



**The California State University**

# **Admission Handbook**

**2005-2006**



**Commitment to  
Access and Success**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

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**Section 1**

**The California State  
University**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

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August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## The California State University Introduction

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**S**INCE THE FOUNDING OF THE FIRST STATE COLLEGE in San Jose in 1857, the California State University (CSU) has continued to respond to the demands of new generations of Californians seeking a quality education. The CSU is committed not only to access but also to the success of students admitted to the university. Special programs are available for students who need assistance to make the most of their university studies. Learning assistance programs, counseling services, and transfer academic advising are available to all students. Campuses also sponsor programs for low-income students who are California residents and are disadvantaged because of their economic and educational backgrounds.

CSU campuses have honors programs to respond to the needs of academically motivated students and four-year degree programs to ensure that students progress toward their degree goals in a timely manner. Recognizing that preparation is the most important variable affecting university eligibility and persistence to the baccalaureate, the CSU supports efforts to enrich the academic experience of students at both the secondary and postsecondary levels.

While each campus in the system has its own unique geographic and curricular character, all campuses are multipurpose institutions that offer undergraduate and graduate instruction for professional and occupational goals as well as broad liberal education. Students are encouraged to explore educational options in the CSU through CSUMentor ([www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu)). CSUMentor provides a student-campus matching program, a portfolio to track high school and college courses taken to establish eligibility for admission, general admission and financial aid planning, and electronic application filing for admission and federal financial aid.

This publication presents systemwide policies that apply to all CSU campuses. Applicants and counselors can expect common undergraduate admission standards to be applied throughout the CSU system except for impacted majors and campuses. Other occasional differences may be noted in this publication or in annual updates to campus-specific practices. Further information about distinctive campus programs and requirements can be found in the respective campus catalogs.

This booklet is directed primarily toward high school and community college counselors responsible for advising students preparing for university study and toward CSU admission evaluators and admission officers who interpret documents submitted in support of applications for admission. Included are details pertaining to the subject requirements and performance criteria required to establish eligibility for admission to the CSU at all undergraduate levels: first-time freshmen, lower-division transfers, and upper-division transfers. In addition to rules that incorporate regulations concerning admission and demonstration of competency in English and mathematics, this booklet includes definitions of commonly used terms. Additional material is included that provides guidelines for the implementation of existing CSU policy.

Admission information specific to an academic year is available electronically through CSUMentor and is included in the CSU application for admission booklet. Effective October 1, 2004, students are strongly encouraged to apply for admission electronically using [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu).

Additional information may be obtained from campus admission representatives and from CSU publications such as CSU Review and Campus Highlights. Computer accessible information is available through CSUMentor, the Chancellor's Office website, and campus websites.

## The California State University Introduction

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### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

The California State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, physical or mental disability, age (over 40), veteran or disabled veteran status, or sexual orientation in the educational programs or activities it conducts, including admission of students as well as employment. Questions regarding discrimination should be addressed either to the Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support, The California State University, 401 Golden Shore, 6th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802-4210, or to the Regional Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Region IX, 50 United Nations Plaza, Room 239, San Francisco, CA 94102.

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### **Alternative Formats**

Information contained in this application is available in alternative formats (large print, audiocassette, diskette, and Braille). For more information, contact your local CSU Office of Services to Students with Disabilities.

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### **Graduation Rates**

Information about graduation rates is available from each campus.

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### **Campus Security**

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires the distribution of an annual security report to all current faculty, staff, and students and notice of its availability to prospective students, faculty, and staff. The annual security report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by the California State University, and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies concerning alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, the reporting of crimes, sexual assault, and other matters. You can obtain a copy of this report by contacting the Police Department of each campus or by accessing [www.calstate.edu/clery/](http://www.calstate.edu/clery/).

## The California State University Campuses



# The California State University CSU Campus Admission and Evaluation Personnel

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## CSU Chancellor's Office

401 Golden Shore  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4210  
562-951-4000  
[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)  
Student Academic Support ..... 562-951-4726

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## California State University, Bakersfield (Founded 1965)

9001 Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield 93311-1022  
661-664-3036  
[www.csub.edu](http://www.csub.edu)  
Quarter enrollment 7,700  
President: ..... Dr. Horace Mitchell  
Admission: ..... Homer S. Montalvo 805-664-3036  
Evaluation: ..... Debbie Blowers 805-664-2258

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## California State University, Channel Islands (Founded 2002)

One University Drive, Camarillo 93012  
805-437-8500  
[www.csuci.edu](http://www.csuci.edu)  
Semester enrollment 630  
President: ..... Dr. Richard Rush  
Admission: ..... Damon Blue 805-437-8892  
Evaluation: ..... Gina Farrar 805-437-8503

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## California State University, Chico (Founded 1887)

400 West First Street, Chico 95929-0722  
530-898-6321  
[www.csuchico.edu](http://www.csuchico.edu)  
Semester enrollment 16,200  
President: ..... Dr. Paul J. Zingg  
Admission ..... John Swiney 530-898-4428  
Evaluation: ..... Rocky Raquel 530-898-4428

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## California State University, Dominguez Hills (Founded 1960)

1000 East Victoria Street, Carson 90747  
310-243-3696  
[www.csudh.edu](http://www.csudh.edu)  
Semester enrollment 13,500  
President: ..... Dr. James E. Lyons, Sr.  
Admission: ..... Jim Woods 310-243-3613  
Evaluation: ..... Linda Wise 310-243-3613

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## The California State University CSU Campus Admission and Evaluation Personnel

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**California State University, Fresno** (Founded 1911)  
5150 North Maple, Fresno 93740-0057  
559-278-2261  
[www.csufresno.edu](http://www.csufresno.edu)  
Semester enrollment 22,100  
President: ..... Dr. John Welty  
Admission: ..... Yolanda De Leon 559-278-6115  
Evaluation: ..... Beverly Kirkland 559-278-6281

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**California State University, Fullerton** (Founded 1957)  
800 N. State College Boulevard, Fullerton 92834-9480  
714-278-2300  
[www.fullerton.edu](http://www.fullerton.edu)  
Semester enrollment 32,100  
President: ..... Dr. Milton A. Gordon  
Admission: ..... Nancy J. Dority 714-278-2371  
Evaluation: ..... Nancy J. Dority 714-278-2371

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**California State University, Hayward** (Founded 1957)  
25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard, Hayward 94542-3035  
510-885-2784  
[www.csuhayward.edu](http://www.csuhayward.edu)  
Quarter enrollment 13,800  
President: ..... Dr. Norma S. Rees  
Admission: ..... Susan Lakis 510-885-3248  
Evaluation: ..... Susan Lakis 510-885-3248

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**Humboldt State University** (Founded 1913)  
1 Harpst Street, Arcata 95521-8299  
866-850-9556  
[www.humboldt.edu](http://www.humboldt.edu)  
Semester enrollment 7,600  
President: ..... Dr. Rollin Richmond  
Admission: ..... Scott Hagg 707-826-6215  
Evaluation: ..... Hillary Dashiell 707-826-6195

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**California State University, Long Beach** (Founded 1949)  
1250 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach 90840-0106  
562-985-5471  
[www.csulb.edu](http://www.csulb.edu)  
Semester enrollment 34,500  
President: ..... Dr. Robert C. Maxson  
Admission: ..... Fay Denny 562-985-5471  
Evaluation: ..... Ginny Whiteley 562-985-5471

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## The California State University CSU Campus Admission and Evaluation Personnel

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**California State University, Los Angeles** (Founded 1947)

5151 State University Drive, Los Angeles 90032-8530  
323-343-3901

[www.calstatela.edu](http://www.calstatela.edu)

Quarter enrollment 21,000

President: ..... Dr. James M. Rosser

Admission: ..... Joan Woosley 323-343-3766

Evaluation: ..... Cindy Leiby-Smith 323-343-3767

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**California Maritime Academy** (Founded 1929)

200 Maritime Academy Drive, Vallejo 94590  
707-654-1000

[www.csum.edu](http://www.csum.edu)

Semester enrollment 721

Open for Fall applications only

President: ..... Dr. William B. Eisenhardt

Admission: ..... Chris Krzak 707-654-1331

Evaluation: ..... Chris Krzak 707-654-1331

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**California State University, Monterey Bay** (Founded 1995)

100 Campus Center, Seaside 93955-8001  
831-582-3518

[www.csUMB.edu](http://www.csUMB.edu)

Semester enrollment 3,500

President: ..... Dr. Peter P. Smith

Admission: ..... Chris Currie 851-582-3628

Evaluation: ..... Chris Currie 851-582-3628

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**California State University, Northridge** (Founded 1958)

18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge 91330-8207  
818-677-3700

[www.csun.edu](http://www.csun.edu)

Semester enrollment 33,579

President: ..... Dr. Jolene Koester

Admission: ..... Mary Baxton 818-677-3778

Evaluation: ..... Mary Baxton 818-677-3778

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**California State Polytechnic University, Pomona** (Founded 1938)

3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona 91768-4003  
909-869-7659

[www.csupomona.edu](http://www.csupomona.edu)

Quarter enrollment 19,800

President: ..... Dr. J. Michael Ortiz

Admission: ..... Dr. George Bradshaw 909-869-3210

Evaluation: ..... Rose Kukla 909-869-3290

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## The California State University CSU Campus Admission and Evaluation Personnel

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**California State University, Sacramento** (Founded 1947)  
6000 J Street, Sacramento 95819-6112  
916-278-3901  
[www.csus.edu](http://www.csus.edu)  
Semester enrollment 28,500  
President: ..... Dr. Alexander Gonzalez  
Admission: ..... Emiliano Diaz 916-278-7242  
Evaluation: ..... Emiliano Diaz 916-278-7242

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**California State University, San Bernardino** (Founded 1960)  
5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino 92407-2397  
909-880-5188  
[www.csusb.edu](http://www.csusb.edu)  
Quarter enrollment 16,300  
President: ..... Dr. Albert Karnig  
Admission: ..... Olivia Rosas 909-880-5188  
Evaluation: ..... Mary Chouinard 909-880-5077

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**San Diego State University** (Founded 1897)  
5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego 92182-7455  
619-594-6336  
[www.sdsu.edu](http://www.sdsu.edu)  
Semester enrollment 34,300  
President: ..... Dr. Stephen L. Weber  
Admission: ..... Beverly Arata 619-594-0431  
Evaluation: ..... Rita Gajoli 619-594-1738

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**San Francisco State University** (Founded 1899)  
1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco 94132-4002  
415-338-1113  
[www.sfsu.edu](http://www.sfsu.edu)  
Semester enrollment 29,600  
President: ..... Dr. Robert A. Corrigan  
Admission: ..... Valerie Perry 415-338-2037  
Evaluation: ..... Lorna Hill 415-338-1634

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**San José State University** (Founded 1857)  
One Washington Square, San José 95192-0011  
408-283-7500  
[www.sjsu.edu](http://www.sjsu.edu)  
Semester enrollment 30,000  
President: ..... Dr. Paul Yu  
Admission: ..... Susan Hoagland 408-924-7029  
Evaluation: ..... Terri Eden 408-924-2032

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## The California State University CSU Campus Admission and Evaluation Personnel

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**California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo** (Founded 1901)

1 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo, 93407

805-756-2311

[www.calpoly.edu](http://www.calpoly.edu)

Quarter enrollment 18,400

President: ..... Dr. Warren J. Baker

Admission: ..... James Maraviglia 805-756-2311

Evaluation: ..... Thomas Zuur 805-756-2396

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**California State University, San Marcos** (Founded 1989)

333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road, San Marcos 92096-0001

760-750-4848

[www.csusm.edu](http://www.csusm.edu)

Semester enrollment 7,600

President: ..... Dr. Karen S. Haynes

Admission: ..... MarthaAnn Haney (Interim) 760-750-4824

Evaluation: ..... MarthaAnn Haney 760-750-4824

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**Sonoma State University** (Founded 1960)

1801 East Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park 94928-3609

707-664-2778

[www.sonoma.edu](http://www.sonoma.edu)

Semester enrollment 8,200

President: ..... Dr. Ruben Armiñana

Admission: ..... Gustavo Flores 707-664-3032

Evaluation: ..... Bonnie Sedrick 707-664-2778

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**California State University, Stanislaus** (Founded 1957)

801 West Monte Vista Avenue, Turlock 95382

209-667-3152

[www.csustan.edu](http://www.csustan.edu)

4-1-4 enrollment 8,072

President: ..... Dr. Marvalene Hughes

Admission: ..... Vadon McIlwain 209-667-3256

Evaluation: ..... Lisa Bernardo 209-667-3256

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## How to Apply to the CSU [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu)

### CSUMentor

[www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu)

#### Apply Online

The best way to apply to the CSU is online at the CSUMentor website. Beginning in fall 2005, this will be the recommended method of application. It is the quickest, most accurate way to apply and allows campuses to make earlier admission decisions.

It is also the repository for any campus-specific supplemental information.

#### Student Planner

Students can create a student planner to assist them in satisfying CSU admission requirements, take a virtual campus tour, develop a comparative view of several CSU campuses to determine which institutions offer features or majors for which the student is looking.

They can estimate the amount of financial aid they may be eligible to receive, establish e-mail connections with CSU campus personnel, apply electronically to their campus of choice, and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

#### Campus Open/Closed Status (Application Status Report)

This convenient, centralized location, updated regularly by the CSUs, provides the latest information on whether or not a specific campus, major, or program accepts applications.

## CSU Information Sources Websites for Counselors and Students

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### CSU Review

#### [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu)

CSUMentor is designed to provide outreach, preadmission, financial aid, and admission information. CSUMentor provides middle school, high school and community college students, their families and counselors access via the Internet for important information to help them decide which CSU campus meets their academic needs and aspirations.

### Student Planner

Students can create a student planner to assist them in satisfying CSU admission requirements, take a virtual campus tour, and/or develop a comparative view of several CSU campuses to determine which institutions offer features or majors for which the student is looking.

They can estimate the amount of financial aid they may be eligible to receive, establish e-mail connections with CSU campus personnel, apply electronically to their campus of choice, and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### Application Status

The CSU provides information regarding the application filing status for each campus by student level, major, and program. The information is updated regularly by campuses and is a convenient location to determine which CSU campuses continue to accept admission applications after the initial filing period.

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## California State University

#### [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)

Systemwide information about admission, impaction, enrollment, community service learning, degrees offered, extended university, fellowships, financial aid, international programs, fees, and summer arts programs is available.

The Chancellor's Office descriptions of educational programs, systemwide policies and initiatives, historical and general information, admission requirements and procedures, and news releases are centrally located here.

### CSU Campus websites

The 23 CSU Campus websites are another source of information for students and counselors. All sites are linked from CSUMentor or from the CSU website.

## CSU Information Sources

### Websites for Counselors and Students

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#### CSU Review

[www.calstate.edu/ar/csureview](http://www.calstate.edu/ar/csureview)

In fall, winter, and spring, the California State University Office of the Chancellor publishes **CSU Review**, a newsletter for high school and community college counselors and instructors. Articles focus on CSU admission criteria and procedures, academic programs and majors, financial aid and student fees, outreach, and other information important to parents and students planning for college.

**CSU Review**, a newsletter for counselors, has moved to an exclusive, online format. To receive the online version as an e-mail, you must subscribe, free of charge.

Please send us your subscription request at [listserv@calstate.edu](mailto:listserv@calstate.edu). Leave the subject empty. In the message body, insert the following, using your first and last name:

**subscribe csureview firstname lastname**

Do not include anything else, such as signature lines, in the message.

Once you have subscribed, you will receive the fall, winter, and spring reviews via your email account.

