

UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA
MERCED

WELCOME TO UC MERCED



my.ucmerced.edu
the next step to building your future

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Dear Bobcat,

I want to take a moment to personally congratulate you on your admission to the University of California, Merced.

This year, we received more than 25,000 applications, making our entering class the most selective to date. I want to commend you for your accomplishment in being selected to be part of this distinguished group of scholars.

UC Merced's increasing renown has not only been reflected in the excellence of our student body but also by regional, national and international recognition. In 2016, only ten years after admitting our first class of undergraduate students, the campus became the 107th university in the United States (out of 3,026 universities) to earn a prestigious R2 designation from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, based on the high level of research produced by our distinguished faculty.

Once you arrive on campus, you will be immersed in the culture and opportunities that exist as a part of a premier research university and I look forward to seeing the innovations and achievements with which you and your colleagues will make your own unique mark on our institution.

Your academic experience at UC Merced will also be complemented by the vibrant and immersive student-focused environment on campus. With more than 200 clubs and organizations, opportunities exist to support nearly every interest and students just like you are creating new opportunities for engagement with each passing year.

I encourage you to become immediately involved in the wealth of opportunities during your time here at UC Merced because, beyond the strong correlation between student engagement and student success, the friends and experiences you gain as part of your collegiate experience will shape your future for years to come.

I am tremendously honored that you have chosen to be a UC Merced Bobcat and I look forward with great enthusiasm to welcoming you to our campus and community.

Go Bobcats!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CNies', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

CHARLES NIES
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

#IWILLATUCM

Welcome to UC Merced

We are so pleased you have decided to enroll at UC Merced! The following information will help guide you through the next few months and ensure you are prepared for the start of the 2017-18 academic year.

Students First Center

studentsfirst.ucmerced.edu

The Students First Center (SFC) is UC Merced's one-stop shop for enrollment services. Students, staff, faculty members, and guests can contact the SFC for assistance with Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar and Summer Session services.

How Can I Access Students First Center Services?

- PHONE:** 209-228-7178 (CATS-1ST)
EMAIL: studentsfirst@ucmerced.edu
IN PERSON: Kolligian Library, Room 122
WEB: studentsfirst.ucmerced.edu
CHAT: Monday – Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m., and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Voicemails and emails will receive a response in 24 to 48 hours, except on holidays and weekends.

IT All Starts Here MORE INFORMATION: it.ucmerced.edu

UC Merced Email Account

it.ucmerced.edu/security/use-of-email-for-official-communications-with-students/

You will be provided with a UC Merced email account after you submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR). Your email address will be your UCMNetID followed by @ucmerced.edu. Once logged in to the **My.UCMerced.edu** portal, access your email by selecting the webmail icon in the upper right-hand corner. It is important to check the account regularly, as campus policy states, "University officials may use email messages and attachments as official means of communication with UC Merced students in connection with the student's education or with the provision of services to the students."

Responsibilities

Pursuant to this policy, all UC Merced students are responsible for taking the following actions:

- ▶ Activating their university-assigned email account, preferably upon expressing their intent to register or as soon thereafter as possible.
- ▶ Accessing all information sent to their university-assigned email account.
- ▶ Managing their university-assigned computing and email accounts.

A student may opt to forward university email communications to a different account. In those instances, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that all information sent to their official university-assigned email account, including attachments, is properly forwarded to that other email account.

My.UCMerced.edu

The **My.UCMerced.edu** student portal is designed to help you navigate through your life as a student at UC Merced. Your portal provides updated, secure, 24-hour access to comprehensive information, including Financial Aid, Admissions, registration, records and more.

STUDENT SERVICES FOUND IN YOUR PORTAL

- ▶ **MyFinancialAid** will link you to your individual student awards as well as student requirements.
- ▶ **MyAdmissions** will link you to any outstanding Conditions of Admission you need to fulfill.
- ▶ **MyBill** will link you to your student account, where you can manage payments and much more.

Visit **My.UCMerced.edu** to explore all of the services available.

Acceptable Use Policy

it.ucmerced.edu/aup

The first time you logged in to the **My.UCMerced.edu** portal, you were asked to read and agree to the terms of the Information Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy. In case you didn't read the terms before checking the box, we'd like to remind you that you are required to abide by all associated state and federal laws and adhere to university policies when connected to the UC Merced network, or when using any of the university's network-based tools and resources. Although we recommend you review the terms at the link above, here is a highlight of the items you should be most aware of: No illegal sharing of copyrighted or licensed materials, no unauthorized use of university systems, no stalking, no spamming, and no use of university network resources for commercial gain.



