

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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May 27, 2020

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell  
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 553  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Mitchell:

Pursuant to Section 66721.9 of the Education Code, enclosed is the University of California's annual report to the Legislature on *Data on Student Transfers*.

If you have any questions regarding this report, Associate Vice President David Alcocer would be pleased to speak with you. David can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9113, or by email at [David.Alcocer@ucop.edu](mailto:David.Alcocer@ucop.edu).

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Napolitano".

Janet Napolitano  
President

Enclosure

cc: Senate Budget and Fiscal Review  
The Honorable Richard D. Roth, Chair  
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1  
(Attn: Ms. Anita Lee)  
(Attn: Ms. Jean-Marie McKinney)  
The Honorable Kevin McCarty, Chair  
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2  
(Attn: Mr. Mark Martin)  
(Attn: Ms. Carolyn Nealon)

The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell

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Ms. Jennifer Troia, Joint Legislative Budget Committee

Ms. Erika Contreras, Secretary of the Senate

Ms. Tina McGee, Legislative Analyst's Office

Ms. Amy Leach, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson, Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Mr. Jeff Bell, Department of Finance

Mr. Chris Ferguson, Department of Finance

Ms. Rebecca Kirk, Department of Finance

Mr. Brian Rutledge, Department of Finance

Mr. Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst's Office

Ms. Jennifer Pacella, Legislative Analyst's Office

Mr. Jason Constantouros, Legislative Analyst's Office

Executive Vice President and Provost Michael Brown

Vice Provost and Chief Outreach Officer Yvette Gullatt

Associate Vice President Elizabeth Halimah

Interim Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Paul Jenny

Senior Vice President Claire Holmes

Associate Vice President David Alcocer

Associate Vice President and Director Kieran Flaherty

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

### Data on Student Transfers 2017–2019

The following report is provided pursuant to Section 66721.9 to the Education Code as amended in 2016 (**AB 2137**), which states:

(a) The Regents of the University of California are hereby requested to submit an annual report to the Legislature, in accordance with Section 9795 of the Government Code, on or before March 1 in each year from 2017 to 2022, inclusive, on all of the following:

(1) (A) The number of students who reported to the University of California on their admissions application that they received an associate degree for transfer and who were granted admission to the University of California, along with the average community college grade point average of these students, broken down by University of California campus.

(B) The admissions rate and yield rate for students who reported to the University of California on their admissions application that they received an associate degree for transfer, broken down by University of California campus.

(C) The number of students who reported to the University of California on their admissions application that they received an associate degree for transfer and who enrolled at the University of California, along with the average community college grade point average of these students, broken down by University of California campus.

(D) The number of students who reported to the University of California on their admissions application that they received an associate degree for transfer and who graduated from the University of California within two or three academic years for the cohort graduating in the year of the report, broken down by University of California campus.

(2) (A) The number of students who used the transfer admission guarantee and who were granted admission to the University of California, along with the average community college grade point average of these students, broken down by University of California campus.

(B) The admissions rate and yield rate for students who used the transfer admission guarantee, broken down by University of California campus.

(C) The number of students who used the transfer admission guarantee and who enrolled at the University of California, along with the average community college grade point average of these students, broken down by University of California campus.

(D) The number of students who used the transfer admission guarantee and who graduated from the University of California within two or three academic years for the cohort graduating in the year of the report, broken down by University of California campus.

(b) Beginning on or before March 1, 2019, the annual report to the Legislature pursuant to subdivision (a) is requested to include all of the following:

(1) The number of students who used a UC Transfer Pathway and who were granted admission to the University of California, along with the average community college grade point average of these students, broken down by University of California campus.

(2) The admissions rate and yield rate for students who used a UC Transfer Pathway, broken down by University of California campus.

(3) The number of students who used a UC Transfer Pathway who enrolled at the University of California, along with the average community college grade point average of these students, broken down by University of California campus.

(4) The number of students who used a UC Transfer Pathway and who graduated from the University of California within two or three academic years for the cohort graduating in the year of the report, broken down by University of California campus.

(c) To the extent that the University of California has this information, each category reported pursuant to this section is requested to be broken down by student ethnicity.

(d) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this section is repealed on January 1, 2024.

