

The logo consists of two overlapping white rectangular boxes. The top box contains the word "COUNSELOR" in blue, all-caps, sans-serif font. The bottom box contains the word "CONFERENCE" in blue, all-caps, sans-serif font.

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New Counselor's Toolbox for First-Year Admissions

September 2020

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This session of the UC High School Counselor Conference sessions occurred on September 2, 2020. The presentation slide deck was created earlier.

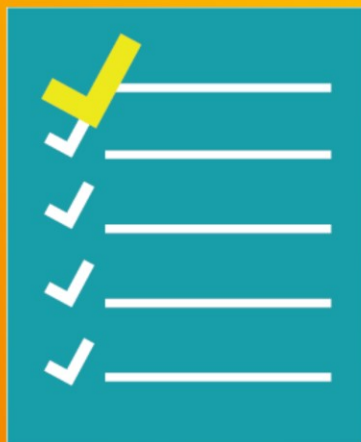
Note: Recent legal developments related to the University's admissions process may affect the content of these materials.

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AGENDA

- Definition of a First-Year Applicant
- Minimum Admissions Requirements
- Statewide and Local Context Guarantee
- Comprehensive Review
- Admissions Timeline
- Major Changes to the Admissions Process
- Resources



Who is a First-Year Applicant?



- In high school or graduated
- May take college courses while in high school
- Allowed to take college classes the summer after high school graduation

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1. A student that applies while they are in high school is considered a freshman applicant. At times we have students that will apply after they have graduated, in this case a student would apply as a FR so long as they did not enroll in a community college or university during a non-summer term.
2. Sometimes we get questions about an applicant status if they have taken numerous community college classes or even completed an Associate's degree at the high school level, they are still considered FR applicants.
3. Taking college courses the summer after high school is acceptable. (Only summer)

Who is a Transfer Applicant?

A transfer applicant is a student who has **enrolled in a fall, winter or spring term** at a college or university **after high school graduation**.



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Students who meet this definition cannot disregard their college record and apply as Freshman.

While we welcome transfer students from institutions around the world, we give priority consideration to California Community College students applying for admission to UC as juniors.

A CCC transfer student is defined as having completed at least 30 semester (45 quarter) UC-transferable units at one or more California community colleges and whose last college attended in a regular session (fall/spring or fall/winter/spring) before enrolling at a UC campus is a California community college

Minimum Admission Requirements



A-G Coursework Requirement



Minimum UC GPA

- 3.0 CA Resident
- 3.4 (Nonresident)



A-G Requirements

A-G Requirements

Complete **15** A-G courses with grades C or better

A: History

2 years required



B: English

4 years required



C: Mathematics

3 years required
(4 years recommended)



D: Science

2 years required
(3 years recommended)



E: Language other than English

2 years required
(3 years recommended)



F: Visual and Performing Arts

1 year required



G: College-Preparatory Elective

1 year required



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Students need to complete a minimum of 15 college-preparatory courses ([A-G courses](#)) with a letter grade of C or better, with at least 11 courses finished prior to the beginning of their last year of high school.

- History/Social Sciences – must include 1 year of world history, cultures, & geography; and 1 year of US History or half a year of US history and half a year of American government/civics
- Mathematics – must include algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra
- Science – must include two of the following: biology, chemistry, physics; one year of interdisciplinary or earth & space science can meet one year of the requirement
- LOTE – must complete through second year or higher of the same language
- VPA – yearlong course from the following: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art
- Some courses with sequential knowledge (Math and Language other than English) may be validated or cleared by higher-level coursework

GPA Requirement

MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

- CA residents: 3.0
- Non-residents: 3.4

COVID-19 SEMESTERS

- Pass grades OK in A-G courses completed in Winter, Spring and Summer 2020
- Pass grades not factored into GPA

Grades 10 & 11
(includes summers)

A – G courses

**Honors
points**

**+/- points don't
count, don't
round**

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SUMMERS:

Classes taken during the summer after 9th, 10th, and 11th grade are included in the GPA.

