

# DISCOVER BERKELEY

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS GUIDE

# GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS FOR UC BERKELEY

**DISCOVER. CONNECT. ENGAGE. REFLECT.** This is what we encourage UC Berkeley students to do during their four 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.

Freshman applicants are students who are currently in high school or secondary school (with or without college coursework completed), or students who have graduated from high school and have taken no college coursework.

Are you ready to #DiscoverBerkeley?

## 6 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS

1

While international students have the same freshman requirements as US residents, **Berkeley has international specialists** who ensure international applicants receive a fair review in context.

All students, including international, must meet the minimum requirements for UC admission, including the A-G course pattern, a minimum

3.4 GPA, and either the SAT with Essay or the ACT with Writing exams, regardless of citizenship or curriculum. UC Berkeley has international admissions staff that specialize in the various curricula from countries around the world. This ensures that every application will be read fairly in the context of your school and country.

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. For information on what is expected by country, visit: [bit.ly/3zEQmbK](https://bit.ly/3zEQmbK)

**Minimum requirements**

- A-G Course pattern  
[ucop.edu/agguide](https://ucop.edu/agguide)
- 3.4 GPA for students from outside California  
(3.0 for California students)
- SAT Exam with Essay or ACT with Writing

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILE 2019 ADMITS

*Reflects middle 50% of students*

**3.90–4.00**  
UNWEIGHTED GPA

**4.00–4.44**  
WEIGHTED GPA

**1450–1530**  
SAT SCORE

**32–35**  
ACT SCORE

2

Most international students must complete an **English proficiency exam**.

Proficiency in English is critical to success at UC Berkeley. If you've completed all your secondary school/high school in a country where English is not the language of instruction, you can demonstrate proficiency by taking one of these exams earning the required scores: 6.5 or higher on the IELTS or a score of 80 or higher on the TOEFL.

For more information on language requirements, visit [admissions.berkeley.edu/internationalrequirements](https://admissions.berkeley.edu/internationalrequirements)

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

Sign up for your personalized Discover Berkeley email experience: [admissions.berkeley.edu/signup](https://admissions.berkeley.edu/signup)

Plan your visit to campus: [admissions.berkeley.edu/visit](https://admissions.berkeley.edu/visit)

3

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 courses, grades, and exam sections. This application is self-reported, but we will validate the accuracy of the application after a student is admitted. Use transcripts and test score reports 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, grade levels,

and responsibilities. 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.**

4

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. Choose the four 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.

5

**Residency for the purposes of admission** is different from residency for the purposes of tuition.

With regard to residency for the purposes of admission, international students are reviewed using the same criteria as domestic students, within the context of their home country and school curriculum. International students in the US on a visa cannot be classified as California residents for tuition purposes.

Funding an education as an international student at a university in the United States can be challenging. International students are

ineligible for federal, state, and need-based university financial aid. Only US citizens, eligible non-citizens, and AB 540 eligible students can be awarded federal, state, and/or institutional, need-based financial aid. However, you can research scholarship opportunities from private organizations both within the US and in your home country.

6

Many **resources are available** to answer your questions.

**Berkeley International Office:** Support and resources designed to enhance the academic experiences of international students are available through the Berkeley International Office (BIO). BIO offers services in advising, immigration, advocacy, and programming to the UC Berkeley campus community. For more, visit their website: [internationaloffice.berkeley.edu](http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu)

> **Application FAQs**  
[admissions.berkeley.edu/application-faqs](http://admissions.berkeley.edu/application-faqs)

> **Contact Us**  
[admissions.berkeley.edu/contact-us](http://admissions.berkeley.edu/contact-us)

> **Register for a Presentation**  
[apply.berkeley.edu/portal/presentation](http://apply.berkeley.edu/portal/presentation)

> **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)

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

 @UCBerkeleyAdmissions

 @CalAdmissions

 @CalAdmissions

Office of  
Undergraduate Admissions  
103 Sproul Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720

# MAJORS & MINORS

\*Majors marked with an asterisk are only available to freshmen

## HAAS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

\*Biology + Business Program

**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.*

\***Global Management Program:** *intensive global business immersion (haas.berkeley.edu/undergrad/gmp)*

