



Introduction to the UC Application





Mr. Jonathan Nussur

My name is Jonathan and I am the Experience Berkeley Program Director. I'm a 1st generation college graduate and a son of immigrant parents. I was born in San Jose, California and graduated from UC Berkeley in 2011 with a degree in Public Health. I love to travel and have been to over 10 countries outside of the United States, and I enjoy trying new foods.

Something else I love, is seeing others succeed and reach their goals. Having a college degree opens many doors in your personal and professional life. In fact, your level of education plays a large role in where you get to live, the quality of your life, and the length of your life. It is my goal to make sure you have access to a high quality education, are placed the major that is a best fit for you, and are able to pursue a fulfilling career and live a full healthy life.



Intro to the UC Campuses



- 9 UC campuses located throughout the state of California
 - Berkeley is the oldest, founded in 1868
 - Merced is the youngest, founded in 2005
- 5 UC's rank in the top 40 Universities in the nation
- Each school has its own personality, which is rooted in its history, it's faculty, and it's geographical location
- Each school offers a different philosophy on how to educate its students and

Qualifying for a UC



- 3.0 GPA (unweighted)
- A-G requirements (15 courses)
 - 2 years of History
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of Math
 - 2 years of Science
 - 2 years of Foreign Language
 - 1 year of Electives
 - 1 year of Visual/Performing Arts
- SAT/ACT (*not required for 2020-2021 cycle)
- Complete the UC Application

The UC Application

Submit your fall 2021 application November 1- 30.

Review & submit

Here's your chance to review all of the information you've entered in the application. If you've skipped or missed any required questions, you'll see a "To do" button next to the page below.

Before you submit your application, you should review all the pages and sections below, even if they are marked as complete (indicated with a checkmark). Remember, we want to learn as much about you as possible — so it's a good idea to fill out as much as you can and review all the information you'll be sharing with us.

Fall quarter/semester 2021

> Expand all

Print version

> About you

> Campuses & majors

> Academic history

> Test scores

> Activities & awards

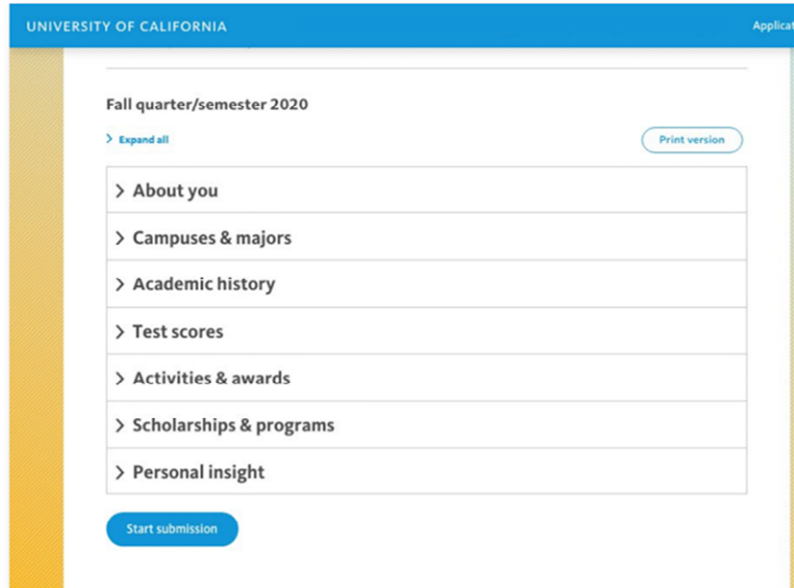
> Scholarships & programs

> Personal insight

Review & submit

<https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/>

The UC Application



The screenshot shows the top portion of the UC application form. At the top, a blue header bar contains the text "UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA" on the left and "Applicat" on the right. Below the header, the text "Fall quarter/semester 2020" is displayed. To the left of this text is a link "> Expand all", and to the right is a button labeled "Print version". Below these elements is a list of seven sections, each with a right-pointing chevron icon and a title: "About you", "Campuses & majors", "Academic history", "Test scores", "Activities & awards", "Scholarships & programs", and "Personal insight". At the bottom left of the form area is a blue button labeled "Start submission".

