

Great futures start here



A guide for students and parents considering the University of California



The importance of

The University of California designed this bilingual booklet to help parents and students understand UC's exams to the deadlines for financial aid. We hope you find it a useful guide and encourage you to apply.

Why College?

To succeed in a society where new job opportunities are often found in careers that require at least a bachelor's degree, a college education is no longer an option but a necessity.

A college education can mean the difference between having to stay in a minimum-wage job or moving into a well-paid career that you enjoy.

College graduates earn almost twice as much as adults who have only a high school education. Indeed, it is estimated that college graduates earn about \$1 million more throughout their lives than those with only a high school diploma.

Beyond the monetary advantages, a college education gives you the opportunity to develop personal and professional skills and places you in a better position to help your family and community.

However, the demographic explosion of Latinos in California—where Hispanics now make up 32 percent of the state's population—is not reflected on college campuses. The high school dropout rate for Latino students remains high and it is estimated that only 6.5 percent of Latino graduates meet UC's eligibility requirements.

To take full advantage of new opportunities, students need to plan on attending college and getting a first-rate education. The University of California offers high-achieving students just such an opportunity to start a great future.

Where great futures begin

The University of California has generous financial aid programs to help students and families at all income levels afford a UC education.



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LEVEL OF EDUCATION	Doctorate	Master's Degree	Bachelor's Degree
AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME	\$85,306	\$65,260	\$56,836
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	1.9%	2.9%	3.5%

a college education

admission requirements. Here you will find information on everything from required courses and admission



Their Pride and Joy

Many parents find it difficult to let their children move away from home, even if it is to attend college.

That was the case for the parents of Lourdes Juárez, an 18-year-old from Imperial Valley who was admitted to

UCLA in the fall of 1991. Lourdes' parents let her enroll, but with reservations. It was the first time Lourdes would live alone, far away from the small town where she grew up.

"Most of us come from Mexico and our culture is totally different," said Lourdes' mother, Ramona. "In Mexico, we're used to having the entire family stay together," explained Rubén, Lourdes' father. Despite their doubts and concerns, the Juárezes decided to let Lourdes move to Los Angeles to begin her college career.

"It took a lot of courage, but we let her go. We did it for her, so she could get ahead and so she wouldn't have to work as hard as I have. I didn't want her to work in the fields," said Rubén, who has been a farm laborer all his life.

Lourdes graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing from UCLA and went on to get her master's degree in nursing from UC San Francisco. She's now a pediatrics nurse and works at a medical office where she regularly sees low-income Latino patients. She's thinking of returning to Imperial Valley to help her community.

"She's always wanted to work in her community," her mother said. "I'm very proud of her. Letting her go away to college was worth it. It made her very independent and that fills me with pride and joy."

Lourdes' father has this piece of advice for parents struggling with the same decision they made years ago: "I would tell parents in the same situation not to get discouraged. I would tell them to trust their children and to give them all the support they need to make something of themselves on their own."

Why UC?

The University of California is one of the best public university systems in the world.

Prestige and Reputation

UC is a leading public education system. A UC degree is recognized worldwide.

A Valued Education

UC graduates are competitive in the job market and have high acceptance rates to graduate and professional schools. UC graduates are tomorrow's leaders.

Student Research opportunities

UC undergraduates have the opportunity to engage in research with distinguished faculty.

UC Campus Life

UC campuses have hundreds of student organizations and clubs representing every interest and affiliation. UC campuses have sports programs ranging from intramurals to Division I. Many intercollegiate sports programs earn top national rankings.

Education Abroad Program (EAP) & Internships

UC students have the opportunity to travel and study all over the world. They can also enroll in internship programs in Washington D.C., Sacramento and other locations.

Affordable

Nearly 67% of UC undergraduates receive some form of financial assistance — including grants, scholarships, work-study and loans. The average award in 2004-05 was \$12,350.

Diversity

UC's student population reflects all economic, cultural, and geographic backgrounds.

High School Diploma	No High School Diploma
\$32,240	\$23,036
6.7%	12.1%

Paying for

Financial Aid

CAN I AFFORD A UC EDUCATION?

Yes. The University of California is affordable. There are a number of financial aid options to help students and their families pay for college. These include grants and scholarships, as well as student loans. Think of your education as an investment in your future. And before panicking at the prospect of borrowing money, consider that student loans, unlike car loans or credit card debt, buy you something that will *increase* in value. A college degree will pay dividends throughout your life.

Currently, UC fees for California residents average about \$6,850 per year.* It is estimated that the total cost of an academic year for an undergraduate who lives in UC housing amounts to \$22,860. (This amount includes fees, housing, food, books and supplies and other personal expenses.) But don't let that figure intimidate you. The University of California is committed to helping all academically eligible students attend, regardless of their economic circumstances. That's why UC offers financially needy students generous financial assistance that may include some or all of the following types of aid:

Grants are funds given directly to students that do NOT have to be repaid or earned ("free money"). The state of California offers some of the most generous monetary awards given to students to help pay for college through the Cal Grant program. Universities and the federal government also offer grants.

