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Michael V. Drake, MD
President

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DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

November 13, 2024

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

The Honorable Scott D. Wiener
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Director Stephenshaw and Senator Wiener:

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, Associate Vice President 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. Diego Lopez)
(Attn: Mr. Kirk Feely)
The Honorable David A. Alvarez, Chair
Assembly Education Finance Subcommittee #3
(Attn: Mr. Mark Martin)
(Attn: Ms. Sarah Haynes)
Mr. Hans Hemann, Joint Legislative Budget Committee

Mr. Chris Ferguson, Department of Finance
Ms. Gabriela Chavez, Department of Finance
Mr. Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst Office
Ms. Jennifer Pacella, Legislative Analyst Office
Mr. Ian Klein, 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 Meredith Turner
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Nathan Brostrom
Associate Vice President and Director Kathleen Fullerton
Associate Vice President 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 students, first-generation college-goers, 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 to better serve LCFF+ students and their families.
- Using UC proprietary software, e.g., UC’s Compass (formerly Transcript Evaluation Service) and other tools to identify students attending LCFF+ schools who are close to achieving UC eligibility and to provide 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 that 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 2022, fall 2023, and fall 2024 freshman admission cycles. Fall 2024 enrollment data are preliminary based on Statements of Intent to Register as of August 2024. These analyses use LCFF+ designations used for the fall 2024 admissions cycle (based on 2022–23 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 percent from 19,350 in 2022 to 20,001 in 2023 before increasing 8 percent to 21,634 in 2024, as the overall number of admissions grew by 5 percent in both 2023 and 2024 (Table 1). The admit rate for students from LCFF+ schools increased from 69 percent in 2022 to 70 percent in 2023 and 73 percent in 2024. The overall admit rate also went up, moving from 66 percent in 2022 to 69 percent in 2023 and 71 percent in 2024. In 2022, the admit rate for students from LCFF+ schools was four percentage points higher than the admit rate for those from non-LCFF+ schools. In 2023, the rate for LCFF+ students was one percentage point higher than the non-LCFF+ rate, and in 2024 it was two percentage points 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	
2022	H.S. Graduates	144,494	287,081	431,575
	Applicants	28,137	87,157	115,294
	Admits	19,350	56,316	75,666
	Enrollees	8,480	27,696	36,176
	Application Rate	19%	30%	27%
	Admit Rate	69%	65%	66%
	Yield Rate	44%	49%	48%
2023	H.S. Graduates	150,762	281,288	432,050
	Applicants	28,724	86,463	115,187
	Admits	20,001	59,396	79,397
	Enrollees	8,934	29,077	38,011
	Application Rate	19%	31%	27%
	Admit Rate	70%	69%	69%
	Yield Rate	45%	49%	48%
2024	H.S. Graduates	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Applicants	29,577	87,228	116,805
	Admits	21,634	61,502	83,136
	Enrollees	8,915	29,774	38,689
	Application Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Admit Rate	73%	71%	71%
	Yield Rate	41%	48%	47%

Source: LCFF+ designation based on 2022–23 enrollment data from the California Department of Education. High school graduates from 2021–22 and 2022–23 data from the California Department of Education. Applicants, admits, and enrollees from applyUC data, August 26, 2024 for fall 2024 admissions cycle and UC Data Warehouse, Undergraduate Admissions Data Mart for fall 2022 and fall 2023.

Notes: LCFF+ means more than 75 percent of a school's students are eligible for free or reduced meal prices (i.e., are 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 2024 (8,915) was larger than in 2022 (8,480) and about the same as in 2023 (8,934). Twenty-three percent of the fall 2024 freshman incoming class were from LCFF+ high schools, about the same as the shares in fall 2022 (23 percent) and fall 2023 (24 percent).

UC Campuses

In 2022, 2023, and 2024, UC Irvine had more freshman applicants from LCFF+ high schools than any other campus, with 18,186 in 2022, 18,858 in 2023, and 19,169 in 2024 (Table 2). In 2022, 2023, and 2024, UC Riverside had the largest number of freshman admits from LCFF+ high schools, with 7,559 in 2022, 7,667 in

2023, and 8,855 in 2024. UC Merced had the highest admit rate for students from LCFF+ high schools in all three years: 90 percent in 2022, 88 percent in 2023, and 90 percent in 2024.

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	
2022	Applicants	12,053	10,174	18,186	18,074	7,359	12,741	14,559	10,379	8,119
	Admits	2,003	3,502	3,710	1,607	6,600	7,559	6,427	4,201	3,419
	Enrollees	835	689	1,147	952	750	1,248	1,790	681	390
	Admit Rate	17%	34%	20%	9%	90%	59%	44%	40%	42%
	Yield Rate	42%	20%	31%	59%	11%	17%	28%	16%	11%
2023	Applicants	12,330	10,024	18,858	18,226	7,147	12,602	15,259	11,148	8,540
	Admits	2,393	4,239	3,726	1,663	6,301	7,667	6,353	4,130	4,232
	Enrollees	971	861	1,116	1,023	759	1,328	1,850	630	396
	Admit Rate	19%	42%	20%	9%	88%	61%	42%	37%	50%
	Yield Rate	41%	20%	30%	62%	12%	17%	29%	15%	9%
2024	Applicants	12,169	10,490	19,169	18,758	7,230	13,082	16,299	11,091	9,669
	Admits	1,901	4,529	4,396	1,813	6,543	8,855	6,843	4,362	5,350
	Enrollees	786	890	1,242	1,091	690	1,326	1,799	610	487
	Admit Rate	16%	43%	23%	10%	90%	68%	42%	39%	55%
	Yield Rate	41%	20%	28%	60%	11%	15%	26%	14%	9%

Source: LCFF+ designation based on 2022–23 enrollment data from the California Department of Education. Applicants, admits, and enrollees from applyUC data, August 26, 2024 for fall 2024 admissions cycle and UC Data Warehouse, Undergraduate Admissions Data Mart for fall 2022 and fall 2023.

In 2024, UC San Diego had the largest number (1,799) 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 2024 than in 2022.

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 2023 and 2024 (Table 3).¹ In 2024, 83 percent of applicants from LCFF+ high schools were from URGs, compared to 82 percent in both 2022 and 2023. Students from URGs represented 82 percent of LCFF+ admits in 2024, compared with 80 percent in 2022 and 81 percent in 2023. Over three-fourths (76 percent) of the incoming freshmen from LCFF+ schools in 2024 were from URGs, about the same as in 2022 (75 percent) and 2023 (77 percent). The share of LCFF+ high school graduates who were from URGs was 89 percent in 2022 and 2023, 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	
2022	H.S. Graduates	7,405	126	114,177	89	121,797	6,079	8,052	179	700
	Applicants	2,112	63	20,733	46	22,954	3,874	1,173	136	n/a
	Admits	1,235	47	14,139	28	15,449	2,987	827	87	n/a
	Enrollees	537	25	5,766	10	6,338	1,711	401	30	n/a
	Application Rate	29%	50%	18%	52%	19%	64%	15%	76%	n/a
	Admit Rate	58%	75%	68%	61%	67%	77%	71%	64%	n/a
	Yield Rate	43%	53%	41%	36%	41%	57%	48%	34%	n/a
2023	H.S. Graduates	7,370	149	119,157	49	126,725	5,882	9,234	194	694
	Applicants	2,072	64	21,311	64	23,511	3,779	1,240	194	n/a
	Admits	1,242	46	14,903	40	16,231	2,791	852	127	n/a
	Enrollees	577	23	6,221	16	6,837	1,630	408	59	n/a
	Application Rate	28%	43%	18%	131%	19%	64%	13%	100%	n/a
	Admit Rate	60%	72%	70%	63%	69%	74%	69%	65%	n/a
	Yield Rate	46%	50%	42%	40%	42%	58%	48%	46%	n/a
2024	H.S. Graduates	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Applicants	2,176	66	22,231	61	24,534	3,712	1,198	133	n/a
	Admits	1,391	49	16,258	40	17,738	2,888	907	101	n/a
	Enrollees	596	28	6,161	18	6,803	1,659	413	40	n/a
	Application Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Admit Rate	64%	74%	73%	63%	72%	78%	76%	76%	n/a
	Yield Rate	43%	57%	38%	40%	38%	57%	46%	40%	n/a

Source: LCFF+ designation based on 2022–23 enrollment data from the California Department of Education. High school graduates from 2021–22 and 2022–23 data from the California Department of Education. Applicants, admits, and enrollees from applyUC data, August 26, 2024 for fall 2024 admissions cycle and UC Data Warehouse, Undergraduate Admissions Data Mart for fall 2022 and fall 2023.

Note: Race/ethnicity categories are defined differently in the data for high school graduates than in the data for UC applicants, admits, and enrollees. For this reason, application rates noted in this report are approximations.

The number of African American admits from LCFF+ high schools grew 1 percent in 2023 and then 12 percent in 2024. Hispanics/Latino(a)s admits increased by 5 percent from 2022 to 2023 and by 9 percent from 2023 to 2024. 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 47 in 2022 to 46 in 2023 and then increased to 49 in 2024. The number of Pacific Islander admits went from 28 in 2022 to 40 in both 2023 and 2024.

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