




UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA

Transfer Planner

A guide for California community college students transferring to UC

FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES



Whether you are a high-school student making college plans or are already attending a California community college, this guide can put you on the path for transfer to a University of California campus.

At UC, we welcome more transfer students than any other top-tier research institution. In fact, one in three UC graduates begins their education at a community college.

With careful planning and hard work, you can achieve your highest educational goals. This guide can help you get there. And UC's TransferPrep advisers can help you along the way.

Glossary

ASSIST: An online information system (www.assist.org) that helps you find community-college courses that are transferable to a UC or CSU campus and how those transferable courses might be used to satisfy general education or subject-matter requirements for specific majors.

Community College Transfer Preparation Programs (TransferPrep): Each UC campus provides TransferPrep to help community college students prepare for transfer. Services include academic major and career workshops, academic and career advising, individual educational plans and escorted campus visits.

General Education (GE): Requirements designed to give undergraduates a broad background in all key academic disciplines, including natural sciences, physical sciences, social sciences, humanities and the arts.

Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC): A series of courses, certified by the California community colleges, that you may complete in order to satisfy the freshman- or sophomore-level general education requirements at UC.

Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG): A program for California community-college students to ensure their fall admission to a specific UC campus. The online TAG contract establishes the criteria required to be guaranteed admission in the major of your choice.

Transfer Admission Planner (TAP): A tool designed for California community-college students to track coursework in preparation for transferring to UC.

Transfer Pathways: A single set of courses you can take to prepare for your major before transferring to one of UC's nine undergraduate campuses.



BEFORE YOU ENROLL

The Transfer Path for High-School Students

If you are a high-school student considering community college as a first step to UC, enlist the help of high-school and community-college counselors and use our Enrollment Timeline (*page 2*) to get started.

Prepare for Community College

While you are still in high school you can take steps to improve your readiness for community college and familiarize yourself with the transfer process.

- Take advanced college-prep courses throughout high school.
- Take math courses every year.
- Make use of early college-assessment opportunities at your high school, such as CSU's Early Assessment Program (EAP) exams in English and mathematics (11th grade).
- Plan to take community-college courses while you are in high school (i.e., concurrent enrollment).
- Enroll in summer sessions at a community college following high-school graduation.

Find the Best Community College for You

Find out early which California community colleges best suit your educational goals and life situation. Consider their locations, program offerings and whether they offer more transferable courses in majors that are of interest to you. Use the campus contact information and other online resources on the back panel of this brochure for your research. And don't forget to enlist the help of UC's TransferPrep services (*page 5*).

Enroll at a California Community College

The California Community College registration and enrollment process has several steps that you should complete during your last term of high school in order to register for classes when summer/fall registration opens.

Follow all the steps on the Enrollment Timeline

COMMUNITY COLLEGE MATRICULATION AND ENROLLMENT TIMELINE FOR HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS

September

- Create an ID with username and password in order to file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://fsaid.ed.gov>. Undocumented students must create a California Dream Act ID at <https://dream.csac.ca.gov>. This will be needed to complete the California Dream Act Application.

October

- Beginning October 1, the FAFSA is available. Complete your FAFSA (<https://fafsa.ed.gov>) or California Dream Act Application (<https://dream.csac.ca.gov>) by March 2.
- Obtain your parents'/guardians' tax returns from two years prior to your community college start date. For example, if you are applying for academic year 2017–18, submit their 2015 tax returns. You will need this information to complete the FAFSA or California Dream Act Application (for undocumented students). **Please note:** As of March 2017, the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) to access tax-return information has been disabled. Students and families completing a 2017–18 online FAFSA should enter their 2015 tax information manually or complete the FAFSA on paper.
- Attend a Cash for College Workshop for free assistance in completing the FAFSA or California Dream Act Application. For dates and locations go to <https://cash4college.csac.ca.gov>.
- Confirm that your high school has submitted your Cal Grant GPA Verification Form.

January/February

- Find out if the new community college application is available for summer/fall.
- If so, complete and submit the online application on the college's website or by using <http://home.cccapply.org>.
- Check your email for application confirmation.
- You will receive your student ID number and information about assessment and orientation.

February/March

- After you have completed the application, make an appointment to take the math and English assessment at your college. You'll find a schedule on the college's website: Use the Assessment Center link.
- Review the study guide for your community college's assessment exam, also on the college's website: Use the Assessment Center link.

- Take English and math assessment exams at your community college. Get a copy of your results.
- Sign up as early as possible for a new-student orientation. If you do not attend one, you may be blocked from registering for classes. The orientation process, including type of orientation, will vary at each college. Check with your college to learn more.
- Make an appointment to meet with your college counselor.

