Find Your Path at UCSB

Graduate Studies and the Graduate Application Process at UC Santa Barbara
The UCSB Graduate Division provides essential services, resources and support for nearly 3,000 graduate students on campus.

WE ARE THE GATEWAY FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS, COLLABORATION, AND OPPORTUNITIES AT UCSB.
WHY GRADUATE SCHOOL?

PERSONAL GROWTH

Intellectual curiosity? Passion for the field?

CAREER ADVANCEMENT AND GOALS

What do you want to accomplish?

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Do you seek recognition and credibility in your field?

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Time and school commitment?

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

Financial commitment?
Master's Degree, Doctorate, Professional Credentials

Emphasis or Specialization (“Subfields”)

Training: Theoretical Research or Applied Research

Faculty: Research, Reputation, Ranking

Resources and Services for Graduate Students

Costs and Living Expenses
HOW TO GET STARTED

- Research Programs & Requirements
- Summer Research Projects or Internships
- Network with Faculty or Current Students
- Schedule and Register for Required Exams
- Attend Graduate Fairs and/or Conferences
- Identify Financial Assistance & Fellowships
- Prepare Application Materials & Essays
TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMISSION

A Bachelor’s Degree OR Equivalent from an Accredited University

At least a 3.0/B average in undergraduate coursework

You can apply online at:
www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/eapp
TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMISSION

• Online Application & Application Fee
• Statement of Purpose
• Statement of Personal Achievements/Contributions
• Resume/CV
• GRE Scores OR GMAT for Technology Management Program OR MAT for Teacher Education Program Applicants AND no scores required for Art
• TOEFL OR IELTS Scores (If Applicable)
• Transcripts from all post-secondary schools
• Any materials required by department (subject exam, writing sample, etc.)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>August to September</td>
<td>Graduate Application Open</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Take and submit exam and transcripts to designated schools</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete application materials: essays, resume, recommendation letters</td>
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<tr>
<td>November to February</td>
<td>Department and program deadlines will vary (priority, financial, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>January to March</td>
<td>Application review, financial offers, decision notifications</td>
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<tr>
<td>March to May</td>
<td>Admission processing and notification continues, interviews</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Student response and SIR deadline for financial offers</td>
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<tr>
<td>May to June</td>
<td>Final admission decisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>August to September</td>
<td><strong>START OF SCHOOL + GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION</strong></td>
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additional supplemental documents. Please consult the requirements of the department/program that you are applying to for information on any additional documents that may be requested.

Statement of Purpose
Give a brief statement outlining your reasons for undertaking a graduate program, your particular area of specialization within the major field, your past academic work, and your plans for future occupation or profession. Also include any additional information that may assist the selection committee in evaluating your preparation and aptitude for graduate study at UC Santa Barbara.

Personal Achievements/Contributions Statement
UC Santa Barbara is interested in a diverse and inclusive graduate student population. Please describe any aspects of your personal
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

PROMPT HIGHLIGHTS

• Why are you pursuing graduate study?
• What are inspired to research?
• What prepares you for this research endeavor?
• Do you have other experiences and skills that helps prepare you for graduate study?
• How do you plan to put your graduate research to use?
• What makes you a good fit for this particular graduate program?
your past academic work, and your plans for future occupation or profession. Also include any additional information that may assist the selection committee in evaluating your preparation and aptitude for graduate study at UC Santa Barbara.

**Personal Achievements/Contributions Statement**
UC Santa Barbara is interested in a diverse and inclusive graduate student population. Please describe any aspects of your personal background, accomplishments, or achievements that you feel are important in evaluating your application for graduate study. For example, please describe if you have experienced economic challenges in achieving higher education, such as being financially responsible for family members or dependents, having to work significant hours during undergraduate schooling or coming from a family background of limited income. Please describe if you have any unusual or varied life experiences that might contribute to the diversity of the graduate group, such as fluency in other languages, experience living in bicultural communities, academic research interests focusing on cultural, societal, or educational problems as they affect underserved segments of society, or evidence of an intention to use the graduate degree toward serving disadvantaged individuals or populations.

**Résumé or Curriculum Vitae**
List any positions of employment or volunteer work/community service since high school, either full or part-time, including the hours per...
STATEMENT OF PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS/CONTRIBUTIONS

PROMPT HIGHLIGHTS

• Accomplishments that illustrate your capacity to succeed at graduate study

• Unique skills/experiences that may help you contribute to your field and the campus community

• Challenges you had to overcome in order to have the opportunity to obtain your education

• Unique life experiences

• Research goals that may address problems particular to disadvantaged communities
THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION ARE REQUIRED.

You will be asked to provide:

- Recommender’s name
- Recommender’s email address
- Current institution or affiliation

Recommenders will receive instructions for completing and uploading the letter to your application.
LETTER TIPS

- Select recommenders who know your intellectual ability and who can comment on your aptitude for research.
- Give at least 6 weeks in advance of the deadline and communicate specific instructions for submitting the letter.
- Provide a draft of your Statement of Purpose, unofficial transcripts, and copy of papers or assignments.
GRADUATE RECORDS EXAMINATION (GRE)

All applicants are required to take the GRE General Test.

Exceptions:
- Art applicants do not need to take/submit GRE General Test scores.
- TEP applicants can use GRE General Test or Miller Analogies Test (MAT).
- Technology Management applicants can use GRE General Test or GMAT.

While there is no minimum score requirement, check with departments/programs on competitive score(s) for admission.

TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (TOEFL) OR INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM (IELTS)

Only required for applicants whose native language is not English.
EXAM TIPS

Confirm the institution code for ETS
(UCSB GRADUATE INSTITUTION = 4835)

Take exams 6 weeks before application deadline(s) to allow time for transmittal of scores to schools

Most schools use the most current, complete set of test scores. Applicants may not “mix and match” scores from two different test dates

Check to see if there are scoring requirements or subject-specific tests (e.g. GRE Subject Math)
FINANCIAL AID
- Direct Unsubsidized Loans
- Direct PLUS Loans
- Work Study

EMPLOYMENT*
- Teaching Assistant
- Research Assistant

FELLOWSHIP*
- Central (From Universities)
- Extramural (From Outside Agencies)

* These “typically” cover your tuition/fees, health insurance and salary/stipend.
SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Writing Sample

Departmental Questionnaire

TRANSCRIPTS

You are required to upload an official transcript created by your university for all post-secondary institutions you have attended. Do not send final/official transcripts to Graduate Division until you are admitted and decide to attend UCSB.
ONLINE RESOURCES

Graduate Division
www.graddiv.ucsb.edu

Graduate Electronic Application (E-APP)
www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/eapp

Department Requirements, Deadlines and Contacts
www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/departments

Graduate Student Resource Center
www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/resources

UCSB Grad Post and Peer Advisors
www.gradpost.ucsb.edu
CONTACT INFORMATION

UCSB GRADUATE DIVISION ADMISSIONS & OUTREACH

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