

# UC SANTA BARBARA



## Admission Guide Fall 2025

[admissions.ucsb.edu/next-stop](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/next-stop)

# Campus Overview



The University of California, Santa Barbara is ranked as one of the top teaching and research institutions in the United States offering a world-class education in a picturesque seaside location.

**#5**

public university in the U.S.  
(Forbes, 2023)

**#8**

best value public university  
(Princeton Review, 2024)

**#9**

college with the best student life  
in America (Niche, 2024)

Find more information here: [ucsb.edu/about/facts-and-figures](https://ucsb.edu/about/facts-and-figures)

Curious what it's like to live, learn and pursue a degree on our seaside campus? Hear directly from students in short videos that feature their experiences and advice. [ucsb.edu/campus-experience/all-the-answers](https://ucsb.edu/campus-experience/all-the-answers)

Enjoy a video overview of UC Santa Barbara's stellar academics, stunning location and active campus life. Scan the QR code to watch now!



Watch the UCSB  
Campus Overview



## Community

Many students choose UCSB for the friendly and collaborative environment. With nearly 300 days of sunshine every year and 500+ campus clubs, students engage in the unmatched cultural, social, professional, and physical opportunities.

[admissions.ucsb.edu/student-life](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/student-life)

## Location

UCSB is located on the central coast of California, just steps to the Pacific Ocean and with views of the Santa Ynez mountains. The local community features excellent recreation, internships, cultural activities, and dining. [admissions.ucsb.edu/campus-visits](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/campus-visits)

## Housing

Housing is guaranteed to all students in their first year. University Housing offers an environment that is supportive of your educational needs. Just imagine living in one of the most beautiful settings in the world! [housing.ucsb.edu](https://housing.ucsb.edu)

# Applying to UCSB

## Freshman Eligibility

### 1 A-G Courses

Complete UC-approved A-G courses with a “C” or better. Refer to [hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide](https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide) for in-depth details.

- A. History/social science: 2 years
- B. English: 4 years
- C. Mathematics: 3 years (4 recommended)
- D. Science: 2 years (3 recommended)
- E. Language other than English: 2 years (3 recommended)
- F. Visual/performing arts: 1 year
- G. College preparatory elective: 1 year beyond the minimum A-F courses required

UC is test-free. UCSB will not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions or scholarship decisions.

### 2 Grade Point Average (GPA)

Earn a weighted **3.0 minimum GPA (3.4 for nonresidents)** in A-G courses. Grades from A-G subjects in the 10th-11th grades (including summer work) are used to calculate the UC GPA.

### Freshman Resources

Join us in virtual presentations on student life, academics, admissions selection, and more.

[admissions.ucsb.edu/virtual-admissions-events](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/virtual-admissions-events)

Visit our YouTube channel ([ucsb4me](#)) for tutorials on the Fall 2025 UC Application, tips on Personal Insight Questions, and more!





# Transfer Eligibility

## 1 Seven-Course Pattern

Complete the seven-course pattern requirement with a "C" or better:

- A. Two courses in English composition (UC-E)
- B. One course in mathematics beyond intermediate algebra, such as college algebra, precalculus or statistics (UC-M)
- C. Four courses from at least two of the following areas:
  - ▶ Arts and humanities (UC-H)
  - ▶ Behavioral and social sciences (UC-B)
  - ▶ Biological and physical sciences (UC-S)

## 2 Transferable Credit

Complete **60 semester/90 quarter units** of UC-transferable credit with at least a 2.4 GPA for California residents (2.8 for nonresidents). A selective GPA for most majors is 3.4 and above.

