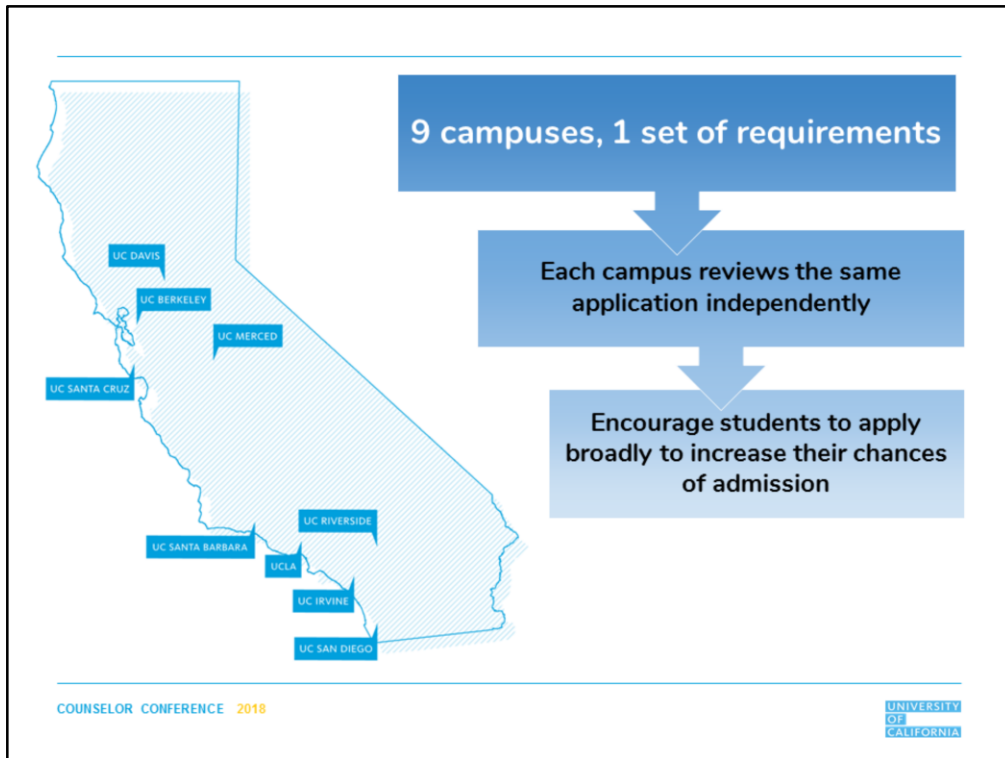




Session Description: Learn what it takes to meet minimum admission requirements, paths to admission for California’s highest-achieving students through statewide and local context guarantees, factors we look at during comprehensive review, and admissions timeline for important dates and deadlines. This session will be participatory; be prepared to interact with your fellow counselors!



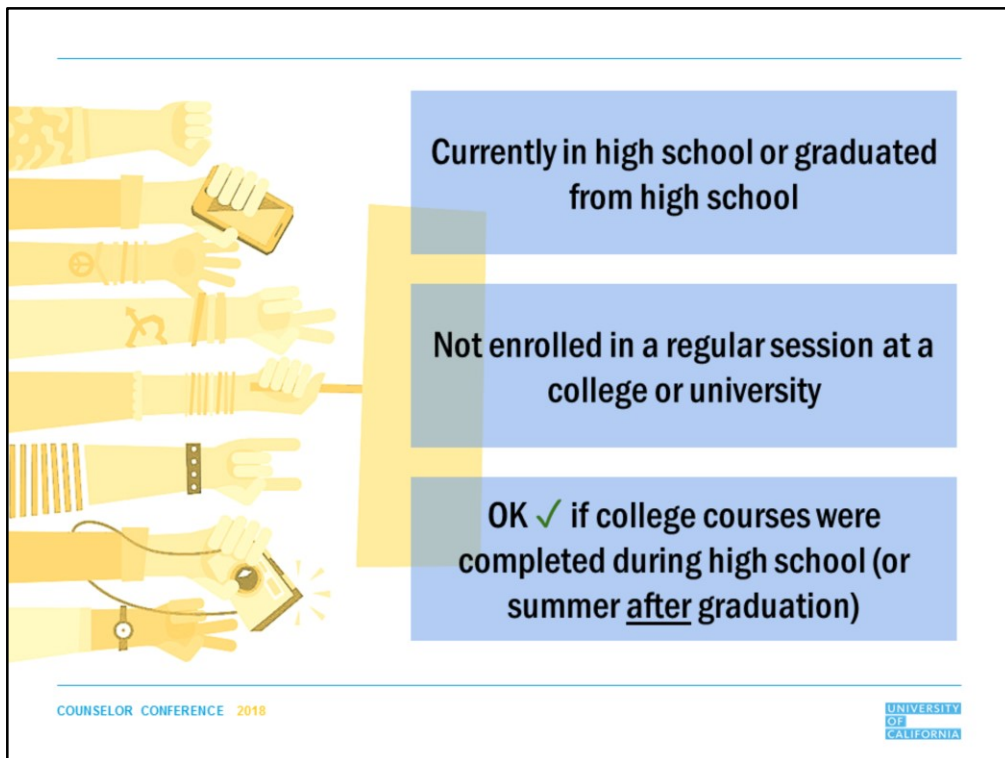
1	Definition of a Freshman Applicant
2	Minimum Admission Requirements
3	Statewide & Local Context Guarantee
4	Comprehensive Review
5	Admissions Timeline
6	Resources





