

## UC DAVIS



## Freshman Admission Requirements

To be considered for freshman admission to the University of California, you must earn a high school diploma or equivalent and satisfy the following minimum UC admission requirements:

## 1. SUBJECT REQUIREMENT

The following 15 “a-g” subjects must be completed with a C grade or better. One credit equals one year of study. At least 11 of the subject requirements must be completed before your senior year of high school.

## “A-G” SUBJECTS

	REQUIREMENT
a. History/social science	Two years
b. English (or language of instruction)	Four years
c. Mathematics	Three years*
d. Laboratory science	Two years*
e. Language other than English (or second language)	Two years*
f. Visual and performing arts	One year
g. College preparatory elective	One year

\*UC recommends one additional year of study.

For California residents, the “a-g” courses must be on your high school’s UC-approved course list, which is available at [doorways.ucop.edu/list](http://doorways.ucop.edu/list). If your school is taught in a language other than English, you can satisfy subject requirement “e” with studies in any language other than your school’s language of instruction.

## 2. SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENT

The scholarship requirement is satisfied if you earn a GPA of 3.00 or higher. All courses must be completed with a C grade or better. Applicants who are not California residents must earn a GPA of 3.40 or higher.

## 3. EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT

You are required to take the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test. Only your highest total score from a single sitting will be considered.

SAT Subject Tests are not required for admission. UC Davis will consider SAT Subject Tests only if they benefit you.

Applicants for fall 2016 must take the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test no later than December 2015. Official scores must be received by the end of January 2016. You are responsible for making sure that the testing agencies send your scores to the University of California. When you report your ACT and/or SAT scores to one UC campus, they will be shared with every UC campus to which you have applied.



## Testing Agencies

ACT PLUS WRITING

[act.org](http://act.org)

UC Davis ACT code: 0454

SAT REASONING AND SUBJECT TESTS

[collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org)

UC Davis CEEB code: 004834

Academic Profile  
Fall 2015 Admitted Freshmen

Ranges represent the middle 50 percent of admitted students.

GPA (weighted)	3.95–4.25*
GPA (unweighted)	3.72–3.96
ACT	27–32
SAT Total	1800–2130
SAT Math	620–770
SAT Reading	560–690
SAT Writing	580–710

\*Applicants who have taken college coursework or attended schools that offer International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP) or UC-approved Honors Level (HL) should refer to the weighted GPA, which is capped at eight semesters of honors points. Students admitted to UC Davis typically exceed admission requirements.



## California Resident Pathways

State residents who complete the UC admission requirements by the end of their senior year in high school are offered two paths for guaranteed admission, provided space is available.

### STATEWIDE PATH

The top 9 percent of California high school graduates (according to the UC admissions index) are eligible for this pathway to admission. At least 11 of the 15 subject requirement courses must be completed before your senior year with a GPA of 3.00 or higher, and the remaining subject and examination requirements completed by graduation.

### LOCAL PATH

The top 9 percent of each graduating class at participating California high schools is eligible for this pathway to admission, also known as Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC). You must complete the following 11 UC-approved courses before your senior year with a GPA of 3.00 or higher, and meet the remaining subject and examination requirements by graduation to be eligible:

ELC "A-G" SUBJECTS	REQUIREMENT
History/social science	One year
English (or language of instruction)	Two years
Mathematics	Two years
Laboratory science	One year
Language other than English (or other second language)	One year
College preparatory electives	Four years



## Freshman Selection Policy

Every application receives a comprehensive review. We consider a broad range of criteria—from traditional academic factors to extracurricular achievement, response to life challenges and promise—while considering the context in which you have demonstrated academic and personal accomplishments.

The strength of your high school record is the single most important component in our review. The strongest applicants are admitted based on the number of admission spaces available within each college, division, academic department or major:

- College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences admits by college.
- College of Biological Sciences admits by college.
- College of Engineering admits by academic department and major.
- College of Letters and Science admits by three divisions: Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies; Mathematical and Physical Sciences; and Social Sciences.

Each UC campus has a slightly different process for reviewing applications, yet all campuses use the same 14 faculty-determined selection criteria:

### 1. Grade point average (GPA)

Academic grade point average in all completed “a-g” courses, including additional grade points for UC-certified honors courses completed.

### 2. Test scores

Highest score from a single sitting on the ACT Plus Writing or SAT Reasoning Test.

### 3. Courses completed/planned

Number and content of/and performance in academic courses beyond the minimum “a-g” requirements.

### 4. Honors coursework

Number of/and performance in UC-approved California high school honors, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level and UC-transferable college courses.

### 5. Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC)

Identification by UC as being ranked in the top 9 percent of your high school class before your senior year.

### 6. Quality of senior-year program of study

Quality of your senior-year program as measured by the type and number of academic courses in progress or planned.

### 7. Educational opportunities in high school

Quality of your academic performance relative to the educational opportunities available in your high school.

### 8. Performance in academic subject areas

Outstanding performance in one or more specific subject areas.

### 9. Achievements in special projects

Outstanding work in one or more special projects in any academic field of study.

### 10. Improvement in academic performance

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

Special talents, achievements, awards and demonstrated leadership 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 your promise for contributing to the intellectual vitality of our campus.

### 12. Participation in educational preparation/academic enrichment programs

Participation and persistence in academic enrichment programs, including, but not limited to, those sponsored by the University of California.

### 13. Academic accomplishment within life experiences

Demonstrated academic achievement in light of significant life experiences, including, but not limited to, disability, low family income, first generation to attend college, need to work and other special circumstances.

### 14. Geographic location

Geographic diversity as defined by the location of your secondary school and/or residence.





## Apply for Fall Admission November 1–30

### Applying for Admission

1. **Check** our application basics at [admissions.ucdavis.edu/apply](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/apply).
2. **Review** our personal statement tips at [admissions.ucdavis.edu/personal\\_statement](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/personal_statement).
3. **Start** your UC application online as early as August 1 at [universityofcalifornia.edu/apply](https://universityofcalifornia.edu/apply).
  - Select your first-choice major and an alternate major.
  - If you are applying for scholarships, be sure to check the “release authorization” box.
4. **Submit** your application November 1–30, along with the application fee for each campus: \$70 for domestic applicants, \$80 for international applicants. Find out if you are eligible for fee waivers at [admissions.ucdavis.edu/apply/fee\\_waiver.cfm](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/apply/fee_waiver.cfm).



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ucdavisua](https://facebook.com/ucdavisua)



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[youtube.com/  
ucdavis](https://youtube.com/ucdavis)



[instagram.com/  
ucdavis](https://instagram.com/ucdavis)



[mobile.ucdavis.edu](https://mobile.ucdavis.edu)

### Resources for Applicants

UC Freshman Admission Requirements  
[admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman)

UC Davis Freshman Admission  
[admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/freshmen](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/freshmen)

UC Transfer Admission Requirements  
[admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer](https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer)

UC Davis Transfer Admission  
[admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/transfers](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/transfers)

UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP)  
[uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu](https://uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu)

UC Davis Admission Checklists  
[admissions.ucdavis.edu/info](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/info)

Writing Your Personal Statement  
[admissions.ucdavis.edu/personal\\_statement](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/personal_statement)

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)  
[admissions.ucdavis.edu/eop](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/eop)

Undocumented Student Resources  
[undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu/applying-to-uc.html](https://undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu/applying-to-uc.html)

