

WHICH COLLEGE IS BEST FOR YOU, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA OR CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY?

The University of California and California State University systems comprise the four-year segments of the California System of Higher Education. In making your decision about which system to attend, it is important to recognize that each system has a different mission. The difference is reflected in both freshman and transfer admissions requirements, the majors available, the types of degrees offered, and the nature of the curriculum. Listed below are some of the important differences between the two university systems which may assist you in selecting the university system which will best fit your needs

MISSION

UC: To provide undergraduate and graduate instruction through the doctoral degree with emphasis on research and professional education. Offer preprofessional programs in law, medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

CSU: To provide undergraduate and graduate instruction through the master's degree in liberal arts and sciences and professional education, including teacher education.

CURRICULUM

UC: Undergraduate programs are designed to prepare students for graduate and professional work. Curriculum emphasizes theory and professional preparation.

CSU: Undergraduate programs are designed to provide a combination of theory and application necessary for graduate work or employment in one's chosen field of study.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES

Both the UC and CSU systems give first priority among transfers to those attending a California Community College. You must complete at least 30 semester units at a California Community College to qualify as a community college transfer. **The CSU system requires a minimum of 60 transferable semester units** to qualify as an upper-division transfer student. **The UC system requires a minimum of 60 UC-transferable units** and admits very few lower-division transfers each year.

TRANSFER ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

UC: Completion of a minimum of 60 UC-transferable semester units with a minimum GPA of 2.4. Most campuses require a higher GPA, particularly in impacted majors. In 2005, the average GPA transfer students admitted to the university was 3.1. However, the average GPA varies widely by campus and by major. Transfers (if not eligible from high school) must have a minimum 2.4 GPA, 60 transferable semester units, and fulfill the following subject matter requirements: two English composition courses, one transferable math course and four academic courses from two or more areas of general education. See a counselor for a list of appropriate courses to meet the subject matter requirements.

CSU: Completion of a minimum of 60 CSU-transferable semester units with a minimum GPA of 2.0. A higher GPA may be required for admission to impacted majors and campuses. Transfers, if not eligible from high school, must fulfill the following requirements: thirty (30) units of general education to include one course in oral communication, one course in English composition, one course in critical thinking and one course in transferable mathematics. See a counselor for a list of appropriate courses to meet the subject matter requirements.

COSTS

Approximate tuition and fees for the 2007-2008 school year not including books, housing, miscellaneous fees, etc:

California State University (CSU): \$3,116-\$4689

University of California (UC): \$7,148-\$8,374

Expenses other than basic fees may vary from campus to campus.

UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS AVAILABLE

Most majors are available at campuses of both the UC and CSU systems. There are notable exceptions, however, due to their difference in mission. Following are selected majors and their availability:

ARCHITECTURE

UC: Berkeley and Los Angeles

CSU: Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly, Pomona campuses

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

UC: Berkeley and Riverside campuses

CSU: All campuses

ENGINEERING

Engineering majors are available at most campuses at both the UC and CSU systems. Not all engineering options are available at each campus, however. Students should check with a counselor to determine the availability of different engineering majors.

LIBERAL STUDIES (for elementary teaching credential)

UC: None

CSU: All campuses except Maritime

Note: students may complete requirements for the Multiple Subject (elementary) teaching credential at UC campuses with an alternate major. You should see a counselor for details.

NURSING

UC: Irvine, and Los Angeles

CSU: All campuses except Maritime Academy, Monterey Bay, Pomona, and San Luis Obispo (Dominquez Hills, Fullerton, and Northridge offer a program available only to upper division transfer students possessing the R.N.)

PHYSICAL THERAPY

UC: None

CSU: All programs in physical therapy are Masters Degree, only.