March

- Complete your FAFSA by March 2. Go to <https://fafsa.ed.gov>.
- If you are an AB 540* student, you should submit an AB 540 Affidavit to your college's admissions and records office. You can get a copy of the affidavit at this same office.

March/April

- Meet with your counselor to discuss assessment results, choose your first semester college classes and set your educational goals/plan.

April/May

- Go to <https://fafsa.ed.gov> and review your Student Aid Report (SAR) for accuracy. If it's correct, print it out.
- Confirm with the financial aid office at your community college whether you are required to bring a copy of your SAR. If so, bring it to the financial aid office as soon as possible.
- Complete and submit additional verification forms provided by the financial aid office as soon as possible. If you're late you may miss out on securing financial aid.
- Keep copies of everything!
- Be aware of deadlines for various student programs, and sign up as early as possible.

May

- Register for summer and fall classes.
- Sign up on time to enroll in the classes you need, and secure the days and times you want.
- Pay registration fees.

*AB 540 is a California state law that allows undocumented students to pay in-state, rather than out-of-state, tuition.

The Transfer Path for California Community College Students

STEPS FOR TRANSFER READINESS

Identify Your Goals

Where do you want to go? Before you start planning your transfer path to UC, you need to set some academic and career goals. Community-college counselors and UC's TransferPrep staff can help you establish a clear vision for your future, based on subject areas that inspire and excite you.

Choose an Academic Major and UC Location

Identifying the UC location and academic major that best suit your goals and practical considerations is a critical step that should take place early in planning your education, no later than the beginning of your sophomore year of community college.

UC has created Transfer Pathways for many of its most popular majors. These offer a set of courses in each major that will prepare students to transfer to any UC campus.

- Decide which UC campuses and majors you want to pursue, and learn which have Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAGs).
- Study the websites of the UC campuses in which you are interested.
- Work closely with an academic adviser, community-college Transfer Center staff and UC TransferPrep representatives to develop a transfer plan early.

The Transfer Pathways and TAGs are described in more detail on page 4.

Plan Your Coursework

Once you've chosen a field of study, you can select the most appropriate community-college courses for enrollment:

- Choose courses that transfer to UC and count toward UC minimum eligibility requirements. Check www.assist.org to see which classes meet those requirements.
- Track your progress in meeting transfer requirements by setting up a UC Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP) account (page 4). UC TAP is an online tool that will help you track and plan your coursework.
- Complete transferable math and English requirements early, ideally within the first 30 units at community college.
- Research majors that interest you. If you are interested in applying to more than one campus, check out UC Transfer Pathways (page 4) for a list of courses applicable to all campuses for popular majors.
- Before you start working on general education (GE) courses, check what's recommended for your major and the campuses you're interested in.
- For more information, see <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer>.

Stay on Target

Throughout your time in community college, check in regularly with your advisers and peer mentors to make sure you are on target to meet your transfer goals.

Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to your preferred campus and subject major. Strive for good grades and take all the required courses to increase your chances of being selected for the campus and program of your choice.

Note: No more than 70 semester units (105 quarter units) can be applied toward a UC degree. Units beyond the limit can be counted as subject credit.

Facts you should know about transferring to UC:

- 2 out of 3 transfer students who apply to UC are admitted.
- Many UC campuses offer the Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG).
- 90 percent of admitted transfer students to UC come through the California Community Colleges system.
- 1 out of 3 of UC's bachelor's degrees are awarded to transfer students.
- California community-college transfer students account for almost half of UC's bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER ADMISSION TO UC

To establish eligibility for UC as a junior-level transfer you must:

- Complete 60 UC-transferable semester units (90 quarter units) of college credit and attain a GPA of 2.4 in UC-transferable courses. Note: The average GPA for transfer students admitted is 3.4.
- Complete UC's required 7-course pattern with a grade of C or better (each must be at least 3 semester/4 quarter units):
 - 2 in English composition,
 - 1 in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning,
 - 4 in at least 2 of these areas: arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, physical and biological sciences.

Complete English and math courses as soon as possible and all other courses by the end of the spring term prior to fall enrollment at UC.

Preparing for Your Chosen Major

Begin to focus on your choice of major when you enter community college, and select a major no later than the beginning of your sophomore year.

UC is looking not only for transfer applicants with general education classes to their credit, but also for those who have completed significant work within their chosen majors. Completing coursework specific to your chosen major should be a higher priority than General Education (GE) or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC).

Highly selective majors (e.g., sciences, engineering, psychology) evaluate your application based on the major-preparation courses you have completed before you transfer.

