

UC-CSU Comparison of Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Freshmen

	Cal State University (CSU)	University of California (UC)
HIGH SCHOOL GPA		
	Calculate GPA using only "a-g" approved courses taken <i>after</i> the 9th grade	
SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS		
	15 yearlong college-prep courses from approved "a-g" list are required:	
"a" History/Social Science	2 years of history/social science, including 1 year of U.S. history OR 1 semester of U.S. history and 1 semester of American government, AND...	
	1 year of history/social science from either the "a" or "g" subject area	1 year of world history, cultures and geography from the "a" subject area
"b" English	4 years of English (including no more than 1 year of ESL/ELD courses)	
"c" Mathematics	3 years of math (Algebra I and II, geometry); 4 years recommended	
"d" Laboratory Science	2 years of laboratory science, including at least two of the three foundational subjects of biology, chemistry and physics	
	At least 1 year of physical science and 1 year of biological science, one from the "d" subject area and the other from the "d" or "g" area	Both courses must be from the "d" subject area; 3 years recommended
"e" Language Other Than English	2 years of language other than English (must be same language)	
		3 years recommended
"f" Visual and Performing Arts	1 yearlong course in visual and performing arts (selected from dance, music, theater/drama and visual arts)	
"g" College-Preparatory Elective	1 year of an elective chosen from any area on approved "a-g" course list	
	Agriculture courses traditionally accepted by CSU that are not on the "a-g" list will be considered on a course-by-course basis.	
HONORS POINTS		
	Maximum of 8 extra grade points awarded for approved honors, AP or IB courses and transferable community college courses. No more than 2 yearlong courses taken in 10th grade can earn honors points.	

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TEST SCORES — ACT/SAT		
	ACT or SAT is required*	
	<p>CSU combines best <i>critical reading</i> and <i>math</i> scores from multiple sittings of SAT; may combine best subscores from multiple ACT tests to calculate a best composite.</p> <p>*Test required for CSU applicants who have earned an "a-g" GPA of less than 3.0.</p>	<p>UC uses the highest combined score from a single sitting of the ACT Assessment plus Writing or the SAT Reasoning Test. Also required are two SAT Subject Tests in two different subject areas: history, literature, mathematics (Level 2 only), science or language other than English.</p>
VALIDATION OF SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS BY OTHER COURSES		
Mathematics	<p>A grade of C or better in the second semester of a yearlong algebra course validates a D in the first semester. A grade of C or better in Algebra II validates Algebra I. A grade of C or better in trigonometry or pre-calculus validates the entire high school college-preparatory requirement. Beginning with fall 2007 applicants, a grade of C or better in statistics will validate only Algebra I and Algebra II, not geometry.</p>	
Language Other Than English (LOTE)	<p>A grade of C or better in a higher-level course validates a lower-level course. A higher-level LOTE course can validate the appropriate number of years based on the level. A college course can validate a high school LOTE course. The level of validation depends on the college course prerequisite and description.</p>	
Chemistry	<p>Beginning with fall 2007 applicants, a grade of C or better in the second semester of chemistry WILL NO LONGER VALIDATE the first semester.</p>	
VALIDATION OF D GRADES IN REQUIRED COURSES		
	<p>Required "a-g" courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. Courses in which grades of D are earned must be repeated, EXCEPT in the areas of math and language other than English, where grades of D can be validated by successful completion of higher-level coursework.</p>	
VALIDATION OF SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS BY TEST SCORES		
	<p>Subject omissions may be satisfied with appropriate test scores on SAT Subject Tests, Advanced Placement exams and designated International Baccalaureate exams. A list of acceptable tests and scores is available on the UC and CSU websites.</p>	
REPEATED COURSES		
	<p>The best grade will be used in the GPA calculation.</p>	
		<p>A course not completed with a grade of C or better can be repeated only once.</p>