, and that some campuses may have restrictions on changing majors once admitted to that major.



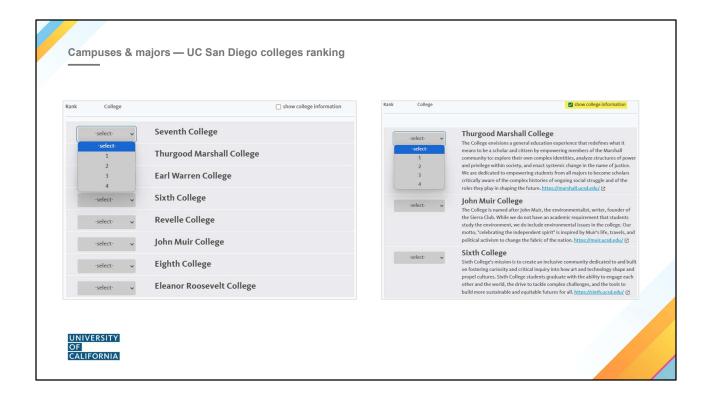
Some majors may require applicants to submit a supplemental application or materials. If so, applicants will see messaging in the UC application when selecting that major. Requirements and deadlines for supplemental applications will vary by campus and program.



## 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.

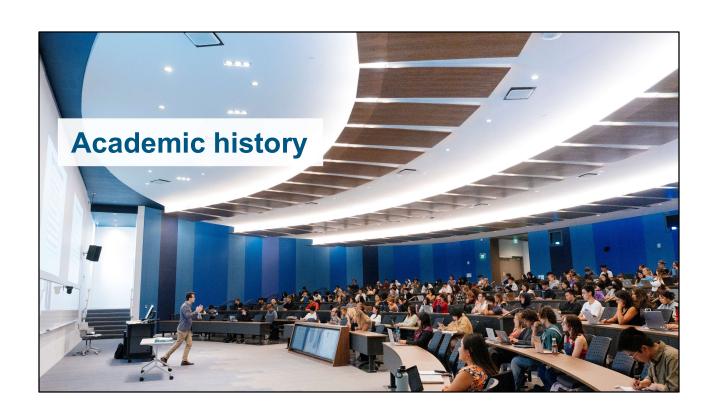
*Note*: Each of the undergraduate colleges has its own campus neighborhood, residence facilities, staff, traditions, general-education requirements, and distinctive educational philosophy.

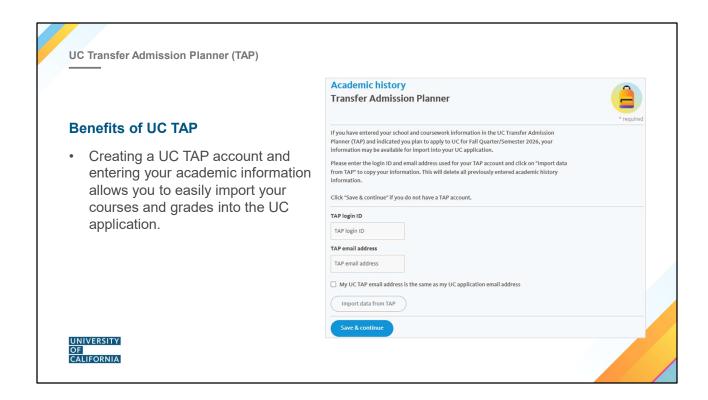


## San Diego colleges - NEW ranking process

- If students select "Yes", they will then be prompted to rank their top four UCSD colleges.
- Students can check the box labeled "show college information" to learn more about each of UCSD's colleges.
- Once they have ranked their top four choices, applicants can review their rankings before moving on to the Academic History section.

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.



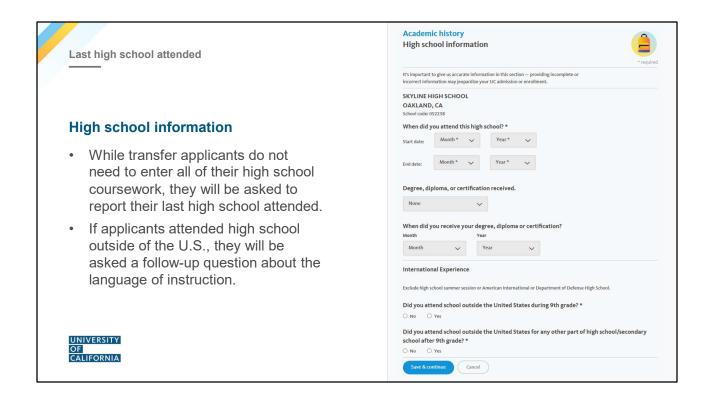


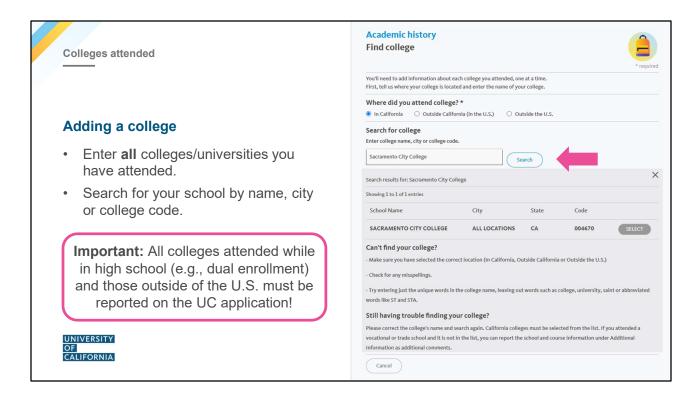
If you have created a UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP) account, and entered your academic information into UC TAP, a feature in the admission application allows you to import your courses and grades.

- The information is updated daily each morning with the previous day's data.
- · Changes made today in UC TAP will not be reflected in the data imported on the same day.
- Once you import your TAP academic record into the application, any further information added in UC TAP will not be reflected in the application. You can edit the information directly in the application.

