



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Michael V. Drake, MD  
President

March 22, 2023

Office of the President  
1111 Franklin St.  
Oakland, CA 94607

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 553  
Sacramento, California 95814

universityofcalifornia.edu

Dear Senator Skinner:

CAMPUSES

- Berkeley
- Davis
- Irvine
- UCLA
- Merced
- Riverside
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Cruz

Pursuant to Section 66015.10 of the Education Code, enclosed is the University of California’s annual report to the Legislature on the 2022 Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR).

If you have any questions regarding this report, Associate Vice President David Alcocer would be pleased to speak with you. David can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9113, or by e-mail at [David.Alcocer@ucop.edu](mailto:David.Alcocer@ucop.edu).

Sincerely,

Michael V. Drake, MD  
President

MEDICAL CENTERS

- Davis
- Irvine
- UCLA
- San Diego
- San Francisco

Enclosure

NATIONAL LABORATORIES

- Lawrence Berkeley
- Lawrence Livermore
- Los Alamos

- cc: Senate Budget and Fiscal Review  
The Honorable John Laird, Chair  
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee #1  
(Attn: Mr. Christopher Francis)  
(Attn: Ms. Jean-Marie McKinney)  
The Honorable Kevin McCarty, Chair  
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2  
(Attn: Mr. Mark Martin)  
(Attn: Ms. Sarah Haynes)  
Mr. Hans Hemann, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Ms. Erika Contreras, Secretary of the Senate  
Ms. Amy Leach, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
Ms. Sue Parker, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
Ms. Tammy Weis, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
Mr. Chris Ferguson, Department of Finance  
Mr. Jack Zwald, Department of Finance

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Ms. Gabriela Chavez, Department of Finance  
Mr. Gabriel Petek, Legislative Analyst Office  
Ms. Jennifer Pacella, Legislative Analyst Office  
Provost and Executive Vice President Katherine S. Newman  
Vice President and Vice Provost Yvette Gullatt  
Associate Vice Provost Elizabeth Halimah  
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Associate Vice President David Alcocer  
Associate Vice President and Director Kathleen Fullerton

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

### Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) Fall 2022

The following report is forwarded in compliance with Section 66015.10 of the Education Code, which states:

- (a) The University of California is requested to annually notify the governing board of each high school of both of the following:
  1. The number of graduates who enrolled in the university in the previous year and the number of graduates who were required to take the entry level writing requirement.
  2. The comparable numbers of all California high school graduates who enrolled in the university.
- (b) The University of California is requested to provide an annual summary of the information specified in subdivision (a) to the Department of Finance and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

This document is the annual report responding to this legislative request.

#### Background

The University of California (UC) Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) is a reading and writing proficiency requirement that is intended to assure that entering freshman students have the writing skills necessary to succeed in lower-division university-level courses. UC students must be able to understand and to respond adequately to written material typical of reading assignments in freshman courses, and this ability must be demonstrated in student writing that communicates effectively to University faculty.

The Academic Senate's University Committee on Preparatory Education oversees the ELWR. This requirement may be satisfied by successfully completing a course or program of study in English composition during the first year of enrollment at UC. In addition, prior to enrollment at the University of California, a student may satisfy the ELWR by attaining a score approved by the committee on one of the following examinations:

1. the University of California Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE)
2. the SAT, Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
3. the ACT, English Language Arts
4. the ACT, English + Writing
5. the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Examination
6. the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Examination
7. the International Baccalaureate Higher or Standard Level English A: Literature Examination
8. the International Baccalaureate Higher or Standard Level English A: Language and Literature Examination

An additional option for completing the writing requirement prior to enrolling at the University is the successful completion of a transferable college-level course in English composition of three semester or four quarter units.

The University administers the AWPE to incoming California freshmen who have not satisfied the ELWR at the time of admission. The AWPE defines a basic level of proficiency in reading and writing for incoming students and sets a baseline of expectations that extends across all UC campuses.

The 2022 administration of the AWPE was offered in an online format. Five campuses (Davis, Irvine, Merced, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz) offered alternative testing and placement options for fall 2022 entrants. Students were allowed to fulfill the ELWR prior to enrollment with these local alternatives or with the AWPE.

This report summarizes the outcomes of the ELWR for freshmen who entered the University for the fall 2022 term and provides fall 2021 data as a point of comparison. (See Table 1 and Table 2.)

### Information to Schools

Each year, the University notifies California high school principals and county and district superintendents that comprehensive ELWR performance results are available on the UC Information Center website (<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/elwr>). These results may be useful to guide high school curriculum development that could improve the academic preparation of students. The 2022 ELWR performance results will be posted by April 2023.