HONORS POINTS:

- Up to 8 semesters of extra points in AP/IB HL/CL/UC honors courses (only A-C grades)
- Max 4 extra points in 10th grade
- One college course = one grade = one honors point
- For out-of-state schools, AP/IB/CL but not school-designated honors courses

COVID-19 Semesters:

- Temporary suspension of letter grade requirement for A-G coursework for all coursework completed in Winter, Spring and Summer 2020

Validation: Math and Language other than English (LOTE)

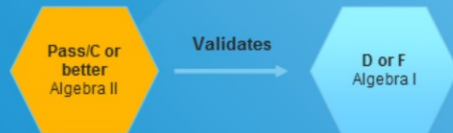
Subject Omission

Validation of lower-level coursework even if the lower-level coursework was not actually completed



Grade Deficiency

Validation of 'D' or 'F' grade in a lower-level course after completion of a higher-level course with a 'C' or better



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There are two types of validation.

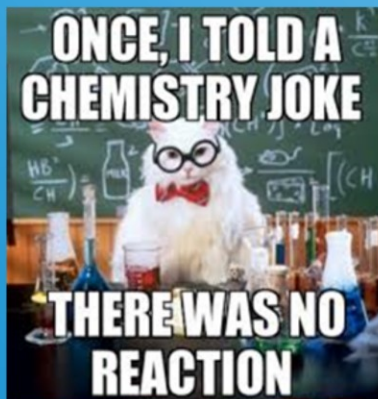
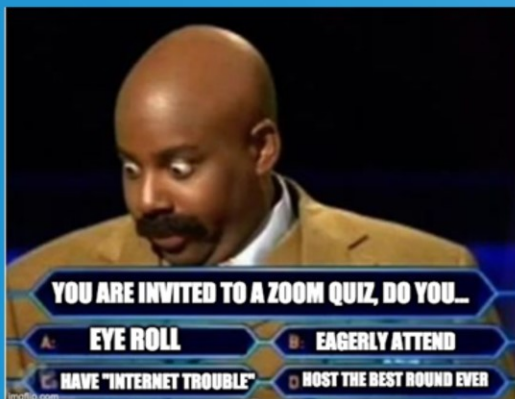
- Validation of coursework: Validation of a lower-level course even if the lower-level course was not actually completed
- Validation of grades: Validation of a D or F grade in a lower-level course after completion of a higher-level course with a grade of C or better.

Validation of a Language Other than English (LOTE):

For any language other than English, a higher-level/year of the same language validates a lower-level course. The Second semester of a course validates the first semester of a course at each level.

**A higher level-course validates all levels of lower-level courses.

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Geometry

The omission of a yearlong Geometry course cannot be validated by higher-level coursework.

Exceptions apply: The omission of the first semester of Geometry can be validated by successful completion of a second semester of Geometry with a letter grade of C or better.

NP/D/F grades earned in Geometry can be validated by completion of a higher-level course.

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To meet the Mathematics (c) subject requirement, students must complete a Geometry course or integrated mathematics sequence that includes sufficient geometry (e.g., Math II)

For the math validation chart, see the Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions at <https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/quick-reference.pdf> page 19

Repeated Coursework

- A student is allowed to repeat each A-G course in which a D or F grade was originally earned until the first time they earn a letter grade of C or better.
- The replacement (repeat) course must have curriculum similar to the original course.
- The new grade earned will be used in the GPA calculation.
- Pass/Credit grades earned in Winter/Spring or Summer 2020 cannot be repeated.
- Pass/No Pass, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit grades in any term other than Winter/Spring or Summer 2020 cannot be used to meet A-G coursework and are identified as subject omissions.



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- A student is allowed to repeat an A-G course in which a D or F grade was originally earned as many times as necessary until the first time they earn a letter grade of C or better
- The replacement (repeat) course must have curriculum similar to the original course (the same content but not necessarily the same title).
- The new grade earned will be used in the GPA calculation. UC does not average the grades.

