Freshman

The examination requirement

Applying for fall 2012?

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At UC, we use admissions test results not only to assess your academic preparation and achievement, but to help us determine your qualifications beyond what we see in your grades.

All prospective freshmen must submit scores from the following college admissions tests:

- The ACT With Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test.
  The critical reading, writing and mathematics scores on the SAT must be from the same sitting. If you take the ACT, you will be asked to report your scores on each section of the test as well as your composite score.
- Two SAT Subject Tests.
  These must be in two different areas chosen from the following: English, history, Math Level 2, science or language other than English. (Remember, SAT Subject Tests will not be required — though may be recommended — for students applying for fall 2012 admission or beyond.)

A few guidelines

- If you're applying for admission to the fall term, be sure to take your admissions tests no later than December of your senior year — preferably earlier — to ensure that your application receives prompt and full consideration. It is unlikely that scores from tests taken after our December deadline will arrive in our office in time for our review process.
- Report ACT and/or SAT scores on your admissions application, then request that an official copy of the scores be sent to us from the testing agency. You can have your official score report sent to one UC campus, and all campuses you apply to will receive it.
- In the College Board's Score Choice module, ensure that all scores are sent to UC. We require all scores and will use the highest scores from a single administration.
- For the ACT With Writing test, we will focus on the highest combined score from the same test administration.
- For the SAT Reasoning test, we will focus on the highest total (composite) score from a single test date.
- We do not require results of tests taken for the purpose of talent programs in middle or junior high school (e.g., Johns Hopkins Center for Talent Youth, Duke University's Talent Identification Program, etc.). Those test scores do not have to be sent to us.
- We do not accept test substitutions.

International students

- If you are currently residing or attending school in a country where the ACT With Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test is offered, you are required to take one of the tests, self-report your scores on your application and submit official test results to UC by the stated application deadlines.
- We're sympathetic to the fact that students living in certain countries where these tests are not offered (e.g., the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran) are challenged to fulfill this requirement. However, given the large number of applications we receive from students throughout the world, we very rarely make exceptions to the requirement.
- Applicants whose native language is not English and whose secondary/high school or college/university education was in a country where English is not the language of instruction must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination (academic modules) and arrange to have the scores reported to the admissions office at each campus to which they apply. These scores must be received no later than January for students applying for the fall term.

Be sure to look at the International undergraduate admission section for more information about what you need to do and when.

Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and SAT Subject Tests

- We recommend that students who complete Advanced Placement courses complete the related AP examination to demonstrate subject mastery. Similarly, International Baccalaureate scores and scores from SAT Subject Tests can be used to showcase academic mastery. In order to receive unit credit toward the baccalaureate degree, you must submit an official copy of your AP or IB scores directly from the testing agency. This can be done in the summer following high school graduation.

Good to know

If you are applying for admission for fall 2012 or beyond, you will only have to submit scores for the ACT With Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test. SAT Subject Test scores may be considered in the evaluation of your application, but they no longer will be required.

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Submission deadline

Freshmen applicants for fall 2011 must arrange to have official score reports sent to us by December 2010. And don't worry - if you report your SAT scores to one campus, they will be shared with every campus to which you've applied.