Choosing a college is personal.

This will be your home for the next several years. Where you will meet friends for life. Where you will learn to be a scientist, an anthropologist, a dancer. Or where you might find a path you’ve never even considered before.

Find out how other students came to “Be Berkeley.” Learn Berkeley by the numbers. Get to know us.

Then sign up for your personalized Be Berkeley experience online.

We’ll guide you through the freshman application process, sharing information designed to meet your unique needs: where and how to apply, funding your education, and selecting a major. Because choosing a college is personal.

SIGN UP TODAY
be.berkeley.edu
This will be your home for the next several years. Where you will meet friends for life. Where you will learn to be a scientist, an anthropologist, a dancer. Or where you might find a path you’ve never even considered before.

Find out how other students came to “Be Berkeley.” Learn Berkeley by the numbers. Get to know us.

Then sign up for your personalized Be Berkeley experience online.

We’ll guide you through the freshman application process, sharing information designed to meet your unique needs: where and how to apply, funding your education, and selecting a major.

Because choosing a college is personal.

SIGN UP TODAY

be.berkeley.edu
**Freshman Applicants**

You’re considered a freshman applicant if you’re in your final year of high school/secondary school or have completed these studies and have not enrolled in a regular session at any college or university.

**The Admissions Process**

Admission to UC Berkeley is a two-step process: minimum UC admission (satisfying college and major requirements) and selection. All achievement — both academic and nonacademic/personal — is considered in the context of your educational circumstances, with an emphasis on the opportunities or challenges presented to you and your response to them.

**Requirements:**

All UC Berkeley applicants must meet University of California admission requirements.

**Selection:**

Because more students apply to our campus than we can admit, Berkeley's selection criteria exceed the UC admissions requirements. Applicants to UC Berkeley are selected through an assessment that includes a holistic review of your academic performance:

- Weighted and unweighted UC grade point average (calculated using 10th and 11th grade UC-approved courses only).
- Planned 12th grade courses.
- Pattern of grades over time.
- The number of college preparatory, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), honors, and transferable college courses you have completed.
- Your level of achievement in courses relative to other UC applicants at your school.
- Scores on AP or IB exams.

**Exam Requirements**

ACT with Writing or SAT Reasoning. Official scores are required from either test. The old and new SAT exams are accepted.

**Exam Requirements International Students:**

International applicants have the same ACT/SAT requirements as all freshmen applicants, plus a language requirement:

- Official IELTS or TOEFL scores are required for all international applicants from non-English speaking countries.

**NEW PERSONAL INSIGHT QUESTIONS**

Our personal statement process has changed: You now will have 8 personal insight questions to choose from. You must respond to only 4 of the 8 questions. Each response is limited to a maximum of 350 words. We’ll share much more when you sign up for your personalized experience; you may also check: admissions.berkeley.edu/personalinsightquestions

**25TH & 75TH PERCENTILES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>25th Percentile</th>
<th>75th Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>30–34</td>
<td>1290–1480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>540–760</td>
<td>640–630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ONE OF MY MOST MEMORABLE JOBS WAS WORKING AS A TUTOR AT THE AMERICAN INDIAN CHILD RESOURCE CENTER IN OAKLAND.**

Now, as a graduate student, I am back at Berkeley pursuing my PhD in Ethnic Studies. My research projects focus on my tribe’s history and the historic contributions of the greater Bay Area Native community. I study alongside our phenomenal Native American Studies faculty who continue to foster my development as a Native scholar and guide me toward my dream of becoming a professor.

KATIE K.

Double Major: Native American Studies & Ethnic Studies (Minor: Luso-Brazilian Language & Literature)

**KATIE K.**

**FIRST-GEN TO PhD**

"BE THE CHANGE."

Coming from an underserved high school to 30,000 top-tier students at Cal was scary. At first I was not sure if I could do well, much less find my place.

But the wonderful people I met at UC Berkeley helped me along the way. We studied together, supported one another, and became lifelong friends.

