

4 Systems of Higher Education in California

There are 4 different types of colleges/universities in California. Each school system has unique programs and different emphasis in the classroom. We want to make sure that you find a school that's best for your learning styles and your career goals! All 4 systems have tons to offer. Remember, there is no such thing as the best school - just the best school for you!



University of California (UC)

★ 10 campuses that grant Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees. Mainly research based education.

★ **Minimum "A-G" GPA:** 3.0

★ **Admissions Process:** Applications open August 1st of your senior year. UCs utilize a comprehensive review process that considers factors such as: academic performance and challenge, extracurricular involvement, and personal qualities and circumstances of the applicant.

★ **Tuition cost:** \$14,100 per year

★ **Stand Out Programs:** Biological & Life Sciences, Environmental Studies, Engineering & Computer Science, Ethnic Studies, Social Sciences, Language & Literature, Humanities, Math & Physical Sciences

California State University (CSU)

★ 23 campuses that grant Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees. Hands-on education.

★ **Minimum "A-G" GPA:** 2.5

★ **Admissions Process:** Applications open October 1st of your senior year. The CSU System considers three factors for admission: completion of the A-G requirements, GPA, and graduation from high school.

★ **Tuition cost:** \$5,742 per year

★ **Stand Out Programs:** Business, Psychology, Engineering, Public Health, Journalism, Criminal Justice, Nursing, Kinesiology, Speech Pathology, Music/Audio Recording, Social Work, Accounting, Fashion & Interior Design



Private Colleges & Universities



★ 85 accredited degree-granting non-profit independent colleges serve California. Many campuses are small, religiously affiliated universities. They operate individually!

★ **Minimum “A-G” GPA:** varies by campus

★ **Admissions Process:** varies by campus

★ **Tuition cost:** \$20,000 - \$60,000

★ **Stand Out Attractions:** Prestige, Staff to Student Ratio, Unique Programs, Scholarships Awards, Women’s Colleges, Religious Affiliation

California Community Colleges

★ 116 colleges that grant certificates, Associates degrees, and limited Bachelor’s degrees, as well as provide transferable lower-division coursework to 4-year universities. UC offers a Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG Agreement) at 6 campuses (excluding UCLA, UCB and UCSD).

★ **Minimum “a-g” GPA:** No minimum GPA

★ **Admissions Process:** Specific to each campus. Open enrollment allows any student 18+ to attend.

★ **Tuition cost:** \$46 per unit / \$1,636 per year

★ **Stand Out Attractions:** Automotive/Aircraft Technology, Cosmetology & Barbering, Fire Technology, Police Academy, Culinary Arts, Dental & Nursing Assistant



Differences in Teaching & Career Goals

Each school system caters to various learning styles and operates with different career and goals in mind.

University of California (UC)

Teaching Orientation: Develop academic and scientific research skills. Emphasis on theoretical and analytical learning

Post-Degree Expectations: Assume graduates will pursue higher degree beyond a Bachelor’s.

Degrees/Credentials Offered: Degrees are research based. Minimal professional training.

California State University (CSU)

Teaching Orientation: Practical based instruction with career orientation. Theory and research included but not emphasized

Post-Degree Expectations: Assume graduates will enter the workforce in non-research oriented careers

Degrees/Credentials Offered: Degrees provide professional training

Community College (CC)

Teaching Orientation: Educates California’s first-responders, provides jobs to a 4-year college.



EARLY ACADEMIC OUTREACH PROGRAM

Website: eaop.ucr.edu
Email: eaop@ucr.edu
Phone: (951) 827-4762

A-G GPA Calculation

- ★ Your grade point average (GPA) is a numerical summary of your grades from high school.
- ★ It is used to determine class rank and universities use rank and GPA to compare you to other applicants.
- ★ It qualifies you for the Cal Grant and merit scholarship!
- ★ UC's and CSU's only look at the **A-G courses** taken in 10th and 11th grade to calculate the GPA for admissions.
- ★ Approved AP/IB/Honors course work is **weighted** (given an extra point) for a maximum of 8 semesters.



