

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

Prospective students interested in attending the University of California, Merced are encouraged to contact the Admissions/ Relations with Schools and Colleges well in advance of their intended entrance. The office provides information and advice for prospective students as they prepare for university work. Future UC Merced students planning to enroll as freshmen or transfer students can get assistance in planning their pre-university course work and with the application process. If you are interested in enrolling at UC Merced, Admissions/Relations with Schools staff members are available to assist you via e-mail, telephone or in person.

ADMISSIONS/RELATIONS WITH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (ARSC)

5200 N. Lake Road

Merced, CA 95340

(209) 381-7880

(866) 270-7301 (toll-free in California)

Website:
Admissions link)

E-mail: admissions@ucmerced.edu

- **Campus tours**
- **Admissions presentations**
- **Application workshops**
- **Pre-application advising**
- **Transfer advising**
- **Transfer Admission Guarantees**

UC MERCED OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

5200 N. Lake Road

Merced, CA 95340

(209) 724-4384
assistance

Website: <http://students.ucmerced.edu> (Click on Money Matters link)

E-mail: finaid@ucmerced.edu

- **Grants, loans, scholarships information**
- **Financial aid application information**
- **Prospective student financial aid**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ONLINE RESOURCES

Admissions information:
information:
counselors:

www.ucop.edu/pathways **AP and IB Examination**
www.ucop.edu/pathways **Quick reference for**
www.ucop.edu/pathways

Online application:
school courses:

www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply **Approved high**
<https://pathways.ucop.edu/doorways> **Transferable**

California Community College courses: www.assist.org

Admissions examination information: www.collegeboard.com, www.act.or

Financial aid information: www.ucop.edu/pathways/finaid

ACT code: 000450

College Board code: 004129

Financial Aid code: 001313 (Same as UC Davis)

APPLICATION PROCESS

HOW TO APPLY

The University of California Undergraduate Application for Admission & Scholarships is available online at <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply>. Students may apply to UC Merced and any number of the additional eight general campuses of the University of California with one application. The San Francisco campus, which is devoted to the health sciences, has its own application and filing procedures.

Students who cannot apply online at their home, school or local library may visit the Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges (ARSC) to apply online using one of our free- access computers for prospective students (open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding university holidays). If you do not have access to the online application and cannot travel to Merced, you may contact ARSC for assistance. The application for admission is also available in paper format and can be obtained from California high school guidance offices, community college transfer centers and UC campus Admissions and Relations with Schools offices. It can be downloaded in printable format from the website at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply.

WHEN TO APPLY

To ensure that applicants are considered for admission, the completed application and the application fee should be postmarked (or electronically filed) during the priority filing period shown below. Prospective applicants who have not filed during the priority filing period should contact Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges for more information about the advisability of filing a late application.

SEMESTER OF ATTENDANCE PRIORITY FILING PERIOD

Fall November 1 – 30

Spring July 1 – 31

The online application center opens for fall applications prior to November 1, usually during early October, and in late June for spring applications. Students can begin the application, save their information on the secure site and continue filling out the application at their convenience up to the filing deadline. Applicants must meet the deadline (last day of the application filing month). Students who miss the November 30 deadline for fall or the July 31 deadline for spring should contact ARSC for assistance.

APPLICATION ADVICE

All applicants are asked to submit self-reported academic records on the application. Obtain copies of your grades and test scores prior to completing the application. Do not rely on memory. Your admission to UC Merced is provisional, based on verification of the information you provide. If admitted, you will be asked to submit final, official transcripts from all schools and colleges attended and official test score reports for the purpose of verifying the information you provided on your application.

APPLICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

After you submit your application for admission you will receive notification that it was received. If you do not receive notification that UC Merced received your application within six weeks of submitting it, contact ARSC immediately by calling (866) 270-7301 or sending an e-mail message to admissions@ucmerced.edu.

NOTIFICATION AND ENROLLMENT All on-time applicants for admission to a fall term will be notified of their admission decision between March 1 and 31 (freshman applicants) and March 1 through April 30 (transfer applicants). To reserve your space after being admitted to the entering class, you must submit the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) along with a \$100 deposit by May 1 for freshmen and June 1 for transfers. If you cannot afford the \$100 deposit, contact ARSC immediately. Applicants for spring term will be notified of their admission decision between September 1 and October 7. The SIR deadline for spring semester is typically October 15. Admission is specific to a particular semester. If you have questions about deferring your admission to another semester, contact ARSC for assistance.

