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Michael V. Drake, MD
President

Office of the President
1111 Franklin St.
Oakland, CA 94607

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DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

November 29, 2023

Director Joe Stephenshaw
Department of Finance
915 L Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Director Stephenshaw and Senator Skinner:

Pursuant to Section 92680.4(d) of the Education Code, enclosed is the University of California's annual report to the Legislature on the Admission and Enrollment of Students from LCFF+ High Schools.

If you have any questions regarding this report, Interim Associate Vice President and Director Cain Diaz would be pleased to speak with you. Cain can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9350, or by e-mail at Cain.Diaz@ucop.edu.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Drake, MD
President

Enclosure

cc: Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
The Honorable John Laird, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1
(Attn: Mr. Christopher Francis)
(Attn: Mr. Kirk Feely)
The Honorable Kevin McCarty, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2
(Attn: Mr. Mark Martin)
(Attn: Ms. Sarah Haynes)
Mr. Hans Hemann, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Mr. Chris Ferguson, Department of Finance

Ms. Rebecca Lee, Department of Finance
Ms. Jennifer Louie, Department of Finance
Ms. Gabriela Chavez, Department of Finance
Mr. Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst Office
Ms. Jennifer Pacella, Legislative Analyst Office
Provost and Executive Vice President Katherine S. Newman
Vice President and Vice Provost Yvette Gullatt
Interim Associate Vice Provost Cynthia Davalos
Interim Senior Vice President Michael Reese
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Nathan Brostrom
Associate Vice President and Director Kathleen Fullerton
Interim Associate Vice President and Director Cain Diaz

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Admission and Enrollment of Students from LCFF+ High Schools

The following report is forwarded in compliance with Section 92680.4(d) of the Education Code, which states:

- (d) Commencing in 2017, no later than November 30 of each year, the university shall report to the Director of Finance and to the Legislature the number of pupils who attended a school identified by the Superintendent pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 41580 and were admitted to the university, and the number of those students who enrolled, disaggregated by campus.

This document is the annual report responding to this legislative request.

Background

Supporting the success of UC students and continuing to expand access to a diverse student body fully representative of the state are fundamental to fulfilling the educational mission of the University of California. UC campuses are engaged in many efforts to broaden access and improve undergraduate student outcomes – particularly for low-income, first-generation college, and other students who may be at greater risk of lower graduation rates or longer time-to-degree. These efforts have shown promising results – the racial/ethnic diversity of UC students is increasing and the percentage of undergraduates who complete their studies on time has improved substantially over the last decade. However, more work can and should be done to increase access, improve graduation rates overall, and close achievement gaps. UC actively seeks out partnerships with the State to pursue this work.

The 2016-17 State budget for the University of California included one-time funds for support services for “low-income students and students from underrepresented minority groups,” including students who were enrolled in high schools in which more than 75 percent of the school’s total enrollment (unduplicated) is composed of pupils who are identified as either English learners, eligible for free or reduced-price meals, and/or foster youth. These schools, which are eligible for supplemental funding under the state’s Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), are known as “LCFF plus” (LCFF+) schools. This one-time funding was intended to help increase the application, admission, and enrollment of students from LCFF+ high schools.

UC campuses leveraged the one-time funding to engage with LCFF+ high schools and other partners in efforts to increase applications, admissions, and enrollments of these students, including:

- Partnering with community-based organizations to raise awareness of UC and better serve LCFF+ students and their families.
- Using UC proprietary software (e.g., UC’s Transcript Evaluation Service) and other tools to identify students attending LCFF+ schools who are close to achieving UC eligibility and providing college advising and academic enrichment programs to those students.
- Providing LCFF+ high school students with UC campus experiences (e.g., campus visits, residential programs) and/or connecting them with UC student peer mentors.

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- Raising awareness of UC at LCFF+ schools during the fall application period for 2017 high school graduates and in spring 2017 for students in grades 9-11 by conducting additional application, college preparation, and financial aid workshops for students and parents, and providing support for students preparing responses to the “personal insight” questions on the UC application.
 - Conducting targeted “yield” activities (e.g., campus visits and advising) for students attending LCFF+ schools who are admitted to UC and providing transition support to reduce the number of admitted students who have indicated they will enroll in the fall but fail to do so.

In addition, as a system, UC has undertaken special efforts to increase applications and admissions of low-income students and those from LCFF+ schools. Beginning with the fall 2017 application cycle, campuses are able to identify applicants from LCFF+ high schools to ensure they receive full consideration in the comprehensive review process. UC also redesigned its application fee waiver process (by which low-income students can apply to up to four campuses free of charge) so that applicants who reported low family incomes were automatically granted a waiver, rather than being required to apply for one, and were reminded to maximize the fee waiver when fewer than four campuses were selected.

Most recently, the 2019-20 State Budget Act provided the University with one-time funds for a purpose similar to those provided in the 2016-17 Budget Act. This one-time appropriation was for the provision of outreach and student support services to low-income students and students from underrepresented minority groups, including students who were enrolled in LCFF+ high schools. The University leveraged this one-time funding to support efforts such as conducting college preparation, college application, and financial aid workshops; providing college advising and academic enrichment to students attending LCFF+ schools; using data analytics to identify students in need of academic support and targeting services to those students; and developing or expanding summer academic support programs.

