

UC SANTA BARBARA

# THE *Current*

January 18, 2013

[Andrea Estrada](#)

## **UCSB Undergraduate Applications for Fall 2013 Set a Record at 76,026**

Continuing a decades-long trend, UC Santa Barbara has set a record for the number of first-year students seeking admission to the campus. What's more, among the UC system, UCSB boasts the second largest increase in freshman applications -- nearly 14 percent -- over last year.

UCSB has received 76,026 applications for undergraduate admission for fall 2013. Of those, 62,402 are from prospective first-year students and 13,637 are from applicants seeking to transfer to UCSB. Of particular note, freshman applications have increased significantly in engineering, biology, economics, and physics.

UCSB has target enrollments of 4,300 first-year students and 1,550 transfer students for the fall.

"The increase in the number of freshman and transfer student applications is an inspiring testament to UC Santa Barbara's reputation as a top-tier university," said Chancellor Henry T. Yang. "UC Santa Barbara is recognized as a world leader in academic excellence, cutting-edge research, and innovative teaching. We are proud to be a campus of choice for talented and high-achieving students with diverse backgrounds who enrich our community."

With 11 national centers and institutes, and more than 100 research units, UCSB offers unparalleled learning opportunities for undergraduate students. The world-

class faculty includes five Nobel Laureates, two Academy and Emmy Award winners, and a Millenium Technology Prize recipient.

The academic quality of UCSB's applicant pool remains strong. Of the 62,402 applicants for the entering class, 20,309 -- or 33 percent -- have a high-school grade point average (GPA) of 4.0 or higher. The average GPA of all freshmen applicants is 3.74, up from 3.72 in 2012.

UCSB also continues to attract a diverse pool of prospective students. The number of applications from members of underrepresented minority groups increased by 2,441 -- or 14 percent. UCSB received a total of 19,779 freshman applications from African-American, Native American, and Chicano and Latino applicants combined. This represents 32 percent of the applicant pool. In addition, 59 percent of all applicants for the UCSB freshman class are members of a racial or ethnic minority group.

Attesting to UCSB's reputation across the country and around the world, applications from prospective non-resident students jumped by 39 percent over last year, to 11,987.

Among transfer students, 90 percent of the 13,637 applicants are currently enrolled in a California community college. A total of 3,598 transfer applications were received from members of underrepresented minority groups, which represents a 2 percent increase over last year. Members of underrepresented minority groups account for 26 percent of all transfer applicants this year.

"UCSB's popularity is evidenced by this large increase in applications," said Christine Van Gieson, director of admissions. "It reflects the campus's prominence, both nationally and internationally. The admissions staff members are working round the clock to review each and every application."

The UC system received a record 174,767 applications -- 139,758 from freshman applicants and 35,009 from prospective transfer student. This represents an increase of 8.6 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively. All nine UC undergraduate campuses experienced increases in freshman applicants.

Related Links

[Office of Admissions](#)

## **About UC Santa Barbara**

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.