APPLICATION FEES / FEE WAIVER Students applying to UC Merced must submit the application fee along with the paper application or following the submission of the online application. If you apply to more than one campus, a per-campus fee must be submitted. Application fees are not refundable.

If you cannot afford the application fee and you are a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, you may request a fee waiver in advance or at the time of submitting the online application. If your family income and the number of dependents in your household meet specifications of the University of California fee waiver guidelines, the fee will be waived for a maximum of four campus choices. Students who qualify for fee waivers and who wish to apply to more than four campuses must pay a fee for each additional campus choice.

HOW TO OBTAIN A FEE WAIVER

High school students may use the College Board fee waiver, available from your school counselor, or may obtain a fee waiver authorization from any UC campus Admissions and Relations with Schools or Educational Opportunity Program office. California community college students enrolled in an Extended Opportunity Programs and Service (EOPS) program can obtain a fee waiver authorization from the EOPS office. All students: If you cannot afford the application fee and meet fee waiver guidelines, you can request a fee waiver authorization from any UC campus Admissions, Relations with Schools or Educational Opportunity Programs and Services office, or simply request a fee waiver when you submit the online application. Be prepared to answer questions about your gross family income and family size.

CATEGORIES OF APPLICANTS

- **Undergraduate** or regular status applicants are students who wish to enroll in an established curriculum of a school at UC Merced for the purpose of completing the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.
- **Freshman** applicants are students who are currently enrolled in high school at the time of application or students who have graduated from high school – or have completed a California Certificate of Proficiency, an equivalent proficiency examination from another state or the General Education Development(GED) certificate – but have not enrolled in a college or university since the summer after leaving high school.
- **Transfer** applicants are students who have enrolled in a regular term at a college or university after leaving high school. Students who meet this definition cannot disregard their college record and apply as freshmen.
- **Nonresidents** are applicants whose legal permanent residence (as determined by the University) is outside of the State of California. Nonresident applicants are generally required to pay nonresident tuition and must also present a higher grade point average than is required of California residents.
- **International** applicants are students who hold or expect to hold student, exchange, visitor or diplomatic visas. International applicants are required to pay nonresident tuition and must also present a higher grade point average than is required of California residents. Prospective international students are encouraged to contact the Office of Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges for information well in advance of the application filing period.
- **Second baccalaureate** applicants are college or university graduates whose educational objective has changed substantially after receiving the bachelor's degree. Applicants for the second bachelor's degree must be fully eligible for admission to UC Merced and have strong promise of academic success in the new major. All such admissions are subject to the approval of the dean of the UC Merced School in which the second degree will be earned. Candidates for a second bachelor's degree are subject to the general requirements for the bachelor's degree and to the particular requirements of the School in which they are enrolled.
- **Limited status** applicants are students whose special attainments qualify them to take certain courses in the university toward a definite and limited objective. To apply for limited status admission, students must either have a bachelor's degree but not be a candidate for an advanced degree, or have completed a substantial amount of college work with satisfactory grade point

average. Prospective students must submit an undergraduate application with fees as well as a limited status petition and official transcripts from all schools attended. Limited status students are expected to maintain a certain scholarship average during a predetermined time of enrollment. Admission requires the approval of the dean of the School in which the student intends to study.

- **Special status** applicants are 21 years of age or older who have not had the opportunity to complete the full requirements for admission or who have not completed a substantial amount of college work, but for reason of special attainment or background may be prepared to undertake certain courses at UC Merced toward a definite and limited objective. Conditions for special status are determined by the director of admissions and are subject to the approval of the dean of the School in which the student wants to study. Approval to matriculate also must be made by the School dean. Application, fees and filing dates are the same as those for new applicants and a petition for special status must be submitted with the application.