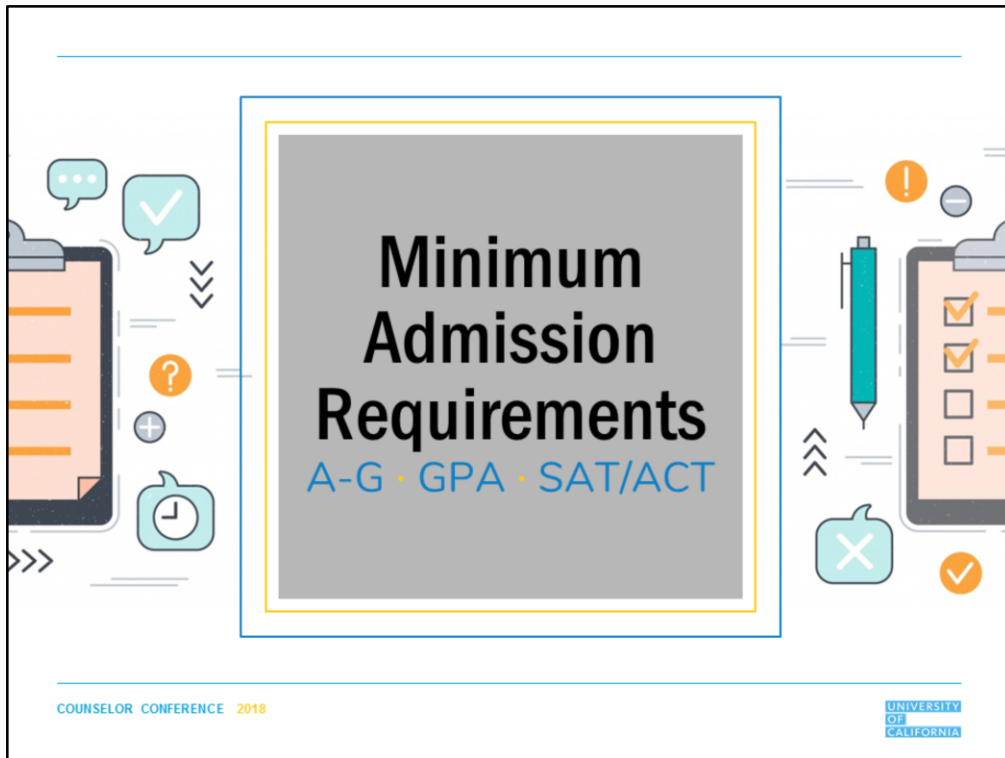
**Who is
considered a
Freshman
applicant?**





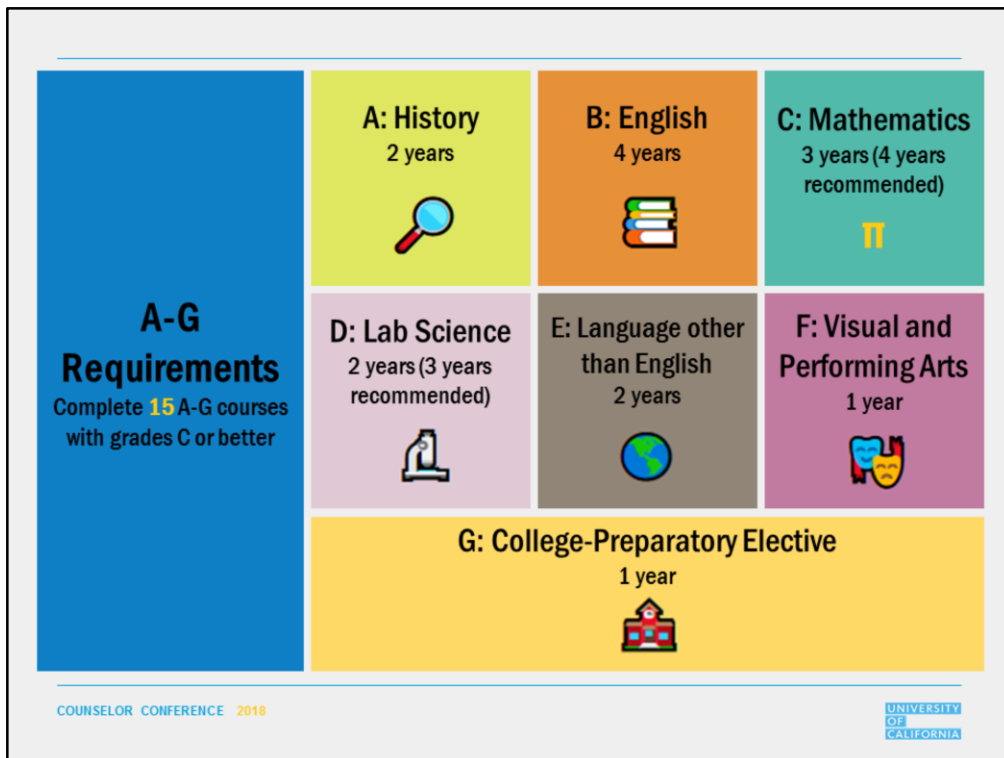
Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/index.html>

- Admission requirements are tied to the date of graduation rather than the date of application.
 - Case-by-case
 - Since you have to meet admission requirements prior to HS graduation, it would be impossible for a student who graduated 10 years ago to meet any new requirements that have since been introduced (ex: Geometry)
- A 'regular' session is fall, winter or spring
- Students who enroll in a regular session at a college or university after graduating from high school – even for just one term - must apply as transfer students and meet transfer admission requirements
- Enrollment in college courses in the summer immediately following HS graduation is allowed



Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/index.html>

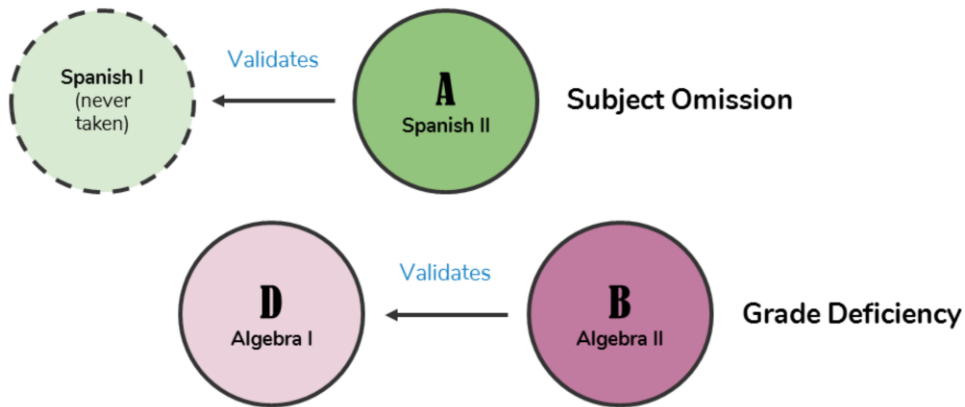
- UC has a set of requirements that all freshman applicants – both CA residents and non-residents – must meet to qualify for admission
- Requirements are three-fold: subject requirements, GPA requirements, and test requirements



Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/a-g-requirements/index.html>

