

Transfer to a Four-Year Institution

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Transfer Planning

Introduction

There are four segments of higher education in California: (a) the University of California (UC) system with ten campuses; (b) the California State University (CSU) system with 23 campuses; (c) the approximately 75 accredited independent colleges and universities; and (d) the 114 community colleges.

Although an associate degree is not a requirement for transfer, the faculty of the School of Guidance and Counseling at IVC generally recommend that students complete the degree. With proper planning, students should be able to meet both the requirements for graduation from Irvine Valley College with an associate degree and the requirements for transfer to a four-year institution. The newly developed Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) and Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees are intended to help students achieve both of these goals.

The requirements for earning an associate degree are described here. The Counseling Center also provides specific information about requirements for each associate degree major.

Transfer Center

The Transfer Center is located on the second floor of the Student Services Center in Room SSC 230. The center offers a wide range of services for all students planning to transfer. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the resources that will assist them throughout the transfer process and should make a point of visiting the center each semester they are at IVC. Services include transfer counseling appointments, university representative appointments, university campus tours, and transfer fairs. Students are advised to meet with an IVC counselor to plan their program of study in addition to using the Transfer Center resources.

ASSIST Articulation System

ASSIST is the official source for California articulation and student transfer information. It is a computerized student transfer information system that can be accessed at www.assist.org. The site displays reports of how course credits earned at one California college (including IVC) or university can be applied when transferred to another. Students may also access ASSIST from computers in the Transfer Center.

Transfer Majors

Students are advised to access ASSIST at www.assist.org for a complete list of university majors and the campuses where these majors are available. Knowing which courses are required for major preparation will help students plan their educational program. The Irvine Valley College Counseling faculty can also provide valuable assistance to students in pursuing the major and transfer institution of their choice.

General Education/Breadth

Most educational institutions develop a set of general education or breadth requirements to ensure that their graduating students have received a well-rounded education.

The California State University General Education (CSU GE) and the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

The CSU GE and IGETC patterns are articulation agreements intended to assist students who plan to continue their education at a California State University or University of California campus.

The Transfer Center and Counseling Center keep additional information about general education requirements of specific campuses of these institutions, as well as requirements of independent colleges, many of which will accept the IGETC as an alternative to their own general education requirements. Students are advised to visit the Transfer Center and Counseling Center for assistance in planning a transfer program.

FAQs About Transferring

1. **Which courses do I have to take?**

In general, English and math are required whether you are transferring to a UC, CSU, private, or out-of-state school. Depending on your placement results, it may be necessary to take nontransferable courses before you begin your transferable English and math courses. As a transfer student, you need to declare a major when you apply to the university; so, in addition to completing general education courses (IGETC or CSU GE Breadth), it is important to complete courses that are part of the lower-division preparation for your major. Go to www.assist.org to access information about courses required for the major. Ideally, you will want to know your major as far ahead as possible before you transfer. If your major requires math and science (e.g., engineering, biology, or computer science), it is especially important that you complete those courses before you transfer.

2. **Do I have to get all requirements out of the way first?**

Basically, if you are not sure where you're going, how do you know which set of requirements to follow? Every university is going to have a similar, but somewhat different, pattern of requirements. Specific majors have extensive requirements that must be completed prior to transferring. Examples of these majors are engineering, architecture, art, music, and most sciences (consult a counselor regarding requirements for these majors).

3. **What if I don't know what I want to major in or where I want to transfer?** This is typical of students everywhere.

Again, these decisions take time and exposure, so don't pressure yourself into making a premature decision. Deciding what you will major in may eliminate a certain amount of anxiety, but if you make an unexamined choice, you may easily select the wrong major. You are encouraged to sign up for Counseling 102, Career Exploration and Life Planning, a course designed to assist students in deciding on a career, or Counseling 1, Academic Planning, a course designed to assist students in developing an individualized educational plan.

4. **How can I become eligible to transfer as a junior to the UC or CSU system?**

If you're not eligible to enter UC or CSU as a high school senior, you need to complete 60 transferable units with a minimum 2.0 GPA (2.4 if you are a nonresident) for CSU, and 60 transferable units with a minimum 2.4 GPA (2.8 if you are a nonresident) for UC. You must also clear up any course deficiencies you may have had as a graduating high school senior (e.g., algebra, English, lab science, etc.).

