

# 2018-2019 FY Sustainability Rankings, Ratings, and Awards

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## I. Rankings & Ratings

- UC Irvine received an AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) STARS (Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Rating System) Platinum Rating in March 2018. UC Irvine is the 4th campus in the world to receive a Platinum rating. A 2019 STARS Gold rating was awarded to UC Merced and UC Santa Cruz. UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, and UC Santa Barbara received Gold STARS ratings in 2018.
- [2019 Sustainable Campus Index](#) (SCI) ratings, as measured by AASHE STARS.
  - UC Merced ranked #1 top performer for Buildings. UC Irvine and UC Santa Barbara were designated as the #2 and #5 top performers, respectively.
  - UC Irvine, Merced, and San Diego tied for the #1 top performer for Research. UC Santa Cruz was designated as the #6 top performer.
  - UC Santa Barbara was designated as the #9 top performer for Waste (reduction). UC Merced was designated as the #10 top performer.
  - UC Irvine and UC Merced were designated as the #2 and #6 top performers for Doctoral Institutions, respectively.
  - UC Berkeley was designated #4 top performer for Diversity and Affordability. UC Irvine was designated #6 top performer.
  - UC Irvine was designated as the #3 top performer for Coordination and Planning, and #7 for Transportation.
  - UC Riverside was designated #7 top performer for Public Engagement and Well Being & Work.
- [2019 Sierra Cool Schools List](#)

The Sierra Club ranked UC Irvine as the number 1 “Coolest School” in the nation. This is the fourth time UCI has achieved the top ranking, and the tenth consecutive year in Sierra’s top 10. UC Irvine’s EV charging stations and certified LEED Platinum buildings were highlighted. UC Merced, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, and UC Riverside ranked 5th, 15th, 20th, 42nd, 56th, and 103rd in the nation, respectively.
- [2019 Princeton Review Green Colleges](#)

UC Berkeley ranked 14th, UC Merced ranked 20th, and UC Riverside ranked 31st in The Princeton Review’s Top 50 Green Colleges.

- UC Davis was recognized as the third greenest university in the world, and number 1 in the nation, in the [2018 University of Indonesia GreenMetric Rankings](#).
- UC Berkeley won the [2019 UC Cool Campus Challenge](#) and was ranked the “Coolest Campus”. Cool Campus Challenge participants took more than 190,000 actions resulting in over 21,650,000 pounds of carbon dioxide saved. UC Merced had the greatest percent participation and UC San Francisco was the medical center with the highest points earned.

## II. Awards & Recognition

### A. *Climate and Energy*

- In 2019, UC Davis received two awards from [APPA: Leadership in Educational Facilities](#). The first award was the Effective Innovation Award for its TherMOOstat tool, which allows users to report temperature comfort levels in buildings in an effort to reduce energy usage. The second award was the Sustainability Innovation Award for UC Davis’ Active Commissioning Enterprise (ACE) program, which can reduce a building’s overall energy consumption by 15-20%. In 2019, UC Davis also received the Excellence in Energy Efficiency Award from the Northern California Chapter of the Association of Energy Managers.
- At the 2019 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference (CHESC), UC Merced received the [Energy Supply award](#) for its 5.1-megawatt solar power system.

### B. *Green Buildings and Operations*

- In 2019, UC Berkeley Haas School of Business’ Chou Hall received the [2019 Building Health Leadership Award](#) from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Chou Hall was designed for both LEED Platinum and WELL Silver certifications and has also received a TRUE Zero Waste Platinum certification.
- In 2018, two UC Irvine buildings received awards from the Design Build Institute of America (DBIA). The first building was the University Extension Classroom Building which received the [2019 National Award of Merit and the National Award of Excellence](#). The second building, the Transmission Electron Microscope Facility, received the [2019 National Award of Merit and the National Award for Excellence in Design](#).
- UC Los Angeles received the [2018 Visionary Award](#) from the USGBC for its two training facilities, Wasserman Football Center and Mo Ostin Basketball Center, which both earned LEED Platinum certification.
- UC Merced received [the Overall Sustainable Design Award](#) at CHESC for its Downtown Campus Center, which is the first electrified building- and the most energy efficient building- in the UC system. UC Merced also received a CHESC Best Practices Award for Institutionalizing Campus as a Living Lab with its Energize Colleges Program.
- UC San Diego received the [Savings by Design Energy Efficiency and Integration Award](#) from San Diego Gas and Electric for its Mesa Nueva housing project.

- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory won a [2019 Department of Energy Sustainability Award](#) - Outstanding Sustainability Program or Project for its Policy on Sustainability Standards for New Construction.
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory received a [2019 CHESC Best Practice Award](#) in Energy Demand for advanced use of SkySpark to support the ongoing commissioning process.

#### *C. Healthcare*

- UC Davis Medical Center received four awards from [Practice Greenhealth](#): the 2019 Emerald Award, the 2019 Greening the OR Recognition Award, the 2019 Circle of Excellence Award (Climate Circle), and the 2019 Circle of Excellence Award (Green Building Circle).
- UC Irvine Medical Center, UC Los Angeles Medical Center, and UC San Diego Medical Center received the 2019 Partner for Change award from Practice Greenhealth for their ongoing commitment to improving environmental performance and standard in sustainability. This is the second consecutive year that UC San Diego Medical Center has received this award.
- UC San Diego Medical Center received the 2019 Greening the OR award from [Practice Greenhealth](#). UC San Diego Medical Center also received the Outstanding Department Sustainability Award from UC San Diego.
- UC San Francisco Medical Center received the 2019 Emerald Award from [Practice Greenhealth](#) and was featured as one of the Greenest Hospitals in America in 2018 from [Becker's Hospital Review](#).

#### *D. Procurement*

- UC Santa Barbara received the [2018 EPEAT Purchaser Award](#) from Green Electronics Council (GEC) for its leadership in the procurement of sustainable IT products.
- UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara, and UC Office of the President received the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories' [2018 Go Beyond Award](#) for beginning to implement procedures to purchase environmentally preferable laboratory products through the specification and use of the ACT label.
- The University of California system received an honorable mention from AASHE for its [Sustainable Procurement Program and Policy Overhaul](#) that establishes sustainability goals for major areas of spend and sets the groundwork for innovative sustainable sourcing standards
- The University of California received a 2019 Energy and Sustainability Best Practice Award in the category of Sustainability Innovations from CHESC for work spanning the ten UC campuses while piloting a robust third party sustainability rating system for suppliers based on their operational and management practices.

#### *E. Transportation*

- UC Irvine received the [Leading Public Fleet Award](#) at the Advanced Clean Transportation Expo and [Platinum certification](#) for Bicycle Friendly University from The League of American Bicyclists. UC Santa Barbara and UC Santa Cruz received Platinum and Silver certification for Bicycle Friendly University, respectively.
- UC Los Angeles received six awards for sustainable transportation: [Commuting Options in Public Transit Award](#) (Association for Commuter Transportation), [Accredited Parking Organization with Distinction](#) (International Parking and Mobility Institute), [2019 Marketing Award & Best of 2019 Marketing Program](#) (International Parking and Mobility Institute), [2019 Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Best Practice Award for Managing Campus Mobility on Demand](#) (CHESC), 2019 National Parking Association Innovative Organization of the Year (National Parking Association), and [Best Workplace for Commuters](#).
- UC San Diego received four awards for sustainable transportation: Plug In America's first annual [2018 Drive Electric Award](#), Smart Energy Decisions' [2019 Innovation Award](#), Outstanding 2019 Project Award (ASCE San Diego Section), and [Diamond Award, Platinum Tier, and Excellence in Commute Programs](#) (San Diego Association of Governments iCommute Program).
- UC Santa Cruz ranked 4th place in [The 2019 Global Bike Challenge](#).

