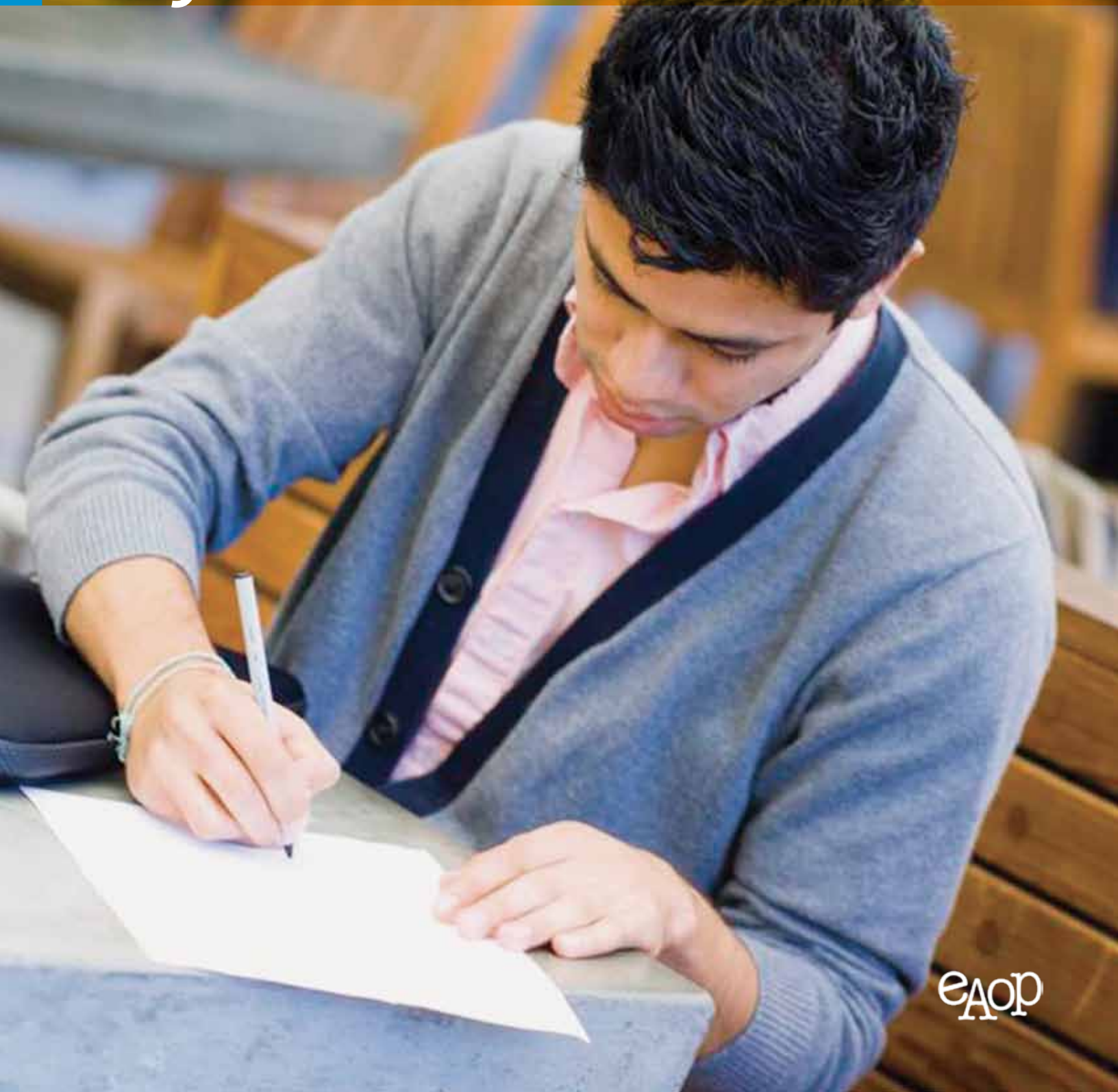


Where preparation meets opportunity.

# My Academic Planner



Follow this 4-step plan to prepare for admission to the University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) and many independent colleges with similar requirements.

## 1 Know the admission requirements.

**Subject Requirement: Complete a specific pattern of 15 “a-g” courses.** The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) require that you take 15 college-preparatory courses in the “a-g” subject areas. UC also requires that 11 “a-g” courses be completed by the end of the 11th grade. To satisfy a subject requirement, you must attain a “C” or better in each course. To count toward the requirement, classes must be listed on your school’s Doorways course list: <https://doorways.ucop.edu/list>. If you took courses at another school, be sure to check that school’s course list, too.

**Scholarship Requirement: Obtain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 for UC, 2.0 for CSU.**

**Examination Requirement: Take the ACT with Writing or SAT Reasoning Test.** For UC admission, take the ACT with Writing or SAT Reasoning Test by December of your senior year; 11th grade is preferable. CSU requires test scores unless you have a grade point average above 3.0 and you are a California resident. CSU accepts either the ACT or SAT.

*Note: The SAT Subject Tests are NOT required for UC, but certain programs on some campuses recommend them, and you can use Subject Tests to satisfy the “a-g” requirements listed previously. It’s best to take the Subject Tests right after you finish your course work in that subject.*

## 2 Understand the UC Admissions Index and the CSU Eligibility Index.

The UC Admissions Index and the CSU Eligibility Index consist of a combination of your GPA and your exam scores. The higher your GPA, the lower your total exam scores can be; the lower your GPA, the higher your exam scores must be.

## 3 Create your 4-year plan.

**Track courses, grades, exams, and activities.** Write down the courses and exams you take and the grades and scores you receive each year. Also, record leadership activities, employment, awards, and anything you will later use in your college application and personal statement.

**Note Advanced Placement (AP) and honors courses and grades.** Mark this section on your planner if your class has a gold star on Doorways.

## 4 Adjust your plan each year.

Monitor your progress by making sure that you take at least the minimum courses to be eligible for UC/CSU. Compare your completed coursework and required exams to the benchmarks for each grade level. Adjust your plan as needed with the help of your EAOP advisor. You might need to take summer school classes, increase your academic course load, or take a community college course.

# a-g

## REQUIREMENTS

The path to college begins with high school coursework. For example, to be considered for UC admission, at a minimum you need to complete any 11 UC approved “a-g” courses by the end of junior year (including courses taken in the summer between junior and senior year) each with a grade of “C” or better. In all, you need to complete 15 courses by the end of senior year.

*Note: these are minimum requirements; in the fall of 2010, freshmen who were admitted to UC had completed an average of 23 courses.*

### **a** History/ Social Science 2 YEARS

- 1 year World History, Geography, or Cultures
- 1 year of U.S. History or ½ year U.S. History and ½ year American Government

### **b** English 4 YEARS

- 9<sup>th</sup> English       11<sup>th</sup> English
- 10<sup>th</sup> English     12<sup>th</sup> English

### **c** Mathematics 3 YEARS, 4 RECOMMENDED

- Algebra I or Integrated Math I     Geometry or Integrated Math II
- Algebra II, Algebra II/Trig, or Integrated Math III

### **d** Laboratory Science 2 YEARS, 3 RECOMMENDED

- 1 year of Biology, Chemistry, or Physics
- 1 year of other science

### **e** Language other than English 2 YEARS, 3 RECOMMENDED

- Language I       Language II

### **f** Visual and Performing Arts 1 YEAR

- Arts of your choice

### **g** College Prep (AP) Elective 2 SEMESTERS

- Elective of your choice     Elective of your choice

# 9<sup>th</sup> grade

#### Recommended courses:

- 9<sup>th</sup> grade English
- Algebra 1 or higher-level
- World History, Geography or Cultures

#### Minimum requirements:

- 9<sup>th</sup> grade English
- Algebra I
- One “a-g”

#### and at least one:

- Language other than English
- Laboratory Science
- Visual and Performing Arts
- AP Elective

#### Recommended tests:

- ACT EXPLORE exam, if available

#### Courses for the year:

Honors    Grade  
                 1<sup>st</sup>    2<sup>nd</sup>

**a** \_\_\_\_\_

**b** \_\_\_\_\_

**c** \_\_\_\_\_

**d** \_\_\_\_\_

**e** \_\_\_\_\_

**f** \_\_\_\_\_

**g** \_\_\_\_\_

#### AP/ACT Explore Exam(s):

Grade

_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>

#### Activities/Honors:

\_\_\_\_\_

# 10<sup>th</sup> grade

## Recommended courses:

- 10<sup>th</sup> grade English
- Geometry or higher-level
- Laboratory Science

and at least two:

- History
- Language other than English
- Visual and Performing Arts
- AP Elective(s)

## Recommended tests:

- PSAT and/or ACT EXPLORE exams, if available

## Minimum accumulative requirements:

- 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> English
- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Four "a-g's"

## Courses for the year:

Honors Grade

1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

## AP/PSAT/ACT Explore Exam(s):

Grade

_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>

## Activities/Honors:

\_\_\_\_\_

# 11<sup>th</sup> grade

## Recommended courses:

- 11<sup>th</sup> grade English
- Algebra II or higher-level
- Laboratory Science
- U.S. History
- Language other than English

## Recommended tests:

- PSAT for NMSQT eligibility
- SAT Reasoning and 2 Subjects and/or ACT with writing

## Other:

- Draft and revise personal statement for college application

## Minimum accumulative requirements:

- 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> English
- Algebra I and II
- Geometry
- Laboratory Science
- Language other than English
- History or Social Science
- Six "a-g's"

## Courses for the year:

Honors Grade

1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

## AP/PSAT/ACT/SAT Exam(s):

Grade

_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>

## Activities/Honors:

\_\_\_\_\_

# 12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Recommended courses:**

- 12<sup>th</sup> grade English
  - Pre-Calculus or advanced math
  - American Government or Civics
- and at least one:
- Laboratory Science
  - Language other than English
  - Visual and Performing Arts
  - College Prep (AP) elective

**Other:**

- Retake SAT/ACT as necessary
- Apply to colleges broadly: include selective and safety schools
- UC application period: Nov. 1–30

**Minimum accumulative requirements:**

- 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> English
- Algebra I and II
- Geometry
- 2 Laboratory Sciences
- 2 Language other than English
- 2 History or Social Sciences
- Arts
- Seven “a–g’s”

**Courses for the year:**

	Honors	Grade	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
a _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**AP/ACT/SAT Exam(s):**

	Grade
_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="text"/>

**Activities/Honors:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Monitor your progress by making sure that you take at least the minimum courses to be eligible for UC/CSU. Compare your completed coursework and required exams to the benchmarks for each grade level.

## UC Admissions Index

The UC Admissions Index is used to determine if you are in the top 9 percent of California high school graduates. The Admissions Index is calculated on your grade point average (GPA) and your test scores. If you are eligible and you're not admitted to any UC campus to which you apply, you'll be offered a spot at another campus if space is available.

Use the link provided below to access UC's online admissions index calculator.

## CSU Eligibility Index

The Eligibility Index Table shows the combination of test scores and grade point averages required to meet minimum eligibility requirements. The CSU does not use the SAT Writing section or the ACT Writing score to calculate the CSU Eligibility Index.

Use the link provided below to access CSU's online eligibility index calculator.

## Resources

The following internet resources will help you complete your planner, move your planner online, and prepare for college.

**University of California (UC):**

[www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions)

**California State University (CSU):**

[www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu)

**California Community Colleges:**

[www.cccapply.org](http://www.cccapply.org)

**Online planner and general college and financial aid information:**

<http://californiacolleges.edu>

**Doorways "a-g" course lists:**

<https://doorways.ucop.edu/list>

**General college and financial aid information:**

<http://californiacolleges.edu>

**Online calculators:**

For the UC Preliminary Admissions Calculator visit

[www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/california-residents/admissions-index](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/california-residents/admissions-index)

For CSU visit

[www.csumentor.edu/planning/high\\_school/elig\\_index\\_calculator.asp](http://www.csumentor.edu/planning/high_school/elig_index_calculator.asp)

For further information regarding EAOP, please visit: [www.eaop.org](http://www.eaop.org)



Admission requirements to the University of California and the California State University are subject to change. The information included in this publication is based on the most current information available at the time of publication. This publication is designed to be used by EAOP advisors. EAOP is not responsible for advising conducted by other persons who may use this planner. Completion of the planner does not guarantee admission to the University of California or other colleges and universities.

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<sup>1</sup> Pregnancy includes pregnancy, childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth.

<sup>2</sup> Service in the uniformed services includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services.