Meeting these criteria establishes minimum eligibility but does not guarantee admission. As a California community college student, you will be given preference over transfer students from four-year universities. The only exception to this policy is entrance into impacted majors, where you must meet other criteria as stipulated. Check with a counselor to find out if the major you're considering is impacted at any of the UC or CSU campuses. Also ask a counselor about the new Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) and Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees, which guarantee admission to a CSU campus, and about TAG (Transfer Admission Guarantee) programs to the UC campuses.

5. **How can I tell if a course is transferable?**

The "transferability" of a course is indicated by its number. Almost every IVC course numbered 1-199 will transfer to the CSU system. UC will accept most courses numbered 1-99; however, there are exceptions to this rule. Be sure to check the 2018-19 UC Course List and confer with an IVC counselor if you have any questions about the transferability of a particular course.

6. **What's an associate degree? Do I need one to transfer?**

An associate degree signifies you have completed two years of college study. Having the degree can be useful when you are applying for jobs or seeking promotions. You do not have to complete the degree in order to transfer, but you can earn the degree by completing the same courses as those required to transfer. For many students, getting the degree is rewarding; it functions as a benchmark along the way to a bachelor's degree.

You should be aware that requirements for the associate degree may not be the same as requirements for transfer. The new Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) and Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) degrees allow students to complete both an associate degree and lower-division transfer requirements for a major. It is important to consult with a counselor to formulate an educational plan that will best suit your individual needs and goals.

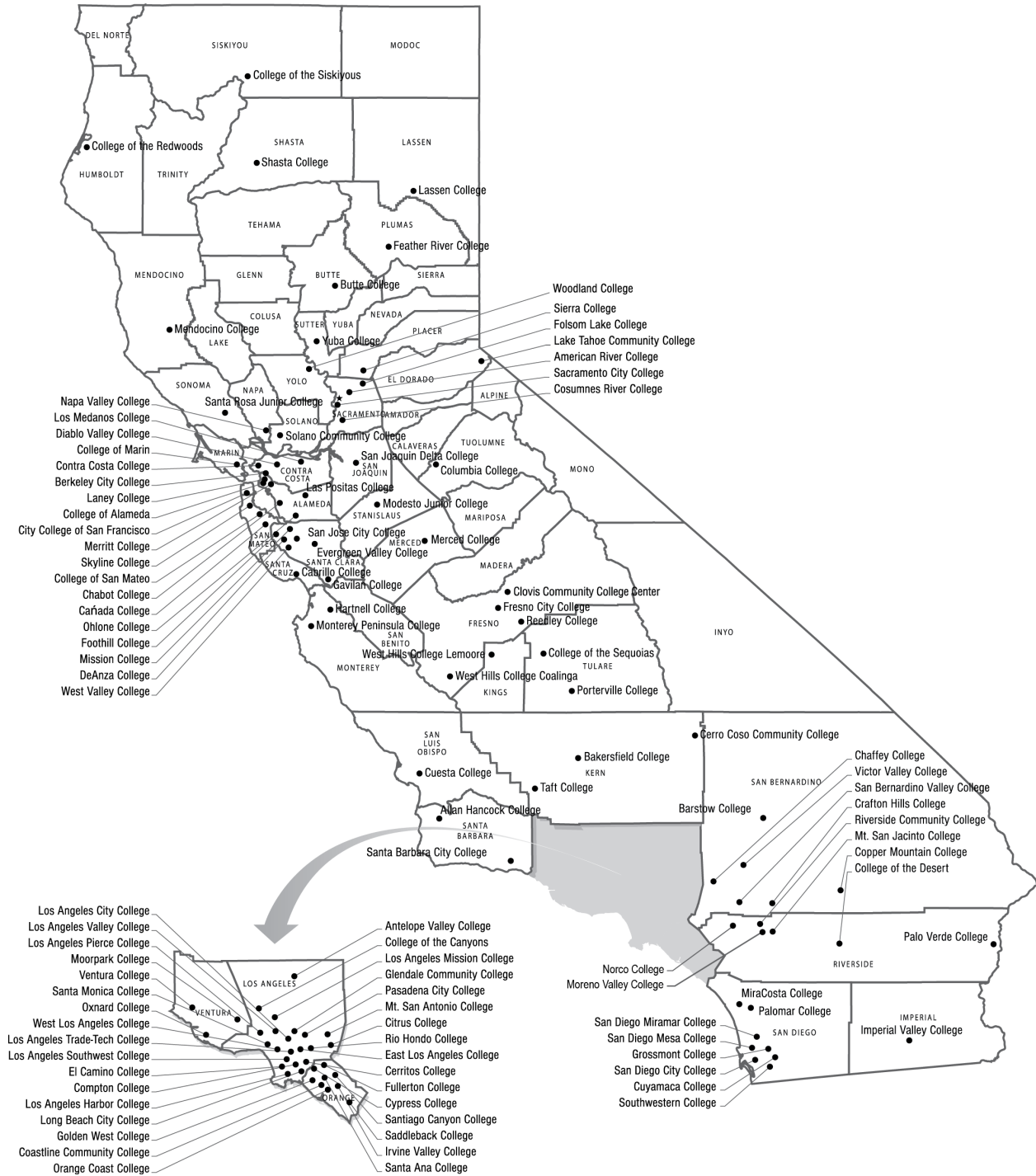
7. **What are "articulation agreements"?**