Example:

| Courses | Art 1 | World History | English 10 Honors | Spanish 2 | Algebra II | AP Chemistry |
|--------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| 1st Semester | A | B | B | C | A | A* |
| 2nd Semester | B | B | C | D | A | B* |

| Grade | Points | # of Semesters | (Points x # of Semesters) |
|-------|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| A | 4 | 4 | (4 x 4) = 16 |
| B | 3 | 5 | (3 x 5) = 15 |
| C | 2 | 2 | (2 x 2) = 4 |
| D | 1 | 1 | (1 x 1) = 1 |
| F | 0 | 0 | (0 x 0) = 0 |
| | | Total Number of Semesters: | Total Number of Points: |
| | | 12 | 36 |

Add 1 point to your Total Number of Points for each AP/Honors semester:

36 + 2
(*from AP Chemistry)

Weighted Total Number of Points: 38

(Weighted Total Number of Points)

÷

(Total Number of Semesters)

= a-g GPA

38 ÷ 12 = 3.16

Now you give it a shot!

Predict your a-g GPA with your 1st semester grades and projecting your 2nd semester grades. This will help you know how competitive you are going into your junior year!

| Courses | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1st Semester | | | | | | |
| 2nd Semester | | | | | | |

| Grade | Points | # of Semesters | (Points x # of Semesters) |
|-------|--------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| A | 4 | ___ | (___ x ___) = ___ |
| B | 3 | ___ | (___ x ___) = ___ |
| C | 2 | ___ | (___ x ___) = ___ |
| D | 1 | ___ | (___ x ___) = ___ |
| F | 0 | ___ | (___ x ___) = ___ |
| | | Total Number of Semesters: | Total Number of Points: |
| | | ___ | ___ |

Add 1 point to your Total Number of Points for each AP/Honors semester:

___ + ___

Weighted Total Number of Points: ___

(Weighted Total Number of Points)

÷

(Total Number of Semesters)

= a-g GPA

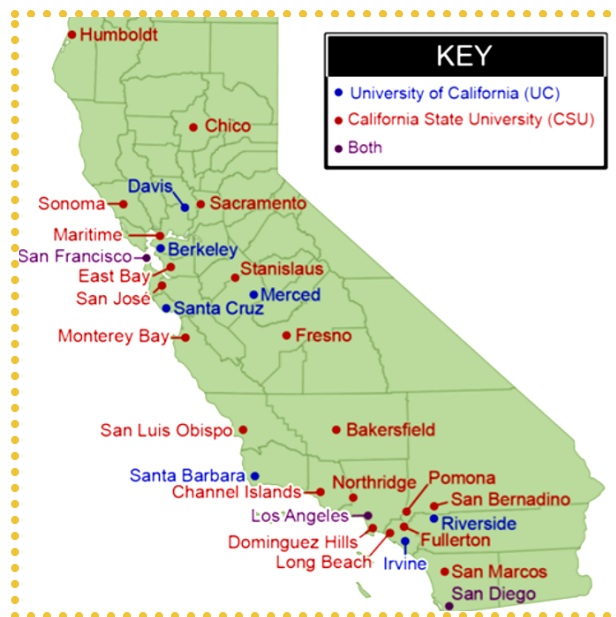
___ ÷ ___ = ___

Let's see how competitive you are so far!

★ Now that we've calculated a close estimate of your GPA for your sophomore year, let's see how competitive you are so far.

University of California (UC) [Fall 2021]

| SCHOOL | ADMISSION RATE | GPA |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| UC Berkeley | 14.5% | 4.12 - 4.3 |
| UC Davis | 49% | 3.95 - 4.25 |
| UC Irvine | 29% | 3.96 - 4.26 |
| UCLA | 10.8% | 4.19 - 4.32 |
| UC Merced | 87.6% | 3.39 - 4.0 |
| UC Riverside | 65.8% | 3.7 - 4.13 |
| UC San Diego | 34.3% | 4.07 - 4.29 |
| UC Santa Barbara | 29.2% | 4.10 - 4.29 |
| UC Santa Cruz | 58.8% | 3.81 - 4.20 |