Scholarships are awarded to students based on merit or need, or sometimes both. Colleges and universities have their own scholarships they award to deserving students. There are also many scholarships available from foundations, civic and private organizations, businesses and religious groups. For more information, talk to your high school counselor or do some research on the Internet.

Loans are funds that may be borrowed by the student, and in some cases by the parent. They must be repaid over a period of 10 or more years after the student leaves school. Student loans have low interest rates and favorable repayment terms that lead to manageable monthly payments.

Work-study programs give students the opportunity to work on or off campus. Students earn money to cover some of their college expenses while gaining valuable work experience.



BRANDON BROWN found money was the most important issue when he applied to UC Irvine.

"I knew that if I didn't get financial aid, I wouldn't go," says Brandon who was raised by a single mother. "My mom told me she'd help me, but I knew she couldn't afford it, so I was pretty much on my own."

As a cross-country runner in high school, Brandon knew all about the importance of focusing on a goal.

"It's been easy to finance my education," he says. "Every year I've been at UCI I've gotten a number of scholarships."

For example, he has received scholarships from the Hispanic College Fund and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund totaling

\$2,700 and \$5,000 respectively.

Brandon has this advice for prospective freshmen: "I had no idea how specific they [scholarships] can get. But even if a student doesn't meet all the requirements to get it, I think they should be persistent because exceptions can be made."

In addition to his scholarships, Brandon received a Cal Grant award for nearly \$5,000 in his senior year. And like most UC students, he also took out a low-interest student loan for \$4,550.

To supplement his financial aid, Brandon worked 20 hours a week at the UC Irvine Medical Center. In addition to gaining invaluable clinical experience for his planned career, he used the money he earned to pay for expenses such as food, rent and bills.

Now instead of becoming a personal trainer, as Brandon had planned while in high school, he wants to get a doctoral degree in epidemiology.

"It's been great," Brandon says about his undergraduate years. "For sure it changed my life. I certainly don't plan on being a trainer anymore."

*Fees are subject to change without notice.

college

A Financial Partnership

Financing a UC education requires a partnership involving the University, students and their parents.

Parents are expected to contribute based on their financial circumstances as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. For very low-income families, the expected contribution may be \$0—that is, they are not expected to pay anything.

Students are expected to work part-time and to borrow at manageable levels through low-interest student loan programs.

UC will cover the remaining costs with grants from a variety of sources. This money— drawn from federal, state and UC's own grant programs—does not need to be repaid.

To qualify for financial aid, students must complete and submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) between January 1 and March 2 of their senior year. California residents must also complete the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form by the same date. The form may be obtained from a high school counselor or a college financial aid office. For more information, visit the California Student Aid Commission: www.csac.ca.gov.

All students must meet the March 2 deadline.

For more information, visit the FAFSA Web site at: www.fafsa.ed.gov or call 1-800-433-3243.

How It Works

In the chart below are several examples of how four students and their families, along with the University, might cover the costs of attending UC for one year.*

You can find additional information on our Web site: www.ucop.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/paying.html



The University of California campuses enroll more low-income students than any other top public or private university in the country.

SAMPLE STUDENT FINANCING PLANS, 2006-2007

	Simon	Sara	Serena	Samuel
ANNUAL PARENT INCOME	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$60,000	\$80,000
EXPECTED FROM PARENTS	\$0	\$1,630	\$5,600	\$13,260
STUDENT WAGES From part-time job during school year (13hrs/wk @ \$8/hr)	3,100	3,100	3,100	3,100
STUDENT SAVINGS From full time work during summer	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
STUDENT LOAN Low interest	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
GRANT AID Does not have to be repaid	13,260	11,630	7,660	0
ESTIMATED COSTS (2006-07) Living on campus	22,860	22,860	22,860	22,860

*Examples are meant to be instructive and are neither guarantees of financial aid, nor are they guaranteed to represent actual costs incurred at UC by all students.

Financial Aid Deadlines: File FAFSA and the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form between January 1 and March 2 of your senior year in high school. All students must meet the March 2 deadline.

Admission

Required Courses

HOW DO I MAKE SURE I TAKE THE COURSES THAT MEET THE UNIVERSITY'S ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS?

Students should be aware of the courses they need to take in high school to fulfill UC's coursework requirement. Parents can help by becoming informed, keeping track of their student's progress and regularly consulting with their student's counselors. Indeed, studies have shown that children whose parents are actively involved in their education are much more likely to excel.