These are agreements developed cooperatively between IVC and other colleges indicating comparable courses and transferability. They are used in planning your transfer program. IVC has articulation agreements with all UC and most CSU campuses, and with many of the private colleges in Orange County and Los Angeles such as Chapman University.

If the college or university you plan to attend does not currently have an articulation agreement with IVC, make an appointment with a counselor. Bring the catalog of the transfer institution to the appointment.

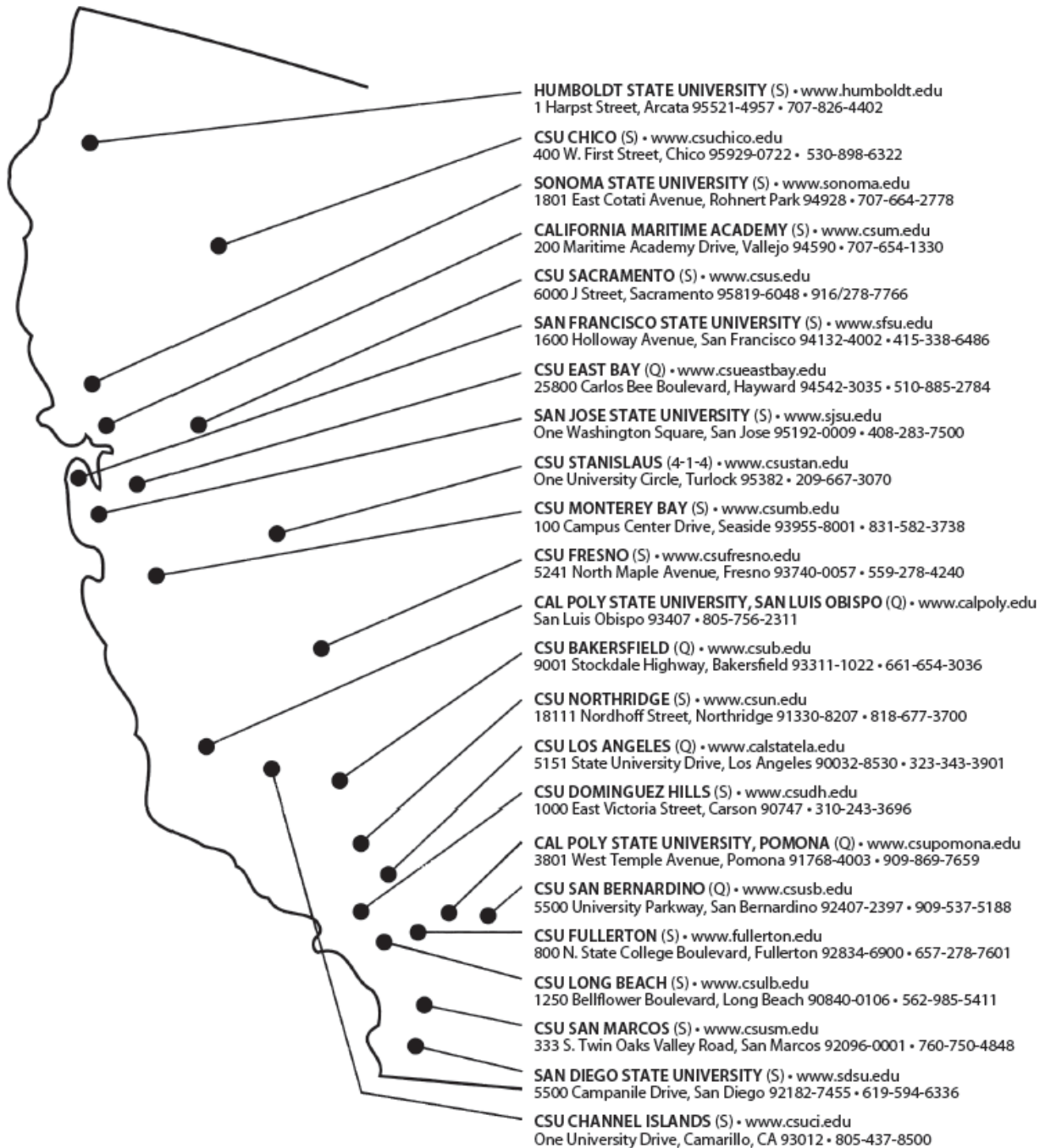
All students are encouraged to go to www.assist.org to find the most up-to-date articulation information with all UC and CSU campuses. For more information, visit the Transfer Center (949-451-5339) or meet with a counselor (949-451-5251).

