

Applicants will qualify for regular (non-provisional) admission when the university verifies that they have graduated and received a high school diploma, have earned a qualifiable minimum eligibility index, have completed the comprehensive pattern of college preparatory “a-g” subjects and, if applying to an impacted program or campus, have met all supplementary criteria.

The CSU uses only the ACT composite score, the ***mathematics and critical reading scores on the old SAT, or the mathematics and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing scores on the new SAT*** in its admission eligibility equation. The SAT or ACT writing scores are not currently used by CSU campuses.

Subject requirements. The CSU requires that first-time freshman applicants complete, with grades of C- or better, a comprehensive pattern of college preparatory study totaling 15 units. A “unit” is one year of study in high school.

- 2 years of social science, including 1 year of U.S. history, or U.S. history and government
- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math (algebra, geometry and intermediate algebra; four years recommended)
- 2 years of laboratory science (1 biological & 1 physical, both must have laboratory instruction)
- 2 years in the same foreign language (subject to waiver for applicants demonstrating equivalent competence)
- 1 year of visual and performing arts: art, dance, drama/theater or music
- 1 year of electives: selected from English, advanced mathematics, social science, history, laboratory science, foreign language, visual and performing arts or other courses approved and included on the UC/CSU “a-g” list

Transfer Requirements

Applicants who have completed fewer than 60 transferable semester college units (fewer than 90 quarter units) are considered lower-division transfer students. Applicants who have completed 60 or more transferable semester college units (90 or more quarter units) are considered upper-division transfer students. Applicants who complete college units during high school or through the summer immediately following high school graduation are considered first-time freshmen and must meet the CSU minimum eligibility requirements for first-time freshmen admission. Transferable courses are those designated for baccalaureate credit by the college or University offering the courses and accepted as such by the campus to which the applicant seeks admission.

Lower-Division Transfer Requirements. Due to increased enrollment demands, most CSU campuses do not admit lower-division transfer applicants.

Generally, applicants will qualify for CSU admission consideration as a lower-division transfer if they have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 in all transferable units attempted, are in good standing at the last college or university attended, and meet any of the following standards:

1. Will meet the freshman admission requirements (GPA and subject requirements) in effect for the term to which they are applying (see “Freshman Requirements”); or
2. Were eligible as a freshman at the time of high school graduation except for missing college preparatory subject requirements, have been in continuous attendance in an accredited college since high school graduation, and have made up the missing subject requirements with a 2.0 or better GPA.

Applicants who graduated from high school prior to 1988 should contact the admission office to inquire about alternative admission programs.

1. Lower-division applicants who did not complete subject requirements while in high school may make up missing subjects in any of the following ways: Complete appropriate courses with a C- or better in adult school or high school summer sessions.
2. Complete appropriate college courses with a C- or better. One college course of at least three semester or four quarter units will be considered equivalent to one year of high school study.
3. Earn acceptable scores on specified examinations, e.g., SAT subject tests.

Please consult with the CSU campus admission office to which you are applying for further information about alternative ways to satisfy the subject requirements.

Upper-Division Transfer Requirements. Generally, applicants will qualify for consideration for upper-division transfer admission if they meet all of the following requirements:

1. Cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 in all transferable units attempted; For impacted campuses such as Fresno State, this GPA is higher. See calstate.edu/apply for further information.