### \*Management, Entrepreneurship, and Technology (M.E.T.):

Bioengineering & Business Administration

Civil Engineering & Business Administration

Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences & Business Administration

Industrial Engineering and Operations Research & Business Administration

Material Sciences and Engineering & Business Administration

Mechanical Engineering & Business Administration

Undeclared Engineering & Business Administration

## 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

### Engineering Science Programs:

Energy Engineering

Engineering Mathematics and Statistics

Engineering Physics

Environmental Engineering Science

Industrial Engineering and Operations Research

Materials Science and Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Nuclear Engineering

### \*Management, Entrepreneurship, and Technology (M.E.T.):

Bioengineering & Business Administration

Civil Engineering & Business Administration

Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences & Business Administration

Industrial Engineering and Operational Research & Business Administration

Materials Science and Engineering & Business Administration

Mechanical Engineering & Business Administration

Undeclared Engineering & Business Administration

\*Mills 3+2 Engineering Program

\*Undeclared

## COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Sustainable Environmental Design

Urban Studies

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Conservation and Resource Studies

### Ecosystem Management and Forestry:

Forestry

Natural Resource Management

Environmental Economics and Policy *also offered in the College of Letters and Science*

Environmental Sciences (biological, physical, social)

Genetics and Plant Biology

Microbial Biology

Molecular Environmental Biology

### Nutritional Sciences:

Dietetics

Molecular Toxicology

Physiology and Metabolism

Society and Environment

\*Undeclared

## COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

### Arts and Humanities

Art, History of

Art, Practice of

Celtic Studies

### Classics:

Classical Civilizations

Classical Languages

Greek

Latin

Comparative Literature

Dutch Studies

### East Asian Languages and Cultures:

Chinese

Japanese

East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture

English

Film

French

German

Italian Studies

Music

Near Eastern Civilizations

### Near Eastern Languages and Literature:

Arabic

Egyptology

Hebrew

Persian

Philosophy

Rhetoric

### Scandinavian:

Danish

Finnish

Norwegian

Old Norse

Swedish

### Slavic:

Armenian

Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian

Czech

Hungarian

Polish

Russian

South and Southeast Asian Studies

### Spanish and Portuguese:

Languages, Literature, and Cultures in the Spanish-Speaking World

Languages, Literature, and Cultures in the Portuguese-Speaking World

Latin American Languages, Literature, and Cultures

Hispanic, Languages, Literature, and Bilingualism

### Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies:

Dance and Performance Studies

Theater and Performance Studies

\*Undeclared

## Biological Sciences

\*Biology + Business Program

Integrative Biology

### Molecular and Cell Biology:

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Cell and Developmental Biology

Genetics, Genomics, and Development

Immunology and Pathogenesis

Neurobiology

Public Health

\*Undeclared

## Interdisciplinary Studies

American Studies

Interdisciplinary Studies

Legal Studies

Media Studies

\*Undeclared

## Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Astrophysics (*including Astronomy*)

Chemistry *also offered in the College of Chemistry*

Computer Science

Data Science

### Earth and Planetary Science:

Atmospheric Science

Environmental Earth Science

Geology

Geophysics

Marine Science

Planetary Science

### Mathematics:

Applied Mathematics

Mathematics

Operations Research and Management Sciences

Physics

Statistics

\*Undeclared

## Social Sciences

African American Studies

Anthropology

Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies

Chicano/Latino Studies

Cognitive Science

Economics

Environmental Economics and Policy *also offered in the College of Natural Resources*

Ethnic Studies

Gender and Women's Studies

Geography

\***Global Management Program:** *intensive global business immersion (haas.berkeley.edu/undergrad/gmp)*

### Global Studies:

Asian Area Studies I - China

Asian Area Studies II - Japan

Developmental Studies

Latin American Studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Peace and Conflict Studies

History

Linguistics

Native American Studies

Political Economy

Political Science

Psychology

Social Welfare

Sociology

\*Undeclared

Learn more about Berkeley's degree programs and majors:

[guide.berkeley.edu](http://guide.berkeley.edu)