California Community Colleges



California State University Campuses

S = Semester System Q = Quarter System



California State University Admission Requirements

The most up-to-date information about admission to CSU is available at www.calstate.edu.

Lower Division Transfer Requirements

If you have completed 59 or fewer semester or 89 or fewer quarter transferable units by the time you plan to enter a CSU, you are considered a lower-division transfer applicant. To make admission decisions, CSU admission offices look at the following:

- High school requirements (see below),
- Your college courses and grades,
- Whether you are in good standing at the last college or university attended.

Some campuses will also expect you to complete, with a grade of "C" or better, general education classes in English composition and general education mathematics prior to admission.

High School Requirements:

- The courses you completed in high school.
- Your high school grades and test scores.
- Graduation from high school.

If you did not complete the 15-unit pattern of college preparatory subjects required for freshman admission while in high school, you must make up the deficiencies.

If you are a lower-division student and do not meet the eligibility index from high school, CSU recommends that you continue your education at a California community college and complete 60 or more transferable semester units (90 or more quarter units) before attempting to transfer to a CSU campus.

Please be aware that some CSU campuses do not admit lower-division transfer students.

Students who completed college units before they graduated from high school or during the summer between high school graduation and CSU enrollment are considered first-time freshmen and must meet those admission requirements.

Upper Division Transfer Admission Requirements

If you will have at least 60 semester (or 90 quarter) transferable units completed by the time you enter a CSU, you are considered an upper-division applicant. To make admission decisions, CSU admissions offices look at three factors:

- Your college grades
- The college coursework you have completed, especially in general education
- Whether you are in good standing at the last college or university attended-i.e., you are eligible to re-enroll

The better you prepare at IVC and prior colleges, the more likely you will meet admission requirements at your first-choice CSU campus.

Grade Requirements

Grades are an important factor in your admission as an upper-division transfer. It is important to note that there are different ways grades are used in the admission process.

You must have a minimum of 60 semester (or 90 quarter) units. Your overall grade point average must be at least 2.0 (2.40 for California nonresidents.) The GPA is calculated using all transfer units attempted.

Within the transferable courses, there must be 30 units of general education work. Typically you complete at least 10 general education courses. In the case of high-unit majors, you may have less than 30 semester (or 45 quarter) units, but the campuses will be looking at your general education grades. If you are applying to a high-unit major, be sure to check with the CSU campus for their requirements in this area.