READMISSION TO UC MERCED

Students who were formally admitted, registered and enrolled at UC Merced, then interrupted their studies for any length of time other than summer, must apply for readmission to the campus. The application for readmission is available from the Office of the Registrar.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES RELATED TO ADMISSION

November 30 Application priority filing deadline for admission to fall semester

March 2 Financial aid priority deadline: FAFSA and CAL Grant GPA verification

Check the Financial Aid section of the UC Merced catalog for more information and deadlines

May 1 Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) fall semester deadline: freshmen

June 1 Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) fall semester deadline: transfers

July 15 Final, official transcripts due to ARSC (fall term applicants)

July 31 Application priority filing deadline for admission to spring semester

October 15 Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) spring semester deadline

December 15 Final, official transcripts due to ARSC (spring term applicants)

PREPARING FOR UNIVERSITY WORK

As a prospective UC Merced undergraduate, you are encouraged to give careful thought to preparing yourself adequately in reading, writing, mathematics and other subject areas relevant to your intended major. Many undergraduate majors require preparation in mathematics beyond the three years required for admission to the University. The more comprehensive and challenging your high school or college program is, the better prepared you will be for your course work at UC Merced. Honors-level, Advanced Placement and college courses are good preparation for UC Merced. These challenging courses will help you develop the good study habits and skills you will need at UC Merced. Give priority to completing the high school or college course patterns required for admission and for your interest area. Check the UC Merced Admissions website at <http://students.ucmerced.edu> for the most current information.

University of California Entry-Level Writing Requirement/Analytical Writing Placement Exam (formerly Subject A) Every undergraduate is required to demonstrate an acceptable level of ability in English composition. For further details on the UC Entry-Level Writing Requirement and Analytical Writing Placement Exam, see the General Education section of this catalog.

FRESHMAN ADMISSION

California Residents

There are three pathways of eligibility for resident students to enter UC Merced as freshmen: eligibility in the statewide context, eligibility in the local context and eligibility by examination alone.

Eligibility in the statewide context is the path by which most students attain UC eligibility. To be eligible in the statewide context, students must satisfy the **subject, scholarship and examination requirements** described below.

SUBJECT REQUIREMENT

To satisfy the subject requirement you must complete, with grades of C or better, the 15 units of high school course work listed in the following subject pattern, known as the A-G subjects or requirements. A one-year course is equivalent to one unit and a one-semester course is equal to one-half unit. Courses certified to meet the A-G requirements are identified for each California high school on the UC-certified course list available online at www.ucop.edu/doorways, or in paper format from your principal or guidance counselor. Courses from schools and colleges outside California must provide the same rigor and level of instruction to meet the A-G requirements.

A-G Subject Requirements

A. History/Social Science: 2 years required. Two years of history/social science, including one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government; and one year of world history, cultures and geography.

B. English: 4 years required. Four years of college-preparatory English composition and literature. All English courses must require frequent and regular writing and reading of classic and modern literature, poetry and drama. Not more than two semesters of ninth- grade English can be used to meet this requirement. Also, only two semesters of a certified, advanced English-as-a-Second-Language course (ESL or ELD) will be accepted for this requirement.

C. Mathematics: 3 years required; 4 years recommended. Three years of college preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part of or the entire requirement, as may courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades that your high school accepts as equivalent to its own math courses.

D. Laboratory science: 2 years required; 3 years recommended. Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three disciplines: biology (which includes anatomy, physiology, marine biology, aquatic biology, etc.), chemistry and physics. Laboratory courses in earth sciences are acceptable if they have as prerequisites or provide basic knowledge in biology, chemistry or physics. The appropriate two years of an approved, integrated science program may be used to fulfill this requirement. Not more than one year of ninth-grade laboratory science can be used to meet this requirement.

E. Language other than English: 2 years required; 3 years recommended. Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading and composition. Courses in a language other than English taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if your high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

F. Visual and performing arts: 1 year required. One year-long course in a single area of visual and performing arts, chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music and/or visual art.

G. College-preparatory electives: 1 year required. One year (two semesters), in addition to those required in “A-F” above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts (non-introductory level courses), history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the “e” requirement or two years of another language).

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENT

The scholarship requirement defines the grade point average (GPA) you must attain in the “A-G” subjects to match the eligibility index (described below in Examination Requirement) to be eligible for admission to the university. If your GPA on the “A- G” subjects is at least 2.80 or above, you can satisfy the minimum scholarship requirement if you achieve the necessary test score total.

The university calculates your GPA in the “A-G” subjects by assigning point values to the grades you earn, totaling the points and dividing by the total number of “A-G” course units. Points are assigned as follows: A=4 points, B=3 points, C=2 points, D=1 point and F=0 points. Only the grades you earn in “A-G” subjects in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades are used to calculate your GPA. Courses you take in ninth grade can be used to meet the subject requirements if you earned grades of C or better, but they will not be used to calculate your GPA.

