

Admission Requirements for CA Schools

California has a three-tiered system of public higher education: The University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges.

University of California

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/undergraduate.html>
www.ucop.edu/pathways

The University of California (UC) has the following 3 pathways to admission:

1. **Eligibility in the Statewide Context.** The most common path to admission; a student can be admitted if he or she has met the following requirements:
 1. High School Diploma or equivalency
 2. Subject Requirement - 15 year-long academic courses which are labeled "a to g" courses with a grade of C or better. These are:
 1. History - 2 years
 2. English - 4 years
 3. Math - 3 years required, 4 years recommended
 4. Lab Science - 2 years required, 3 years recommended
 5. Foreign Language - 2 years of the same language other than English required, 3 years recommended
 6. Visual/Performing Arts - 1 yearlong course required
 7. College Prep Elective - 1 year required
 3. Examination Requirement - either the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT (scores used from the same sitting) and 2 SAT Subject Tests in different subject areas (For Math: only Math Level 2 will be accepted)
 4. Scholarship Requirement - defines the GPA and test scores you must achieve to be eligible based on the Eligibility Index below (taken from the UC website):
 1. Minimum GPA of 3.0 (in a - g subjects), or 3.4 for non-residents. Freshman year is not included in the evaluation.
 2. Use either the SAT plus 2 SAT Subject Tests or the ACT with Writing and 2 SAT Subject Tests resulting in a "UC Score." Calculation of the UC Score is described below.
2. **ELC - Eligibility in the Local Context.** The top 4% of high school students (designated by UC evaluators) are UC eligible if their GPA in UC approved courses in 10th and 11th grades is greater than or equal to 3.0 and the student completes 11 UC approved courses by the end of junior year. Starting in 2012 UC will accept the top 9% for ELC.
3. **Eligibility by Examination Alone**-For more information please click on: [eligibility by examination alone.](#)

To help students decide if they might be admitted to a particular campus, freshman admissions profiles are listed for each campus. There is also a phone number for UC application support: (800) 914-8820. Information about [UC campus tours](#).

California State University

<http://www.csumentor.edu/>

The California State University (CSU) system is the nation's largest university system with 23 campuses. The requirements for a CSU are more lenient than for a UC. Students must take a minimum 15-unit pattern of courses for admission as a first-time freshman. Each unit is equal to a year of study in a subject area. A grade of C or higher is required for each course you use to meet any subject requirement. For admission to a CSU, 3 factors are considered:

1. **Specific high school courses:**
 1. History and social science - 1 year of US History or 1 semester of US History **and** 1 semester of civics or American Government and 1 year of social science
 2. English - 4 years
 3. Math - 3 years required, 4 years recommended
 4. Lab Science - 1 biological science and 1 physical science
 5. Foreign Language - 2 years
 6. Visual/Performing Arts - 1 year
 7. College Prep Elective (chosen from UC a - g list) - 1 year
2. **Grades and Test Scores.** Your high school grades are the most important factor in CSU admissions decisions. CSU looks at your college prep a - g classes after your freshman year. If you live in California and have better than a 3.0 GPA, no test scores are required. For all others, an eligibility index below (copied from the CSU website) is used and takes into consideration GPA and either an SAT or ACT (writing not required) score. However, CSU recommends taking a standardized test because it may indicate you don't have to take math and English placement exams after you are admitted but before you enroll.
3. **High school diploma or equivalent.**

Eligibility Index Table for Residents of California or Graduates of California High Schools

GPA	ACT Score	SAT Score	GPA	ACT Score	SAT Score	GPA	ACT Score	SAT Score
<i>3.0 and above qualifies for any score</i>								
2.99	10	510	2.66	17	780	2.33	23	1040
2.98	10	520	2.65	17	780	2.32	23	1050
2.97	10	530	2.64	17	790	2.31	24	1060
2.96	11	540	2.63	17	800	2.30	24	1060
2.95	11	540	2.62	17	810	2.29	24	1070
2.94	11	550	2.61	18	820	2.28	24	1080
2.93	11	560	2.60	18	820	2.27	24	1090
2.92	11	570	2.59	18	830	2.26	25	1100
2.91	12	580	2.58	18	840	2.25	25	1100
2.90	12	580	2.57	18	850	2.24	25	1110

2.89	12	590	2.56	18	860	2.23	25	1120
2.88	12	600	2.55	19	860	2.22	25	1130
2.87	12	610	2.54	19	870	2.21	26	1140
2.86	13	620	2.53	19	880	2.20	26	1140
2.85	13	620	2.52	19	890	2.19	26	1150
2.84	13	630	2.51	20	900	2.18	26	1160
2.83	13	640	2.50	20	900	2.17	26	1170
2.82	13	650	2.49	20	910	2.16	27	1180
2.81	14	660	2.48	20	920	2.15	27	1180
2.80	14	660	2.47	20	930	2.14	27	1190
2.79	14	670	2.46	21	940	2.13	27	1200
2.78	14	680	2.45	21	940	2.12	27	1210
2.77	14	690	2.44	21	950	2.11	28	1220
2.76	15	700	2.43	21	960	2.10	28	1220
2.75	15	700	2.42	21	970	2.09	28	1230
2.74	15	710	2.41	22	980	2.08	28	1240
2.73	15	720	2.40	22	980	2.07	28	1250
2.72	15	730	2.39	22	990	2.06	29	1260
2.71	16	740	2.38	22	1000	2.05	29	1260
2.70	16	740	2.37	22	1010	2.04	29	1270
2.69	16	750	2.36	23	1020	2.03	29	1280
2.68	16	760	2.35	23	1020	2.02	29	1290
2.67	16	770	2.34	23	1030	2.01	30	1300
						2.00	30	1300

Some campuses have higher standards of admission. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State Fullerton, Cal State Long Beach, and San Diego State require either the SAT or ACT regardless of GPA.

Some majors are also in high demand ("impacted majors"). Students applying for one of these majors will have additional admissions criteria (which change frequently) and must apply to the CSU offering this major during the initial filing period.

CSU has a helpful video tutorial on its website that walks you through the application.

Like the UCs, there are no recommendations required. Unlike the UCs, there is no personal essay required

California Community Colleges

<http://www.cccco.edu/>

Requirements for admission to a California Community College (CCC) can be met by any **one** of the following:

1. High school graduate.
2. A person 18 years or older who can benefit from instruction.
3. High school students (concurrent enrollment).
4. Special admission - high school equivalency via the California High School Proficiency Exam or the GED test.

It is highly recommended that all students take the English and math placement tests prior to enrolling.

Many Community Colleges have transfer agreements with four-year institutions. Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) has the following transfer agreements:

- California State University Humboldt.
- California State University San Jose
- Sonoma State University
- UC Davis
- UC Irvine.
- UC Merced
- UC Riverside
- UC San Diego
- UC Santa Barbara.
- UC Santa Cruz
- Dominican University
- Golden Gate University
- St. Mary's College

See each California Community College for its own requirements and transfer program agreements. Counselors at the community college can help you plan your community college program to make sure that the courses you select are transferable. More information about [applying to a California Community College](#).

California Community Colleges are a good choice if you want to:

- Get an excellent value in education. Community college offer quality education at a low cost.
- Transfer to a college or university junior year.
- Get the training needed to qualify for employment. Career and technical programs provide students with entry-level and upgraded job skills. Programs range in length from one semester to two years.
- Earn college credit while in high school.
- Pursue and explore various subject areas while you're deciding on a major or career field.

- Only devote two years to higher education and get an AA degree, which is proven to increase your salary as compared to a high school education alone.
- Have flexible class schedules, such as night and weekend classes.