Finally, general education courses in the **written communication, oral communication, critical thinking and mathematics** sections of general education must be completed with a grade of "C-" or better for each course. These four courses are part of the 30 semester units of general education.

Remember these are minimums, and in the case of high-demand majors and campuses a 2.0 GPA may not be high enough to be admitted.

Important! Be sure to complete the four minimally required courses listed above with a grade of "C-" or better- **English composition, oral communication, critical thinking, and math, as well as 60 transferable units**-by the end of the spring semester at the very latest for fall admission and by the end of summer for spring admission to be considered for admission at most CSU campuses. **To be competitive, it is advised to take these courses as early as possible.**

General Education Requirements

For most students who transfer to the CSU, completing general education classes should be a priority along with pre-major coursework.

The CSU provides California community college transfers with two options for fulfilling CSU lower division general education requirements: CSU General Education (GE) Breadth and the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC). A college counselor can help you determine which option is best for you. The forms are available at the following links - see a counselor for the most current versions of these forms:

- 2017-18 CSU General Education Requirements
- 2017-18 IGETC Requirements

Most CSU campuses require students to complete a minimum of 30 semester (or 45 quarter) units of the CSU GE-Breadth or the IGETC. Within either pattern, the highest-priority classes are the three courses in the English language-oral communications, English composition and critical thinking-along with a general education course in mathematics.

Completion of general education courses prior to transfer is usually the most efficient path. You can complete a minimum of 39 semester units of CSU GE Breadth before transferring to a CSU.

If you are pursuing a high-unit major such as engineering, some math-based fields, science, or other technical majors, you will need to work closely with a counselor to plan which classes you should take for upper-division transfer. CSU campuses do allow high-unit majors to take fewer general education courses before transfer. Ultimately you will need to meet the general education requirements in order to graduate from CSU. So if you enroll at CSU with few general education units, completion of your baccalaureate program may take longer than expected. Good planning with your counselor is essential if you enroll in a high-unit major.

Good Standing Requirement

In order to transfer to the CSU, you must be in "good standing" at your prior college. In simple terms, good standing means you are eligible to reenroll at your last college or university.

For most students this is not a problem, and generally if you meet the other requirements for admission you would also meet this requirement. If you are not in good standing, you will have to resolve any issues with that college or university.

Incomplete Admissions Requirements

As transfer applicants, students are required to submit final transcripts prior to attending CSU. A final review will be done to verify the student's successful completion of coursework. If applicants did not complete the courses needed for admission, the CSU campus to which they applied may delay or cancel their admission or enrollment.

Transcripts

The deadline for submitting transcripts varies from campus to campus. It is the student's responsibility to check with each campus for transcript deadlines. Failure to adhere to deadlines may result in denial of admission.

Students should request that official transcripts be sent from all colleges and universities that they attended previously, even if no coursework was completed. If students are transferring with fewer than 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units completed, they must also submit their high school transcript. Transcripts must be received in sealed envelopes directly from each institution the student attended.