• **Honors courses:** The University assigns extra points for up to 4 units of certified honors-level and Advanced Placement courses taken in grades 10– 12: A=5 points, B=4 points and C=3 points. No more than 2 units of certified honors-level courses taken in grade 10 may be assigned extra points. Grades of D are not assigned extra points. The courses must be in the following “A- G” subjects: history, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and visual and performing arts. In these

fields, as well as in the fields of computer science and social science, courses that are designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement Examinations, the International Baccalaureate Higher Level Examination and college courses that are transferable to the University are acceptable honors-level courses.

- **D/F and repeated grades:** Students who receive D and F grades in "A- G" courses must repeat those courses with grades of C or better. In the subject areas of mathematics, chemistry and foreign language, however, a D or F grade can be "validated" by earning a C grade or better in the second semester or more advanced level in the same subject. Courses that have been "validated" with a more advanced-level course cannot be subsequently repeated for a better grade. Consult with the Office of Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges or your counselor to determine how D or F grades can be improved and how the University will use them in evaluating your scholarship record. Grades will not be used for repeated courses in which you initially received a C or better.

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT

Students applying for admission during November 2005 for the Fall 2006 term must submit the following test scores:

- Either the ACT Assessment Plus Writing test, or the SAT Reasoning Test, and
- Two SAT Subject Tests (formerly SAT II Subject Tests), in two different subject areas selected from history, literature, mathematics (Math Level II only), science or a language other than English.

The University will use the highest test scores you earn in computing your eligibility for admission, and there is no penalty for taking the examinations more than once. For more information about taking the tests to fulfill the examination requirement, visit the website: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/ or talk to your school counselor.

Information for the ACT is available at www.college-board.com and for the SAT at; www.act.org.

For more information about taking the tests to fulfill the examination requirement, talk to your school counselor or contact the appropriate testing organization. Contact information for the SAT is available at www.collegeboard.com; for the ACT at www.act.org. The University requires you to take these tests no later than December of your senior year. To be eligible in the Statewide Context, your combined test scores must match or exceed the scores indicated for your "A-G" GPA. At time of publication, the eligibility index is not available. Visit the University of California Undergraduate Admissions site for updated information: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/welcome.html>.

Eligibility in the Local Context

Under the Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC) path, the top 4 percent of students at each participating California high school are designated UC eligible for admission. To be considered for ELC, a student must complete 11 specific units of the "A-G" subject requirements by the end of the junior year. With the assistance of each participating high school, the University will identify the top 4 percent of students on the basis of GPA in the required course work. The 11 units include 1 unit of history/social science, 3 units of English, 3 units of mathematics, 1 unit of laboratory science, 1 unit of language other than English and 2 units chosen from among the other subject requirements. The University will notify ELC students of their status at the beginning of their senior year. If you are

designated UC eligible through ELC, you must submit the University's undergraduate application for admission during the November filing period and complete remaining eligibility requirements – including the subject and examination requirements – to enroll.

Eligibility by Examination Alone

If you do not meet the requirements for Eligibility in the Statewide Context or Eligibility in the Local Context, you may be able to qualify for admission to the University by examination. At time of publication, factors to be used in determining Eligibility by Examination Alone have not been determined. Visit the website: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/welcome.html> for updated information.

Nonresident Freshmen Applicants

There are two paths to UC eligibility for nonresidents at the freshman level: Eligibility in the Statewide Context and Eligibility by Examination Alone. Both paths are similar to those described above, with the following exceptions:

Scholarship Requirement: Your grade point average in the “A-G” subjects must be 3.4 or higher, regardless of your test scores. At time of publication, examination requirements are under review. For updated information visit <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/welcome.html>.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY VS. SELECTION: FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

If the number of applicants exceeds the spaces available for a particular term or major, UC Merced may use selection criteria beyond minimum eligibility requirements to identify applicants who will be admitted. The following factors may be considered in a comprehensive review of eligible applicants for admission to UC Merced as freshmen:

- Academic grade point average in all required “A-G” courses, including additional points for completion of University-certified honors courses.
- Scores on the SAT I or the ACT, and the SAT II Subject Tests.
- Number, content of and performance in academic courses beyond the minimum “A-G” requirements.
- Number of and performance in University-approved honors courses and Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and transferable college courses.
- Identification as being ranked in the top 4 percent of your high school class at the end of your junior year (“eligible in the local context”).
- Quality of your senior-year program, as measured by the type and number of academic courses in progress or planned.
- Quality of your academic performance relative to the educational opportunities available in your secondary school.

