

Fact Sheet: UC Fall 2026 First-Year and Transfer Application Highlights

- The University of California received 251,907 applications for fall 2026 admission. This figure represents a 0.6 percent increase from fall 2025, for which UC received 250,289 applications. The 2026 number includes 205,431 applications for first-year admission and 46,476 transfer applications. These are unduplicated counts of applications that were received systemwide at all levels, and they include both California residents and nonresidents.
 - This is the largest number of applications ever received at UC. It is just above the previous high of 251,698 applications for fall 2022.
 - UC also received the largest number of transfer applications for fall 2026, topping the previous high of 46,313 in fall 2021.
- Applications for fall 2026 first-year admission almost matched last year's total (increasing by forty-two applications). California resident applications were down from last year, decreasing by 0.5 percent (685 applications). Applications from domestic nonresidents increased by 1.8 percent (744 applications) while international applicants were nearly flat (decreasing by 0.1 percent or 17 applications).
- The share of California first-year applicants with low family income increased from 41.4 percent last year to 43.6 percent this year. First-generation college student applicants dropped about half of a percentage point, from 42.2 percent last year to 41.7 percent this year.
- Transfer applications increased 3.5 percent from last year (1,576 more applications). Applications from domestic California community college students increased by 6.7 percent, from 33,638 last year to 35,906 this year.
- Hispanic/Latino(a) students remain the largest group of California first-year and community college applicants, with applications submitted by 38.8 percent of California first-year students and 33.6 percent of domestic community college transfers.
- The UC application for undergraduate admission opened on August 1, 2025. Students could submit applications between October 1 and December 1, 2025.
- First-year admission offers are released from December 2025 through March 2026. Decisions on transfer applications are released through April 2026.

Notes: *The 2026 systemwide totals used in this fact sheet and in the attached tables are preliminary as of January 21, 2026, whereas previous year totals are final. Totals are also "unduplicated," meaning that each student is counted only once, even if they applied to multiple campuses. As a result, the systemwide totals are not the sum of the individual campus counts.*