Applications, Admissions, and Enrollments

The following analyses look at California residents from LCFF+ California high schools in the fall 2021, fall 2022, and fall 2023 freshman admission cycles. Fall 2023 enrollment data are preliminary based on Statements of Intent to Register as of August 2023. These analyses use LCFF+ designations used for the fall 2023 admissions cycle (based on 2021-22 school enrollment data); therefore, data for prior years have been updated from prior reports.

UC Systemwide

The number of students admitted to UC from LCFF+ high schools increased 3% from 16,014 in 2021 to 16,525 in 2022 before increasing less than 1% to 16,592 in 2023, as the overall number of admissions grew by 2% in both 2022 and 2023 (Table 1). The admit rate for students from LCFF+ schools stayed fairly steady at 69% in 2021 and 2022 and 68% in 2023. The overall admit rate also stayed about the same, moving from 67% in 2021 to 66% in 2022 and back to 67% in 2023. In 2021, the admit rate for students from LCFF+ schools was three percentage points higher than the admit rate for those from non-LCFF+ schools. In 2022, the rate for LCFF+ students was four percentage points higher than the non-LCFF+ rate, and in 2023 it was one percentage point higher.

Table 1. High School Graduates, California Resident Applicants, Admits, Enrollees from California Public High Schools, by LCFF+ Status of High School, UC Systemwide

	LCFF+	Non-LCFF+	TOTAL	
2021	H.S. Graduates	152,950	279,806	432,756
	Applicants	23,163	87,949	111,112
	Admits	16,014	57,955	73,969
	Enrollees	6,954	28,900	35,854
	Application Rate	15%	31%	26%
	Admit Rate	69%	66%	67%
	Yield Rate	43%	50%	48%
2022	H.S. Graduates	144,494	287,081	431,575
	Applicants	23,894	91,400	115,294
	Admits	16,525	59,141	75,666
	Enrollees	7,220	28,956	36,176
	Application Rate	17%	32%	27%
	Admit Rate	69%	65%	66%
	Yield Rate	44%	49%	48%
2023	H.S. Graduates	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Applicants	24,261	90,903	115,164
	Admits	16,592	60,912	77,504
	Enrollees	7,998	31,520	39,518
	Application Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Admit Rate	68%	67%	67%
	Yield Rate	48%	52%	51%

Source: LCFF+ designation based on 2021-22 enrollment data from the California Department of Education. High school graduates from 2020-21 and 2021-22 data from the California Department of Education. Applicants, admits, and enrollees from applyUC data, August 15, 2023 for fall 2023 admissions cycle and UC Data Warehouse, Undergraduate Admissions Data Mart for fall 2021 and fall 2022.

Notes: LCFF+ means more than 75% of a school's students are eligible for free or reduced meal prices (i.e., low income), foster youth, and/or English language learners. LCFF+ status based on enrollment for the academic year prior to the given year (i.e., 2015-16 for 2017). High school graduates are 12th grade graduates of California public schools in the academic year ending in the given year (i.e., 2015-16 for 2016); these data include a small number of international students as well as California residents. "n/a" means data not yet available. Applicants, admits, and enrollees are unduplicated counts of California residents from California public high schools for UC systemwide for the fall term of the given year.

The estimated number of students from LCFF+ high schools enrolling as new freshmen at UC in 2023 (7,998) was larger than in 2021 (6,954) or in 2022 (7,220). About 20% of the fall 2023 freshman incoming class were from LCFF+ high schools, about the same as the shares in fall 2021 (19%) and fall 2022 (20%).

UC Campuses

In 2021, 2022, and 2023, UC Irvine had more freshman applicants from LCFF+ high schools than any other campus, with 14,218 in 2021 and 15,368 in 2022, and 15,907 in 2023 (Table 2). In 2021, 2022, and 2023, UC Riverside had the largest number of freshman admits from LCFF+ high schools, with 6,259 in 2021, 6,442 in 2022, and 6,526 in 2023. UC Merced had the highest admit rate for students from LCFF+ high schools in all three years, 87% in 2021, 89% in 2022, and 87% in 2023.

Table 2. California Resident Applicants, Admits, Enrollees from LCFF+ High Schools, by UC Campus

	Berkeley	Davis	Irvine	Los Angeles	Merced	Riverside	San Diego	Santa Barbara	Santa Cruz	
2021	Applicants	8,265	8,414	14,218	13,709	6,806	11,171	10,741	9,300	6,815
	Admits	1,773	3,383	3,370	1,374	5,905	6,259	3,805	3,452	3,544
	Enrollees	631	757	1,161	753	698	1,124	894	538	398
	Admit Rate	21%	40%	24%	10%	87%	56%	35%	37%	52%
	Yield Rate	36%	22%	34%	55%	12%	18%	23%	16%	11%
2022	Applicants	10,028	8,589	15,368	15,329	6,389	10,860	12,114	8,830	6,792
	Admits	1,718	2,946	3,142	1,393	5,709	6,442	5,643	3,590	2,826
	Enrollees	710	567	941	839	664	1,039	1,572	557	333
	Admit Rate	17%	34%	20%	9%	89%	59%	47%	41%	42%
	Yield Rate	41%	19%	30%	60%	12%	16%	28%	16%	12%
2023	Applicants	10,281	8,384	15,907	15,425	5,634	10,650	12,664	9,356	7,106
	Admits	2,078	3,541	3,169	1,425	4,904	6,526	5,550	3,518	3,484
	Enrollees	843	746	965	878	735	1,248	1,662	558	366
	Admit Rate	20%	42%	20%	9%	87%	61%	44%	38%	49%
	Yield Rate	41%	21%	30%	62%	15%	19%	30%	16%	11%