If you wish to be removed from the **CSU REVIEW** electronic distribution, please send your request to [listserv@calstate.edu](mailto:listserv@calstate.edu). Leave the subject empty. In the message body, insert the following, using your first and last name:

**unsubscribe csureview firstname lastname**

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#### Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support

[www.calstate.edu/ar](http://www.calstate.edu/ar)

Within the Chancellor's Office, the Student Academic Support unit of the Office of Academic Affairs provides support to CSU's 23 campuses and serves as the central repository of systemwide information in the areas of outreach and school relations, undergraduate admission, Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), financial aid, student services, transfer services, English and mathematics competencies, and publications. The website is a convenient link for counselors seeking additional information or clarification of an issue in any of the cited areas.

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#### Academic Performance Reports

[www.asd.calstate.edu/performance/](http://www.asd.calstate.edu/performance/)

The CSU provides performance reports for individual California high schools and community colleges for 1995-96 and subsequent years. Results of assessments in English and mathematics for the most recent fall freshman entering class also appear with the APRs. Reports are prepared in March for each high school that sends at least five students to the CSU as first-time freshmen for a fall term, and for each community college that sends at least five students to the CSU as transfers for a fall term.

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#### Analytic Studies Division

[www.calstate.edu/as](http://www.calstate.edu/as)

The Analytic Studies Division provides statistical information about the California State University system. Information in the following areas is available for a range of years: admission, enrollment, student demographics, remediation, and proficiency assessment in English and mathematics.

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## CSU Information Sources

### Websites for Counselors and Students

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#### Diagnostic Writing Service

[www.essayeval.org](http://www.essayeval.org)

This online service is for students and teachers to assess current writing skills against college-level expectations. The Diagnostic Writing Service (DWS) allows individual students to respond to actual EPT writing prompts and to improve their own writing in response to the diagnostic feedback. It is also intended as a teacher-mediated program that encourages high school teachers to become familiar with college-level expectations for writing, to have access to the relevant diagnostic information for their class as a whole, and to incorporate the DWS and related materials into their curricula. The on-line DWS also contains a multiple choice practice test for the reading and composing skills sections of the EPT.

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#### Focus on English

[www.calstate.edu/ar/ept.pdf](http://www.calstate.edu/ar/ept.pdf)

This CSU booklet provides information on the English Placement Test (EPT). The latest edition was distributed in March 2002. Focus on English is not a copyrighted publication and may be duplicated for distribution.

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#### Focus on Mathematics

[www.co.calstate.edu/ar/fom.pdf](http://www.co.calstate.edu/ar/fom.pdf)

This CSU booklet provides information on the Entry Level Mathematics (ELM) Examination. The 2002 edition reflects changes in the ELM examination. Focus on Mathematics is not a copyrighted publication and may be duplicated for distribution.

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#### Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Program

<http://mdtp.ucsd.edu/>

The Mathematics Diagnostic Testing Program (MDTP) was developed jointly by CSU and UC faculty members. This website offers tests to students from the pre-algebra level to calculus. The MDTP tests are administered by more than 4,700 high school and middle school teachers to over 500,000 students. In addition, more than 225,000 California Community College students took the MDTP. MDTP provides services and testing materials to teachers and schools (grades 7-12) at no charge. There are five tests: Algebra Readiness, Geometry Readiness, Second-Year Algebra Readiness, Mathematical Analysis Readiness, and Calculus Readiness.

## Other Information Sources

### Websites for Counselors and Students

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#### "a-g" Guide Project

[www.ucop.edu/doorways/guide](http://www.ucop.edu/doorways/guide)

The University of California (UC) "A-G Guide Project" website aims to assist high school educators in designing innovative courses that meet both the University of California subject area requirements and conform to school curricular reform efforts. Specifically, the site provides a wealth of information about the "a-g requirements," including course descriptions of dozens of innovative courses that have been accepted by UC. It also provides assistance in understanding the UC course approval process and helpful insights as to why courses have not been approved. To search for a California high school or program's UC certified course list, check the Doorways a-g Course List web site at [www.ucop.edu/doorways/list](http://www.ucop.edu/doorways/list).

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#### "a-g" Course List

[www.ucop.edu/doorways/list](http://www.ucop.edu/doorways/list)

To search for a California high school or program's UC certified course list, check the Doorways a-g Course List web site at [www.ucop.edu/doorways/list](http://www.ucop.edu/doorways/list). The lists include the courses that have been certified as fulfilling the "a-g" subject requirements for admission to the University of California as a freshman. The lists also indicate courses that are UC certified honors courses.

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#### ASSIST - Articulation System Stimulating Inter-institutional Student Transfer

[www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

ASSIST is California's official statewide repository of transfer information offering easy access to a single database. ASSIST can help students determine if they will receive credit for courses they have already taken and how those courses will apply to specific academic goals.

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#### California Articulation Number System (CAN)

[www.cansystem.org](http://www.cansystem.org)

This course identification system is used for common core lower division transferable, major preparation courses commonly taught on CCC and CSU campuses. It allows for CAN participating institutions to compare their local courses with the same CAN designators to meet local requirements. CAN courses transfer across the CSU system. Additionally, CSU can use the CAN courses for students transferring within the CSU system.

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#### Californiacolleges

[www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu)

This is a very powerful, online tool which allows students to explore colleges, admission, financial aid, and career information. Transfer students can employ the Transfer Planner that is designed for California Community College students to track and plan work to meet CSU and/or University of California (UC) General Education (GE/IGETC) requirements.

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#### FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

FAFSA opens the door to the federal aid process. Students can determine eligibility, gather documents and information, check deadlines, and apply online. This is also the gateway to California state aid.

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**The California State University**

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**Section 2**

**First-Time  
Freshmen**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## First-Time Freshmen: Admission Requirements

It is the intent of the legislature that each California resident with the capacity and motivation to benefit from postsecondary education has the opportunity to enroll in a public four-year college. The Master Plan for Higher Education was designed to ensure access to all eligible first-time freshmen to attend a CSU campus and to enroll in their chosen major.

A first-time freshman is a student who has earned no college credit beyond the summer immediately following high school graduation.

### First-time freshman applicants must:

**Be high school graduates,**

Although regulations do not stipulate graduation from accredited high schools, the CSU participates in the activities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and its Accrediting Commission for Schools and encourages California high schools to be certified by the Association. Students who are home schooled or attend non-accredited schools are expected to meet the same admission requirements as graduates of accredited high schools.

**Complete the fifteen-unit comprehensive “a-g” course pattern of college preparatory study with grades of C or better,**

For purposes of admission, the California State University faculty delegated to the University of California the responsibilities for the process of certifying high school courses that meet the “a-g” requirement. Consequently, CSU accepts those high school courses on the University of California list of “Courses to Meet Requirements for Admission to the University of California” (“a-g”) list. Courses on the “a-g” list can be used to meet CSU requirements in the designated subject areas or may be used as electives.

Under the “High School Preparation” section in the admission application, first-time freshman applicants must report all approved college preparatory “a-g” courses that have been completed, courses in which they are currently enrolled, and courses that they plan to complete prior to entrance into the CSU. Courses completed in summer school, or courses completed at a college for high school credit, should be included in the “High School Preparation” section and be so identified. College courses completed, in progress or planned that are not noted in the “High School Preparation” section should be included in the appropriate sections of the admission application.

Courses used to satisfy the “a-g” requirements may not be taken Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.

**Earn a qualifiable eligibility index.**

The eligibility index is a weighted combination of high school grade point average during the final three years of high school and a score on either the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I) or the American College Test (ACT). All grades earned in “a-g” courses taken in 10th through 12th grades are used to calculate the grade point average (GPA).

## First-Time Freshmen: Admission Requirements

### Minimum Eligibility Index

Graduates of California high schools or residents of California, as defined for tuition purposes, must have a minimum eligibility index of 2900 using the SAT I or 694 using the ACT. Nonresidents who are not graduates of a California high school must have a minimum index of 3502 using the SAT I or 842 using the ACT (see tables).

The CSU eligibility index is calculated by using either the SAT I or ACT as follows:

- SAT I total score + (800 x high school grade point average)
- (10 x ACT composite score) + (200 x high school grade point average)

### Test Score Requirement

SAT I/ACT test scores are not required to establish the admission eligibility of California residents with high school grade point averages of 3.00 or above (nonresidents 3.61 or above). Impacted campuses and impacted enrollment categories may include test scores among the supplemental criteria required of all applicants to those campuses and enrollment categories. See "Impacted Programs."

While applicants are not required to submit test scores to CSU if they earn a 3.00 average, they may want to take the SAT/ACT to satisfy admission requirements of the UC and many private colleges, particularly if they do not know yet which college they will attend. In addition, some CSU campuses may use standardized admission tests for advising and for placement in appropriate courses. Students with scores above established levels also are eligible for waiver of the requirements for the English Placement Test (EPT) and the Entry Level Mathematics examination (ELM). See "EPT and ELM."

### Multiple Test Scores

If an applicant submits multiple score reports, the highest score earned in each single sub score of the examination is used. A redefined SAT-Total will be calculated by adding the highest verbal and highest math scores. A redefined ACT composite will be calculated as an average of the best scores in each of the four areas.

### Grade Point Average

The high school grade point average is based on the final three years (6 semesters) of high school study in all approved college-prep "a-g" courses. Bonus points may be awarded for up to eight grades of C or better in approved honors courses taken in grades 11 and 12, including up to two (2) International Baccalaureate (I.B.) or Advanced Placement (A.P.), or honors courses with 11th or 12th grade course content taken in the tenth grade.

### Self-reported Grade Point Average

Grades earned beginning with the summer following the 9th grade and including all semesters completed prior to submission of the application for admission are used to compute the self-reported grade point average. The self-reported grade point average includes grades earned in a minimum of four consecutive semesters (e.g., 10th and 11th grades). Only courses from the "a-g" list should be used to calculate the GPA.

### Coursework used to calculate grade point average

**Definition:** The final three years of high school include work completed after grade 9, including the summer between grades 9 and 10, but prior to high school graduation.

## First-Time Freshmen: Admission Requirements

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### Provisional Admission

When evaluating the admission eligibility of an applicant still enrolled in the final year of high school, coursework in progress is included in the tally of required semesters of study. Admission notices issued on the basis of evaluation of a four- or five-semester record will stipulate that coursework in progress must be completed successfully and all CSU admission requirements satisfied prior to high school graduation.

A campus may make preliminary offers of admission to first-time freshman applicants based upon the self-reported "High School Preparation" information included in the CSU application for admission. For applicants with grade point averages less than 3.00, SAT I or ACT scores are required.

Campuses must verify academic performance information provided on the application. A preliminary admission offer may be rescinded for applicants who do not accurately report their academic performance or who do not retain eligibility at the time of high school graduation, e.g., failure to complete courses in progress, failure to maintain the grade point average, etc. Applicants must submit an official high school transcript showing date of graduation. Applicants for whom admission decisions cannot be made on the basis of self-reported information will be notified of additional information requirements by the campus.

## First-Time Freshmen: Admission Requirements

### Frequently Asked Questions - Admission Requirements

#### High School Graduation

**Q: Can a student establish CSU eligibility if he or she does not pass the high school exit examination?**

A: Options for students who do not graduate from high school include: achieving passing scores in each section of the General Educational Development test (GED), or passing the California Proficiency examination. Submission of either a GED certificate or California Certificate of Proficiency will be considered equivalent to high school graduation. Information related to the high school exit examination will be available at a later date.

#### Freshman vs. Transfer Admission

**Q: If a student completes college units, either through testing or college attendance, while still attending high school, should the student be considered a first-time freshman or a transfer?**

A: Students should be considered a first-time freshman as long as all their college units are completed prior to the end of the summer immediately following high school graduation. For example, a student who will graduate from high school in January and will have completed 24 units via Advanced Placement examinations and 9 units of baccalaureate-level work at a community college by June, should be admitted on the basis of the high school record as a first-time freshman (admission basis code A or B, enrollment status of 5, institution of origin code of the high school) with a student level of sophomore and 33 units earned.

#### Home School

**Definition:** Students completing high school through home schooling are expected to meet the same admission requirements as those of students attending traditional schools. Home schooling may be affiliated with high schools or public school districts. In those cases, courses presented for satisfaction of the college preparatory subject requirements must appear on the University of California's "a-g" course list. Other home schooling may not be affiliated with high schools or districts. If there are insufficient courses from the UC "a-g" list, the CSU campus will review the application on an individual basis to determine that all requirements have been met. Applicants may be asked to submit supplemental information to document completion of CSU eligibility requirements.

**Q: Must home schools have their courses validated by a public school district?**

A: No. CSU campuses can ask if the courses have been validated, but cannot require or expect this to happen.

**Q: Should home-schooled students be coded differently from other freshmen applicants in ERSA and ERSS?**

A: No. The regular admission basis of A or B should be used for students meeting minimum CSU admission requirements. Home-schooled freshmen can be identified by their high school code. (A unique code of 992999 has been established for home schools.)

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### College Preparatory Work

The California State University requires first-time freshman applicants to complete, with a grade of C or better in each course, a fifteen-unit comprehensive “a-g” pattern of college preparatory work.

#### “a-g” Subjects:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| a. History/Social Science             | 2 years required (including one year of U.S. History or U.S. History and Government) |
| b. English                            | 4 years required   |
| c. Mathematics                        | 3 years required (algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra)                       |
| d. Laboratory Science                 | 2 years with laboratory required (one biological, one physical, both with lab)       |
| e. Language Other Than English (LOTE) | 2 years required   |
| f. Visual and Performing Arts         | 1 year required  |
| g. College Preparatory Electives      | 1 year required  |

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### a. History/Social Science

#### **2 years, including 1 year of U.S. history or U.S. history and government**

The U.S. History or U.S. History and Government Requirement may be satisfied by:

Completing approved courses from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Completing coursework with a C or better that meets the CSU graduation requirements in United States history, constitution and American ideals (Section 40404, Title 5);

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in American history;

– OR –

Earning a 520 or better score on the SAT II test in American history.

The Additional Social Science Requirement may be satisfied by:

Completing an approved course from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in Economics, European History, Comparative Government & Politics, Human Geography, Psychology, or World History;

– OR –

Earning a 470 or better score on the SAT II test in World History;

– OR –

Completing a baccalaureate course with a C or better that applies to the CSU General Education-Breadth or IGETC requirement in social, political, and economic institutions.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### b. English

#### 4 years

##### English as a Second Language

Two consecutive semesters of advanced English as a Second Language (ESL) may be substituted for the first year of the four years of college preparatory English if they appear on the UC “a-g” list.

Advanced ESL courses are distinguished from elementary and intermediate courses by emphasis on reading and writing comparable to that in college preparatory courses except for differences in the instructional methods and materials. Elementary and intermediate courses in ESL are not considered college preparatory for the purpose of meeting subject requirements for admission.

##### The English Requirement may be satisfied by:

Completing approved courses from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition examinations;

– OR –

Earning a 680 or better on the SAT II Writing Test taken May 1998 or after;

– OR –

Completing a baccalaureate level course with a C or better that meets the CSU General Education-Breadth requirement in written communication in English or the IGETC English composition requirement;

– OR –

Completing with a C or better the highest level of prebaccalaureate level course that is prerequisite to the GE-Breadth course in English Composition will satisfy one year of college preparatory English.