PERSONALIZED CHECKLIST

Student Checklist

Please Note: Requirements listed in your checklist may not include all items you need to complete. For a comprehensive list of campus dates and deadlines visit: <http://studentsfirst.ucmerced.edu/deadlines-and-calendars>

Requirement	Status	Office	Academic Year	Deadline
 Authorization to Share Information with Parents	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	
 Award Terms and Conditions	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	
 Dependent Verification Worksheet	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	01-JUN-16
 Photocopy of parent(s) W-2 forms	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	01-JUN-16
 Student federal income tax transcript	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	01-JUN-16
 Title IV Authorizations Sheet	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	
 Verification Process	Unsatisfied	Financial Aid	2016-17	
 Parent(s) Federal Income Tax Transcript	Tax Data Linked from IRS	Financial Aid	2016-17	
 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	Received/Reviewed or Processed	Financial Aid	2016-17	

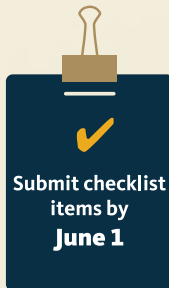
SAMPLE

REQUIREMENTS THAT NEED TO BE COMPLETED WILL BE IDENTIFIED AND LINKED TO

CHECK TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE RECEIVED YOUR OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS AND TEST SCORES

As a new student, there are a number of steps you need to complete before you get to campus. Your personalized checklist, found in your portal, will guide you through this process.

Note: Each student will have different Financial Aid, Admissions, registration and residency requirements that will need to be fulfilled.



Financial Aid and Scholarships

MORE INFORMATION: financialaid.ucmerced.edu

If you **did not** submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):

- ▶ Aid may still be available even though the March 2 deadline has passed.
- ▶ All students will be considered for federal grants and loans throughout the year.
- ▶ Contact our office for assistance.
- ▶ Our school code is 041271.

If you **did** submit a FAFSA, or if you qualify under the California Dream Act and you submitted a California Dream Act application:

- ▶ Confirm that you have included UC Merced's school code (041271) on your FAFSA or California Dream Act application.
- ▶ If UC Merced's school code was listed, log in to the **My.UCMerced.edu** student portal to view requirements or awards. **If you do not see any awards, call the Students First Center at 209-228-7178 for assistance.**

Notification

- ▶ The first notification regarding your financial aid status will be via paper letter; all remaining notifications will be via email.
- ▶ You may receive multiple emails from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships as you move through each step of the process.
- ▶ It is important to respond promptly to email communications.

My.UCMerced.edu Student Portal

REQUIREMENTS:

- ▶ Log in to **My.UCMerced.edu**.
- ▶ Your requirements will be listed in your personalized checklist.
- ▶ Some requirements will be linked to the form that needs to be completed, and others will have instructions.
- ▶ The requested documents must be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships by the deadline listed on your MyChecklist, or your awards will be subject to cancellation.

AWARDS:

- ▶ Log in to **My.UCMerced.edu**.
 - Choose "MyFinancialAid" in the Student Services section.
 - Select "Accept/Decline Awards."
 - Select "2017-2018 Award Year."
 - All grants and scholarship awards will be accepted for you.
 - You will need to choose which loans or work opportunities you'd like to accept, if applicable.
- ▶ Students who are required to complete the verification process will be able to accept/decline loans and work opportunities once that process is complete.
- ▶ If you would like to apply for a loan, detailed instructions are available at financialaid.ucmerced.edu/types-aid/loans.
- ▶ If your parent would like to apply for a Parent PLUS Loan, he or she can visit financialaid.ucmerced.edu/how-plus-loan for instructions.

Disbursement of Financial Aid

- ▶ Financial aid is generally offered for an academic year, which consists of two semesters.
- ▶ Equal amounts are made available each semester as long as you remain eligible.
- ▶ Award amounts are based on your eligibility at the time of disbursement.
- ▶ In general, you must be enrolled in at least 12 units, have submitted all required documents and accepted all aid.

Checklist

- ▶ Complete the FAFSA (or California Dream Act application for those who qualify under the California Dream Act) and make sure that UC Merced's school code (041271) is listed.
- ▶ Check your email and view your financial aid status by visiting **My.UCMerced.edu**.
- ▶ Turn in all requested documents in a timely manner, and no later than June 1, 2017. Many of these documents (tax transcripts, income statements, etc.) will need to come from a parent.
- ▶ If the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) awarded you a Cal Grant, make sure that UC Merced is listed as the school that you are attending on the California Aid Report (CAR). You can contact CSAC at 888-224-7268 or mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/logon.asp.
- ▶ Make sure you notify the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships of any outside aid you will be receiving (e.g., outside scholarships). You can do this in the MyFinancialAid section of **My.UCMerced.edu**.
- ▶ If you have questions, email the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at fnaid@ucmerced.edu or call the Students First Center at 209-228-7178.



