UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

TRANSFER ADMISSIONS GUIDE

DISCOVER. CONNECT. ENGAGE. REFLECT.

This is what we encourage UC Berkeley students to do during their time at the university. UC Berkeley seeks applications from students from all over the world to be a part of our amazing community. We know that choosing your college is a huge decision, so we want to make sure you're prepared for the application process.

You are a transfer student if you have completed coursework during a regular session at a college or university after high school. (The summer session immediately following high school graduation does not count.) While UC gives California community college students first priority over other transfer applicants, we also accept those from four-year institutions and out-of-state community colleges.

At the University of California, we are dedicated to accepting transfer students as they add greatly to the diversity of the campus. One-third of our incoming class are transfers.

Are you ready to **#DiscoverBerkeley?**



APPLICATION REVIEW

Our application review is a two-step process **Satisfying Admissions Requirements** and **Selection**.

SATISFYING ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:

Junior transfer admission is limited to students who will have completed a minimum of 60 semester (90 quarter) UC-transferable units by the end of spring term prior to fall admission and have a competitive GPA.

By the end of the spring term prior to fall admission you must:

- ► Complete 60 UC-transferable semester units
- Complete courses for the major
- Complete general education requirements
- Overall minimum GPA of 3.0
 - ▶ GPA is calculated using grades earned in UC-transferable courses completed by the end of the fall term prior to admission

As a transfer student it is crucial that you are preparing yourself for the academic major that you are interested in applying to. It is important to note that depending on the college and/or major you are applying to admissions requirements will vary. That is why it is important that you visit **assist.org** and and review the admissions requirements per college on page 4.

SELECTION:

Because more transfer students apply to our campus than we can admit, Berkeley's selection criteria exceed the UC admissions requirements.

Berkeley reviews students using a comprehensive review which considers academic performance and preparation, the personal qualities of the applicant, including leadership ability, character, motivation, insight, tenacity, initiative, originality, intellectual independence, responsibility, maturity, and demonstrated concern for others and for the community. These factors can be demonstrated in different ways, whether it is through participation in traditional clubs/organizations, home life, work life, or other life experiences.

We also consider:

- Grade trends
- Demonstrated interest in the major, an important consideration for all applicants
- Personal qualities such as leadership or motivation
- Extracurricular accomplishments
 - Employment
 - ▶ Potential contribution to the intellectual and cultural vitality of the campus

IMPORTANT APPLICATION DATES:

August 1:

Online application opens

October 1-November 30:

Submit your application (Application filling period)

November 30:

Application Deadline

December 15:

UC system Transfer Academic Update

January 31:

UC Berkeley supplemental forms deadline

End of April:

Transfer Admissions Released

APPLYING TO BERKELEY

Apply online at the University of California website: universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

You will also find a link to the UC application at: admissions.berkeley.edu/apply

CONTEXT MATTERS

Berkeley seeks authentic and innovative scholars. Here is what you can do to show us who you are in your application. We want you to make the most out of your application and take full advantage of each section. Here are a few tips to get you thinking.

ACADEMIC HISTORY:

For the academic sections, make sure to accurately and completely fill out the coursework and grades from every college you have attended. This application is self reported, but we will validate the accuracy of the application after a student is admitted. Use transcripts to accurately report your academic information. Berkeley also understands that grades and test scores are static. We get more context about you through other parts of the application.

ACTIVITIES & AWARDS:

- ► For the extracurricular activities section, report any activities or work experience as completely as possible, including number of hours per week, weeks per year, years after high school, and responsibilities. Any activities or work experience while in high school will not be considered; for transfer admissions, your post-high school activities are most important. If there is not enough space in these sections, use the additional comments to provide us more details and context about your story.
- Berkeley seeks diverse and unique perspectives. It is important to recognize that you do not have to do everything. While clubs and student organizations are great to report, you can also list other activities, such as family responsibilities and work experience. Lean into your eccentricities and do not do anything just because you think it will look good on your application. Be yourself.