##### Frequently Asked Question - English Requirement

**Q: How do students attending non-English speaking high schools outside the US validate the four-year English requirement?**

**A:** A TOEFL score of 500 will validate the English requirement only for students educated in non-English speaking high schools outside the U.S. When recording completion of college preparatory subjects for ERS reporting, campuses should consider this student to have met the four year requirement and record semesters of college preparatory English.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### c. Mathematics

**3 years: algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra  
(all students are encouraged to continue taking mathematics through the senior year)**

The Mathematics Requirement may be satisfied by:

Completing approved courses from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in mathematics  
(Calculus AB or Calculus BC);

– OR –

Earning a 540 or better score on the SAT II Mathematics tests, Level I;

– OR –

Earning a 510 or better score on the SAT II Mathematics tests Level II;

– OR –

Completing a baccalaureate course with a C or better that meets the CSU General Education-Breadth or IGETC requirement in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning. To meet this requirement, the course must be above the level of intermediate algebra and have intermediate algebra as a stated, explicit prerequisite.

### Frequently Asked Question - Mathematics

**Q: Do Integrated Mathematics I and II and Algebra II satisfy the three-year mathematics requirement?**

A: No. This combination of courses does not ensure inclusion of geometry. CSU requires Algebra I and II and geometry to satisfy minimum admission requirements. Integrated mathematics courses include the elements of these courses in a three-course sequence. Therefore, the student must complete: 1) the entire integrated sequence, or 2) a traditional geometry course, or 3) higher level mathematics course which has Algebra II as a prerequisite, with C or better grades, to validate the CSU mathematics requirement.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### d. Science

#### **2 years with laboratory (one biological and one physical)**

##### **The Laboratory Science Requirement may be satisfied by:**

Completing approved courses from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in biology, chemistry or physics;

– OR –

Earning a 540 or better score on the SAT II test in biology or a 530 or better in chemistry or physics;

– OR –

Completing a baccalaureate course, with laboratory, with a C or better, that applies to the CSU General Education Breadth requirement in the physical universe and its life forms or the IGETC requirement for physical and biological sciences.

### **Frequently Asked Questions - Laboratory Science**

#### **Q: Must the two years in science include both biological and physical science?**

A: Yes. However, the courses are not required to be selected from biology, chemistry, or physics as required by UC. While the first course must be selected from area d, the second course may be selected from the UC list as an approved laboratory science in the electives area (area g).

#### **Q: How should Integrated Science courses be treated?**

A: CSU will require students to complete one life science and one physical science course, selected from the UC “a-g” list. The UC list of certified courses must indicate whether the integrated course is predominantly a biological or physical science course.

#### **Q: A student completes chemistry and physics with C or better grades, and has satisfied the UC science requirement. Does CSU consider this completion of the laboratory science requirement?**

A: No. This student is lacking the required life science course for regular CSU admission. A campus may elect to admit this student as an exception, but the student has not satisfied the minimum CSU admission requirement in science.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### e. Language other than English

#### **2 years in the same language (may be satisfied by demonstrating equivalent competence in another language)**

##### **Alternative to the two-year Language other than English Study Requirement**

Prospective CSU students may qualify for an alternative method of meeting the language other than English study requirement by establishing competency through either documentation or assessment.

Language experiences judged to be comparable to two years of high school study as defined in the Model Curriculum Standards, Grades Nine Through Twelve: Foreign Language were recommended by a task group composed of high school and university foreign language specialists and were subsequently endorsed by the CSU Academic Senate. These experiences, together with appropriate documentation and assessment procedures, are described below.

##### **Documentation**

Language competencies may be documented through school records or similar source documents.

##### **Formal Schooling in a Language other than English**

The applicant has completed at least three years of formal instruction in a school where a language other than English was used as a medium of instruction at least one third of the time. Bilingual or immersion language programs in the United States are included. To satisfy this requirement, the three years of instruction must have started no earlier than age seven. Consecutive enrollment is not a requirement. Typical documentation will be the school transcript or other official document included in the student's cumulative folder. If official documents are not available, the high school counselor may recommend a waiver on the basis of other appropriate evidence.

##### **Participation in Programs for Persons with Limited English Proficiency**

The applicant was, at age ten or older, identified by a United States school as having limited English proficiency or was enrolled in a program for limited English proficient students, such as English as a Second Language or bilingual education courses. Typical documentation will be the school transcript or other official document included in the student's cumulative folder. If official documents are not available, the high school counselor may recommend a waiver on the basis of other appropriate evidence.

##### **Service as a Tutor/Interpreter in a Language other than English**

The applicant, at any time during enrollment in grades 9 through 12, was designated by the school principal or designee to serve as a tutor or interpreter for students or adults in a school or community setting.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### e. Language other than English

**2 years in the same language  
(may be satisfied by demonstrating equivalent competence in another language)**

#### Assessment

##### Assessment of Language Skills by the High School

The student demonstrates, through assessment, competence comparable to or exceeding the “Standards for Second Year, Nonrestricted Situations” of the Model Curriculum Standards, Grades Nine Through Twelve: Foreign Language. Use of a common statewide assessment instrument is not required for purposes of this provision. Locally developed assessment procedures may be used to assess language competence gained outside of the high school setting. However, the assessment used by the school or school district should meet the guidelines outlined in “Guidelines for Assessment by the Schools.”

##### Assessment of Language Skills by a CSU Campus

If at all possible, the student’s language competence should be assessed while the student is still in high school. However, should language assessment as described above not be possible, the CSU will assist with arrangements for assessment at the time of application for admission. Applicants pursuing this approach should indicate the need for assessment on the application for admission in the section requesting a listing of college preparatory subjects. The student will be required to demonstrate competence at least comparable to the criteria for Stage Two, as described by the Intersegmental Senate’s “Statement on Competencies in Languages Other than English Expected of Entering Freshmen.”

The provisions recognize language and cultural learning comparable to, but potentially quite different from, traditional secondary foreign language curricula. Students most likely to meet the college preparatory foreign language requirement using the alternative provisions are newcomers to the United States and those students who have been raised in households where a language other than English is spoken. It is expected that most students who are native speakers of a language other than English will satisfy this requirement through documentation. It is not possible for an applicant using these provisions to satisfy a part (i.e., one year) of the language requirement.

Counselors should encourage students who appear to have the language skills to use documentation provisions. The assessment alternatives should be used only if official documentation is not available.

##### Guidelines for Assessment by the Schools

For purposes of assessing language skills, the task group has defined “comparable” to mean the general ability to communicate in appropriate cultural context at the level described in the Model Curriculum Standards. “General ability” means that demonstration of functional proficiency in excess of the “Standards for Second Year” in any one or combination of skills may compensate for performance below the standards in other skills. Thus, it is possible for students who have oral/aural communication skills well above the standards to meet the requirement even though they have limited reading and/or writing abilities. Compensatory scoring recognizes the wide variance in content and kind of experience gained through language learning and acquisition.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### e. Language other than English

#### Verification Procedure to Demonstrate Language Competence

The official high school transcript is the primary document for certification of a student's academic record. Therefore, the CSU recommends a notation on the high school transcript as evidence of the high school's determination of a student's eligibility of the college preparatory language other than English requirement. The notation on the transcript should specify the provision under which the student qualifies. For example, a notation might read "CSU Language other than English requirement met through formal schooling in Spanish." Other appropriate notations might include the "Limited English Proficiency-Vietnamese," "Tutor/Interpreter Mandarin," or "H.S. Assessment Russian."

It is not necessary for the high school to submit the documents used to establish eligibility. If not noted on the high school transcript, a letter from the school representative to a CSU admission office verifying that the student meets the requirement will be accepted also. Students applying to the CSU should indicate the specific language and note in the "High School Preparation" section of the application for admission.

#### American Sign Language

American Sign Language (Ameslan) courses on the University of California's "a-g" list are accepted by the CSU as meeting CSU's Language other than English admission requirement.

#### Language other than English requirement may be satisfied by:

Completing approved courses from the "a-g" list

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in French, German, Latin, or Spanish;

– OR –

Earning a qualifying score on the SAT II test in Chinese (460), French (490), German (460), Hebrew (440), Italian (460), Japanese (460), Korean (460), Latin (480), or Spanish (460);

– OR –

Alternative (see provisions in this section);

– OR –

Completing one year of baccalaureate study with a C or better of the same language other than English.

Courses in "Conversation" do not meet this requirement. Depending on campus policy, courses may also be used to satisfy general education requirements in arts, literature, philosophy, and foreign language.

For admission purposes, one year of college level foreign language study (2 semesters or 3 quarters) is considered equivalent to two years of high school study. A campus may use a different equivalency for satisfying a graduation requirement.

CSU will validate the requirement for two years of Language other than English with the first semester of college level foreign language if the course description for the second semester course indicates the prerequisite for that course is successful completion of the first semester course or two years of high school study in that language. The college course must reflect that the first semester of college study is equivalent to two years of high school study.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### e. Language other than English

#### Frequently Asked Questions – Language other than English

**Q: Can the Language other than English requirement be satisfied with SAT II?**

A: Yes. A score of 450 or better on the SAT II test in Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin, or Spanish will meet the two-year foreign language requirement. (See contents for other methods of satisfying the foreign language requirement.)

**Q: Can the Language other than English requirement be satisfied with American Sign Language?**

A: Yes. American Sign Language (Ameslan) courses on the University of California's "a-g" list are accepted by the CSU to meet CSU foreign language admission requirement.

**Q: A high school indicates "Foreign Language Satisfied" on their transcript. Does this meet the CSU Language other than English subject requirement?**

A: No. The K-12 language requirement is one year, not the two years required by CSU. Campuses would need verification from the high school that the student had the equivalency of two years of study, as defined by the Model Curriculum Standards, Grades Nine Through Twelve: Foreign Language.

**Q: Does ESL taken in high school satisfy the Language other than English requirement?**

A: Yes. Regardless of level, ESL courses taken after age 10 in a US school satisfy the two-year foreign language admission requirement. When reporting the student's preparation in ERSA/ERSS, the student should be considered to have completed two years of foreign language study.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### f. Visual and Performing Arts

#### 1 year: art, dance, drama/theatre, or music

Note: For fall 2005 admission, students may satisfy this requirement by completing two semesters of approved arts courses from a single VPA area (dance, drama/theater, music, and visual arts).

For fall 2006 and beyond, students must satisfy this requirement by completing a single yearlong approved course (i.e. the second semester is to be a continuation of the first semester, requiring completion of the first semester as a prerequisite).

#### The Visual and Performing Arts Requirement may be satisfied by:

Completing approved courses from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in art history, studio art or music;

– OR –

Completing a baccalaureate course with a C or better in the visual and performing arts that applies toward the CSU General Education Breadth or IGETC requirement in arts, literature, philosophy, and foreign language.

#### Visual and Performing Arts

Courses in this area consist of instruction in dance, drama/theater, music, and visual art and will appear on the University of California’s list of “Courses to Meet Requirements for Admission to the University of California” (“a-g”) list.

Courses must require on average the equivalent of a five-period class per week; courses must be a full year in duration in order for students to develop their skills and abilities in this area. Work outside of class must be required: for example, portfolio/performance preparation, reading, writing, and critical listening/viewing.

Acceptable courses need not have any prerequisite courses.

Courses should provide students with an experience in the arts that implement the intent of the Department of Education Visual and Performing Arts Standards, as follows:

#### Artistic Perception

Processing, analyzing, and responding to sensory information through the language and skills unique to a given art.

#### Creative Expression

Creating, performing, and participating in a given art.

#### Historical and Cultural Context

Understanding historical contributions and cultural dimensions of a given art.

#### Aesthetic Valuing

Responding to, analyzing, and making critical assessments about works in a given art form.

#### Connection, Relations, and Application

Connecting and applying what is learned in a given art form to learning in other art forms, subject areas, and careers.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### f. Visual and Performing Arts

The intention is to provide a meaningful experience and breadth of knowledge of the arts so that students may apply their knowledge and experience to the creation of art and/or are better able to understand and appreciate artistic expression on the basis of that experience and knowledge.

Courses emphasizing performance and/or production must include appropriate critical/theoretical and historical/cultural content. "Appreciation" courses should focus on the ability to make aesthetic judgments about arts works and performances.

Courses which are primarily recreational, athletic or body conditioning, or for social entertainment are not acceptable visual and performing arts courses. Commercial courses or courses specifically designed for training for a profession in these areas are not acceptable.

#### Specifications concerning specific visual and performing arts areas:

##### Dance

Dance courses offered for physical education credit or under any other departmental arrangement are acceptable provided they include the specifications listed above. The intent is that appropriate critical and/or theoretical and historical and/or cultural content be provided in the course of dance instruction.

**Examples of acceptable courses** could include ballet, modern dance, jazz and ethnic dance, choreography and improvisation, dance history, and dance production/performance.

**Examples of unacceptable courses** could include aerobics, drill team, cheerleading, recreational dance, ballroom dance, or other courses in which the primary intent is physical fitness or exercise.

##### Drama/Theater

Drama/Theater courses involving performance and production offered for arts or English credit, or under any other departmental arrangement, are acceptable provided they include the specifications listed above. The intent is that appropriate critical and/or theoretical and historical and/or cultural content be provided in the course of the drama/theater instruction.

**Examples of acceptable courses** could include acting, directing, oral interpretation, dramatic production, dramaturgy/history/theory, and stage/lighting/costume design.

**Examples of unacceptable courses** could include speech debate or courses in other disciplines that require students to perform occasional skits.

##### Music

Music courses emphasizing performance should include appropriate critical/theoretical and historical/cultural content. Music "appreciation" courses should focus on the ability to make aesthetic judgments about musical works and performances.

**Examples of acceptable courses** could include band (concert, symphonic, jazz), orchestra, choir (e.g. jazz, soul, madrigal), music history/appreciation, and music theory/composition.

**Examples of unacceptable courses** could include a musical group that performs occasionally for sporting or other events.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

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### f. Visual and Performing Arts

#### Visual Arts

Visual arts courses emphasizing the creation of art are acceptable provided they include the specifications listed above. The intent is that appropriate critical and/or theoretical and historical and/or cultural content be provided in the course of arts instruction. Visual arts courses emphasizing art history are acceptable provided they include “creative expression” or “aesthetic valuing” according to the standards listed above.

**Examples of acceptable courses** could include painting, drawing, sculpture, art photography, printmaking, video production, contemporary media, ceramics, and art history.

**Examples of unacceptable courses** would include crafts courses, mechanical drafting, and photography if offered as a photojournalism component in a yearbook or school newspaper.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

### g. Electives

**1 year selected from the above areas or other approved college preparatory “a-g” courses**

**Electives - On a course-by-course basis, one or more years may be satisfied by:**

Completing approved courses from the “a-g” list

– OR –

Completing courses with a C or better that apply toward the CSU General Education Breadth or IGETC requirements;

– OR –

Completing courses with a C or better in the liberal arts and sciences, beyond those courses listed above;

– OR –

Earning a 3, 4, or 5 on Advanced Placement examinations not listed above

### Frequently Asked Question – Electives

**Q: Can agriculture courses be used as electives in establishing eligibility for admission?**

A: Effective fall 2003, CSU modified the subject requirements to align with the University of California, and accept those agriculture courses that appear on the UC “a-g” list of approved courses. The four CSU campuses with agriculture programs (Chico, Fresno, Cal Poly Pomona, and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo) will examine courses not on the UC “a-g” list to determine on a course-by-course basis if they meet the requirements for admission.

## First-Time Freshmen: Subject Requirements

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### Year-sequence course

A final grade of C or better in the second semester of a yearlong course is recognized as validation of satisfactory completion of subject performance requirements only in the subjects of mathematics, chemistry or languages other than English.

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### Multiple-year courses

Satisfactory completion of a final year of study validates prior study in math, chemistry, and languages other than English.

