

UC SANTA BARBARA

Admission Guide

International Applicants



An aerial photograph of the UC Santa Barbara campus. The foreground shows the blue Pacific Ocean with white waves crashing against a sandy beach. A large, winding pond is situated in the middle ground, surrounded by green lawns and trees. The campus buildings, including a prominent tower, are visible in the center. The background features rolling green hills and a range of dark, forested mountains under a clear blue sky.

UC Santa Barbara is part of the 10-campus University of California system,

Location

Santa Barbara is located 160 kilometers (100 miles) northwest of Los Angeles and less than two hours from the LAX airport.

Weather

Located on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, UCSB enjoys beautiful year-round weather with warm summers and mild winters.

one of the largest and most respected public universities in the world.



Transportation

Biking is the main form of transportation on campus with 11 kilometers (7 miles) of bike paths. Students also have access to easy and frequent bus transportation.

Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara is a tourist destination with excellent outdoor recreation, shopping, restaurants, movies and music.





#7

public university in the United States
(U.S. News and World Report, 2020)

10

national institutes
and centers,
including the
Kavli Institute for
Theoretical Physics

6

faculty Nobel
Prizes in
chemistry,
economics and
physics

#57

out of more than 1,250 of the
world's top universities (Times
Higher Education, 2020)

2,450

courses offered
each quarter in
UCSB's three
undergraduate
colleges

18:1

student-to-
faculty ratio

UCSB's beautifully renovated Library offers study spaces, meeting rooms and the Summit Café.

225,000+

alumni network worldwide

Three Undergraduate Colleges

UCSB offers 90 majors and 40 minors in three colleges: the College of Letters and Science, the College of Engineering and the College of Creative Studies. admissions.ucsb.edu/why-ucsb/majors

Pre-Professional Programs

- › Technology Management Program (tmp.ucsb.edu)
- › Pre-Law Program (duels.ucsb.edu/professional/law)
- › Pre-Health Program (duels.ucsb.edu/professional/health)
- › Teacher Education Program (education.ucsb.edu)

College of Letters & Science

- Actuarial Science, B.S.
 - Anthropology, B.A.
 - Applied Mathematics, B.S.
 - Aquatic Biology, B.S.
 - Art, B.A.
 - Asian American Studies, B.A.
 - Asian Studies, B.A.
 - Biochemistry, B.S.
 - Biochemistry - Molecular Biology, B.S.
 - Biological Sciences, B.A., B.S.
 - Biopsychology, B.S.
 - Black Studies, B.A.
 - Cell and Developmental Biology, B.S.
 - Chemistry, B.A., B.S.
 - Chicana and Chicano Studies, B.A.
 - Chinese, B.A. (Mandarin)
 - Classics, B.A.
 - Communication, B.A.
 - Comparative Literature, B.A.
 - Dance, B.A., B.F.A. (audition required)
 - Earth Science, B.A.
 - Earth Science, B.S.
 - Ecology and Evolution, B.S.
 - Economics, B.A.
 - Economics and Accounting, B.A.
 - English, B.A.
 - Environmental Studies, B.A., B.S.
 - Feminist Studies, B.A.
 - Film and Media Studies, B.A.
 - Financial Mathematics and Statistics, B.S.
 - French, B.A.
 - Geography, B.A.
 - Geography, Physical, B.S.
 - German, B.A.
 - Global Studies, B.A.
 - History, B.A.
 - History of Art and Architecture, B.A.
 - History of Public Policy and Law, B.A.
 - Hydrologic Sciences and Policy, B.S.
 - Italian Studies, B.A.
 - Japanese, B.A.
 - Language, Culture and Society, B.A.
 - Latin American and Iberian Studies, B.A.
 - Linguistics, B.A.
 - Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
 - Medieval Studies, B.A.
 - Microbiology, B.S.
 - Middle East Studies, B.A.
 - Music, B.M. (audition required)
 - Music Studies, B.A.
 - Pharmacology, B.S.
 - Philosophy, B.A.
 - Physics, B.A., B.S.
 - Physiology, B.S.
 - Political Science, B.A.
 - Portuguese, B.A.
 - Psychological and Brain Sciences, B.S.
 - Religious Studies, B.A.
 - Renaissance Studies, B.A.
 - Russian and East European Studies, B.A.
 - Sociology, B.A.
 - Spanish, B.A.
 - Statistics and Data Science, B.A.
 - Statistics and Data Science, B.S.
 - Theater, B.A.
 - Theater, B.F.A. (audition required)
 - Zoology, B.S.
- *Indicates majors also available as a minor.*



College of Engineering

Chemical Engineering, B.S.
Computer Engineering, B.S.
Computer Science, B.S.
Electrical Engineering, B.S.
Mechanical Engineering, B.S.