New Student Orientation

MORE INFORMATION: orientation.ucmerced.edu

Attendance at this one-day event is required for all new students. Attending Orientation will provide you with the opportunity to explore resources, build relationships, reflect upon goals and learn more about what it means to be a Bobcat! Register as soon as possible, because dates fill quickly. All reservations made after the deadline will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, visit orientation.ucmerced.edu. Your parents and supporters are also encouraged to attend the special program we have planned for them. Encourage them to register in advance, so we can welcome them to the Bobcat family.

New Transfer Students:

We encourage you to register for the Orientation date(s) we have designed specifically for you. Please check our website for more information.

Are you traveling from a distance?

You can get the full UC Merced experience by making arrangements to stay in a residence hall on campus. For rates and information, contact the Office of Housing and Residence Life at 209-228-4663.

Conditions of Admission

MORE INFORMATION: admissions.ucmerced.edu/admitted

The Office of Admissions admitted you to UC Merced with a set of conditions that must be met to ensure that admission offer will remain intact.

THE STANDARD CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION FOR FIRST YEAR AND TRANSFER STUDENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- ▶ Earn grades of C or better, or what is required by selection, in all courses listed on your application.
- ▶ Notify the Office of Admissions immediately of any changes to the courses that were reported on your application and subsequent communications or updates, including the Transfer Academic Update.
- ▶ First year students must complete all requirements for admission by their high school graduation date. Transfer students must complete all requirements for admission by the end of the last regular term before entrance to UC Merced.
- ▶ Ensure that final official transcripts from high schools and all higher education institutions you attended are submitted to the Office of Admissions. These transcripts must be postmarked or electronically submitted on or before July 1 for fall 2017 admitted students, and Jan. 6, 2018, for spring 2018 admitted students.
- ▶ All test scores must be submitted to the Office of Admissions by July 15 for fall 2017 admitted students, and Jan. 6, 2018, for spring 2018 admitted students.
- ▶ If enrolled in summer session prior to fall entrance, the official end date of the summer term must be prior to the first day of the UC Merced term. Notify the Office of Admissions immediately if you enroll in a summer term.
- ▶ Adhere to the UC Merced student code of conduct: studentconduct.ucmerced.edu/sites/studentconduct.ucmerced.edu/files/page/documents/code_of_conduct_600_and_700.pdf

*If admitted to UC Merced for spring 2018, the deadline for receipt of official information is Jan. 6, 2018, and your fall 2017 term must end prior to Jan. 1, 2018.

Tip for Entering First Year Students

1. First year students must meet the Entry Level Writing Requirement within their first year at UC Merced. If you take the Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE), offered on May 13, the AWPE checklist item will show as “Passed” or “Not Passed” when we receive your score. If you pass the examination, the ELWR will be marked “Satisfied.” If your ELWR is “Unsatisfied,” you can visit the UC Merced General Catalog at catalog.ucmerced.edu/content.php?catoid=2&navoid=51.edu/admitted and select “Entry-Level Writing Requirement” for options to satisfy the requirement.

Tip for Entering Transfer Students

1. **HIGH SCHOOL RECORDS** – Some are recommended, others are required.
 - a. If you reported AP or IB examinations passed with acceptable scores on your application, it is recommended that you have your official test scores sent to the Office of Admissions as a condition of your admission. If AP exams appear on your MyChecklist, they are required, and you must contact the appropriate testing agency immediately to have your official scores sent to the Office of Admissions.
 - b. Final, official high school transcripts are recommended for transfer students. However, they can be helpful, if received: At UC Merced, high school courses passed with grades of C or better may be used to meet graduation requirements in American History and Institutions and in Foreign Language.



Student Business & Campus Cashiering Services

MORE INFORMATION: sbs.ucmerced.edu and cashier.ucmerced.edu

Deferred Payment Plan (DPP)

Will you owe more than \$500 after financial aid, if any, is applied to your account? If so, consider enrolling in the Deferred Payment Plan (DPP). The DPP offers the option to pay registration fees and on-campus housing costs (if applicable) in four monthly installments per semester. To qualify for the DPP, you must owe more than \$500 after authorized financial aid is taken into consideration. Enrollment is made through the MyBill website.