In order to import the coursework, applicants must use their **UC TAP ID and email address from the UC TAP account when starting the UC Admission Application.** 

UC TAP website: <a href="https://uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu/students/">https://uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu/students/</a>





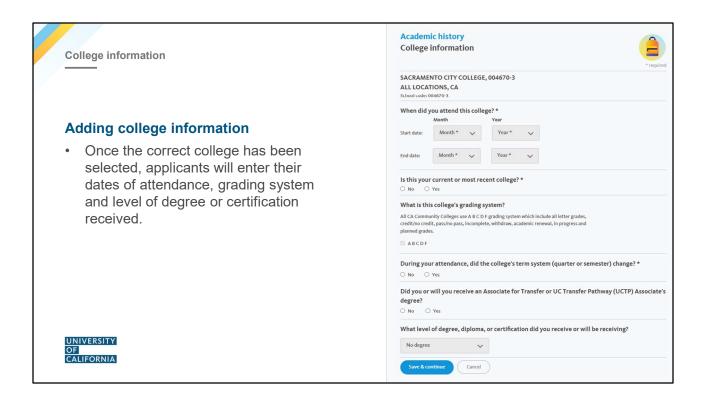
#### Colleges attended

- Remember to list every college/university attended, including those outside of the U.S. or any colleges attended while in high school (e.g., dual enrollment).
- Students can search for their schools by name, city or by school code.
- If students can't find their school, it can be added by typing the full name of the school and clicking "Add"

Failure to report all college coursework in the UC application may be considered falsification and result in cancellation of the UC application.

## A note on dual enrollment coursework completed while in high school:

- Course credit and grades earned will be included on your college transcript. Students cannot disregard this credit and "start over." All college coursework completed in high school must be reported in the UC application.
- The grades earned in those courses are calculated in the GPA for transfer admission.
- Transferable courses completed in high school cannot be repeated in college, and transferable credits earned will be applied toward total units for degree completion.

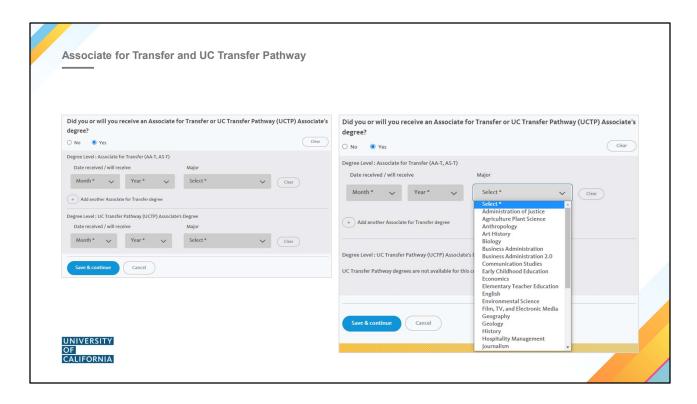


#### **College information**

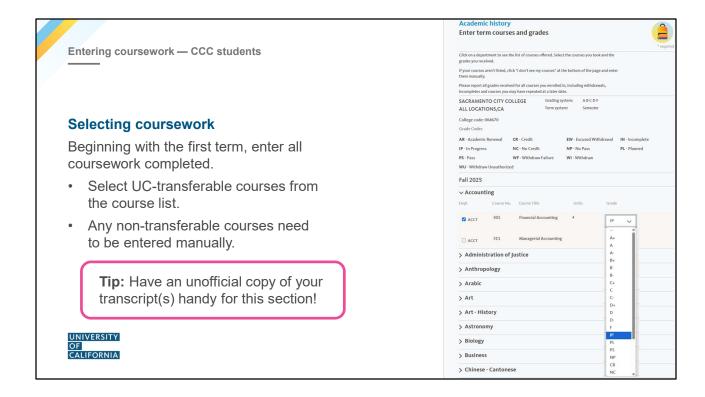
Once the correct college has been selected:

- Applicants will select the dates of attendance, grading system, and level of degree or certification received.
- Dates of attendance should be entered as consecutive dates even if enrollment was interrupted, i.e. first month/year of attendance through the last month/year of attendance (e.g., fall 2024 spring 2026).
- Students earning the Associate Degree for Transfer or UC Transfer Pathway Associate's Degree will provide this information here along with the name of the major.
- Applicants can also indicate here if the term system has changed (e.g., from quarter to semester).

*Note*: If you attended a college while in high school and earned credits, don't forget to include those! Your dates of attendance should match all terms enrolled in that college, including the terms while in high school.



*Note*: Maximum is 5 for each CCC degree level. Currently, there are only 2 UCTP majors, so possible maximum is 7 for CCCs with both ADT and UCTP degrees.



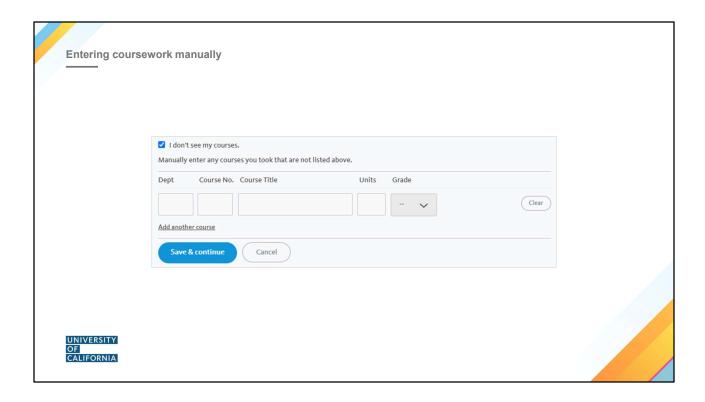
## For California Community College students:

- The transferable course lists for California community colleges are pulled directly from the ASSIST database - https://assist.org/.
- Each department can be expanded to display the transferable courses by clicking on the plus (+).
- Applicants should use unofficial transcripts to ensure they report the correct term, course number, title, units and grade received for each course.
- Grade codes are listed for applicants. Students should only report Academic Renewal (AR) as the grade if the academic renewal has already been approved and appears on the transcript.

#### For all students:

Students **must enter all courses** taken even if they believe they are not transferable; they don't want credit for them; they believe the "old grades" are not reflective of their current academic abilities; an Academic Renewal (AR) or Incomplete (I) grade was earned; they withdrew from the course; or they later repeated the course.