- The subject requirements are often referred to as the ‘a-g requirements’ and represent the minimum courses that students must complete
 - We do not take Pass/Credit grades for A-G; minimum of C grade or better (for high school courses, C- is treated as a C)
- Completing a-g requirements ensures that students enter UC with a solid college-preparatory foundation
- “Recommended” courses are **recommended**, *NOT* required; students are encouraged to complete extra years of course work in subject areas that interest them the most
- Eleven of the fifteen A-G courses should be completed by the end of 11th grade
- High school-level math and language other than English (LOTE) courses from 7th & 8th grade can be used to meet areas “c” and “e”
- If student is planning to take college courses to satisfy A-G, C- would not satisfy, they would need a C grade or better
- Quick Reference for Counselor

Validation: Math* and Language other than English (LOTE)



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Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/q-and-a/validation/index.html#1>

- UC considers math and LOTE to be areas of sequential knowledge, meaning that each higher level of the subject builds upon the previous level
 - When a student has successfully completed advanced work (earning a letter grade of C or better) in an area of sequential knowledge, the student is presumed to have completed the lower-level coursework
- There are two types of validation: validation of a subject omission, and validation of a grade deficiency
 - Subject omission: a higher level math or LOTE course will validate a lower-level course even if the lower-level course was not actually completed
 - Grade deficiency: a higher level math or LOTE course will validate a D/F grade earned in a lower-level course, even if the D/F grade is not repeated

***Geometry is the exception**

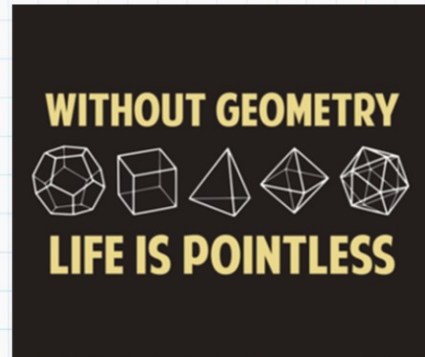
*Special Case: Geometry

ALL applicants must complete a Geometry course

No higher-level courses can be used to validate an omission of Geometry

Exception: second semester of Geometry will validate the omission of the first semester of Geometry

However, a student can validate a D/F grade in Geometry by successful completion of a higher-level course (ex: precalculus, trigonometry, math analysis, & calculus)



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- A high-school-level Geometry course completed in 7th or 8th grade is acceptable to meet the Geometry requirement
- For schools teaching Integrated Math(IM), Geometry content is usually included in each of the first three years of the IM sequence
 - Therefore, an IM III course with Geometry content will validate the omission of IM II
 - Students following an IM sequence do not need to take a stand-alone Geometry class

GPA Requirement

10th Grade

Sophomore Year

+

11th Grade

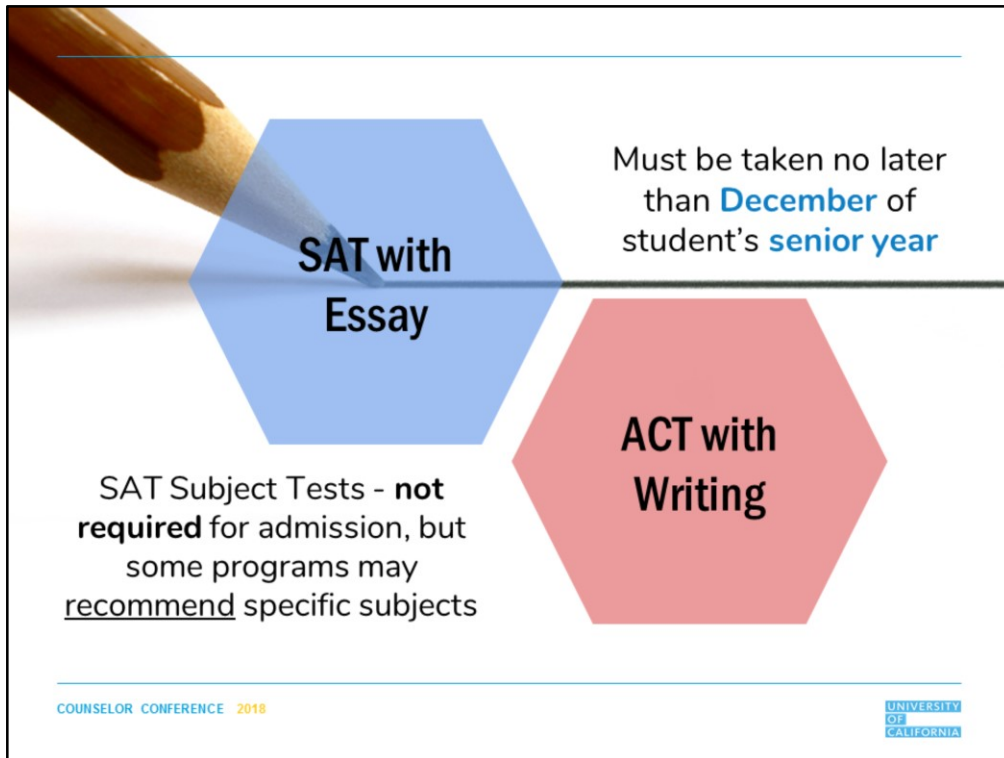
Junior Year

Earn a grade point average (GPA) of **3.0** or better (**3.4** if you're a non-resident) in your A-G courses

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Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/gpa-requirement/index.html>

- Courses completed in summer after 9th, 10th, and 11th are also included in the GPA calculation
- GPA is calculated on ALL a-g courses completed in 10th & 11th, not just the minimum requirements
- The minimum GPA required includes up to 8 semesters of weighted grades, with no more than 4 semesters of weighted grades in the 10th grade
- Even though we do not use the grades completed in senior year, we still consider the quality of student's senior year
- If you get a bad grade in an excess A-G course, it will still affect your GPA



Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination-requirement/index.html>

- All freshman applicants must present scores from either the ACT with Writing or the SAT with Essay
- The old SAT is still accepted for students who graduate from high school before 2020
- SAT Subject Test recommendations can be found at:
 - <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/minimum-requirements/examination-requirement/sat-subject-tests.html>

Additional Paths to Admission

Admission by Examination

ACT with Writing
or
SAT with Essay
and
2 SAT Subject Tests

Admission by Exception

Each UC campus can offer admission to a few students who do not meet all admission requirements

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Students who do not meet the minimum subject requirements may still qualify for admission.