PERSONAL INSIGHT QUESTIONS (PIQS):

At Berkeley we use personal insight questions to:

- Discover and evaluate distinctions among applicants whose academic records are often very similar
- Gain insight into your level of academic, personal and extracurricular achievement
- Provide us with information that may not be evident in other parts of the application

What we look for:

- Initiative, motivation, leadership, persistence, service to others, special potential and substantial experience with other cultures
- ► All achievement in light of the opportunities available to you

- Any unusual circumstances or hardships you have faced and the ways in which you have overcome or responded to them. Having a hardship is no guarantee of admission. If you choose to write about difficulties you have experienced, you should describe:
 - ► How you confronted and overcame your challenges, rather than describing a hardship just for the sake of including it in your application
 - What you learned from or achieved in spite of these circumstances

How to answer your personal insight questions:

- ► Thoughtfully describe not only what you've done, but also the choices you have made and what you have gained as a result.
- ➤ Your personal insight questions are a way for us to get to know you. Treat it like a conversation or an interview.
- ► Allow sufficient time for preparation, revisions, and careful composition. Your answers are not evaluated on correct grammar, spelling, or sentence structure, but these qualities will enhance overall presentation and readability.

Things to remember when applying to a professional college:

- If you are applying to a professional college (such as the College of Engineering or Chemistry), it is important that you discuss:
 - Your intended field of study
 - Your interest in your specific major
 - ▶ Any school or work-related experience

Keep in mind: You can use the Additional Comments box to convey any information that will help us understand the context of your achievement; to list any additional honors awards, activities, leadership elements, volunteer activities, etc.; to share information regarding a nontraditional school environment or unusual circumstances that has not been included in any other area of the application. And, finally, after we read your personal insight questions, we will ask the question, "What do we know about this individual?" If we have learned very little about you, your answers were not successful.

For general information on the Personal Insight Questions please visit: admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/applying-as-a-transfer/personal-insight-questions.html

ACADEMIC PROGRAM INFORMATION

The requirements for admission as a transfer student vary by college. Requirements for all majors are available on **assist.org** or in the Berkeley Academic Guide (**guide.berkeley.edu**). Visit the college-specific websites for complete information.

COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY

B.S. Degree - chemistry.berkeley.edu

- ▶ Applicants must meet the minimum requirements for admission to their specific major.
- ► To be competitive, completion of additional major prerequisites is strongly encouraged (see **assist.org**).
- Completion of Reading and Composition is required, but applicants do not need to complete all other general education requirements prior to admission.
- Please visit our website for more detailed information regarding minimum eligibility requirements by major: https://chemistry.berkeley.edu/ugrad/prospectivestudents/admission

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

B.S. Degree - engineering.berkeley.edu

- ▶ Requires strong preparation in math and physical sciences.
- Applicants must have a minimum 3.5 GPA and have completed the equivalent of all required core UC Berkeley preparation courses (see assist.org) to be eligible for admission.
- If a series of courses at a community college is required (e.g., English 1A + 1B + 103 = English R1A and R1B), all the courses in the series must be completed, and must (unless otherwise indicated) be completed at the same community college. Partial completion (e.g., 2 of the 3 required courses) will result in zero credit toward the requirement(s), and the applicant will **NOT** be considered for admission.
- The only exception to the series rule is Math 54. If Math 54 is split into two different courses, one covering linear algebra and one covering differential equations, we strongly encourage applicants to take both courses at the same community college; however, we will accept linear algebra from one school and differential equations from a different school.
- IGETC offered at California community colleges is not accepted as completion of breadth.