<u>Missing/inaccurate information may be viewed as falsification and result in cancellation of the application at all UC campuses.</u>



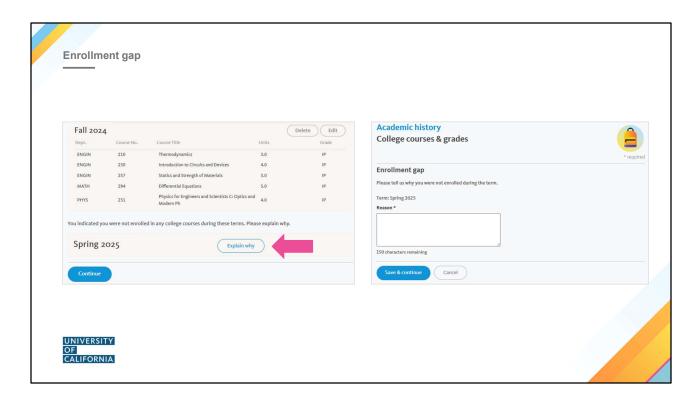
## For non-California Community College students:

UC does not have transferable course lists for colleges/universities other than California community colleges, so students must type in department name, course number, course title, and unit value, then select the grade earned.

#### For all students:

Students **must enter all courses** taken even if they believe they are not transferable; they don't want credit for them; they believe the "old grades" are not reflective of their current academic abilities; an Academic Renewal (AR) or Incomplete (I) grade was earned; they withdrew from the course; or they later repeated the course.

Missing/inaccurate information may be viewed as falsification and result in cancellation of the application at all UC campuses.



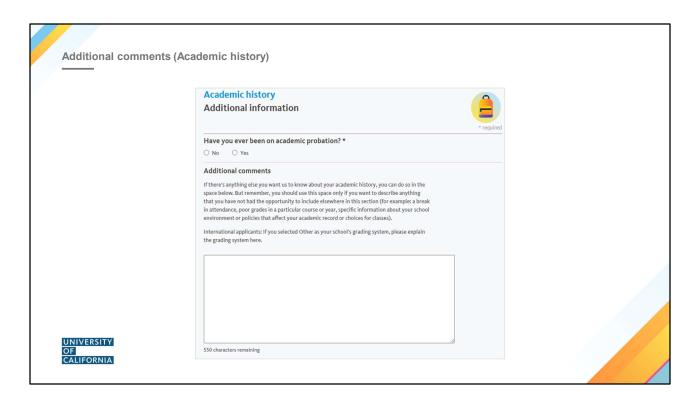
If there is a gap in attendance, you will be prompted to explain why you were not enrolled. If you made an error and did enroll during an identified "gap" term, you must go back and adjust the dates and terms of attendance at the appropriate college and then enter the coursework attempted/completed.

UC-E and UC-M	College / University English composition  Prior to transfer, will you complete two transferable college courses in English composition (not including English as a second language courses)?  What is the status of the first course? *  In progress  Planned
<ul> <li>English &amp; math</li> <li>If your entered coursework appears to be missing the required English or math courses, you will need to indicate your plan to complete these courses on this screen.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>None planned / not completed</li> <li>Completed with a grade of C or better</li> <li>What is the status of the second course? *</li> <li>In progress</li> <li>Planned</li> <li>None planned / not completed</li> <li>Completed with a grade of C or better</li> </ul> College / University mathematics Prior to transfer, will you complete one transferable college course in mathematical concepts
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA	and qualitative reasoning? *  In progress  Planned  None planned / not completed  Completed with a grade of C or better

If the coursework you entered indicates that the student has met the minimum English (2 courses) and math (1 course) requirements for transfer to UC, **you will not see this screen.** 

However, if your coursework appears to be missing required English or math courses, you will need to indicate your plan to complete these courses on this screen.

*Note*: this screen will also appear even if you are using an AP or IB exam score to meet an English or math requirement. In that case, you should mark 'None planned/not completed,' enter your test scores in the Exams section, and then return to this page to see that the requirement is met.



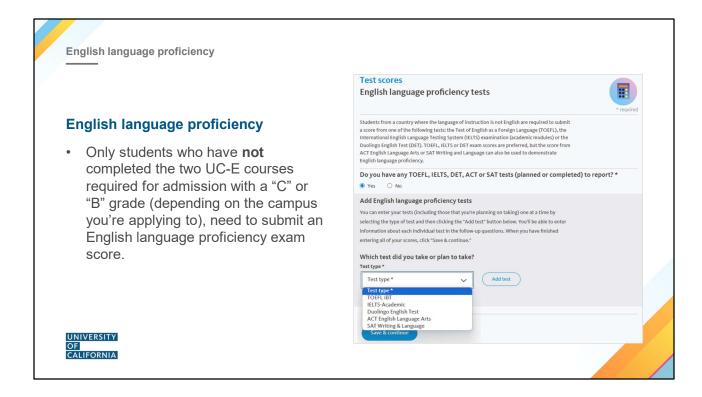
You must disclose any terms on academic probation. This will not disqualify you from being admitted.

Admission staff look at this section for an explanation of abnormalities in a student's academic record, such as a break in attendance or poor grades in a particular course or year, or for specific information about the school environment/policies that affect the academic record and/or availability of classes. In addition, if students are taking a larger than usual academic load (more than 20 units in a term) additional context would be helpful.

There is also another additional comments section later in the application with the PIQs. This comment box is for academic-related comments.



This section is where transfer students will report AP and IB scores, if they have them, as well as any English language proficiency exam scores.



#### **English proficiency exams:**

You can demonstrate English proficiency by completing the two UC-transferable English composition courses <u>required for transfer admission</u> and receiving at least a "C" or "B" grade/mark, depending on the campuses you're applying to. If you do so, you are not required to submit IELTS/DET/TOEFL exam scores.

You are considered proficient if:

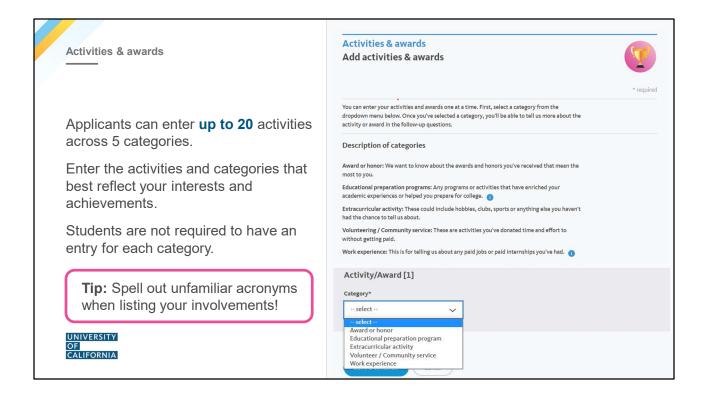
- You're applying to Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside or Santa Barbara and received grades/marks of "C" or higher in the English composition courses.
- You're applying to UCLA, San Diego or Santa Cruz and received grades/marks of "B" or higher in the English composition courses.

