

2019-2020 FY Sustainability Rankings, Ratings, and Awards

I. Rankings & Ratings

- [2020 Sierra Cool Schools List](#)

The Sierra Club ranked UC Irvine as the number 1 “Coolest School” in the nation. This is the fifth time UCI has achieved the top ranking, and the eleventh consecutive year in Sierra’s top 10. UC Irvine’s EV charging stations and energy efficient laboratories were highlighted. UC Merced, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, and UCLA ranked 5th, 13th, 18th, 21th, 29th, 89th, and 124th in the nation, respectively.

- [2021 Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges](#)

The Princeton Review ranked UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UC Berkeley, UC Merced, and UC Riverside 11th, 13th, 17th, 27th, and 48th, respectively, in the 2021 Top Green Colleges ranking.

- [2021 Princeton Review Green Honor Roll](#)

UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, and UC Merced were named to the Princeton Review Green Honor Roll. Schools that achieved a score of 99 (the highest possible score) in the Princeton Review’s Green Rating Tallies were included in the Honor Roll.

- [2020 Sustainable Campus Index \(SCI\)](#) ratings, as measured by AASHE STARS

- UC Merced ranked 1st in Buildings, 6th in Investment and Finance, 1st in Research, 9th in Waste, and 9th in Doctoral Institutions Top Performers.
- UC Irvine ranked 2nd in Buildings, 3rd in Coordination & Planning, 6th in Diversity & Affordability, 1st in Research, and 4th in Doctoral Institutions Top Performers.
- UC Santa Barbara ranked 6th in Buildings and 8th in Waste.
- UC Berkeley ranked 10th in Buildings and 4th in Diversity & Affordability.
- UC Davis ranked 7th in Buildings, 10th in Energy, and 8 in Investment and Finance. UC Davis was also highlighted for receiving Bike Friendly Platinum and Sustainable Fleet Certifications.
- UCLA ranked 5th in Buildings, 8th in Investment and Finance, and 4th in Wellbeing and Work. UCLA was also highlighted for aligning trademark licensee renewal with social performance.
- UC San Diego ranked 1st in Research.

- UC Santa Cruz ranked 6th in Investment and Finance and 6th in Research.
- UC Davis was recognized as the third greenest university in the world, and number 1 in the nation, in the [2019 University of Indonesia GreenMetric Rankings](#).

II. Awards & Recognition

A. Climate and Energy

- CALPIRG Students working on 8 University of California campuses won EcoAmerica's American Climate Leadership Award for running a campaign for a UC-wide commitment to 100% renewable electricity.
- At the 2020 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference ([CHESC](#)), UC Santa Barbara won the Best Practice Award in Interdisciplinary Academics (2020) for the UC-CSU NXTerra – California's New Climate Crisis Teaching Tool
- Livermore Berkeley National Laboratory's NERSC Efficiency Optimization Team received the 2020 [Department of Energy](#) Sustainability Award - Sustainable High Performance Computing/Data Center Category for its continual improvement work that has generated savings in the Lab's high performance computing center totaling 38% of non-compute energy (1.8 Million kWh/year) and over half a million gallons of water per year.
- Livermore Berkeley National Laboratory won the [2019 Accelerating Smart Labs Project Award](#) from the Department of Energy, on behalf of the Better Buildings Smart Lab Accelerator recognizing the Lab's innovative approach to generate energy and water savings through continual improvement in building operations, what the Lab calls an ongoing commissioning (OCx) process.
- UC Davis won the [2020 Best Practice Award for Energy Demand](#) the Class is Over but Campus AV Equipment Keeps Chugging Along.

B. Green Buildings and Operations

- UC Davis Health won [Practice GreenHealth's](#) Circle of Excellence in Green Building. They were recognized for being one of the top 10 of the highest performing hospitals nationwide in green building.
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory received the [2020 Best Practice Award for Overall Sustainable Design](#) at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC) for the sustainable design of Berkeley Lab's Integrative Genomics Building (IGB).

C. Healthcare

- UC Davis Health received four awards from [Practice Greenhealth](#): the 2020 Emerald Award, the 2020 Greening the OR Recognition Award, the 2020 Circle of Excellence in Food, and the 2020 Circle of Excellence in Green Building..
- UCSF Health received the 2020 Emerald Award and the Greening the OR Recognition Award.
- UC Irvine Health received the 2020 Partner Recognition Award from Practice Greenhealth.
- UC San Diego Health was named a 2020 Greenhealth Partner for Change Award Honoree by Practice Greenhealth.
- Both UCLA Health Ronald Reagan University Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, won the 2020 System for Change Award by Practice Greenhealth.
- UCLA Health Ronald Reagan University Medical Center received the Top 25 Environmental Excellence Award from Practice Greenhealth.
- UCLA Health Ronald Reagan University Medical Center won the 2020 Circle of Excellence in Green Building Award from Practice Greenhealth.
- UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, won the 2020 Emerald Award.
- Both UCLA Health Ronald Reagan University Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center received the 2020 Greening the OR Recognition Award from the Practice Greenhealth.

D. Procurement

- UCLA and UC Santa Barbara received the Sustainability Innovations Best Practices Award at the 2020 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC) for merging social and environmental sustainability in UC supply chains.
- UC Santa Barbara was named a Five-Star EPEAT Purchaser Award Winner by the [Green Electronics Council](#). UCSB was recognized for its sustainable electronics procurement.

E. Transportation

- UC Berkeley received the Seamless Bay Area Award from [Seamless Bay Area](#) for promoting a rider-first transportation system, as well as supporting affordable and seamless transit concepts geared to connecting communities and reducing pollution and congestion for the Greater Bay Area.
- UC Davis was named the #19 greenest fleet in the nation by the [Green Fleet Awards](#) and was recently recognized in the [Top 100 Best Fleets](#) by the National Association of Fleet Administrators.
- UC Irvine was named the #10 greenest fleet in the nation by the [Green Fleet Awards](#). UCI also won the Best University or College Fleet Merit Award from the Green Fleet Awards.
- UCLA was named the #37 greenest fleet in the nation by the Green Fleet Awards.
- UC San Diego was named as a 2020 Platinum Tier iCommute Diamond Awards Recipient by the [San Diego Association of Governments](#). UC San Diego was also named the #15 greenest fleet in the nation by the [Green Fleet Awards](#).
- UCSF was recognized as one of the Best Universities for Commuters in 2020 by [The National Center for Transit Research](#).
- UC Davis Health was named one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters in 2020.
- UC Davis, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Barbara hold [Bicycle Friendly University](#) platinum status. UC Berkeley and UCLA hold Bicycle Friendly University gold status. UC Santa Cruz holds Bicycle Friendly University silver status. UC San Diego holds Bicycle Friendly University bronze status. The League of American Bicyclists awards these statuses to universities that enable safe, accessible bicycling on campus through infrastructure improvements and amenities offered.

F. Waste

- UC Davis was named 2nd place in all 5 categories (Waste Minimization, Diversion Rate, Per Capita Recycling, Per Capita Organics Reduction, GHG Reduction) - Division I FCS in the [2019 Game Day Recycling Challenge](#)
- UC Irvine received a top 10 RecycleMania ranking (7th place) in the 2020 [RecycleMania Tournament](#).
- UC Berkeley won the 2019-2020 [Pac-12 Zero-Waste Challenge](#) for the fourth-straight basketball season.

G. Food

- UC Davis received awards of [Best Venue For Locally Sourced Catering category](#) and Top Pick in the West Coast Training Venues category from Unique Venues, a marketing and membership organization for event planners and non-traditional event spaces.
- UC Davis Health was recognized for its sustainable seafood procurement and named the [Smart Catch Leader](#) for the 2nd year in a row by the James Beard Foundation.
- UC Davis Health received the 2020 Circle of Excellence in Food from [Practice Green Health](#) and was recognized for being one of the top 10 of the highest performing hospitals nationwide in healthy, sustainable food service
- UC Davis Health was named to Good Food Media Network's "[Good Food 100 Restaurants](#)" list. This is the first time a hospital in the country has been named to the list, recognizing healthy sustainable food.
- UC Merced won a [2020 Sustainable Food Service Best Practices award](#) at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC) for the university's "Ugly Produce" Rescue and Donation Initiative.

H. Water

- As of 2019, 9 UC campuses were named [Healthy Beverage Grant Recipients](#) by Healthy Beverage. The Healthy Beverage Grant will support installation of additional hydration stations and improved signage to better educate about the benefits of drinking water. UC Merced hopes to join in 2020.

I. Additional Sustainability Achievements

- UC Berkeley was named as the inaugural winners of the [SIILK Corporate Engagement Competition](#), for preparing the strongest investment recommendation and shareholder engagement strategy to improve company performance (and investment returns) through better environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices.
- UC Davis received the Sustainability International Impact Award at [The PIEoneer Awards 2020](#) for making positive changes to reduce the impact of its international operation on a global and/or local scale; educating campus community about reducing impact and engaging them with the UN SDGs.
- In Forbes' 2020 ranking on ["America's Best Employers for Diversity"](#) UCLA Health placed #21, UC Davis #52, UC Davis Health #101, and UCSF #238
- UC Merced received the [2020 Academic: Interdisciplinary Best Practices Award](#) for Carson House Sustainable Futures: A Student Community Learning, Living Sustainability
- UC Merced received the [2020 Partnerships, Communications, & Planning Best Practices Award](#) for Cooking Up New Programs to "Leave No Food Behind".
- UC Santa Cruz received the [2020 Best Practice Award: Social Equity & Justice](#) for Expanding Sustainability: UCSC's Diversity and Inclusion Certificate Program.