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CED)

B.A. Degree - ced.berkeley.edu

- ▶ Complete IGETC or CED Breath Requirements
- Completion of IGETC from a California community college will meet general education requirements
- ► CED Breath Requirements. Complete course work identified as comparable to the following UC Berkeley courses:
 - ▶ English R1A and R1B (can be covered by IGETC certification; note: if you do not have IGETC certification, you must follow exactly the articulation agreements between your school and the CED architecture major as described on the assist.org website)
 - ▶ CED general education/breadth requirements:
 - Arts & Literature
 - Biological Science
 - Historical Studies
 - International Studies
 - Philosophy & Values
 - Physical Science
 - Social & Behavioral Sciences
- Please visit our website for more detailed information regarding minimum eligibility requirements by major: https://ced.berkeley.edu/admissions/undergraduate/ transfer-applicants/

Academic Program Information continues on page 5

RAUSSER COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

B.S. Degree - nature.berkeley.edu

- Applicants must directly apply to one of our undergraduate majors. Please visit our website for additional information about each major's requirements: nature.berkeley.edu/ advising/transfer-applicants.
- Applicants must complete the lower-division articulated courses for the particular College major for which you are applying. The ASSIST website has all of the information on transferable course credit for California community colleges and other schools in the UC and CSU systems. If you earned credit at another college or university, those courses will be evaluated after you apply.
- ▶ Applicants will be holistically evaluated based on the strength of their academic preparation, appropriate understanding of the major, personal statements, extra-curricular and cocurricular activities, and other supplemental information.
- ▶ IGETC completed at a California community college, or UC Reciprocity if transferring from another UC, will satisfy Reading and Composition and breadth requirements for all majors.
- ▶ If a series of courses at a community college is required (e.g., BIOL 400 + BIOL 410 + BIOL 420 is equivalent to Berkeley's BIOLOGY 1A/1AL), all of the courses in the series must be completed to satisfy the requirement, and should (unless otherwise indicated) be completed at the same community college.

HAAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

B.S. Degree - haas.berkeley.edu/undergrad

- Complete all prerequisite courses with a letter grade of C- or higher, no more than 5 years before starting the business major.
- All Haas Business School applicants are required to submit a Supplemental Application which includes an essay, selfreported academic record, and resume in January.

Envision Haas Transfer Outreach Program

Envision Haas is an admissions outreach program under the direction of the Haas Undergraduate Program Office and in partnership with the Haas Business School Association (HBSA). The program aims to provide admissions information to our growing number of California Community College transfer applicants. Each Envision Haas session includes admissions info and a transfer student led panel.

Please visit our website for dates and registration information: haas.berkeley.edu/undergrad/admissions/outreach-admission-events/

COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

B.A. Degree - Is.berkeley.edu

Students are admitted to the College, not the major. Once enrolled at Berkeley, students are able to declare a major.

Applicants must have a minimum 3.0 UC-transferable GPA by the end of the fall term when the application is submitted. General Education requirements must be completed by the end of the spring term immediately preceding enrollment by completing one of the following:

Full UC IGETC

- Available only to students transferring directly from a California Community College. Consult your community college for details.
- University of California Reciprocity Agreement
 - Available only to students transferring from another UC campus. Consult your UC for details.
- Essential Skills
 - ▶ Reading and Composition (R&C), Quantitative Reasoning (QR), and Foreign Language (FL)
 - See pages 6–8 for more details on how to satisfy the Essential Skills requirement.
 - Follow these steps to find equivalent courses at your community college for R&C, QR, and FL:
 - 1. Go to www.assist.org
 - Under the "Search below for articulation agreements" section, select your academic year, your instition, and University of California, Berkeley
 - 3. Click "View Agreements"
 - 4. Click on the "General Education/Breadth" button at the top of the page

SATISFYING ESSENTIAL SKILLS

This subsection of Academic Program Information provides a more thorough summary of how to satisfy the R&C, QR, and FL requirements for Letters and Sciences Essential Skills.

TRANSFER READING & COMPOSITION (R&C) REQUIREMENT

Students may satisfy the full Reading and Composition (R&C) requirement with one of the following scores:

EXAM	MINIMUM GRADE/SCORE
AP English Literature and Composition	5
IB HL English A: Language and Literature	5, 6 or 7
IB HL English A: Literature	5, 6 or 7

Please note: GCE A-levels are no longer accepted for R&C.