## 3 Major Preparation

Complete required major preparation courses. [admissions.ucsb.edu/TransferMajorPrepGuide2025](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/TransferMajorPrepGuide2025)

### Transfer Resources

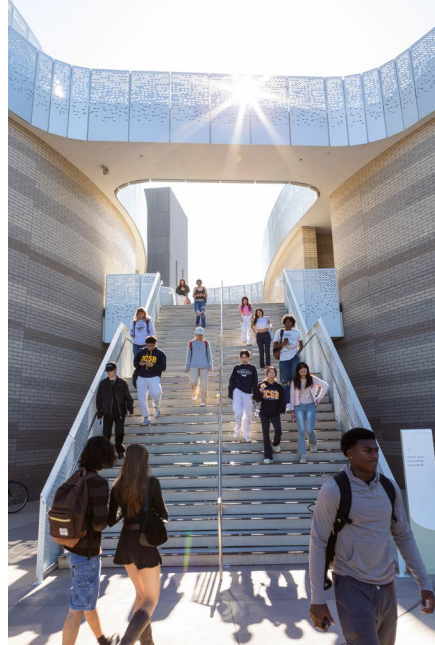
**UCSB Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)** guarantees admission to CA community college students who meet specific requirements. TAG details can be found at [admissions.ucsb.edu/tag](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/tag)

**UCSB Transfer Prep Program** prepares entering and continuing community college students to transfer to the University of California. [admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-prep](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-prep)

**Guide to Course Transferability** explains types of courses that have the best chance of transferring to UCSB, as we cannot pre-evaluate non-CCC courses. [admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-eligibility-selection](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/transfer-eligibility-selection)

**UC Transfer Admission Planner** is an online tool that helps students track and plan transfer coursework. [uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu](https://uctap.universityofcalifornia.edu)

**ASSIST** offers detailed UC-transferable course lists and major preparation agreements. [assist.org](https://assist.org)



Watch the Transfer Student Experience overview here:

Transfer Student Resource YouTube playlist here:



# Academic Programs & Support

## College of Letters & Science

- Actuarial Science, B.S.
- Anthropology, B.A.: optional emphases in Archaeology, Biological, Cultural
- Applied Mathematics, B.S.
- Aquatic Biology, B.S.
- Art, B.A.
- Asian American Studies, B.A.  
Asian Studies, B.A.
- Biochemistry, B.S.
- Biological Sciences, B.A., B.S.
- Biopsychology, B.S.
- Black Studies, B.A.
- Chemistry, B.A., B.S.
- Chicana and Chicano Studies, B.A.
- Chinese, B.A. (Mandarin)
- Classics, B.A.: emphases in Ancient Greek Philosophy, Classical Archaeology, Classical Language and Literature, Greek and Roman Culture
- Communication, B.A.
- Comparative Literature, B.A.: Multilingual Emphasis  
Dance, B.A., B.F.A. (audition required)
- Earth Science, B.A.
- ◆■ Earth Science, B.S.: emphases in Climate and Environment, Geology, Geophysics, Geobiology and Paleobiology
- Ecology and Evolution, B.S.
- Economics, B.A.
- Economics and Accounting, B.A.
- English, B.A.  
Environmental Studies, B.A., B.S.
- Feminist Studies, B.A.
- Film and Media Studies, B.A.
- Financial Mathematics and Statistics, B.S.
- French, B.A.  
Geography, B.A.: optional emphasis in Geographic Information Science  
Geography, Physical, B.S.: optional emphasis in Ocean Science
- German, B.A.
- Global Studies, B.A.
- History, B.A.
- History of Art and Architecture, B.A.: optional emphases in Architecture and Environment, Museum Studies  
History of Public Policy and Law, B.A.
- ◆ Hydrologic Sciences and Policy, B.S.: emphases in Biology and Ecology, Physical and Chemical, Policy
- Italian Studies, B.A.: optional emphasis in Transnational
- ◆■ Japanese, B.A.  
Language, Culture and Society, B.A.
- Latin American and Iberian Studies, B.A.
- Linguistics, B.A.: optional emphases in Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Language and Speech Technologies, Slavic, Spanish, Speech-Language Sciences and Disorders
- Mathematics, B.A., B.S.  
Medieval Studies, B.A.  
Middle East Studies, B.A.
- Molecular & Cellular Biology, B.S.: optional emphases in Biochemistry-Molecular Biology, Cell and Developmental Biology, Microbiology, Pharmacology
- ◆ Music, B.M. (audition required): emphases in Cello, Composition, Piano, Viola, Violin, Voice
- Music Studies, B.A.: optional emphases in Ethnomusicology, Interdisciplinary Studies of Music, Western Art Music
- ◆ Philosophy, B.A.: concentrations in Core Philosophy, Ethics and Public Policy
- Physics, B.A., B.S.
- Physiology, B.S.
- Political Science, B.A.
- Portuguese, B.A.
- Psychological and Brain Sciences, B.S.
- Religious Studies, B.A.  
Russian and East European Studies, B.A.
- Sociology, B.A.
- Spanish, B.A.
- Statistics and Data Science, B.A.
- ◆● Statistics and Data Science, B.S.
- ◆ Theater, B.A.: concentrations in Design, Directing, Playwriting, Theater and Community, Theater and Performance Studies
- Theater, B.F.A. (audition required): emphasis in Acting
- Zoology, B.S.

