



**OCEAN
DISCOVERY
INSTITUTE**
young lives transformed through science

UC APPLICATION WORKSHOP

Isabel Herrera. October 18, 2023

TODAY'S GOAL

Students will gain knowledge and skills to submit a competitive UC application.

AGENDA

- 🔹 College Application Overview
- 🔹 Orientation to the UC Application
 - Academic History
 - Activities & Awards
- 🔹 Wrap Up

COLLEGE APPLICATION OVERVIEW

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. Is Hoover considered a SEMESTER system or QUARTER system to college admissions?
2. Where can you find the fee waiver application for the UC application? Is it required to provide family household data?
3. What does a “capped” major mean?
4. What does “holistic review” mean?
5. Do you need to submit an official transcript with your UC application?
6. True or False: The UC application requires letters of recommendation.
7. True or False: You must eventually submit a transcript for each dual enrollment (ie: City College) course you’ve received grades for.
8. True or False: Sending scores to 1 UC ensures *all* UCs will get them.

WHAT IS AN APPLICATION NARRATIVE?

It is the ability of an application to **tell a cohesive story** that describes who the student is and how they contribute to a college community. It is **the character your application takes on** after crafting your personal story based on how you want to be perceived by admissions. While grades and coursework certainly play a large part in the admissions evaluation process, crafting your narrative is where the essays and your activities and awards come together, all complementing and reinforcing one another.

- Admissions officer's perspective – piecing together who the applicant is as a person without really knowing them but pulling together different pieces of the application.
- Taking all the different elements of the application and having a flow, a continuum of how your story is told.
- Start with your current coursework and activity list and begin to identify the underlying themes.

QUESTIONS?

ORIENTATION TO THE UC APPLICATION

UC LOCATIONS



SECTIONS OF THE UC APPLICATION



About you Personal information



* required

What is your name?

We'd like to know your legal name - the name that appears on official documents, like your birth certificate, passport or driver's license.

First/Given name *	Middle name	Last / Family / Surname *	Suffix
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	-- select --

▼ About you

Personal information

Contact information

Citizenship & residency

Demographics

Your background

Your household

Parent information

Statement of Legal Residence

Review

> Campuses & majors

> Academic history

> Test scores

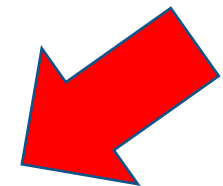
> Activities & awards

> Scholarships & programs

> Personal insight

Review & submit

Holistic Review!



ABOUT YOU

- Information about a student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s)' education, income, and family size is used to provide contextual information about the home environment and to determine eligibility for the application fee waiver.

UC Application – Get Started!

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply-now.html>

CAMPUSES & MAJORS

- Picking a major – UC campuses not as impacted as CSU campuses
 - If selected major is “capped,” select a non-capped alternative major
 - UCSD first year admissions does not select based on major
- If student qualifies for the fee waiver, they can apply to up to 4 campuses for free!
- Even though students complete one application for all UC’s checked, UC campuses will not share or collaborate on the decision process. Each campus will make final decisions independently from one another.

ACADEMIC HISTORY

- 12th grade course grades will default to “IP In Progress” (semester 1) and “PL Planned” (semester 2).
- For courses that are only one semester long, select “NO” for the term for which the course was not offered (e.g. Economics offered fall term, for spring term select “NO”).
- Include all original courses/grades and enter repeated courses/grades for courses in which an original grade of D or F was earned and subsequently repeated.
- If any college/university level courses were completed while in high school, even if they are taught on the high school campus, add the college information AFTER the high school information. (dual enrollment)
 - Students who are offered admission to UC will be required to submit an official college transcript for all college courses completed.

TEST SCORES

- SAT/ACT test scores are test OPTIONAL
- Other tests include: AP scores, TOEFL scores
 - Submit AP test scores even if didn't pass to show persistence until the end
 - If took TOEFL to demonstrate language proficiency and did not take a class, can skip inputting course for language proficiency, but will get an error code – can explain in comments section
- Sending scores to 1 UC ensures *all* UCs will get them

ACTIVITIES & AWARDS – INSTRUCTIONS

- Students will have **twenty spaces to enter their activities**, limited to a 350 character count. Students will categorize the activities themselves based on the provided options and there is no limit for each category.
- Admissions **does not value one activity over another**, but they do value commitment, progression, impact, and leadership.
- Students should **focus on your role or responsibility** within the activity - not necessarily a description of the activity itself. How did this activity affect or help you progress?
- For each activity, students need to include their time commitment. Students should give their **best estimate or average**.
- Students should also **include any activities they have planned** for the spring semester of their senior year.
- “After 12th Grade” - this is meant for students who are taking a **gap year** before attending college.

