Fact Sheet: Fall 2021 Freshman and Transfer Admissions

The following data are preliminary, reflecting admission offers as of June 15, 2021.

The graphic below illustrates the application and admissions cycle. The data presented is subject to change as campuses continue to admit students from their waitlists and verify that conditions of admission are met. Yield data (percentage of students who accept an admission offer) on admission varies during different points in time, with some students who initially accept an offer changing their plans over the summer (referred to as a “melt”). Final enrollment data are reported by campuses in late fall and available to the public in the winter.

Freshman Admissions
- Opened August 1, 2020
- Closed December 4, 2020 for all campuses except Riverside and Santa Cruz (closed December 15) and Merced (closed January 8, 2021)
- Application reviews began November 2020
- Initial decisions made by March 31, 2021 (offers and waitlists)
- Campuses admit more applicants from waitlists as needed, to maximize enrollment
- Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) deadline May 1, 2021
- Additional SIRs from later admits
- Students change enrollment plan (i.e., melt)
- Fall enrollment available in December 2021

Transfer Admissions
- Opened August 1, 2020
- Closed December 4, 2020 for all campuses except Merced, Riverside, and Santa Cruz (closed January 8, 2021)
- Application reviews began December 2020
- Initial decisions made by April 30, 2021 (offers and waitlists)
- Campuses admit more applicants from waitlists as needed, to maximize enrollment
- Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) deadline June 1, 2021
- Additional SIRs from later admits
- Students change enrollment plan (i.e., melt)
- Fall enrollment available in December 2021

The preliminary data support the following:
- The admitted fall 2021 class of California freshmen is an all-time high, at over 84,200 students.
- Underrepresented students account for 43 percent of admitted California freshmen, the highest percentage and total number (over 36,000) in UC history.
- UC admitted the largest class of California community college transfers in the history of the university — over 28,400 students (including almost 25,700 residents).
- UC continues to honor its commitment to the California Master Plan for Higher Education by guaranteeing freshman admission to a UC campus (though not necessarily to the campus of choice) to students in the top 9 percent of their high school or top 9 percent of the state without considering standardized test scores.

Despite the pandemic, UC was able to maintain prior year enrollment levels in 2020–21. Since 2015, UC has added 19,000 additional California residents (fall headcount).