University of California:

System website:

universityofcalifornia.edu

Admissions Requirements:

- ★ Minimum 3.0 GPA
- ★ 4 Personal Insight Questions

Explore UC selectivity:

admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu

Recommended:

- ★ Academic honors and awards
- ★ Involvement in clubs, activities, community service, etc

California State University (CSU) [Fall 2020]

| SCHOOL | ADMISSION RATE | AVERAGE GPA | SCHOOL | ADMISSION RATE | AVERAGE GPA |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| CSU Bakersfield | 78% | 3.2 | CSU Monterey Bay | 86% | 3.33 |
| CSU Channel Islands | 79% | 3.22 | CSU Northridge | 66% | 3.2 |
| CSU Chico | 90% | 3.45 | Cal Poly Pomona | 65% | 3.5 |
| CSU Dominguez Hills | 81% | 3.10 | Sacramento State | 83% | 3.25 |
| CSU East Bay | 73% | 3.1 | CSU San Bernardino | 78% | 3.27 |
| Fresno State | 90% | 3.25 | CSU San Diego | 37% | 3.93 |
| CSU Fullerton | 68% | 3.58 | San Francisco State | 84% | 3.23 |
| Humboldt State | 85% | 3.25 | San Jose State | 67% | 3.35 |
| CSU Long Beach | 42% | 3.5 | Cal Poly San Luis | 38% | 4.12 |
| CSU Los Angeles | 76% | 3.46 | Sonoma State | 89% | 3.2 |
| Cal Maritime | 82% | 3.55 | CSU Stanislaus | 89% | 3.3 |
| CSU San Marcos | 79% | 3.38 | | | |

California State University:

System website: www.calstate.edu/apply

Explore CSU majors: degrees.calstate.edu

CSU GPA Calculator:

www.calstate.edu/apply/eligibility-index

Admissions Requirements:

- ★ Minimum 2.5 GPA

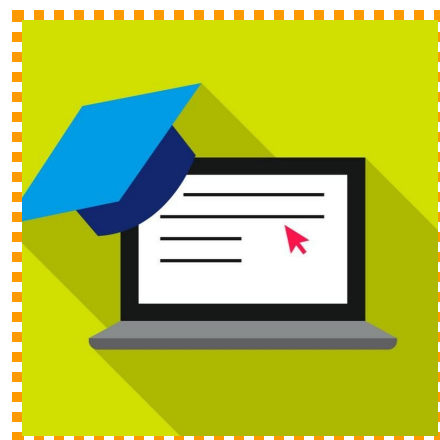
For the UC application, you'll have the opportunity to tell admissions about what you're most proud of outside the classroom. They're looking for quality, not quantity — which means that even though you'll have room to tell them about 20 activities and awards, make sure to focus on the ones that are most important to you. Choose experiences that demonstrate commitment, responsibility, leadership, and most of all, genuine interest.

High School Activities & Awards

| | Activity | Years Active | Position & Description | Hours per Week | Weeks per Year |
|--|----------|--|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Honors & Awards (Honor Roll, Dean's List, etc.) | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| Volunteering/Community Service (Activities you've donated time and effort without pay) | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
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| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| Extracurricular Activities (Hobbies, Clubs, Sports) | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| Educational Preparation Programs (EAOP, Upward Bound, etc.) | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| Work Experience (Any paid jobs or paid internships) | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| Other Coursework (Courses other than those required for UC admission) | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
| | ★ | <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th | | | |
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How to Register for the SAT

| SAT Dates & Registration Deadlines | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Test Date | Regular Deadline | Late Deadline (extra fee) |
| August 28, 2021 | July 30, 2021 | August 17, 2021 |
| October 2, 2021 | September 3, 2021 | September 21, 2021 |
| November 6, 2021 | October 8, 2021 | October 26, 2021 |
| December 4, 2021 | November 4, 2021 | November 23, 2021 |
| March 12, 2022 | February 11, 2022 | March 1, 2022 |
| May 7, 2022 | April 8, 2022 | April 26, 2022 |
| June 5, 2022 | May 5, 2022 | May 25, 2022 |



If you don't have one already, create an account with College Board (sat.org). Be sure to use an email you check often, and be sure to write down your username and password. Once you have your login information, you are ready to register. Set aside 30 minutes to complete the registration, it is a little lengthy. Have your picture ready to upload and your Fee Waiver or form of payment ready to go.