- [Admission by Examination](#) - for students unable to meet the regular subject requirements and/or earn a high school diploma.
 - Minimum UC score calculated from exam scores
 - Minimum UC score required is 410 (425 non-residents), with a minimum 63 score on each component of the exams.
 - Students may not use an SAT Subject Test if they have already completed a transferable college course with a grade of C or better in that subject.
 - Students who qualify for admission by examination alone do not qualify for the statewide or local context guarantee.
 - <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/freshman/requirements/examination/index.html>
- [Admission by Exception](#) – for students who do not meet minimum admission requirements but may still be strong candidates for admission
 - Example: Homeschooled students who do not have transcripts
 - Example: Student with extraordinary talent in one area who may be lacking a minimum requirement in another area
 - Students do not “request” admission by exception; this is entirely at each campus’s discretion
 - Students can use the Personal Insight Questions or additional comments section of the application to explain their story and circumstances

Myth or Fact?

MYTH

Having a 4.0 GPA guarantees admission to UC.

FACT

Completing the second semester of a Level-2 *LOTE* course fulfills area E for A-G requirements.

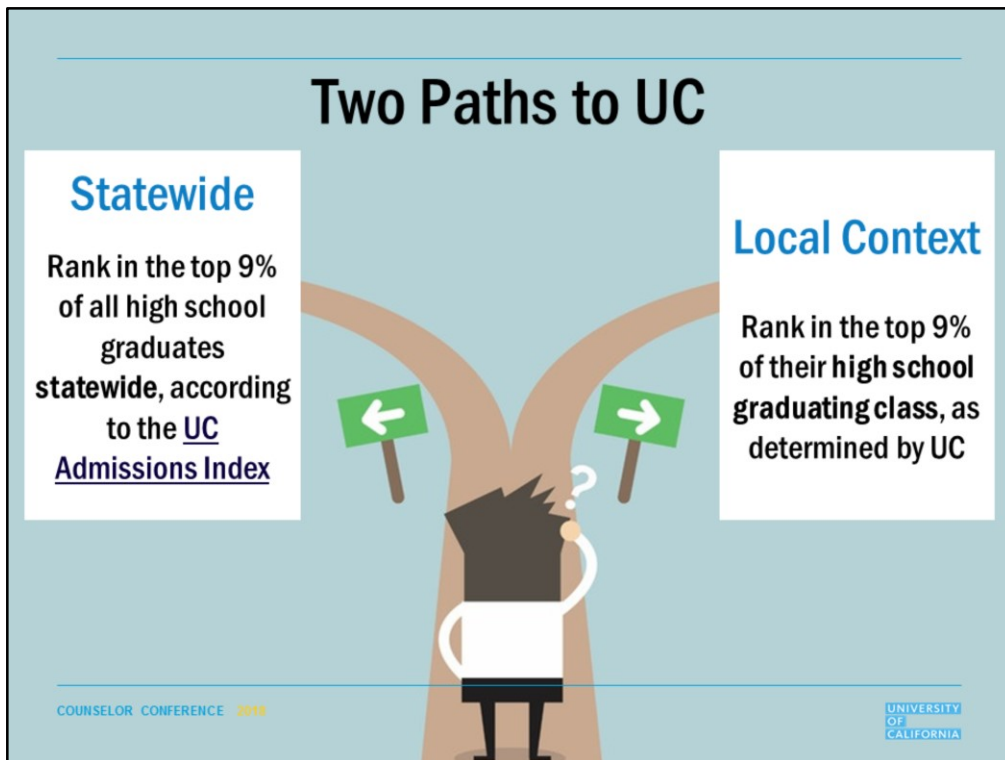
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- MYTH explanation: there is no single GPA that will guarantee admission to UC. The guarantees available at UC are contingent upon completion of subject and test requirements, in addition to earning a specific GPA.
- FACT explanation: LOTE is one of the sequential subject areas that allows for validation. Therefore, earning a C or better in the second semester of a level-2 LOTE course will validate the first semester of level-2 LOTE, as well as the entire year of level-1 LOTE.



Source: <https://www.ucop.edu/student-affairs/programs-and-initiatives/undergraduate-admissions/eligibility-local-context.html>



Source: <https://www.ucop.edu/student-affairs/programs-and-initiatives/undergraduate-admissions/eligibility-local-context.html>

Statewide:

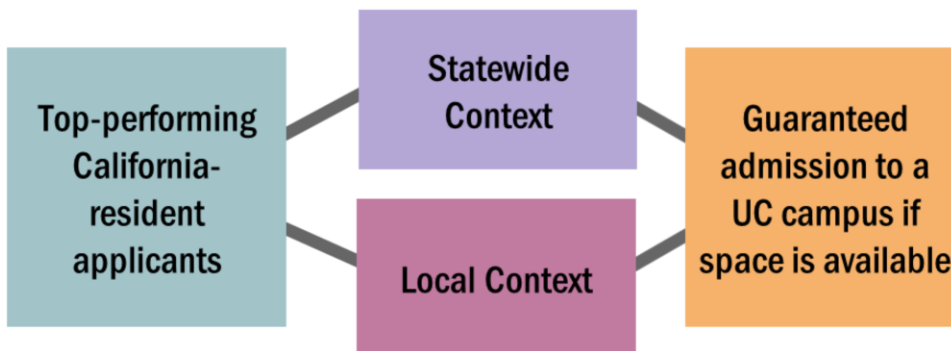
- Students can use the Admissions calculator found on the UC Admissions website to enter their GPA and test scores to see if they are in the top 9% in the state.

Local:

- Increases the pool of eligible students.
- Meets the guideline of the California Master Plan for Higher Education, which states that the top 12.5 percent of public high school graduates will be considered UC-eligible.
- Gives UC a presence in each California high school and stimulates a college-going culture at those schools that typically do not send many graduates to the university.
- Applicants from California are automatically screened for ELC eligibility when they submit the application. There's no extra paperwork.
 - After submitting the application, students can return to the My UC Application page to see whether or not they've been designated as being in the top 9 percent of their class.
- Historic or benchmark GPA:
 - UC uses historical data over multiple years from transcripts that your school has been submitting each year for the top 15 percent of the high school's junior class (only students who have received parental approval for their information to be submitted).

- Based on these transcripts, UC establishes a historic, or benchmark, GPA representing the expected GPA for the top 9 percent of the students from your school.
- Schools are periodically asked to submit transcripts so that we can monitor and adjust benchmark GPAs.