Five-Year Programs

Computer Science, B.S./Computer Science, M.S.
Computer Engineering, B.S./Computer Science, M.S. or Electrical and Computer Engineering, M.S.
Electrical Engineering, B.S./Electrical and Computer Engineering, M.S.
Chemical, Electrical, Mechanical Engineering, B.S./Materials, M.S.
Mechanical Engineering, B.S./Mechanical Engineering, M.S.

College of Creative Studies

Art, B.A.
Biology, B.A.
Chemistry/Biochemistry, B.A., B.S.
Computing, B.S.
Mathematics, B.A., B.S.
Music Composition, B.A.
Physics, B.A., B.S.
Writing and Literature, B.A.

UCSB Minors

American Indian and Indigenous Studies
Architecture and Urban History
Applied Psychology
Astronomy and Planetary Science
Educational Studies
Iranian Studies
Jewish Studies
Iranian Studies
Labor Studies
Language and Speech Technologies
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Studies
Mathematics for High School Teaching
Museum Studies
Poverty, Inequality and Social Justice
Professional Writing
Russian
Science and Mathematics Education
Sociocultural Linguistics
Spatial Studies
Speech-Language Sciences and Disorders
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
Theater Production and Design
Translation Studies
Women, Culture and Development

Housing, Dining & Student Life

19,000

students live on or within 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) of campus, adding to the vibrant university community

4

dining commons offer local produce and offerings made with seasonal ingredients

19

men's and women's Division 1 teams on campus give students the opportunity to show their school spirit

500+

student organizations include cultural clubs like the Asian Pacific Islander Alliance, Chinese Student Association, Italian Club, Lebanese Club and Taiwanese Student Association



UCSB offers residence halls and apartments including high- and low-rise buildings with ocean, lagoon and mountain views.

Break Housing

Residence halls traditionally close during breaks, but UCSB provides housing during closures for international students if requested.



Learn more: housing.ucsb.edu

Freshman Admission Requirements

Admission to UC Santa Barbara is competitive. The Office of Admissions is familiar with educational systems around the world and provides each applicant with a comprehensive review after applying.

admissions.ucsb.edu/applying/international/freshman-selection

Apply online: universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

Required Test

For students whose language of instruction is not English, submit scores from the TOEFL (minimum score of 80) **OR** IELTS (minimum score of 6.5).

Proficiency in English may also be demonstrated by taking the Duolingo English Test with a score of 115 or higher.

Strongly Suggested Test

Duolingo English Test is strongly recommended for students in countries where English is not the official language.

A Note on ACT & SAT Exams

UCSB will not use SAT/ACT scores in our selection process for fall 2021 applicants. All applicants to UC have the option to submit scores on the application. If you elect to do so, these scores will not be visible to Admission Counselors reviewing your application to UCSB.

UCSB departments that previously recommended SAT subject exams have suspended these recommendations given the current challenges with the COVID-19 pandemic.

International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma students must take a minimum of five IB exams, with two exams taken at the higher level. The overall average must be 5 with no exam score below 4.

British Systems

You must complete at least five GCSE/IGCSE (O-Level) exams with a 3.4 GPA or higher and at least three GCE (A-Level) exams with a 3.0 (unweighted) GPA or higher and no grade below C to be considered for admission. If you receive A, B or C grades on your GCE (A-Level) exams, UCSB may grant you transfer credit toward your bachelor's degree. The exact amount of credit will be determined after you are formally admitted and provide your official Statement of Results.



Curriculum Requirements by Country

In general, an applicant to UC Santa Barbara will have graduated from a secondary school and earned a certificate of completion that enables attendance at a university in that country.

admissions.ucsb.edu/applying/international/freshman-eligibility

Brazil Completion of Certificado de Ensino Médio (Certificate of Completion of Middle Education) with a minimum average of at least 7 on the 1-10 scale or an average of at least 4 on the 1-5 scale

Canada

British Columbia: Completion of Secondary School Graduation Diploma with a minimum average of at least 80

Nova Scotia: Completion of Nova Scotia High School Graduation Diploma with a minimum average of at least 68

Ontario: Completion of OSSD - Ontario Secondary School Diploma with a minimum average of at least 75

Quebec: Completion of Diplôme d'études secondaires (General) and two years CEGEP (Colleges d'enseignement general et professionnel)

China Completion of Graduation Certificate from upper middle school and Senior High School Graduate Certificate