Begin your registration (sat.org/register) and complete the 5 step form online:

- 1) **Update Personal Information:** This is where you fill out personal information about you, your parents, and your school. *Not all information is required. You can choose "I do not wish to answer"*
- 2) **Create Student Profile:** Most of this information is not required to register for your SAT exam. However, filling out the subsections (GPA, Coursework, Activities, and College Plans) will provide you with information about scholarships and colleges and are relevant to your answers.
- 3) **Select Test & Center:** You will agree to Terms & Conditions, choose the Test Date, and choose the School Site you want to take your test at (Note: Your school may not be a location where the SAT is administered. In that case, type in your ZIP code and it will find the school closest to you).
 - a) This section is where you will see the price breakdown for the test. If you are registering before the regular deadline, it will be \$47.50 for your SAT, and \$17 for your Essay. This gives you a grand total of \$64.50 for the exam.
 - b) There is an optional "Student Answer Service" for \$18 that will provide you with a detailed breakdown of your answers, the types of questions, and your essay. This is helpful to have if you wish to practice before you retake the SAT.
 - c) This is a pricey test, but if you have a Fee Waiver, this is the section where you would input your Fee Waiver identification number, your counselor's name, and choose the criteria you meet.
- 4) **Upload a Photo:** Take a photo using your laptop, cell phone, or camera. Make sure that it fulfills the requirements (think of it like a driver's license photo). When you are satisfied with the photo and it fulfills the requirements, upload it!
- 5) **Checkout:** Double check that all the information is correct and make any payments. Check your email to make sure you received a confirmation of your registration.

How to Register for the ACT

| ACT Dates & Registration Deadlines | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Test Date | Regular Deadline | Late Deadline (extra fee) |
| September 11, 2021 | August 6, 2021 | September 3, 2021 |
| October 22, 2021 | September 17, 2021 | October 15, 2021 |
| December 11, 2021 | November 5, 2021 | December 3, 2021 |
| February 12, 2022 | January 7, 2022 | February 4, 2022 |
| April 2, 2022 | February 25, 2022 | March 11, 2022 |
| June 11, 2022 | May 6, 2022 | May 20, 2022 |
| July 16, 2022 | June 17, 2022 | June 24, 2022 |



If you don't have one already, create an account with ACT. Be sure to use an email you check often, and be sure to write down your Username and Password. Once you have your login information, you are ready to register.

Begin your registration (act.org) and complete the 7 step form online:

- 1) *Update Personal Information:* This is where you fill out personal information about you, your parents, and your school. *Not all information is required. You can choose "I do not wish to answer"*
- 2) *Create Student Profile:* Most of this information is not required to register for your ACT exam. You can use the left navigation panel to skip to "Your Test Section" to continue your exam registration.
- 3) *Your Test Selection:* Choose the Test Date and Test Option. There is an optional "Test Information Release" for \$20 that will provide you with a copy of the questions (including the writing prompt), your answers, and the answer key. This is helpful to have if you wish to practice before you retake the ACT. You don't have to upload your photo at this time, however, pay attention to the photo upload deadline and photo requirements.
- 4) *Your High School Courses & Grades:* You must select the courses you have taken/plan to take. You may skip the portion asking what grades you received.
- 5) *Score Report Choice:* Select the colleges you would like to receive your ACT scores. If you are interested in UCs and/or CS, select only one UC and one CSU. The cost of sending scores to four colleges are included in the registration fee. Additional score reports may be ordered for a fee.
- 6) *Select Your Test Center:* Use your zip code to find the closest test center near you.
- 7) *Submit:* Review your information for accuracy and make any payments. Check your email to make sure you received a confirmation of your registration.