### Majors [admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors)

- Aerospace Science and Engineering
- African American and African Studies
- Agricultural and Environmental Education
- American Studies
- Animal Biology
- Animal Science
- Animal Science and Management
- Anthropology
- Applied Mathematics
- Applied Physics
- Art History
- Art Studio
- Asian American Studies
- Atmospheric Science
- Biochemical Engineering
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Biological Sciences
- Biological Systems Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biotechnology
- Cell Biology
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemical Physics
- Chemistry
- Chicana/Chicano Studies
- Chinese
- Cinema and Digital Media
- Civil Engineering
- Classical Civilization
- Clinical Nutrition
- Cognitive Science
- Communication
- Community and Regional Development
- Comparative Literature
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Computer Science and Engineering
- Design
- East Asian Studies
- Ecological Management and Restoration
- Economics
- Electrical Engineering
- English
- Entomology
- Environmental Horticulture and Urban Forestry
- Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning
- Environmental Science and Management
- Environmental Toxicology
- Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity
- Fiber and Polymer Science
- Food Science
- French
- Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
- Genetics and Genomics
- Geology
- German
- Global Disease Biology
- History
- Human Development
- Hydrology
- International Agricultural Development
- International Relations
- Italian
- Japanese
- Landscape Architecture
- Linguistics
- Managerial Economics
- Marine and Coastal Science—Coastal Environmental Processes\*
- Marine and Coastal Science—Marine Ecology and Organismal Biology\*
- Marine and Coastal Science—Marine Environmental Chemistry\*
- Marine and Coastal Science—Oceans and the Earth System\*
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mathematical Analytics and Operations Research
- Mathematical and Scientific Computation
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- Microbiology
- Middle East/South Asia Studies
- Music
- Native American Studies
- Natural Sciences
- Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior
- Nutrition Science
- Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Plant Biology
- Plant Sciences
- Political Science
- Political Science—Public Service
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Russian
- Science and Technology Studies
- Sociology
- Sociology—Organizational Studies
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems
- Sustainable Environmental Design
- Textiles and Clothing
- Theatre and Dance
- Undeclared—Fine Arts
- Undeclared—Humanities
- Undeclared—Life Sciences
- Undeclared—Physical Sciences
- Undeclared—Social Sciences
- Undeclared/Exploratory—College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- Viticulture and Enology
- Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology

\*The Marine and Coastal Science major is offered with four different emphases through three academic colleges. Please visit [admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors](https://admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors) to learn about academic college requirements for the emphasis you wish to pursue.

## UC DAVIS



### Transfer Admission Requirements

Attending a community college is a great way to save money, transition to a university environment and still get all the benefits of a world-class education. For fall 2015, we accepted 54.1 percent of transfer applicants, giving highest priority to junior-level transfer applicants from California community colleges.

To be considered for transfer admission to UC Davis, you must satisfy the following requirements:

#### 1. UC TRANSFER ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

As a junior transfer student, you must fulfill both of the following requirements:

- Complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of transferable credit with a minimum 2.40 GPA. If you are an out-of-state resident, you must attain a GPA of 2.80 or higher in all transferable college coursework. No more than 14 semester (21 quarter) units may be taken Pass/No Pass.
- Complete the following 7 transferable college courses, earning a grade of C or better in each course:
  - Two courses in English composition
  - One course in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning
  - Four courses chosen from at least two of these subject areas: arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and physical and biological sciences

For the best transition and reduced time to degree, students should consider completing all lower-division preparatory coursework listed at [assist.org](http://assist.org).

#### 2. UC DAVIS SELECTION CRITERIA

Transfer admission to UC Davis is based primarily on an applicant's academic preparation. To be a competitive candidate for admission, you must be well prepared with coursework in your intended major and maintain a GPA of 2.80 or higher; candidates for admission to the College of Engineering should maintain a GPA of 3.10 or higher.



### Deadline for Completion of Requirements

All applicants must complete UC transfer admission requirements and UC Davis selection criteria by the end of spring term before fall enrollment. However, Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) applicants must additionally complete UC transfer requirements in English and mathematics by the end of fall term, prior to enrollment. We strongly recommend that non-TAG applicants meet these same English and mathematics deadlines in order to receive priority consideration.



### Selecting a General Education Pattern

The general education (GE) pattern you choose to follow is another important consideration as you plan your transfer admission, though it is not an admission requirement. You should place the highest priority on completing transferable courses for your UC Davis major. Visit [admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/transfers/tr\\_planning.cfm](http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/transfers/tr_planning.cfm) to learn more about selecting a GE pattern: either UC Davis GE or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC).



### How to Calculate Your GPA

UC Davis calculates your GPA based upon UC-transferable coursework. California community college students should visit [assist.org](http://assist.org) to identify transferable courses.

### Academic Profile: Fall 2015 Admitted Transfers

Ranges represent the middle 50 percent of admitted students.

