Welcome
Introduction of Chatters
"The 15 Freshman You Want To Keep"
• **Freshman applicant:** an applicant who is currently in high school or has graduated high school but not yet enrolled in a regular term (fall, winter, spring) at a college or university.

• **Transfer applicant:** an applicant who has enrolled in a fall, winter or spring term at a college or university after high school graduation. The majority of our transfer students apply from the CA Community College.

• **International students:** must meet the same admission requirements and will be included in the same selection process as students from the United States. If you have attended both non-U.S. and U.S. schools, both your non-U.S. and U.S. courses and grades will be considered.
  - Make sure students report ALL in state and out of country course work.

Photo: UC Irvine
**Scenario:** A student is enrolled at a middle college high school program and will graduate with a high school diploma and an A.A. as well. Should this student apply as a freshman or transfer applicant?

**Answer:** This student should apply as a freshman applicant. Students who have not yet received their high school diploma should apply as freshman, regardless of how many transferable college credits they have completed.

**Benefits of dual enrollment include:** transferable units, shortened college completion time, might be able to complete IGETC, lower division BREADTH requirements can be completed, can complete A-G with college courses, English composition courses equal entire requirement, boost UC GPA if student complete college course in 10th or 11th grade

**After SIR:** Students must submit both official HS and college transcripts
• **Course requirements:** Students need to complete a minimum of 15 college-preparatory courses (A-G courses) with a letter grade of C or better (C- is acceptable in high school coursework, as UC does not recognize +/- grades assigned by high schools), with at least 11 courses finished prior to the beginning of their last year of high school.

• **History/Social Sciences** – must include 1 year of world history, cultures, & geography; and 1 year of US History or half a year of US history and half a year of American government/civics

• **Mathematics** – must include or integrate topics covered in elementary algebra, two- and three-dimensional geometry, and advanced algebra. Also acceptable are courses that address the previous content areas and include or integrate probability, statistics or trigonometry.

• **Science** – must include two of the following: biology, chemistry, physics; one year of interdisciplinary or earth & space science can meet one year of the requirement

• **LOTE** – must complete through second year (level) or higher of the same language

• **VPA** – yearlong course from the following: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art

• **Some courses with sequential knowledge (Math and Language other than English) may be validated or cleared by higher-level coursework**
For freshman applicants, validation only applies to certain courses in Math and LOTE.

There are two types of validation:

- **Validation of coursework (subject omission):** Validation of lower-level coursework even if the lower-level coursework was not actually completed. For example, validation of a Language Other than English (LOTE): a higher-level/year of the same language validates a lower-level course. The second semester of a course validates the first semester of a course at each level. **A higher level-course validates all levels of lower-level courses.**

- **Validation of low grades:** Completion of a higher level course with a C grade or better validates an earlier grade of D or F in a lower level course. For example, a D in the first semester of algebra is validated by a grade of a C or higher in the second semester of Algebra 1. **Please note that validation is not the same as repeating a course to replace a D or F grade in the GPA calculation.**
Geometry update:
• A geometry course or an integrated math course with a sufficient amount of geometry content must be completed.
• If your students takes geometry while in middle school, it will satisfy this requirement.
• The omission of the first semester of geometry can be validated by successful completion of the second semester of geometry with a letter grade of C or better.
• The omission of the first semester of an integrated course with sufficient geometry content (e.g. Math II) can be validated by successful completion of the second semester of an integrated course with sufficient geometry content with a letter grade of C or better.
• The omission of a yearlong integrated course with sufficient geometry content (e.g. Math II) can be validated by a higher level integrated course (e.g. Math III) with a letter grade of C or better, provided that the higher-level course shows clear evidence of geometry content.

pg. 18 of Quick Reference For Counselors: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/quick-reference.pdf
**Scenario:** A California HS freshman applicant has only taken French III during 9th grade. Have they satisfied the Area E: Language other than English requirement?

**Answer:** Yes, completing French III with a C or better validates the subject omission of French I and II.
• **Minimum GPA requirement**: There is a minimum GPA requirement for eligibility based on whether the student is a California resident or non-resident. Most campuses admit higher than the minimum for selection.

