

2023-24 Sustainability Rankings, Ratings and Awards

I Rankings & Ratings

A. General Rankings

Multiple UC locations received sustainability awards in fiscal year 2023–24. The following list includes indexes and organizations that recognized UC locations for their achievements in sustainability.

- [2024 Sustainable Campus Index](#)
- [2024 Princeton Review Top 50 Green Colleges](#)
- [2024 Green College Honor Roll](#)
- [2024 Quacquarelli Symonds World University Sustainable Development Goal Rankings](#)
- [2024 Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings: Sustainability.](#)
- [2023 UI Greenmetric Rankings](#)
- [2024 Practice Greenhealth Environmental Excellence Awards](#)
- [2023 Health Care Climate Challenge Champions](#)
- [2024 EPEAT Purchaser Awards](#)

B. General Awards by Location

UC locations received general sustainability awards in fiscal year 2023–24. They are listed below alphabetically by location, with academic health centers listed after campus locations.

- The UC system received the EcoChampion: Most Sustainable Organization award from [EnergyCAP](#).
- UC Berkeley placed on the Princeton Review [Green College Honor Roll](#) for overall sustainability. UC Berkeley also received second place for most sustainable university in the world from [Sustainability Magazine](#).
- UC Davis received five awards: the [GreenMetric World University Rankings](#) from the University of Indonesia for first in North America and fifth in the world for overall sustainability. UC Davis also placed on the Princeton Review [Green College Honor Roll](#) for overall sustainability and received a [sustainability rating of Gold](#) from AASHE.
- UC Davis Health was named [one of the top 25 hospitals](#) in the country for Environmental Excellence by Practice Greenhealth. UC Davis Health also received the Gold Climate Resilience Award and Silver Climate Leadership Award from Healthcare Without Harm.
- UC Irvine earned a [Platinum STARS rating](#) and was named a top performer in the categories of Research, Coordination and Planning from AASHE. UC Irvine also placed on the Princeton Review [Green College Honor Roll](#) for overall sustainability and was

ranked 16th on the [Princeton Review top 50 Green Colleges Index](#). UC Irvine also ranked [tenth place for Coordination and Planning](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index.

- UCLA received [Gold Level Certification](#) for Green Grounds from re.Wild Your Campus. UCLA also ranked ninth place for most sustainable university in the world from [Sustainability Magazine](#). UCLA also received a [sustainability rating of Gold](#) from AASHE.
- UCLA Health received a Top 25 Award recognition for Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center and an Emerald Award for Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center for Environmental Excellence from [Practice Greenhealth](#). UCLA Health also received the [Climate Champion Award](#), as well as Gold Awards in Climate Leadership and Climate Resilience from Healthcare Without Harm.
- UC Merced ranked 30th on the [Princeton Review top 50 Green Colleges Index](#) and was a [top performer for Research](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index. UC Merced also earned a [Platinum STARS rating](#) from AASHE.
- UC Riverside ranked 33rd on the [Princeton Review top 50 Green Colleges Index](#).
- UC Santa Barbara [received seventh place](#) for most sustainable university in the world from Sustainability Magazine. UC Santa Barbara also placed on the Princeton Review [Green College Honor Roll](#) for overall sustainability and received a [sustainability rating of Gold](#) from AASHE.
- UC Santa Cruz was a [top performer for Research](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index. UC Santa Cruz also received a [sustainability rating of Gold](#) from AASHE.
- UC San Diego was a [top performer for Research](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index. UC Santa Barbara also received a [sustainability rating of Gold](#) from AASHE.

II Awards & Recognition by Topic

A. Climate and Energy

- UC Berkeley received a [Focus on Efficiency Award](#) for the Office of Sustainability from the California Higher Education Collaborative.
- UC Irvine Health received the Circle of Excellence in Climate award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UCLA Health received multiple awards from [Practice Greenhealth](#): Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center received the Circle of Excellence in Climate award. Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center received the Emerald Award and the Circle of Excellence in Climate award.
- UC Merced received the [Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Award](#) from the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance for its solar canal project. UC Merced was also listed as a [top performer for Air and Climate](#) from AASHE.
- UC Riverside received the [American-Made Digitizing Utilities Prize](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Electricity. UC Riverside also received a \$1,450,000 Grant from the [U.S. DOE](#) for their work with CELF; co-solvent enhanced

lignocellulosic fractionation and a [\\$250,000 grant](#) from the W.M. Keck Foundation to build electronics with low power consumption. UC Riverside also received the [Leadership in Air Quality Award](#) from the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

- UC San Francisco received the Focus on Efficiency Awards for the Ultra-Low Temperature Freezer Project, Power Mix Dashboard, and Building Management System Advanced Alarm Management from the California Higher Education Collaborative.
- UC San Francisco Health received the Circle of Excellence in Climate award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).

B. Chemicals

- UCLA Ronald Reagan and Santa Monica Health Centers received the Circle of Excellence in Chemicals from [Practice Greenhealth](#).

C. Food

- UC Berkeley received the [National Association of College & University Food Services](#) silver award in Carbon Neutrality.
- UC Riverside received a [\\$250,000 Grant](#) from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to help enable safe use of recycled water for farming.
- UC San Diego Health received the Circles of Excellence award for Food from [Practice Greenhealth](#).

D. Green Buildings and Operations

- UC Davis Health received the Circles of Excellence for Green Building award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UC Irvine received [first place in the Buildings category](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index.
- UCLA received four awards: [fourth place in the Buildings category](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index, the [Civic Portfolio Award in 2024](#) from the California Green Building Conference, the [Chairman's Award](#) from LA Business Council, and the [Pritzker Hall National Architecture Award](#) from the American Institute of Architects National.
- UC Riverside received three awards: the [Mayor's Award](#) from Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful, and third place in the Construction Category from Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful from the City of Riverside, and the Excellence in Sustainability Award of Merit from [Engineering News-Record California](#).
- UC San Diego received the National Award of Merit in the Educational Facilities Category for the UC San Diego Nuevo East Graduate Student Housing from the Design-Build Institute of America. UC San Diego's Living Learning Neighborhood received the [COTE Top Ten Award](#) from the American Institute of Architects.
- UC San Diego Health received the Circles of Excellence for Green Building award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).

- UC Santa Barbara's [Interactive Learning Pavillion](#) received the U.S. Building of the Year from World Architects. The Interactive Learning Pavillion was also awarded the Green Schools Honor from The Central Coast Green Building Council. UC Santa Barbara also received [eight place in the Buildings category](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index.

E. Health and Wellbeing

- UC Berkeley was named a top performer in the category of Wellbeing and Work in [AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index](#).
- UC Irvine was named a top performer in the category of Wellbeing and Work in [AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index](#).
- UC Riverside was named a top performer in the category of Wellbeing and Work in [AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index](#).

F. Health

- UC Irvine Health received the Greenhealth Emerald Award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UCLA Health's Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center received the Greening the Operating Room Award and Greenhealth Emerald Award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UC San Diego Health received the Leadership and the Greenhealth Emerald Award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UC San Francisco Health received the Greening the Operating Room Recognition Award and the Greenhealth Emerald Award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).

G. Procurement

- UC Berkeley's Russell Chung was selected as a [Sustainable Procurement Champion](#) by CPOstrategy and ProcureTech.
- UC Davis Health received the [Circles of Excellence Award for Sustainable Procurement](#) from Practice Greenhealth.
- UC Santa Barbara received the 2024 EPEAT Purchaser Award from the [Global Electronics Council](#).
- UC San Diego Health received the [Circles of Excellence Award for Sustainable Procurement](#) from Practice Greenhealth and the 2024 EPEAT Purchaser Award from the [Global Electronics Council](#).

H. Transportation

- UC Davis received [Bicycle Friendly University Platinum Status](#) from the League of American Bicyclists.
- UC Irvine received Bicycle Friendly University Platinum Status from The League of American Bicyclists as well as the 2024 Race to Excellence Gold Award from the [Best Workplaces for Commuters](#).

- UCLA received the [2024 Green Fleet Award](#) from the National Association of Fleet Administrators. UCLA also received the [2023 Transportation Demand Management Excellence Award in the Higher Education](#) category from the Association for Commuter Transportation, the [Gold Bicycle Friendly University 2023 Award](#) from the League of American Bicyclists, was recognized as an Accredited Parking Organization with distinction from the International Parking and Mobility Institute, and was awarded \$750,000 from the EnergIIZE Jump Start program through the California Energy Commission.
- UCLA Health's Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and Santa Monica UCLA Medical Centers both received the Circle of Excellence in Transportation award from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UC Riverside was the Winner of the Intersection Safety Challenge through the [U.S. Department of Transportation](#).
- UC Santa Barbara received [Platinum Bicycle Friendly University](#) status from The League of American Bicyclists.
- UC San Diego received the iCommute 2024 Diamond Award — Platinum from the [San Diego Association of Governments](#).
- UC San Diego Health received the Circles of Excellence award for Transportation from [Practice Greenhealth](#).
- UC San Francisco was named the Best Workplace for Commuters by the Center for Urban Transportation Research.
- UC Davis Health received platinum resiliency recognition for Parking Structure 4 (PS4) from the United States Resiliency Council.

I. Water

- UCLA received an Honor Award for Analysis and Planning from the [American Society of Landscape Architects](#).
- LBNL was awarded the 2023 Department of Energy Sustainability Award from the [U.S. DOE](#) for its innovative approach to quantifying water consumption in laboratory spaces.
- UC Davis Health received the Circle of Excellence Award for Water from [Practice GreenHealth](#).

J. Waste

- UC Berkeley received the Pac-12 Basketball Zero Waste Champion Award 2023 from the Pac-12.
- UC Irvine received first place in the 2024 Campus Race to Zero Waste Green Event and Waste Diversion from the [National Wildlife Federation](#).
- UC Riverside was a [top performer for Water](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index.

III Additional Sustainability Achievements

- UC Berkeley ranked [third place for Diversity and Affordability](#) in AASHE's 2024 Sustainable Campus Index.
- UC Davis was awarded [Learning by Leading Program: Top honors](#) from the American Public Gardens Association and was recognized as second in the world for Agriculture & Forestry and Veterinary Science by the [QS World University Rankings by Subject](#).
- UC Irvine executive, Wendell Brase, received the [Phil Wirdzek Leadership Award](#) from the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories. UC Irvine was also designated a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.
- UCLA departments received 66 Green Business Certifications from the City of Los Angeles in partnership with USGBC-CA.
- UC Riverside received the [Truog Soil Science Outstanding Dissertation Award](#) from the Soil Science Society of America. UC Riverside Professor Mihri Ozkan [presented](#) at the United Nations's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change expert meeting on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage. UC Riverside received the [Edward P. Bass Distinguished Visiting Environmental Scholar](#) award from the Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies.
- UC San Diego's work with ALERTCalifornia and CAL FIRE on the Fire Detection Artificial Intelligence Program was named one of [TIME's Best Inventions of 2023](#). UC San Diego also received [Bee Campus USA Designation](#) from Bee Campus USA.
- UC Santa Cruz received the [2024 STEMM Equity Achievement Change Initiative Institutional Bronze Award](#) from the American Association for the Advancement of Science.