2011 Freshman Admissions to the University of California

Overview

The admissions outcomes reported in the summary below and the accompanying tables are preliminary and focus entirely on admission of freshman applicants. Transfer admissions data will be released later. These data reflect admissions offers as of April 1, 2011. For fall 2011, the University of California has once again implemented a waitlist process to help participating campuses ensure that no seat funded for a California resident goes unfilled. Individual campus admission numbers in this report are subject to change if campuses admit students from their waiting lists. These tables also exclude students who will be admitted to UC Merced through the referral pool. As of early April, more than 16,000 students had received one or more waitlist offers and the University anticipated admitting more than 12,000 students via referral. New totals that incorporate waitlist and referral admits will be distributed with preliminary reports of Statements of Intent to Register in July.

Unless otherwise noted, the universitywide totals in this summary and the tables are "unduplicated," meaning that each student is counted only once. Data provided for individual campuses typically reflect multiple admissions offers; on average, fall 2011 freshman applicants applied to 3.5 UC campuses.

Summary

The fall 2011 University of California freshman admissions cycle took place in a remarkably challenging context that included the largest number of applicants in the University's history (freshman and transfer applications totaling 142,235, compared to 134,029 for fall 2010 and 126,701 for fall 2009), a worsening budget picture, and unfunded over-enrollments on most campuses.

Despite these difficult circumstances, the University has upheld its commitment to access and will offer a place to every UC-eligible California resident freshman applicant. While this was a very competitive year for freshman admission, the preliminary outcomes show that the University has been able to preserve and expand access for California resident students who achieve in spite of disadvantaged circumstances.

A brief summary of the admissions data follows:

The University of California has offered admission to 72,432 applicants for the fall 2011 term (Table 1). The total number of admissions offers represents an increase of approximately 4,100 compared with last year. Over the past three years, admissions offers have kept pace with increases in applications and, as a result, admission *rates* have remained stable. With the exception of UC Riverside—which had unexpectedly high enrollments last year—and UC San Diego—which admitted roughly the same number as last year—all campuses saw increases in the total number of students admitted and maintained or increased admission rates. The fall admissions numbers include 2,300 fall applicants who have been offered admission to the spring term at Berkeley.

The University of California continues to award highest priority in freshman admissions to California resident applicants (Table 2). 81.9 percent of students

offered admission are California residents (59,288). Admissions offers to out-of-state and international students numbered 13,144. While out-of-state and international admissions increased more quickly than did those for California students, UC did admit roughly 500 more California applicants than last year and this number will grow significantly as a result of wait list and referral offers. Because out-of-state students accept their admission offers at lower rates, the University fully expects that the proportion of California residents among enrolling freshmen will well exceed 90 percent.

Universitywide, the proportion and numbers of admitted California resident Latinos and Asian Americans increased, while African American, American Indian, Pacific Islander, and White admitted students are about the same as last year (Table 3). Among underrepresented groups, African Americans gained as a proportion of total California admitted students at five campuses. American Indian students declined slightly on all campuses.

More than half of UC admitted California freshmen come from Southern California and more than a quarter from the San Francisco Bay Area (California Resident Freshman Admits by California Location). The University of California is committed to attracting, admitting and enrolling students from throughout all of California.

Universitywide, UC continues to excel at offering opportunity and access to students from families that have traditionally not enjoyed the benefits of higher education (California Freshman Admit Profile). More than 41 percent of freshman admits come from families where neither parent has a four-year degree, nearly 37 percent come from low-income families and more than 22 percent of admitted students were enrolled in a high school that is in the lower 40 percent of California public high schools, as ranked by the Academic Performance Index (API) score.

A complete set of tables is available at www.ucop.edu/news/factsheets/fall2011adm.html.

Information on UC's new freshman admissions policy, effective for the class entering the University in 2012, is now available at:

http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements/index.html