• **Pandemic terms**: UC identifies pandemic terms as Spring 2020 through Summer 2021. Pass and Credit grades are okay for A-G courses taken during these terms. Pass and Credit grades are not factored into the UC GPA.

• **Calculating the UC GPA**:
  - Include only A-G courses taken in 10th and 11th grades (including the summer before 10th and the summer after 11th)
  - Include all A-G courses, even those courses above and beyond the minimum requirements. This includes A-G courses with low grades
  - Convert grades to grade points (A=4, B=3, etc). Do not factor in +/- grades
  - Add 1 GPA point for up to 8 semesters of UC approved honors (AP, IB, college level, and UC honors courses). A maximum of 4 honors points is factored for 10th grade
  - Divide the total GPA points by the total number of semesters for your UC GPA out to two decimal points. UC does not round the GPA up or down.

• **How to enter grades into the application**: Students should enter grades into the application exactly as they appear on their transcript. All attempts at a course,
including original and repeated grades, should always be included.

- **Repeated grades**: A student is allowed to repeat each A-G course in which a D or F was originally earned as many times as needed until they receive at least a grade of C. Be aware that D/F grades in honors courses (AP/IB/CL/UC HL) cannot be repeated with college prep level courses.

More on how to calculate the UC GPA: [https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/gpa-requirement.html](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/gpa-requirement.html)
• **ACT & SAT scores:** UC will not consider ACT or SAT test scores in the admissions review process or awarding of scholarships.

• **English Proficiency:** Students with fewer than 3 years of high school instruction in English must demonstrate proficiency with AP, IB, IELTS, TOEFL, Duolingo exam scores. Certain scores on the SAT or ACT may also be used to demonstrate English proficiency.

• **AP & IB exams:** Campuses may use these scores in the admission review. Each campus awards credit for AP and IB exams after enrollment. Check with individual campuses to see how AP and IB credits are utilized.

• **Note about SAT Subject Tests:** the College Board has discontinued the SAT Subject Tests, and no campus requires or recommends any of those tests. If a student sat for an SAT Subject Test before they were discontinued, they may report them on the application and they will be considered in the same way that AP/IB exams are considered.

• **Submitting scores after enrollment:** After SIR, official test scores may be submitted to the campus of enrollment. Official scores may be used for course placement after you enroll; use of scores is subject to individual campuses.

• More on ACT & SAT exams: [https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/exam-requirement/](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/exam-requirement/)
• More on English Language Proficiency requirements, including minimum required scores for each exam: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/international-applicants/english-language-proficiency-toefl-ielts.html

• More on AP & IB credit, including credit awarded for specific exams: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/ap-exam-credits/
**Scenario**: A student has only completed 6 semesters of English courses but earned a 4 on the AP English exam.

**Answer**: Yes, An AP score of 3, 4, or 5 will satisfy all 8 semesters of the English Requirement.

For more information on how test scores can be used to satisfy A-G: [https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/subject-requirement-a-g.html](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/subject-requirement-a-g.html)
• **Requirements:** UC has systemwide requirements for eligibility for freshman admissions. These are the minimum qualifications an applicant must have in order to be considered for admission. Includes: minimum GPA and A-G course requirements

• **Selection:** Each campus conducts an individual review of applicants to identify the most competitive students in their applicant pool. Most campuses admit students above the minimum eligibility criteria and each campus has their own selection criteria based on individual campus factors.

Photo: UC Berkley and UC Santa Cruz
Several factors and variables can influence selection. What is most important to know is that selection looks different at every campus!