### Entry Level Writing Requirement Data on Entering Freshmen

The attached tables display ELWR data for fall 2021 and 2022 entering freshmen from California public and private high schools.

The University of California admitted 5,096 fewer California freshmen for fall 2022 (175,289 compared with 180,385 in 2021) and 151 fewer California freshmen enrolled (40,028) compared with fall 2021 (40,179). Of the 40,028 fall 2022 freshmen who entered the University, 27,642 met the ELWR prior to their enrollment (69.1 percent)—an increase from fall 2021 (68.0 percent). The number who fulfilled the ELWR includes students who successfully passed the AWPE (3,349, or 8.4 percent of enrolled students) as well as students who met the requirement through other means—60.7 percent of entrants (24,293).

More enrolled students, proportionally and in number, met the ELWR by passing the AWPE: 8.4 percent (3,349 students) in fall 2022, compared with 7.4 percent (2,964 students) in fall 2021. The proportion of students who met the ELWR through other means prior to enrolling was nearly flat at 60.7 percent in 2022 (from 60.6 percent in 2021), a decrease of 71 students (24,293 in 2022 from 24,364 in 2021). The number and proportion of students required to meet the ELWR during their first year of enrollment at the University in 2022 was lower: 12,386 (30.9 percent) in 2022, compared with 12,851 (32.0 percent) in 2021.

The percentage of students who fulfilled the ELWR prior to enrolling differs by UC eligibility status. For fall 2022, the completion rate for regularly admitted enrollees was 69.3 percent (27,612 students), while the completion rate for students admitted by exception was 15.9 percent (30 students). The ELWR completion rate of 69.3 percent for regularly admitted enrollees was higher than the 2021 rate of 68.3 percent. The rate decreased for students admitted by exception compared with the prior year's rate of 25.0 percent (77 students).

The percentage of all fall 2022 students who fulfilled the ELWR prior to enrolling varies by campus. In 2022, this ranged from a high of 91.4 percent at Los Angeles to 23.4 percent at Merced.

The following tables display information regarding the fulfillment of the ELWR for new entering freshmen from California high schools for fall 2022 and fall 2021.

**Table 1**

<b>Table 1: Fulfillment of Entry-Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) for New Freshmen from California High Schools, Fall 2022</b>										
Campus	Admitted*	Enrolled	Met ELWR by Passing AWPE		Met ELWR by Other Means		Met ELWR Prior to Enrollment (Total)		Did Not Meet ELWR Prior to Enrollment	
			n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>REGULAR (ELIGIBLE ADMIT)</b>										
Berkeley	10,424	5,221	726	13.9	3,616	69.3	4,342	83.2	879	16.8
Davis	21,516	4,919	2	0.0	3,022	61.4	3,024	61.5	1,895	38.5
Irvine	15,979	4,685	6	0.1	3,523	75.2	3,529	75.3	1,156	24.7
Los Angeles	8,335	4,932	635	12.9	3,878	78.6	4,513	91.5	419	8.5
Merced	23,922	2,299	0	0.0	550	23.9	550	23.9	1,749	76.1
Riverside	31,442	5,194	1,058	20.4	2,241	43.1	3,299	63.5	1,895	36.5
San Diego	20,107	5,289	917	17.3	3,183	60.2	4,100	77.5	1,189	22.5
Santa Barbara	19,693	3,858	1	0.0	3,039	78.8	3,040	78.8	818	21.2
Santa Cruz	23,045	3,442	1	0.0	1,214	35.3	1,215	35.3	2,227	64.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>174,463</b>	<b>39,839</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>24,266</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>27,612</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>12,227</b>	<b>30.7</b>
<b>ADMISSION BY EXCEPTION</b>										
Berkeley	5	5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	5	100.0
Davis	4	4	0	0.0	3	75.0	3	75.0	1	25.0
Irvine	7	7	0	0.0	1	14.3	1	14.3	6	85.7
Los Angeles	13	12	1	8.3	3	25.0	4	33.3	8	66.7
Merced	517	77	0	0.0	6	7.8	6	7.8	71	92.2
Riverside	118	47	0	0.0	9	19.1	9	19.1	38	80.9
San Diego	42	9	2	22.2	1	11.1	3	33.3	6	66.7
Santa Barbara	17	6	0	0.0	3	50.0	3	50.0	3	50.0
Santa Cruz	103	22	0	0.0	1	4.5	1	4.5	21	95.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>84.1</b>
<b>ALL STUDENTS</b>										
Berkeley	10,429	5,226	726	13.9	3,616	69.2	4,342	83.1	884	16.9
Davis	21,520	4,923	2	0.0	3,025	61.4	3,027	61.5	1,896	38.5
Irvine	15,986	4,692	6	0.1	3,524	75.1	3,530	75.2	1,162	24.8
Los Angeles	8,348	4,944	636	12.9	3,881	78.5	4,517	91.4	427	8.6
Merced	24,439	2,376	0	0.0	556	23.4	556	23.4	1,820	76.6
Riverside	31,560	5,241	1,058	20.2	2,250	42.9	3,308	63.1	1,933	36.9
San Diego	20,149	5,298	919	17.3	3,184	60.1	4,103	77.4	1,195	22.6
Santa Barbara	19,710	3,864	1	0.0	3,042	78.7	3,043	78.8	821	21.2
Santa Cruz	23,148	3,464	1	0.0	1,215	35.1	1,216	35.1	2,248	64.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>175,289</b>	<b>40,028</b>	<b>3,349</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>24,293</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>27,642</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>12,386</b>	<b>30.9</b>
Source: University of California Office of the President, Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs.										
*Admission counts are duplicated. Except for the admission counts, data are for new enrolled freshmen.										

**Table 2**

<b>Table 2: Fulfillment of Entry-Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) for New Freshmen from California High Schools, Fall 2021</b>										
Campus	Admitted*	Enrolled	Met ELWR by Passing AWPE		Met ELWR by Other Means		Met ELWR Prior to Enrollment (Total)		Did Not Meet ELWR Prior to Enrollment	
			n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
<b>REGULAR (ELIGIBLE ADMIT)</b>										
Berkeley	10,351	4,832	591	12.2	3,326	68.8	3,917	81.1	915	18.9
Davis	24,380	5,753	0	0.0	3,373	58.6	3,373	58.6	2,380	41.4
Irvine	16,313	4,809	0	0.0	3,497	72.7	3,497	72.7	1,312	27.3
Los Angeles	8,375	4,529	500	11.0	3,655	80.7	4,155	91.7	374	8.3
Merced	21,681	2,237	308	13.8	569	25.4	877	39.2	1,360	60.8
Riverside	29,185	4,974	749	15.1	1,927	38.7	2,676	53.8	2,298	46.2
San Diego	21,839	5,275	777	14.7	3,534	67.0	4,311	81.7	964	18.3
Santa Barbara	20,054	3,685	1	0.0	2,834	76.9	2,835	76.9	850	23.1
Santa Cruz	26,950	3,777	16	0.4	1,594	42.2	1,610	42.6	2,167	57.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>179,128</b>	<b>39,871</b>	<b>2,942</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>24,309</b>	<b>61.0</b>	<b>27,251</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>12,620</b>	<b>31.7</b>
<b>ADMISSION BY EXCEPTION</b>										
Berkeley	5	4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	100.0
Davis	11	10	0	0.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	9	90.0
Irvine	2	2	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	1	50.0
Los Angeles	16	11	1	9.1	5	45.5	6	54.5	5	45.5
Merced	720	149	14	9.4	22	14.8	36	24.2	113	75.8
Riverside	152	41	1	2.4	3	7.3	4	9.8	37	90.2
San Diego	76	24	5	20.8	7	29.2	12	50.0	12	50.0
Santa Barbara	17	10	0	0.0	6	60.0	6	60.0	4	40.0
Santa Cruz	258	57	1	1.8	10	17.5	11	19.3	46	80.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>75.0</b>
<b>ALL STUDENTS</b>										
Berkeley	10,356	4,836	591	12.2	3,326	68.8	3,917	81.0	919	19.0
Davis	24,391	5,763	0	0.0	3,374	58.5	3,374	58.5	2,389	41.5
Irvine	16,315	4,811	0	0.0	3,498	72.7	3,498	72.7	1,313	27.3
Los Angeles	8,391	4,540	501	11.0	3,660	80.6	4,161	91.7	379	8.3
Merced	22,401	2,386	322	13.5	591	24.8	913	38.3	1,473	61.7
Riverside	29,337	5,015	750	15.0	1,930	38.5	2,680	53.4	2,335	46.6
San Diego	21,915	5,299	782	14.8	3,541	66.8	4,323	81.6	976	18.4
Santa Barbara	20,071	3,695	1	0.0	2,840	76.9	2,841	76.9	854	23.1
Santa Cruz	27,208	3,834	17	0.4	1,604	41.8	1,621	42.3	2,213	57.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>180,385</b>	<b>40,179</b>	<b>2,964</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>24,364</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>27,328</b>	<b>68.0</b>	<b>12,851</b>	<b>32.0</b>
Source: University of California Office of the President, Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs.										
*Admission counts are duplicated. Except for the admission counts, data are for new enrolled freshmen.										

**Contact Information:**  
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