

CSU-UC Comparison of Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Freshmen

	California State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)
HIGH SCHOOL GPA		
	Calculate GPA using only “a-g” approved courses taken <i>after</i> the 9 th grade.	
SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS		
	15 yearlong college preparatory courses from approved “a-g” list are required:	
“a” History/Social Science	2 years of history/social science, including one year of U.S. history OR one semester of U.S. history and one semester of American government, AND...	
	1 year of history/social science from either the “a” or “g” subject area	1 year of world history, cultures, and geography from the “a” subject area
“b” English	4 years of English (including no more than one year of ESL/ELD courses)	
“c” Mathematics	3 years of math (algebra I and II, geometry); 4 years recommended	
	2 years of laboratory science, including at least two of the three foundational subjects of biology, chemistry, and physics	
“d” Laboratory Science	At least 1 year of physical science and 1 year of biological science, one from the “d” subject area and the other from the “d” or “g” area *	Both courses must be from the “d” subject area: 3 years recommended
		2 years of language other than English (must be the same language)
“e” Language Other Than English		3 years recommended
	“f” Visual and Performing Arts	1 yearlong course in visual and performing arts (selected from dance, music, theatre/drama and visual arts)
“g” College Preparatory Elective	1 year of an elective chosen from any area on approved “a-g” course list	
	(Several career technical courses are approved for a-g)	
HONORS POINTS		
	Maximum of 8 extra grade points awarded for approved honors, AP, or IB courses and transferable community college courses. No more than two yearlong courses taken in 10 th grade can earn honors points.	

*The CSU will “align” with the UC “d” requirement sometime after 2010.

	California State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)
TEST SCORES – ACT/SAT		
	ACT or SAT is required*	
	<p>CSU combines best critical reading and math scores from multiple sittings of SAT; may combine best subscores from multiple ACT tests to calculate a best composite.</p> <p>*Test required for CSU applicants who have earned an "a-g" GPA of less than 3.0.</p>	<p>UC uses the highest combined score from a single sitting of the ACT Assessment plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test. Also required are two SAT Subject Tests in two different subject areas: history, literature, mathematics (level 2 only), science or language other than English.</p>
VALIDATION OF SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS BY OTHER COURSES		
Mathematics	<p>A grade of C or better in the second semester of a yearlong algebra course validates a D in the first semester. A grade of C or better in Algebra II validates Algebra I. A grade of C or better in trigonometry or pre-calculus validates the entire high school college preparatory requirement. Beginning with fall 2007 applicants, a grade of C or better in statistics will validate only Algebra I and Algebra II, not geometry.</p>	
Language Other than English (LOTE)	<p>A grade of C or better in a higher-level course validates a lower-level course. A higher-level LOTE course can validate the appropriate number of years based on the level. A college course can validate a high school LOTE course. The level of validation depends on the college course prerequisite and description.</p>	
Chemistry	<p>The CSU will continue to permit the second semester of chemistry and validate the first semester.</p>	<p>Beginning with fall 2007 applicants, a C or better in the second semester of chemistry WILL NO LONGER VALIDATE a D in the first semester.</p>
VALIDATION OF D GRADES IN REQUIRED COURSES		
	<p>Required "a-g" courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. Courses in which grades of D are earned must be repeated, EXCEPT in the areas of math and language other than English, where grades of D can be validated by successful completion of higher-level coursework.</p>	
VALIDATION OF SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS BY TEST SCORES		
	<p>Subject omissions may be satisfied with appropriate test scores on SAT Subject Tests, Advanced Placement exams, and designated International Baccalaureate exams. A list of acceptable tests and scores is available on the UC and CSU websites.</p>	
REPEATED COURSES		
	<p>The best grade will be used in the GPA calculation.</p>	
		<p>A course not completed with a grade of C or better can be repeated only once.</p>