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**10 TIPS
FOR FILLING OUT
THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA
APPLICATION**

1. You are applying as a freshman applicant regardless of the number of transfer and college units you have. Transfer applicants are those who have graduated high school and have taken college coursework after the summer following high school graduation.
2. You can use the same extracurricular activities list and honors list that you've used for other colleges. However, the UC application collects all of this information on the same page, prompting students to list their honors along with their activities. Additionally, University of California institutions ask for a little bit more information for honors/awards, community service, and work experience. Keep in mind that this additional information requires no more than 1-3 sentences. Your main activity descriptions (the bulk of the text) will go in a separate text box.
3. When manually listing courses, do not put too much thought into the subcategories for each of the A-G requirements. Go with your gut based on the course content.
4. Your transcripts will not be due until AFTER you are admitted and committed to a UC school. On the UC application you certify that all of the information you submit is correct. In the event of an indiscretion, a drop in grades, and/or dropped courses, your offer of admission may be revoked.
5. For the aforementioned reason, accuracy is of the utmost importance. Have a copy of your transcripts with you when you fill out the application.
6. Readers are mainly relying on your application for context. Personal Insight Questions (PIQs) are a good source for relevant information and context. But if you would like to directly speak to something, provide pertinent school program details, or explain a dip in performance, use the Additional Comments sections. The first one appears in the Academic History section and this is where you will provide additional information relative to your academics. The second one is after the PIQs.
7. If you are applying to a professional college or specialty program (i.e. not the College of Letters and Science), make sure you are aware of any additional application requirements that are due after the UC application has been submitted. Examples of these requirements include an additional application, letters of recommendation, a portfolio, an audition, and/or an interview. You are automatically disqualified if you do not submit a complete application. The central admission office does not view your supplemental application, but the professional college/specialty program's admission office may view your UC application.
8. The G requirement ("College-Prep Elective") from the A-Gs could be any AP or IB course, transferable college-level course, or a course that takes you beyond the minimum requirements in any of the A-F categories.
9. Check your spam/junk email box. UC emails are notorious for going into spam and that is not accepted as a reason for missing a deadline or request for additional information.
10. In your PIQs, be authentic and vulnerable. This requires taking time to reflect and understand what motivates/inspires/drives you and why. Also, do not name a specific UC; this does not give you a leg up and you miss out on applying to other UC schools.