

UC Application

UC APPLICATION WORKSHOP - FALL 2026

The 9 University of California Campuses



The Right Fit- Things to Consider

- Major
- Location/Distance from home
- Campus Size- student:faculty ratio
- Cost of attendance & financial aid
- Support services- EOP, Dream Centers, etc.
- Special Programs- ex. Honors, Internships, Study Abroad, etc.
- Diversity
- Rankings

The UC Application

- Must meet A-G requirements
- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- Open August 1
- Deadline is December 2
- One application - select the campuses you are applying to
- Fee Waiver- depends on family income you report; if eligible, you can apply to 4 campuses for FREE
- \$80 application fee per campus
- Go to CaliforniaColleges.edu to launch the UC application

Personal Insight Questions “PIQs”

- Choose 4 of the 8 PIQs to answer
- Be honest, straightforward, and concise in your answers
- Use “I” statements
- They are not creative writing essays! Avoid metaphors, quotes, imagery, etc.
- Responses should tell who you are as a person
- Give insight and context to your personal experiences
- Use the “Additional Comments” section to explain circumstances, failed grades, or anything else that impacted your high school experience

UC PIQs

UC Application Sections

Navigating the UC application

- The UC application includes seven sections that can be completed in any order.
- Start with **About you** as it contains logic that is then used throughout the application.
- You can save your progress at any time and pick back up where you left off next time you log in.

Tip: A successful UC application is not completed in one sitting!



▼ About you

> Campuses & majors

> Academic history

> Test scores

> Activities & awards

> Scholarships & support programs

> Personal insight

Review & submit

Tips

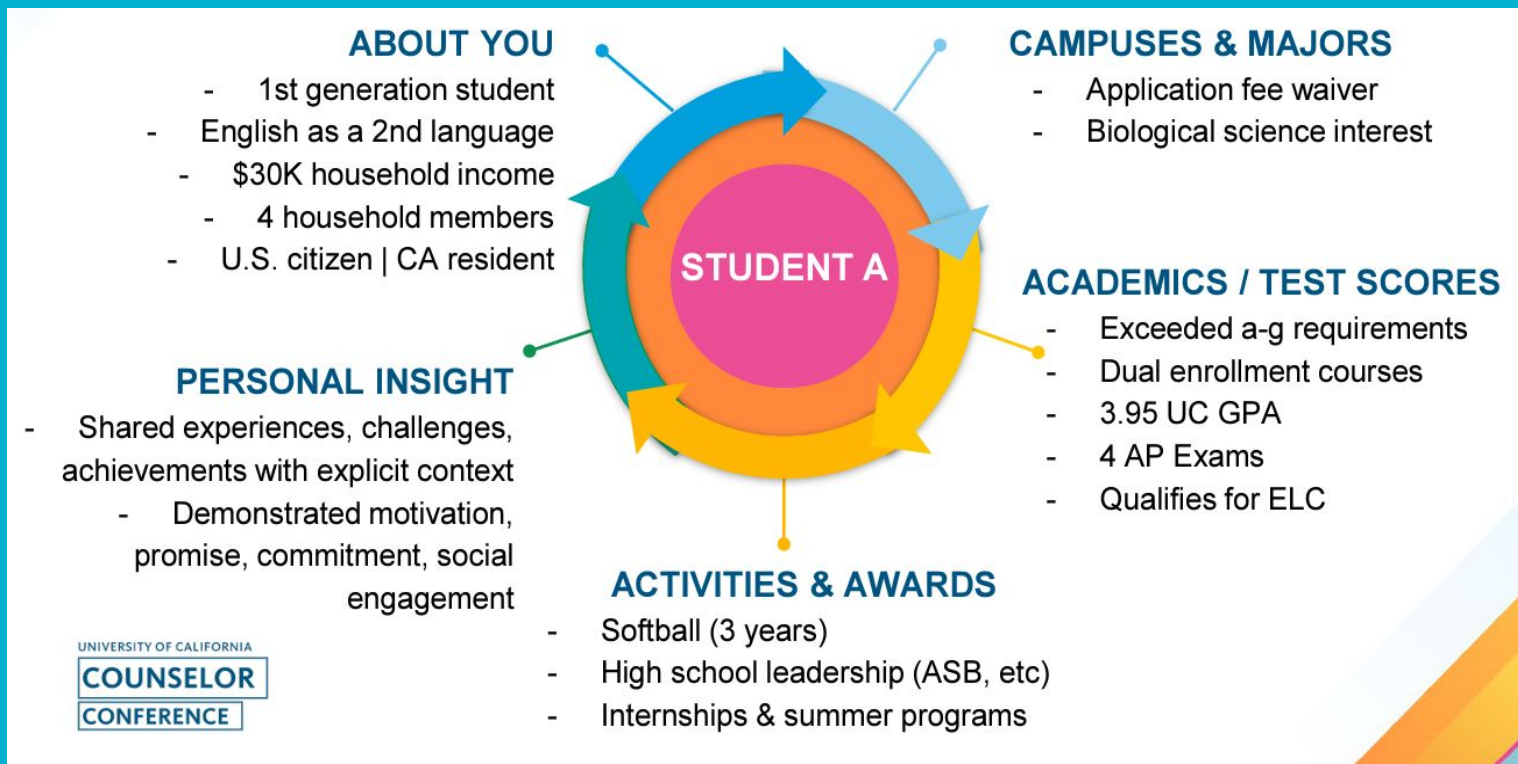
- Use your personal email that you check regularly
- Have a copy of your transcript handy
- Enter your Social Security Number accurately! If you don't have one, leave it blank
- Statement of Legal Residence- select "Yes" to be considered for California Residency for Tuition Purposes
- Be aware of "Impacted" majors- highly competitive
- Select an alternate major in a different discipline
- Type your PIQs on a separate document then copy and paste into the application
- Have your list of extracurricular activities and awards handy