Completion of an advanced course in the same subject presupposes knowledge of the previous course(s). For example, satisfactory completion of a second year of foreign language will validate the first year. The second year of algebra will validate first-year algebra but will not validate geometry. Integrated studies that appear on UC "a-g" list will satisfy the subject requirements certified. The CSU high school requirement in mathematics (algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra) may be validated with higher-level college preparatory mathematics courses such as trigonometry, analytic geometry, calculus, and statistics.

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### More than the minimum requirements

Although not an admission requirement, all students and especially those students planning to major in mathematics, the sciences (including computer science), engineering, premedicine, other science related fields, business, or economics are encouraged to complete at least four years of college preparatory work in mathematics.

All students are encouraged to complete college preparatory courses beyond those specified in the fifteen-unit requirement. Completion of the required number of mathematics and English courses may not be sufficient in itself to ensure academic success at the university. All campuses require proficiency testing in English and mathematics prior to enrollment. Demonstrated proficiency in English and mathematics may be required prior to enrollment in certain courses. (See "Placement Tests" for additional information.)

## Eligibility Index

### California High School Graduates or Residents of California

GPA	ACT Score	SAT-I Score
3.00 and above qualifies with any score		
2.99	10	510
2.98	10	520
2.97	10	530
2.96	11	540
2.95	11	540
2.94	11	550
2.93	11	560
2.92	11	570
2.91	12	580
2.90	12	580
2.89	12	590
2.88	12	600
2.87	12	610
2.86	13	620
2.85	13	620
2.84	13	630
2.83	13	640
2.82	13	650
2.81	14	660
2.80	14	660
2.79	14	670
2.78	14	680
2.77	14	690
2.76	15	700
2.75	15	700
2.74	15	710
2.73	15	720
2.72	15	730
2.71	16	740
2.70	16	740
2.69	16	750
2.68	16	760
2.67	16	770
2.66	17	780

GPA	ACT Score	SAT-I Score
2.65	17	780
2.64	17	790
2.63	17	800
2.62	17	810
2.61	18	820
2.60	18	820
2.59	18	830
2.58	18	840
2.57	18	850
2.56	19	860
2.55	19	860
2.54	19	870
2.53	19	880
2.52	19	890
2.51	20	900
2.50	20	900
2.49	20	910
2.48	20	920
2.47	20	930
2.46	21	940
2.45	21	940
2.44	21	950
2.43	21	960
2.42	21	970
2.41	22	980
2.40	22	980
2.39	22	990
2.38	22	1000
2.37	22	1010
2.36	23	1020
2.35	23	1020
2.34	23	1030
2.33	23	1040
2.32	23	1050
2.31	24	1060

GPA	ACT Score	SAT-I Score
2.30	24	1060
2.29	24	1070
2.28	24	1080
2.27	24	1090
2.26	25	1100
2.25	25	1100
2.24	25	1110
2.23	25	1120
2.22	25	1130
2.21	26	1140
2.20	26	1140
2.19	26	1150
2.18	26	1160
2.17	26	1170
2.16	27	1180
2.15	27	1180
2.14	27	1190
2.13	27	1200
2.12	27	1210
2.11	28	1220
2.10	28	1220
2.09	28	1230
2.08	28	1240
2.07	28	1250
2.06	29	1260
2.05	29	1260
2.04	29	1270
2.03	29	1280
2.02	29	1290
2.01	30	1300
2.00	30	1300

1.99 and below does not qualify for regular admission

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## Eligibility Index Non-Residents of California

GPA	ACT Score	SAT-I Score
3.61 and above qualifies with any score		
3.60	13	630
3.59	13	630
3.58	13	640
3.57	13	650
3.56	13	660
3.55	14	670
3.54	14	670
3.53	14	680
3.52	14	690
3.51	14	700
3.50	15	710
3.49	15	710
3.48	15	720
3.47	15	730
3.46	15	740
3.45	16	750
3.44	16	750
3.43	16	760
3.42	16	770
3.41	16	780
3.40	17	790
3.39	17	790
3.38	17	800
3.37	17	810
3.36	17	820
3.35	18	830
3.34	18	830
3.33	18	840
3.32	18	850
3.31	18	860
3.30	19	870
3.29	19	870
3.28	19	880
3.27	19	890
3.26	19	900
3.25	20	910
3.24	20	910
3.23	20	920

GPA	ACT Score	SAT-I Score
3.22	20	930
3.21	20	940
3.20	21	950
3.19	21	950
3.18	21	960
3.17	21	970
3.16	21	980
3.15	22	990
3.14	22	990
3.13	22	1000
3.12	22	1010
3.11	22	1020
3.10	23	1030
3.09	23	1030
3.08	23	1040
3.07	23	1050
3.06	23	1060
3.05	24	1070
3.04	24	1070
3.03	24	1080
3.02	24	1090
3.01	24	1100
3.00	25	1110
2.99	25	1110
2.98	25	1120
2.97	25	1130
2.96	25	1140
2.95	26	1150
2.94	26	1150
2.93	26	1160
2.92	26	1170
2.91	26	1180
2.90	27	1190
2.89	27	1190
2.88	27	1200
2.87	27	1210
2.86	27	1220
2.85	28	1230
2.84	28	1230
2.83	28	1240

GPA	ACT Score	SAT-I Score
2.82	28	1250
2.81	28	1260
2.80	29	1270
2.79	29	1270
2.78	29	1280
2.77	29	1290
2.76	29	1300
2.75	30	1310
2.74	30	1310
2.73	30	1320
2.72	30	1330
2.71	30	1340
2.70	31	1350
2.69	31	1350
2.68	31	1360
2.67	31	1370
2.66	31	1380
2.65	32	1390
2.64	32	1390
2.63	32	1400
2.62	32	1410
2.61	32	1420
2.60	33	1430
2.59	33	1430
2.58	33	1440
2.57	33	1450
2.56	33	1460
2.55	34	1470
2.54	34	1470
2.53	34	1480
2.52	34	1490
2.51	34	1500
2.50	35	1510
2.49	35	1510
2.48	35	1520
2.47	35	1530
2.46	35	1540
2.45	36	1550
2.44 and below does not qualify for regular admission		

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## First-Time Freshmen: Calculating High School Grade Point Average

The high school grade point average is based on grades earned in all approved college preparatory “a-g” courses taken in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. Electives beyond the fifteen-unit requirement, taken during grades 10, 11, and 12, will also be included in the grade point average.

- a. The high school grade point average is based upon work completed after grade 9 but prior to high school graduation. Summer sessions following grade 9 are included in the calculation. Summer sessions after grade 12, except when necessary for graduation, are excluded.
- b. When courses are offered for less than full unit value, fractions of course credit may be rounded, course by course, to the nearest 1/2 unit or equivalent.
- c. Any grade may be repeated. Repeated courses are used only once in the grade point calculation using the attempt with the highest earned grade. However, if the highest grade was earned in grade 9, it is not included in the grade point average. Units and grades accumulated by repeating courses may not be counted toward meeting two subject requirements.
- d. Where both an audit and a letter grade are recorded for a repeated course, the letter grade takes precedence unless the transcript legend states otherwise.
- e. College level work recorded on the high school transcript as meeting high school graduation requirements is used to calculate high school units and grade point average. Unless otherwise noted by the high school, one course of three-semester (four-quarter) units is usually considered equivalent to one year of high school study.
- f. Where percentage grades are used on the high school transcript and letter grade conversion is not provided, the following conversion chart should be used:

### Lowest Passing Grade

	A	B	C	D
75	93-100	83-92	78-82	75-77
70	91-100	80-90	73-79	70-72
65	90-100	77-89	69-76	65-68
60	88-100	74-87	64-73	60-63
50	84-100	68-83	57-67	50-56

Where no lowest passing grade is indicated on the transcript, and where it cannot be determined from the grade and credit distribution on the transcript, 70 is considered to be lowest passing grade.

- g. Plus and minus grading designations on high school courses are not used for grade point calculations.

## First-Time Freshmen: Calculating High School Grade Point Average

- h. To calculate the grade point average, assign 4 grade points for each unit of A, 3 points for each B, 2 points for each C, 1 point for each D, and 0 points for each F, and multiply the units by the grade points. Sum the units and grade points separately; then divide the total grade points by total units to get the average. Semester grades are used generally; however, courses of other lengths may be prorated as a portion of a year course.

**Example:**

Grades	Total Units	Grade Points per Unit	Total Grade Points
A	5	X 4 =	20
B	10	X 3 =	30
C	2	X 2 =	4
D	1	X 1 =	1
F	1	X 0 =	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>55</b>

**Total Grade Points / Total Units = Grade Point Average**

**Example GPA calculation: 55 / 19 = 2.89 GPA**

- i. If a high school course has been repeated, only the higher grade need be recorded. However, if the student is currently repeating a course or plans to repeat a course, the original grade must be included in the section of the application for admission on high school preparation with a notation indicating when the course repetition is planned. The original course grade is used to calculate the grade point average if the course to be repeated has not already been completed.

- j. Courses taken in 9th grade or earlier:

Although college preparatory subject requirements may be met through satisfactory completion of courses taken prior to the 10th grade, the grade point average used in calculating the eligibility index is based only on work completed after grade 9. Thus, a student completing Algebra I in the 9th grade (or in some instances, the 8th grade) must earn a C or better to satisfy the subject requirement, but the grade does not enter into the grade point average computed for the eligibility index.

Courses in mathematics and foreign language completed in the 7th and 8th grades with grades of C or higher may be included in the "High School Preparation" section if they are comparable in content to courses offered at the high school. However, no grades earned in 7th, 8th, or 9th grade courses are used in the calculation of the high school grade point average.

## First-Time Freshmen: Calculating High School Grade Point Average

### Frequently Asked Questions – High School Grade Point Average

**Q: If a student takes a required subject course in grade 9 and earns a D grade, then repeats the same course in grade 10 and earns an F, is the D used in the grade point average calculation?**

A: CSU will use the better grade in repeated courses. If the better grade was earned in grade 10, 11, or 12 that grade will be used in the grade point average calculation. No grades from grade 9 are used in the high school grade point average.

**Q: Beginning in fall 2004, how will the grade point average be calculated if the student completes more than the required number of courses in the fifteen-unit pattern?**

A: The CSU will calculate the grade point average using all of the approved college preparatory “a-g” course taken in grades 10, 11, and 12.

**Q: Should “progress report” grades be included in the grade point average when completing the application for admission?**

A: No. Only semester or final grades that are recorded on the official high school transcript should be included in the grade point average calculation when applying for admission. Students should not anticipate final grades when reporting their grade point average on the admission application.

**Q: For gpa calculation, should courses used to validate lower level courses be included twice in the gpa calculation? For example, Algebra 3-4 taken in the 10th grade validates Algebra 1-2 taken in the 8th grade. Should the grades from Algebra 3-4 be counted twice in the gpa calculation?**

A: No. Courses used to validate lower level work do not double in value in the gpa calculation.

**Q: High schools often list both UC and CSU gpas on their transcripts. Can CSU use the calculated UC gpa for admission?**

A: Yes. Beginning with Fall 2004, the method of calculating the high school gpa will be the same for UC and CSU.

**Q: If an impacted program uses the high school gpa as part of the selection criteria, must the CSU gpa be used beginning Fall 2004 or can the program define a different gpa for selection purposes?**

A: If approved by the Chancellor, impacted programs can define a different method of calculating the high school gpa for selection purposes. However, the CSU gpa must be used for determining minimum CSU eligibility and should be reported in all ERS reports.

## First-Time Freshmen: Honors/Advanced Placement/Advanced Standing

### Honors Courses

Grades in approved honors courses are assigned an additional point for grades of A, B, or C. There are no honors points awarded for grades of D and F. CSU will award honors points in the grade point average calculation for 8 semester courses taken in 11th and 12th grades, including up to two (2) IB or AP courses or honors courses with 11th or 12th grade content taken by a student in 10th grade.

Courses designated as honors courses on the University of California's "a-g" list receive additional points for grade point average calculations. Titles of Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate courses approved for additional honors credit are identified on the UC "a-g" list.

Honors credit for grade point calculation is awarded according to the following criteria and policies:

- a. Grades in approved honors courses receive 5 points for each unit of A, or 4 points for B, or 3 points for C. No bonus points are awarded for grades of D or F.
- b. Courses in English, foreign language, history, laboratory science, and advanced mathematics (math analysis, precalculus, calculus) may be certified by the high schools as being taught at the honors level and will be identified on the UC "a-g" list.
- c. A maximum of four units of honors (eight semester courses) may be granted additional points.
- d. Only honors courses taken in the last two years of high school may be assigned additional points.
- e. Honors level courses must be limited to students meeting criteria established by the district or school that specify prerequisite courses and appropriate performance levels.
- f. Honors level courses must have extended and enriched content, significantly higher performance expectations, and additional workload which set them apart from regular college preparatory courses in the same subject.
- g. Honors level courses must include a comprehensive written final examination.
- h. A high school course that is not an Advanced Placement course shall be designated an honors level course only when there is a regular college preparatory course offered in the same subject at the same grade level.
- i. Advanced Placement courses in the "a-g" college preparatory subjects are honors courses.
- j. If a school offers an Advanced Placement course in addition to an honors level course in the same subject, an additional one year course in the same subject may be certified as honors. A maximum of two yearlong courses in a subject may be certified.
- k. Designated International Baccalaureate courses listed on the UC "a-g" list are considered to be honors courses.
- l. Baccalaureate level courses completed at a regionally accredited college or university and entered on the high school transcript for high school credit will be considered honors level if they meet the above criteria and are so certified by the high school principal.
- m. Documentation for courses certified as honors level must be available for review upon request by CSU officials. Such documentation should include lists of prerequisites, syllabuses, copies of final examinations, and, if applicable, reports on participation and performance on Advanced Placement examinations.
- n. High schools should clearly designate honors level courses that have been certified on the UC "a-g" list on the high school transcript, preferably by the designators "H," "AP," and "IB."

## First-Time Freshmen: Honors/Advanced Placement/Advanced Standing

### Frequently Asked Questions - High School Honors Courses

**Q: Can D grades in designated honors courses meet the subject requirements?**

A: No. To satisfy the 15-unit college preparatory subject requirements, students must earn C or better grades in courses.

**Q: Will a score of 3, 4, or 5 on an AP examination replace a D grade in the high school grade point average calculation?**

A: No. AP results of 3, 4, or 5 will result in the student receiving college credit and will validate the appropriate subject requirement for admission as a first-time freshman; however, the AP score will not improve the high school grade point average.

**Q: Does an honors course completed in grade 10 earn an additional grade point for calculating grade point average?**

A: Honors points are awarded for courses taught at the 11th and 12th grade level and for Advanced Placement and higher-level International Baccalaureate level courses. These courses are identified on the UC "a-g" course list. Up to two semesters of these 11th or 12th grade level courses may be taken in the 10th grade and earn the additional grade point in the high school grade point average calculation.

**Q: Are higher-level International Baccalaureate courses taken in the 10th grade considered 11th or 12th grade courses?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Do International Baccalaureate courses taken in the 11th and 12th grades qualify for honors points?**

A: Only designated IB courses qualify for honors points.

**Q: Do non-baccalaureate college courses taken during high school, and included on the high school transcript, qualify for honors points?**

A: No. Only baccalaureate level college courses receive honors points when included as part of the high school record.

**Q: If the high school attaches an honors indicator to a course on their transcript, should honors points be awarded if the course is not identified on the UC "a-g" course list?**

A: No. Only courses identified on the UC "a-g" course list receive honors points, if taken during the 11th and 12th grades.

