

## Freshman Admission

### ❖How UCLA Selects the Freshman Class❖

*UCLA selects its freshman class through a holistic approach in which all of your achievements, both academic and non-academic, are considered in the context of the opportunities you have had and how fully you have taken advantage of those opportunities.*

#### **We consider the following academic elements.**

- ◆ Academic grade point average [GPA], calculated using 10th and 11th grade UC-approved courses only.
- ◆ Performance on standardized tests: the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test, and two SAT Subject Tests in two different subject areas [English, history and social studies, mathematics (Math Level 2 only), science, or language].
- ◆ The strength of your senior year program.
- ◆ Quality, quantity, and level of course work taken throughout your entire high school program, especially course work completed beyond the minimum “a–g” courses required for eligibility to the University of California. [See reverse for more information.]
- ◆ The strength of the program taken within the context of the high school you attended.
- ◆ A progressively challenging academic program, including the number of and performance in college preparatory, honors, Advanced Placement [AP], International Baccalaureate [IB], and transferable college courses; mastery of academic subjects as demonstrated by high grades and exam results; and presence of summer session/ inter-session courses that enhance academic progress.
- ◆ Passing scores on AP or IB exams.
- ◆ Sustained participation in activities that develop academic and intellectual abilities.
- ◆ Identification by the University of California as Eligible in the Local Context [ranked in the top 4% of your school].
- ◆ Honors and/or awards in recognition of academic, intellectual, or creative achievement.

Your academic and personal achievements are considered in the context of your educational circumstances, with an emphasis on the opportunities or challenges presented to you and your response to them. Because our admission process is comprehensive as well as holistic, no single attribute or characteristic guarantees the admission of any applicant to UCLA.

Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools reviews all applications for admission.

Freshman applicants to the UCLA College [Letters and Science] are reviewed without regard for major. Therefore, no College major [including Undeclared] is more or less selective than any other. Representatives from all other schools\* further review their respective applicants and admit students by major. The portfolio/audition is the primary consideration in the review of applicants to the School of the Arts and Architecture and the School of Theater, Film, and Television. Applicants to the School of Nursing must submit a supplemental application.

\* The Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science; the School of the Arts and Architecture; the School of Nursing; and the School of Theater, Film, and Television

### ❖The Personal Statement❖

*The personal statement portion of the application allows you to provide information that will give us more insight about you during the review process. The information the university seeks in the personal statement should add clarity, richness, and meaning to the information in other parts of your application. Your personal statement should enable you to make the best possible case for admission. You should respond to both questions and share with us the accomplishments, perspectives, experiences, and talents that are important to you. The personal statement should reflect your perspectives, and should complement, not repeat, the information included elsewhere in your application.*

#### **The personal statement...**

- ◆ Offers us an understanding of you as a unique individual within the context of your family, school, community, and the world.
- ◆ Adds clarity, richness, and meaning to the information presented in other parts of your application.
- ◆ Provides us with information that may not be evident in other parts of your application.
- ◆ Is a forum for you to explain how factors outside of your school environment have enhanced or impeded your ability to maximize available academic and intellectual opportunities.

We are also very interested in your personal development and background, and we use these elements from the application to increase our understanding of you as a whole person. Consequently, the personal statement forms an integral part of our review process. We consider the following.

- ◆ Your likely contribution to the intellectual and cultural vitality of the campus.
- ◆ Your personal background and experience.
- ◆ Extensive leadership and initiative in school and/or community organizations and activities.
- ◆ Exceptional achievements, such as recognition for special talents or extracurricular activities.
- ◆ Employment or personal responsibilities.
- ◆ Overcoming life challenges relating to personal or family situations, social or economic difficulties, lack of educational opportunities, or challenges particular to the urban or rural environment, including foster care if relevant.
- ◆ Employment or personal responsibilities.
- ◆ How military service has been instrumental in developing your educational plans if relevant.