ELC Checklist for Students



- ☐ California resident
- ☐ Attend an eligible, participating California high school
- ☐ Complete **11** of the 15 required A-G courses by the beginning of their Senior Year
- ☐ Earn a UC-calculated GPA that meets or exceeds the school's benchmark ELC GPA
- ☐ Complete remaining A-G courses by the end of Senior Year



- How to qualify for ELC?
 - California resident whose high school participates in our ELC program.
 - Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA or better in a specific set of UC-approved coursework completed in the 10th and 11th grades.
 - Applicants enter coursework and grades in the UC application and the application will compare their GPA to the historic top GPA for their school. If the applicant meets or exceeds that GPA, they will be designated ELC and we will add a note to their application.
 - Applications are automatically screened for ELC eligibility when submitted.
 - After application submission, applicants can return to their My UC Application to see whether they have been designated as being in the top 9 percent of their class.
- How does UC calculate a school's historic or benchmark GPA?
 - UC uses transcripts that your school has submitted for the top 15 percent of your high school's junior class, after final junior year grades are entered.
 - Based on transcripts from the previous three years, UC establishes a historic, or benchmark, GPA representing the expected GPA for the top 9 percent of the students from your school.
 - Schools are periodically asked to submit transcripts so that we can monitor and adjust benchmark GPAs.
 - Note: UC did not collect transcripts this year due to COVID-19.

ELC Program Eligibility for Schools



- ☐ School must be located in California
- ☐ Have a College Board school code
- ☐ Full list of UC-approved courses for the most recent academic year

Note: Virtual schools are not eligible to participate.

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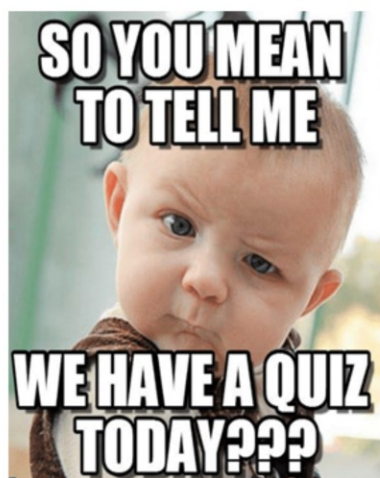
Most California public high schools and many private schools participate in the ELC program. To participate, a school must be located in California, have a College Board school code, and have a full list of [UC-approved courses](#) for the most recent academic year.

Virtual schools are not eligible to participate in the ELC program.

Eligible schools participating in the ELC program are asked by UC to provide student contact information and are responsible for obtaining parental authorization.

For information about joining the program, email elc@ucop.edu. New participation requests and transcripts must be received no later than July 1 for the fall admission application cycle (freshman enrollment for the following year's fall term).

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UC First-Year Comprehensive Review

Campuses Look For

Strong grades, course preparation, other academic factors
A comprehensive educational experience

Assess Student Within Context

Educational environment
Available resources and opportunities
Not just the personal insight responses



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Comprehensive Review

Academic Accomplishments

- GPA
- Performance and number of A-G courses
- Eligibility in the local context (ELC)
- UC approved AP and Honors courses

Personal Achievements

- Talents, achievements and awards
- Participation in educational preparation programs
- Achievements in special projects
- Academic accomplishments within life experience

Personal Insight Questions

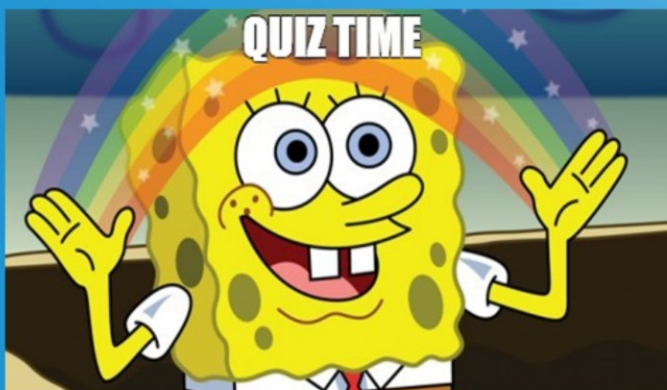
- Student will have 8 questions to choose from and must respond to only 4 of the 8 questions
- Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words
- All questions are equal