UC requires every prospective freshman to complete a series of high school college preparatory courses in order to be eligible for admission. These are known as the "a-g" requirements and they can be summarized as follows:

- A. **HISTORY / SOCIAL SCIENCE** - Two years required, including one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American Government; and one year of world history, cultures, and geography.
- B. **ENGLISH** - Four years of college preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing, and reading of classic and modern literature.
- C. **MATHEMATICS** - Three years of college preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. (FOUR YEARS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)
- D. **LABORATORY SCIENCE** - Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three disciplines: biology (which includes anatomy, physiology, marine biology, aquatic biology, etc.), chemistry, and physics. (THREE YEARS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)
- E. **LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH** - Two years of the same language other than English. (THREE YEARS ARE RECOMMENDED)
- F. **VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS** - One year, including dance, drama/theater, music, and/or visual art.



- G. **COLLEGE PREPARATORY ELECTIVE** - In addition to the courses already mentioned, one year (two semesters) of college preparatory electives are required, chosen from visual and performing arts, history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, and language other than English.

➤ The worksheet on page 9 is a good way to track your progress.

Note: To be accepted by the University, courses taken to satisfy the "a-g" requirements must be certified by UC. For a list of "a-g" courses certified by UC at your child's school, please contact his or her counselor. You may also check the list on our website: www.ucop.edu/doorways/list/

These are just the minimum requirements. The more rigorous the academic program, the better the students' chances of being admitted to the campus of their choice. Whenever possible, students should take honors-level courses. The work will be more challenging and it will help them prepare for the rigors of college classes. They should also take as many Advanced Placement (AP) courses as they can, especially those who wish to attend extremely selective campuses such as UC Berkeley or UCLA.

Certain students in select schools throughout the state are now able to complete AP courses via the Internet through the UC College Prep Initiative (UCCP). The program helps students who attend high schools that offer few or no AP classes. For more information on this program, visit: www.uccp.org

For more information on the a-g requirements, visit our Web site: www.ucop.edu/a-gguide/ag/

For ACT examination dates visit:

www.actstudent.org/regist/currentdates.html

For SAT test dates visit:

www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/calenefees.html

requirements

UC Examination Requirement

In addition to the “a-g” courses, all students applying for fall 2006 or later must submit the following test scores:

- The SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT Assessment plus Writing. The critical reading, writing and mathematics scores on the SAT must be from the same sitting. If you take the ACT, you will be asked to report your scores on each section of the test as well as your composite score.
- Two SAT Subject Tests. These must be in two different areas, chosen from the following: English, history and social studies, mathematics (Level 2 only), science or language other than English.

Students applying for admission in the fall must take the tests no later than December of their senior year.

Tests you must take to meet the University of California’s examination requirement: the SAT Reasoning Test or ACT Assessment plus Writing and two SAT Subject Tests.

The best way to improve your scores on standardized tests is to practice, practice and practice.

Fee waivers are available to high school juniors and seniors who come from economically disadvantaged households and cannot afford to pay the SAT test fees. Contact a high school counselor for information on how to obtain a fee waiver.

Note: Freshman applicants who graduated from high school in spring 2005 or earlier are required to have taken the SAT I (or ACT) and three SAT II Subject Tests prior to high school graduation.



SUMMARY OF THE EXAMS

EXAM/DESCRIPTION	WHEN TO TAKE IT
PSAT The Preliminary SAT or PSAT is a “practice” test used to predict a student’s performance on the important SAT Reasoning Test. The PSAT gives students a chance to become familiar with the format and questions they will encounter on the SAT Reasoning Test.	Students should take the PSAT as early as 8 th grade. It can be taken again each year until the 11 th grade.
SAT Reasoning Test Scores on this test help colleges and scholarship programs compare your academic preparation and ability with other students. It is designed to measure the critical thinking skills you’ll need for academic success in college.	Students should take the SAT Reasoning Test by 11th grade. You may take it more than once. In fact, students who take the test more than once generally improve their scores.
SAT Subject Tests These one-hour tests measure your knowledge and skills in particular subjects and your ability to apply that knowledge. They fall into five general areas: English, history and social studies, mathematics, sciences and languages.	Students should take these tests immediately after finishing the subject on which they are based. Students have a better chance of getting a good score if the information about a particular subject is still fresh in their minds.
ACT Assessment plus Writing Instead of the SAT Reasoning Test, students may choose to take the ACT Assessment plus Writing. It is a test designed to assess high school students’ general education development and their ability to complete college-level work. The test covers four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning. The Writing Test, which is optional, measures skill in planning and writing a short essay.	Students should take the ACT Assessment plus Writing Test by 11th grade. You may take it more than once. In fact, students who take the test more than once generally improve their scores.