Some campuses may request an interview to determine English skills during the application review process. Davis, UCLA and Santa Barbara may strongly recommend or require additional English proficiency testing for applicants admitted to their campuses.

**Keep in mind**: UC does not accept English composition courses from international universities where English is not the language of instruction.

Official English proficiency 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. Your scores must be valid (i.e., not expired) when you submit them to the campus.





#### Activities and awards

- There are five categories in the Activities and Awards section of the application. Choose experiences that have meaning, illustrate interests, and/or demonstrate leadership.
- Students will have twenty spaces to enter their activities
- Not all 20 entries have to be from the same category. Students should do their best to categorize activities in a way that makes sense to them. We wanted to allow students the flexibility and choice to enter the activities that best reflect **their** interests and achievements.
- Additionally, applicants don't NEED to have something in each of the categories, nor do they need to list 20 items.

**Educational preparation programs** – Programs include but are not limited to: Puente, MESA, Umoja. A list of common programs appear in a drop-down menu. If a program is not included, manually enter it.

Community Service - Consistent participation over time may indicate commitment and dedication.

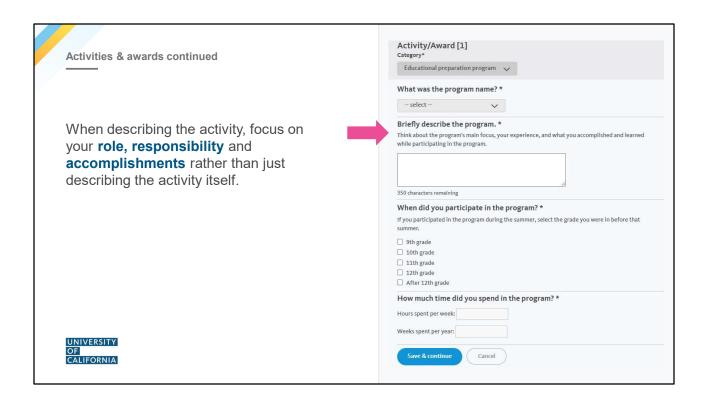
Work Experience – Demonstrates time management, responsibility and perhaps leadership.

**Awards & Honors** – Awards which are significant in nature – county-wide, state-wide and national - indicate a high level of achievement with significant competition. School-based awards are more meaningful to readers if context is provided, such as "5<sup>th</sup> place out of 500 students".

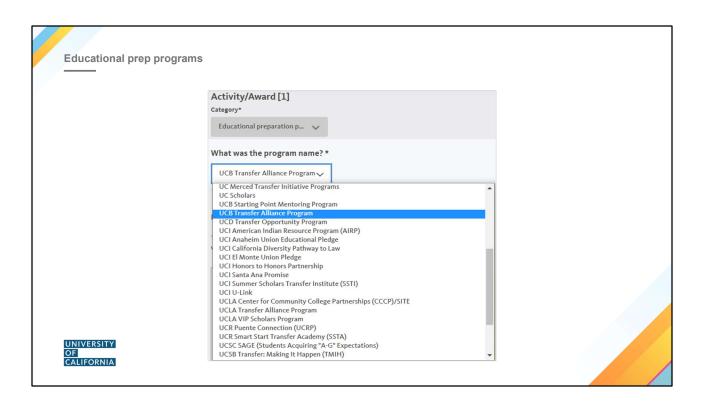
**Extracurricular Activities** –Continued participation over time indicates passion, commitment, and sometimes leadership. Enter details about each activity.

## **Activities and Awards Pro-Tips:**

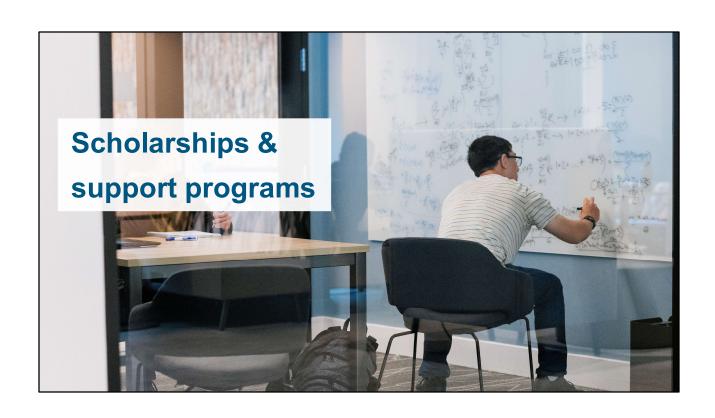
- Avoid using acronyms for names of clubs or awards.
- Explain level of involvement in detail. Remember, what's important is what YOU did, not just what the activity is.
- Try to avoid listing the same activity in more than one section. Students should not repeat the entries, even if they might fit into more than one category.
- If an applicant did not have the time/opportunity to participate in school and/or community activities, volunteer/paid employment, explain to application readers why how else did the applicant use their time and was it a choice or a requirement? For example: caring for siblings, elder-care, commitment to doing homework (research projects, papers, etc.). We understand that students are gaining valuable life experience and consider that as part of our comprehensive review.

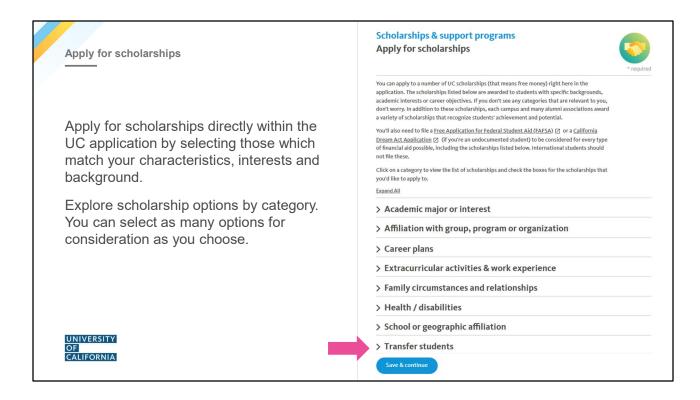


It is important for students to remember to describe their **role**, **responsibilities and accomplishments** in the activity rather than focusing on describing the activity itself.