In particular, I found a support group, the Native American Recruitment and Retention Center, where I honed my leadership skills and became more involved in the Native community. One of my most memorable jobs was working as a tutor at the American Indian Child Resource Center in Oakland.

Best of all, my work-study jobs throughout my four years helped me pay for school and fun things like study abroad trips and outings to San Francisco with my friends.

**BE THE CHANGE.**

"FIRST-GEN TO PhD"

"BE BERKELEY"

KATIE K.

Double Major: Native American Studies & Ethnic Studies (Minor: Luso-Brazilian Language & Literature)

"ONE OF MY MOST MEMORABLE JOBS WAS WORKING AS A TUTOR AT THE AMERICAN INDIAN CHILD RESOURCE CENTER IN OAKLAND."

"Now, as a graduate student, I am back at Berkeley pursuing my PhD in Ethnic Studies. My research projects focus on my tribe’s history and the historic contributions of the greater Bay Area Native community. I study alongside our phenomenal Native American Studies faculty who continue to foster my development as a Native scholar and guide me toward my dream of becoming a professor."

KATIE K.

Double Major: Native American Studies & Ethnic Studies (Minor: Luso-Brazilian Language & Literature)
Making the Big Move

JENNY K.
Major: Economics
(Minor: Music)

I’ve grown so much as an individual, and the campus has given me an indefinite amount of opportunities.

I made friends by being active and getting involved on campus. I started at places that I had passion in and a hobby for, including student government and dance. I’ve been involved in student government since my first semester.

Believe it or not, my best academic experience was probably getting back my first failed midterm. It was a slap in the face. Hitting rock bottom, I really started to take advantage of professor office hours and started to actively communicate to the GSIs (Graduate Student Instructors). I learned the importance of keeping oneself accountable academically, with the myriad of options that the UC campus provides.

When I first came to California after spending 10-plus years growing up in New Jersey, the environment itself was drastically different and a huge step out of my comfort zone. I initially chose to come to Berkeley because it was the best college choice for me academically. Reflecting back, I can proudly say that I would choose Berkeley again. I’ve grown so much as an individual, and the campus has given me an infinite amount of opportunities.

Residency

If you’re an out-of-state applicant, you must meet the same admission requirements as a California-resident student, but with one important difference:

You must earn a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.4 or better in the 15 college-preparatory courses (a-g courses), with no grade lower than a C.

Some other distinctions that you should keep in mind as an out-of-state applicant:

- There is no pre-approved course list for schools outside of California. Referring to the a-g course list site (a database of UC-certified course lists in California schools) and the 15 college-preparatory course categories can provide guidance on the types of courses that have been UC-approved.
- Honors courses are calculated differently. In calculating an out-of-state student’s GPA, UC will grant honors weight for AP or IB courses only, but not for school-designated honors courses. The weight is given to letter grades of A, B, or C. While weight is not given in the UC GPA, school-designated honors will still be considered as value added in the review process.

FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

You are considered an international applicant if a visa is required to reside and study in the United States. International students in the US on a visa cannot be classified as California residents for tuition purposes.

To be considered for admission to UC Berkeley, international applicants must:

- Finish secondary school and
- Earn a certificate of completion, which allows admission to a university in their home country or country of graduation.

In addition for international students:

- Even if you have completed the IGCSE or O-level exams, you have not yet met the requirements for admission evaluation at UC Berkeley. The university requires further study, either completion of the 2-year A-level program with a minimum of 3 academic exams, the IB diploma program, or another similar academic curriculum. (Most A-Level students who apply to UC Berkeley anticipate receiving “A” marks on their exams.)
- You may have to meet additional admission requirements and follow certain guidelines for filling out the undergraduate application, depending on country or educational system.

Undergraduates

Total Undergraduate Enrollment: 29,310
California: 73.4%
Domestic US: 13%
International: 13.6%

Job and internship listings posted on Handshake, the campus career gateway (2015-16)

30,643

BE BERKELEY

#1 in Peace Corps volunteers
And #2 Teach for America recruits

Community involvement, leadership, and giving back are qualities we look for in our applicants — these principles are fundamental to the UC Berkeley undergraduate experience.