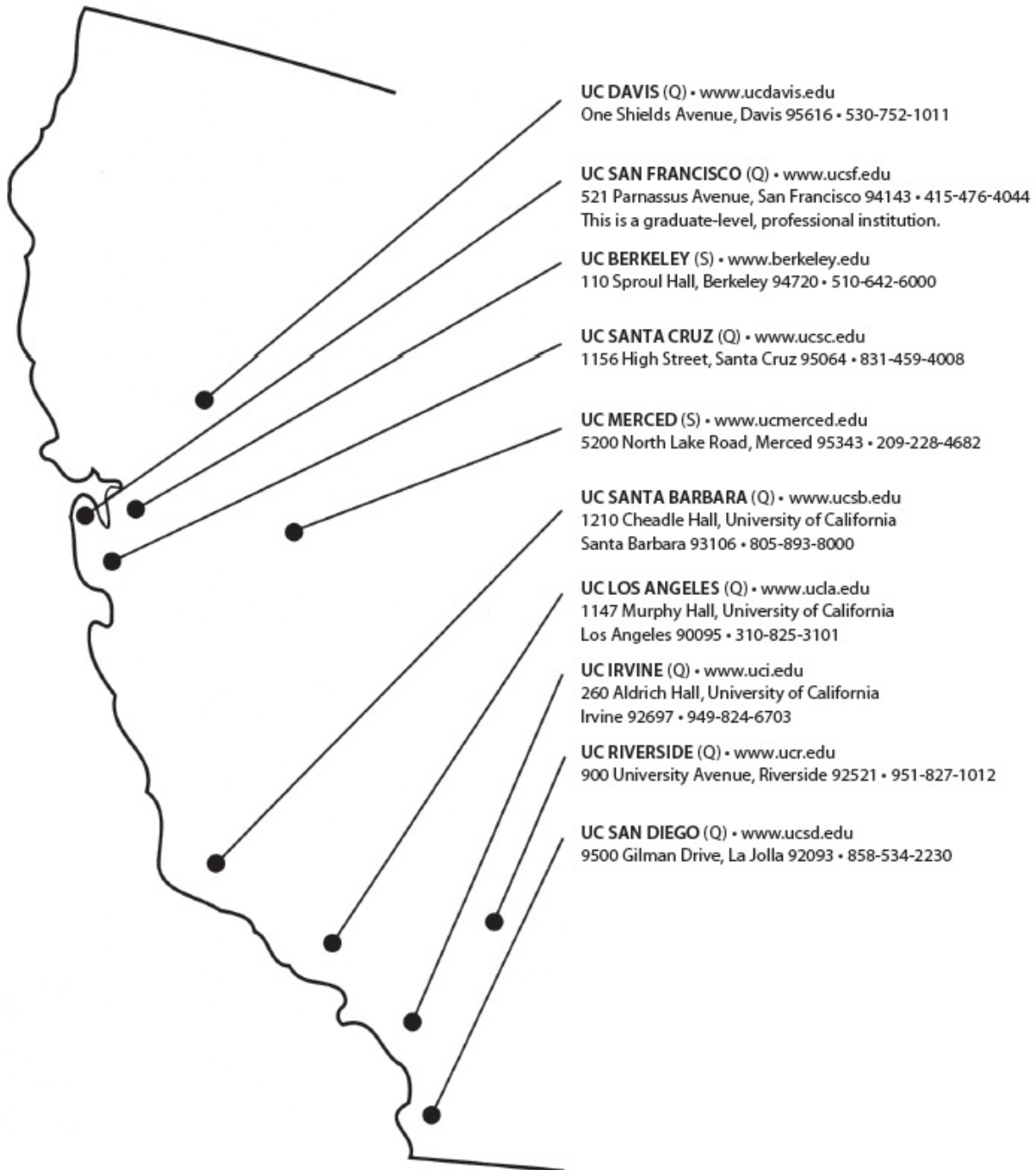
Online Application Filing Periods

The priority filing period for fall admission is October 1-November 30 the year prior to transfer. The filing period for spring admission is August 1-August 31. It is essential to check with the campus to ensure that it is accepting applications for the spring semester. Students should plan to submit their applications early in the filing period.

PLEASE NOTE: The CSU campuses may be limited in their ability to accommodate winter and spring transfers due to budget uncertainties. Students should not count on midyear transfer. Consult with a counselor for the best possible transfer plan.

University of California Campuses

S = Semester System Q = Quarter System



University of California Admission Requirements

Minimum Requirements for Transfer Applicants

Please note: The following requirements represent the minimum level of achievement necessary to be eligible for admission to the University of California (UC). Completion of these requirements does not guarantee admission to UC, especially into impacted majors.

Community college students can become eligible for admission to UC by meeting specific requirements.

The vast majority of transfer students come to UC at the junior level from California community colleges. But there's a way for sophomore students to gain admission, too.

Junior-Level Transfer

To be considered for UC admission as a junior, you must fulfill both of the following:

1. Complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of UC transferable college credit with a GPA of at least 2.4 (2.8 if you're a nonresident). No more than 14 semester (21 quarter) units may be taken Pass/Not Pass.
2. Complete the following course pattern requirements, earning a grade of "C" or better in each course:

Seven-Course Pattern

- Two transferable college courses (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units each) in English composition
- One transferable college course (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units) in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning;
- Four transferable college courses (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units each) chosen from at least two of the following subject areas:
 - arts and humanities
 - social and behavioral sciences
 - physical and biological sciences

Each course must be worth at least 3 semester units.