The first installment is 25 percent of the current term balance. The remaining installments are 25 percent each. There is a \$40 participation fee per semester.

Payment Methods

- ▶ **Online** – Credit card and eCheck payments are accepted.
- ▶ **In Person** – Cash, checks and money orders are accepted.
- ▶ **Mail** – Checks and money orders are accepted.
- ▶ **Balances not paid by the payment deadline** are subject to a \$50 late fee.

Electronic Refunds (EFT)

You should sign up for electronic refunds if you are expecting a refund. Once enrollment is complete, future refunds will be transferred electronically to the bank account of your choice. Those funds will be accessible in one to three business days. Students enrolled in EFT do not have to stand in line to pick up their refund checks. Students can sign up for EFT through the **My.UCMerced.edu** student portal.

Campus Store

MORE INFORMATION: bookstore.ucmerced.edu

UC Merced students have many options for acquiring textbooks.

RESERVE YOUR TEXTBOOKS ONLINE:

Visit bookstore.ucmerced.edu, find “Course Books” and click on “Textbooks.” Here, you will find instructions on how to reserve your textbooks. Log in to the **My.UCMerced.edu** student portal and select MyRegistration, then select “View Books” to load all your courses on the Campus Store website so you can begin reserving your books.

RENT YOUR TEXTBOOKS:

The Campus Store offers a textbook rental program at a fraction of the purchase price. Call 209-228-2665 for more information.

PAY FOR YOUR TEXTBOOKS:

You have the option of paying for textbooks using either your Cat Dollars or Student Account. For information, visit the FAQ on the Campus Store website.

PURCHASE ELECTRONICS AT EDUCATIONAL DISCOUNTS:

The Campus Store is an authorized Apple reseller and sells laptops, iPads and Apple accessories. You also can buy discounted technology from Dell and Microsoft, and trade in your devices for credit at the store.

Be sure to stop by during New Student Orientation and stock up on UC Merced spirit gear!

Transportation & Parking Services (TAPS)

MORE INFORMATION: taps.ucmerced.edu

Thinking about bringing your car? Are you going to be a resident student?

- ▶ Off-campus parking is limited for resident students.
- ▶ You must also apply for an off-campus parking permit during the summer.
- ▶ Visit the TAPS website for application and parking permit information.

Transit – Use our Gas...Not Yours!

- ▶ Ride the Bus! Visit the TAPS website for bus schedules and route information.
- ▶ TAPS is pleased to offer Zipcar, an alternative transportation program available to our campus community. The car-sharing program offers safe and convenient transportation options to students, faculty and staff members.
- ▶ Zimride, a carpooling service, is a friendly and economical way to get to work! For more information, visit the TAPS website.



Disability Services

MORE INFORMATION: disabilityservices.ucmerced.edu

In order to ensure equal access to all of UC Merced's academic programs and activities, students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office at 209-228-6996 as soon as possible to initiate the accommodation process.

Jobs at UC Merced

MORE INFORMATION: hire.ucmerced.edu

Working on campus while at UC Merced can be the first step in building professional skills, discovering a new passion, and making lasting friendships. Your search will begin at hire.ucmerced.edu. At the bottom of the page, select CATPAWS for on-campus jobs, or CATLink for off-campus jobs and internships. Most jobs require a resume and cover letter. Please note that once you are hired for on-campus employment, you will need to bring in identifying documents. A complete list of documents is available at uscis.gov/files/form/i-9.pdf. You can email careercenter@ucmerced.edu to ask questions or schedule an appointment with a career specialist.

Health Services

MORE INFORMATION: health.ucmerced.edu

Student Health Insurance

The UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UC SHIP) provides accessible and affordable coverage that protects you from unexpected health care costs that could affect your future success after graduation and beyond.

How does UC SHIP work?

All registered students are automatically enrolled in UC SHIP and charged a health insurance premium on their tuition bill, unless they waive enrollment by showing they have coverage that meets UC's required criteria. Note that not all Covered California plans will meet UC's health insurance benefit requirements. For more information, visit health.ucmerced.edu/insurance.

Can I waive enrollment in UC SHIP coverage?

Yes. You may provide evidence of health coverage through another plan, including those in Covered California with an effective date prior to the UC SHIP coverage start date, and apply to waive enrollment in UC SHIP. To qualify for a waiver, your coverage must meet the benefit criteria established by the University of California. Please visit health.ucmerced.edu/insurance for criteria.

Complete the Waiver Criteria Worksheet (<http://health.ucmerced.edu/waiverworksheet.pdf>) to help you gather the information you will need prior to completing the application.