- Outstanding performance in one or more academic subject areas.
- Outstanding work in one or more special projects in any academic field of study.
- Recent, marked improvement in academic performance, as demonstrated by your academic GPA and the quality of course work completed or in progress.
- Special talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, such as visual and performing arts, communication or athletic endeavors; special skills, such as demonstrated written and oral proficiency in other languages; special interests, such as intensive study and exploration of other cultures; experiences that demonstrate unusual promise for leadership, such as significant community service or significant participation in student government; or other significant experiences or achievements that demonstrate your promise for contributing to the intellectual vitality of the campus.
- Completion of special projects undertaken either in the context of your high school curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs.
- Academic accomplishments in light of your life experiences and special circumstances.
- Location of your secondary school and residence.

FRESHMEN WITH ADVANCED STANDING

If you complete transferable college courses as defined below or achieve an appropriate score on Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate Higher Level examinations while in high school, you may receive transfer credits when you enter UC Merced as a freshman. Completing examinations and transferable college courses while still in high school or in the summer immediately following high school graduation does not make you a transfer student, even though you may have earned a significant number of college credits. Tables on the following pages identify the amount and type of transfer credit awarded for appropriate scores in the identified examinations.

TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE COURSES

The University awards transfer credit for courses that are determined by Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges to be comparable to those offered for the undergraduate degree at any UC campus, when taken at a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Transferable courses offered by California community colleges are listed on the UC Transferable Courses section of the California public institution articulation database, found on the World Wide Web at www.assist.org.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) EXAMINATIONS

The University awards credit for successful completion of the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) and the International Baccalaureate Higher Level Examinations (IB). Students must have official test score reports sent directly from the testing service to UC Merced to receive credit. All credit awarded for AP and IB examinations will be initially categorized as elective unit credit toward the

undergraduate degree. Students will meet with advising staff during orientation to discuss which courses or requirements they may have waived based on their scores in these and other examinations.

CREDIT FOR IB EXAMS

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) awards either a diploma or awards a certificate for individual IB exams. Students completing the IB diploma with a score of 30 or above will receive a total of 20 semester units of elective credit toward their UC Merced undergraduate degree, as approved by UC faculty for implementation in 2002. To complete the IB diploma, students are required to take one subject from each of the six subject groups and complete an extended essay. At least three of the six subjects must be taken at the Higher Level. The University grants 5.3 semester units to students who receive IB certificates for each individual Higher Level Exam on which the student scores 5, 6, or 7. The exam credit for individual IB Higher Level certificates is listed in Table 1 below. The University does not grant credit for Standard Level exams. Credit for International Baccalaureate Exams Course exemptions through International Baccalaureate exams are available by request, and will be granted for accomplishments comparable to those listed on the AP exemption table. Only scores of 5 or higher will be considered for course exemption. Duplicate credit for Advanced Placement exams will not be given for IB exams. Requests may be directed to the Student Advising and Learning Center (SALC) on the first floor of the Kolligian Library.

TABLE 1: CREDIT FOR IB EXAMS

IB Subject Group	Exam Area	UC Semester Units
Languages A1 (native)	English A1, French A1, etc.	5.3
Second Languages A2, B	English A2, English B, French A2, French B, etc.	5.3
Individuals and Societies	Economics, Geography, History, History of the Islamic World, Philosophy, Psychology, Social and Cultural Anthropology	5.3
Experimental Sciences	Biology, Chemistry, Physics	5.3
Mathematics	Mathematics Higher Level, Computer Science	5.3
Arts	Visual Arts, Dance, Film, Music, Theater Arts	5.3

CREDIT FOR AP EXAMS

UC Merced grants elective or subject credit for all College Board AP examinations on which a student scores 3 or better. Prior to enrolling in their first classes at UC Merced, students will meet with an academic advisor to discuss their academic plans and test scores. A score of 3 on any exam (except Calculus BC), may earn a student a maximum of 5.3 UC Merced Elective semester units. If a student decides to take a course they are otherwise exempted from, they will receive the 5.3 UC Merced Elective semester units, not the units for the specific exempted course. See Table 2 below for information about subject credit for AP examinations.