Lower-Division Transfer

While all UC campuses welcome a large pool of junior-level transfers, most admit only a limited number of lower-division transfers.

However, it can happen. Here's how:

- If you were eligible for admission to UC when you graduated from high school - meaning you satisfied the subject, examination and scholarship requirements or were identified by UC during your senior year as Eligible in the Local Context (ELC) and completed the subject and examination requirements in the senior year - you are eligible for transfer if you have a 2.0 GPA in your transferable college coursework (2.8 GPA for non-residents).
- If you met the scholarship requirement in high school, but did not satisfy the 15-course subject requirement, you must take transferable college courses in the missing subjects, earn a C or better in each required course and have an overall 2.0 GPA in all transferable coursework to be eligible to transfer (a 2.8 GPA is required for nonresidents).

Minimum eligibility does not guarantee admission. Students need to consult with a counselor to ascertain realistic GPA requirements.

Course Completion Deadlines

Most UC campuses require students to satisfy certain course requirements (the seven-course pattern) and 60 transferable units by the end of the spring term preceding fall enrollment. Students are strongly encouraged to complete their required courses as early as possible.

Nonresidents

The minimum admission requirements for nonresidents are very similar to those for residents. Students should consult with the Admissions Office at one of the university campuses for details. In all cases, however, nonresidents must have a grade point average of 2.8 or higher in all transferable college coursework.

Online Application Filing Periods

<http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/index.html>

Applications must be submitted online by the last day of the filing period. Most campuses do not accept applications after that.

Application Filing Periods

Fall Quarter/Semester November 1-30

Winter Quarter/Spring Semester July 1-31

Spring Quarter October 1-31

UC Berkeley and UC Merced are on the semester system calendar, while all other campuses are on the quarter system calendar. All campuses are open for the fall term. For openings in other terms or to check available majors, please use the above link.

It is essential to check with the UC campus you intend to apply for to ensure that it is accepting applications for winter or spring. Students should plan to submit their applications early in the filing period.

PLEASE NOTE: Some UC campuses are limited in their ability to accommodate winter and spring transfers due to budget uncertainties. Students should not count on midyear transfer. Consult with a counselor for the best possible transfer plan.

Transcripts

The UC system requires students to complete the online Transfer Academic Update (TAU) form no later than January 31 the year before transfer. The UC campus will inform students via email when to send official transcripts.

Planning to Transfer to UC

Complete information about UC admissions and program planning is available at the following site:
www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/transfer

Most transfer students enter UC at the junior level—meaning they have completed 60 transferable semester units, general education and most, if not all, of their lower-division major prerequisites.

If you are considering transferring to the University of California from Irvine Valley College, it is important that you plan your coursework carefully. First, the courses you take should help you meet the minimum admission requirements for transfer students. In addition, you should select Irvine Valley College courses that prepare you for upper-division studies in your major or fulfill recommended general education requirements.

Major Preparation Requirements

Major preparation requirements specify the courses you must take during your first two years of college to prepare for advanced study in your major. They may be required as part of the major, be prerequisites for other courses that are required as part of the major, or be required to gain admission to the major.

Performance counts. Transfer applicants are evaluated, in part, on the basis of their performance in major preparation coursework. So it's important-very important-that you investigate the requirements for your intended major as soon as possible. If your major requires mathematics and science, it is essential that you complete those prerequisites before you transfer. Lack of preparatory coursework may affect your admission to your major, particularly if there are many applicants vying for a limited number of spaces.

Start early. You should begin coursework in your major as soon as you have selected one. If you are applying for fall admission, the campus may require you to complete certain major preparation requirements by the end of the preceding spring term.

Ask for help. Investigate transfer preparation paths to find out how best to prepare for UC's most popular majors. Check out the Exploring Majors feature at www.assist.org, which lists major preparation requirements for all UC programs. The lists are updated throughout the year, so check ASSIST periodically to ensure you have the most current information. The Irvine Valley College counseling faculty can help advise you about the specific major preparation requirements for the program you select.

Knowing what the requirements are and planning your program at IVC will maximize your chances for admission to the UC campus and program of your choice. Meeting requirements in advance will give you more freedom when selecting courses once you enroll in the university. You may also be able to complete your undergraduate education within four years, without having to attend additional terms to meet requirements or take prerequisites.

The IVC Transfer Center can provide you with much of the information you need to start planning. UC representatives (and representatives from other four-year colleges and universities) visit the Transfer Center regularly to meet and advise prospective transfer applicants. They are available to give you up-to-date information about the availability of majors, impacted programs, coursework you need to take, and requirements that relate specifically to your circumstances.

General Education Requirements

General education requirements are designed to give UC undergraduates a broad background in all major academic disciplines-natural sciences, physical sciences, social sciences, humanities and fine arts. The general education requirement - often called the breadth requirement - lists the specific courses you must take or number of credit hours you must earn in each discipline.

Requirements vary. Each school and college at every UC campus has its own general education requirement. With careful planning, you can meet many of the lower-division requirements before you transfer. You also have the option of completing the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) to satisfy the lower-division general education requirements at any UC campus. Click here for the 2017-18 IGETC Requirements - see a counselor for the most current version of this form.

The IGETC is a series of courses prospective transfer students attending California community colleges may complete to satisfy the lower-division breadth/general education requirements at both the University of California and the California State University. The University of California has developed an agreement with each California community college that specifies which of its courses may be applied to each category of the IGETC. (See here for further information.)

Following the IGETC general education pattern is generally preferred by most UC campuses for most majors. However, on some UC campuses, and for certain majors, IGETC is not accepted or even recommended, and following the native breadth pattern will benefit transfer students. Students are advised to see a counselor to choose the appropriate general education pattern.

Entry-Level Writing Requirement

You must satisfy the entry-level writing requirement to graduate in any program at UC. One way to meet this requirement is to complete a transferable college course of three semester (four quarter) units in English composition with a grade of "C" or better. Students who meet the UC basic requirements for minimal transfer eligibility, which include two transferable college courses in English composition (WR 1 and WR 2 at IVC), satisfy the entry-level writing requirement.

Additional Requirements

In addition to the general education requirement and their major preparation requirements, there are other requirements students must fulfill to receive their undergraduate degree from the University, such as the American History and Institutions Requirement. Other requirements vary according to the campus students attend, and their particular college or school and major.

American History and Institutions Requirement

All undergraduate degree programs at UC require study in American History and Institutions. This requirement may be met through examination or enrollment in specific courses. Each campus decides how its students may meet the requirement.

If you satisfactorily completed a one-year course in US history or a half-year course in US history and a half-year course in American government while in high school, you have fulfilled this requirement for all UC campuses except UC Santa Barbara, which requires students to complete a college-level course. (At UCLA, you also must have earned a B average in these courses.) If you have satisfied Irvine Valley College's history and institutions requirement (HIST 20 or HIST 21 and PS 1) you have also met the requirement at most UC campuses. It is strongly recommended that you complete this requirement before you transfer.

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Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

Six UC campuses-Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz-offer guaranteed admission to California community college students who meet specific requirements.

Interested students must meet campus-specific requirements to qualify for a UC TAG. By participating in a TAG program, you can ensure your admission to a specific UC campus, some of which offer an early review of your academic records, early admission notification, and specific guidance on major preparation and general education coursework.

You can download a matrix of TAG program requirements at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/transfer/guarantee.

Students should visit the Transfer Center or Counseling Center for information regarding specific criteria for each UC campus. September 1-30 one year prior to enrollment is the online application filing period for TAGs.

To pursue a TAG, you must:

- Fill out an online TAG application during the submission period, September 1 to 30, and review it with your IVC counselor. (Download the TAG application at uctag.universityofcalifornia.edu.)
- Once your TAG is submitted and approved, fulfill all remaining coursework and GPA requirements designated in your TAG agreement.
- Apply for admission to UC during the appropriate filing period, November 1 to 30 (see www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply). Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their IVC counselor prior to completing/submitting the TAG application.

Please note: Transfer students do not have to participate in TAG to be considered for admission. Non-TAG students must also apply for UC admission during the appropriate application filing period (see www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply).