

COLLEGE APPLICATION TIP SHEET: Fall 2017

Before You Begin...

Be sure you use an appropriate email address. For example, don't use names like 2hot4you@abcmail.com

QUESTIONS?

Have **QUESTIONS** about any part of your application?

>>> **DO NOT SUBMIT!** <<<

Once submitted, you **CANNOT** go back into your UC or CSU online applications and correct them!

- UC Technical Help: Call (800) 207-1710 or email ucinfo@applyucsupport.net
- UC Application Corrections: If you have corrections after submitting application, e-mail docs@applyUCsupport.net
- CSU Application Help: Call (857) 304-2087 or email CalStateApply@liaisoncas.com
- CSU Application Corrections: Contact the Admissions Office of each CSU you applied to

Submitted You Applications? → → → **YOU ARE NOT DONE!**

Any Deadline Missed Can Result in REJECTION of Your Application!

Once you submit your college applications, remember that you are **NOT done!** It is imperative to keep on top of communication from the colleges you applied to. There will be additional requirements and deadlines you must meet. Thoroughly read all instructions on the admissions website for each college you apply to, as well as all subsequent communication from those colleges. Many schools will communicate through email, others will instruct you to set up a student account on their portal, and will communicate with you there.

What You Need to Know

University of California (UC)

- The application period for UC's is November 1st – November 30th (application opened August 1st to work on, but it cannot be submitted until November 1st)
- Website for applying: <https://admissions.universityofcalifornia.edu/applicant/login.htm>

California State Universities (CSU)

- The CSU application period is October 1st – November 30th (application opened early September to work on, but cannot be submitted until October 1st)
- Website for applying: www2.calstate.edu/Apply

Private Universities

- Application deadlines vary for private universities – check the websites of the schools you are interested in.

What is the Common Application?

- This application is used by many private colleges in California, and out-of-state. Some private colleges require the Common Application, while others offer a choice between their own application and the Common Application.
- Complete information, including a list of colleges which use the Common Application, is available on the website: <https://www.commonapp.org>

Personal Statements and Essays

- **Private colleges and out-of-state colleges** – some require a personal statement or essay, others do not.
- **CSU** Applications do **NOT** include a personal statement.
- **UC** Applications ask you to respond to 4 out of 8 Personal Insight Questions.
 - ❖ **Be personal, and be sure to answer the questions.** The Personal Insight Questions are your chance to tell the UC who you are; consider these responses your “interview” for the UC’s.
 - ❖ The 8 questions are equal. No question is considered more advantageous, or weighted more heavily than the others.
 - ❖ The Additional Comments section has a 550 word limit. Use this to provide information that you have to included elsewhere on application.

Letters of Recommendation

- **UC** – submit a letter of recommendation **ONLY if requested**
- **CSU** – recommendations are **ONLY accepted** if applying to EOP (See the EOP Box bottom of this page)
- **Private Colleges** – some require letters of recommendation, others do not. Some ask for email address of your recommender and contact them directly.
- **NOTE** – You will be asked to waive your right to read what your recommender writes for the CSU EOP Program, and on the Common Application. COHS counselors **recommended** that you **waive that right**.

Transcripts

- **UC** and **CSU** – You will enter classes/grades on application. Do **NOT** send your transcript (unless college requests it)
- Private Colleges – You must find out if, or when, the schools you applied to require your official transcript
- The College you commit to attend will require an **official transcript after graduation**. Be sure to meet their deadline!
- Transcripts sent to colleges must be **official transcripts**. Request forms are available in Main Office or Student Services.

College Application Fee Waivers

- **UC** and **CSU** – fee wavier request is built into both the UC and CSU applications. Be sure the income and household size you enter is correct. The response to your request is instantaneous.
- **UC** – If you are given the waiver, you may apply to 4 UC's for free.
- **CSU** – If you are given the waiver, you may apply to 4 CSU's for free.
- **Private Colleges** – if you used an SAT fee waiver you are eligible for 4 College Board fee waiver request forms – they available are in your College Board account.

What is Early Decision? vs. Early Admission? Early Action?

- **Early Decision** – This is binding. If you are accepted, you are committed to attending that college.
- **Early Admission or Early Action:** This is not binding. If accepted, you have until May 1st to decide.
- **UC & CSU** -- do NOT offer Early Decision or Early Admission/Action. (**ONE EXCEPTION** → *Cal Poly San Luis Obispo offers Early Decision.*)

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

EOP offers admissions assistance, academic support, financial assistance, and mentoring to first generation college, low income and historically educationally disadvantaged students. (Details vary by campus.)

UC's

- ❖ Indicate your interest in EOP on your college application. (Also address it in the Additional Comments.)
- ❖ Program has various names on UC campuses. Get additional application info on the UC website: <http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/campuses/specific-populations/educational-opportunity-program/>

CSU's

- ❖ The EOP application is in the CSU application.
- ❖ The EOP **application deadline varies** from campus to campus.

Entering COHS Classes and Grades on UC & CSU Applications

IMPORTANT → *When filling out applications, work from a transcript for accuracy. If you submit incorrect grades, colleges will **rescind** your admission; Falsification of records is extremely serious.*

- Enter COHS classes as **SEMESTER** courses, 2 grades per year
 - NOTE: If in **AVID** and took an “every other day” course → select Semester **and** Quarter
- **Enter all “a-g” courses** for 9th – 12th grades. The “a-g” courses are noted on your transcript with a **P** the left of the course name.
- **Term 1 & Term 2** classes are all reported as Fall Semester
- **Term 3 & Term 4** classes are all reported as Spring Semester
- **Reporting Senior Classes and Grades**
 - Term 1 of Senior Year – you must enter grades
 - Term 2 of Senior year – report as **"in progress"**
 - Terms 3 and 4 of Senior year – report as **"planned"**
- **Three Term Classes:** Do not enter Bridge or AP Prep or AP Skills grades
- **One Term class**, you still enter as a semester/ 2 grades per year course, then:
 - UC – enter the grade received in the semester you took the course, and enter “no” for the other semester
 - CSU – enter grade received in the semester you took the course, then for the other semester do not enter anything/leave blank
- **General Science** is not a lab science, on UC application it is under “g” Elective
- **Economics** is not a Social Science, on UC application it is under “g” Elective
- **8th Grade Courses** – if you took Algebra 1, Geometry, or a Language Other Than English
 - UC – you will enter your course names and grades as 7th / 8th Grade Courses
 - CSU – you will enter the course names and grades under **9th** Grade
- **Spanish 1-2 in a single school year**, enter courses:
 - Spanish 1 using Term 1 as Fall and Term 2 as Spring
 - Spanish 2 also using Term 1 as Fall, and Term 2 as Spring
- **If you earned an For a D in an “a-g” course:**
 - UC Application – If you’ve repeated a course, report **both grades**
 - CSU Application – If you’ve repeated a course, report only the higher grade
 - UC and CSU – If you will repeat a course Term 2, 3 or 4 of your senior year, you **MUST report original grade**, and also enter the course as **“In Progress”** or **“Planned”**