TABLE 2: CREDIT FOR AP EXAMS

AP Test	UCM Recommendations
Art (Studio)	4 or 5 on Drawing, 2-D Design or 3-D Design exempts one 4-unit GE course on ARTS Drawing
	2-D Design
	3-D design
Art History	4 or 5 on Art History exempts one 4-unit GE course on ARTS
Biology	4 or 5 on Biology exempts BIS 1
Chemistry	4 or 5 on Chemistry exempts CHEM 2; 3, 4 or 5 exempts student from taking UCM Chemistry Readiness exam
Computer Science	
Comp Sci A	4 or 5 on Computer Science A: 1.3-units
Comp Sci AB	4 or 5 on Computer Science AB: 2.7-units; (2.7 unit maximum for both tests)
Economics	4 or 5 on Microeconomics AND Macroeconomics exempts ECON 1; 4 or 5 on only one of the exams earns student 5.3 semester units of Elective
Macroeconomics	
Microeconomics	
English	4 or 5 on English Language exempts WRI 10; 4 or 5 on English Literature
	Language and Composition exempts LIT 20-21, 30-31 or 40-41 sequence
	Literature and Composition
Environmental Science	4 or 5 on Environmental Sciences exempts ESS 1
Government and Politics	4 or 5 on US Govt. or Comparative Govt. exempts POLI 1; 4 or 5 on both exams exempts only POLI 1 and earns student additional 5.3 semester units of Elective credit
United States	
Comparative	
History	4 or 5 on US History exempts HIST 16-17; 4 or 5 on World History exempts HIST 10-11; 4 or 5 on European History earns 5.3 semester unit
US History	of Elective credit
	European History
	World History

Human Geography 4 or 5 earns 2.7 semester units of Elective Credit

Language Other than English: 4 or 5 on Spanish Literature exempts LIT 50-51; 4 or 5 on French Literature, French Language and/or German Language exempts students from WCH foreign language requirement; 4 or 5 on Spanish Language exempts SPAN 4 and/or WCH Foreign Language requirement. Spanish Language

Latin 4 or 5 on Latin Literature or Virgil exempts students from WCH Foreign Language Requirement; Latin Literature 4 or 5 on both exams exempts only Foreign Language Requirement and earns student additional Virgil 2.7 semester units of Elective credit

Mathematics 4 or 5 on Calculus AB exempts MATH 21; 4 or 5 on Calculus BC exempts MATH 21 and MATH 22; 3 on Calculus BC exempts UCM Calculus readiness exam and MATH 21; 4 or 5 on either exam exempts UCM readiness exam; 4 or 5 on either meets SSHA's Quantitative Reasoning Requirement

Music Theory 4 or 5 earns 5.3 semester units of Elective Credit

Physics 4 or 5 on Physics B earns 5.3 semester units of Elective credit; 5 on Physics C-Mechanics exempts PHYS 8; Physics B4 on Physics C-Mechanics earns 2.7 semester units of Elective credit;

Physics C Mechanics 4 or 5 on Physics C-E&M earns 2.7 semester units of Elective credit

Physics C (E & M)

Psychology 4 or 5 on Psychology exempts PSYCH 1

Statistics 4 or 5 on Statistics exempts MATH 15; 4 or 5 meets SSHA's Quantitative Reasoning Requirement

ADMISSION AS A TRANSFER STUDENT

If you have enrolled in a regular session of college or university-level course work after leaving high school, you are considered to be a transfer student and cannot ignore your college records to apply as a freshman. UC Merced has a strong commitment to enrolling well-prepared transfer students. Following California's Master Plan for Higher Education, UC Merced will give highest priority to students transferring from California's community colleges. UC Merced will give priority to junior-level transfer students – students who have completed at least 60 and no more than 89 transferable semester units (90 to 133.5 quarter units). While preparing to transfer at the junior level, we encourage you to complete a pattern of courses that will best prepare you for upper division work in your chosen field of study. It is helpful if you identify an intended major early in your college course work. Contact ARSC for assistance in planning to transfer. Information about UC Merced majors and transfer preparation is available at <http://students.ucmerced.edu>. If you plan to transfer from a California community college, contact Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges to inquire about Transfer Admission Guarantee contracts or visit www.assist.org.

TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE UNITS AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

The University awards transfer credit for courses that are determined by the Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges to be essentially the same as those offered for the undergraduate degree at any UC campus, and taken at a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Transferable courses offered by California Community Colleges are listed on the UC Transferable Courses section of the California public institution articulation database, found on the website at www.assist.org.