Fulfilling UC's requirements step by step

The following step-by-step summary was developed by the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) to give students and their families an idea of what is needed at each grade level to successfully complete the University of California's coursework and examination requirements. Students are also encouraged to participate in extracurricular and community service activities.

8TH GRADE

- Take pre-algebra or algebra.
- Make sure your 9th grade schedule includes algebra or more advanced math and foreign language classes.
- Take the ACT-Explore or the PSAT for practice. Have a counselor or teacher help you interpret your score.
- Participate in study groups and read, read, read.

9TH GRADE

- Make sure your class schedule includes college preparatory classes all through high school (see Requirements on pages 6-7). Excel in your math and English courses.
- Take the ACT-Explore or PSAT as a practice test to improve your ACT Assessment or SAT Reasoning Test scores. In addition, spend time familiarizing yourself with these tests. It will help you determine what coursework you need to increase your scores.
- Explore a variety of careers by talking with professionals. Have a career assessment done in your high school career center.
- Create and maintain a college file that includes copies of your report cards, test scores and diplomas. This will be useful when you apply to college.

10TH GRADE

- Review your academic plan with a guidance counselor and your parents. Make sure you take all the necessary courses for college admission.
- Discuss with your counselor the benefits of taking as many honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses as you can. AP and honors courses boost your grade point average. Strive to be an "A" student.
- Enroll in a test-preparation program for the SAT Reasoning Test/ACT Assessment Test.
- Take the SAT Reasoning Test/ACT Assessment plus Writing.
- Get involved in extracurricular and community service activities. Strengthen and demonstrate your leadership skills.
- Begin researching colleges and universities.

11TH GRADE

- When completing an AP course, follow up by taking the AP exam.
- **Take the PSAT in October.** This might qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship program.
- Take the SAT Reasoning Test/ACT Assessment plus Writing .
- Take the SAT Subject Tests after completion of the appropriate courses.
- Attend college fairs, visit colleges in person or online.
- Continue involvement in extracurricular, community service and leadership activities.
- Begin researching scholarships and financial aid opportunities with school counselors.
- Begin thinking about your college application essay or personal statement and identify a counselor or teacher who might help you proofread it.
- Participate in summer academic enrichment programs offered at university campuses.

12TH GRADE

- Review your plans for college with your school counselor and family.
- Make sure you meet the "a-g" coursework and examination requirements.
- Make sure your senior year is academically challenging and maintain a high GPA.
- Use your college file to complete your college application in the fall. **The deadline for UC is November 30.**
- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) **between January 1 and March 2.**
- If you need to improve your SAT Reasoning Test/ACT Assessment plus Writing scores, take the tests before **December.** Also, take the SAT Subject Test(s) you might still need before **December.**
- Apply for all the scholarships for which you might qualify.
- Enjoy graduation and plan for a wonderful college experience.

Fee waivers are available to high school juniors and seniors who come from economically disadvantaged households and cannot afford to pay the SAT test fees.

Chart your course

ACADEMIC SUBJECTS	GRADES 7 & 8		9 TH GRADE		10 TH GRADE		11 TH GRADE		12 TH GRADE	
	7 TH	8 TH	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING
A. HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE U.S. History; Civics; American Government; World History; Cultures and Geography; European History 2 years required										
B. ENGLISH (Language of Instruction) Composition, Literature (American, English, World, etc.) 4 years required										
C. MATHEMATICS Algebra, Geometry, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Integrated Math, Calculus (does not include arithmetic and pre-algebra) 3 years required; 4 years strongly recommended										
D. LABORATORY SCIENCE Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Integrated Science with Lab, Marine Biology, Physiology, Anatomy, etc. 2 years required, 3 years recommended										
E. LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (second language) French, German, Spanish, Latin, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, etc. 2 years required, 3 years recommended										
F. VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS Dance, Drama, Music, or Visual Arts 1 year required										
G. COLLEGE PREPARATORY ELECTIVES (academic electives) Include only courses that are UC- approved college preparatory electives. (Do not list such courses as physical education, typing, driver education, health and pep squad.) 1 year required										

CHECKLIST OF DATES FOR PSAT, SAT Reasoning Test, ACT-Explore, ACT Assessment plus Writing

8TH GRADE	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Four paths to

Admission as a Freshman

There are several ways you can become UC-eligible and be admitted as a freshman to the University of California. These include Eligibility in the Statewide Context and Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC).

I. ELIGIBILITY IN THE STATEWIDE CONTEXT

To be eligible for admission to the University of California through this path, students must complete all 15 “a-g” courses required. In addition, they must have fulfilled the examination requirement by taking the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT plus Writing and two SAT Subject Tests.