- Selection can even look different from year to year for the same campus.
- Things like enrollment capacity (campus size impacts how many students can enroll) and enrollment targets for each campus are factored into selection.
- Campuses use multiple factors when selecting students and the way campuses select students varies.
- It is to the student’s advantage to include as much information as possible on the application.
- Every student is considered in the context of their own environment which includes, but is not limited to, school, family and geographic region.
- Students are also considered within the context of the applicant pool for each campus.
- Each campus will complete their own individual review of the application independently of one another, which means that they’re going to review the information in the application and select students without asking what the other campuses have decided.
- Each campus selects students independently.
Regents Policy 2102: Policy on Undergraduate Admissions says: "Because applicant pools differ among the campuses of the University, each campus shall establish procedures for the selection of applicants to be admitted from its pool of eligible candidates. Such procedures shall be consistent with the principles stated above and with other applicable University policies." [https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/2102.html](https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/2102.html)
• **Comprehensive Review**: This is what we consider when reviewing every applicant. This criteria were created to help admission staff gain a complete understanding of the applicant including both their academic and non-academic factors
  - The comprehensive review factors were created by UC faculty and are regularly reviewed/updated
• **Holistic Review**: A subset of comprehensive review. Campus admission offices evaluate applications based on the totality of factors present. In other words, no single factor; or even two factors will solely determine admission.

• UC is committed to ensuring enrollment opportunities for all qualified California high school graduates.
• UC no longer considers SAT or ACT test scores as a factor in admissions decisions. In light of this change, we’ve revised the index we use to determine eligibility for the statewide guarantee, effective fall 2022. The updated Statewide Index will continue to identify California-resident students in the top 9 percent of California high school graduates and offer these students a guaranteed space at a UC campus, if space is available.

More information on the Statewide Guarantee, including what information is factored into the formula: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/california-residents/statewide-guarantee/
ELC Eligibility for Students:

- Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC) is a program by which UC identifies top-performing California high school students.
- The ELC program ensures that academically talented and deserving California resident students from all over the state have the opportunity to join us at UC.
- ELC status adds value to the application and is one of the factors considered when applications are reviewed.
- ELC students not admitted to any of their campus choices are offered a spot at a UC campus that has space, if the minimum requirements are met.
- As an applicant from California, your application will be automatically screened for ELC eligibility when you apply. There’s no extra paperwork.
- After submitting their application, they can return to the My UC Application page to see whether or not they have been designated as being in the top 9 percent of their class.

More on ELC: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/california-residents/local-path.html
ELC Program Eligibility for Schools:

- Most California public high schools and many private schools participate in the ELC program.
- To participate, a school must be located in California (not virtual), have a College Board school code, and have a full list of UC-approved courses for the most recent academic year.
- Eligible schools participating in the ELC program are asked by UC to provide student contact information and are responsible for obtaining parental authorization.
- For information about joining the program, email elc@ucop.edu. New participation requests and transcripts must be received no later than July 1 for the fall admission application cycle (freshman enrollment for the following year's fall term).

More information here:
https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/california-residents/local-path.html
• All UC campuses take into account academic AND non-academic factors during their comprehensive review. Since the UC is competitive, applicants should be strong inside and outside of the classroom.
• Activities can include educational preparation programs like college advising, Gear Up, etc. and other coursework can be any relevant coursework that is NOT A-G like AVID.
• Encourage your students to think beyond what they are doing at school and think about what their responsibilities are at home and in their community. Consider activities/awards not affiliated with school:
  • home responsibilities
  • faith-based community service
  • part-time employment
• It is important that students communicate on the UC Application not only their activities and awards, but their context as well. Students that are unable to participate in school/community activities, employment, etc. should explain to the readers why. How else was their time utilized? Household/familial responsibilities?
• Students should help the reader understand their role and responsibilities in the activity. When we review applications, all activities have the potential to add value
to the application and all activities should be included, but we do value leadership, commitment and progression when reviewing a UC Application. Students can demonstrate this in many ways, as activities come in many forms.

Application logistics:
• 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.

Activities and Awards Pro Tips:
• Avoid using acronyms for names of clubs or awards.
• Explain level of involvement in detail.
• 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.
• This is a chance for students to let campuses know what circumstances/experiences shaped their academic/personal experiences.
• Students should select the 4 that they feel strongest about.
• Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words.
• Admission staff want to learn what the student did and why; what the student learned and how the student applied what was learned to aspects of their life.
• Use the additional comments field if there are issues you'd like to address that you didn't have the opportunity to discuss elsewhere on the application. This shouldn't be an essay, but rather a place to note unusual circumstances or anything that might be unclear in other parts of the application.

