Getting to college is as easy as **ONE, TWO, THREE and FOUR**

Follow this plan to become eligible to the University of California (UC). California State University (CSU) and many independent colleges have similar requirements. You should also complete the A–G course pattern if you want to transfer from a California Community College to UC/CSU.

## FOUR STEPS

**STEP ONE: KNOW THE REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. History/Social Science</td>
<td>2 years required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. English</td>
<td>4 years required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Mathematics</td>
<td>3 years required; 4 years recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Laboratory Science</td>
<td>2 years required; 3 years recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Language other than English</td>
<td>2 years required; 3 years recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Visual and Performing Arts</td>
<td>1 year required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. College Preparatory Elective from A–G</td>
<td>2 semesters required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 4 REQUIREMENTS

1. Take a specific pattern of 15 A–G courses.
2. Achieve a minimum average GPA of 3.0 for UC, 2.0 for CSU.
3. Take the ACT With Writing or SAT Reasoning test and two SAT subject exams.
4. Meet the “eligibility index.”
   (a combination of your UC GPA and exam scores)

## STEP ONE: KNOW THE 4 REQUIREMENTS

### 1st Requirement

**Take a specific pattern of 15 A–G courses.**

UC and CSU require that you take 15 courses in the A–G subject areas.

To satisfy a subject requirement, you must attain a C or better.

Take at least 7 of the required A–G courses in 11th and 12th grade.

For more information, go to eaop.org/resources.

## THE A–G REQUIREMENTS

When you complete a subject requirement with a grade of C or better, check it off here.

### A. History/Social Science

- 2 years required
  - 1 year of World History, Geography and Cultures
  - 1 year of U.S. History OR ½ year of U.S. History and ½ year of American Government

*NOTE: CSU allows one social science course to be selected from the ‘G’ subject area.*

### B. English

- 4 years required
  - 9th grade English
  - 10th grade English
  - 11th grade English
  - 12th grade English

*NOTE: No more than one year of English as a Second Language may be used to satisfy this requirement.*

### C. Mathematics

- 3 years required; 4 years recommended
  - Algebra I or Integrated Math I
  - Geometry or Integrated Math II
  - Algebra II, Algebra II/Trig, or Integrated Math III

### D. Laboratory Science

- 2 years required; 3 years recommended
  - One year-long course from one category (such as biology, chemistry, or physics)
  - Another year-long course from a different category

*NOTE: For CSU, one of these courses must be in life science and one in physical science.*

### E. Language other than English

- 2 years required; 3 years recommended
  - Language course Level 1 or higher
  - Language course Level 2 or higher

### F. Visual and Performing Arts

- 1 year required
  - One year-long course

### G. College Preparatory Elective from A–G

- 2 semesters required
  - 1 semester of elective
  - 1 semester of elective

*Turn to back page for the other three requirements.*
**STEP TWO: CREATE YOUR PLAN**

Determine which courses and exams to take each year. Show this planner to your counselor and parents.

**Recommended:** EAOP recommends you take these courses and exams to be more qualified for UC/CSU at the competitive/impacted campuses—take more if you can! These recommendations will also make you attractive to many independent colleges.

**Student Courses/Exams/Activities:** Write down the courses, grades, exams, and scores you take each year. Also record leadership activities, employment, awards, and anything you will later use in your college application and personal statement.

**AP/Honors:** Mark this section if your class has a gold star on Doorways.

**Grades:** Record your grades for each term here.

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**STEP THREE: STAY ON TRACK**

Monitor your progress by making sure that you take at least the minimum courses to be eligible for UC/CSU. This section gives you a total for each grade level, so you know whether to go to summer school or add more courses to your schedule. If you are interested in attending a selective/impacted campus, take more than the minimum. To help monitor your progress, when you have completed a subject requirement with a minimum grade of C or better, check it off in the A–G requirements section on page 1.

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### Year 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>Your Courses/Exams/Activities</th>
<th>AP/H</th>
<th>Grades by Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9th grade English</td>
<td>A–G Courses:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra 1 or higher-level math</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World History/Geography/Cultures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AND at least one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Language other than English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual and Performing Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Prep Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take the ACT EXPLORE exam, if offered at your school.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams/Score:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** If you have two years of English as a second language, be sure to double up on your English, take summer school, or take a community college course.