The Freshman Guarantee



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- If student qualifies for one of the guarantees and is not admitted to any UC campus to which they applied, they will be offered a spot at one of the nine undergraduate campuses if space is available. They are not guaranteed the campus, major or term of their choice.
- The Statewide Context is meeting subject, GPA and test requirements and the UC eligibility index.
- (If asked, student can be denied at all 9 and then offered a spot at one of the campuses that denied them on first pass).
- While all UC campuses use the same 14 factors to evaluate applications, they often apply these factors differently. Be sure to review the selection process of each campus.
- Both paths require a student to complete subject, GPA and test requirements.

11 by 11: ELC Checklist



To qualify for ELC, students must:

- Attend a participating California high school
- Complete **11** of the 15 required A-G courses prior to starting 12th grade
- Complete remaining A-G courses by end of 12th grade
- Earn a UC-calculated GPA that meets or exceeds top 9% established for their school (minimum 3.0 GPA)
- Submit official copy of **ACT with Writing** or **SAT with Essay**

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ELC: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/california-residents/local-path.html>

- Specific pattern of 11 courses required prior to 12th grade to meet ELC eligibility:
 - 1 year History/Social Science
 - 2 years English
 - 2 years Mathematics
 - 1 year Lab Science
 - 1 year LOTE
 - Four other courses selected among A-G
 - Completing VPA prior to 12th grade is NOT required for ELC eligibility
- UC uses grades in all a-g coursework completed in grades 10-11, including summer courses after 9th, 10th, and 11th grade
- There is NO minimum GPA for 12th grade for ELC purposes, but each campus may require that a student maintain a minimum GPA in the senior year if they are offered admission

Myth or Fact?

FACT

A student's ELC status is determined immediately after they submit their application for admission.

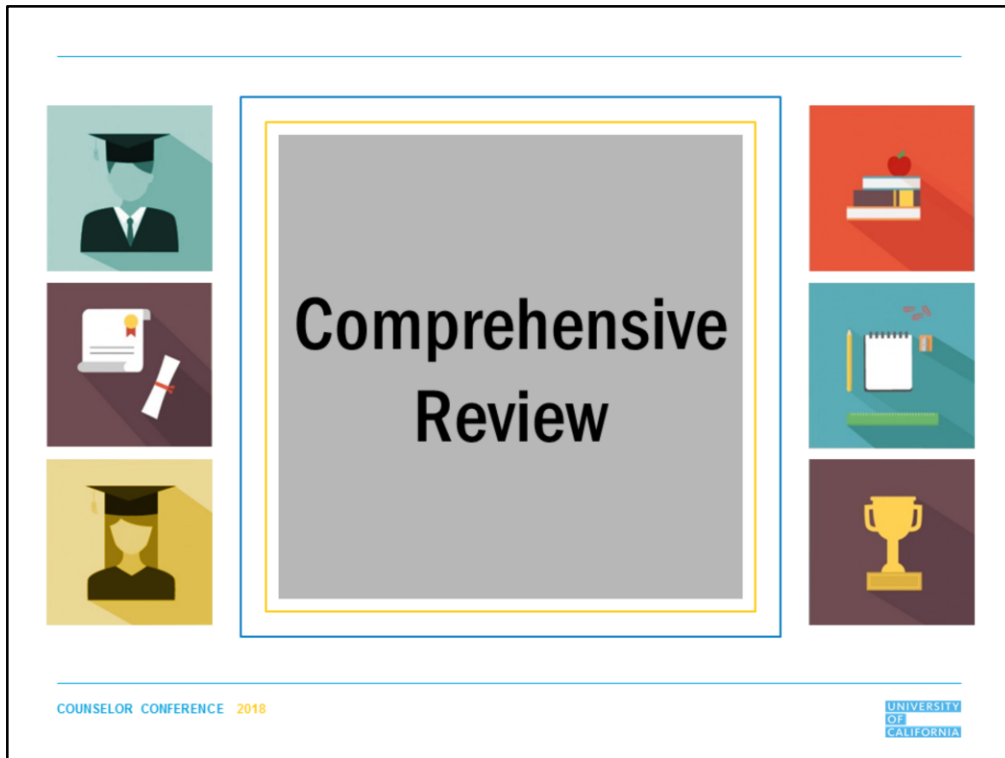
MYTH

The quality of a student's senior year program is not a factor we consider during application review.

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- **FACT explanation:** The application is programmed to determine if the appropriate 11 courses have been met prior to 12th, and the GPA calculated by the application is automatically compared against the benchmark GPA for the school to determine the ELC status of a student. The student must still log back into the application to see if they have been identified as ELC or not.
- **MYTH explanation:** Although grades from the 12th grade are not available during the application review, students are still expected to finish off the 12th grade with a 3.0 GPA. Additionally, all campuses admit students “provisionally” or “conditionally” and outline the minimum grade standards that the student must maintain to retain an offer of admission. UC faculty have specifically listed the quality of the senior year program as one of the 14 criteria for comprehensive review.



Source: <https://www.ucop.edu/student-affairs/programs-and-initiatives/undergraduate-admissions/eligibility-local-context.html>

- When thinking about the review of the UC Application, two keywords come up the most: Comprehensive and Holistic.
- The best way to think about these phrases is “Comprehensive Review” is the What and “Holistic Review” is the How.
- The Comprehensive Review is a process that UC employs to evaluate 14 main factors. Our approach to reviewing these 14 factors is Holistic. We recognize individual applicant circumstances and consider the unique educational contexts and life experiences of all students. No one single factor plays a deciding role of an applicant’s admission or how it is evaluated.

--

- There is a difference between eligibility and selection.
- Eligibility is simply meeting the minimum admission requirements. Selection is the process by which campuses choose the best candidates for admission to their campus; eligibility is only one part of selection.
- All campuses use comprehensive review when selecting their students, but the method of comprehensive review varies by campus.

How does UC review Applications?