#### F. Waste

- UC Berkeley received a [2019 Zero Waste Best Practices Award](#) for CHESC for student Sage Lenier's curriculum called Zero Waste: Solutions for a Sustainable Future.
- UC Merced received a \$492,000 grant from CalRecycle. UC Davis also received a CalRecycle grant for \$476,000. UC San Diego received a PepsiCo Zero Impact Fund gift of nearly \$100,000 from PepsiCo to improve its anaerobic digester at Roger Urban's Farmlab.
- UC Irvine's Dining received Silver in Waste Management from the National Association of College and University Food Service (NACUFS).

#### G. Food

- UC Davis received an A+ Vegan Report Card from PETA for offering vegan options in its Dining Commons. UC Davis also won three categories in the 2019 Cool Cuisine Burger Battle.
- UC Irvine's Dining received Gold in Outreach and Education from [the National Association of College and University Food Service \(NACUFS\)](#). UC Irvine was also recognized by The Humane Society of the US for promoting greater health and sustainability through plant-strong meals for 2018.
- UC Merced received the Partnership, Communications, and Planning Best Practice Award at CHESC 2019 for its Bobcat Eats Program. UC Santa Barbara received a Best Practice Award at CHESC 2019 for its sustainable food service for Housing, Dining, and Auxiliary Enterprises.

- UC San Diego received the 2019 Best Colleges Dining Award from [Best Colleges](#). Best Colleges highlights the diverse food options at UC San Diego and the use of hydration stations.
- UCSB won a 2019 Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Best Practice Award (CHESC) in sustainable food service for Housing, Dining, and Auxiliary Enterprises' Miramar Food Pantry.

#### *H. Water*

- UC Irvine received a \$10,000 PepsiCo Sustainability Fund Gift to support reductions in campus potable water use in research laboratories.

#### *I. Additional Sustainability Achievements*

- UC Berkeley received [5 Best Practices Awards](#) from the 2019 CHESC for its efforts on zero waste curriculum and operations, environmental justice, toxin reduction, and climate action. These awards highlight the breadth, depth, and leadership in sustainability the campus both values and excels in.
- The Students of Color Environmental Collective, a UC Berkeley student organization, was awarded the AASHE 2019 [Campus Sustainability Student Leadership Award](#) for organizing the Students of Color Environmental Conference, a free conference for students of color across California to connect and grow with local environmental justice activists.
- *Money Magazine* ranked UC Irvine as number 1 for its [2019 Best Colleges for Your Money](#) list. UC Irvine is the first public university to score the top spot and scored well across the board, but especially in the measures of low-income and Pell Grant enrollment and favorable graduate outcomes.
- UC Irvine, UC Los Angeles, and UC Berkeley were in the top 10 on [Forbes' America's Best Value Colleges 2019 List](#).
- UC Los Angeles received an [Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Best Practices Award for Sustainability Innovations](#) at the 2018 CHESC for its Sustainable LA Grand Challenge: Innovatively Applying Sustainability Research.
- UC Merced received a 2019 AASHE Sustainability Achievement Award at the 2019 AASHE Conference.
- Katie Maynard, Sustainability Coordinator and Event Manager at UC Santa Barbara, was honored with the UC Sustainability Champion Award at the 2019 California Higher Education Sustainability Conference.
- [Washington Monthly](#) ranked UC San Diego the "Best Public University in the Nation for Contributions to Social Mobility, Research, and Public Service". UC San Diego was also ranked 4th among US public research institutions for "high-quality science" research and publications by [Nature Magazine](#).

- UC Santa Cruz was ranked 2nd in the nation for “Top Performers of Social Mobility” in the [U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Guidebook](#). UC Merced and UC San Diego were ranked 7th and 14th in the nation for this distinction.
- UC Santa Cruz’s People of Color Sustainability Collective received the [2019 Outstanding Student Support Program](#) from the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA).
- UC Berkeley’s The Green Initiative Fund, was a finalist for the UN Environment endorsed International [Green Gown Awards](#) in the category of “Student Engagement”.