UCLA receives the most admission applications of any university in the United States, and our admissions requirements are among the most selective in the nation. At UCLA we’re looking for more than just straight-A students. We seek students with unique stories whose rich experience brings the type of perspective and leadership that we value.

As an undergraduate, you may apply for admission as a freshman (first-year) or as a transfer student. You are a freshman applicant if you will be completing high school; if you have already graduated from high school, you can be considered a freshman if you have not enrolled at any college or university following your graduation. You are a transfer applicant if you have completed college level coursework after high school graduation, learn more at: www.admission.ucla.edu/prospect/adm_tr.htm.

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) welcomes applications from students across the nation and around the world. Indeed, part of what makes UCLA great is the variety of experiences and backgrounds our students bring to our campus community. In 2018–19, UCLA enrolled freshman students from over 100 countries and nearly all 50 states. Located in Westwood Village, about five miles from the beach cities of Santa Monica and Venice and approximately 13 miles from downtown Los Angeles, UCLA is a research university with a long tradition of academic and research excellence.

For nearly a century, UCLA has educated future leaders for every endeavor—from academia to the arts, from private industry to public service. Consistently ranked in the top tier of national and international universities and powered by extensive resources, UCLA graduates enjoy high rates of admission to the world’s top graduate and professional schools and are well prepared for service to society. UCLA’s College of Letters and Science and five professional schools – Arts and Architecture; Engineering and Applied Sciences; Music; Nursing; and Theater, Film and Television – feature renowned faculty and offer over 125 majors. We hope that you will take the time to look closely at the opportunities awaiting you as an undergraduate student at UCLA.
ACADEMIC PREPARATION

To be considered for admission to UCLA as a freshman, you must complete high school with a superior record in academic subjects and be on-track to complete your high school diploma. Applicants are expected to have completed these minimum requirements:

- 2 years History/Social Science
- 4 years of college-preparatory English
- 3 years of mathematics (4 years recommended)
- 2 years of laboratory science (3 years recommended)
- 2 years of Language other than English (3 years recommended)
- 1 year of Visual and Performing Arts (if available)

We understand that UCLA’s subject requirements may be difficult for some applicants to meet due to differences in school curricula. All applications for admission are reviewed within the context of courses available to them; if a particular required subject is not available, we will consider your application without it. There is no single academic path that we expect all students to follow, but the strongest applicants take the most rigorous high school curriculum available to them. Please feel free to contact UCLA Undergraduate Admission if you have any questions about the subject requirements.

TESTING REQUIREMENT

All freshman applicants are expected to take the following tests:

- The ACT Assessment plus Writing or
- The SAT with Essay

- Applicants to the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Sciences 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
- Note: UCLA does not “superscore.” We will use your highest composite score from a single sitting of the ACT plus Writing or SAT with Essay.

In order for your test scores to be available in time for our review, all tests must be taken by December of your senior year. All scores should be sent directly to the UCLA Undergraduate Admission Office through the testing agency.

UCLA’s ACT number: 0448
UCLA’s College Board (SAT) number: 4837

THE PERSONAL INSIGHT QUESTIONS

The University’s personal insight question portion of the application allows you to provide information that will give us more insight about you during the review process. Remember, the personal questions are just that — personal. The important thing is expressing who are you, what matters to you and what you want to share with us. You will have eight questions to choose from. You must respond to only four of the eight questions. Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words. Which questions you choose to answer is entirely up to you: You should select questions that are most relevant to your experience and that best reflect your individual circumstances.

1. Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes, or contributed to group efforts over time.

2. Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.

3. What would you say is your greatest talent or skill? How have you developed and demonstrated that talent over time?

4. Describe how you have taken advantage of a significant educational opportunity or worked to overcome an educational barrier you have faced.

5. Describe the most significant challenge you have faced and the steps you have taken to overcome this challenge. How has this challenge affected your academic achievement?