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

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## Background

### **Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)**

In 2010, the California legislature enacted SB 1440, which required community colleges to develop 60-unit Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs) that include general education requirements and a minimum of 18 units in a major or area of emphasis. Under the legislation, the California State University is required to admit a student who earns one of these degrees to one of its campuses as a junior, and the University of California is requested to consider this achievement in its admission process. Under the University of California's (UC's) comprehensive review policy adopted by the UC faculty, the ADT is among the nine criteria that campuses are able to use to select their admitted class when they receive more minimally qualified applicants than they can admit. UC began requesting self-reported ADT completion information on the fall 2014 application for undergraduate admission. The accuracy of the self-reported data from the application is uncertain at the time of admission, as it cannot be verified until the student completes the academic program at the community college. UC campuses may verify the self-reported data post-enrollment. For fall 2019, about 95 percent of applicants reporting an ADT also report participation/completion of another transfer preparation program such as the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC), a UC Transfer Admission Guarantee, and/or a UC Transfer Pathway.

### **Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)**

The Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) program guarantees community college students admission to their top choice UC campus if they meet specified conditions. All campuses participate in the program except Berkeley, UCLA, and San Diego. By participating in the TAG program, students can ensure their admission to a specific UC campus, some of which offer an early review of a student's academic record, early admission notification, and specific guidance on major preparation and general education coursework. Students may only apply for a TAG at one UC campus, but may apply to as many additional UC campuses without a TAG as they wish. Students who are admitted with a TAG are not required to attend that campus.

Campuses specify the majors that participate in TAG and the requirements for guaranteed admission in each major. Qualifications for a TAG may include: completion of specific lower-division general education or major-preparation courses, minimum GPA, and minimum numbers of UC transferable units. Once a TAG is approved, students must fulfill all remaining coursework and GPA requirements designated on the TAG agreement to maintain their guaranteed offer of admission. When a student does not satisfy the conditions of the TAG contract prior to enrollment, his/her admission may be rescinded.

### **UC Transfer Pathways**

Developed in 2015, the UC Transfer Pathways identify a common set of lower-division preparatory courses for 20 of UC's most popular majors. California Community College students who complete Pathway course requirements and general education courses with a satisfactory GPA would be well-prepared for junior-level transfer to any UC campus in that major. Under UC's Comprehensive Review policy, completion of a UC Transfer Pathway is among the nine criteria campuses are able to use to select their admitted class when they receive more minimally qualified applicants than they can admit. UC began requesting self-reported Pathway completion information on the fall 2017 application for undergraduate admission. The accuracy of the self-reported data from the application is uncertain at the time of admission as it cannot be verified until the student completes the academic program at the community college. UC campuses may verify the self-reported data post-enrollment. For fall 2019, about 95 percent of applicants reporting completion of a UC Pathway also report

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participation/completion of another transfer preparation program such as IGETC, a UC Transfer Admission Guarantee, and/or an ADT.

## Data Outcomes

### **Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) – see Table 1**

As noted above, UC began collecting data on ADT completion from transfer applicants in 2014. The ADT information is self-reported by the applicant and unverified. There is no requirement for the student to apply to the same major as the ADT. Therefore, it should be stressed that the validity of the outcome data is uncertain and in no way confirms a causal relationship. For fall 2019, 14,080 community college transfer students reported plans to complete an ADT on their application. This is an increase from 2018 (12,899) and from 2017 (11,108). In 2019, 200 students (out of 7,637) enrolled with only an ADT and without any other transfer preparation. Therefore, the outcomes described below reflect students not only with an ADT, but a vast majority who have additional transfer preparation.

The admission rate for students reporting an ADT to the UC system was 77 percent in 2019, the same as 2018 and up from 76 percent in 2017. In 2019, the average self-reported GPA for admitted students with an ADT universitywide was 3.47 and ranged from 3.25 at Merced to 3.80 at UCLA. About 70 percent of students reporting completion of an ADT and who were admitted to UC enrolled at the university. The two-year graduation rate for students entering UC reporting an ADT in 2017 is 64 percent, which exceeds the overall two-year graduation rate for transfers of 57 percent.<sup>1</sup> Los Angeles graduated the highest percentage of transfers with an ADT after two years with 75 percent, followed by Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz with 66 percent.

