The University of California’s Response to COVID-19: Admissions and Financial Aid

The following systemwide measures are being taken to address the educational disruption of students affected by the COVID-19 crisis (as of April 1, 2020)

FALL 2020 FRESHMAN ADMITTED STUDENTS

UC will temporarily suspend the letter grade requirement for A-G courses completed in winter/spring/summer 2020 for all students, including UC’s most recently admitted freshmen.

Freshman decisions have been released at all campuses: admissions offers have gone out to students. The deadline to accept the offer of admission is May 1; campuses plan to provide maximum flexibility to students who request extensions and deferment of deposits. Individual campuses may consider extending a campus’ deadline beyond the systemwide date and will communicate this information directly with admitted students.

UC requests submission of final transcripts by July 1. If schools are unable or unsure about their ability to issue transcripts by this date, we request that they notify UC at AskUC@ucop.edu and include a date when transcripts are expected to be available. No rescission of student admissions offers will result from students or schools missing official final transcript deadlines, and students will retain admission status through the first day of class until official documents are received by campuses.

The College Board recently announced changes to the AP exam content and format for spring 2020. UC recognizes the effort that students have already applied in these challenging courses and will continue to award UC credit consistent with previous years for 2020 AP exams completed with scores of 3, 4, or 5.

FALL 2020/WINTER 2021 TRANSFER STUDENTS

UC will temporarily suspend the cap on the number of transferable units with Pass/No Pass grading applied toward the minimum 60 semester/90 quarter units required for junior standing.

The systemwide Academic Senate is making efforts to request departmental faculty and campus admissions offices to exercise flexibility with transfer students applying for admission for 2020-21 academic year.

The deadline for transfer students to accept offers of admission to fall 2020 is June 1. Campuses will provide maximum flexibility to students who request extensions and deferment of deposits.
FINANCIAL AID

The University understands that families’ financial circumstances may have changed or may change in the coming months. UC campuses will work with families over the summer to review their eligibility for financial aid and, where allowable, to adjust financial aid packages to reflect their new financial circumstances. Follow-up to students will be handled by email responses, or telephone calls or virtual meetings as needed.

FALL 2021 ADMISSIONS

The temporary suspension of the letter grade requirement in A-G courses completed in winter/spring/summer 2020 extends to all students currently enrolled in high school who may apply to UC for admission to fall 2021, 2022 or 2023. For admission purposes, UC will continue to calculate a GPA using all A-G courses completed with letter grades in grades 10 and 11, including summer terms following grades 9, 10 and 11. Courses completed with Pass or Credit grades in winter/spring/summer 2020 will not be used in the GPA calculation but will meet A-G subject area requirements. No student will be penalized in the campus admission review processes for earning Pass grades in A-G coursework during the winter/spring/summer 2020 terms.

Additionally, the University recognizes the challenges that students are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic and, in response, is suspending the standardized test requirement for students applying for fall 2021 freshman admission.