The University uses an Eligibility Index to specify the combinations of GPA and standardized test scores applicants must earn to meet the Scholarship Requirement for Eligibility in the Statewide Context. Because of recent changes in the standardized tests the University requires, UC faculty are reviewing the index. The revised index, along with an online calculator that students may use to make a preliminary assessment of their eligibility, will be available at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/scholarshipreq in summer 2006.

II. ELIGIBILITY IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT (ELC)

Under the Eligibility in the Local Context program, the top 4 percent of students at each participating California high school are designated eligible for admission to one of UC’s nine undergraduate campuses, so long as they have:

- Completed their “a-g” college preparatory courses;
- Taken the standardized tests to fulfill the Examination Requirement (The SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT Assessment plus Writing and two SAT Subject Tests);
- Submitted their application for admission by the filing deadline (November 30 for the Fall term).



How to Apply: Students should apply online using the online application at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply. The online application opens October 1. A printable application form and booklet can also be downloaded from the Internet at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/download

Students applying for admission to the Fall semester must submit their application between **November 1 and November 30** of their senior year in high school.



UC admission

Eligibility by Examination Alone and Admission as a Transfer

There are two other ways you can enter the University of California—you can become eligible through examination alone or transfer from a community college.

III. ELIGIBILITY BY EXAMINATION ALONE

Another way to qualify for admission to the University is by earning high scores on the standardized tests listed in the Examination Requirement. Because of the recent changes to the ACT and SAT, the minimum scores for eligibility by exam alone are being revised. The new scores will be available at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/examonly in summer 2006.

IV. ADMISSION AS A TRANSFER

A fourth way of becoming UC-eligible is by completing the UC requirements for transfer at a community college or other institution providing lower-division instruction.

As a general rule, California community college transfer applicants must complete at least 60 semester (90 quarter) units of transferable college credit with a grade point average of at least 2.4. They must also complete the following course pattern requirements, earning a grade of C or better in each course:

- Two transferable college courses (3 semester or 4.5 quarter units each) in English composition;
- One transferable college course (3 semester or 4.5 quarter units) in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning;
- Four transferable college courses (3 semester or 4.5 quarter units) chosen from at least two of the following subject areas: the arts and humanities, the social and behavioral sciences, and the physical and biological sciences.

Students will be selected primarily on the basis of academic performance and preparation as determined by review of their college GPA and the level of completion of the general education requirements.



ACELA OJEDA isn't the typical UC student.

For one thing, it took her fifteen years to transfer from the community college she attended to UC Riverside.

But finishing her education took on added urgency after she lost her job as director of

marketing and sales at a bicoastal hardware and software company.

"I had to return to school because no other company would hire me for the same position and at the same salary without a degree," Acela explains.

Money, however, was a major hurdle. As a single mother of a 12-year-old boy and a 7-year-old girl, Acela needed to get financial aid to pay for her education and to secure good childcare.

"I chose UC Riverside because of the family housing," she says. "We have a great little place with a park, speed bumps and good security."

Acela was pleasantly surprised by her financial aid package, which included some unexpected funding for childcare.

"I expected to be working four jobs," she exclaimed. "Instead, it's been fairly easy to get financial aid. There is a lot of paperwork, though. Besides that, the financial aid people now know me by name and they've been extremely helpful..."

In addition to nearly \$12,000 in grants, Acela took out over \$10,000 in low-interest student loans to pay for educational and childcare expenses.

Acela points out that many Latino students consider UC to be inaccessible and unaffordable because "they don't understand they can get all these things. In our neighborhoods, you hear more advertising for bail-bonds than information about Cal Grants."

And this mother of two isn't content with an undergraduate degree. After graduating with honors, she now plans to pursue a Master's degree in education. When asked why she's done so well, she has a simple answer: "I think I just want it more."

UC policies

How does UC select its students?

The University makes every effort to provide a place on one of its campuses for all California resident applicants who meet the eligibility requirements and submit an application during the appropriate filing period.

However, when campuses receive applications from more prospective freshman students than they can admit, they draw on the 14 criteria below to select among qualified applicants. This process is called comprehensive review.

Keep in mind that the pool of students who apply to UC is different every year. The level of academic performance necessary for admission to a particular campus or major will vary, depending on the number of applicants and their academic qualifications, as well as the number of available spaces.