Colombia Completion of Bachiller Académico (Academic Diploma) with a minimum average of at least 8.5

Costa Rica Completion of Diploma de conclusión de estudios de educación diversificada (Certificate of conclusion of diversified education studies) **or** completion of Bachillerato (Baccalaureate) with a minimum average of at least 80

India Completion of All India Senior School Certificate **or** Higher Secondary School Certificate with a minimum average of at least 70 **or** completion of 10th and 12th year board/state examinations

Israel Completion of Teudat Bagrut (Matriculation Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 7

Japan Complete Kotogakko Sotsugyo Shomeisho (Upper Secondary School Graduation Diploma) with a minimum average of at least 4.4

Jordan Completion of Tawjihi or Completion of General Secondary Education Certificate (Literary or Secondary) with a minimum average of at least 75%

Kuwait Completion of Shahadat Al-Thawasiya-Al-A'ama General Secondary Education Certificate with a minimum average of at least 75%

Mexico Completion of Bachillerato with a minimum average of at least 8

Peru Completion of Certificado de Estudios de Educación Secundaria Común Completa (Certificate of Completion of General Secondary Education) with a minimum average of at least 14

Philippines Completion of 12-year Elementary-Secondary education and receive a High School Diploma after the 12th year with a minimum average equivalent of at least B+

Qatar Completion of Al-Thawasiya Aama Qatari (Qatari General Secondary Education Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 77

Republic of South Korea Completion of Senior High School Diploma with a minimum average of at least B+

Saudi Arabia Completion of Tawjihiyah General Certificate of Education with a minimum average of at least 75%

Singapore Completion of at least 5 General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE, GCSE, O-Levels) with at least a 3.40 GPA and at least 3 General Certificate of Education (GCE, A-Levels) with a minimum average of B and with no grade below C

Taiwan Completion of Senior High School Leaving Certificate with a minimum average of at least 80%

Thailand Completion of Mathayom 6 (Certificate of Upper Secondary Education) with a minimum average of at least 75%

United Arab Emirates Completion of Shahadat Al-Thawasiya-Al-Amma (General Secondary Education Certificate)

Vietnam Completion of Bằng Tốt Nghiệp Phổ Thông Trung Học (Secondary School Graduation Certificate) with a minimum average of at least 8

Cost of Attendance 2020-2021

Tuition and Fees	\$14,391
Supplemental Tuition and Fees	\$29,754
Books and Supplies	\$1,260
Room and Board	\$15,039
Health and Transportation	\$4,110
Personal Expenses and Phone	\$1,722
Loan Fees*	\$96
Total	\$66,372

Calculate Cost:
www.finaid.ucsb.edu

Costs in this table are subject to change.

** Average origination fees for student borrowers.*

Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS)

OISS helps international students secure a student visa, plan an academic program, and learn about studying in the U.S. through the Culture, Academics, Laws and Immigration (CALI) training.

oiss.ucsb.edu

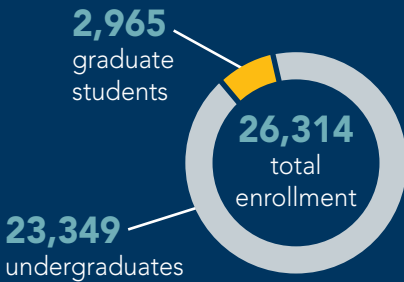
- › **I-20:** After deposit, the I-20 will be issued by OISS.
- › **Minimum Financial Requirement:** After deposit, financial documentation is required.
- › **Working:** Employment for F-1 visa students is limited.

Dates & Deadlines

August 1	Begin UC application online
November 1-30	Submit UC application
December	If applicable, complete the TOEFL/IELTS
Mid-March - May 1	View admission notification online
May 1	Deposit/Submit Statement of Intent to Register (SIR)
May	Submit Housing contract
July 1	Submit official transcripts
July 15	Submit official test scores
September	Attend CALI (Cultural Awareness, Laws and Immigration) training
Late September	Instruction begins
Ongoing	Processing of I-20



UC Santa Barbara Facts & Figures



79
countries represented

3,261
international undergraduates
(14% of all UCSB undergraduates)

Top Countries of Origin:

China, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Mexico, Japan, Canada, Hong Kong, Iran

Freshman Class 2020





90,959 applicants
33,527 admits
5,070 estimated enrolled

Transfer Class 2020

18,984 applicants
11,270 admits
2,410 estimated enrolled

UCSB Office of Admissions

1210 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2014
admissions.ucsb.edu/apply/international

-  @ucsbadmissions
-  @ucsbadmissions
-  @ucsb4me
-  @ucsbadmissions