6. Think about an academic subject that inspires you. Describe how you have furthered this interest inside and/or outside of the classroom.

7. What have you done to make your school or your community a better place?

8. Beyond what has already been shared in your application, what do you believe makes you stand out as a strong candidate for admissions to the University of California?
HOW WE REVIEW OUR APPLICANTS

- All applications are reviewed in a consistent manner and all achievement — both academic and nonacademic/personal — is considered in the context of your educational circumstances, with an emphasis on the opportunities or challenges presented to you and your response to them.

- No single attribute or characteristic guarantees the admission of any applicant to UCLA.

- Application review consists of a comprehensive look at all of your information (academic and personal). All applications are read twice, in their entirety, by two separate/independent admissions professionals.

- We are familiar with most California schools and many around the nation. Our careful study of different schools and curricula is also supported by information we receive directly from schools, including communication with school personnel. The UC application is designed for students to self-advocate, and we welcome information applicants think might be helpful in understanding their accomplishments within their school communities. Additional information about the school(s) you have attended can be included in the “comments” section of your application.

- Please note neither letters of recommendation nor interviews are offered.

- There is no formula for gaining admission to UCLA. There are no minimum GPA or test scores that guarantee admission. Students with vastly different credentials come from thousands of high schools across the country and around the world. What unifies our students are the talents they bring to UCLA and their passion to explore all that UCLA has to offer.

- The review focuses on consistent and ongoing participation in extracurricular activities, community service, special programs, or paid employment, with an emphasis on leadership, initiative, and tenacity. We also consider the contributions that students have made to their school or community.

GENERAL APPLICATION TIPS

- The University of California’s online application (UC Application) is used to apply to UCLA and all UC campuses. Find the application at: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply.

- All academic and non-academic information plus personal insight question answers are reported via the online UC application. UCLA uses self-reported academic information when making the preliminary assessment of your application for admission. In completing your application, you will be asked to list all courses and grades from all schools and colleges you have attended. Complete the educational history section of the application exactly as it appears on your school records. Later, we will request official transcripts to verify the completeness and accuracy of this information.

- Applicants to The College of Letters and Science will be asked to select a major of choice, however, applicants who have not yet selected a major are welcome to apply with an “undecided/undeclared” status.

- The Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (HSSEAS) admits students by declared major; students applying to HSSEAS may select an alternate major, within HSSEAS, if they wish.

- Applicants to the School of Arts and Architecture; Music; Nursing; and Theater, Film and Television will receive additional information regarding the respective school’s supplemental application following the submission of your UC application.

- We guarantee review of first-choice majors only.

- Letters of recommendation and interviews are not accepted and official documents or transcripts are not required until after an admission offer is accepted.

- UCLA requests that you report all changes in your high school academic record as well as any changes in your mailing address that occur after you submit your application. You will receive information on how to do this following the submission of your application.
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be filed starting October 1. The UCLA priority deadline for FAFSA filing is March 2. Students who submit their application after this priority deadline will have reduced eligibility for aid. Based on your FAFSA and other information you submit, UCLA Financial Aid and Scholarships will determine your eligibility for a variety of funding options, including scholarships, grants, work-study programs and loans.

AB540 eligible students who are not citizens or permanent residents can apply for aid via Dream Act application with the same priority deadline of March 2.

If you are a California resident, the California Student Aid Commission provides grants to qualified students, which assist you with your educational expenses. If you are not a California resident, your home state might offer college grants even if you attend an institution in another state. Check the U.S. Department of Education website for a list of state higher education agencies that can direct you to the proper resources.

The UCLA Scholarship Resource Center is available to help you identify scholarships for which you are qualified. Other resources, including community service organizations in your hometown, faith-based groups and your high school career/college counseling center are options to explore.

Lastly, an online search will reveal various websites and databases dedicated to helping you locate the best scholarship opportunities. For information about searching for UCLA scholarships for first-year students and other outside scholarships, please review our Scholarship Resource Center website at: www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu.