

CCS Admissions FAQ

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For all other questions regarding [Financial Aid](#) please visit their website. If you are a Regents Scholarship recipient and have questions, please contact the [UCSB Office of Admissions](#).

If you should have questions about your CCS application that have not been addressed in this document or on the CCS website, please contact us at info@ccs.ucsb.edu

May I apply for two College of Creative Studies Majors on my Application?

Answer: No. Not if you are applying simultaneously for UCSB Admission. You should apply to the major to which you are most strongly committed. Should you be accepted to UCSB and to Creative Studies, you may inquire about applying to a second major in CCS.

You may also consider a second major, or a minor, in the College of Letters and Science. However, if approved, you may not add a Letters and Science major to your Creative Studies major until (at least) your second quarter at UCSB. For minors, you should speak to the undergraduate advisor in the academic department offering that minor after arriving at UCSB. You may add a minor at almost any time while at UCSB, so you need not make this visit immediately upon arrival.

If I don't know yet whether or not I have been accepted to UCSB, should I still send in my CCS application?

Answer: Yes! As Soon As Possible! You do not need to have been accepted to UCSB at the time that you complete and submit the CCS application. The two applications are reviewed separately. However, you do need to be accepted to UCSB in order to be admitted to CCS. You should first *apply* to UCSB before you submit a CCS application.

If I do not know if I have been admitted to UCSB, how do I answer this question on the CCS application?

Answer: If you haven't heard from UCSB yet, your answer to the question should be "Not sure".

Do I need to list all the colleges I've attended, even if I only received a few units/credits?

Answer: Yes. Please list all colleges attended (if any) and all units/credits completed.

Do I really need to submit a copy of my high school transcript, even if I'm a transfer student?

Answer: Yes. All applicants must upload a copy of their high school transcript, or equivalent.

Do my letters of recommendation need to be submitted by the priority deadline?

Answer: Your application will not be considered complete until all required materials, including the letters of recommendation. While it is in your best interest to have your letters of recommendation uploaded by the deadline, you will not be disqualified from consideration if your recommenders cannot meet the priority deadline. Some committees may decide to review applications with fewer letters, however we strongly advise you to submit requests to your recommenders well in advance of the deadline to ensure that your application is reviewed by our internal deadline(s).

Do I have to request official high school and college transcripts to be sent to UCSB Admissions and to the College of Creative Studies?

Answer: No. The UCSB Office of Admissions will require that official transcripts from all high schools and colleges that you have attended be sent to them if you are offered admission. However, the College of Creative Studies accepts unofficial versions of all of your transcripts for your CCS application.

Can CCS request copies of my transcripts from the UCSB Admissions office, so I don't have to send any extra copies?

Answer: No. Transcripts are protected under California State and Federal laws. Once an individual (you) has given an institution permission to mail your transcript to another institution, under the law it cannot be released to anyone — including you. (i.e. once UCSB Admissions receives an official transcript, they may not release a copy of it to CCS).

Should I wait until I have all required materials together before beginning my CCS application?

Answer: No. You can begin the application at any time. You can save your progress each time you visit the application platform.

Is there a form for the Letters of Recommendation?

Answer: Through the online CCS application, applicants will be able to send a link to their recommenders where they will upload their letters of recommendation. There is no special form for the letters of recommendation; recommenders may use their own letterhead.

Do Letters of Recommendation have to be from teachers in the subject to which I am applying?

Answer: It depends. Letters from teachers in the subject to which you are applying are ideal, but not absolutely required. If you can get letters from teachers in subjects related to the major to which you are applying, these will suffice. Letters from any teachers who know you well as a student are welcome. Reminder: Letters of Recommendation are required for applications to all CCS majors, with the exception of Art, Marine Science and Writing & Literature. For Art, you are still welcome to submit letters if you wish.

Will the faculty reviewing my CCS application also look at my UC application?

Answer: No. CCS faculty are able to look at only your CCS application. Because of this, it is completely acceptable to repeat information on your CCS app that you previously included on your UC app, and required if asked for.

What exactly is the Letter of Intent and how long should it be?

Answer: As stated in the CCS application instructions, the Letter of Intent that is required for the CCS application is different from your UC Application essays. You should address your Letter of Intent to the faculty in the CCS major to which you are applying. You may begin your letter “Dear CCS Faculty...”, or “Dear CCS Art/ Biology/ Computing, etc. Faculty.” You should introduce yourself to the faculty, talk honestly to them about yourself, your interest and background in, and current relationship to the major to which you are applying, what your goals are, why you wish to study that subject, and why particularly in the College of Creative Studies. You should type the letter. These letters vary in length, the average Letter of Intent submitted being one and a half to two pages long (double-spaced and typed). Some are a bit shorter, and some longer. Your main concern need not be the length, but that you state clearly to the faculty what you wish them to know about you, what you believe is important in reference to your potential academic, scientific, artistic, and/or literary pursuits in the College of Creative Studies.

Please note: CCS faculty will not see how you responded to the personal insight questions on the UC app, so please include all information that you would like the faculty to know in your letter of intent.

What is required as “Supplemental Application Materials”?

Answer: In all nine majors, CCS seeks students who are committed to creating new knowledge – original research/creative work – in some form. Therefore we seek evidence of your aptitude and commitment in your application. This varies with the major to which you are applying. (Please refer to the [CCS application instructions](#) for the specifics for each major).

There is only one line to list my score for each section of the SAT/ACT - what if I have taken the SAT/ACT more than once?

Answer: Please list the scores from the best single sitting.

How will I find out whether or not I’ve been accepted to CCS?

Answer: We will notify you via email of the decision made about your CCS admission or denial. If you are a freshman applicant, you will receive an admissions decision via email in late March after UCSB admissions decisions are released to the UCSB Admissions Portal. If you are a current UCSB student, it may be at least one full month, or more, after our receipt of your complete application that we are able to notify you of the outcome. Please be patient; your application is important to us.

Do College of Creative Studies students have special or separate housing facilities from other UCSB students?

Answer: Yes, if desired and available, but not required. There is a “CCS LLC” (presently in Santa Rosa) in the UCSB residence halls. It houses about 50-60% of incoming first year CCS students. You are not required to house with other CCS students. Some CCS freshmen choose to live in one of the on-campus residence halls that are right next to the CCS Building for increased convenience, and others choose to live in UCSB-off campus housing.

Does the College of Creative Studies offer financial aid or scholarships?

Answer: No. CCS does not offer financial aid or scholarships.

For all other questions regarding [Financial Aid](#) please visit their website. If you are a Regents Scholarship recipient and have questions, please contact the [UCSB Office of Admissions](#).

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