UC Comprehensive Review

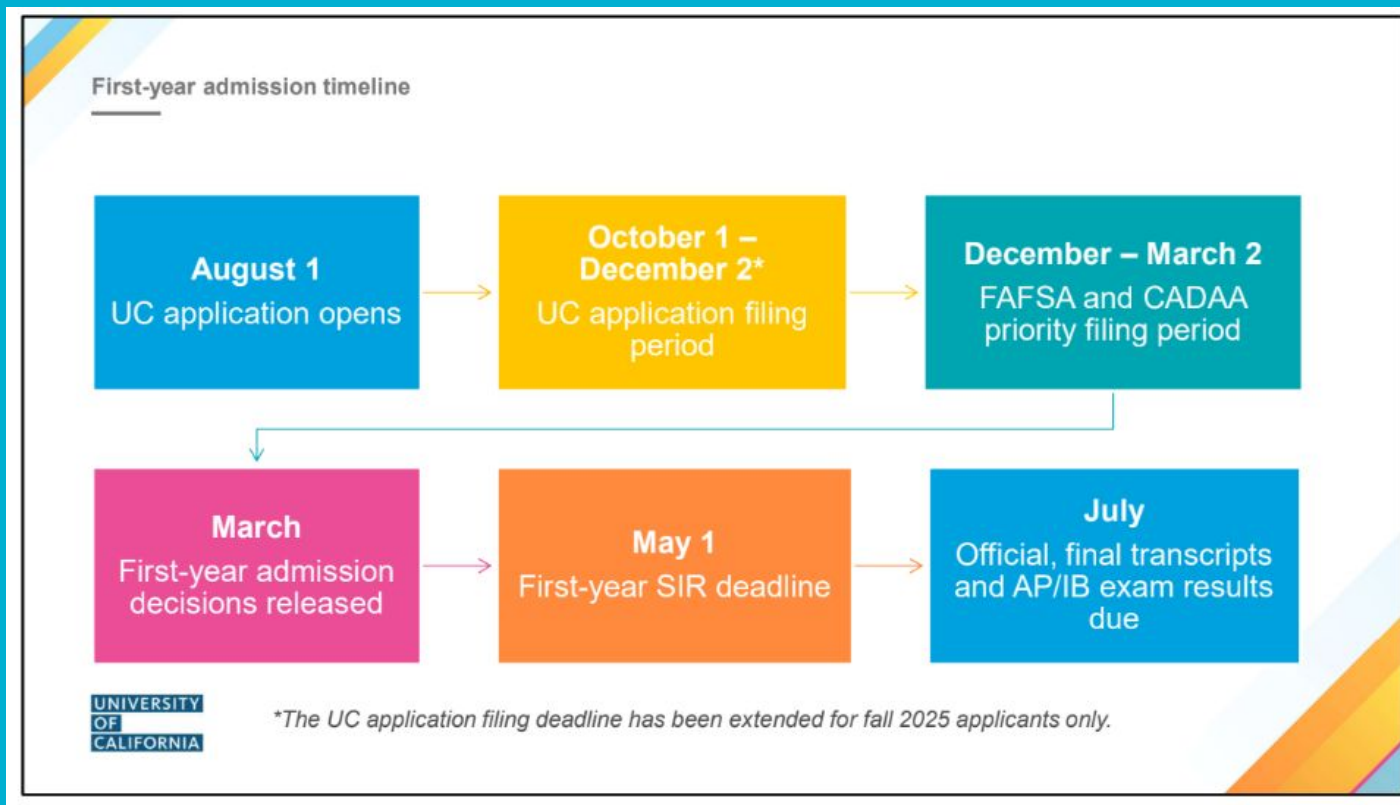
Comprehensive review for first-years

- Academic achievement — GPA, curricular rigor, academic trajectory
- ELC, honors programs, special projects
- Personal, school and family context
- Special talents, skills, awards, leadership
- Life experiences and special circumstances

Comprehensive Review– Sample Student



UC Application Timeline



UC Application Resources

- [UC PIQ Breakdown Video Playlist by UCSB](#)
- [PDF of PIQ Tips](#)
- [UC Webpage on Tips for Personal Insight Questions](#)
- [Tips on Filling out the UC Application](#)
- [Understanding how the UC Application is Evaluated for Admissions](#)
- [Info on UC Campuses, Majors, and Admission Data](#)

Let's Get Started!



CALIFORNIA
COLLEGES.edu
DISCOVER. PLAN. LAUNCH.

Register Your Account ?

CaliforniaColleges.edu

Your free, all-access pass to a bright future.

Students, find your path and build knowledge, skills, and a plan to achieve your dreams. **Parents and educators**, guide and support them every step of the way.

Sign In

Email Address/Username

Password

Sign In

Forgot Password?

 Sign in as Rosio
rosio_merino@jUSD.k12.ca...

