

University of California (UC) Statewide Guarantee



What is the type of admissions redesign?

Guaranteed Admissions: High school students are assured admission to one or more four-year institution(s) if they apply and meet established academic criteria.

In which state is it based?

California

What state postsecondary agency or system sponsors the program?

University of California

When was the program first started?

2001

Does the student or state agency/system initiate the admissions process?

Student through their application

What are the central characteristics of the program?

The Statewide Index identifies California-resident students in the top 9 percent of California high school graduates and Eligible in the Local Context (ELC) identifies the top 9 percent of graduates at each participating high school, offering these students a guaranteed space at a UC campus, *if space is available*.

Program Scope 	Does the program include all high school districts or only a portion ? Is opt-in required?	Not applicable; all students determine whether to apply to UC.
	Does the program support admission to four-year institutions, two-year institutions, or both ?	Four-year institutions
	Which institutions are participating in the program?	Multiple UC campuses ¹
Eligibility Criteria and Application 	What are the academic eligibility criteria for students?	The Statewide Index considers a student's A-G course totals and UC GPA, counting the total number of UC-approved A-G courses completed and in progress/planned in 9th-12th grade and calculate the UC GPA using the A-G courses completed between the summer following 9th grade and the summer following 11th grade. If the total number of A-G courses is equal to or greater than the number of A-G courses listed in the index for a student's GPA, then the student is in the top 9% statewide. ELC is determined by the honors weighted GPA of the A-G courses completed between the summer following 9th grade and the summer following 11th grade. If the student's GPA meets or exceeds the benchmark 9% GPA for the school, then the student is in the top 9% in the local context.
	Are students still required to apply to postsecondary institutions?	Yes, students still need to apply to the University of California.
	Is the application fee waived ?	Not specifically for the program but is waived based on income eligibility.

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<p>Data and Policy</p>	<p>What is the data source for the program?</p>	<p>Student application and high school provided transcript data.</p>
	<p>Did the state or system adopt policy related to the program, and if so what does the policy include?</p>	<p>The UC system adopted the policy.</p>

Information above is up to date as of December 2025

¹The guarantee is for admission to the UC system, not to a specific campus. The applications of students who meet the statewide guarantee but are not admitted to any campus to which they apply are placed in a “referral pool” for consideration by other UC campuses.

Source: <https://collegecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/imported-files/Shut-Out-Report-final.pdf>