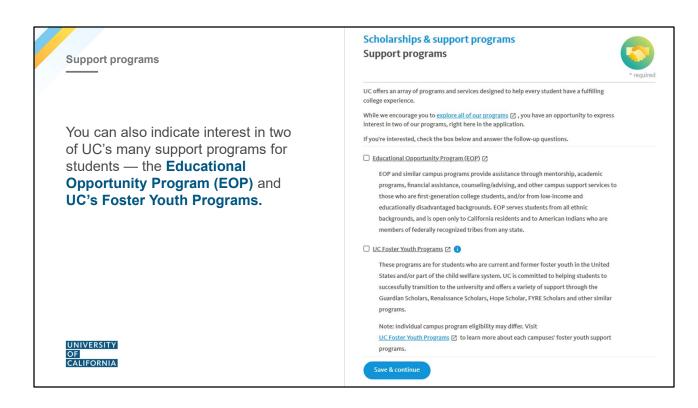
If you took part in an educational preparation program, select the program from the list. If your program is not listed, choose "Other" and manually enter the name of the program.



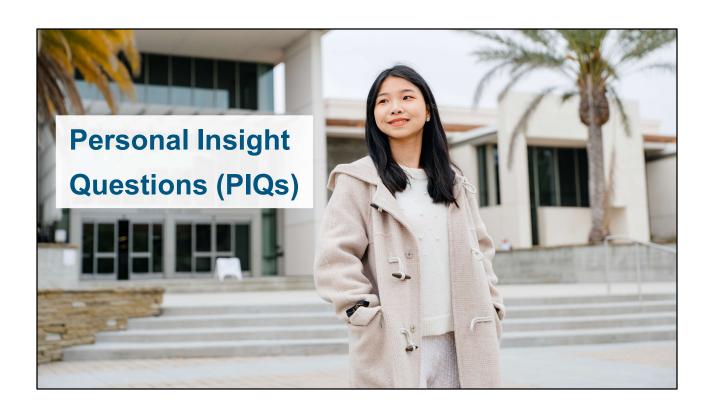


#### **Scholarships**

- All UC campuses offer scholarships for students who meet specific criteria. There is a category specifically for Transfer students, but transfer applicants are not limited to this category.
- The applicant should review each scholarship choice and select all those that match their characteristics, interests, and background. There is no limit to the amount of scholarships students can select.
- Research other campus-based scholarships in the link provided at the bottom of the screen.
- **Note:** Only scholarships available at one or more of the campuses you've selected will display, though not all scholarships displayed will be available at *every* campus you've selected.



If selected, additional follow-up questions will be presented to the applicant.



Learning more about you: PIQs

# **Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)**

- One required question; respond to 3 of the 7 other questions
- · All questions hold equal value
- 350 words maximum per response
- Focus on the content, not the style, of your writing
- May be used for admission and scholarship consideration

# **Required PIQ for transfers**

Please describe how you have prepared for your intended major, including your readiness to succeed in your upperdivision courses once you enroll at the university.



Another opportunity for us to learn more about you is within the Personal Insight Questions (PIQs). This is the written section of the UC application. Think of this as your opportunity to share additional and more detailed information that cannot be found elsewhere in the UC app, including what circumstances/experiences have shaped your academic/personal experiences.

Applicants must respond to three (3) of the seven (7) questions, plus the mandatory question (for a total of four responses). All questions have equal value, so respond to the three additional questions that are most relevant to you and your experiences!

Keep in mind, these are not essays. With only 350 words allowed per response, your PIQ responses should be direct and literal. Focus on what information you are sharing in your responses, not the style of your writing. Readers will not be evaluating these like a writing sample. This is an important part of the UC application and the campus review, so be sure that you are taking your time and using the available resources to maximize this section.

Additional information about the personal insight questions can be found at <a href="https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/personal-insight-questions.html">https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/personal-insight-questions.html</a>

## **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:

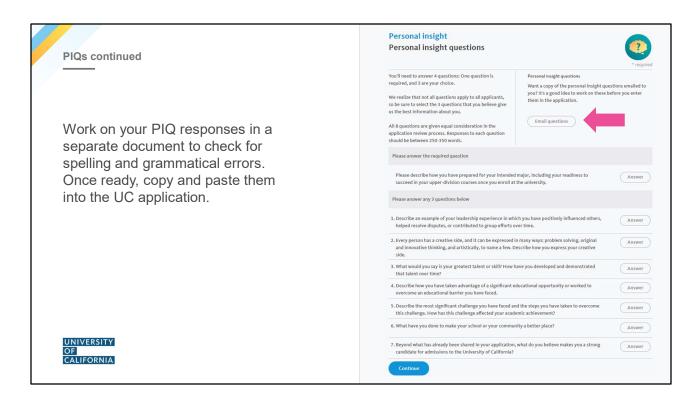
First, we acknowledge that Al tools may be useful in certain parts of the writing process — such as brainstorming, outlining or helping students clarify and organize their thoughts. That said, it's important to remember the **University of California's Statement of Application Integrity**, which states 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 Al-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:

#### https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/docs/StatementOfIntegrity.pdf)

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 Al 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 Al 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.

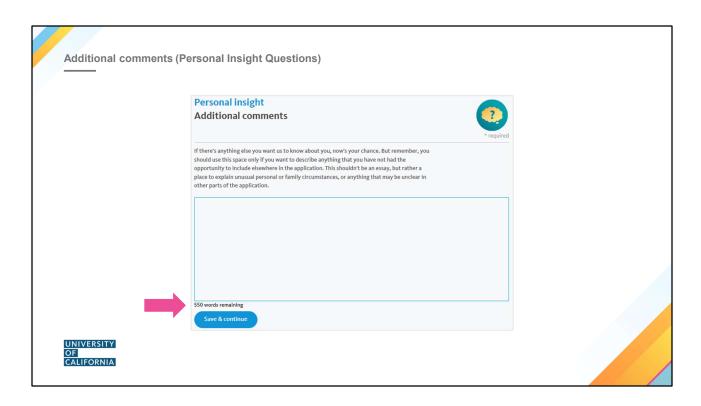


This is a screen shot of the PIQ page. The word count is listed here, and students can opt to have the PIQ questions emailed to them on this screen.

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!

