

CSU-UC Comparison of Freshman Admission Requirements for 2014-2015 Applicants

	California State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)
SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS		
	15 yearlong college preparatory courses are required with grade of C or better:	
		11 UC-required college-preparatory courses must be completed prior to senior year (including summer courses)
"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 college preparatory English composition/literature (including no more than 1 year of Advanced ESL/ELD)	
"c" Mathematics	3 years of mathematics (algebra I and II, geometry); 4 years recommended*	
"d" Laboratory Science	2 years of 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 **	Must include at least two of the three foundational subjects of biology, chemistry, and physics; both courses must be from the "d" subject area; 3 years recommended
"e" Language Other Than English	2 years (or equivalent to the 2 nd level high school course) of language other than English (must be the same language, American Sign Language accepted)*	
		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	
	Note: Numerous Career Technical Education courses are approved for fulfillment of "a-g" subject requirements.	
REPEATED COURSES		
	Required "a-g" courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. Courses in which grades of D/F are earned may be repeated. The highest grade will be used in the GPA calculation.	
		UC only allows a course to be repeated one time for grade replacement.

* Coursework completed in 7th or 8th grade can be used to satisfy "c" and "e" requirements.

** It is best to prepare for both UC and the CSU by completing two laboratory courses from the "d" subject area.

	California State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)
VALIDATION OF SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS BY OTHER COURSES		
Mathematics	<p>A grade of C or better in the second semester of a mathematics course validates a D/F in the first semester. A grade of C or better in the first semester of Algebra II validates both semesters of Algebra I. A grade of C or better in Trigonometry or Pre-calculus validates the entire high school college preparatory requirement.*** 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. Refer to the CCC "a-g" course list and review the "Category" column.</p>	
Chemistry	<p>A grade of C or better in the second semester of chemistry <u>will</u> validate a D in the first semester.</p>	<p>A grade of C or better in the second semester of chemistry <u>will not</u> validate a D in the first semester. UC does not allow the validation of Chemistry.</p>
VALIDATION OF D/F GRADES IN REQUIRED COURSES		
	<p>Courses in which grades of D/F are earned may be validated in the areas of Math and Language Other Than English by successful completion of higher-level coursework.***</p>	
VALIDATION OF SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS BY TEST SCORES		
	<p>Required "a-g" courses 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 UC and CSU websites.</p>	
HIGH SCHOOL GPA		
	<p>Calculate GPA using only "a-g" approved courses taken <i>after</i> the 9th grade, including summer courses. All "a-g" courses and grades must be reported.</p>	
HONORS POINTS		
	<p>Maximum of 8 extra grade points from four yearlong courses (8 semesters) awarded for approved high school honors, AP, or IB courses and transferable college courses. No more than two yearlong courses (4 semesters) completed in 10th grade can earn honors points.</p>	
TEST SCORES – ACT/SAT		
ACT or SAT Reasoning	<p>Test required for CSU applicants to impacted campuses.</p> <p>Test required for CSU applicants to non-impacted campuses, who have earned an "a-g" GPA of less than 3.0.</p> <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>The ACT Plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test is required for UC applicants.</p> <p>UC uses the highest composite score from a single sitting of the ACT Plus Writing or total score from the SAT Reasoning Test.</p> <p><u>Some campuses</u> may recommend SAT Subject Tests for specific majors.</p>

*** Beginning with the fall 2015 application cycle, students applying to UC may not validate the omission of the subject requirement for a geometry course.

Information on this matrix is accurate as of September 2, 2013. For current updates and changes in admission requirements, if there are any, contact the specific university admission office.