1. The application is made up of 7 sections
2. Each section tells us a little more about your academic and personal accomplishments
3. For this presentation, we'll focus on the following sections:
 - a. About You
 - b. Campus/Major
 - c. Academic History
 - d. Test Scores
 - e. Activities + Awards
 - f. Personal Insight Questions

The UC Application

1. **About You:** Location, household demographics
2. **Major:** What you're interested in studying in college
3. **Academic History:** What classes you took and how you did in those classes
4. **Test Scores:** AP, IB, ACT/SAT, SAT 2
5. **Activities/Awards:** Extracurricular activities, work/volunteer experience, extra classes, and awards won



Personal Insight Questions (PIQs)

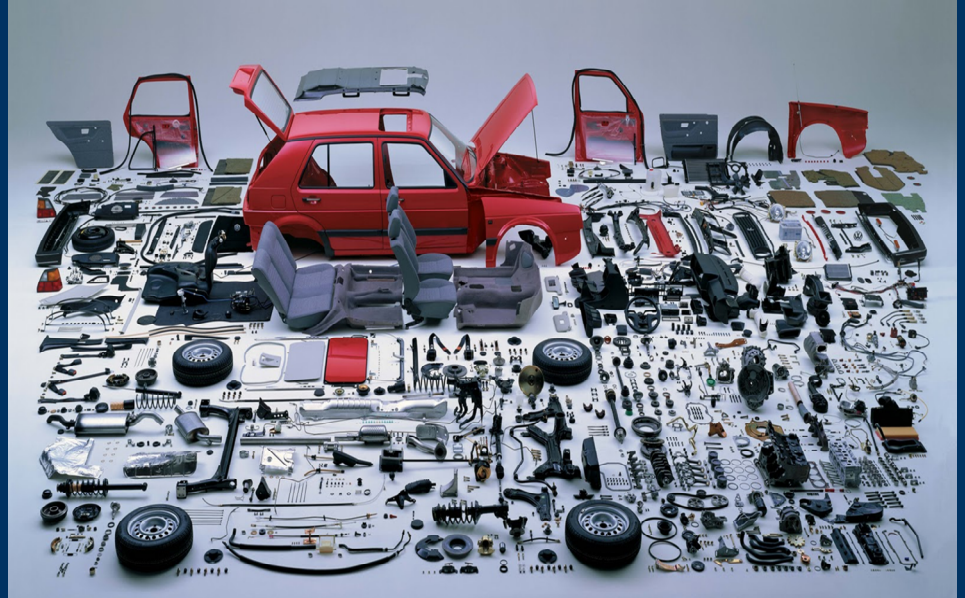
1. There are 8 total PIQ's
2. Only have to respond to 4 of the 8
 - a. 350 word limit for each PIQ
3. PIQ's prompts:
 - a. Leadership Style
 - b. Favorite Subject
 - c. How You Express Creativity
 - d. Educational Opportunities
 - e. Educational Barriers
 - f. Personal Challenges
 - g. Giving back to your school or community
 - h. Greatest Skill or Talent



Personal Insight Questions

Think of Personal Insight Questions as instructions, and the other sections of the UC Application as a collection of individual parts.

- With the instructions, you are able to see how those individual parts fit together
- The PIQs are an opportunity for you to tell admissions readers why you did something and how you did it.



7 Tips for PIQs

1. Each PIQ should contain new information about you
2. Answer the Question in the first sentence
3. Avoid creative writing if possible
4. Give yourself enough time to write 3 drafts
 - 1st draft: write 8 sentences
 - 2nd draft: write 12 sentences
 - 3rd draft: write 16-18 sentences
5. Your responses should be about you, not someone else
 - Should also be about your high school years
6. Do your research!
 - **Skills:** What skills do you have? What skills do you need to develop? Communicate this in your PIQs
 - **Majors:** What college majors are you considering? What have you done to learn about those majors? How have you prepared for those majors? Communicate this in your PIQs
7. Talk about what you hope to do in College



Helpful Resources

- You can find the UC Application at apply.universityofcalifornia.edu
- To learn more about majors offered at UC Berkeley, visit guide.berkeley.edu
- For more information on how to get started on the UC PIQs, check out this [PIQ Tipsheet!](#)