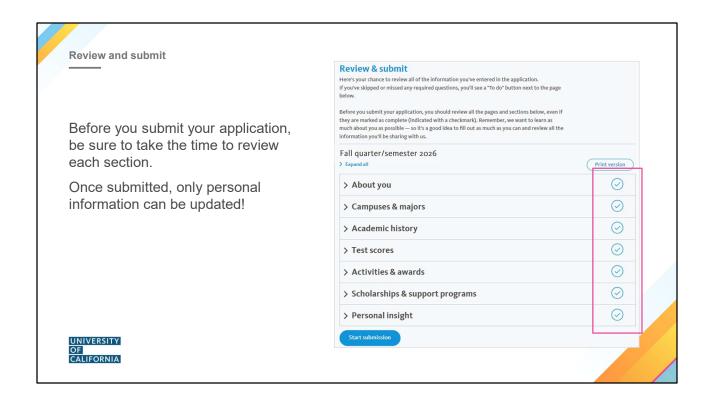
Transfer students are required to answer how they have prepared for their intended major.

- Avoid listing courses taken
- Focus on experiences in and out of class that show interest in the major/field
- Discuss how the applicant has taken the initiative to learn more about the major/field and gain greater knowledge and depth



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!

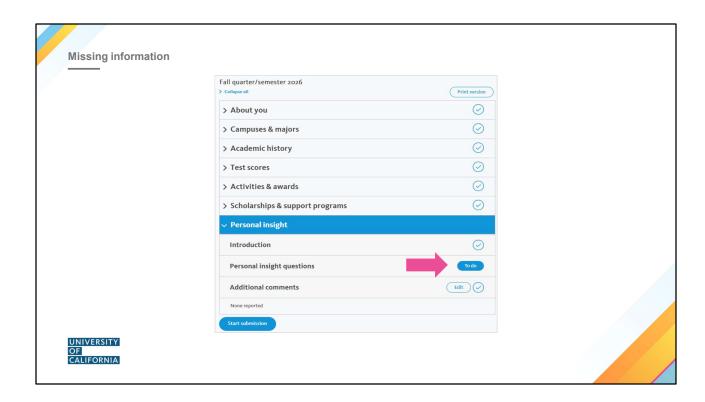




#### Review and submit

Before submitting the application, students will have the opportunity to review each section. A check mark appears beside the section to indicate that section is complete.

**Important:** Once submitted, only personal information can be updated (name, email address, etc.) Students should carefully review the application and ensure it is thorough and complete.

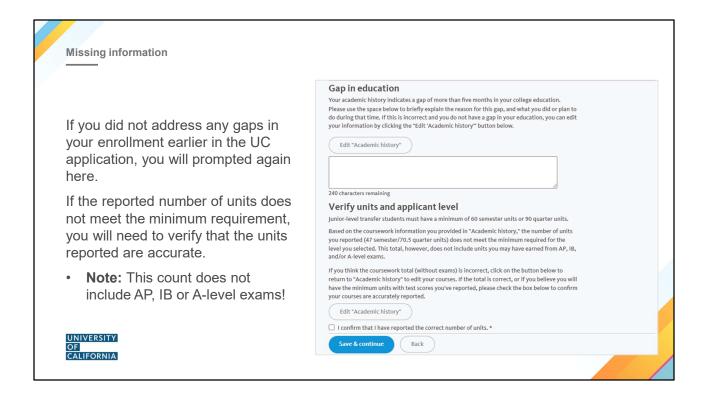


### **Review and submit**

Students will be prompted to correct any errors before they can continue with the submission process.

# **Missing Information**

If students are missing information, this warning will appear. Completed sections will have a checkmark. Sections missing information will not. Students can navigate directly to the section(s) with missing information and update.

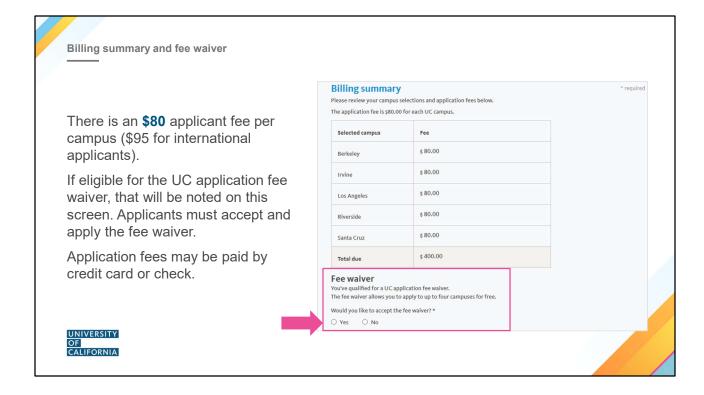


## Gaps in education

- Applicants must explain all gaps in education for each term not enrolled. If you did not address this earlier in your application, it will prompt you here again.
- This will not disqualify you from being admitted; this is to help admission representatives understand your full educational and life context.

### Verify units and applicant level

- The application does a quick estimate of units to verify whether the student has sufficient units for the level they've applied to. Note: This tally does NOT include AP, IB or A-level exams.
- Students can go directly back to the Academic History to add courses/units they may have forgotten to
  add. Or, if the student knows they have enough units with exam scores, they can check the box
  confirming that they've reported the correct number of units. This will allow the student to continue with
  the submission process.



## **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:

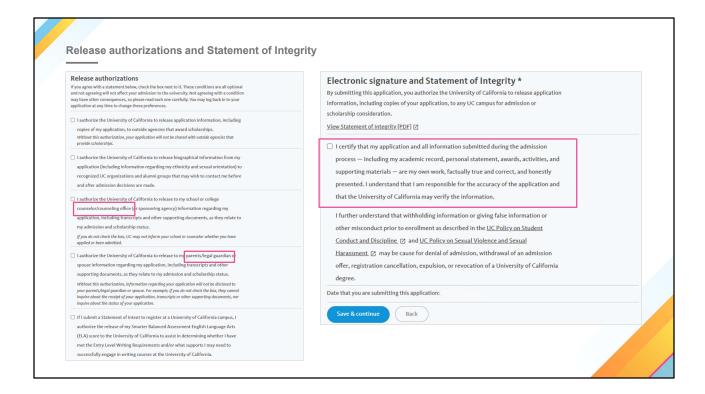
- Application fee payment is required and non-refundable.
- Payment may be submitted by credit card in the application tool; **or** by mailing a check or fee waiver if a student didn't qualify for the UC application fee waiver but meets criteria established by the waiver provider.