BE BOLD.

Job and internship listings posted on Handshake, the campus career gateway (2015-16)
BIRTHPLACE OF THE FREE SPEECH MOVEMENT

Berkeley’s distinct culture arises from the diverse voices and viewpoints which found a home here over the years. Nothing epitomizes this more than the Free Speech Movement of 1964, which changed US political activism. Today, social consciousness takes the form of environmental sustainability, globalization, peace and conflict studies, and the Public Service Center.

SCHOOL COLORS: BLUE & GOLD
TEAM: GOLDEN BEARS

This is Bear Territory. UC Berkeley is a member of the PAC-12 Conference. We sponsor 28 different intercollegiate sports that have a combined 97 national team championships. Hear the cheer: Go Bears!
BE A LEADER.

FINDING A PLACE ON CAMPUS

I started my first term at Cal in the Fall Program for Freshmen or FPF. I felt lucky to have professors who took the time to teach me not only material concerning the class but also effective ways to study and how to be a disciplined student. Having smaller class sizes allowed me to build healthy professor-to-student relationships. My transition from FPF felt possible because of my peers.

Last year I lived in Casa Magdalena Mora, which is a community (or theme program) for Chicana/Latina freshman and junior transfer students. With the help of our Resident Assistant and adult mentors, we fostered friendships that will last a lifetime. I feel confident in saying that I have forty people who I can be my true self with, not only at UC Berkeley but also at home. Theme programs at UC Berkeley are amazing!

MY TRANSITION FROM FPF FELT POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF MY PEERS.

I am grateful for my status as an undergraduate at Berkeley and have taken pride in beating the odds and reaching for my highest goals. My admission into UC Berkeley has taught me that nothing in life or school will be handed to me; therefore, it is important that I become my best advocate and seek assistance from peers, mentors, and resources.

LEARN MORE about how you can start your Berkeley career in smaller classrooms - located in Berkeley, San Francisco, and London. Visit fpf.berkeley.edu/berkeley and globaledge.berkeley.edu.

Life at UC Berkeley

Clubs & Organizations
- UC Berkeley has campus chapters of well-known organizations, including fraternities/sororities, and pre-professional and affinity groups. There are also many clubs unique to Cal, such as Skateboarding Crew of Berkeley, Hackers@Berkeley, and We Dig the Farm. If you can’t find a club you like, you can always start your own!
- Yes, we’ve earned 97 national team titles. But Golden Bears are just one aspect of the athletics experience. Join an intramural team, work out in one of three state-of-the-art recreational centers, or enjoy off-campus sports like snowboarding or windsurfing.

Leaders & Community Involvement
- Giving back to the community and participating in campus life are vital aspects to the campus culture. You’ll find yourself among leaders of all kinds: Peace Corps volunteers, nonprofit founders, student-government presidents, scholarship winners, and club organizers.

Another interesting aspect of student involvement is Berkeley’s DeCal Program (or just DeCal), courses where students create and facilitate their own classes. Each semester there are over 150 courses on topics ranging from Taiwanese Language to “The Simpsons” and Philosophy.

Housing
- From traditional high-rise residence halls to suite environments, from single-gender living to Theme Programs, you can find a housing choice that fits your needs and provides a supportive community. We also provide family apartments, co-ops, and off-campus rentals.
- Theme Programs combine residential living with academic focus and include: African American, Asian Pacific American, Casa Magdalena Mora, Global Environment, Native American, Unity House, and Women in Science & Engineering.

