Transfer Application 101

Crucial Tips to Help Avoid Common Transfer Applicant Mistakes

GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students MUST complete the requisite two English courses and one math course by the end of spring prior to transfer. A common misstep students make is postponing these required courses until the spring term. Doing so leaves students with no options should they drop or fail one of these courses. The result is a deficiency in their transfer requirements. Tip: Encourage students to take their required English and math courses as soon as possible instead of leaving them for the spring term.

Students MUST complete at least 60 semester/90 quarter transferable units by the end of spring prior to transfer. Often, students are missing units because a course was not transferable or they did not get credit for a course due to limits, duplications, or other restrictions (outlined on www.assist.org). Tip: Students should review their courses—completed and planned—on www.assist.org, and plan to complete all course work by the end of spring prior to transfer. Courses completed in the summer prior to transfer cannot be used to fulfill the minimum unit requirement.

Students should focus on their Major Requirements instead of IGETC requirements. IGETC is NOT a requirement for admission to UCLA (though it is highly recommended for students applying to our schools of Nursing; Theater, Film, and Television; or Art and Architecture). For students applying to the College of Letters and Science or UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, general UC transfer requirements and major preparation courses should be prioritized over IGETC. Tip: If a student applying to an engineering or letters and science major has their general UC transfer requirements and major preparation courses completed, but they are deficient in IGETC, it will not make them uncompetitive for admission. However, if students applying to these majors have their IGETC completed but are missing their general UC transfer requirements or their major preparation courses, then they will not be competitive for admission to UCLA.

MAJOR PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

Students MUST complete all Major Preparation Requirements by the end of spring prior to transfer. Completing these courses in the summer prior to transfer is not acceptable. Students who do so will be marked as deficient in their major preparation, and will, depending on the selectivity of their major, not be competitive for admission. Tip: Students should plan to complete all major prep course work by the end of spring prior to transfer.

Students MUST take the correct calculus course sequence for their major. Many institutions offer multiple versions of calculus courses such as Calculus for Biological Sciences, Calculus for Business, and Calculus 1.
MAJOR PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS (continued)

Some majors require that the calculus courses be sequenced, therefore students must complete the calculus courses articulated on www.assist.org to satisfy the criteria for their intended major.

If the student completes the wrong calculus course or series, they will not be given credit for major preparation and will be deficient in their requirements for transfer. Tip: Students should be encouraged to visit www.assist.org to determine the required calculus course or sequence that fulfills their major preparation requirements.

Students who intend to major in Communication Studies MUST meet all the outlined requirements:
1. They must have a minimum 3.7 overall transferable GPA by the end of the fall term when they are applying.
2. They must have at least 4 out of the 7 required Major Preparation Courses completed by the end of the fall term when they are applying.

Communication Studies applicants who fail to meet the above requirements will not be considered for admission to UCLA.

CRITICAL STEPS IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students should reply to ALL email requests sent by UCLA or any other UC campus. Application review may be delayed, or in some cases canceled, if the requested information is not provided. Tip: Students should make sure that email communications from UCLA or other UC campuses are not mistaken for spam by their email service.

Students must report any prior institutions they attended (domestic and international) and explain all gaps in education. Students should be thorough in their explanation and provide detail that clearly outlines the entire gap(s) in their education. In some cases, students may be asked for proof of their attendance at other institutions or language schools.

Students must update their application online in January. Failure to do so may delay or cancel review of their application. Students must provide their fall term grades and also confirm their planned/in progress winter and/or spring courses. Tip: Students must log-in at least once by the end of January in order to trigger their application review. Students must list their actual courses instead of writing "Spring courses in progress" in their update.

Students must report their high school language of instruction for 9th–12th grade. This information is crucial to our review, especially if the student has chosen a major that requires foreign language or if the student has reported foreign language courses on their application.

HONORS PROGRAM / UCLA TRANSFER ALLIANCE PROGRAM (TAP) SPECIFICS

If TAP students intend to choose an alternate major, their second-choice must be outside of UCLA’s list of highly selective majors. An alternate major may only be specified at the time applicants submit their original UC application. Tip - The following should not be selected as an alternate major:

- Pre-Business Economics
- Pre-Economics
- Pre-Global Studies
- Pre-Political Science
- Pre-Human Biology and Society (B.A. and B.S.)
- Pre-International Development Studies
- Pre-Sociology

Under the TAP agreement, students must complete all major preparation courses for their first-choice major as well as their alternate major (if applicable).

Students can only be eligible for their alternate major if they have all preparation courses for that major completed by the end of spring term. Tip: Students should review prerequisites for their alternate major prior to selecting it on their application. Students should also be aware that an alternate major must be listed at the time they submit their original UC application; they cannot add an alternate major after submission.