**Q: If the high school offers honors courses on the trimester system, how many honors points should the student be awarded?**

A: CSU will grant up to a maximum of 8 honors points – the equivalent of 4 yearlong courses. The maximum number of honors points does not increase if the year course is taught on the trimester or quarter system. A yearlong honors course taught on the trimester basis is still eligible for a maximum of 2 honors points.

## First-Time Freshmen: Advanced Placement/Advanced Standing

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### Advanced Standing Credit

#### Advanced Placement Credit

Students may earn up to six semester units of baccalaureate credit for each Advanced Placement examination of the College Entrance Examination Board on which the applicant receives a score of 3, 4, or 5. Campuses shall award the amount of credit recommended by the College Board.

#### Baccalaureate Credit

Baccalaureate level courses taken in high school will be awarded transfer credit unless the college or university transcript designates that the courses were used solely to meet high school graduation requirements. Students are required to submit an official transcript from a regionally accredited college or university showing completion of baccalaureate level courses to receive such credit.

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### International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate courses designated as honors courses on the UC "a-g" list are awarded extra grade points for computation of the high school grade point average (see contents). In addition, most CSU campuses award advanced standing credit for successful performance on Higher Level IB examinations. Information about IB credit practices is available from CSU campuses.

See "Non-traditional Credit" for further descriptions of baccalaureate credit that can be earned by means other than traditional college course enrollment.

## First-Time Freshmen: High School Graduation Equivalency

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Applicants presenting the high school proficiency test or the GED are expected to meet the fifteen- unit college preparatory subject requirements and the eligibility index based on appropriate courses completed after the ninth grade.

### **Students Who Are Not High School Graduates**

Students who are not high school graduates may satisfy the high school graduation requirement by submitting the California Certificate of Proficiency or the General Educational Development (GED) certificate or equivalent certificates awarded by other states.

### **California High School Proficiency Test**

A “pass” on the California High School Proficiency Examination is considered equivalent to graduation from high school.

### **Tests of General Educational Development (GED)**

An applicant submitting scores on the GED has established high school graduation equivalence if the average score for the five tests is 45 or better and each score is at least 40 for GED tests taken through 2001. After 2001, students need a minimum score of 451 or greater.

## Admission Exceptions

Admission officers and evaluators distinguish between applicants who qualify for regular admission under the admission adjustment criteria (Rule #14) and those who may qualify for admission under exception provisions. An applicant without a qualifying index or who cannot qualify under the admission adjustment provision or both may be considered as an exception. A limited number of such applicants may be considered for admission as exceptions under the provisions of California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 40900: General Exceptions or Section 40901: Exceptions for Applicants to Special Compensatory Programs. The final decision to admit students as exceptions is made at the individual campus. Admission to one campus as an exception does not guarantee admission to any other CSU campus.

## First-Time Freshmen: Applying for Admission

### Frequently Asked Questions – Applying for Admission

**Q: How should repeated high school courses be reflected on the admission application?**

A: If a student has repeated a course, only the higher grade need be included on the application. However, if the course is currently in progress or planned for a future term, the original grade must be provided on the application. Students should not anticipate grades that have not been recorded on their high school transcript.

**Q: How should students attending a high school on a trimester or block schedule complete the application form with college preparatory courses?**

A: Students attending a trimester school should use the fall, spring, and summer columns to record grades earned in any or all of the three trimesters. Students completing courses on a block schedule may need to attach additional information to fully reflect all courses taken and grades earned if there is not sufficient space in question 28 of the CSU application. Courses taken in blocks of less than a full term should reflect the prorated portion of a full year that the course reflects.

**Q: How should college courses taken for high school credit be reflected on the admission application?**

A: A college course meeting a subject area requirement should be listed in the appropriate area, identified as completed or “in progress” at the college. Students should also indicate their enrollment at the college in the area of the application asking for all colleges attended.

**Q: Should “in progress” grades be listed on the application for admission in the high school subject requirements section?**

A: No. List the name and number of the course and indicate that it is “in progress.” Only grades that are recorded on the official high school transcript should be listed on the application.

## Freshman Checklist

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- Discuss your college aspirations with your family
- Attend college information events at your school
- Start the online application process early (access and use [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu))
- Meet with your school counselor
- Research financial aid and college costs
- Take Advanced Placement and honors courses
- Prepare for college admission tests
- Visit college campuses

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

**The California State University**

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**Section 3**

**Transferring  
to the CSU**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## Preparing to Transfer to The California State University

The California State University (CSU) seeks to assist California Community College students in preparing for transfer and completing their baccalaureate degree at one of the 23 CSU campuses. Each year, in excess of 50,000 transfer students enter the CSU. The key to a successful transfer is early planning to ensure that students undertake the right courses to meet the admission, general education, and lower division pre-major requirements.

The majority of students who receive a baccalaureate degree from the CSU begin their educational program at a California Community College (CCC). The CSU guarantees admission to the CSU system to all California Community College students who meet CSU upper division transfer admission requirements. Students who enter a California Community College as freshmen and then transfer to the CSU are as successful academically as those students who enter CSU directly from high school as freshmen.

### Transfer Students

#### Undergraduate Transfer

The California State University generally considers an undergraduate transfer student as one who has enrolled in a community college or university other than a CSU following high school graduation. Effective fall 2005, students with fewer than 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units are considered lower division transfer students, and those with 60 or more transferable semester units are considered upper division transfers.

#### Admission Priority

The California State University assigns the highest priority for admission to California Community College transfer students who have completed the first two years of the baccalaureate program, including transfer students applying for impacted programs. Students will be considered to have achieved junior class level standing once they have completed at least 60 semester (90 quarter) baccalaureate level units.

#### Unit Requirements

An applicant who completes fewer than 60 semester (90 quarter) units of college credit commencing with admission to the fall 2005 term is considered a lower division transfer student.

The student is admitted to a campus as an undergraduate transfer if the campus to which the student applies admits lower division transfer students. Having fewer than 60 units at the point of transfer may affect eligibility for registration priority at CSU campuses and may affect the student's financial aid status.

CCC transfer students may transfer a maximum of 70 semester (105 quarter) units to the CSU.

CCC coursework completed above the 70 units may be used to meet GE and major preparation requirements even if the units will not count toward the baccalaureate degree.

## Transfer: Lower Division Admission Requirements

### Transfer Applicants with fewer than 60 transferable semester units

**As of fall 2005, all students are required to have completed a minimum of 60 transferable semester units to be considered an upper division transfer student.**

Transfer applicants with fewer than 60 semester (90 quarter) units must have a grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better in all transferable units attempted, be in good standing at the last college or university attended, and qualify for admission as first-time freshmen. Please note that all campuses give admission priority to upper division transfer students. Several campuses are accepting only upper division transfer students. Some campuses may require specific college coursework as part of their admission criteria.

### Lower Division Transfer Admission Requirement

Transfer applicants with fewer than 60 semester or 90 quarter units must have a grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better in all transferable units attempted, be in good standing at the last college or university attended, and meet any one of the following eligibility standards:

#### Transfer Based on Current Admission Criteria

The applicant meets the freshman admission requirements in effect for the term for which application is being made;

– OR –

#### Transfer Based on High School Eligibility

The applicant was eligible as a freshman at the time of high school graduation and has been in continuous attendance in an accredited college since high school graduation;

– OR –

#### Transfer Based on Making up Missing Subjects

The applicant had a qualifiable eligibility index at the time of high school graduation (combination of GPA and test scores if needed), has made up any missing college preparatory subject requirements with a grade of C or better, and has been in continuous attendance in an accredited college since high school graduation.

*Note: Lower division transfer students are a restricted category of students in the CSU, and may be admitted only in those cases where a CSU campus needs this category to make campus enrollment target.*

## First-Time Freshmen: Lower Division Admission Requirements

Due to enrollment pressures, not all CSU campuses admit lower division transfer students. Some CSU campuses continue to admit lower division transfer students and may require them to complete certain English and mathematics courses prior to transfer. Please refer to individual campuses for more specific information about transfer admission practices.

### Eligibility

Lower division transfer students are eligible for admission if they meet the following first-time freshman admission requirements:

- Meet the freshman eligibility index with grade point average and test scores;
- Have completed successfully CSU's 15 college preparatory courses while in high school or make up any course deficiencies from high school if the 15-course pattern of college preparatory subjects has not been completed;
  - 4 years: English
  - 3 years: Mathematics (algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra)
  - 2 years: U.S. History and Social Science
  - 2 years: Laboratory Science: 1 year biological and 1 year physical
  - 2 years: Foreign Language (the same language)
  - 1 year: Visual and Performing Arts: art, dance, theatre/drama, or music
  - 1 year: Elective chosen from the subject areas listed above or other college preparatory course (1 yearlong course or 2-semester course)
- Have a college grade point average of 2.00 or better in all transferable college units attempted; and
- Be in good standing at the last college or university attended (i.e. eligible to re-enroll).

The fifteen-unit college preparatory subject requirement defines the course requirements for freshman and lower division transfer admission. These requirements are for courses at the high school level. Admission course requirements for first-time freshmen and lower division transfers should not be confused with satisfaction of general education and graduation requirements.

### Missing Subject Requirements

Prospective lower division applicants who have not completed all high school college preparatory subject requirements but are otherwise eligible for CSU admission have several alternatives for making up deficiencies. Among these is the option of completing a baccalaureate level course in the deficiency subject. Baccalaureate level courses that receive baccalaureate credit may count toward meeting general education requirements if so certified by the college where the course was offered, and may be used to satisfy pre-major requirements if so applicable.

### Missing High School Courses

Missing high school subjects may be made up by using any of the following approved alternatives or combination of alternatives:

- Complete appropriate high school courses with grades of C or better in adult school or high school summer sessions. Courses must appear on the UC "a-g" list to be accepted in this alternative;
- Complete comparable or higher level courses in college with grades of C or better;
  - OR –
- Earn acceptable scores on approved AP examinations specific to the missing high school course requirement.

### High School/College Unit Equivalency

One college-level course of at least 3 semester (4 quarter) units is usually considered equivalent to one year of high school study.

## Transfer: Lower Division Admission Requirements

### Frequently Asked Questions – Lower Division Transfer Students

**Q: Will the CSU continue to admit lower division transfer students with less than 60 units or will they only be admitting upper division transfer students (60 or more units)?**

A: Most CSU campuses do not admit lower division transfers. Current, campus-specific information is posted at [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu) (search for Applicant Status Report).

**Q: Can a lower division transfer student who did not meet the high school eligibility index still be admitted to the CSU?**

A: Lower division transfer applicants who do not meet the high school eligibility index are advised to continue their education at a California Community College and complete 60 or more transferable semester (90 or more quarter) units before attempting to transfer to a CSU campus as an upper division transfer student.

**Q: Can a lower division student who had not completed the 15-unit college preparatory pattern in high school make up the deficiency by completing the 30 units of General Education Breadth (GE-Breadth) including Area A and B4 required of upper division transfers?**

A: There is no provision for lower division students to make up missing college preparatory requirements with overall GE-Breadth certification. Lower division students must make up the individual subject deficiency prior to admission to the CSU. However, GE-Breadth courses may be used to complete the deficiency, and the student will satisfy general education as well as the high school requirement with a single course.

**Q: The student is planning on transferring to the CSU starting in fall 2005. Does he/she need to complete 60 units prior to transfer to any CSU?**

A: CSU will require a minimum of 60 semester (90 quarter) units to apply for admission as an upper division transfer student in fall 2005. Some campuses will accept **only** upper division transfer students. Some campuses may continue to accept lower division transfer students with less than 60 semester (90 quarter) units.

**See [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu) for campus specific information (search for Application Status Report).**

## Transfer: Upper Division Admission Requirements

Applicants with 60 units or more transferable semester (90 quarter) units beginning in fall 2005 must have an overall grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better (2.4 for California non-residents) in all transferable units attempted and be in good standing at the last college or university attended. Students are eligible for admission to the CSU if they:

- Have completed 60 semester (90 quarter) units beginning in fall 2005

– AND –

- Have completed at least 30 semester (45 quarter) units of general education courses, graded C or better in each course, including:

all general education requirements in communication in the English language (9 semester or 12-15 quarter units) consisting of

- 1 course in written communication,
- 1 course in oral communication, and
- 1 course in critical thinking,

– AND –

1 course in mathematics/quantitative reasoning. The mathematics course must be above the level of intermediate algebra. Go to [www.ASSIST.org](http://www.ASSIST.org) for listings of courses at every CCC that meet the CSU general education requirements.

– AND –

- Have a grade point average of 2.00 or better (2.40 for California non-residents) in all transferable college units attempted

– AND –

- Are in good standing at the last college or university attended (i.e. eligible to re-enroll at that college or university).

*Note: Campus major programs and class levels that are impacted have additional admission criteria. See [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu) (search for impactation) for additional information on impacted major requirements.*

### Frequently Asked Questions – Upper Division Transfer Admission Requirements

**Q: The student will have 56 semester (84 quarter) units as of fall 2005. Does the student need 60 semester units (90 quarter units) to be considered an upper division transfer applicant?**

A: Yes, the upper division transfer student requirement has changed to 60 units as of fall 2005. Some campuses will only accept upper division transfer students due to the large number of transfer applications.

**Q: Can students transfer all their community college credits into the CSU?**

A: Students can transfer a maximum of 70 transferable semester (105 quarter) units into the CSU to meet baccalaureate degree requirements. Additional units will not apply to the total remaining units the student will need to graduate from the CSU but may be accepted for subject credit (check campus specific uses of units beyond 70).

**Q: What is articulation?**

A: Articulation is the process of developing a formal written and published agreement that identifies courses from a “sending” campus that are comparable or acceptable in lieu of specific course requirements at a “receiving” campus. Articulation of courses is important to ensure transfer students can meet lower division pre-major course requirements.

Note: More information on admission is available at [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu).

## Transfer: Grade Point Average

Calculations of transfer grade point averages include all transferable units attempted at all colleges and are part of transfer admission requirements.

### Grade Point Average Calculation Process:

1. Use all units earned from transferable courses to calculate grade point averages.
2. Convert quarter units to semester units by multiplying quarter units by 2/3. Convert semester units to quarter units by multiplying semester units by 1.5.
3. Calculate the grade point average by first assigning:
  - 4 grade points for each A
  - 3 points for each B
  - 2 points for each C
  - 1 point for each D
  - 0 points for each F

Multiply the points assigned for each grade by the number of the course units (e.g., a 4-unit class with a grade of A equals 16 grade points but a 3-unit course with a grade of A equals 12 grade points).

Add the total grade points and then divide the total grade points by the total transferable units attempted to get the average.

A campus may elect to take into account plus and minus designations used in combination with letter grades by adding 0.3 for each plus and subtracting 0.3 for each minus, except that no grade point value shall be less than 0 or greater than 4.0.

4. Honor the grading policies of the institution where credit was earned by accepting official transcript entries including those reflecting academic renewal, repeat grades, and incomplete grades. Courses graded Pass/No Pass or Credit/No Credit shall be computed at neutral value, do not generate grade points, and are not part of the gpa calculation.
6. Evaluate transfer course grades or symbols used to designate unsatisfactory, failing or non-passing work at time of withdrawal (such as UW, WU, and WF) as failing grades unless otherwise defined by the institution assigning the grades.
7. The grade point average is calculated by using the following formula:

### GPA Formula:

Multiply grade points by course unit and add all grade points.