# University of California

## Admission Requirements

UCLA receives far more freshman applications than it can admit. To gain admission to UCLA, you need to present an academic profile much stronger than that represented by the minimum UC admission requirements. Freshman admission requirements are explained in detail in the Application for Undergraduate Admission and Scholarships and in the booklet *Introducing the University*. These publications and information on the UC Score are available online at [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions) along with a preliminary eligibility calculator.

### When and How to Get an Application

Freshman applicants can apply to UCLA for the fall quarter only. Applications are accepted November 1–30 of the year prior to enrollment. You can submit an application online at [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply).

### Transferring to UCLA

If you are not admitted as a freshman to UCLA, you may apply to UCLA later, as a junior-level transfer student. For further information, see our *Transfer Admission Guide* at [www.admissions.ucla.edu/transfer](http://www.admissions.ucla.edu/transfer).

### Subject Requirements

The “a-g” subject requirements represent the 15 minimum academic preparatory courses that freshman applicants must have to be eligible for admission to the University of California. They are listed below. To be a competitive applicant to UCLA, you should complete a challenging program which prepares you well beyond these requirements. [Applicants for fall 2012 and later must complete 11 of the 15 “a-g” requirements by the end of their junior year.] Please review the reverse side of this flier to learn more about UCLA’s freshman admission criteria. Additional information on the “a-g” courses is available at [www.ucop.edu/doorways](http://www.ucop.edu/doorways).

#### a| History/Social Science

**Two years required.** Two years of history/social science, including one year of world history, cultures and geography; and one year of U.S. history or one-half year U.S. history and one

#### b| English

**Four years required.** Half year of civics or American government. Four years of college-preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing, and reading of classic and modern literature. No more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.

#### c| Mathematics

**Three years required, four years recommended.**

Three years of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades that your high school accepts as equivalent to its own math courses.

#### d| Laboratory Science

**Two years required, three years recommended.**

Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three foundational subjects: biology, chemistry, and physics. Advanced laboratory science classes that have biology, chemistry, or physics as prerequisites and offer substantial additional material may be used to fulfill this requirement, as may the final two years of an approved three-year integrated science program that provides rigorous coverage of at least two of the three foundational subjects.

#### e| Language Other Than English

**Two years required, three years recommended.**

Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition, and culture. Courses in languages other than English taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if your high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

#### f| Visual and Performing Arts [VPA]

**One year required.** A single yearlong approved arts course from a single VPA discipline: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art.

#### g| College-Preparatory Electives

**One year required.** One year [two semesters], in addition to those required in “a-f” above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts [non-introductory level courses], history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, and language other than English [a third year in the language used for the “e” requirement or two years of another language].

### Test Requirements

Students entering the UC as freshmen through fall 2011 must submit scores on an approved core test of mathematics, language arts, and writing. This requirement can be satisfied by taking either of the following:

#### The ACT Plus Writing or The SAT Reasoning Test.

In addition, all applicants must complete two **SAT Subject Tests** in two different subject areas: English, history and social studies, mathematics [Math Level 2 only], science, or language. Applicants to the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science are strongly encouraged to take the following SAT Subject Tests: Math Level 2 and a science test [Biology E/M, Chemistry, or Physics] that is closely related to the applicant’s intended major. [Applicants for fall 2012 and later will no longer be required to submit the SAT Subject exams. Although not required, students may choose to submit these scores for consideration.]

Take these tests as early as possible and have your test scores sent directly to UCLA. December prior to the fall you intend to enter UCLA is the latest you can take any test in time for scores to be considered during our selection process.

#### Instructions From the University of California on Completing the Personal Statement

Respond to both questions, using a maximum of 1,000 words total.

You may divide the word count as you wish, but each response must be at least 250 words. You may answer one question in 250 words and the other in 750, for example, or respond to both with 500 words each.

#### Questions

1. Describe the world you come from—for example, your family, community or school—and tell us how this world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.
2. Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution, or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it reflect who you are?