ACTIVITY: CHALLENGE TO 20

With your mentor/mentee, come up with as many entries as you can think of, especially the activities that highlight your narrative. Categories are:

- Award or honors
- Educational preparation program
- Extracurricular activity
- Other Coursework
- Volunteer / Community service
- Work experience

AWARDS & HONORS

- Athlete of the week
- Principal's award
- Superstar awards (ie: ASB award, etc.)
- Scholarships
- 4.0 scholars / Honor Roll
- Class awards
- Cardinal Pride
- Academy awards
- Attendance award
- Program awards (ie: reading legacies)
- Hoover bucks
- PEN publication

EDUCATIONAL PREP PROGRAMS

- Avenues for Success
- Cardinals Interact
- Ocean Discovery summer programs
 - Intro to Research
 - Ocean Leader Bridge
- Reality Changers
- WAHUPA
- Aaron Price
- Upward Bound
- Talent Search
- FACES
- Hoover academy
- Dual enrollment classes
- AVID
- Cardinals Camp/ Link Crew
- Cal SOAP Exam Preparation
- Tutoring
- College Access Mentor Program
- Math Muscle

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- SGT Board
- Student advisory board
- Academy advisor board
- Drama
- Photography / Yearbook / Journalism
- Church youth group
- Sports
- ASB
- Band
- Dance
- Academic league

COURSES OTHER THAN A-G

- Dual enrollment courses
 - i.e.: Step Up
 - i.e.: Chicano Studies
- Non college-prep (P) courses (see transcript)
- Academy courses
- “Life” classes
 - i.e.: cooking
 - i.e.: mechanics
- ASB, AVID, yearbook
- Academy courses
- Outside of school
 - i.e.: CPR
- Cal SOAP Exam Preparation
- Tutoring
- Math Muscle
- College & Career Coaching
- RTC presentation
- PEN publication
- Swimming classes

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Church
- 1-day volunteer events
 - i.e.:
canyon/beach/campus
clean ups
- School volunteer
 - i.e.: Cardinals Camp
 - i.e.: Link Crew
- SD Rescue Mission
- Hoover academy
- Hoover Community Connections
- Ocean Leader Ambassador (gala, site visits, etc.)
- Servant Leadership
- Mentoring
- Fundraising (sports, band, gala)
- Child care/ household management
- Animal shelters
- Nursing homes

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Customer service
- Photography services
- House management
- Care taker
- Industrial cooking
- Restaurant maintenance
- Hoover academy
- Cardinals Camp/ Link Crew
- OL Ambassador (gala, site visits, etc.)
- Internship
- Fundraising (sports, band, gala)
- Hoover Community Connections

EXAMPLES THAT WORKED

- *“Helped with my father’s business since he is the sole employee. I started helping in the 6th grade. Worked moving produce, selling produce and planting seeds after school and on the weekends. The farm business was shut down before 12th grade.”* (238 characters)
- *“Senior of the Month award recognizes seniors for all-around achievement. Recognized for my achievement of straight As throughout high school in all available honors and AP courses, my contributions as AB President, Mock Trail Co-Captain, California Scholarship Federation President, and Involvement in many other clubs and activities on campus.”* (344 characters)
- *“As co-president in senior year, I organize a tutoring program with a local elementary school for at-risk fourth- and fifth-graders. I found and trained 25 tutors this year. This consisted of interviewing other students, and making a week-long training program.”* (263 characters)

EXAMPLES THAT ARE MISSED OPPORTUNITY

- *“I’ve competed with **the best of the US** and got to the top. Also making the tiny cuts to get to the very top were very rewarding.”* (126 characters)
- *“Being a part of the MESA program has been a great experience. MESA students are able to discuss with each other and come up with ideas that will help our project.”* (161 characters)

SCHOLARSHIPS & PROGRAMS

- Select all scholarships that apply to students. There are no limits on scholarships that they can request. Students should click through all of the categories.
- All UC campuses offer either EOP or a similar program with a different name. If interested in the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), students will need to check the box on this page and provide a brief statement about why they're interested in the program.

WRAP UP

- Upcoming deadlines:
 - College Fit Consultations (*Pending Alejandro and Ricardo*)
 - Personal Statement Consultations
 - Send prompts and essay topics to Isabel
 - (*All, except Osciris/Dao*)
 - EOP applications
 - CSU requires short responses
 - UC has additional first-gen programs (i.e.: OASIS at UCSD)
 - Institution specific scholarships
 - FAFSA – opens in December
- Helpful tools:
 - [Grammarly.com](https://www.grammarly.com)
 - [UC Application Tutorial](#) [YouTube]
- Next CAMP workshop
 - CSU Application Workshop – November 8 @ 5-6pm
- Next Ocean Leader Field Trip
 - UCSD Campus Visit – Saturday, October 21 @ 9am-2pm
 - Neurocrine BioScience Inc. – Tuesday, October 24 @ 3:35-7:00 PM



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THANK YOU.

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