### **Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) – see Table 2**

The majority of transfer students admitted to UC are admitted without a TAG. However, over the last three years, the number of students applying to UC with a TAG has grown from 8,195 in 2017 to 10,795 in 2019. The campus receiving the most TAG applicants in 2019 was Davis with 2,967 followed by Irvine with 2,812 and Santa Barbara with 2,716 TAG applicants. The average self-reported GPA for applicants universitywide with a TAG decreased in 2019 to 3.58 from 3.61 in 2017 and 2018.

The psychological impact of “guaranteed” admission is very powerful for prospective UC transfer applicants but also allows them to be strategic in applying to UC. With the guarantee in hand at one campus, students often apply to other UC campuses without risk, as the TAG does not bind a student to attend the TAG campus if admitted to another UC campus. The higher level of academic achievement and preparation of TAG applicants also positions the students to have several options post-community college. Thus, the yield rates for TAG admits to their TAG campus may seem lower than expected, ranging from 26 percent at Merced to 46 percent at Davis in 2019. However, the yield rate to the university as a whole for 2019 was 83 percent, demonstrating that the majority of these applicants have multiple enrollment options within the UC system. The two-year graduation rate for students entering UC with a TAG in 2017 is 61 percent, which exceeds the overall two-year

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<sup>1</sup> According to the 2019 Accountability Report, UC’s current two-year graduation rate for transfers is 57 percent. <https://accountability.universityofcalifornia.edu/2019/chapters/chapter-3.html#3.1.3>

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graduation rate of 57 percent. Merced graduated the highest percentage at 71 percent (10 students) in two years followed by Santa Barbara at 68 percent (545 students).

**UC Transfer Pathways – see Table 3**

As noted above, UC began collecting data on completion of UC Transfer Pathways from transfer applicants in 2017. The information on Pathway completion is self-reported by the applicant and unverified. There is no requirement for the student to apply to the same major as the Pathway. Therefore, it should be stressed that the validity of the admission and enrollment data is uncertain and in no way confirms a causal relationship.

For 2019, 14,370 California Community College students reported completing a UC Transfer Pathway, up from 13,534 in 2018 and 10,999 in 2017. Universitywide in 2019, 74 percent of these students were admitted and 63 percent of those admitted ultimately enrolled at UC. The average self-reported GPA among admitted students universitywide was 3.49. The two-year graduation rate for students who entered UC in 2017 and reported completing a UC Transfer Pathway is 63%, above the two-year graduation rate for all transfers of 57 percent.

**Table 1**  
**University of California**  
**CCC Students Reporting an Associate Degree for Transfer**

		Fall 2017		Fall 2018			Fall 2019			
		Counts	Admit, Yield & Grad Rates	Average GPA	Counts	Admit & Yield Rates	Average GPA	Counts	Admit & Yield Rates	Average GPA
Universitywide	Applicants	11,108		3.35	12,899		3.35	14,080		3.38
	Admits	8,472	76%	3.45	9,980	77%	3.45	10,849	77%	3.47
	Enrolled	6,274	74%	3.47	7,224	72%	3.49	7,637	70%	3.51
	Graduated (2 yrs)	4,002	64%	3.51						
Berkeley	Applicants	5,322		3.48	5,917		3.48	6,274		3.50
	Admits	1,350	25%	3.77	1,397	24%	3.77	1,642	26%	3.78
	Enrolled	839	62%	3.77	818	59%	3.74	948	58%	3.77
	Graduated (2 yrs)	540	64%	3.78						
Davis	Applicants	4,671		3.37	5,417		3.37	5,655		3.39
	Admits	3,087	66%	3.51	3,414	63%	3.56	3,564	63%	3.56
	Enrolled	896	29%	3.38	1,015	30%	3.44	1,080	30%	3.43
	Graduated (2 yrs)	557	62%	3.43						
Irvine	Applicants	5,601		3.36	6,655		3.36	7,267		3.39
	Admits	3,212	57%	3.54	3,139	47%	3.59	3,615	50%	3.60
	Enrolled	880	27%	3.42	901	29%	3.51	1,100	30%	3.50
	Graduated (2 yrs)	520	59%	3.46						
Los Angeles	Applicants	6,343		3.44	7,386		3.45	8,128		3.47
	Admits	1,778	28%	3.75	1,980	27%	3.76	2,101	26%	3.80
	Enrolled	1,029	58%	3.71	1,168	59%	3.74	1,282	61%	3.79
	Graduated (2 yrs)	767	75%	3.73						
Merced	Applicants	1,099		3.10	1,293		3.14	1,475		3.13
	Admits	681	62%	3.25	856	66%	3.25	932	63%	3.25
	Enrolled	72	11%	3.21	79	9%	3.13	89	10%	3.14
	Graduated (2 yrs)	39	54%	3.18						
Riverside	Applicants	3,328		3.20	4,239		3.20	4,712		3.23
	Admits	2,419	73%	3.29	3,062	72%	3.28	3,486	74%	3.31
	Enrolled	501	21%	3.10	733	24%	3.11	868	25%	3.15
	Graduated (2 yrs)	290	58%	3.14						
San Diego	Applicants	4,974		3.40	5,725		3.40	6,240		3.42
	Admits	2,954	59%	3.58	2,993	52%	3.62	3,707	59%	3.61
	Enrolled	853	29%	3.44	960	32%	3.52	873	24%	3.56
	Graduated (2 yrs)	495	58%	3.47						
Santa Barbara	Applicants	5,306		3.36	5,911		3.38	6,515		3.39
	Admits	3,236	61%	3.55	3,695	63%	3.57	3,705	57%	3.63
	Enrolled	844	26%	3.43	935	25%	3.45	890	24%	3.50
	Graduated (2 yrs)	555	66%	3.45						
Santa Cruz	Applicants	3,089		3.25	3,885		3.27	4,105		3.27
	Admits	1,943	63%	3.37	2,769	71%	3.36	2,707	66%	3.39
	Enrolled	360	19%	3.16	615	22%	3.18	507	19%	3.21
	Graduated (2 yrs)	239	66%	3.21						

