UC is committed to increasing the number of undergraduate transfers and to supporting their academic success

The University of California is committed to increasing the number of transfer students from California Community Colleges in the next few years.

**Access**

As part of the efforts to make the transfer process more transparent and encourage qualified transfer students to apply, UC has developed Transfer Pathways for 10 popular majors and is in the process of developing 11 more by fall 2016.

This change could help increase the number of transfer applicants and admits, which have remained relatively flat systemwide over the last few years (Fig.1). In fall 2014, about 35,000 transfer students applied to UC, and nearly two-thirds were admitted. As in previous years, approximately 90 percent of UC transfers came from one of California’s 113 community colleges.

Compared to member institutions of the Association of American Universities (AAU), UC consistently enrolls higher percentages of new transfer students. In 2013, 30 percent of UC’s incoming class were transfers compared to 24 percent at AAU public institutions and 11 percent at AAU private institutions (Fig.2).

Transfer students come from diverse backgrounds. In fall 2014, half of new UC transfer students were first generation students (neither parent graduated from a four-year university) and over a third came from homes where English was not the primary language.
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**Affordability**
Ensuring that UC remains affordable for transfer students is a priority at UC. In 2014, as in previous years, the majority of transfer students (66%) had their full tuition and fees covered through a variety of financial aid programs, including UC’s Blue and Gold Opportunity Program (Fig.3). About half of transfer students (48%) received support as Pell Grant recipients.

![Figure 3. Tuition covered by financial aid for California resident transfer students, 2014-2015](chart)

Tuition not covered, 18%
Tuition partially covered, 16%
Tuition fully covered, 66%

Source: UC Corporate Student System

**Completion**
UC’s transfer students graduate at high rates. Over half of transfer students graduate in 2 years and 85 percent or more graduate within 4 years, well above the national 4-year graduation rate of 60 percent (Fig.4).

![Figure 4. UC transfer graduation rates: 2006-2010 cohorts](chart)

Sources: UC Corporate Student System; National Student Clearinghouse Research Center

UC transfer students graduate at slightly higher rates than those who enter UC as freshmen. For the most recent cohort, 87 percent of transfer students graduated within 4 years and 84 percent of freshmen graduated within 6 years.