Total transfer grade points earned / Total graded transfer units attempted = Cumulative GPA

### GPA Examples:

180 grade points/60 units attempted = 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA)

120 grade points/60 units attempted = 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA)

## Transfer: Transferring General Education Courses

All students who earn a baccalaureate degree from the CSU are required to complete at least 48 semester (72 quarter) units of general education (GE). Of the 48 semester units, at least 9 semester (12 quarter) units must be upper division level courses taken at the CSU campus granting the degree. It is highly recommended that students complete the 39 lower division general education units while attending a CCC prior to transfer to the CSU.

### General Education Breadth (GE-Breadth) Areas

**Area A** – Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking (at least 9 semester units)

**Area B** – Physical Universe and Its Life Forms (at least 12 semester units)

**Area C** – Arts, Literature, Philosophy, and Foreign Language (at least 12 semester units)

**Area D** – Social, Political, and Economic Institutions (at least 12 semester units)

**Area E** – Lifelong Understanding and Self-Development (at least 3 semester units)

### Lower Division General Education

Lower division general education courses are transferable, meet some admission requirements, and are required for graduation regardless of the chosen major. If the student is unsure of his/her major, taking general education courses is a good way to learn about the various disciplines and to help make a decision on a major.

California Community College catalogs identify which courses are acceptable to meet CSU lower division general education requirements. Students and counselors can also access information on the transferability of courses from any California Community College to any California State University campus at [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org).

Students should visit the Transfer Center on their California Community College campus for assistance with course articulation, transfer planning, and other transfer-related services.

The Career Center can also be of assistance in exploring major options, skills and interest areas, and related career fields.

Note: Some students in majors that require extensive lower division prerequisites may not be able to complete all lower division general education requirements prior to transfer (see Lower Division Pre-Major section). If the student enrolls at CSU with 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units but has completed few general education units, completion of the baccalaureate program may take longer than initially anticipated. Thorough planning with a counselor is essential in order to minimize the time needed to earn a baccalaureate degree.

## Transfer: Transferring General Education Courses

The CSU provides California Community College transfers with three options for fulfilling CSU lower division general education requirements. Students should review the three programs described below and discuss them with a college counselor to determine which option best meets their educational objective.

### **Option 1: CSU General Education-Breadth (GE-Breadth) Requirements**

Up to 39 of the 48 GE-Breadth units required can be transferred from and certified by a California Community College or other certifying institution. It is strongly recommended that students complete the 39 units of GE-Breadth courses as part of their minimum 60 semester units requirements for transfer as an upper division transfer student.

### **Area Certification**

Students can request GE Certification from California Community Colleges where courses were completed. If students have completed some but not all of the GE areas, they can request to become partially certified. Students who have completed all the requirements for each area (Area A-E) can request to become fully-certified. "Certification" refers to official certification by a CCC that a transfer student has completed courses fulfilling CSU GE requirements. This status indicates that the student has completed all CSU GE course requirements while at the community college campus. Students who are fully certified with 39 semester units of lower division GE-Breadth units cannot be held to any additional division courses. Once they transfer, all students will be required to complete a minimum of 9 semester (12 quarter) units of upper division general education work.

It is important for students to request that the community college or university certify completion of college coursework that meets CSU General Education requirements. Certification means that all CSU campuses will accept these courses to meet the CSU lower division GE-Breadth requirements.

Without certification, transfer students may be held to the general education pattern developed for CSU students, which may vary greatly from CCC GE patterns.

Note: A few CSU majors, such as engineering, some math-based fields, science, and other technical majors, have many lower division requirements and students may not be able to complete all of the lower division general education requirements before they transfer. Students should see an advisor/counselor and consult with the CSU campus to which they intend to apply to best determine which courses can be completed after transfer.

## Transfer: Transferring General Education Courses

### Option 2: Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

California Community College transfers can use the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) to fulfill all lower division general education requirements at any CSU or University of California (UC) campus. This curriculum provides transfer students with an alternative to the CSU General Education-Breadth requirements and allows them to meet lower division general education requirements for both the CSU and the UC.

The IGETC requires completion of a minimum of 37 semester or 56 quarter units of lower division work with a C grade or better in each course (C- is not an acceptable grade in IGETC). The IGETC areas are as follows:

#### Area 1 - English Communication

Three courses, one in English composition, one in critical thinking-English composition, and one in oral communication (at least 9 semester units)

#### Area 2 - Mathematical Concepts and Quantitative Reasoning

One course (at least 3 semester units)

#### Area 3 - Arts and Humanities

At least three courses, with at least one from the arts and one from the humanities (at least 9 semester units)

#### Area 4 - Social and Behavior Sciences

At least three courses from at least two disciplines or an interdisciplinary sequence (at least 9 semester units)

#### Area 5 - Physical and Biological Sciences

Two courses, one physical science and one biological science, at least one must include a laboratory (at least 7 semester units)

The course requirements for all areas of IGETC are expected to be completed and certified by a California Community College to be accepted by the CSU or the UC prior to transfer (see Certification section which follows). Students who have completed the IGETC requirements and have their courses certified will be required to complete at least 9 semester units of upper division general education work after transferring to a CSU campus. If students are approaching readiness for transfer, and for good cause, failed to complete one or two IGETC courses, they may be eligible to complete IGETC after transfer. Students may see their counselor or advisor.

Because the IGETC is accepted by both the CSU and UC, it is an excellent option for students who are undecided about the system to which they plan to transfer. If students are enrolled in a major that requires extensive lower division preparation, they may not be able to complete all IGETC requirements prior to transfer. When using the IGETC, partial certification is generally not allowed.

Students should consult with a counselor to determine which general education program is most appropriate.

### Option 3: Meet the General Education Requirements as Defined by the CSU Campus

Transfer students can complete admission requirements and have the selected CSU campus evaluate the courses completed against CSU campus general education requirements. Use of this option will likely increase the time needed to meet general education requirements and complete the baccalaureate degree. Close interaction with an advisor and use of [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) to determine transferability of courses are necessary when using this option.

## Transfer: Certification and Transcripts

### Certification of completion of General Education requirements

Certification in any or all areas noted in the IGETC and GE lists signifies that the student has completed the required general education course work in that area(s). It is important that students request certification of general education coursework while completing their studies at a California Community College. Certification will ensure that CSU campuses accept all courses in the areas in which the coursework is certified. If students do not request certification, the CSU campus may apply general education courses to the general education areas that coincide with campus GE pattern.

Please note that CSU GE patterns differ greatly from CCC General Education patterns for the purpose of earning an Associate degree.

California Community Colleges and other qualified institutions are authorized to certify completion of up to 39 lower division semester units applicable to GE-Breadth requirements or all of the courses required for IGETC. "Certification" refers to official verification by a California Community College that a transfer student has completed courses fulfilling CSU general education requirements.

After students have applied for admission to a CSU campus, they should visit the California Community College admission or counseling office to request certification of courses meeting CSU general education requirements. The California Community College will then officially verify that these requirements have been met and the CSU campus will honor the certification. Certification is the most efficient way for CCC students to meet CSU GE lower division requirements. CSU campuses will also accept certification of courses meeting the CSU graduation requirement in U.S. History, the Constitution, and American Ideals. (See "American Institutions.")

### Certification of IGETC requirements

All of the courses required for the IGETC are expected to be completed in order for CSU campuses to accept the certification. Certification of "areas" (partial certification) is not allowed under IGETC. Additionally, all of the courses used for IGETC must be completed with a C or better grade (a C minus is not acceptable) for the certification to be accepted. If students are following the IGETC program but have not completed all of the courses required for IGETC before they are ready to transfer, most of this coursework can be certified under the CSU GE-Breadth program.

Lack of IGETC certification requires CSU campuses to hold transfer students to CSU campus specific GE pattern requirements. If students are approaching readiness for transfer, and for good cause, failed to complete one or two IGETC courses, they may be eligible to complete IGETC after transfer. Students may see their counselor or advisor.

### Certification of American Institutions requirements

The CSU requires each graduate to be knowledgeable about the Constitution of the United States, American History, and state and local government. The "U.S. History, Constitution, and American Ideals Requirement" is generally known as the American Institutions Requirement. Student can complete this requirement by passing a comprehensive examination if offered by a campus or by completing the required courses (generally two). California Community Colleges have identified courses that can be completed at the lower division level before transfer.

All California Community Colleges have designated courses that satisfy CSU American Institutions Requirement. Completion of this requirement through complete admission of specified courses can be certified by the CCC. Students should see their advisor/counselor for more information about certification of CSU GE-Breadth, IGETC, or American Institutions courses if they are not sure which community college courses will be acceptable to CSU campuses. Students can also log on to [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) for specific California Community College approved course lists for GE-Breadth and IGETC.

Note: Certification does not guarantee that admission requirements have been met. Students earning less than a C in Areas A and B4 do not meet the minimum CSU requirement. Some campuses accept C- grades. (See CCC counselor for more information.)

## Transfer: Certification and Transcripts

### Transcripts and Verification of Eligibility

#### Final transcripts

Final official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be submitted prior to CSU enrollment to verify that the student is eligible for admission. CSU campuses may rescind admission, delay admission, or not permit registration or attendance until receipt of final transcripts and admission eligibility can be verified. Students should request that official transcripts be sent directly from all colleges or universities previously attended even if no coursework was completed. Admission will be rescinded for students who do not successfully complete CSU admission requirements.

Transcripts must be received in sealed envelopes from each institution attended. Students should keep personal copies of all transcripts and test scores to complete the admission application and for academic advising sessions.

#### Fewer than 60 semester units

If the lower division transfer student is applying to the CSU with fewer than 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units, the student must submit official high school and college transcripts. A student with 60 semester (90 quarter) units is considered as an upper division transfer student.

The campus to which the student is applying will provide information about when to submit official high school and other college transcripts. Transcripts must be received in sealed envelopes directly from the high school from which the student graduated or the college previously attended.

Transfer applicants are required to submit final college transcripts prior to attendance in CSU classes. A final review will be done to verify successful completion of the courses. If the student did not complete the courses needed for admission, the CSU campus to which the student has applied may rescind, delay, or cancel admission or enrollment until the student has successfully completed the required course(s).

Note: Some CSU campuses will admit transfer students based on courses “in progress,” and some will not. Please consult the specific campus or their published materials for campus specific transfer admission information.

### Additional Notes to All Transfer Applicants

#### Improving reading and writing skills

Many transfer students report that the greatest difference between their classes in California Community Colleges and those at a CSU campus is the amount of writing required in the CSU. While students are taking courses that prepare them for transfer, they should also work on continued improvement of their reading and writing skills. Getting assistance with writing while at the California Community College will prepare the student for the demands of university study and help the student prepare to pass the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement for the baccalaureate.

#### Unique campus practices

It is critical to look for unique campus requirements and practices. Beyond requirements for the major and general education, CSU campuses may require other courses for the baccalaureate degree. Students should read the catalogs of the CSU campuses that they are considering as transfer options and familiarize themselves with their graduation requirements or visit their CCC Transfer Center. For example, some campuses require foreign language study as a part of the preparation for certain majors or for graduation. Campus requirements and practices MAY DIFFER from one another, so students are encouraged to look into the campus(es) where they intend to apply to determine any differences that may affect their transfer process.

## Transfer: Admission Exceptions

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Admission officers and evaluators distinguish between lower division applicants who qualify for regular admission under the admission adjustment criteria (Rule #14) and those who may qualify for admission under exception provisions. An applicant without a qualifying index, or who cannot qualify under the admission adjustment provision or both, may be considered as an exception at an individual campus. A limited number of such applicants may be considered for admission as exceptions under the provisions of the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 40900: General Exceptions or Section 40901: Exceptions for Applicants to Special Compensatory Programs. The final decision to admit students as exceptions is made at the individual campus. Admission to one campus as an exception does not guarantee admission to any other CSU campus.

## Transfer: Counselor and Student Resources

### Planning Effectively for Transfer from CCC to CSU

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#### 1. Develop an educational plan

The most important activity students can undertake to ensure their educational success is to meet with a community college counselor or advisor to develop an educational plan. This plan will identify courses to meet CSU admission and lower division general education requirements, lower division major requirements (also known as "major prerequisites"), and electives. The plan will also have the GPA needed to meet admission requirements for the major in which they are interested. An educational plan should be reviewed and updated annually throughout attendance at a CCC to ensure the most efficient path to transfer and earn a baccalaureate degree from a CSU campus.

During registration, students should select classes according to the prescribed educational plan. This is the best way to meet community college educational goals in a timely manner.

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#### 2. Visit CCC Transfer Centers for help in developing educational plans

Transfer Centers were established in all of the community colleges to strengthen the transfer function, and to increase the numbers of students prepared for transfer to four-year institutions through the provision of targeted services and intersegmental coordination of college transfer efforts.

A Transfer Center is a specific location on campus that is readily accessible and identifiable to students, faculty, and staff as the focal point of transfer activities that include, but are not limited to:

- Student outreach and transfer promotion.
- Individual academic planning for transfer, including courses required for university admission, general education, and major preparation.
- Assisting students with their transfer/transition plans, including on-going transfer advisement, completion and submission of admission applications, acquisition of financial aid and housing, and the identification of other university services.
- Collaborative efforts with university partners such the Transfer Admission Agreement program (TAA), visitation schedules of four-year representatives, college fairs, and cross-enrollment activities.
- Providing access to resources such as public and private college recruitment materials, articulation information, remedial education, and supportive services.

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#### 3. Visit [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu) and [www.Californiacolleges.edu](http://www.Californiacolleges.edu)

These web sites provide in-depth information about applying to the CSU, transfer planning guides and related resources, and links to valuable information on each of the CSU campuses.

## Transfer: Counselor and Student Resources

### Planning Effectively for Transfer from CCC to CSU

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#### 4. Select a major

The majority of course work undertaken during the first two years at a community college is typically GE requirements which are required of all majors in the CSU. In addition to GE requirements, students should attempt to complete lower division pre-major courses while attending a community college. Some CSU campuses allow students to apply as an “undeclared” major if they are not sure about the major. However, several CSU campuses require applicants to choose a major and will not accept students who do not declare a major. Students should refer to campus specific transfer admission criteria to clarify this issue.

Students should speak with a community college counselor or advisor and visit their transfer and career centers while considering major options.

Students should use the Student-Campus Matching Assistant at the CSUMentor web site ([www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu)) to determine which campuses offer the major(s) in which they are interested. Not all CSU campuses offer all possible majors. Students should check to make certain that the campus offers the specific major of interest before applying to that campus.

## Transfer: Counselor and Student Resources

### Planning Effectively for Transfer from CCC to CSU

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#### 5. Understand Pre-Major Requirements

Some majors require or recommend introductory or prerequisite courses, most of which are offered in community colleges. These “pre-major” requirements are described in CSU campus catalogs. Most CSU campuses have articulation agreements with several community colleges. Articulation agreements specify coursework taken at California Community Colleges that can be transferred to satisfy lower division requirements for the major at a CSU campus.

Students can check the articulation agreement for their major to be sure that courses will be accepted toward the degree at the CSU campus they plan to attend at [www.ASSIST.org](http://www.ASSIST.org). Students can obtain articulation agreements for specific majors from community college counselors, transfer center directors, or from the CSU campus they plan to attend.

A few CSU majors, such as engineering, some math-based fields, science, and other technical majors, have so many lower division requirements that students may not be able to complete the lower division general education requirements before they transfer. Students should see an advisor/counselor and consult with the specific CSU campus to determine which courses can be completed after transfer.

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#### 6. Types of Academic Credit

##### Community College Transfer Credit

A maximum of 70 semester (105 quarter) units earned in a community college may be applied toward a CSU degree. Transfer credit is not awarded for more than six semester units of professional courses in education. No upper division unit credit is allowed for courses taken in a community college. Subject matter credit may be awarded for GE and major preparation courses even when units earned beyond 70 cannot be accepted.