Grade points for all UC-transferable courses attempted on a letter grade basis will be computed into the grade point average (GPA) that will be used to determine admission. Units for courses in which you earned grades of W, Pass or Credit, and No Pass or No Credit, are excluded from the computation of your grade point average. Honors courses taken in college are not weighted when computing the transferable GPA for admission. For more information about determining your GPA, contact ARSC or visit the website: <http://students.ucmerced.edu>.

If you have attended only community colleges or two-year postsecondary institutions, all of your UC-transferable college courses will be accepted in transfer for subject credit and your GPA for admission is computed using all UC-transferable college courses attempted. When you transfer, however, the total number of units is limited to a maximum total of 70 semester units (105 quarter units).

EXCESS UNITS

Students transferring to UC Merced from a regionally accredited four-year college or university may have up to 89 transferable semester (133.5 quarter) units and still be eligible to transfer. It is important to note, however, that UC Merced considers students who have completed more than 89 semester units to have excess units, and will not admit those students without special approval. A student who completed 89 or fewer units at a four-year institution, then transfers to a community college to complete course work that is necessary for admission, will not have excess units and can be considered for admission to UC Merced.

ADMISSION ELIGIBILITY FOR TRANSFERS**California Residents**

There are three ways for you to meet the University's minimum eligibility requirements for transfer admission. Meeting the minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee admission.

1. Eligible for admission upon high school graduation: If you were eligible for admission to the University when you graduated from high school – meaning you satisfied the Subject, Scholarship and Examination requirements – you are eligible to transfer if you have a C (2.0) grade point average in your transferable college course work.

2. Lacking in subject requirements upon high school graduation: If you met the scholarship and examination requirements but you did not satisfy the subject requirements when you graduated from high school, you must take transferable college courses in the subjects you are missing, earn a grade of C or better in each of these required courses, and earn an overall C (2.0) average in all transferable college course work to be eligible to transfer.

3. Lacking in scholarship requirement upon high school graduation: If you were not eligible for admission to the University when you graduated from high school because you did not meet the scholarship and examination requirement, you must complete all of the following in (a) and (b) below. Any student planning to enter UC Merced as a junior-level transfer student may complete the following requirements in place of (1) or (2) above.

(a) 60 semester units (90 quarter units) of UC-transfer-able college course work with a grade point average of at least 2.4, and

(b) A course pattern requirement to include:

- Two transferable college courses (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units each) in English composition, and
- One transferable college course (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units) in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning, and
- Four transferable college courses (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units each) chosen from at least two of the following subject areas:
 - Arts and humanities
 - Behavioral and social sciences
 - Physical and biological sciences

Students who have completed courses listed on the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) before they transfer to the University will have already satisfied the course pattern requirement.

TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS FOR NONRESIDENTS

Transfer students who are not residents of California must meet the same requirements as California residents and must have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.8 or better in all transferable college work.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY VS. SELECTION: TRANSFER APPLICANTS

If the number of transfer applicants exceeds the number of transfer enrollment spaces available, UC Merced may use supplemental criteria to select from among the qualified transfer applicants. Highest-priority consideration is given to students transferring from a California Community College who meet the University's definition of a California Community College student.

Definition of a California Community College student: A California Community College student applying for admission to the University of California in advanced standing will be given priority admission over all other applicants if: 1) he/she was enrolled at one or more California Community Colleges for at least two terms (excluding summer sessions); 2) the last college he/she attended before admission to a UC campus was a California Community College (excluding summer sessions); and 3) he/she has completed at least 30 semester (45 quarter) UC transferable units at one or more California Community Colleges.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR TRANSFER APPLICANTS:

- Completion of a specified pattern or number of courses that meet breadth or general education requirements.
- Completion of a specified pattern or number of courses that provide continuity with upper division courses in your major.
- Your grade point average in all transferable courses.
- Participation in academically selective honors courses or programs.
- Special talents, achievements and awards in a particular field, such as visual and performing arts, communication or athletic endeavors; special skills, such as demonstrated written and oral proficiency in other languages; special interests, such as intensive study and exploration of other cultures; experiences that demonstrate unusual promise for leadership, such as significant community service or significant participation in student government; or other significant experiences or achievements that demonstrate your promise for contributing to the intellectual vitality of the campus.
- Completion of special projects undertaken in the context of your college curriculum or in conjunction with special school events, projects or programs.
- Academic accomplishments in light of your life experiences and special circumstances.
- Location of your college and residence.

IGETC NOTES FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRANSFERS

If you complete the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) prior to transfer,

the campus-specific, lower-division general education requirements for graduation from UC Merced will be waived. Official certification of your completed IGETC must be sent to Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges at UC Merced, along with your final, official transcript, from the last community college you attended.