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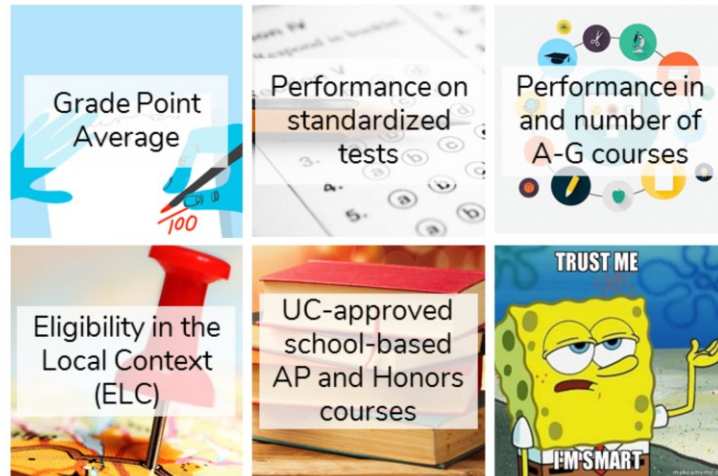
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Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/freshman/comprehensive-review/index.html>

- When thinking about the 14 factors, they can be grouped into three distinct categories: Academic Accomplishments, Personal Achievements and the Personal Insight Questions.

- UC faculty have outlined 14 comprehensive review criteria that each campus must consider in their selection process, but each campus chooses how to incorporate those criteria into their review.
- Campuses read the entire application and consider all of the information presented by the student.
- No single factor determines whether a student is admitted or denied admission to a campus.

Academic Accomplishments



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- Grade Point Average – In all A-G courses, including additional points for UC approved honors courses
- Scores on the ACT w/Writing or the SAT w/Writing
- Performance in and number of A-G courses beyond the minimum A-g
- ELC identification by UC as being ranked top 9% of your high school class at the end of the Junior year.
- Other things to think about:
 - The quality of the senior year program measured by the type of and number of academic courses in progress or planned
 - Educational resources available at school; what the applicant has taken advantage of

- These are some of the **academic** factors that are included in the 14 comprehensive review criteria.
- Context matters! All academic accomplishments are considered within the context of what was available to the student.



- **Personal achievements** of the applicant, include leadership ability, character, initiative, originality, creativity, intellectual independence, responsibility, insight, maturity, and demonstrated concern for others and for the community. These qualities may not be reflected in traditional measures of academic achievement. They may be found elsewhere in the application and judged by the reader as positive indicators of the student’s ability to succeed at UC
- Examples of Talents, achievements and awards can be in a particular field, i.e. visual and performing arts, communication, athletics;
 - Special skills i.e. demonstrated written & oral proficiency in other languages
 - Special interests i.e. intensive study & exploration of other cultures
 - Experiences that demonstrate leadership i.e. student government, significant community service, level of responsibility in paid employment

- Personal achievements are additional factors under comprehensive review
- As with the academic factors, personal achievements are considered within context

Personal Insight Questions

When you're trying to meet the minimum word count on an essay:



Students will have 8 questions to choose from and must respond to only 4 of the 8 questions

Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words

All questions are equal

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Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/personal-questions/index.html>

- Applicants should select questions that are most relevant to their personal experiences and that best reflect their individual circumstances.
- Equal consideration in the application review process, which means there is no advantage or disadvantage to choosing certain questions over others. These questions are a way for the reader to get to know the applicant's personality, background, interest's and achievements in their own unique voice.

- Students should select the four questions that speak to them
- Responses to the personal insight questions can provide context
- No decision is ever based solely on a personal insight response

Myth or Fact?

MYTH

Identification by UC as being ranked in the top 10% of their high school class is a factor that we consider in the comprehensive review.

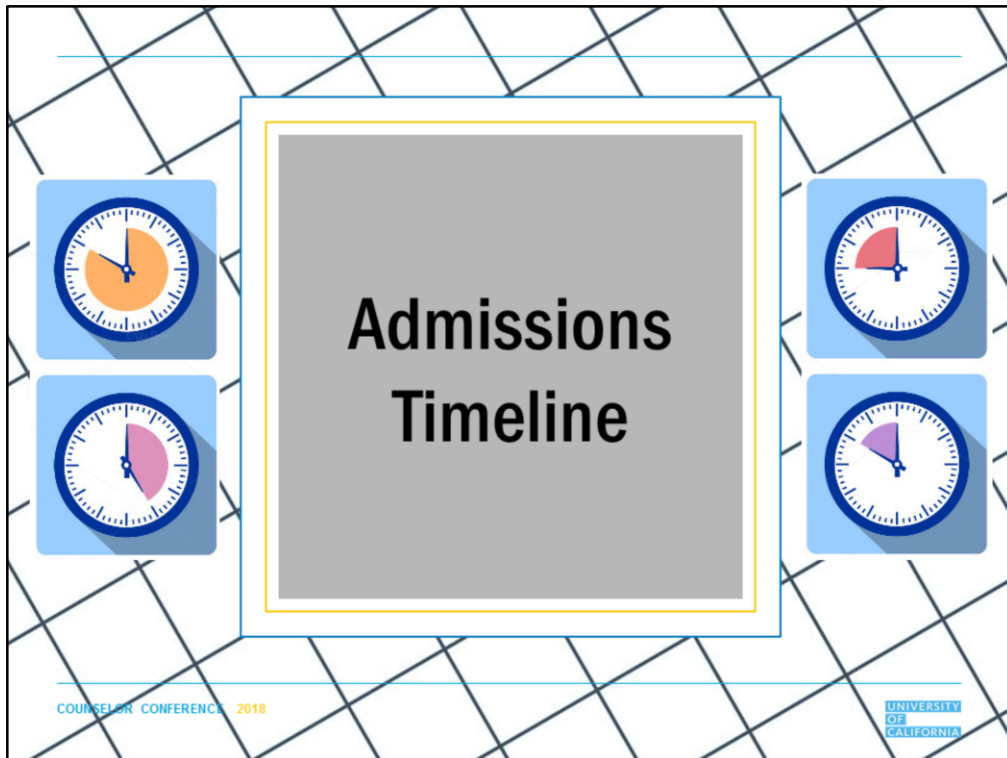
FACT

It is important students use the Personal Insight Questions to explain their unique and individual circumstances.

