



## GUIDE TO TRANSFER ADMISSIONS FOR UC BERKELEY

**DISCOVER. CONNECT. ENGAGE. REFLECT.** This is what we encourage UC Berkeley students to do during their years on campus. UC Berkeley seeks applications from students from all over the world to be a part of our amazing community. We know that choosing your college is a huge decision, so we want to make sure you're prepared for the application process.

You are a transfer student if you have completed coursework during a regular session at a college or university after high school. (The summer session immediately following high school graduation does not count.) While UC gives California community college students first priority over other transfer applicants, we also accept those from four-year institutions.

At the University of California, we are dedicated to accepting transfer students as they add greatly to the diversity of the campus. One-third of our incoming class are transfers.

Are you ready to #DiscoverBerkeley?

## 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TRANSFER ADMISSIONS

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Berkeley uses a **comprehensive review process** to assess applications. For the transfer process, that means while academics weigh heavily, we also consider non-academic factors.

While no one attribute or characteristic guarantees the admission of any applicant to Berkeley, transfer students can be most competitive by excelling academically. Prospective students should begin with the minimum requirements:

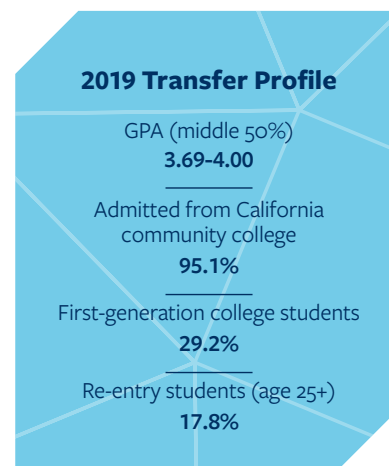
- **General Education requirements:** For students attending a California Community College, a full UC IGETC Certification may be a way to fulfill general education requirements depending on the college you are applying to. More information can be found on [ASSIST.org](https://assist.org) and the

Berkeley admissions website. (If you are attending a college that is not a California community college, on ASSIST.org, select "UC Berkeley," then select any college in order to see the Berkeley requirements.)

- **Minimum 60 UC transferable semester units** (90 UC transferable quarter units) by the end of the spring prior to fall matriculation.
- **Minimum GPA of 3.0** in all transferable college-level coursework for most majors. Some majors (e.g. engineering) require higher GPAs in major preparation coursework. Check ASSIST.org for more details.

All transfer applicants are required to submit a UC Transfer Academic Update and fill out Berkeley supplemental forms during the January after they apply.

Comprehensive review also considers the personal qualities of the applicant, including leadership ability, character, motivation, insight,



tenacity, initiative, originality, intellectual independence, responsibility, maturity, and demonstrated concern for others and for the community. These factors can be demonstrated in different ways, whether it is through participation in traditional clubs/organizations, home life, work life, or other life experiences.

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## Major prerequisites are a crucial part of the application process.

Preparation for the major, particularly high-demand majors, is an important part

of the transfer application process. All students admitted to the College of Letters and Science are required to declare a major within their first semester at Berkeley. Declaring your intended major is not a guarantee, which is why reviewing for major preparation is prioritized in the review process. Students must have the prerequisites for the major in order to declare.

Students admitted to all other colleges are admitted directly to the major.

Go to ASSIST.org and [guide.berkeley.edu](https://guide.berkeley.edu) for more information about each major and the coursework necessary to be prepared for each major.

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## Berkeley seeks authentic and innovative scholars. Here is what you can do to show us who you are in your application.

We want you to make the most out of your application and take full advantage of each section. Here are a few tips to get you thinking.

For the **academic sections**, make sure to accurately and completely fill out the coursework and grades from every college

you have attended. This application is self-reported, but we will validate the accuracy of the application after a student is admitted. Use transcripts to accurately report your academic information. Berkeley also understands that grades and test scores are static. We get more context about you through other parts of the application.

For the **extracurricular activities section**, report any activities or work experience as completely as possible, including number of hours per week, weeks per year, years after high school, and responsibilities. Any activities or work experience while in high school will not

be considered; for transfer admissions, your post-high school activities are most important. If there is not enough space in these sections, use the additional comments to provide us more details and context about your story.

Berkeley seeks diverse and unique perspectives. It is important to recognize that you do not have to do everything. While clubs and student organizations are great to report, you can also list other activities, such as family responsibilities and work experience. Lean into your eccentricities and do not do anything just because you think it will look good on your application. **Be yourself.**

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## Your personal insight questions are a way for us to get to know you. Treat it like a conversation or an interview.

For the **personal insight questions** (PIQs), remember that we are not looking for writing

samples (we see your academic abilities in the academic sections of the application). Think about your PIQs as a conversation or an interview. Answer the questions directly and identify examples that tell us the most about yourself. The required question asks about your preparation for the major. Be sure to be specific, identifying not just coursework but activities outside of the classroom that

demonstrate your preparation for and interest in the major. For the remaining three responses, choose the questions that you want to write about and that tell the reader the most about you. Do not choose your questions or answers based on what you think the admissions office wants to hear. We value your authentic voice.

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## Many resources are available to answer your questions.

If you have additional questions about your application, here are a variety of ways to reach us:

- **Application FAQs**  
[admissions.berkeley.edu/application-faqs](https://admissions.berkeley.edu/application-faqs)
- **Contact Us**  
[admissions.berkeley.edu/contact-us](https://admissions.berkeley.edu/contact-us)
- **Use your California Community College counselors as a resource (if applicable)**
- **Transfer Student Center**  
[transfers.berkeley.edu](https://transfers.berkeley.edu)
- **Call the UC Application Center for technical support**  
(800) 207-1710 (within US) or  
(925) 298-6856 (outside US), or  
email [ucinfo@applyucsupport.net](mailto:ucinfo@applyucsupport.net)

APPLY AT

[apply.universityofcalifornia.edu](https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu)

**Office of  
Undergraduate Admissions**  
103 Sproul Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720

Connect with us online: [admissions.berkeley.edu](https://admissions.berkeley.edu)



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