Photo: UC Santa Barbara
Pass/Credit Grades
• A-G courses completed between Spring 2020 and Summer 2021 grades with Pass (P) or Credit (CR) will satisfy appropriate A-G requirements. This applies to all students.
• Courses without a letter grade will not be factored into the UC GPA
• Accepted 9th – 12th grade - Use of P/NP and CR Grades
• See below for AB 104 policy on P/NP grades

Home School Students
• Independently - will continue to be considered for Admission by Exception. Faculty are exploring ways to admit students without the use of the SAT Subject Test.

Activities & Awards
• If an activity planned and it was cancelled before it began, make a note in “Additional Comments” vs. adding has an event completed
• If the student was able to continue their activity (i.e. online), add how the activity changed and how they adjusted?

AP Exams
• UC awards college credit for most AP exams passed with a score of 3-4-5 and UC Faculty has agreed to continue despite May 2020 modifications.

Photos (clockwise): UC Riverside, UCLA, UC San Diego, UC Berkeley

**AB 104:** UC’s Academic Senate had already extended, in early 2021, the suspension of the letter grade policy through summer 2021, allowing students to take A-G courses for P or CR grades and still meet admission requirements. AB 104, therefore, does not affect the temporary policies that were already in place. However, please note that all UC campuses, as well as our Academic Senate, strongly recommended that students take A-G courses for letter grades during the 2020-21 academic year, if given the option. Students with slightly lower-than-expected grades can utilize the Additional Comments section of the application to provide context for admissions readers.

• UC [Comprehensive Review policy](#) ensures that the full extent of each applicant’s academic and personal accomplishments is taken into consideration within the context of the opportunities that were available to that student. No single factor plays a deciding role in how an applicant is evaluated. Campuses will continue to review and consider every piece of information shared via the UC application. As such, grades alone do not form the basis of an admission decision.
• Some campuses and colleges admit directly into individual majors like Arts, Nursing, Engineering, Computer Science, Business....

• Transfers Applicants are admitted by major.

• It's important that students apply for an alternate major option for most campuses.

• UC Berkeley does not have alternate major as an option on the UC Application.

• UCLA only guarantees review of an applicants first choice major. They typically do not admit to the alternate major.

• Encourage students to apply to the major they are actually interested in and research policies of switching

• Check out the Quick Reference For Counselors page: [https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/quick-]
• Shows Information By Campus

• Which majors are most selective

• Majors that require auditions, portfolios and supplemental applications
• **August 1, 2021**: Application opens. Students at this time can begin to work on their application.

• **November 1-30, 2021**: Application submission period is open. Students can begin to submit their applications. We encourage students not to wait until November 30th to submit their application as the UC application can experience a high volume of traffic.

• **January 2022**: Time to claim campus portals. Following application submission, students can expect to receive instructions to claim their campus portals by January 2022.

• **March 1-31, 2022**: Decisions release. The exact release date will vary from campus to campus. However all on time applicants can expect to receive a decision by March 31st.

• **May 1, 2022**: Deadline to submit SIR. Reminder that students may not SIR to more than one campus.

• **July 1, 2022**: Required document deadline. All final, official transcripts (high school and/or college) are due by July 1st. Reminder that July 1st is just a post marked deadline.

• **Appeals and Waitlist Offers**: Waitlist offers sent out will very from campus to campus and are usually released on a rolling basis. Additionally not all campuses
will offer a waitlist. Appeal deadlines will vary by campus.
An admission offer from any UC is **PROVISIONAL**

- All admitted students will receive a contract outlining the provisions necessary to maintain their admission.
- Students should ALWAYS review their contract in its entirety before accepting an admission offer.
- Admission is finalized during the summer after all provisions are confirmed to be satisfied.
• Freshman contracts and admission provisions will vary between each UC!

• Students need to work closely with UC campus if they believe they will not meet one of these provisions

• Failure to meet one or more provisions outlined in the contract can affect an admission offer and may result in admission being withdrawn

• Students should work closely with the individual UC campus if they suspect they will not meet the outlined provisions
**Scenario:** A student receives a D in AP Calculus in Fall of their senior year and decides to switch to Personal Finance. What should they do?