Student Life
- Student/Faculty Ratio: 17 to 1
- Average Class Size: 31
- Undergraduate Majors: 100+
- 3 fitness and wellness facilities, 34 club sports, and endless intramural teams

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

1,060

22 ELEMENTS IN THE PERIODIC TABLE WERE DISCOVERED AT BERKELEY

Berkeley’s research lineage begins with a long line of notable discoveries. The cyclotron, vitamins E and K, the world’s largest telescope — even the wetsuit — all began at UC Berkeley.
UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY
- Chemical Biology
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry also offered in the College of Letters and Science

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
- Bioengineering
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences
- Energy Engineering
- Engineering Mathematics and Statistics
- Engineering Physics
- Environmental Engineering Science
- Industrial Engineering and Operations Research
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering
- Engineering Undeclared: only available to freshmen

Double Majors: freshmen only
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences + Business Administration
- Industrial Engineering and Operational Research + Business Administration
- Mechanical Engineering + Business Administration

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
- Architecture
- Landscape Architecture
- Sustainable Environmental Design
- Urban Studies

Spanish and Portuguese:
- Hispanic Languages and Bilingual Issues
- Iberian Language and Literature
- Latin American Literatures
- Luiz-Brazilian Language and Literature
- Spanish Language and Literature
- Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies:
  - Dance and Performance Studies
  - Theater and Performance Studies
- Undeclared: only available to freshmen

Biological Sciences
- Integrative Biology
- Molecular and Cell Biology:
  - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
  - Genetics, Genomics, and Development
  - Immunology and Pathogenesis
  - Cell and Developmental Biology
  - Neurobiology
  - Public Health
- Undeclared: only available to freshmen

Mathematical & Physical Sciences
- Astrophysics (including Astronomy)
- Chemistry also offered in the College of Chemistry
- Computer Science

Earth and Planetary Science:
- Atmospheric Science
- Environmental Earth Science

Geology
- Geophysics
- Marine Science
- Planetary Science

Interdisciplinary Studies
- American Studies
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Legal Studies
- Media Studies
- Undeclared: only available to freshmen

COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
- Conservation and Resource Studies
- Ecosystem Management and Forestry
- Environmental Economics and Policy
- Environmental Sciences (biological, social, physical)
- Genetics and Plant Biology
- Microbial Biology
- Molecular Environmental Biology

Nutritional Sciences:
- Dietetics
- Molecular Toxicology

HAAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
- Business Administration: two-year program for juniors and seniors; freshman applicants cannot apply directly to the major but may apply to the College of Letters and Science, intending Major in Business Administration. Transfer students can apply directly to the major.

For the most current list, visit: guide.berkeley.edu

BIG IDEAS @ BERKELEY
This initiative funds student-led projects with creative, high-impact ideas that are related to curricular innovation, green cities, clean energy, social entrepreneurship, and other relevant topics.
Funding Your Education

Scholarships & Campus Opportunities
All admitted Berkeley students are automatically considered for scholarships. Also, when you fill out the application, you may apply to a number of UC scholarships and other resources, including:
- Contests and UC Berkeley's Scholarship Connection, finaid.org, fastweb.com, or the Cal Alumni Association for grants or scholarships
- Internships through our Career Center
- Research opportunities (Undergraduate Research & Scholarships Office, URAP)

Financial Aid & Scholarships
Total Cost of Attendance (2017-18)
- Total California Resident Living in Residence Hall - $34,400
- Total Out-of-State Budget Living in a Residence Hall - $62,414

Types of Aid
California Residents (including AB540 Eligible Students): Cal Grants, Middle Class Scholarship, Middle Class Access Plan, Blue & Gold Opportunity Plan, Pell Grants, Berkeley Undergraduate Scholarship and Grant, work-study, federal, state, and institutional loans.

Domestic US Students (Living Outside of California): Pell Grants, Middle Class Access Plan, work-study, federal loans.

International Students: International students are ineligible for student loans. However, you can research scholarship opportunities from private organizations both within the US and in your home country.

OF BERKELEY STUDENTS GRADUATE WITHOUT DEBT (COMARED TO 40% NATIONAL AVERAGE FROM 4-YEAR PUBLIC SCHOOL)

Note: Statistics and budgets are approximated. For the most current information, visit: admissions.berkeley.edu