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW FACTORS FOR FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

1. Academic grade point average in all completed “a-g” courses, including additional points for completed University-certified honors courses.
2. Scores on the ACT Assessment plus Writing or SAT Reasoning Test, and two SAT Subject Tests.
3. Number of, content of and performance in academic courses beyond the minimum “a-g” requirements.
4. Number of and performance in University-approved honors courses and Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and transferable college courses.
5. Identification by UC as being ranked in the top 4 percent of the student’s high school class at the end of his or her junior year (“eligible in the local context” or ELC).
6. Quality of the student’s senior-year program, as measured by the type and number of academic courses in progress or planned.
7. Quality of the student’s academic performance relative to the educational opportunities available in his or her high school.
8. Outstanding performance in one or more academic subject areas.
9. Outstanding work in one or more special projects in any academic field of study.
10. Recent, marked improvement in academic performance, as demonstrated by academic GPA and the quality of coursework completed or in progress.
11. Special talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, such as visual and performing arts, communication or athletic endeavors; special skills, such as demonstrated written and oral proficiency in other languages; special interests, such as intensive study and exploration of other cultures; experiences that demonstrate unusual promise for leadership, such as significant community service or significant participation in student government; or other significant experiences or achievements that demonstrate the student’s promise for contributing to the intellectual vitality of a campus.
12. Completion of special projects undertaken in the context of the student’s high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs.
13. Academic accomplishments in light of the student’s life experiences and special circumstances.
14. Location of the student’s secondary school and residence.

Non-resident Tuition Exemption (AB 540)

Under this program, certain non-residents, including some undocumented students, are eligible to pay in-state tuition if they meet the following requirements.

- They must have attended a California high school for a minimum of three (3) years;
- They must have graduated from a California high school;
- They fill out the tuition exemption application by the deadline set by each campus. The application includes an affidavit undocumented students must sign stating they are in the process of legalizing their immigration status, or intend to do so as soon as they’re eligible.

Eligible students can save nearly \$18,000 a year since the average fees for in-state students are \$6,850, while out of state students pay approximately \$24,825.

Housing

The University has a variety of housing options for undergraduates. Each campus has on-campus housing facilities for single students as well as apartments for student families. Other housing choices include cooperatives, boarding houses and privately owned apartments and houses for rent in the community. Some fraternities and sororities provide housing for members, but it is usually not available to freshmen and other new students.

FRESHMAN HOUSING OPTIONS

To fully experience university life, nothing compares to living on campus. Perhaps that's why 95 percent of freshman students choose to live on campus in a University residence hall. Commonly known as "dorms," residence halls offer new students advantages such as room and board, proximity to campus and a variety of recreational facilities.

All UC campuses have security arrangements and all incoming students receive information on campus safety and security in their orientation packets. For example, at UCLA access to residence halls is limited to students who live in the building and all students must swipe or present their ID cards to enter their dormitory. The buildings are also monitored or patrolled by trained personnel.

Halls at all campuses have student resident advisers or floor leaders available to help students adjust to their new life and surroundings.

Most of the rooms in the residence halls are double or triple occupancy, although a few single-occupancy rooms are available. Double and triple-occupancy rooms are single-gender, meaning women share rooms only with other women and men share with men.

Most student housing is coeducational, that is, men and women live in the same building and sometimes on the same floor. However, a few buildings or floors are reserved exclusively for either men or women.

THE FACILITIES

Traditional residence halls offer high-speed Internet connections, laundry facilities, recreation areas and study lounges. Suite-style arrangements and apartments are also available.

Students who live on campus don't need to worry about meals, maid service, utilities, amenities or going long distances to get to class. However, they may not have a place to park their cars.

Living in a residence hall will be an important part of a student's experience at the University. The residence hall is not only a place to eat and sleep — it's a home-away-from-home where students will learn about themselves and others.

For those who prefer apartment-style living, some campuses offer two- to four-bedroom suites with private entrances, shared living rooms or study areas and one or more bathrooms.

DEADLINES AND APPLICATIONS

Incoming freshmen who meet all deadlines and pay fees on time are guaranteed housing for one year on all campuses; freshmen entering UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine and UC Riverside are guaranteed two years. UCLA guarantees three years.

Meeting deadlines for paperwork and fee payments is the key to obtaining on-campus housing. Students should apply for housing when they apply for admission or shortly thereafter. Campus housing offices help with waiting lists and alternative suggestions for students who miss deadlines.

(The Housing Offices List on page 18 provides contact information.)

THEME HOUSING

Theme housing can add another dimension to the UC academic experience. Students at all campuses can choose from a variety of special-interest housing options, such as communities based around academic or cultural interests. Theme programs are popular, and some have long waiting lists. At UC San Diego and UC Santa Cruz, each undergraduate college has its own housing community where special interests are celebrated.



Here are the locations of the various University of California campuses:

Distance from San Francisco (in miles)		Distance from Los Angeles (in miles)	
UC Davis	71	UC Irvine	40
UC Berkeley	12	UC Riverside	60
UC Merced	135	UC San Diego	120
UC Santa Cruz	74	UC Santa Barbara	95
UC Santa Barbara	335		
UC Los Angeles	380		



UC BERKELEY

One of the world's leading academic institutions, UC Berkeley attracts the best and the brightest applicants, generates a culturally diverse student population and provides one of the finest undergraduate learning experiences available. Here, students learn from leaders in every field and take advantage of the intellectual stimulation of the nation's truly outstanding scholars and educators.

Berkeley's academic programs are recognized internationally for their excellence. More than 7,000 courses and more than 100 undergraduate majors are available in the sciences, humanities, arts, social sciences and natural resources.

Even first-year students may find themselves in classrooms with one of Berkeley's seven Nobel Laureates, 113 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 17 MacArthur Fellows, 77 Fulbright Scholars or three Pulitzer Prize winners.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (510) 642-3175 www.berkeley.edu

UC DAVIS

Known for its warm, friendly campus environment, UC Davis is the largest of the 10 UC campuses in area and the third largest in enrollment. The intellectual vitality of a research university complements the UC Davis emphasis on the educational experience of its undergraduates. With students from every county in California, every state in the nation and more than 75 countries, the undergraduate student body reflects diverse cultural traditions from throughout the world.

Students can earn degrees in more than 100 majors. *The College of Engineering*, offering programs in 16 different fields, has the most accredited majors and the largest undergraduate engineering program in the UC system.

UC Davis is characterized by a distinguished faculty of scholars, scientists and artists, a treasured sense of community and a dedication to the values of innovative teaching, research and public service.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (530) 752-2971 www.ucdavis.edu

The message is clear: With planning and effort, students can meet the requirements and they and their families can afford a UC education. Whether you aspire to a doctorate in epidemiology—like Brandon Brown who is featured on page 4—or a master's degree in education, like Acela Ojeda on page 11, a college education is the key to achieving your goals. They are doing it. With perseverance and “*ganas*,” you can do it, too.

mpuses



UCI



UCLA

UC IRVINE

The vision of UC Irvine's founders was to create a research university that would distinguish itself by emphasizing education—the advancement and dissemination of knowledge—as its central mission.

Today, UCI takes its place as one of the top American colleges and universities, attracting many of the most energetic and interesting students in the country and a stellar faculty that conducts cutting-edge research in state-of-the-art facilities.

Irvine's distinctive undergraduate research programs allow students to work closely with faculty mentors as early as the freshman year. Students at Irvine may choose from 68 undergraduate majors, 53 minors and a myriad of specializations and concentrations.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (949) 824-6703 www.uci.edu

UCLA

At UCLA, students and faculty work together to energize and rejuvenate the communities where they live. The challenges and rewards of a UCLA education attract students with exceptional levels of academic preparation and intense interest in intellectual and personal growth. UCLA students make up one of the world's most ethnically diverse groups and the largest student body in the UC system, creating a truly innovative and vibrant campus.

Nearly 3,300 scholars and scientists comprise the UCLA faculty, which includes five Nobel Laureates, more than 300 winners of Fulbright Scholarships, some 280 Guggenheim Fellows, National Medal of Science recipients and members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

UCLA also boasts the Cesar Chavez Center for Interdisciplinary Instruction in Chicana and Chicano Studies and the Chicano Studies Research Center, among many other interdepartmental programs and centers.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (310) 825-2585 www.ucla.edu

The average starting salary of a recent UC graduate is around \$40,000.



UCM

UCR

UCSD

UC MERCED

UC Merced opened in 2005 with nearly 1,000 students as the University of California's 10th campus and the first American research university built in the 21st century. Over time, the campus will grow to 25,000 students and provide courses of study in dozens of areas of academic thought. Like its sister campuses, UC Merced provides the highest academic experience while reaching out to serve students from throughout California, with special focus on the surrounding region. UC Merced pioneering classes will have the opportunity to develop the social and academic scope of the campus. UC Merced promises to challenge and inspire generations of students to come.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (559) 241-7474 www.ucmerced.edu

UC RIVERSIDE

The University of California at Riverside combines the opportunities of a major research university and its state-of-the-art facilities with a friendly campus environment that features close faculty-student interaction.

UCR professors are leaders in their areas of expertise and are equally well known for placing great importance on their teaching. As one of the smallest UC campuses, Riverside offers its students the personal attention they need to do their best.

Unlike larger schools, UCR encourages undergraduate students to get to know their professors, seek their advice, and even participate in their research projects.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (951) 827-4531 www.ucr.edu

UC SAN DIEGO

With its family of six colleges, UCSD combines the intimacy of a small liberal arts college with the academic resources of a major research university. Each college has its own educational philosophy, general education requirements, housing and staff. More than 100 majors in a range of disciplines are available to students regardless of their college affiliation. Students from all colleges attend classes together.

The campus is internationally respected for its eminent faculty, highly ranked programs and contributions to global research. Indeed, students at UCSD learn from a renowned faculty that includes five Nobel laureates and a former astronaut.