## Additional Minors

- American Indian and Indigenous Studies
- Applied Psychology
- Architecture and Urban History
- Astronomy and Planetary Science
- Educational Studies
- Game Studies
- Iranian Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Labor Studies
- Language and Speech Technologies
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Studies
- Mathematics for High School Teaching
- Media Arts and Design
- Museum Studies
- Poverty, Inequality and Social Justice
- Professional Writing (*Tracks: Professional Editing, Writing & Civic Engagement, Multimedia Communication, Business Communication, Science Communication, Journalism*)
- Russian
- Science and Mathematics Education
- Sociocultural Linguistics
- Spatial Studies
- Speech-Language Sciences and Disorders
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
- Theater Production and Design
- Translation Studies

## College of Engineering

- Chemical Engineering, B.S.
- Computer Engineering, B.S.
- Computer Science, B.S.
- Electrical Engineering, B.S.
- Mechanical Engineering, B.S.

### Five-Year Programs

- Computer Science, B.S./Computer Science, M.S.
- Computer Engineering, B.S./Computer Science, M.S. or Electrical and Computer Engineering, M.S.
- Electrical Engineering, B.S./Electrical and Computer Engineering, M.S.
- Chemical, Electrical, Mechanical Engineering, B.S./Materials, M.S.
- Mechanical Engineering, B.S./Mechanical Engineering, M.S.

## College of Creative Studies

- Art, B.A.
- Biology, B.A.
- Chemistry/Biochemistry, B.A., B.S.
- Computing, B.S.
- Marine Science, B.A.
- Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
- Music Composition, B.A.
- Physics, B.A., B.S.
- Writing and Literature, B.A.

- Also available as a minor.
- New students are admitted to "pre-major" status and must satisfy course and GPA requirements in order to advance to the major. See UCSB General Catalog for details.
- ◆ Visit department website for available concentrations.
- 5-year combined bachelor's/master's program available for freshmen (3 years for transfers). Students apply for 5-year programs after enrolling at UCSB. Admission to the 5-year program is not guaranteed. Consult with the academic department or visit department website for information.

## Major Overview

Explore our Major Spotlight playlist on our YouTube channel ([ucsb4me](#))



In addition to outstanding majors in UCSB's three undergraduate colleges—Letters and Science, Engineering, and Creative Studies—students have access to educational, professional, and personal resources.

