

UC and CSU Application Tips – Class of 2021

- Both applications are due at midnight on **November 30, 2020**
 - Don't wait until the last minute to submit your application!
 - Don't forget to hit the Submit button!
 - Research campuses and apply broadly
 - Use your full, legal name on all applications – do not use your nickname
 - Use an email address that you check frequently – be aware of your email address appropriateness
 - Have a copy of your transcript(s) handy when you are completing applications – entering your coursework and grades accurately is very important
 - You will be asked to submit a transcript before enrolling to verify that what you put on your application is accurate, so be very careful when you are entering your information!
 - Do not send transcripts to any CSU or UC campus when you apply – if you are admitted and decide to attend, you will need to submit a transcript from each high school you attended only to the campus you are attending
 - Exception: Campuses may ask you to send a transcript after you have applied – make sure to check your email and respond to these requests in a timely fashion
 - CSU and UC campuses do not require letters of recommendation and they will not read them if you send them
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CSU Application Tips

- Apply online through Cal State Apply starting October 1 – go to the “Freshman” page
- Check out the ? at the top of each page of the application for instructions and FAQ – you can also find contact information for customer service
- **Update on Testing:** CSU will temporarily suspend the use of ACT/SAT examinations in determining admission eligibility for all CSU campuses for the 2021-2022 admission cycle

Profile

Education

- Choose “Undergraduate” then “Graduating High School Senior or equivalent”
 - If you have taken classes at a community college or a 4-year college, choose “Yes” for “Have you taken and earned college credits through a community college or university?”

Selecting Programs

- Choose first campus to which you want to apply
 - Location: Main Campus; Delivery Format: Face to Face; Start Term: Fall 2020
- Choose your intended major
- Click “Reset Filters” to add another campus, then review your selection(s)

Personal Information

Biographic Information

- SSID field is optional – your SSID can be found in the bottom left corner of your transcript – “State ID#”

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

- If you think you might qualify for EOP, select “Yes” and answer the additional questions – this only needs to be done once and has no bearing on your admission decision

Academic History

High Schools Attended

- Enter June 2021 as your expected date to receive a high school diploma
- CSU recommends entering state, city, and high school name when searching for school(s)
- Enter all high schools you have attended
 - If you are currently an IVA student, add UHS as your home school and add "San Joaquin High School" under "other schools attended"

High School Coursework

- Instructions on what to enter for each field appear if you hover over the field
- Enter Course Title exactly as it appears on the transcript from that school or for UHS classes, pre-populated class options might appear as you type
 - Don't need to enter A and B separately for year-long classes
- Make sure to enter each grade in correct semester box, especially for summer school classes and semester-long classes
- Course Type
 - Non-weighted CP or Honors classes (i.e. English 2 & H English 2) = None
 - Weighted non-AP classes (i.e. H Chem & EM3) = Honors
 - AP classes = Advanced Placement
 - Any course taken at a college that is needed to meet A-G eligibility = College
- Only add CP (or higher) classes – look for "p" on your transcript
- For 12th grade classes, enter "In Progress" for Fall grade and "Planned" for Spring grade
- If you are using an AP or SAT Subject Exam to meet any A-G requirement, enter it as a class

A-G Matching

- **Any class whose title did not auto-populate in High School Coursework section will not be automatically counted toward your A-G Subject Totals – you will need to assign each class to the appropriate A-G category**
- Use the list of UHS A-G courses or UC Doorways website (<https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist#/list/search/institution>) to determine A-G category
 - Be careful with school year!
 - See your counselor if you are not sure!
- College Coursework (if applicable)
- If you have taken classes at a community college or 4-year college and these classes were **not** needed to meet A-G eligibility, you will search for and select the college(s) you attended/are attending
- Choose "No" for "Did you obtain or are you planning to obtain a degree from this college?"
- Enter each semester during which you took a college course
 - Under Select Academic Status, choose "Freshman" for all semesters
 - Choose "Completed" for any semesters that are complete, or "In Progress/Planned" for any you are currently taking or plan to take this year
- Enter courses taken/grades earned at the college(s) you listed in Colleges Attended
- After you have entered all of your classes, don't forget to complete the Transcript Review
 - If you took classes at more than one college, select the one at which you completed the most credits as your primary college
 - The answer to the rest of the questions should be "No," even the AP credit question

Submit Application

- Each dashboard quadrant has to be green before you can submit your application
 - You will be able to check for fee waivers before you submit
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UC Application Tips

- The application automatically times out after 30 minutes, so save often
- Use the progress bar at the top of the website and the “Inside This Section” links to the right of the page to navigate through the application
- There is a “Questions” box to the right of each page that may be helpful if you’re unsure how to complete a particular field

Academic History

- List every high school you have attended since 9th grade
 - If you are currently an IVA student, add UHS as your home school and add “San Joaquin High School” under “other schools attended”
- List coursework for each school exactly as it appears on your transcript from that school including any classes in which you earned a D or an F, even if you repeated them later

Colleges Attended While in High School

- List courses taken/grades earned at a community college or 4-year college

Other Academic History

- Your California State Student ID can be found in the bottom left corner of your transcript – “State ID#”
- Additional Comments: This box is only to be used to explain any unusual circumstances in your academic history – it is not to be used as an extension of the Personal Insight questions

Activities & Awards

- Choose up to five of your most meaningful experiences in the following categories:
 - Coursework Other Than A-G
 - Educational Preparation Programs
 - Volunteer & Community Service
 - Work Experience
 - Awards & Honors
 - Extracurricular Activities
- Do not use acronyms – spell out the names of organizations, clubs, awards, etc.
- Be strategic when providing further description of your activities and awards

Test Scores

ACT & SAT; SAT Subject Tests; AP Exams

- UC is now test optional for the 2021-2022 admission cycle. This means that if you are unable to submit scores or choose not to submit test scores, your application will still receive full consideration for admission
 - If you choose to send scores, UC does not super score SAT or ACT – only report scores for testing date on which you earned your highest overall/composite score
 - You can wait to send official AP exam score report until 2021 exam scores are out – report is due by July 2021

Personal Insight

- Respond to 4 of the 8 questions – 350 words each

- Address all aspects of the prompts you choose
- These are not essays – they are designed to help the UC learn more about you
 - Writing style and grammar are not considered, but it's important that the reader understands what you are saying
 - Your responses should provide new information – should not repeat what's already in your application
 - Your voice should shine through!
- Check out the [“Personal Insight Questions: Guide for Freshman Applicants”](#)

Additional Comments

- The purpose of this box is not to expand on the Personal Insight questions or answer another one
- The purpose is to explain any unclear parts of your application or tell the UC about any unusual personal or family circumstances which you haven't explained elsewhere – for example:
 - Grade earned patterns
 - Circumstances which prevented you from doing something you wanted to do, like take a more rigorous course or play a sport
 - Prolonged illness
 - Learning difference

Submit

- Don't forget to click “Submit your application for UC admission”
- The application will let you know if you are missing anything – you will need to acknowledge if you are knowingly applying with incomplete information
- Fee waivers are available if you qualify
- Print and keep a copy of your receipt – you may need your application ID number
- If you don't receive an email confirming your application submission, contact the UC Application Center – see below for contact information

UC Application Support

- The UC Application Center is available at (800) 207-1710 or ucinfo@applyUCsupport.net
- Click [here](#) to learn how to update your application
- If you add or drop a course or earn a D or an F in a course after applying, send your changes by email to docs@applyUCsupport.net
- Make sure to provide your full name, your date of birth, and your application ID number
 - If you need to notify the UC of changes after you've received an offer of admission, contact the individual campus(es) to which you've been accepted