UCSD is a world-class university boasting state-of-the-art facilities in a scenic campus forested with giant eucalyptus trees and spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (858) 534-UCSD or (858) 534-8273 www.ucsd.edu

UC SAN FRANCISCO

The San Francisco Campus is devoted solely to the study of and research in the health and biomedical sciences, primarily at the graduate level. Its schools of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy are among the top-ranked professional programs in the nation.

UCSF alumni can be found at all levels of public and private life, in all parts of the world, as healthcare professionals and executives in academia, government service, medical centers, research labs and inner-city and rural clinics.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (415) 476-2401 www.ucsf.edu

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UCSF



UCSB



UCSC

UC SANTA BARBARA

Away from the urban pressures, yet deeply involved in the intellectual and cultural issues of our time, the University of California at Santa Barbara provides a superb learning environment, a relaxed relationship between faculty and students and all the resources of an internationally recognized research institution. UCSB fosters less tradition-bound approaches to education, stressing close collaboration between students and teachers across academic lines in small classes.

UCSB's focus is on undergraduate education, so senior faculty regularly teach freshman and sophomore classes. Students also have the opportunity to work directly with their professors, assisting in research in the field or laboratory, conducting student research or completing a senior honor thesis.

UCSB's faculty of more than 900 includes five recent Nobel Prize winners as well as members of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences and other prestigious academic organizations.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (805) 893-2190 www.ucsb.edu

UC SANTA CRUZ

The Santa Cruz campus has a distinctive purpose: to combine the strengths of the University of California in scholarship and research with an academic program devoted to undergraduate education in a small-college setting. Arguably one of the most beautiful campuses in the world, UC Santa Cruz has built a reputation for excellence, with nationally ranked undergraduate and graduate programs.

Some 90 percent of UCSC students are undergraduates who pursue more than 50 traditional and interdisciplinary majors in the arts, engineering, humanities, natural sciences, physical sciences and social sciences.

Programs are challenging and rigorous, yet flexible enough to meet special interests. At UC Santa Cruz, undergraduates conduct and publish research, working closely with faculty, on exciting, innovative and important projects.

CAMPUS INFORMATION (831) 459-2495 www.ucsc.edu

California's economic growth starts here

The research conducted at UC touches lives every day in the form of innovative products and life-improving technologies. It also results in new companies, good jobs and billions of dollars in local economic impacts.

Resources

FINANCIAL AID

UC Financial Aid: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/payingforuc/fin_aid.html

UC Financial Aid Guide for Parents and Students: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/payingforuc/finguide_fr.pdf

FAFSA Web site: www.fafsa.ed.gov

Cal Grant Application Process: www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?ID=20

Hispanic Scholarship Fund: www.hsf.net

Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund: www.maldef.org/pdf/Scholarships_01252003.pdf

UC ADMISSIONS

“A-G” Coursework Requirement: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergrad_adm/paths_to_adm/freshman/subject_reqs.html

List of “A-G” Requirements at each high school: www.ucop.edu/doorways/list/

The College Board (SAT I and SAT II): www.collegeboard.com

ACT: www.act.org

For SAT Examination Dates: www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/calenefees.html

For ACT Test Dates: www.actstudent.org/regist/currentdates.html

UC Admission as a Freshman: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergrad_adm/paths_to_adm/freshman.html

To Apply: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

UC CAMPUS HOUSING AND FINANCIAL AID OFFICES

UC Berkeley

Student Housing: (510) 642-4108 • www.housing.berkeley.edu/

Financial Aid: (510) 642-6442 • students.berkeley.edu/fao

UC Davis

Student Housing: (530) 752-2033 • www.housing.ucdavis.edu/

Financial Aid: (530) 752-2390 • financialaid.ucdavis.edu

UC Irvine

Student Housing: (949) 824-7247 • www.housing.uci.edu/

Financial Aid: (949) 824-8262 • www.ofas.uci.edu/

UC Merced

Student Housing: (209) 381-7882 • housing.ucmerced.edu

Financial Aid: (209) 228-4243 • financialaid.ucmerced.edu

UCLA

Student Housing: (310) 206-7011 • www.housing.ucla.edu

Financial Aid: (310) 206-0400 • www.fao.ucla.edu

UC Riverside

Student Housing: (951) 827-6350 • www.housing.ucr.edu/

Financial Aid: (951) 827-3878 • www.finaid.ucr.edu/

UC San Diego

Student Housing: (858) 534-4010 • hds.ucsd.edu

Financial Aid: (858) 534-4480 • fao.ucsd.edu

UC Santa Barbara

Student Housing: (805) 893-5513 • www.housing.ucsb.edu/

Financial Aid: (805) 893-2432 • www.finaid.ucsb.edu/

UC Santa Cruz

Student Housing: (831) 459-2394 • cuhs.ucsc.edu/

Financial Aid: (831) 459-2963 • www2.ucsc.edu/fin-aid/