##### Extension Credit

A maximum of 24 semester (36 quarter) units earned through extension may be applied toward admission eligibility and a CSU degree.

##### Non-Traditional Credit

Credit earned by means other than traditional college course enrollment is used to determine admission eligibility as follows:

- Baccalaureate credit certified by the Defense Activities in Nontraditional Support (DANTES);
- Standardized examinations designated for systemwide credit in CSU Executive Order No. 365 or any executive order that supersedes it;
- The Advanced Placement examinations of the College Entrance Examination Board on which the applicant receives a score of 3, 4, or 5; 3 to 6 semester units as recommended by CEEB;
- Credit for basic training in the military service following the recommendations of the American Council on Education’s Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials. Basic training in the military service can be accepted as a physical activity course for up to 1.5 semester units applied to Area E, but Area E may not be completed solely with a combination of physical activity and/or military credit;
- Civilian and military courses and schools recommended for credit by the American Council on Education’s Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials. Military courses and schools must be documented by form DD214 or DD295, or for Navy veterans a SMART transcript (Sailor/ Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript), or for Army veterans, an AARTS transcript (Army/ACE Registry Transcript System).

## Transfer: Checklist of Educational Plan Activities for CCC Transfer Students

### Planning Effectively for Transfer from CCC to CSU

#### Establish an Educational Plan

- Make an appointment(s) with a CCC transfer counselor as needed to discuss and, if necessary, revise the educational plan.
- Let the transfer counselor know once a major is selected to ensure that as many lower division major prerequisites as possible can be taken prior to transfer. Transfer counselors can help determine if a selected major and/or program may be impacted and has higher admission requirements.
- Check to see if the major is impacted at the CSU campus of choice. Adjust the list of campuses being applied to accordingly. It is advisable to apply to more than one CSU if applying to an impacted major or campus.
- Visit [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu) to learn more about all CSU campuses. Begin a transfer planner on CSUMentor and update it every term. Students can track their progress in meeting admission and general education requirements at the touch of a computer.
- Follow the educational plan every term.
- Review and update annually the information on the student planner on [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu).

#### Financial Aid and Financial Planning Activities:

- Be aware of all the financial aid rules, policies, and deadlines. The financial aid office or a financial aid counselor can provide the information.
- Attend a financial aid loan workshop if planning on applying for educational loans.
- Use the financial aid services provided at [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu).
- Plan the entire financial picture: What amount of total funds will be needed to be earned, borrowed through loans, or received through grants and scholarships to cover all university related expenses?

#### Investigate the Campus(es) of Choice:

- Visit the prospective CSU campus. Some CCC Transfer Centers offer tours of local CSUs and sponsor Transfer Days where CSU campus representatives visit the community college.
- Or visit prospective CSU campuses electronically at [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu).
- Use web resources to learn as much as possible about the CSU campus and the related major requirements.
- Make an appointment with a CSU campus representative to review the CSU admission application. Ask about additional services offered to transfer students at the CSU campus of choice including housing options for transfer students.

#### Apply via [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu):

Students are strongly encouraged to apply electronically via [www.CSUMentor.edu](http://www.CSUMentor.edu)

- File a CSU admission application either through the mail or on-line through CSUMentor ([www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu)) as early as possible. The CSU begins accepting applications for fall term the preceding October.
- Research campus specific application deadlines as campuses will differ in their application deadlines based on the number of students applying for admission at that campus.
- Obtain final transcripts and provide those to the CSU(s) where applications are being sent when the CSU campus requests them.

## Transfer: Checklist of Educational Plan Activities for CCC Transfer Students

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### Education Opportunity Program (EOP):

- If students are currently in an EOP&S program, they can complete the application fee waiver form available at the EOPS office and submit the form with the CSU application for admission. Students interested in the CSU Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) must also file the EOP supplemental application. Not all California Community College EOP&S students qualify for the CSU EOP program. Requirements for the CCC EOP&S and CSU EOP programs differ. Please refer to the CSU EOP supplemental application or contact any CSU EOP office for additional details.

### Disabled Student Services:

- Students who have a verifiable disability that prevents them from completing specific course requirements and need to have special accommodations in the classroom, or want additional information on support services provided to qualified students, should contact the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities (also called Disabled Student Services) at the appropriate CSU campus as soon as possible. Careful planning is necessary to ensure that otherwise qualified students with disabilities are able to be admitted to the CSU and succeed in the classroom.

### Early Registration:

- Students should seek to participate in early registration to make sure they receive the right courses at the best times for their schedule. This is especially important if they plan on working while attending the CSU.

**Note:** Transfer students from private colleges and universities and those transferring from one CSU to another CSU may follow the planning process noted above, but should work directly with their home campus and intended CSU campus advisors and admission staff to ensure a smooth transfer application process.

## Transfer: Final Checklist for Students

### Lower Division Transfer Students

- Verify that the CSU of choice is accepting lower division transfer students.
- Have fewer than 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units
- Have at least a 2.00 grade point average (a higher grade point average may be required for impacted majors and campuses).
- Qualify for the CSU as a high school senior.
- If not, has coursework been taken that clears any deficiencies in high school preparation?
- Have taken the SAT I or ACT. The test is required if the GPA on the high school record is not at least 3.0.
- Complete the oral communication GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete the written communication GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete the critical thinking GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete the college level mathematics GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Request a partial certification of the General Education progress to date.

### Upper-Division Transfer Students

- Complete at least 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units.
- Have at least a 2.00 grade point average (2.40 for non-residents). A higher grade point average may be required for impacted majors and campuses.
- Complete the oral communication GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete the written communication GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete critical thinking GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete the college level mathematics GE requirement with a grade of C or better.
- Complete 30 semester units of required General Education courses all with grades of C or better.
- Complete all requirements of the educational plan.
- Complete recommended lower division prerequisite courses for the intended major.
- Request that general education coursework be certified to ensure that there will be no further lower division General Education requirements once transfer to a CSU campus occurs. A maximum of 39 lower division general education courses can be certified.

**The California State University**

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**Section 4**

**Admission and  
Placement Tests**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## English Language Admission Tests

### English Language Examination (TOEFL)

Undergraduate applicants whose native language is not English, and whose preparatory education was principally in a language other than English, must demonstrate English competency by receiving a minimum score of 500 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 173 on the computer-based TOEFL. Students who have attended a secondary level educational institution where English was the principal language of instruction for at least three years full time will not be held to the TOEFL admission requirement. Campuses specify the conditions for meeting the requirement of three years full-time English language instruction (Title 5, Sections 40752.1 and 40802.1).

Individual campuses establish TOEFL scores based on campus specific factors such as the nature of instruction offered, the availability of instruction in English as a Second Language, and student enrollment demand. CSU campuses established the following minimum TOEFL scores for admission during the 2000-01 academic year.

CAMPUS	PAPER	COMPUTER	EXCEPTIONS
Bakersfield	500	173	
Chico	500	173	
	550	213	for an unrestricted program of study
Dominguez Hills	550	213	
	575	231	for majors in Clinical Science
Fresno	500	173	
Fullerton	500	173	
Hayward	525	195	
Humboldt	550	213	
Long Beach	500	173	
	550	213	Film & Electronic Arts
	600	250	Journalism
	600	250	Public Policy & Administration
Los Angeles	550	213	
Maritime Academy	550	213	
Monterey Bay	525	195	
Northridge	500	173	
Pomona	525	195	
Sacramento	510	180	
San Francisco	500	173	
San Diego	550	213	
San Bernardino	500	173	
San Jose	500	173	
	550	213	Engineering
San Luis Obispo	550	213	
San Marcos	550	213	
Sonoma	500	173	
Stanislaus	500	173	including part scores of at least 50 (17 on computer)

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

## English Language Admission Tests

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### English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT)

Campuses may use English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) in lieu of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for undergraduate admission purposes in specified cases. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents of the U.S. The required minimum score to be considered comparable to a TOEFL score of 500 is an ELPT score of 955. The ELPT is one of the SAT II examinations developed by The College Board and the Educational Testing Service (ETS). It measures a student's understanding of spoken and written Standard American English. It is geared to the student in the U.S. whose primary language is not English and who has completed two to four years of ESL or English enrichment instruction.

## Placement Tests

### Placement Tests – EPT and ELM

The CSU requires all new students (freshmen and transfers) to be tested in English and mathematics prior to enrollment. These are not admission tests, but a way for campuses to determine whether students are prepared for college-level work and, if not, to counsel students how to strengthen their preparation.

#### The English Placement Test (EPT)

The CSU English Placement Test must be completed by all entering undergraduates, with the exception of those who present proof of one of the following:

- a. A score of 550 or above on the verbal section of the recentered College Board SAT I: Reasoning Test taken April 1995 or after.
- b. A score of 470 or above on the verbal section of either the College Board SAT or SAT I: Reasoning Test taken March 1995 or before.
- c. A score of 24 or above on the enhanced ACT English Test taken October 1989 or later.
- d. A score of 22 or above on the American College Testing (ACT) English Usage Test taken prior to October 1989.
- e. A score of 3, 4, or 5 on either the Language and Composition or the Composition and Literature examination of the College Board Advanced Placement program.
- f. A score of 680 or above on the recentered and adjusted College Board SAT II: Writing Test taken May 1998 or after.
- g. A score of 660 or above on the recentered College Board SAT II: Writing Test taken between April 1995 and April 1998.
- h. A score of 600 or above on the College Board Achievement Test in English Composition with essay or the College Board SAT II: Writing Test taken March 1995 or before.
- i. A satisfactory score on the CSU English Equivalency Examination taken in 1993 or before.
- j. Completion and transfer to the CSU of a college course that satisfies the General Education-Breadth requirement or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum requirement in English composition, provided such a course was completed with a grade of C or better.
- k. A score of “Exempt” on the Early Academic Assessment (EAP) Test taken in Spring of Junior year of high school.

## Placement Tests

### Placement Tests – EPT and ELM

#### Entry Level Mathematics (ELM) Exam

The ELM examination tests for entry-level mathematics skills acquired through three years of rigorous college preparatory mathematics coursework (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry). All undergraduate students must take the test or be exempted from it prior to placement in appropriate university mathematics coursework. The campus will determine specific policies regarding retesting and placement. Exemptions from the test are given only to those students who can present proof of one of the following:

- a. A score of 550 or above on the mathematics section of the College Board SAT I: Reasoning Test or on the College Board SAT II Mathematics Tests Level I, IC (Calculator), II, or IIC (Calculator).
- b. A score of 23 or above on the enhanced ACT Mathematics Test taken October 1989 or later.
- c. A score of 24 or above on the ACT Mathematics Test taken prior to October 1, 1989.
- d. A score of 3, 4, or 5 on the College Board Advanced Placement calculus examination (AB or BC) or the Statistics examination.
- e. Completion and transfer to the CSU of a college course that satisfies the General Education-Breadth requirement or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum requirement in quantitative reasoning, provided such a course was completed with a grade of C or better.
- f. A score of “conditionally exempt” on the Early Academic Assessment Program (EAP) with successful completion of an approved senior year experience in mathematics or related area.
- g. A score of “Exempt” on the EAP Test taken in Spring of Junior year of high school.

**The California State University**

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**Section 5**

**Impacted  
Programs**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## Impacted Programs

### Impacted Undergraduate Programs

#### Supplementary admission criteria

In the California State University, an undergraduate major or campus is designated as impacted when the number of CSU eligible applications received in the initial filing period is greater than the number that can be accommodated by the major or campus. In such instances, CSU campuses have been authorized to use supplementary admission criteria to screen applicants to these majors and/or campuses. These supplementary admission criteria may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Cease accepting admission applications at the conclusion of the initial filing period;
- Require submission of the SAT I or ACT regardless of the high school grade point average;
- Rank order first-time freshmen by eligibility index;
- Set a higher minimum eligibility index than that required for CSU admission;
- Review additional characteristics such as socioeconomic or educational factors, space availability in a program or major, indications of overcoming educational obstacles, or exceptional talents; and
- Require completion of specified lower division general education requirements for lower division transfer applicants.

#### Major versus campus impactation

There are subtle, yet important, differences between major and campus impactation. **Major impactation** means that the number of applications from fully eligible students to a designated program or major on a CSU campus during the initial filing period exceeds the number of spaces available in that major. However, students can still be admitted to the campus in an alternate major or they may eventually be admitted to the over-subscribed major provided they meet the supplementary admission criteria.

Students interested in an impacted major or campus must apply for admission during the initial admission application filing period (October 1 through November 30 for fall admission). Applicants to majors that are impacted at every CSU campus where offered should apply to additional CSU campuses to maximize opportunity for admission. Impacted majors and campuses accept no applications for admission after the initial filing period.

#### Local impactation

Applicants to locally-impacted majors (those where the major is impacted at one or more but not all campuses offering it) may select as an alternate campus one that offers the same major but which is not impacted in the major. In such cases, if the applicant is not accommodated in the locally-impacted major or an alternative major at the first-choice campus, the application may be redirected to an alternate campus that remains open in the same major and the filing of an additional application is unnecessary. Applications cannot be redirected to other impacted campuses, impacted majors, or to campuses that have closed to additional applications for that program or class level.

Consideration for admission to any impacted major or class level is contingent on first meeting the regular admission requirements for the CSU. Supplementary admission criteria are used to screen all applicants for admission to impacted major or class level, including those students currently enrolled at the campus in other majors and seeking to change to the impacted major.

## Impacted Programs

### Lower and upper division differences

Most majors are impacted at the upper division level only. Freshmen and lower division transfers generally are admitted as pre-majors and must complete prerequisite coursework at the campus prior to consideration for admission to the impacted major. A number of CSU campuses are impacted in some majors or class levels, but only Cal Poly San Luis Obispo is impacted in all majors.

Campus impaction means that a campus has exhausted existing enrollment capacity and receives more eligible applicants for an enrollment category (i.e. upper division transfers) during the initial admission application filing period than can be accommodated and must therefore restrict enrollment to the campus for that category. Currently, Chico, Fullerton, Long Beach, Cal Poly Pomona, San Diego, San Marcos, and Sonoma are designated as impacted CSU campuses.

Under campus impaction, an enrollment category must remain open for at least the initial admission application filing period if the campus decides to accept any applications for that enrollment category. This alleviates the difficult problems of “first come, first served” and allows applicants to impacted majors, programs, and campuses an equal chance during a fixed period of time to file admission applications.

Campus impaction offers a local admission guarantee that does not apply to impacted majors or programs.

### Local admission guarantee

Under the local admission guarantee, local CSU-eligible first-time freshmen and local upper division transfer students shall be admitted to a local CSU campus on the basis of established CSU system admission policies. However, admission to an impacted campus does not include assurance of admission to a specific major if that major is impacted at the local campus. “Local” first-time freshmen are defined as those students who graduate from a high school district historically served by a CSU campus in that region. “Local” upper division transfer students are defined as those who transfer from a community college district historically served by a CSU campus in that region. The boundaries of a campus’s local region shall contain the entire territory of the school district or community college district in which the local high school or community college campus is located.

Campuses may use both campus impaction and major impaction simultaneously. For example, a campus could be “campus impacted” for first-time freshmen and use selected “major impaction” for upper division transfers. In this example, both upper division transfers and students currently enrolled at the campus would be required to meet the same supplemental admission criteria for admission to an impacted major at the upper division level. Please refer to [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu) for updated campus specific information on impaction.

