



Accommodating growth through summer instruction

Expanding summer instruction is one of the ways the University of California is accommodating growth in enrollments caused by the state's rapidly growing college-age population. This expansion, made possible through State funding, is a key part of fulfilling UC's commitment to the State to accommodate all UC-eligible students.

Background

Historically, the State has provided funding for students enrolling in the fall, winter, and spring terms, but not summer. Summer sessions have been supported from student course and registration fees set by individual UC campuses.

However, to encourage summer enrollment, the State provided funding to the University in 2000-01 so campuses could reduce summer fees to the same level paid during the regular year. Since then, the State has also provided funding for UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UCLA, and UC Santa Barbara to convert their self-supporting summer programs to State-supported programs.

State funding makes it possible for these campuses to offer the same high level of educational resources available during the regular academic year. This includes hiring faculty to teach classes and providing instructional and student support equivalent to regular year levels. State funding also makes it possible for these campuses to provide financial aid to UC students enrolled in summer classes.

Growth in summer programs and enrollment

The last three years have shown that UC students are eager to enroll in summer session. Enrollment has grown from 39,700 students in summer 2000 to 66,600 in summer 2003, an increase of nearly 70 percent. Students are also enrolling in more units and some campuses report that students are graduating more quickly due to summer courses.

Funding

The University has requested State funding for summer instruction at the remaining campuses (Irvine, Riverside, San Diego and Santa Cruz). In the meantime, student course and registration fees will continue to underwrite summer instruction on these four campuses.