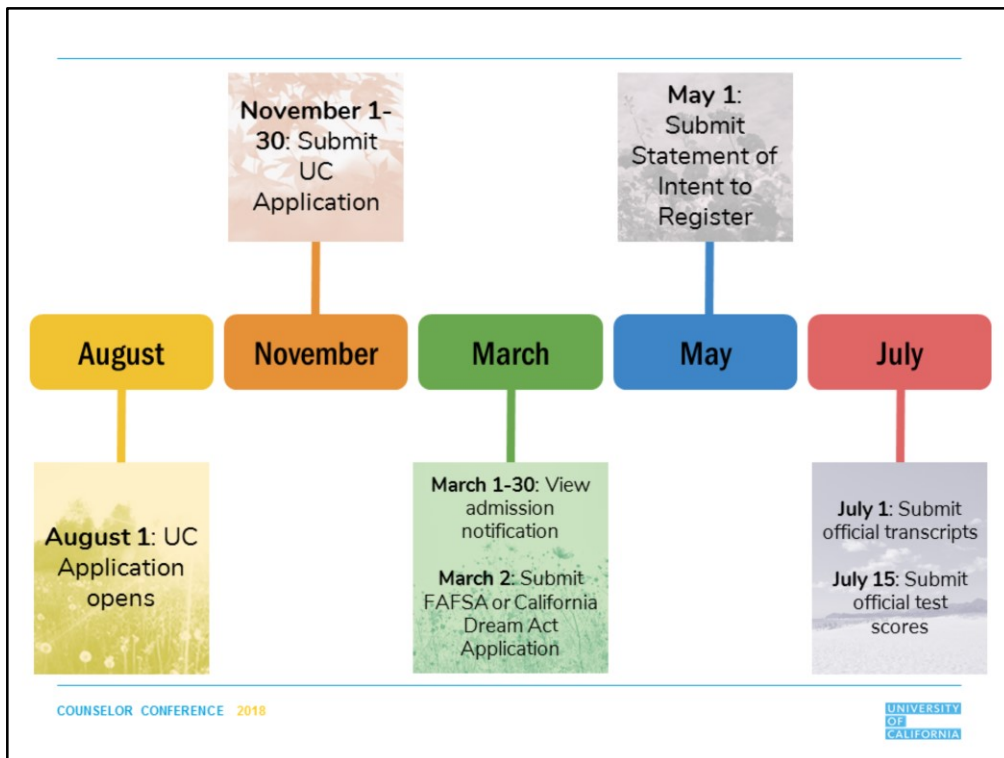
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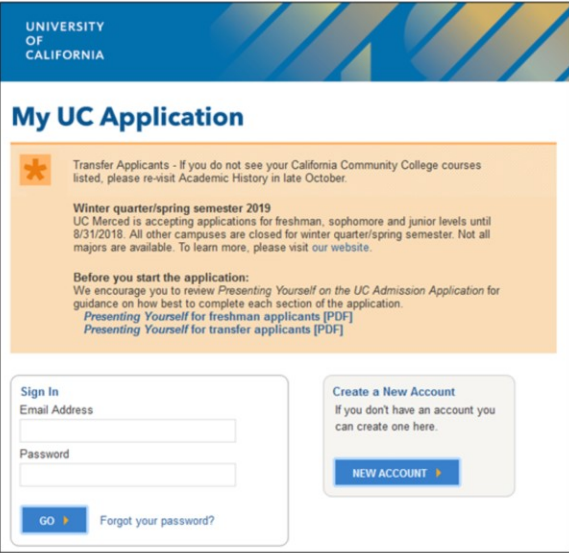
- MYTH: ELC status is one of the comprehensive review factors, but ELC is for students identified in the top 9% of the high school class, not top 10%.
- FACT: Context is an important part of the comprehensive review process, and the personal insight responses are the best way for a student to provide that context.



Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/how-to-apply/dates-deadlines/index.html>




- Although the UC application opens on August 1, students cannot submit the application before November 1 and most campuses will not accept applications after November 30
- Because the application is online, students have until 11:59pm PST on November 30th to hit the submit button
- While there is no advantage in the admission process to submitting an application earlier in the application filing period, campuses will start to receive applications for review by early to mid-November; many campuses begin their review process in November, before the application filing period has closed
- Students are strongly encouraged to submit the FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application by the March 2nd priority deadline; FAFSA and CA Dream Act Application are available beginning October 1
- Each campus has an admissions decision release day in March - exact date varies by campus
- Students may submit a Statement of Intent to Register to **only one campus**
- Schools that cannot provide official final transcripts by July 1 should contact AskUC@ucop.edu before the July 1 deadline
- Submitting transcripts and test scores within the stated deadlines is one of the provisions/conditions of admission




Apply online at:
<https://admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/applicant/login.htm>

Submit **one** application for up to
9 UC campuses accepting
undergraduate students



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- You can apply for fee waivers for up to four UC campuses through the [UC application](#), and will be notified of your eligibility immediately. If you wish to apply to more than four campuses, you must pay the application fee for each additional campus.
 - Students must fill out income section in order to be considered for fee waiver.
 - UC Fee Waiver based on Free Federal lunch program
- UC will also accept fee waivers issued by College Board or NACAC; only one fee waiver for up to four campuses is allowed. Students cannot combine fee waivers for additional campuses.

UC Application Center Helpline



Phone

(800) 207-1710 (within U.S.)

(925) 298-6856 (outside U.S.) during normal business hours



Email

ucinfo@applyucsupport.net



Commonly Asked Questions & Answers

<https://admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/applicant/html/caq.html>

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- Call during standard operating hours M-F 10am-6pm PST
- CAQ link: <https://admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/applicant/html/caq.html>

The infographic features two stylized human figures, a man on the left and a woman on the right. Above the man is a teal speech bubble containing the text: "When should I turn in my official transcripts?" and "Are letters of recommendation required?". To the left of this bubble is a circular icon of a graduation cap on a document. Above the woman is a purple speech bubble containing the text: "You should turn in your transcripts after you have SIR'd to one campus." and "Letters of recommendation are not required.". To the right of this bubble is an icon of an envelope. In the center, the text "Common Questions Pt. 1" is displayed. At the bottom left, it says "COUNSELOR CONFERENCE 2018" and at the bottom right, the "UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA" logo is present.

- UC application consists of self-reported data
- Students should have their transcripts in front of them when filling out application, but should not send transcripts to campuses until after admission
- UC Office of the President randomly selects students during the application review period for verification of various aspects of the application:
<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/press-room/uc-make-process-verifying-student-admissions-information-more-effective>
 - Students who do not respond to verification request will have their applications canceled
- Certain campuses may ask for letters of recommendation as part of their supplemental review:
 - Berkeley does ask, but it is by invitation only
 - UCLA – specialty schools may require
- After admission, UC Davis is the only campus that requires transcripts to be sent via post; all other UCs accept electronic transcripts

What is the SIR fee and how do I accept/decline?

