

New / Prospective Students

If you are planning to attend UCSB during the 2009-2010 academic year and think that you will need financial assistance, please review the information provided below.

Can I afford a UC education?

The University of California provides a comprehensive explanation of the financial aid process at this web site:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/paying.html>

In particular, we suggest that you access and review the brochure called "Financing Guide for Parents and Students" that is available as a PDF document. This brochure is also available in Spanish.

How do I apply for financial aid at UCSB for 2009-2010?

To begin the process, you will need to complete the 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

- Students applying after March 2 will be considered late applicants and will be offered limited types of aid.
- You are strongly encouraged to apply electronically at www.fafsa.ed.gov. UCSB's federal school code for the FAFSA is 001320. You and your parents can apply now to get your Federal Student Aid PINs which are used to electronically sign the FAFSA.
- Apply for your PIN at <http://www.pin.ed.gov>

When will UCSB tell me how much and what kind of assistance I qualify to receive?

Admitted students received notification of their unofficial aid eligibility to assist them in making their college choice decisions. They received an email and instructions on how to access the "Unofficial Award Letter" through the Admissions Office's website.

No official determination of aid eligibility will be made until admitted students submit their "Statement of Intent to Register" (SIR) to UCSB and until their FAFSA data has been verified.

NOTE: All undergraduate UCSB financial aid applicants are required to apply for a new Cal Grant if they are not already recipients of this award. The Cal Grant Program is administered by the California Student Aid Commission (www.csac.ca.gov). In addition to filing your FAFSA by March 2, 2009, you must also have submitted a *Cal Grant GPA Verification Form* to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) by March 2, 2009.

How do I apply for scholarships from UCSB?

All students that submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year by the March 2 priority deadline are considered for scholarship support. New students tell us about their criteria that might meet specific restricted scholarship requirements when they complete the "Scholarship Opportunities" section in Step 2 of the online 2009-2010 admissions application or the equivalent section of the paper admissions application. In that process, they are asked to review a list of eligibility characteristics and check off those that apply to them. These characteristics remain part of the students' financial aid application records for future years' scholarship consideration.

Because of limited funds, almost all scholarships, including restricted scholarships (e.g., specific backgrounds, academic interests, career objectives, etc.), are awarded to continuing students that have done very well academically at UCSB.

All scholarships administered by the Financial Aid Office are awarded on the basis on need. None are awarded solely on the basis of merit.

How much does it cost to attend UCSB?

The exact cost of attending UCSB will vary from student to student. Generally, however, the total estimated costs for an undergraduate student attending fall, winter, and spring quarters of the 2009-2010 academic year are listed here: [Undergraduate Budget](#)

The total estimated costs for a graduate student attending the Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters of the 2009-2010 academic year are listed here [Graduate Budget](#)

What financial resources are available for international students?

Refer to the sidebar on this web site for additional information on Scholarships for International Students.