### Year 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>Your Courses/Exams/Activities</th>
<th>AP/H</th>
<th>Grades by Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th grade English</td>
<td>A–G Courses:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geometry or higher-level course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AND at least two of the following:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language other than English</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual and Performing Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Prep Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Take the PSAT and/or ACT PLAN exams, if offered at your school.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams/Score:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** If you have two years of English as a second language, be sure to double up on your English, take summer school, or take a community college course.
**STEP FOUR: ADJUST YOUR SCHEDULE YEARLY**

Compare your completed coursework and required exams to the benchmarks in Step Three. If you are not on track to UC/CSU eligibility, then adjust your schedule. You might need to take summer school, increase your academic course load, or take a community college course. You can also use the A–G requirements section in Step One to monitor how many of the 15 A–G courses you have successfully completed. Your EAOP advisor or high school counselor can help determine which courses to take each year to get or stay on track to UC/CSU.

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**STEP TWO: CREATE YOUR PLAN**

**11th grade**
- **Recommended Courses**
  - 11th grade English
  - Algebra 2 or higher-level math
  - Laboratory Science
  - US History
  - Language other than English
  - Take PSAT for NMSQT eligibility.
  - Take SAT Reasoning and/or ACT With Writing.
  - Take two SAT subject exams.
  - Draft a personal statement in preparation for your college applications.

**Your Courses/Exams/Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A–G Courses:</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Exams/Score:</th>
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</table>

**Activities:**

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**12th grade**
- **Recommended Courses**
  - 12th grade English
  - Pre-calculus or other advanced math course
  - American Government or Civics AND at least one of the following:
  - Laboratory science
  - Language other than English
  - Visual and Performing Arts
  - College Prep Elective
  - Retake or complete college entrance exams by December.
  - Write the personal statement early, get plenty of feedback, and take time to polish it.
  - Apply broadly to colleges. Include at least one selective college/university and one safety school.

**Your Courses/Exams/Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A–G Courses:</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Activities:**

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**STEP THREE: STAY ON TRACK**

Complete these minimum requirements by the end of 11th grade to be on track to UC/CSU:
- 9th grade English
- 10th grade English
- 11th grade English
- Algebra 1
- Algebra 2
- Geometry
- Laboratory Science
- Language other than English
- History/Social Science
- Other A–G
- Other A–G

**Complete these minimum requirements by the end of 12th grade to be eligible to UC/CSU:**
- 9th grade English
- 10th grade English
- 11th grade English
- 12th grade English
- Algebra 1
- Algebra 2
- Geometry
- Laboratory Science
- Laboratory Science (different category)
- Language other than English
- Language other than English (same language)
- History/Social Science (US)
- History/Social Science (World)
- Visual and performing arts
- Other A–G

**NOTE:** If you have two years of English as a second language, be sure to double up on your English, take summer school, or take a community college course.

**UC application period is**
**November 1–30**
2nd Requirement
Achieve a minimum average GPA of 3.0 for UC, 2.0 for CSU.

Maintain an average of at least 3.0 in all the ‘A–G’ courses you take in 10th and 11th grade for UC, a 2.0 for CSU. If you want to attend one of the more selective campuses, you will need to achieve a higher GPA.

Calculate your UC GPA here. Count all the courses you took, even if you repeated the class and received a better grade. Do not enter an additional point for honors courses with grades of D or F. Do not include a plus or minus in GPA. A+, A, A– all equal A (4 points).

And . . . don’t let your senior year grades slip! Your offer of admission is contingent on maintaining your GPA and can be revoked if your grades suffer. If your senior year grades do decline—or if you do not take the classes you indicated on your application—notify the campus you plan to attend immediately to work with them on a plan to take summer school.

3rd Requirement
Take the ACT or SAT Reasoning test and two SAT II subject exams.

For UC admission, take the ACT With Writing or SAT Reasoning test and two SAT subject exams by December of your senior year; 11th grade is preferable. CSU requires only the ACT or SAT reasoning test.

To qualify for UC, you must take two SAT subject tests in two different subject areas, chosen from the following: history, literature, mathematics (Level 2 only), science, or Language other than English. It’s best to take the subject exams right after you finish your course work in that subject.

4th Requirement
Meet the UC “eligibility index” (a combination of your GPA and exam scores).

The “eligibility index” for UC and CSU consists of a combination of your GPA and your exam scores. The higher your GPA, the lower your total exam scores can be; the lower your GPA, the higher your exam scores must be. The UC and CSU systems calculate the eligibility index differently.

Your EAOP mentor or college counselor can help you calculate your eligibility index, or you can calculate your eligibility index online. These calculators are for your use; the information is not saved by UC or CSU. Go to www.eaop.org/resources.

Not eligible? Don’t panic. You may still be able to become UC/CSU eligible. And there are other great educational opportunities for you, such as California Community Colleges. You can transfer to UC/CSU after completing your lower division requirements. Talk to your EAOP advisor or high school counselor to chart your college path.

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