

Office of the President

TO MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

DISCUSSION ITEM

For Meeting of September 21, 2022

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DUAL ADMISSION PILOT PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This discussion item presents information about the new University of California Dual Admission program, a three-year pilot transfer pathway, targeted at ineligible freshman applicants, that will launch with fall 2023 applicants. Students in the program will receive a conditional offer of admission to UC and a provisional financial aid offer. They will attend a California community college to prepare for transfer to UC, during which time they will have access to UC transfer preparation support services at the receiving UC campus or the UC campus nearest to the student's residence. Upon completion of program requirements, students are guaranteed transfer admission to a specific UC campus.

BACKGROUND

The Postsecondary Education Trailer Bill (Assembly Bill 132), passed by the California Legislature in July 2021, requests that the University of California “establish a dual admissions program as a separate transfer pathway for first-time freshman applicants.”¹ This new pathway is intended to increase access to the University “for prospective underrepresented students experiencing limitations in high school curriculum offered, geographical constraints, or financial challenges.”

UC has an existing dual admission policy.² UC Academic Senate Regulation 476(D) states that: “Applicants who at the time of graduation from high school do not meet the criteria of Regulations 419 [test score requirement] and 424 [A-G course and Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements], but who stand in the upper 12.5 percent of their graduating classes, as determined by criteria established by the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools, and who have achieved a GPA of at least 3.0 in such of the courses prescribed by Regulation 424 as they have completed, may apply simultaneously for admission to a California Community College and for conditional admission to a campus of the University, subject to the satisfaction at the Community College of the provisions of Regulation 476 B and C.”³

¹ https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB132

² Academic Senate Regulation 476 was amended in 2001 to allow for the creation of a Dual Admissions Program in 2002. However, funding was eliminated in the 2004–05 State budget, leading to the discontinuation of the program.

³ UC Academic Senate Regulation 476(D), available at <https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/bylaws->

Within the parameters of Assembly Bill 132 (AB 132) and consistent with UC Academic Senate Regulation 476(D), UC is implementing a dual admission program targeted to the subset of ineligible California freshman applicants who have a 3.0 or higher high school GPA, but who have not fulfilled the University's high school subject (A-G) requirements and are not admitted to any campus to which they applied.⁴

UC Dual Admission has the potential to address two priorities of the University: the diversity of UC's transfer student population and the number of California Community Colleges (CCCs) from which UC draws its transfer students. Students from recent admission cycles who applied for freshman admission and were ineligible are predominantly from underrepresented groups and/or from first-generation and/or low-income backgrounds. In 2021, approximately 10,000 California freshman applicants to UC were ineligible. Among these ineligible students, about 3,700 reported high school GPAs of 3.0 or above. About 50 percent of the 3,700 applicants identified as a member of an underrepresented group.

Per AB 132, the dual admission pathway is a pilot "commencing with the 2023–24 academic year, and each academic year through the 2025–26 academic year." However, services will extend beyond that time period—until students in the 2025–26 cohort are prepared to transfer (in academic year 2027–28).

Preliminary Program Logistics

UC's current transfer admissions programs, Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) and Transfer Pathways+, also function as dual admission pathways, offering any CCC student (regardless of UC freshman eligibility status) an opportunity to obtain a conditional guarantee to a selected campus and major, to prepare academically for campuses that currently do not offer a guarantee, to engage with University professionals who provide information and advising, and to utilize online tools that help students stay on track for successful transfer. These programs will be leveraged for the new dual admission program.

Qualifying students will be invited to enter into a dual admission agreement for conditional admission to a specific UC campus that offers a TAG or Pathways+ (Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside, Santa Barbara, and Santa Cruz).⁵ UC Dual Admission enables these students to complete their general education and lower-division major requirements at a CCC while receiving academic advising and other support from UC to facilitate their transfer not only to the Dual Admission receiving campus but to any UC campus.

[regulations/regulations/rpart2.html#r476](https://regulations.regulations/rpart2.html#r476)

⁴ These students do not qualify for a referral offer to UC Merced because they have not met minimum admission requirements.

⁵ The three non-TAG campuses (Berkeley, Los Angeles, and San Diego) have been requested to explore developing limited Dual Admission guarantee programs for non-impacted/non-capped majors for UC Dual Admission students.

Benefits of UC Dual Admission

Students who opt into the UC Dual Admission program may access the following benefits:

- Advising from the UC Dual Admission coordinator who can facilitate their communication with the target UC campus and CCC advisors
- Priority registration at their CCC (pending approval by the California Community College Chancellor's Office)
- Access, where available, to libraries at the receiving and/or local UC campus
- Invitation to transfer events hosted by the receiving and/or local campus
- Preliminary estimate of expected financial aid (available to applicants who submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or California Dream Act Application)
- Waiver of application fee to the receiving campus upon transfer. (Note: The income-based application fee waiver will cover the cost of application to four campuses, not inclusive of the receiving campus.)

Although the benefit of TAG-based transfer admission (including Pathways+) is available to any student who wishes to transfer to UC from a CCC, UC Dual Admission focuses on supporting additional academic preparation for freshman applicants who did not complete UC's A-G requirements at the time of initial application. These students' academic profiles suggest that augmenting existing transfer programs with additional academic support and advising from UC will help more of these students make a successful academic transition to a CCC and, ultimately, transfer to UC.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

Phase 1: Establishing and Communicating UC Dual Admission (Spring–Fall 2022)

With implementation to begin for the 2023–24 academic year, the University will announce the UC Dual Admission program this summer. UC's annual Ensuring Transfer Success conferences (for CCC counselors) and High School Counselor Conferences in September will be key to sharing details with the high school and community college communities.

Phase 2: Implementation Begins (Fall 2022–Spring 2023)

Students will apply for Fall 2023 freshman admission in November 2022 and receive an admission decision by March 30, 2023. Students who meet the criteria for UC Dual Admission (not admitted to a campus of choice and determined to be ineligible for freshman admission by the UC Office of the President) will be notified of their status by May 1 and offered the opportunity to opt in to UC Dual Admission. This first cohort of UC Dual Admission participants will enroll at their choice of CCC starting with the Fall 2023 term.

KEY TO ACRONYMS

AB 132	Assembly Bill 132
CCC	California Community College
GPA	Grade Point Average
TAG	Transfer Admission Guarantee