## Pre-Professional Programs

- ▶ **Undergraduate Research** opportunities are available under faculty guidance. [urca.ucsb.edu](http://urca.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Health Professions Advising** assists students pursuing health careers. [healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu](http://healthsciences.duels.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Pre-Law Program** helps students interested in law and policy. [duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law](http://duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law)
- ▶ **Certificate Programs** provide training for the competitive job market. [extension.ucsb.edu](http://extension.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Technology Management** explores technology-focused entrepreneurial practices. [tmp.ucsb.edu](http://tmp.ucsb.edu)

## Supporting Your Success

- ▶ **Campus Learning Assistance Services** offers academic support. [clas.sa.ucsb.edu](http://clas.sa.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Career Services** guides students through career preparation. [career.ucsb.edu](http://career.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Counseling & Psychological Services** provides mental health services. [caps.sa.ucsb.edu](http://caps.sa.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Disabled Students Program** provides learning accommodations. [dsp.sa.ucsb.edu](http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Educational Opportunity Program** provides mentorship and programming to income-eligible/first-generation undergraduates. [eop.sa.ucsb.edu](http://eop.sa.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **First-Gen Community** supports first-generation students finding community. [firstgen.ucsb.edu](http://firstgen.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Health & Wellness** educates students on stress management and more. [wellness.ucsb.edu](http://wellness.ucsb.edu)
- ▶ **Transfer Student Center** serves as a resource to transfer students. [transfercenter.ucsb.edu](http://transfercenter.ucsb.edu)

Check out our  
Campus Resource  
playlist on YouTube



Find your  
community at  
UCSB



# Facts & Figures

## 26,068 Total Enrollment

**23,232**  
undergraduates

**2,836**  
graduate students

## Freshman Class 2024

**33%** admission rate

**4.42** average weighted GPA (3.91 unweighted)

**4,986** estimated enrollment

**110,256** applicants

## Transfer Class 2024

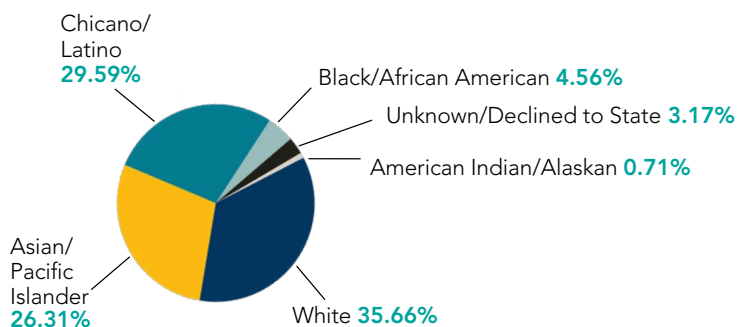
**62%** admission rate

**3.67** average GPA

**2,155** estimated enrollment

**18,425** applicants

## Current Student Enrollment



Celebrating Diversity: UCSB is recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) by the U.S. Dept. of Education.

Niche ranked UCSB as the #4 Best Hispanic-Serving Institution in America in 2024.

## Estimated 2024-2025 Student Budget

<i>Tuition subject to revision by the UC Regents</i>	CA Resident	Non-CA Resident
Tuition & Campus-Based Fees	\$16,407	\$16,407
Supplemental Tuition	—	\$34,200
Room & Board	\$19,623	\$19,623
Books & Supplies, Transportation, Personal Expenses, etc.	\$8,538	\$8,538
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$44,568</b>	<b>\$78,768</b>

Additional Resources:

[admissions.ucsb.edu/deadlines](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/deadlines)

[admissions.ucsb.edu/publications-and-videos](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/publications-and-videos)

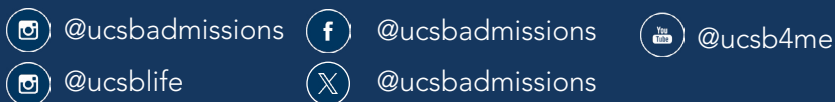
[admissions.ucsb.edu/faq](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/faq)

[admissions.ucsb.edu/parents-and-supporters](https://admissions.ucsb.edu/parents-and-supporters)

## UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014

[admissions.ucsb.edu](https://admissions.ucsb.edu) | [admissions@ucsb.edu](mailto:admissions@ucsb.edu) | (805) 893-2881



Get  
connected  
with UCSB!