2019/20

Tips and tools for California freshman applicants

Undergraduate Admissions
Application Guide

Berkeley
Davis
Irvine
UCLA
Merced
Riverside
San Diego
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

1 Before You Begin

Gather your information

Having everything you'll need in hand before you start your application means you won't be searching for important information at the last minute. Make sure the information you provide is accurate because you may be asked to verify it at a later time.

Research your options

There may be different degree programs at several UC campuses that can help you achieve your career goals; knowing what they are will give you more options when you apply. Check which majors are open for the current term at ***http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/check-majors***.

Campus Majors

UCB	http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/
UCD	http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors
UCI	www.admissions.uci.edu/about/majors_and_minors.html
UCLA	www.admissions.ucla.edu/majors
UCM	www.ucmerced.edu/academics-undergraduate-majors-minors
UCR	www.ucr.edu/academics/undergradmajors.html
UCSD	https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/advising/majors-minors/undergraduate-majors.html
UCSB	www.admissions.ucsb.edu/allmajors.asp
UCSC	http://admissions.ucsc.edu/majors

Apply broadly

Applying to more than one UC can significantly increase your chances of being admitted to a campus that will enable you to fulfill your educational goals. We recommend applying to campuses that vary in their admit rates (visit ***http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/campuses/*** for the most recent admit rates).

Pick an email address and stick with it

Campuses may email applicants to request or clarify information; they often need a quick response. Provide an email address that you will check regularly. Update your spam filters to ensure that you receive all UC communications.

Apply at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Follow directions. Answers to common questions appear on every page and under the "help" tab. If you can't find an answer, contact the UC Application Center at ucinfo@applyUCsupport.net, or call (800) 207-1710 (toll free in the U.S.).

Save your work. If you take a break from your application, sign out or click "Next" on any page to make sure your work is saved.

Review your summary. Look for any instance where the summary page says "not started" or "in progress." If you didn't intend to leave a question blank, click "Edit" to go back and answer it.

Don't forget to click "Submit your application for UC admission." Your application won't be sent to UC until you do. After submission, you will be taken to the receipt page, which shows your application ID. It's a good idea to print this page.

Write your responses to the personal insight questions in advance

What you tell us in your responses gives us the context to better understand the rest of the information you've provided in your application. Be open, be honest, be yourself.

Instructions:

- ➜ You will have 8 questions to choose from. You must respond to only 4 of the 8 questions.
- ➜ Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words.
- ➜ Which questions you choose to answer is entirely up to you. All questions are given equal consideration in the application review process.

Questions:

1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time.
2. Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.
3. What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?
4. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.
5. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?
6. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom.
7. What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?
8. Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you stand out as a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?

Visit ***ucal.us/personalquestions*** for more information and to download our student worksheets.

Pursue all potential scholarships

UC campuses and alumni associations award a variety of scholarships based on a student's academic merit, financial need or both. Visit ***http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/paying-for-uc*** to research deadlines and additional requirements.

There are also "restricted" scholarships available to students with specific backgrounds, academic interests or career goals. You can apply for these scholarships in the admission application by matching your own background characteristics and interests to the lists provided. Most students are notified of scholarship awards between March and August.

Application fees

Paying your application fees. UC's application fee is $70 per campus. You may pay online by credit card or submit payment by check or money order. Application fees are non-refundable.

Fee waiver. UC will waive application fees for up to four campuses for qualified students who otherwise would be unable to apply. If you're a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or meet basic criteria for AB 540, you can find out if you qualify for a fee waiver immediately in the application. Fee waivers can't be applied to more than four campuses, regardless of their source (e.g. UC, College Board/SAT).

2

Checklist

Transcripts

You'll need to enter courses and grades from all schools you have attended, including any colleges where you have taken courses while enrolled in high school. Make sure you refer to your transcripts (don't enter information from your memory). Misreporting your academic record can jeopardize your admission. If you took advanced math and/or a language other than English in middle school, you must report how many semesters you completed.

Test scores

These include your ACT with Writing and/or SAT (with Writing or with Essay) scores, and any Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and/or A-Level exam scores. Know the test dates for upcoming exams you plan to take.

Annual income (optional)

If your parents claim you as a dependent on their tax return, ask them for their annual pre-tax income for 2017. Refer to tax records or pay stubs.

Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (if you have one)

We use your Social Security number or ITIN to verify your identity and match your application to your transcripts, and, if you apply for financial aid, your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application. It will be kept confidential.

Citizenship status

You must provide your country of citizenship (or "No Selection" — this is recommended for undocumented applicants). If you select a country other than the United States, you'll need to provide your legal immigration status and the type of visa (e.g., F-1, H4, etc.) you hold or plan to hold.

California Statewide Student ID (optional)

Each K–12 student in California public schools is assigned a 10-digit ID number. If it's not printed on your high school transcript, obtain it from your school counselor or registrar.

Credit card

You'll need the account number, expiration date, cardholder's name and billing address. (If you'd prefer to pay by check or money order, you can send your payment by mail. Do not send cash.)

Activities and Awards Worksheet

In addition to your courses and grades, we want to know about any honors you've received and how you spend your time outside of school. Use this worksheet to prepare concise descriptions of your most significant awards and activities. You may list up to five entries in each category, so think carefully about what you want to highlight. Also make sure to fully describe each item (up to 160 characters) for admissions offices to best understand your involvement.

Coursework Other Than A–G List additional courses or training taken during high school, other than those approved for UC admission, that demonstrate a particular focus or interest (e.g., language immersion courses or nontransferable college courses).

Course name	Description of course	Year(s) of involvement: 9th	10th	11th	12th	After 12th	Hours per week	Weeks per year
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Educational Preparation Programs List your participation in educational or academic preparation programs that are designed to help students prepare for university study. These programs may include academic enrichment programs sponsored by colleges/universities, research programs and study-abroad programs.

Program name	Description of program	Year(s) of involvement: 9th	10th	11th	12th	After 12th	Hours per week	Weeks per year
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Volunteer and Community Service List unpaid work only.

Organization	Description of organization and your responsibilities	Year(s) of involvement: 9th	10th	11th	12th	After 12th	Hours per week	Weeks per year
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Work Experience List paid work only.

Job title	Responsibilities	Year(s) of involvement: 9th	10th	11th	12th	After 12th	Begin mo/yr	End mo/yr	Hours per week (summer)	Hours per week (school yr)
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				

To what use have you or will you put your earnings?

Awards and Honors List and briefly describe the most significant awards you have received since the beginning of 9th grade.

Award or honor	Description of award or honor	Award or honor type: Academic	Other	Date received
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	

Extracurricular Activities List and briefly describe the activities you have been involved in since the beginning of 9th grade.

Activity	**Description of activity** Note any leadership positions.	Year(s) of involvement: 9th	10th	11th	12th	After 12th	Hours per week	Weeks per year
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

3

After You Submit

Print your receipt

You'll want to keep a record of your application ID number and a summary of your application for reference.

Watch for your application submission confirmation

As soon as you submit your application, you'll receive an email confirming it has been successfully filed. If you do not receive this email, check your spam filter or contact the UC Application Center at ucinfo@applyUCsupport.net, (800) 207-1710 (toll free in the U.S.).

Order test score reports

Be sure to have the appropriate testing agency send your official results from the ACT, SAT or SAT Subject tests (optional) to UC. If you have a report sent to one UC campus, it will be shared with all the campuses to which you apply. You can confirm receipt of your test scores by logging back in to your application.

If you are admitted for the fall term, you must arrange to have official AP and IB exam scores sent to the campus admissions office no later than July 15.

Order final transcripts

If you are admitted for the fall term, you must arrange to have final, official transcripts sent to the campus admissions office no later than July 1.

Note: Before admittance, you do not need to send preliminary transcripts unless requested by a campus.

Applying for Financial Aid

Here's a fact that may surprise you about UC: Financial aid fully covers systemwide tuition and fees for more than half of California undergrads. That's because UC has one of the strongest financial aid programs in the country that can help you pay for tuition, housing, food, books, and even transportation. You should apply for financial aid, even if you don't think you'll qualify. It's the only way to guarantee you'll be considered for every type of aid possible, regardless of your income level.

Apply for aid between October 1, 2018 and March 2, 2019. Here's how:

Submit a FAFSA or California Dream Act Application. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is available at www.fafsa.gov. For undocumented students, the California Dream Act Application is available at www.csac.ca.gov. You automatically will be considered for the Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan if you submit the FAFSA or California Dream Act Application, and the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form.

Submit your GPA for a Cal Grant. If you're progressing toward your first bachelor's degree, make sure your school-certified GPA is submitted to the California Student Aid Commission. Many California high schools automatically submit their students' GPAs. If this isn't the case with your school, use the GPA Verification Form, which is available at www.csac.ca.gov (click on "Cal Grant GPA Forms" under "Students & Parents").

Find out more about UC's financial aid programs: http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/paying-for-uc.

4 Making Changes to Your Application

If you want to apply to an additional UC campus

You may add a campus only if it is still accepting applications. Log in to your UC application at ***www.universityofcalifornia.edu/afterapply***.

If you need to change your phone number, email or mailing address

See how to update this information at: ***www.universityofcalifornia.edu/afterapply***.

If your academic record changes

If you add or drop a course or fail to earn a C or better in a course, you must notify us by email at docs@applyUCsupport.net or by mail to UC Application Center, P.O. Box 1432, Bakersfield, CA 93302. Make sure to include your full name, date of birth and application ID.

If you enroll in a new school or college after applying

Notify the UC Application Center (email or address above) and provide the institution's name and the courses you are taking or plan to take.

Important dates and deadlines

Aug. 1:	Application opens for fall 2019 at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply
Oct. 1:	Filing period opens for GPA Verification Form (required for Cal Grant consideration), Free Application for Federal Student Aid (www.fafsa.gov) and California Dream Act Application (www.csac.ca.gov/dream_act.asp)
Nov. 1-30:	Filing period for fall 2019 Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. PST, Nov. 30
March 1-31:	Notification of fall 2019 admission decisions
March 2:	Deadline for applicants for all terms to submit FAFSA, California Dream Act Application and GPA Verification Form
May 1:	Deadline for fall 2019 admitted freshmen to submit the Statement of Intent to Register to their chosen campus
July 1:	Final official transcripts must be postmarked or electronically submitted to campus admissions offices for students admitted for fall 2019
July 1-31:	Filing period for winter quarter/spring semester 2020 See http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/check-majors for current openings