SOURCE: UC Office of the President, Student Affairs, Undergraduate Admissions, F17, F18, F19 UCDW & ApplyUC

**Table 2**  
**University of California**  
**Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)**

		Fall 2017			Fall 2018			Fall 2019		
		Counts	Admit, Yield & Grad Rates	Average GPA	Counts	Admit & Yield Rates	Average GPA	Counts	Admit & Yield Rates	Average GPA
Universitywide	Applicants	8,195		3.61	9,345		3.61	10,795		3.58
	Admits (TAG)	8,157	100%	3.61	9,240	99%	3.62	10,754	100%	3.60
	Enrolled (TAG)	3,322	41%	3.55	3,783	41%	3.55	4,462	41%	3.53
	Graduated (2 yrs)	2,023	61%	3.57						
	Admits (any UC)	8,171	100%	3.60	9,281	99%	3.62	10,754	100%	3.59
	Enrolled (any UC)	7,033	86%	3.60	7,927	85%	3.62	8,874	83%	3.61
Davis	Applicants	2,733		3.63	2,841		3.64	2,967		3.65
	Admits	2,713	99%	3.63	2,803	99%	3.64	2,967	100%	3.65
	Enrolled	1,265	47%	3.57	1,337	48%	3.59	1,358	46%	3.59
	Graduated (2 yrs)	779	62%	3.60						
Irvine	Applicants	2,062		3.73	2,429		3.73	2,812		3.72
	Admits	2,062	100%	3.73	2,425	100%	3.73	2,796	99%	3.72
	Enrolled	809	39%	3.66	969	40%	3.67	1,205	43%	3.65
	Graduated (2 yrs)	412	51%	3.68						
Merced	Applicants	43		3.33	53		3.29	78		3.33
	Admits	43	100%	3.33	53	100%	3.29	69	88%	3.35
	Enrolled	14	33%	3.37	17	32%	3.41	18	26%	3.41
	Graduated (2 yrs)	10	71%	3.34						
Riverside	Applicants	341		3.42	546		3.30	876		3.32
	Admits	334	98%	3.42	538	99%	3.30	860	98%	3.32
	Enrolled	115	34%	3.42	201	37%	3.32	356	41%	3.28
	Graduated (2 yrs)	76	66%	3.42						
Santa Barbara	Applicants	2,198		3.60	2,541		3.62	2,716		3.64
	Admits	2,198	100%	3.60	2,541	100%	3.62	2,716	100%	3.64
	Enrolled	801	36%	3.50	882	35%	3.52	919	34%	3.52
	Graduated (2 yrs)	545	68%	3.52						
Santa Cruz	Applicants	818		3.41	935		3.43	1,346		3.28
	Admits	807	99%	3.42	880	94%	3.43	1,346	100%	3.35
	Enrolled	318	39%	3.36	377	43%	3.38	555	41%	3.30
	Graduated (2 yrs)	201	63%	3.41						

SOURCE: UC Office of the President, Student Affairs, Undergraduate Admissions, F17, F18, F19 UCDW & ApplyUC



**Table 3**  
**University of California**  
**CCC Students Reporting a Pathways Major for Transfer**

		Fall 2017			Fall 2018			Fall 2019		
		Counts	Admit, Yield & Grad Rates	Average GPA	Counts	Admit & Yield Rates	Average GPA	Counts	Admit & Yield Rates	Average GPA
Universitywide	Applicants	10,999		3.37	13,534		3.37	14,370		3.38
	Admits	8,289	75%	3.46	10,100	75%	3.47	10,587	74%	3.49
	Enrolled	5,411	65%	3.47	6,597	65%	3.50	6,639	63%	3.52
	Graduated (2 yrs)	3,387	63%	3.51						
Berkeley	Applicants	4,223		3.51	5,015		3.50	5,262		3.51
	Admits	1,201	28%	3.79	1,213	24%	3.80	1,378	26%	3.78
	Enrolled	708	59%	3.77	648	53%	3.76	770	56%	3.76
	Graduated (2 yrs)	460	65%	3.76						
Davis	Applicants	3,985		3.39	4,915		3.40	5,119		3.41
	Admits	2,728	68%	3.51	3,054	62%	3.57	3,113	61%	3.58
	Enrolled	854	31%	3.40	928	30%	3.47	950	31%	3.47
	Graduated (2 yrs)	519	61%	3.46						
Irvine	Applicants	4,913		3.38	6,336		3.39	6,583		3.40
	Admits	2,997	61%	3.54	3,241	51%	3.61	3,200	49%	3.62
	Enrolled	851	28%	3.44	909	28%	3.52	916	29%	3.51
	Graduated (2 yrs)	477	56%	3.47						
Los Angeles	Applicants	5,112		3.45	6,389		3.46	6,777		3.47
	Admits	1,651	32%	3.77	1,906	30%	3.78	1,856	27%	3.82
	Enrolled	959	58%	3.75	1,180	62%	3.76	1,166	63%	3.81
	Graduated (2 yrs)	711	74%	3.77						
Merced	Applicants	850		3.12	1,026		3.15	1,203		3.16
	Admits	577	68%	3.22	719	70%	3.28	821	68%	3.27
	Enrolled	60	10%	3.06	66	9%	3.13	88	11%	3.19
	Graduated (2 yrs)	32	53%	3.03						
Riverside	Applicants	3,047		3.23	4,061		3.24	4,283		3.24
	Admits	2,183	72%	3.31	2,908	72%	3.32	3,171	74%	3.32
	Enrolled	443	20%	3.13	673	23%	3.14	771	24%	3.16
	Graduated (2 yrs)	263	59%	3.17						
San Diego	Applicants	3,741		3.42	5,017		3.42	5,370		3.42
	Admits	2,330	62%	3.57	2,749	55%	3.62	3,210	60%	3.62
	Enrolled	624	27%	3.42	847	31%	3.51	767	24%	3.57
	Graduated (2 yrs)	333	53%	3.41						
Santa Barbara	Applicants	3,858		3.36	4,957		3.38	5,388		3.39
	Admits	2,284	59%	3.54	2,958	60%	3.57	2,919	54%	3.63
	Enrolled	509	22%	3.40	737	25%	3.43	670	23%	3.49
	Graduated (2 yrs)	334	66%	3.42						
Santa Cruz	Applicants	2,978		3.27	3,809		3.28	3,998		3.29
	Admits	2,042	69%	3.37	2,820	74%	3.37	2,753	69%	3.40
	Enrolled	403	20%	3.15	609	22%	3.19	542	20%	3.21
	Graduated (2 yrs)	258	64%	3.21						

SOURCE: UC Office of the President, Student Affairs, Undergraduate Admissions, F17, F18, F19 UCDW & ApplyUC

**Contact Information:**  
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