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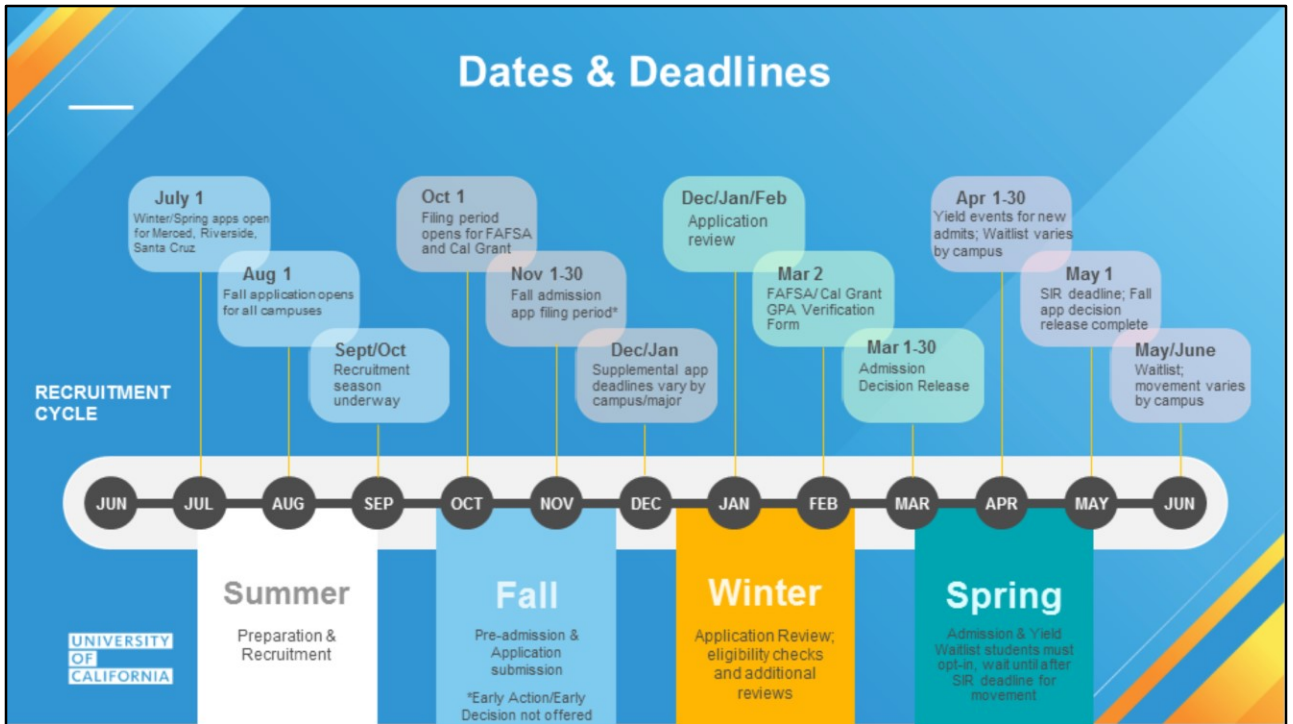
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Dates & Deadlines



Major Changes to the Admissions Process

UC temporarily suspended the letter grade requirement for A-G courses completed in Winter, Spring, and Summer 2020 for all students enrolled in high school during the 2019-20 academic year.

Pass grades will NOT be included in the GPA calculation, nor will they receive an extra honors point in the GPA if they are approved honors, AP or IB courses.

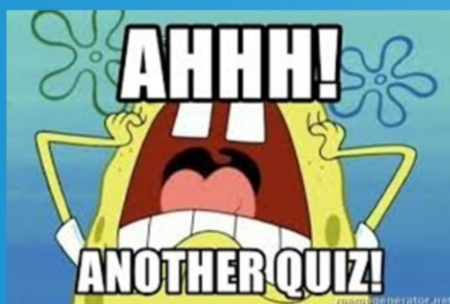
UC will *assume* that the P (CR) grade issued by a high school is equivalent to at least a C- or better grade. Our campuses will not require any type of verification letter to explain your grading scale.

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Although a student will not receive an extra point in the GPA calculation, UC-approved honors courses, including AP and IB, are still considered in comprehensive review as taking a challenging curriculum. (See comprehensive review slide)

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Resources

UC Application:

<https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu>

UC Campus Admission Contacts:

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/campus-admission-contacts/>

UC Counselor Resource page:

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/>

UC Counselors and Advisers Bulletin:

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/resources/counselors-advisers-bulletin/>

UC Downloadable Resources:

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/downloadable-guides/>

UC Response to COVID-19 with FAQs:

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/response-covid-19.html>

UC Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions:

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/quick-reference.pdf>

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