GPA 3.32–3.77

*Students admitted to UC Davis typically exceed admission requirements.*





## Ensure Admission with a Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

The UC Davis TAG program offers transfer students a guarantee of admission to UC Davis, one year in advance, in their major of choice. The agreement, available at all California community colleges, is prepared online by the student and submitted in September, one year before enrollment at UC Davis.

To be eligible, you must meet or exceed the minimum overall GPA of 3.20 (3.30 for the College of Engineering) from the time your TAG is submitted until the time of enrollment. Courses from selective major course groups that you have completed before submitting the UC TAG application must meet or exceed minimum required GPAs.

Visit [tag.ucdavis.edu](http://tag.ucdavis.edu) to learn more about course and GPA requirements and how you can guarantee your admission.

## Planning with the Transfer Opportunity Program (TOP)

TOP is a cooperative effort between UC Davis and many Northern California community colleges. TOP coordinators from Undergraduate Admissions regularly visit participating colleges to provide information about UC Davis admission and selection, major preparation, general education, financial aid, housing and many other important student services. Visit [admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/transfers/tr\\_top.cfm](http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/admission/transfers/tr_top.cfm) for more information.



## Selective Majors

Students applying to the following selective majors must meet supplementary grade and coursework requirements. All courses must be taken for a letter grade with no grade less than a C, or be satisfied by Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level examination score equivalencies. All major preparatory course requirements must be completed by the end of spring term before fall enrollment.

### College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

- Biotechnology
- Viticulture and Enology

### College of Biological Sciences

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Biological Sciences
- Cell Biology
- Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity
- Genetics and Genomics
- Marine and Coastal Science
- Microbiology
- Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior
- Plant Biology

### College of Engineering

- Aerospace Science and Engineering
- Biochemical Engineering
- Biological Systems Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science and Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering

### College of Letters and Science

- Computer Science (beginning fall 2017)
- Psychology

**For a complete list of majors, please see Majors on reverse side or visit [admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors](http://admissions.ucdavis.edu/majors).**

## Transfer Selection Policy

### College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

To be a competitive candidate for admission to selective majors and the pre-major in this college, you must have an overall GPA of 2.80 or higher.

#### Biotechnology

Complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses with a GPA of at least 2.50 for each of the three course groups. It is required that candidates have met the minimum GPAs for courses in the following groups that have been completed by the time of application, and maintain them through the transfer academic update filing period:

- Mathematics 16A/B or 17A/B or 21A/B
- Chemistry 2A/B/C
- Biological Sciences 2A or 2B or 2C

A minimum of one course comparable to a UC Davis Biological Sciences 2 series course must be completed with a B grade or better for admission. If multiple courses are required to satisfy one UC Davis Biological Sciences 2 series course, each of those courses must be completed and the GPA for those courses must be 3.00 or higher.

If courses comparable to two UC Davis Biological Sciences 2 series courses or the entire Biological Sciences 2 series are completed, a group GPA of 2.50 or higher is required.

We strongly encourage you to complete the entire Biological Sciences 2A/B/C series before matriculating to UC Davis, as that series is a prerequisite for many upper-division courses.

It is also strongly recommended that you complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses. Completion of these courses will help you move more efficiently toward graduation:

- Organic Chemistry 8A/B or 118A/B/C

We strongly encourage you to complete the entire Organic Chemistry 8A/B or 118A/B/C series before matriculating to UC Davis, as the series is a prerequisite for many upper-division courses.

#### Additional TAG Requirement:

If only one course within the Biological Sciences series is completed before submitting the UC TAG application, a letter grade of B or better must be earned.



### Landscape Architecture (Pre-Major)

Students who wish to major in landscape architecture must apply to "Landscape Architecture, Pre-." After applying for admission, students submit a separate portfolio application to the landscape architecture program in February, either before or after enrollment at UC Davis. Contact the Landscape Architecture Advising Office at 530-754-8628 or visit [humanecology.ucdavis.edu/lda](http://humanecology.ucdavis.edu/lda) for details.