2017-18 Enrollment and Waiver Deadlines

All registered students will be enrolled in UC SHIP unless a completed waiver application is received prior to the waiver deadline.

SEMESTER	WAIVER OPENS	WAIVER DEADLINE	LATE WAIVER DEADLINE W/\$50 FEE
FALL	May 1, 2017	Aug. 1, 2017	Aug. 9, 2017
SPRING	Nov. 13, 2017	Jan. 8, 2018	Jan. 16, 2018

Applying for a Waiver

Waiver applications can be submitted on the My.UCMerced.edu student portal during the fall or spring waiver periods. A new waiver application must be completed each academic year in the fall.

Using the Student Health and Counseling Services (SHS) After Waiving

All students who pay full registration fees are entitled to SHS services even if they opt out of UC SHIP. However, SHS does not directly bill insurance plans other than UC SHIP.

Be Sure to Remain Covered

Your waiver will be applied to the full academic year or the remainder of the academic year, if you apply during the spring semester. You are required to maintain adequate health insurance throughout the entire academic school year.

If your health coverage is terminated for any reason, contact UC Merced Health Services to enroll in UC SHIP at 209-228-2273 or insurance@ucmerced.edu.

Registering for Courses

You will register for courses online on the **My.UCMerced.edu** student portal prior to attending New Student Orientation. Your advisor will recommend course selections based on your intended major, provide how-to resources for navigating the online system, and alert you to other requirements to ensure you are prepared for registration. You will receive communication from your advisor over the next weeks regarding specific steps to take. For more information on registration, see the Important Dates and Deadlines chart below or contact the Students First Center at 209-228-7178.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES		FALL 2017	SPRING 2018
NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION	At Orientation, you will have the opportunity to explore resources, build relationships, reflect upon goals and learn more about what it means to be a Bobcat!	Registration begins April 22, 2017 Priority registration deadline is June 1	TBD Visit orientation.ucmerced.edu for details.
FINANCIAL AID	Priority Deadline to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act application.	March 2, 2017	March 2, 2017
Complete Requirements	Deadline to submit supporting documents requested by the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships and to complete all online requirements at My.UCMerced.edu .	June 1, 2017	Dec. 1, 2017
Accept/Decline Awards	To officially receive the financial aid package UC Merced has offered you, you must log in to My.UCMerced.edu and accept or decline the award.	After June 1, 2017	After Awarded
STATEMENT OF LEGAL RESIDENCY (SLR)	If this online questionnaire to verify California residency is on your checklist on My.UCMerced.edu , you must submit it.	June 15, 2017	Dec. 15, 2017
COURSE REGISTRATION	Advisor will send welcome communication to your UC Merced email address. Advisor will provide registration resources. You can register for classes online.	March - June 2017 May 15 - June 15, 2017 Begins June 19, 2017	TBD Visit fye.ucmerced.edu for details.
PLACEMENT EXAMS	Must be completed by 4 p.m. Check your UC Merced email for more information.	June 17, 2017	TBD Visit fye.ucmerced.edu for details.
ADMISSIONS	Official transcripts must be postmarked or electronically submitted to the Office of Admissions. Official test scores are due in the Office of Admissions.	July 1, 2017 July 15, 2017	Jan. 6, 2018 Jan. 6, 2018
HEALTH INSURANCE/WAIVER	UC requires all undergraduate students to have health insurance as a non-academic condition of enrollment. If you are already covered by health insurance, it is your responsibility to file a Health Fee Waiver online at My.UCMerced.edu .	Aug. 1, 2017	Jan. 8, 2018
FEE PAYMENT DEADLINE	Tuition and housing fees must be paid at MyBill.UCMerced.edu .	Aug. 16, 2017	Jan. 10, 2018
REQUIRED IMMUNIZATION	If you will not be 19 years old by the first day of instruction, you will need to provide proof of immunization against Hepatitis B. Forms are available at health.ucmerced.edu/immunizations .	Aug. 23, 2017	Jan. 16, 2018
RESERVE TEXTBOOKS	Online textbook reservation begins at bookstore.ucmerced.edu Online textbook reservation closes. Last day to return or sell back textbooks.	June 27, 2017 Aug. 16, 2017 Dec. 15, 2017	Dec. 1, 2017 Jan. 11, 2018 May 4, 2018
HOUSING DATES AND DEADLINES	housing.ucmerced.edu/apply17		
MORE DATES AND DEADLINES	studentsfirst.ucmerced.edu/datesdeadlines		



UC Merced Campus





UCMERCED
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Office of
Admissions

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