UC INTERCAMPUS TRANSFERS

If you are already enrolled at a University of California campus as a degree-seeking student, you may apply to UC Merced as a transfer student. Intercampus transfers follow the same procedures and deadlines as transfers from other colleges and universities. If you complete the general education or breadth requirements for your UC school or college prior to transfer and obtain a letter from the dean declaring your requirements satisfied, UC Merced will use your letter to waive campus-specific, lower-division general education requirements at Merced.

TRANSFER ADMISSION PROGRAMS

Concurrent Enrollment Program (CAP): Admissions/Relations with Schools and Colleges (ARSC) coordinates the Concurrent Enrollment Program that identifies potential participants at specified local-area high schools for simultaneous admission to UC Merced and one of the following community colleges at the point of high school graduation: Fresno City College, Merced College and Modesto Junior College. Participants in CAP are advised on a frequent basis and invited to participate in special activities designed to motivate them for transfer. CAP students are guaranteed transfer to UC Merced when they meet specified criteria. Interested high school seniors may contact ARSC at (209) 381-7880 or (866) 270-7301 toll-free in California.

TRANSFER ADMISSION GUARANTEE (TAG)

UC Merced offers Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) contracts for California Community College students throughout California. TAG contracts specify the courses to be completed and grade point averages students must earn at the community college to be guaranteed admission to their major. If you are interested in receiving a TAG contract, call ARSC at (209) 381-7880 or (866) 270-7301 toll free in California. The following majors are available for fall 2006 and 2007 TAG contracts:

Required GPA	Major, Degree
2.80	Computer Science & Engineering, B.S.
2.80	Environmental Engineering, B.S.
2.80	Biological Sciences, B.S.
2.80	Earth Systems Science, B.S.
2.80	Human Biology, B.A.
2.80	Social and Cognitive Sciences, B.A.
2.80	World Cultures and History, B.A.

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS International students who plan to enter UC Merced as freshmen must have completed a rigorous program of studies and activities comparable to that required of domestic freshman applicants selected for admission and must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by one of the methods described later in this section. International applicants are also required to take the ACT Assessment Plus Writing test or the SAT Reasoning test and two SAT Subject Tests selected from two of the following subject areas: history, literature, mathematics (Math Level II only), science or a language other than English.

International students enrolled in California Community Colleges and other post-secondary institutions in the United States will be considered for admission according to the same guidelines and requirements as those required of domestic transfer students, except that they must present a grade point average of at least 2.8 for admission consideration.

Courses comparable to those offered for undergraduate degree credit in the University of California and completed in post-secondary institutions outside the United States will transfer to UC Merced if taken at institutions recognized by the Ministry of Education in the institution's home country. International students with previous college attendance cannot disregard their academic records and apply as freshmen.

International students whose native language is not English must demonstrate language proficiency by one of the following methods:

- Take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and earn a minimum score of 220 (computer-based TOEFL) or 550 (paper-based TOEFL). Information about the TOEFL is available at www.toefl.org.
- Take the International English Language Testing System exam (IELTS) and earn a minimum score of 7. Information about IELTS is available at www.ielts.org
- Earn a score of 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement International English Language (APIEL). Information about the APIEL is available at: www.collegeboard.com/ap/students/apiel

- Earn a score of 560 or higher on the SAT II Writing examination. Information about the SAT II is available at www.collegeboard.com
- Earn grades of B or better in each of two UC-transfer-able English composition courses taken at a regionally accredited post-secondary institution in the United States.

Prospective international students are strongly encouraged to contact the ARSC to discuss their academic background, English proficiency, and visa status prior to application.

COST OF ATTENDANCE AND FINANCIAL AID

See the Financial Aid section of this catalog for detailed information about the estimated cost of attendance and information regarding financing your education.

ORIENTATION FOR ADMITTED STUDENTS

All admitted students receive an invitation to attend New Student Orientation during summer for fall semester and during January for spring semester. At orientation, students will meet with an academic advisor, plan their program of study and enroll in classes.

CALIFORNIA RESIDENCY STATUS

The admission requirements for California residents also apply to dependents of the University of California employees. The manner in which legal residence is defined for tuition purposes is different than that for admission purposes. If you have questions about your residency status for tuition purposes, contact the Office of the Registrar at registrar@ucmerced.edu.