### Viticulture and Enology

Complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses with a GPA of at least 3.00 for the group. It is required that candidates have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 for courses in the groups below that have been completed by the time of application and maintain the GPA through the transfer academic update filing period:

- General Chemistry 2A/B/C
- Organic Chemistry 8A
- Mathematics 16A
- Physics 1A/B or 7A
- Biological Sciences 2A

It is strongly recommended that you complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses. If you take them, you must have a GPA of at least 3.00 for the entire group of courses listed above and below:

- Organic Chemistry 8B
- Mathematics 16B
- Plant Sciences 2

### College of Biological Sciences

*All majors in the College of Biological Sciences are selective.* To be a competitive candidate for admission, you must have an overall GPA of 2.80 or higher.

Complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses with a GPA of at least 2.50 for each of the three course groups. It is recommended that candidates have already achieved minimum required GPAs for courses in the groups below that have been completed by the time of application, and maintain them through the transfer academic update filing period:

- Mathematics 17A/B/C or 21A/B
- Chemistry 2A/B/C
- Biological Sciences 2A/B/C

We strongly encourage you to complete, prior to transfer, courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses:

- Organic Chemistry 8A/B\* or 118A/B/C
- Physics 7A/B/C or the Physics series cited on [assist.org](http://assist.org) for your intended College of Biological Sciences major. Completion of the Physics series is especially useful for students applying to the Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior major.

*\*Students preparing for the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major should complete Organic Chemistry 118A/B/C rather than 8A/B.*

### College of Engineering

*All majors in the College of Engineering are selective.* To be a competitive candidate for admission, you must have an overall GPA of 3.10 or higher.

Applicants must complete all lower-division courses required for their specific major as listed on [assist.org](http://assist.org) under "Courses Required for Admission" in the 2014–15 articulation agreement. Required coursework varies by major, though the following UC Davis courses are common to all engineering majors:

- Mathematics 21A/B/C/D
- Mathematics 22A/B
- Physics 9A/B/C
- Chemistry 2A
- English 3 or University Writing Program (UWP) 1

Only UWP 1 can be used to satisfy the lower-division composition requirement for Biological Systems Engineering students.

See the College of Engineering Transfer Credit Agreement (engineering grid) for your California community college at [engineering.ucdavis.edu/transfer-credit-agreements](http://engineering.ucdavis.edu/transfer-credit-agreements), which lists required courses for each major.

The College of Engineering gives highest admission priority to California community college transfers who have completed all of the required lower-division coursework offered at their community college. Please visit [engineering.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate/transfer-student-guide](http://engineering.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate/transfer-student-guide) for more information about transfer admission priorities in the College of Engineering.

Applicants for fall 2016 are encouraged to complete all lower-division major requirements with a cumulative GPA of 3.10 or higher to be most competitive. Applicants for fall 2017 and later must complete all lower-division major requirements with a cumulative GPA of 3.10 or higher. The overall GPA for UC-transferable coursework remains 3.10.

### College of Letters and Science

#### Computer Science

Effective fall 2017, Computer Science will become a selective major. Students must complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses with a GPA of at least 3.00 for each of the two course groups:

- Mathematics 21A/B/C
- Engineering Computer Science (ENG CS) 20, 30, 40

Please visit the [www.cs.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate/transfer](http://www.cs.ucdavis.edu/undergraduate/transfer) for additional tips on preparing your transfer into this major.

#### Psychology

To be a competitive candidate for admission, you must have an overall GPA of 2.80 or higher.

Complete courses comparable to the following UC Davis courses with a GPA of at least 2.90 for the course group. It is recommended that candidates have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.90 for courses in the group below that have been completed by the time of application, and maintain the GPA through the transfer academic update filing period:

- Psychology 1
- Psychology 41
- Statistics 13
- One of these two options:
  - Biological Sciences 2A or
  - Biological Sciences 10
- One course from:
  - Anthropology 1 or
  - Molecular and Cellular Biology 10 or
  - Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior 10

Although only one biological sciences course is required for admission, students interested in pursuing a B.S. degree with an emphasis in biology are encouraged to complete the recommended courses shown on [assist.org](http://assist.org).