**Answer:** Report the low grade and course change to the Admissions office immediately for approval.

The Admissions office may need to review the admissions decision if the grade or schedule change violates the Conditions of Admission or impacts eligibility.
Choosing the Right Campus

- **Research schools**: Things like campus size, faculty, research opportunities, athletics, alumni community, and location may all carry weight.
- **Apply broadly**: Students should apply broadly at UC and beyond in order to have options when admission season comes.
- **Go outside comfort zone**: Students shouldn't limit themselves when it comes to social influence and their comfort zone, but they should try to get a sense of what matters most to them.
UCOP Resources

Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions

Counselors and Advisers Bulletin

UC Counselor Quick Reference

UC Counselors and Advisers
Bulletin: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/resources/counselors-advisers-bulletin/
## Campus Newsletters

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### Stay Connected!

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  COUNSELOR  CONFERENCE
GPA Requirement Slide:
**Survival tip: Repeating Grades: Know the rules, and you'll never lose!** Please include all original grades of repeated courses.

Activities & Awards Slide:
**Survival Tip: Show The Glow Up.** Students should outline activities in chronological order and separate each category of activities. Students should show progression.

Personal Insight Questions Slide:
**Survival Tip: Show off and show out.** Remember, this is not an essay. Students should use "I" statements and be specific and detailed. Admission staff want the full picture of the student.

Application Timeline Slide:
**Survival Tip: Start early: Those who stay ready don't have to get ready!** Students can take this opportunity to practice time management and prepare for life in college. Organization is key: writing PIQ rough drafts, gathering unofficial transcripts, collecting financial and academic information, and outline extracurriculars. Students should be aware of deadlines and work ahead.
Survival Tip: Don't be extra: Don’t SIR to multiple campuses. Apply to many, choose one. Students will need to complete many enrollment steps including housing applications, orientation, placement exams, and submitting official documents. Space is limited, and every available spot counts! Plus, students should get ahead on claiming their new academic home: researching activities and organizations on campus, and learning about their new local area.

Survival Tip: Opt into the waitlist: Pride comes before the fall. To be considered for the waitlist, students must "opt in" when they receive their waitlist offer. The waitlist is an opportunity to still be considered by the campus; however, it is no guarantee. Students may opt in to the waitlist while SIRing to another campus (within UC and beyond). Students should always have a contingency plan as time moves forward.

Examples of Provisions Slide:

Survival tip: Don't be that student! Communicate, communicate, communicate! Students should build a relationship with their admissions counselor; use update forms; inquire about what is and is not acceptable in their last semester. Students want to avoid rescinded admission – encourage students to stay organized, be honest about any grade and schedule issues, and report these issues early.

Freshman Contract for Maintaining Admission Slide:
Survival tip: Finish the job! When submitting their SIR, students are agreeing to meet the conditions of admission: continuing academic achievement, passing courses with C grades or better, completing in progress/planned coursework as reported on their application, graduating from high school, and submitting all official documents requested. Students should keep up the academic excellence throughout their senior year; Admissions offices are watching!
Resources Shared During Live Presentation

A-G Requirements: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/subject-requirement-a-g.html

A-G Course List: https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist

Updated Math Matrix: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/quick-reference.pdf?mc_cid=96a0f8f&mc_eid=c4c226cbda

UC GPA Calculation: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/gpa-requirement.html

ELC: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/california-residents/local-path.html

ELC: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/california-residents/local-guarantee-elc.html

PIQ Tips: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html

A-G Requirements: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/subject-requirement-a-g.html

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UC GPA Calculation: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/gpa-requirement.html

ELC: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/california-residents/local-path.html

ELC: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/california-residents/local-guarantee-elc.html
PIQ Tips: https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-freshman/personal-insight-questions.html
GPA Requirement: [https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/gpa-requirement.html](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/gpa-requirement.html)

Understanding Residency for UC Tuition: [https://www.ucop.edu/residency/](https://www.ucop.edu/residency/)

Home Schooled Students: [https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/home-schooled-students.html](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/home-schooled-students.html)

Thank you!