**The California State University**

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**Section 6**

**Other Programs**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## Other Programs and Services

### California's Cross Enrollment Program

The cross enrollment program is designed to enhance the educational experience of California students by providing them with increased access to courses offered by campuses of other public higher education institutions. Students may speed progress toward meeting degree requirements by investigating course availability at campuses of other systems when they are unable to gain access to required courses at their home campus or are unable to find a course offered at a convenient time. Cross enrollment also expands educational horizons by providing students with opportunities to explore disciplines not offered by the home campus.

CSU undergraduate students have an opportunity to enroll without formal admission and without payment of an additional State University Fee in one course each academic term at a campus of the University of California or at participating campuses of the California Community Colleges. The cross enrollment program is open to California residents enrolled for a minimum of six units, who have completed at least one term at their home campuses, and who have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00. Eligibility for enrollment in a course offered by another segment is based upon available space and appropriate academic preparation for the course as determined by the host campus. Although the host campus will not require the regular course fee, a \$10 administration fee may be assessed for each term, and students are expected to pay any course-related fees (lab, materials, computer use, etc.).

Information and applications for cross enrollment are available to CSU students from CSU offices of admission and records.

## Other Programs and Services

### Four-Year Degree Programs

Students who wish to graduate in four years are encouraged to take advantage of CSU's four-year degree programs. Even though each CSU campus has developed a four-year program responsive to the needs of the campus community, the common core component of all four-year degree plans is a strong advisement program. Students are expected to meet with advisors each term to plan a program of study that will assure appropriate progress toward meeting degree requirements.

Graduating within four years requires commitment on the part of the student and the campus community. To graduate within four years, a student must:

- a. Arrive with English and mathematics skills needed to handle the demands of university study;
- b. Declare a major at the time of admission (or shortly thereafter) and not change majors;
- c. Enroll in a minimum of 15 semester units each term;
- d. Fulfill all academic, grade, and coursework requirements;
- e. Meet with an academic advisor on a regular basis and heed advice given;
- f. Follow required administrative and academic policies and procedures; and
- g. Meet the unit requirement (120-132 semester units) for the baccalaureate degree sought.

#### **Campuses must:**

- a. Ensure regular academic counseling;
- b. Provide required courses; and
- c. Schedule sufficient class offerings.

#### **Other Factors**

CSU students often take time out of their college programs for personal reasons. This is a major cause of extended time-to-degree. In addition, one-third of CSU students work 30 or more hours per week, and nearly three-fourths of CSU students work at least part time while attending classes. Balancing school, work, and family obligations often diverts students from a primary emphasis on their education.

If students choose to change majors, enhance their educational experience by taking additional courses, become involved in extracurricular activities, study abroad, engage in one or more internships, or work, they are unlikely to graduate within four years. While time is important, the quality of an educational experience is paramount. In education, there is no substitute for a high-quality learning and growing experience.

CSU is committed to enabling students to control their academic destiny and ensuring that no obstacles deter students from proceeding toward their educational goals at the pace they prefer whether that is the enrolled time-to-degree equivalent of three years, four years, six years or more.

**The California State University**

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**Section 7**

**Residence  
Requirements**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## Residence Requirements: Brief Summary

### Legal

The law governing residence for tuition purposes at the California State University is California Education Code sections 68000-68084, 68120-68134, and 89705-89707.5, and California Code of Regulations, Title 5, sections 41900-41916. This material is online at [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu).

Each campus's admission office has the responsibility to determine the residence status of all new and returning students based on responses to the Application for Admission, Residency Questionnaire, Reclassification Request Form, and, as necessary, other evidence furnished by the student. A student who fails to submit adequate information to establish a right to resident classification will be classified as a non-resident.

### Establishing Residence

Generally, establishing residence in California for tuition purposes requires a combination of physical presence and intent to remain indefinitely. An adult who, at least one full year prior to the residence determination date for the term in which enrollment is contemplated, has been both physically present in the state and has evidence of the intent to remain in California indefinitely, may establish residence in California for tuition purposes. Evidence demonstrating intent can vary from case to case and may include, but is not limited to, the absence of residential ties to any other state, California voter registration and voting in California elections, maintaining California vehicle license plates and driver's license, maintaining active California bank accounts, filing California income tax returns, owning residential property or occupying or renting an apartment where permanent belongings are kept, maintaining active memberships in California professional or social organizations, and maintaining a permanent military address and home of record in California.

Adult non-citizens establish residence in the same manner as citizens, unless precluded by the Immigration and Nationality Act from establishing domicile in the United States. Unmarried minor noncitizens derive their residence in the same manner as unmarried minor citizens except that both parent and minor must have an immigration status consistent with establishing domicile in the United States.

Exceptions to the general residence requirements are contained in California Education Code sections 68070-68120 and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 41900-41916, and include, but are not limited to, members of the military and their dependents and certain credentialed employees of school districts. Whether an exception applies to a particular student cannot be determined before the submission of an Application for Admission and, as necessary, additional supporting documentation. Because neither campus nor Chancellor's Office staff may give advice on the application of these laws, applicants are strongly urged to review the material for themselves and consult with a legal advisor.

Non-resident students seeking reclassification are required to complete a supplemental questionnaire including questions concerning their financial dependence, which will be considered along with physical presence and intent in determining reclassification.

## Residence Requirements: Brief Summary

### Residence Determination Dates

Dates are set each term.

#### Quarter Term Campuses

Fall	September 20
Winter	January 5
Spring	April 1
Summer	July 1

#### Semester Term Campuses

Fall	September 20
Winter	January 5 (Applies only to winter term at CSU, Stanislaus)
Spring	January 25
Summer	June 1

#### CalState TEACH

The residence determination dates for the four stages of CalStateTEACH are:

Stage 1	September 20
Stage 2	January 5
Stage 3	June 1
Stage 4	September 20

### Appeal of Residency Classification

To appeal a campus residency classification, it must be in writing and submitted to:

The California State University  
Office of General Counsel  
401 Golden Shore, 4th Floor  
Long Beach, California 90802-4210

The appeal must be submitted within 120 days of notification of the final campus decision. The Office of General Counsel can either decide the appeal or send the matter back to the campus for further review.

### Incorrect Classification

Students incorrectly classified as residents or incorrectly granted an exception from non-resident tuition are subject to reclassification as non-residents and payment of non-resident tuition in arrears. If incorrect classification results from false or concealed facts, the student is subject to discipline pursuant to Section 41301 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

### Changes of Residence

Resident students who become non-residents, or who no longer meet the criteria for an exception, must immediately notify the Admission Office.

Changes may have been made in the rate of non-resident tuition and in the statutes and regulations governing residence for tuition purposes in California between the time this information is published and the relevant residence determination date. Students are urged to review the statutes and regulations stated above.

**The California State University**

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**Section 8**

**Definitions  
and Terms**

**[www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)**

## Definitions and Terms

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### Attendance

Attendance during a term is established if it results in a record of enrollment for that term on the official transcript of an accredited college, regardless of the length of time, grade(s) received, or the number of courses completed.

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### Baccalaureate

Baccalaureate (degree, program, etc.) denotes a level of education marked by the completion of the equivalent of four or more years of full-time education (at least 120 semester or 180 quarter units). Baccalaureate level refers to courses that meet requirements for the baccalaureate degree, also called a “four-year” or “bachelor’s” degree.

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### Catalog rights

Catalog rights refer to the specific set of requirements, as established in a CSU catalog for a specific year, which the student must satisfy to qualify for a degree. Catalog rights do not apply to admission eligibility. Undergraduate students who have maintained continuous attendance at a CSU or a California Community College may elect to qualify for graduation from the CSU under catalog requirements in effect either:

- 1) At the time they began attending any California Community College or CSU campus;
- 2) At the time they entered the CSU campus from which they will graduate;
- OR –
- 3) At the time they graduate from the CSU.

Establishment of catalog rights based on first attendance at a California Community College permits community college students to plan and complete general education, the United States history, constitution and American ideals, and other non-major requirements. Transfer and returning students may be required to meet updated major or minor requirements and any other requirements mandated by systemwide policy changes affecting all CSU students.

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### Certification

An official notice, either on the transcript or on a certification form, provided by a participating institution (normally a California community college) verifying that a transfer student has completed courses satisfying all or a portion of CSU general education requirements. “Certified courses” refer to courses that have been submitted by the college and accepted by the CSU Office of the Chancellor as fulfilling its general education or American institutions requirements.

“Certification” refers to official certification by a CCC that a transfer student has completed courses fulfilling CSU GE requirements. When a student completes all of the general education requirements in any area, Area A-E of the GE-Breadth pattern, he/she can be certified in that area. This is referred to as being “partially certified”. If all areas of GE-Breadth are completed the student is referred to as “fully certified”. In the case of IGETC, certification is only possible if all requirements are complete and the student is then IGETC certified for either UC or CSU transfer. Students who are certified will not be held to any additional lower division general education requirements at the CSU.

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### Changing majors

A campus may require a student changing his or her major or any minor field of study to complete the major or minor requirements in effect at the time of the change. Campuses may authorize or require substitutions for discontinued courses. A campus may prescribe that particular requirements be met within as few as seven years of the date of award of the degree.

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## Definitions and Terms

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### College or university

A regionally accredited institution that offers courses generally accepted as appropriate toward meeting baccalaureate degree requirements. Institutions that are specialized in nature may not meet this definition.

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### Community Colleges

Institutions of higher education which award associate (“two-year”) degrees and vocational certificates, and which offer classes that can be transferred to a four-year college or university and applied toward a baccalaureate degree.

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### Continuous attendance

Continuous attendance requires attendance in at least one course for at least one regular semester or two regular quarters in each calendar year at a regionally accredited college or university; a requirement to retain catalog rights for a given year.

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### Early Assessment Program

The Early Assessment Program (EAP) tests are augmented California Standard Tests (CSTs) in 11th grade English and mathematics; these tests are part of California’s public school testing and accountability system and are required of all students. The augmented tests were developed by CSU and K-12 faculty, who made sure that both the California high school standards as well as the CSU standards were covered. The faculty added a writing sample to the English CST, as well as a few more test items, but they kept the time needed for testing to a minimum.

After 11th graders take the test, they will receive a score indicating whether they have either met the CSU expectations (and are thus exempt from any additional CSU placement tests) or whether the need additional preparation in order to be successful in college-level work. Those who need extra work will have their entire senior year to prepare further.

---

### Educational leave

Approved educational leave for attendance at another accredited institution of higher learning is not considered an interruption in catalog rights, providing such absence does not exceed two years. The absence must be consistent with the CSU definition of educational leave and with CSU policy. Students who have been academically disqualified may lose previously established catalog rights.

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### Electives

Courses that count toward total transfer units but are not used to fulfill lower division pre-major, general education, or graduation requirements. If a student has not decided on a major, taking elective courses in different fields is a good way to explore career interests and aptitudes. Check the college catalog carefully to be sure that these courses are transferable to the CSU for at least elective credit.

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### Eligibility index

A weighted combination of high school grade point average and a score on either the American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). The eligibility index is calculated by multiplying the grade point average by 800 and adding the total score of the SAT I ((GPA x 800) + SAT I). When using the ACT score, the eligibility index is calculated by multiplying the grade point average by 200 and adding 10 times the composite score from the ACT (GPA x 200) + (10 x ACT).

August 2004. All dates, test scores, and costs are subject to change.

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## Definitions and Terms

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### Freshman

The first year of study for an associate or bachelor's degree. Students who have completed 1-29 semester units are considered freshmen.

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### General education

General education encompasses courses in the arts and sciences that provide students with a broad educational experience. Courses typically are introductory in nature and provide students with fundamental skills and knowledge in mathematics, English, arts, humanities, and physical, biological, and social sciences. Completion of a general education program is required to earn a baccalaureate degree from the CSU.

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### General Education-Breadth (GE) requirements

General Education-Breadth (GE) requirements refer to a specific program of general education courses that a student must complete as a prerequisite to being awarded a baccalaureate degree.

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### Good standing

Good standing requires that, at the time of application for admission to the CSU and at the time of admission, the applicant was not under disciplinary or academic suspension, dismissal, expulsion or similar action by the last college or university attended or was not under disciplinary suspension, dismissal, expulsion or similar action at any CSU institution. Individual CSU campuses may have a more restrictive definition of "good standing." For example, a student on academic probation may not be considered to be in "good standing."

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### Graduation requirements

Units, courses, examinations, or academic programs that must be completed to obtain a baccalaureate degree. Graduation requirements include major, general education, U.S. history, constitution and American ideals, and elective courses, as well as campus-specific requirements.

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### High School/College Unit Equivalency

One college-level course of at least 3 semester (4 quarter) units is usually considered equivalent to one year of high school study.

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### Impacted major/campus

In the CSU, an undergraduate major or campus is designated as impacted when the number of CSU eligible applications received in the initial filing period is greater than the number that can be accommodated by the major or campus.

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### Initial application filing period

The primary period in which applications for admission for an academic term are accepted by CSU campuses. Applications to impacted majors of study must be filed during this period. Initial filing periods for admission terms are as follows: October and November for fall; February for summer; June for winter; and August for spring.

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## Definitions and Terms

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### **Institution of origin**

The college or university where the student completed the most transferable units. The institution of origin for first-time freshmen is the high school from which the student graduated.

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### **Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)**

A program of courses that can be completed at a California Community College to satisfy all lower division general education requirements at any CSU or UC campus.

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### **Junior**

The third year of study for a bachelor's degree. Students who have completed 60-89 semester units are considered juniors.

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### **Lower division**

Programs or courses designed for the first two years or within the first 59 semester units of study toward a baccalaureate degree, often taken at a community college and transferred to a university. Also refers to freshmen and sophomores.

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### **Lower division transfer**

Beginning Fall 2005, an applicant who has completed fewer than 60 transferable semester units.

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### **Program**

A specified set of courses required to achieve a specific objective or degree, such as general education or major requirements.

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### **Quarter Term**

A term offered within an academic year, marking the beginning and end of classes. In the CSU, 6 of the 23 campuses are on the quarter system. Each quarter is 10 weeks in length.

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### **Residency Requirement**

Students must complete a minimum of 30 semester (45 quarter) units at the CSU campus where the degree will be earned; 24 of these units must be upper division.

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### **Semester**

A term within an academic year marking the beginning and end of classes. In the CSU, 17 of the 23 campuses are on the semester system. Traditional semesters are 15 weeks in length. CSU Stanislaus is on a modified semester system, and other semester campuses may offer summer terms that are less than 15 weeks in length.

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## Definitions and Terms

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### Senior

The final year of study for a baccalaureate degree. Students who have completed 90 or more semester units are considered seniors.

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### Sophomore

The second year of study for a bachelor's degree. Students who have completed 30-59 semester units are considered sophomores.

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### Term

A specific period of the year during which classes are in session. Examples include fall term and spring term. See Quarter and Semester.

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### Transfer units

Courses that are transferable for baccalaureate credit to the CSU or another college or university.

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### Transferable units

Credit values for courses recommended by the faculty of a regionally accredited college or university and either certified or otherwise designated as appropriate for baccalaureate credit by the institution and therefore acceptable at least as elective credit by the CSU.

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### Undergraduate

An enrolled student who has not completed a baccalaureate degree; a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior. It is also used to denote baccalaureate level programs and courses.

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### Unit

A measure of credit earned for course completion. A unit is based on the number of hours of instruction per week required in the classroom and/or lab or in independent study. A high school unit is equivalent to one year of high school level study of an academic subject. A college course earning 3 semester units will usually meet 3 hours a week. One quarter unit is equal to 2/3 of one semester unit.

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### Upper division

Programs or courses designed for the third and fourth (junior and senior) years of study toward a baccalaureate degree. These courses are not offered by community colleges, and they often require completion of prerequisite courses. Also refers to junior and senior students.

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