Source: LCFF+ designation based on 2021-22 enrollment data from the California Department of Education. Applicants, admits, and enrollees from applyUC data, August 15, 2023 for fall 2023 admissions cycle and UC Data Warehouse, Undergraduate Admissions Data Mart for fall 2021 and fall 2022.

In 2023, UC San Diego had the largest number (1,662) of incoming freshmen from LCFF+ high schools. At six of the nine undergraduate campuses, the number of incoming freshmen from LCFF+ high schools was higher in 2023 than in 2021.

Race/Ethnicity

The share of freshman applicants, admits, and enrollees from LCFF+ high schools who were from underrepresented groups (URGs) stayed about the same or increased in both 2022 and 2023 (Table 3).¹ In 2023, 84% of applicants from LCFF+ high schools were from URGs, compared to 82% in 2021 and 83% in 2022. Students from URGs represented 83% of LCFF+ admits in 2023, compared to 81% in 2021 and 82% in 2022. Almost four-fifths (79%) of the incoming freshmen from LCFF+ schools in 2023 were from URGs, up from 77% in 2021 and 2022. The share of LCFF+ high school graduates who were from URGs was 85% in 2021 and 84% in 2022, the latest years for which data are available. In all three years, the largest racial/ethnic group among applicants, admits, and enrollees from LCFF+ high schools was Hispanic/Latino(a).

¹ Underrepresented groups are African Americans, American Indians, Hispanics/Latino(a)s, and Pacific Islanders.

Table 3. High School Graduates, California Resident Applicants, Admits, Enrollees from LCFF+ High Schools, by Race/Ethnicity

	African American	American Indian	Hispanic/Latino(a)	Pacific Islander	Sub-total URGs	Asian	White	Unknown	Two or More	
2021	H.S. Graduates	9,411	673	119,129	581	129,794	8,509	11,950	656	2,041
	Applicants	1,550	50	17,352	39	18,991	3,054	973	145	n/a
	Admits	914	37	11,948	27	12,926	2,312	675	101	n/a
	Enrollees	404	17	4,934	13	5,368	1,248	307	31	n/a
	Application Rate	16%	7%	15%	7%	15%	36%	8%	22%	n/a
	Admit Rate	59%	74%	69%	69%	68%	76%	69%	70%	n/a
	Yield Rate	44%	46%	41%	48%	42%	54%	45%	31%	n/a
2022	H.S. Graduates	7,405	126	114,177	89	121,797	6,079	8,052	179	700
	Applicants	1,734	48	18,085	37	19,904	2,967	919	104	n/a
	Admits	1,027	34	12,408	23	13,492	2,300	663	70	n/a
	Enrollees	456	19	5,092	6	5,573	1,318	311	18	n/a
	Application Rate	23%	38%	16%	42%	16%	49%	11%	58%	n/a
	Admit Rate	59%	71%	69%	62%	68%	78%	72%	67%	n/a
	Yield Rate	44%	56%	41%	26%	41%	57%	47%	26%	n/a
2023	H.S. Graduates	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Applicants	1,633	66	18,547	42	20,288	2,840	976	157	n/a
	Admits	937	51	12,689	29	13,706	2,120	670	96	n/a
	Enrollees	457	26	5,813	14	6,310	1,287	352	49	n/a
	Application Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Admit Rate	57%	77%	68%	68%	68%	75%	69%	61%	n/a
	Yield Rate	49%	51%	46%	46%	46%	61%	53%	51%	n/a

Source: LCFF+ designation based on 2021-22 enrollment data from the California Department of Education. High school graduates from 2020-21 and 2021-22 data from the California Department of Education. Applicants, admits, and enrollees from applyUC data, August 15, 2023 for fall 2023 admissions cycle and UC Data Warehouse, Undergraduate Admissions Data Mart for fall 2021 and fall 2022.

The number of African American admits from LCFF+ high schools grew 12% in 2022 then went down 9% in 2023. Hispanics/Latino(a)s admits increased by 4% from 2021 to 2022 and by 2% from 2022 to 2023. American Indians and Pacific Islanders have smaller overall numbers, so it is helpful to look at counts rather than percent changes. The number of American Indians admitted went down slightly from 37 in 2021 to 34 in 2022 and then increased to 51 in 2023. The number of Pacific Islander admits went from 27 to 23 to 29 in those same years.

Contact Information:
Office of the President
University of California
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94607
<https://ucop.edu/>