

The A - G Subject Requirements

In order to be eligible to attend any school in the University of California (UC) or the California State University (CSU) systems as a freshman, you must take certain classes in high school. These classes are known as the “A-G Subjects:”

A History / Social Science (2 years required)

Two years of history/social science, including one year of world history AND one year of US history, or one-half year of US history AND one-half year of American government.

B English (4 years required)

Four years of college-preparatory English. (One year of EL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement).

C Math (3 years required; 4 years recommended)

Three years of college preparatory mathematics; the minimum pattern is Integrated Math 1, Integrated Math 2, and all other courses with a prerequisite of Algebra 2 or Integrated Math 3 (i.e. EAP Math, Financial Algebra, Finite Math, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, IB Math, or Math Studies).

D Laboratory Science (2 years required; 3/4 years recommended)

Two years of laboratory science in at least two of these three subjects: biology AND chemistry or physics.

E Foreign Language (2 years required; 3/4 years recommended)

Two years of the same language other than English.

F Visual and Performing Arts (1 year required)

A single yearlong visual or performing arts class such as theater, band, choir, visual arts, graphic design, ceramics, photography, history of motion pictures, TV/Video production, or IB Art Design.

G College Preparatory Elective (1 year required/additional recommended)

One or more additional years chosen from "a-f" courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements above (i.e. a 4th year of math, 3rd or 4th year of science, 3rd or 4th year of foreign language, 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of visual or performing arts, or any other “G” approved course such as psychology or economics)

Students must get a “C” or better in each of these classes. Additionally, students will need to complete 11 of the 15 a-g requirements by the end of their junior year to be UC-eligible. Visit the University of California and CSU websites for specific requirements, classes that satisfy each area, and more information. Many private colleges and universities require similar high school classes, be sure to check out these schools’ websites for specific information.