Transfer Pathways: Major Preparation Made Simple

If you're starting out at a California community college and know which major you want to study, but haven't decided which UC campuses to apply to, follow one of UC's Transfer Pathways, a simple way to keep your options open as you prepare for your major. Each Pathway is a single set of courses you can take to prepare for your major on any of our nine undergraduate campuses.

The Transfer Pathways cover 21 of UC's most popular majors, such as biology, economics, history, mechanical engineering, psychology and political science. Following a Pathway doesn't guarantee admission to UC, but it gives you a clear roadmap to prepare for your major and be well positioned to graduate on time from any UC campus.

If there isn't yet a fully implemented Pathway for your chosen major, use ASSIST to find a complete list of required major-preparation coursework. (See page 5 for URLs.)

For complete information about Transfer Pathways, see <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/preparation-paths/index.html>.

For specific course information, see the UC Transfer Pathways Guide at <http://pathwaysguide.universityofcalifornia.edu/college-pathways>.

Major-preparation and GE/IGETC course information for each UC campus is available at www.assist.org.

General Education Requirements

Each school and college at every UC campus has its own GE ("breadth") requirements.

- California community-college students have the option to complete IGETC to satisfy GE requirements.
- IGETC is not an admissions eligibility requirement.
- Some majors — such as engineering — do not recommend IGETC. It's most helpful to students who want to keep their options open.
- Completing GE, either through IGETC or campus-specific requirements, may be a selection requirement for some campuses and programs.

Understand the Transfer Admissions Guarantee (TAG)

You are guaranteed a UC education with the Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG).

- Many, but not all, UC campuses offer TAG agreements.
- By participating in a TAG program, students receive early review of academic records, early admission notification and specific guidance about major preparation and general education coursework.
- Participants must fill out the TAG application in September of the year before transfer to UC, using the same course/grade information entered in the Transfer Admission Planner. TAG applications should be reviewed with a community-college counselor and/or a UC campus TAG adviser.
- Once a TAG is approved, students must fulfill all remaining coursework and GPA requirements spelled out in the TAG agreement.
- TAG applications are due September 30, and you can only apply for a TAG at one campus. To keep your options open, apply to other campuses during the regular application cycle (November 1–30).

TRACK YOUR PROGRESS ONLINE UC Transfer Admission Planner (TAP) <https://uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu>
UC provides an online Transfer Admission Planner to help you keep track of your progress toward satisfying transfer requirements. You can start entering your courses into the planner as soon as you enroll at a community college.

TRANSFER ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS BY UC CAMPUS

For majors that don't have the established Transfer Pathways, each UC campus has its own requirements for transfer admission. For information about the location(s) of interest to you, use the contact list below.

Berkeley	Berkeley Center for Educational Partnerships (510) 643-1439 http://cep.berkeley.edu/community-college-transfer-center
Davis	UC Davis Transfer Admission (530) 752-2971 https://www.ucdavis.edu/admissions/undergraduate/transfer
Irvine	Irvine Center for Educational Partnerships (949) 824-7482 www.cfep.uci.edu/transfer-preparation-programs
Los Angeles	UCLA Center for Community College Partnerships (310) 267-4441 www.aap.ucla.edu/c-c-c-p
Merced	Merced Transfer Initiative Program (209) 228-4682 http://uctip.ucmerced.edu
Riverside	Riverside Transfer Admission (951) 827-3411 http://admissions.ucr.edu/Home/transfer
San Diego	San Diego Transfer Admission (858) 534-4831 http://www.ucsd.edu/prospective-students/transfers/tss.html
Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara Transfer Student Services (805) 893-2881 http://admissions.sa.ucsb.edu/applying/transfer
Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz Transfer Preparation Program (831) 459-4008 http://admissions.ucsc.edu/apply/transfer-students/transfer-preparation-program

ONLINE RESOURCES

ASSIST: www.assist.org

CCCApply: <http://home.cccapply.org>

UC Transfer Pathways: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/preparation-paths>

UC Transfer Pathways Guide: <http://pathwaysguide.universityofcalifornia.edu>

Achieve UC: <http://achieve.universityofcalifornia.edu>

UC Systemwide Admissions Website: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu>

UC Transfer Admission Planner: <https://uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu>

ASSIST (www.assist.org) is an online student-transfer information system that shows how course credits earned at a California community college can be applied when transferred to a California public college or university. ASSIST provides the most accurate and up-to-date information about student transfer in California.



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¹ *Pregnancy includes pregnancy, childbirth and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth.*

² *Service in the uniformed services includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service or obligation for service in the uniformed services.*