What's the waitlist process like?

The non-transferable/refundable fee is \$250. Admitted students will be issued an SIR and can respond online or mail-in by May 1st.

Waitlist offers will be sent by the end of March for fall-term applicants. You can opt-in until the April 15th deadline. The final status notification will be sent out by June 1st.

Common Questions Pt. 2

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- Accept/Decline SIR online or mail-in form - Best if students submit a positive or negative SIR, let us know either way
- \$250 non-transferable/refundable fee
 - UC's practice is to defer (postpone) the SIR deposit for students from low-income families. If a student received an application fee waiver to apply to UC, the student's SIR deposit will be deferred.
- Positive SIR to only one UC campus
- Best for students to wait until they hear back from each UC campus before they SIR to one campus
- Must be post-marked by May 1
- Waitlisted?
 - Waitlist offer will be sent by end of March for fall-term applicants
 - Opt-in deadline of April 15; Final status notification by June 1
 - If a student accepts a UC offer of admission and is then offered admission from a waitlist to another UC campus, he/she will lose the first deposit and must pay another deposit to accept the waitlist admission offer from the second UC campus. Students and families should consider this when opting to be placed on the waitlist for another UC campus.

Conditions of Admission

Students should contact the UC Application Center if:

- Senior year schedule changed
- Drop in academic performance
- Inaccurate/incomplete information on application



A-G requirements must be met or admission may be revoked.

Official transcripts must be submitted by deadline.

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- Students will be notified of their specific conditions of admission at the time of admission; information should be included with admission letter/material, and may also be found on the campuses' websites
 - a. Freshmen who change schools, add or drop a course, or fail to earn a C or better in a course after submitting the application must notify the UC Application Center by email or postal mail. Correspondence must include the student's name, UC Application ID number and signature (if mailing a letter), and information will be made available to all campuses to which the student applied.
 - b. Email: ucinfo@applyUCsupport.net
 - c. **After the student has been admitted, correspondence should be directed to the individual campuses**
- Scores must be submitted directly from testing agency
 - SAT/ACT scores can be sent to just one UC campus and will be shared with all campuses to which student applied
 - AP/IB scores should be sent to the campus where the student intends to enroll
- Transcripts must be official

Myth or Fact?

FACT

It is okay for transcripts and test scores to arrive after the deadline if they were postmarked by or before the deadline.

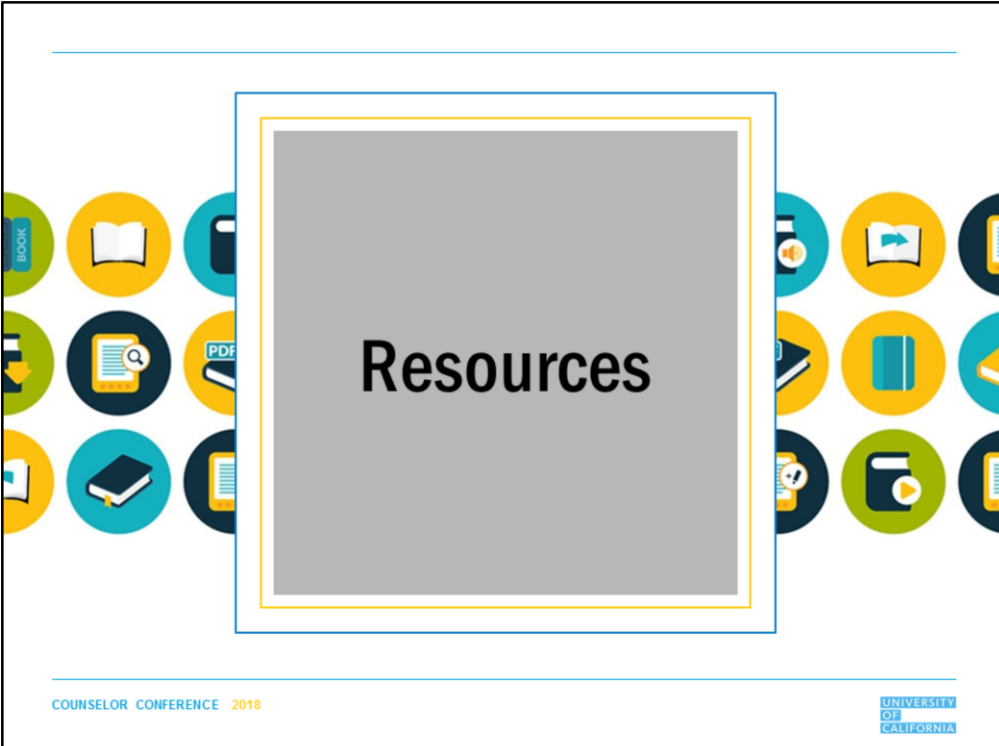
MYTH

Submitting the application early improves a student's chances of admission.

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- **FACT explanation:** The July 1 transcript deadline is a postmark deadline. Transcripts that are mailed from the high school to UC must be postmarked by July 1. Electronic transcripts, on the other hand, must be transmitted by July 1.
 - July 1st – transcripts
 - July 15th – test scores
- **MYTH explanation:** There is no advantage in the admission process to submitting an application before the November 30th deadline, except for peace of mind. We strongly encourage students, however, to start the application early.

A central gray square with the word "Resources" in black text is framed by a yellow border. This is set against a background of a grid of colorful circular icons (green, yellow, blue) representing various educational resources like books, PDFs, and documents. The entire slide is enclosed in a thin blue border.

Resources

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Quick Reference Guide to UC Admissions 2018: This guide offers an overview of admission requirements and selection policies, and addresses topics on which questions are frequently asked.

UC Application Website: The login page for the UC undergraduate application.

Dates and Deadlines: Important dates listed; when application opens, FAFSA/Cal Grant filing period, decision release, SIR, sending in transcripts and AP/IB examination results.

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Source: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/downloadable-guides/index.html>

- These materials provide the information you and your students need about admission requirements, selection processes and the undergraduate application.

Counselors and Advisers Bulletin: UCOP Admissions emails the latest information on admissions policy and practices, upcoming events, and application news and reminders.

Admission Requirements: This website explains the subject, GPA and test requirements, as well as the paths to freshman admission.

A-G Course List: Use this website to find an institution's "a-g" course list.

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- Note: A-G course list has new website: <https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist-beta> (click blue box on top right on old A-G course list site)

Questions?