		ous selections and application fees below.	
	The application fee is \$80	0.00 for each UC campus.	Voucher payment
	Selected campus  Berkeley	\$ 80.00	Some organizations have given out application fee vouchers that students can use to pay their application fees.
	Davis	\$80.00	I have a valid voucher that I can use to pay my application fee. I understand that I may be billed for the application fee if the voucher is later declined by the organization who issued the
	Irvine	\$80.00	voucher. You must enter organization name and voucher number.
	Los Angeles	\$80.00	Organization name *
	San Diego	\$80.00	
	Santa Barbara	\$80.00	Voucher number *
	Total due	\$480.00	
	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 O No		Apply voucher Cancel
	Voucher payment  Some organizations have given out application fee vouchers that students can use to pay their application fees.		
UNIVERSITY		r that I can use to pay my application fee. I understand that I may be billed te if the voucher is later declined by the organization who issued the	

**NEW!** Beginning with the fall 2026 application, applicants can apply a UC application fee voucher that they have received through an organization. If students have received a valid voucher, they will be prompted to enter the organization name and voucher number. Once entered, the voucher amount will be applied to their balance and will be reflected on the billing summary page.

**Important:** Applicants should only enter valid voucher information that they have received specifically for UC application fees. If the voucher is declined by the organization, the applicant will be billed for any outstanding application fees.

Additionally, some school districts may offer UC application fee vouchers. If applicable, this voucher will be applied automatically and reflected in the billing summary based on the last school the applicant has attended.



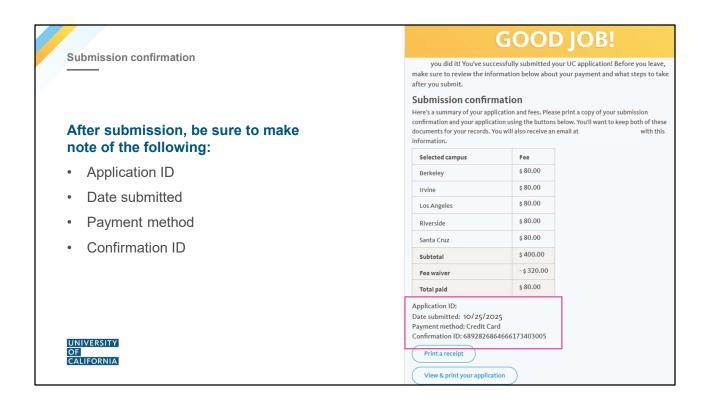
## Release authorizations and Statement of Integrity

The application cannot be submitted without the applicant's electronic signature and acknowledgement of the Statement of Integrity.

The Statement of Integrity is to affirm that all information in the application is accurate and the personal insight responses were written by the applicant. If information is withheld, such as poor grades, or falsification is detected, the application is subject to cancellation.

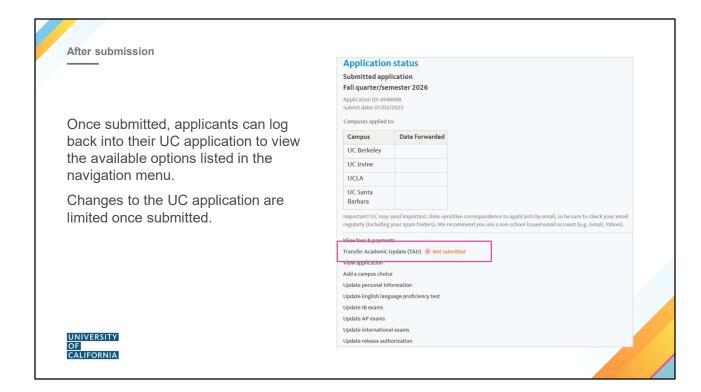
#### Signature Releases

- Review and check the release authorizations to share application information with scholarship agencies, parent/guardian, counselors and/or UC organizations and alumni groups.
- Electronically sign and date the application to verify accuracy and acknowledge that the applicant is the author of their personal insight responses.
- The electronic signature also authorizes the release of official examination score(s), if submitted, to all UC campuses to which the student applied.
- Information in the application is subject to verification. If an applicant is selected for verification, non-compliance will result in cancellation of the application and the application fee will not be refunded.



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.

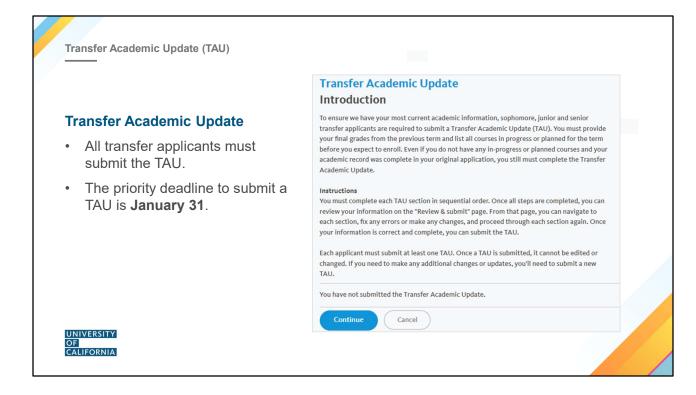
This screen will show the complete list of campuses applied to, fees, fee waiver, application ID, date submitted, and payment method. Applicants will also receive confirmation via email.



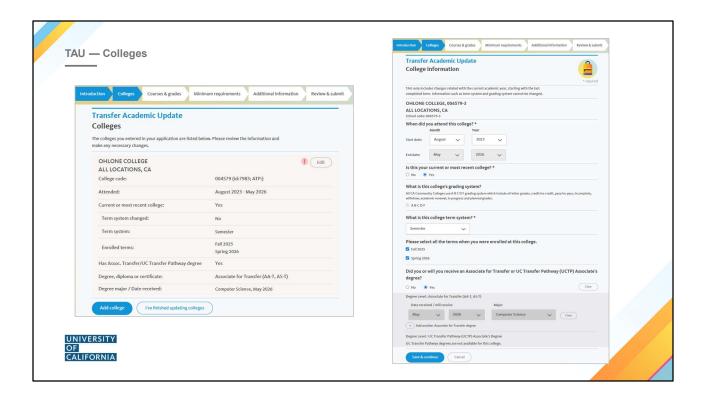
### **Application Status**

After submission, a student can log back into their application and see the following menu. Here students can see when their application was forwarded to the campus. Updates can be made in any of the sections listed on this screen, so keep in mind that Academic History and adding Activities and Awards or editing the PIQs is <u>not</u> an option once you submit.