Students may satisfy **the first half** of the requirement with one of the following scores:

EXAM	MINIMUM GRADE/SCORE
AP English Literature and Composition	4
AP English Language and Composition	4 or 5

TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES FOR R&C

Students may satisfy **full or one-half R&C with a transferable college-level course(s).** Please note: full R&C may require 2, 3 or 4 courses.

- Transfer courses must be taken on a letter-graded basis and be completed with a grade of C- or better.
 - ▶ Courses taken winter 2020 quarter and spring 2020 quarter/semester: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a passed grade for an equivalent course that was completed during these academic terms will be accepted in fulfillment of the requirement.
- ► For courses from California community colleges, visit **assist.org** to find approved courses that fulfill the R&C requirement. Note: UC IGETC Certification from a community college or a letter of reciprocity from a UC campus satisfies the R&C requirement (and all other L&S Essential Skill and Seven-Course Breadth Requirements).
- ► For courses from other institutions, visit our Transfer Courses for Reading and Composition page to find approved courses that fulfill the R&C requirement. To learn more visit: admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer-courses-by-institution

TRANSFER QUANTITATIVE REASONING (QR) REQUIREMENT

Students may satisfy the **Quantitative Reasoning (QR) requirement** with one of the following minimum scores:

EXAM	MINIMUM GRADE/SCORE
SAT Math Section	Test date before Feb 2016: 600; Test date Feb 2016 or later: 620
SAT Subject Test, Math Level II:	Test date before May 1995: 550 Test date May 1995 or later: 520
ACT, Math Section	28
AP Calculus AB or BC	3, 4 or 5
AP Computer Science AB	Test date before June 2009: 3, 4 or 5
AP Computer Science Principles	3, 4 or 5
AP Statistics	3, 4 or 5
IB HL Math or Computer Science	5, 6 or 7
GCE A-Level Mathematics Exam	Grade of A, B or C (or 1, 2, or 3)

TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES FOR QR

- ▶ Transfer courses must be taken on a letter-graded basis and be completed with a grade of C- or better.
 - Courses taken winter 2020 quarter and spring 2020 quarter/semester: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a passed grade for an equivalent course that was completed during these academic terms will be accepted in fulfillment of the requirement.
- ► For courses from California community colleges, visit **assist.org** to find approved courses that fulfill the QR requirement. Note: UC IGETC Certification from a community college or a letter of reciprocity from a UC campus satisfies the QR requirement (and all other L&S Essential Skill and Seven-Course Breadth Requirements).
- A student may satisfy this requirement by completing a course in College Math, Statistics or Computer Science equivalent to one offered at UC Berkeley that fulfills Quantitative Reasoning (see Satisfying Quantitative Reasoning with a Berkeley Course). Statistics courses must be taken in the Math or Statistics department.
- ► Generally college courses in Pre-calculus, Calculus or Statistics (if taken in the Math or Statistics department) are acceptable.

TRANSFER FOREIGN LANGUAGE (FL) REQUIREMENT

Students may satisfy the requirement with one of the following:

- Completion of third year of high school foreign language or the third level in high school with a grade of
 C- or better.
- Curriculum language of instruction other than English in grade 6 or higher
 - Completion of at least three years of language of instruction other than English beginning with grade 6 or higher
 - ▶ **At least one year** must be completed at the high school level.
- American Sign language (ASL) as articulated on Assist
- Minimum exam scores in the following areas:

EXAM	MINIMUM GRADE/SCORE
SAT Subject Test, Language other than English	Test date before May 1995: 550 Test date May 1995 or later: 590
AP Exam in World Languages and Cultures	3, 4 or 5
IB Exam in: Language (other than English) acquisition: B: Standard Level B: Higher level Studies in language (other than English) and literature: A: literature Standard Level A: literature Higher Level A: language and literature Standard Level A: language and literature Higher Level	5, 6, 7
GCE A level or I/GCSE O-level exam in a language other than English	A, B, or C (or 1, 2, or 3)
Foreign Service Institute (FSI) or Defense Language Institute (DLI) exam	1-5

TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES FOR FL

- A second semester (or third quarter) language course must be taken on a letter-graded basis and be completed with a grade of C- or better.
 - ▶ Courses taken winter 2020 quarter and spring 2020 quarter/semester: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a passed grade for an equivalent course that was completed during these academic terms will be accepted in fulfillment of the requirement.
- ► For courses from California community colleges, visit **assist.org** to find approved courses that fulfill this requirement.. Note: UC IGETC Certification from a community college or a letter of reciprocity from a UC campus satisfies the LOTE requirement (and all other L&S Essential Skill and Seven-Course Breadth Requirements).
- ▶ Proficiency exams from a UC campus (proficiency exams from non-UC schools are not accepted). Please note: UC Berkeley does not offer proficiency exams in all languages.

STUDENTS WITH NON-CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE COURSEWORK

TRANSFERABILITY OF COURSEWORK:

Will my Coursework Transfer?

UC Berkeley cannot pre-evaluate your prior transcript to determine whether credit will be accepted. However UC Berkeley follows the University of California guidelines. Please review the Statement of Transfer Credit Practices (admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/preparing-transfer-students/transfer-credit-practice.html) to determine where you stand.

▶ All coursework taken on a UC main campus is transferable.

NOTE: Please be aware that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions cannot determine if the courses you have completed at your institution will satisfy the subject requirements. That determination is done by the academic departments (example: Gen Psychology - the psychology department will review syllabi to determine if content from the course was equivalent to the Gen Psych course taught at Berkeley).

Will my coursework satisfy major preparation?

If you are applying from a school other than a California community college, you are able to use **assist.org** to provide guidance on the major preparation needed for your intended major. You will need to select UC Berkeley and then any community college from the pull-down menu on ASSIST. Once you select the major, a page with all the requirements will show. Please keep in mind that you are using this as a guide in order to make sure you are on track to complete the requirements. You will need to find and complete comparable courses at your school. To find UC Berkeley course descriptions visit our Berkeley Academic Guide at **guide.berkeley.edu**

UNIT MAXIMUM ADMISSION POLICY

Students who have completed UC-transferable coursework at any four-year institution at any point in time may be ineligible for admission if they exceed the unit maximum policy for admission.

Please note that students with all coursework completed at a 2 year institution will never exceed the unit maximum admission policy.

 All coursework from a two-year college is considered lower division.

To determine if you have exceeded the unit maximum for admission you must first understand and apply the UC lower-division maximum transfer credit limitation policy. Once you do that you apply the Unit Maximum Admission Policy.

UC lower-division maximum transfer credit limitation policy:

- Students will be granted up to 70 semester (105 quarter) units for freshman/sophomore (lower division) coursework completed at any institution or combination of institutions.
 - ▶ Units earned through AP, IB, and /or A-Level examinations are not included in the limitation and do not put applicants at risk of being denied admission.
 - Units earned at any UC campus (extension, summer, cross/concurrent and regular academic-year enrollment) are not included in the limitation but are added to the maximum transfer credit allowed and may put you at risk of being denied admission due to excessive units.

Unit Maximum Admissions Policy:

- After applying the UC lower-division maximum transfer credit limitation policy, all junior/senior (upper division) and all UC units (lower division and upper division) are added to that total unit count. If the resulting unit count exceeds 80 semester units (120 quarter units), the student is ineligible for admission.
 - ▶ Engineering 89 semester units/133.5 quarter units
 - Chemistry No maximum number of units
 - ▶ CED 80 semester units/120 quarter units
 - ▶ Haas No maximum number of units
 - Raussier CNR 80 semester units/120 quarter units
 - ▶ Letters and Science 80 semester units/120 quarter units

COLLEGES AND MAJORS:

Explore and learn more about UC Berkeley's over 184 academic programs and majors at guide.berkeley.edu Note: Most majors provide a Major Map (PDF) which provides specific information on how to design your academic journey, learn about career opportunities, graduate programs, and more. See the college specific sites to find your Major Map.

HAAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Business Administration: two-year program for juniors and seniors; freshman applicants cannot apply directly to the major but may apply to the College of Letters and Science, Intending Major in Business Administration. Transfer students can apply directly to the major.

COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY

Chemical Biology Chemical Engineering Chemistry also offered in the College of Letters and Science

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Bioengineering Civil Engineering

Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences

Engineering Science Programs:

Energy Engineering

Engineering Mathematics and Statistics

Engineering Physics

Environmental Engineering Science

Industrial Engineering and Operations

Materials Science and Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Nuclear Engineering

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Sustainable Environmental Design

Urban Studies

RAUSSER COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Conservation and Resource Studies

Ecosystem Management and Forestry:

Forestry

Natural Resource Management

Environmental Economics and Policy also offered in the College of Letters

Environmental Sciences (biological,

physical, social)

Genetics and Plant Biology

Microbial Biology

Molecular Environmental Biology

Nutritional Sciences:

Dietetics

Molecular Toxicology

Physiology and Metabolism

Society and Environment

COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

Arts and Humanities

Ancient Greek and Roman Studies

Art. History of

Art. Practice of

Celtic Studies

Comparative Literature

Dutch Studies

East Asian Languages and Cultures:

Chinese

East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture

English

Film and Media

French

German

Greek and Latin

Italian Studies

Middle Eastern Languages and Culture

Music

Near Eastern Civilizations

Philosophy

Rhetoric

Scandinavian:

Danish

Finnish

Norwegian

Old Norse

Swedish

Slavic:

Armenian

Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian

Czech

Hungarian

Polish

South and Southeast Asian Studies

Spanish and Portuguese:

Languages, Literature, and Cultures in the Spanish-Speaking World

Languages, Literature, and Cultures in the Portuguese-Speaking World

Latin American Languages, Literature, and Cultures

Hispanic, Languages, Literature, and Bilingualism

Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies:

Dance and Performance Studies Theater and Performance Studies

Biological Sciences

Integrative Biology

Molecular and Cell Biology:

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Cell and Developmental Biology

Genetics, Genomics, and Development

Immunology and Pathogenesis

Neurobiology

Public Health

Interdisciplinary Studies

American Studies

Interdisciplinary Studies

Legal Studies

Media Studies

Mathematical and **Physical Sciences**

Astrophysics (including Astronomy)

Chemistry - also offered in the College of

Chemistry

Computer Science

Data Science

Earth and Planetary Science:

Atmospheric Science

Environmental Earth Science

Geology

Geophysics

Marine Science

Planetary Science

Mathematics:

Applied Mathematics

Mathematics

Operations Research and Management

Sciences

Physics

Statistics

Social Sciences

African American Studies

Anthropology

Asian American and Asian Diaspora

Studies

Chicano/Latino Studies

Cognitive Science

Economics

Environmental Economics and Policy - also offered in the College of

Natural Resources **Ethnic Studies**

Gender and Women's Studies

Geography

Global Studies:

Asian Area Studies I - China

Asian Area Studies II - Japan

Developmental Studies

Latin American Studies

Middle Fastern Studies

Peace and Conflict Studies

History

Linguistics

Native American Studies

Political Economy

Political Science

Psychology

Social Welfare Sociology

Learn more about Berkeley's degree programs and majors:

guide.berkeley.edu

RESOURCES AND HELPFUL WEBSITES:

ASSIST

assist.org

Career Center

career.berkeley.edu

Centers for Education Equity and Excellence (CE3)

ce3.berkeley.edu

Center for Educational Partnerships (CEP)

cep.berkeley.edu

Dining Services

caldining.berkeley.edu

Disabled Students Program (DSP)

dsp.berkeley.edu

Phone: Voice - 510-642-6376 | TTY - 510-642-6376

Early Childhood Education Program

ece.berkeley.edu

Financial Aid and Scholarships Office

financialaid.berkeley.edu

Housing

housing.berkeley.edu

Majors and Minors

guide.berkeley.edu

Transfer Admissions

admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer-requirements