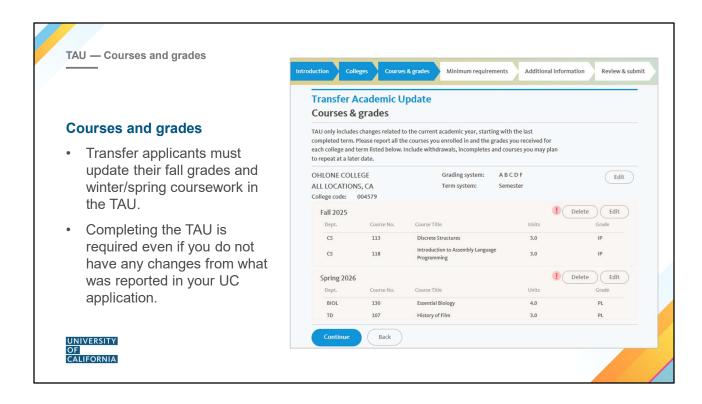




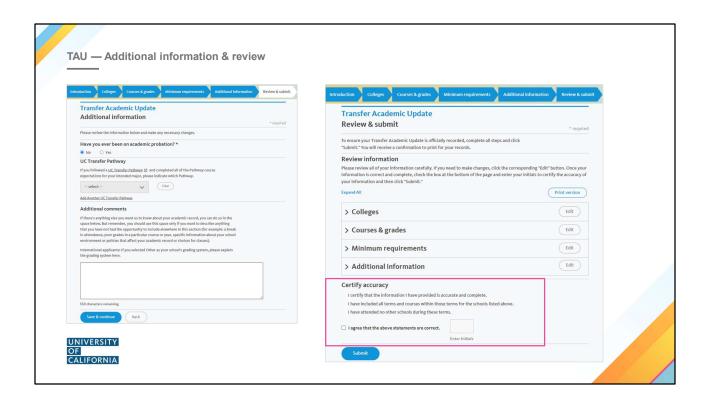
- Even if an applicant is not currently enrolled, and all information was submitted on the original admission application, all transfer applicants are required to submit the Transfer Academic Update (TAU).
- The TAU allows students to enter fall grades and list courses in progress or planned.
- Students must submit a TAU by **January 31** to ensure their application receives full consideration. TAUs submitted after the priority deadline of January 31 may not be considered.



- Applicants can review and update their college information as needed in the TAU for the current academic year (2025-26)
  - Note: Grading system cannot be changed.
- If a student is not currently enrolled, they would enter an explanation in the Comment Box.
- If a student is currently enrolled, submit grades for fall 2025 courses and confirm or update the winter and/or spring 2026 courses.
- The priority deadline to submit the TAU is January 31. Students are notified via email in mid-December when the TAU is available.

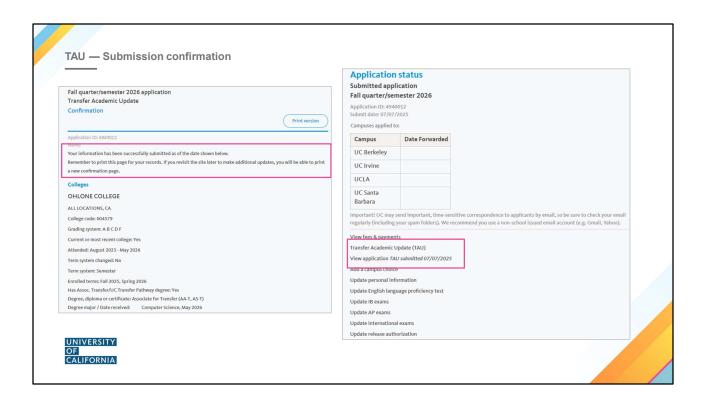


Applicants will update their fall 2025 grades and winter/spring 2026 coursework information in the TAU.



Students must be in good standing at any prior UC campus they attended, as well as at their last school of attendance. Indicating "Yes" for academic probation does not automatically disqualify a student from admission.

In order to submit the TAU, applicants must certify that the information reported is complete and accurate.



This is the confirmation of completion of the TAU. Once submitted, applicants can view this confirmation when they log into their UC application.

Students should check email frequently, as admission representatives from campuses may ask for additional information or clarification of information on the TAU.



## Need assistance?

If you have questions, contact the application help desk at ucinfo@applyucsupport.net

Or call the UC Application Center: Within the U.S.: (800) 207-1710 Outside the U.S.: (925) 298-6856

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Helpdesk hours:

Monday – Friday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. PST

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

November & December hours:

November 3–14: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. PST

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

Closed on the following holidays:

November 27, December 25 & January 1

The UC application Help Center is available to help students navigate and complete the UC application.

\*Updated hours reflect the December 1 extended deadline for fall 2026 applications\*

#### Transfer admission resources

### **General admission information**

admission.universityofcalifornia.edu

# **UC** admission requirements

admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements

# **UC admission selection process**

admission. university of california. edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/how-applications-are-reviewed. html

# Filling out the UC application

admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/filling-out-the-application.html





Campus major preparation information for transfers

UC Berkeley | admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer-admissions-information-by-college

UC Davis | ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate/transfer/selective-major-requirements

**UC Irvine** | admissions.uci.edu/apply/transfer-students/requirements.php

UCLA | admission.ucla.edu/apply/transfer/deciding-on-major

**UC Merced** | admissions.ucmerced.edu/transfer/major-preparation-schools

UC Riverside | admissions.ucr.edu/transfer/majors-preparation-guide

UC San Diego | admissions.ucsd.edu/transfer/transfer-major-preparation.html

UC Santa Barbara | admissions.ucsb.edu/selective-majors

UC Santa Cruz | admissions.ucsc.edu/transfer-students#screening-major-requirements



Transfer programs and tools

## **ASSIST.ORG**

assist.org

# **UC Transfer Admission Planner (TAP)**

uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu/students

# **UC Transfer Pathways**

admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-pathways

# **Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)**

admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-admission-guarantee-tag.html





Campus admission websites

UC Berkeley | admissions.berkeley.edu

**UC Davis** | ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate

UC Irvine | admissions.uci.edu

UCLA | admission.ucla.edu

UC Merced | admissions.ucmerced.edu

UC Riverside | admissions.ucr.edu

UC San Diego | admissions.ucsd.edu

UC Santa Barbara | admissions.ucsb.edu

UC Santa Cruz | admissions.ucsc.edu



