



Denied Admission. How to Appeal

Spring 2024

Santa Monica College

Don't wait for the right opportunity: create it.

Not being admitted to your dream university doesn't mean you are not good enough. It's not the end of the road. It just means there are other opportunities for you to take advantage of.

Before you appeal:

Find out: Why you were not admitted

- Units
- GPA
- Major prep
- Minimum university specific course requirements (e.g. Major prep, IGETC,...)
- Other (Impaction)

Find out: Appeal Process

- Letter
- Online Form
- Deadline- Varies by campus (e.g.14 days)

Find out: What can be submitted

- Letters of recommendation
- New transcripts
- Any documentation that can bolster your arguments

UC & CSU Minimum Eligibility: By the end of Spring 2024

UC Minimum

- 60 UC Transferable Units
- *2.4 UC Transferable GPA
 - 2.8 non-resident
- Written Communication
 - Eg. English 1
- Critical Thinking
 - Eg. English 2
- Transferable Math
 - Eg. Math 54
- 4 Courses from at least 2 areas:
 - Arts and Humanities
 - Social Science
 - Biological Science
 - Physical Science

CSU Minimum

- 60 CSU Transferable Units
- *2.0 CSU Transferable GPA
- Written Communication
 - Eg. English 1
- Critical Thinking
 - Eg. English 2
- Transferable Math
 - Eg. Math 54
- Communications
 - Eg. Com St 11
- 30 units from CSU GE

Most Competitive Majors and Schools

Majors


- Psych
- Business
- Communications
- Sociology
- Econ
- STEM: Computer Science, Engineering...

Schools

- UCLA
- UCB
- UCSD
- UCI
- CSULB
- CPSLO
- CPP
- SDS
- CSUF
- CSULA
- San Jose State

- Completion of all major prep is highly recommended for these schools and majors to be competitive.
- UCLA 2023 Admitted Profile: <https://admission.ucla.edu/apply/transfer/transfer-profile>
- Impacted CSU Campuses: <https://www2.calstate.edu/attend/impaction-at-the-csu/Documents/ImpactedProgramsMatrix.pdf>


How to craft an appeal letter:

- Schools are looking for **new and compelling information**
 - What was not already said on the application?
 - Did you have a grade change that you did not report?
 - Academic accomplishment you haven't mentioned?
 - A hardship you did not mention before?
 - It must be relevant at the time you submitted the application, not information from spring 2024.
 - Indicate if there is a trend of improvement
 - Indicate GPA in the last 20-30 units
 - Are you willing to change your major or defer to spring or winter?
 - Do you feel the school miscalculated your GPA or missed something on the application?
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How to craft an appeal letter Continued:

- Get right to the point.
 - You don't have a lot of space and their attention is valuable
 - Start with a couple introductory quick sentences and a strong topic sentence that introduces the new information
- Wrap up nicely
 - End with a couple sentences asking that they reconsider and hope they approve your appeal.





Other things
to include:

If allowed- A short note from each instructor indicating performance this semester

2-3 letter of recommendation from instructors

A copy of all transcripts with fall and winter grades

Evidence of new information if necessary

Until you get a response:



Apply to other schools

Some private schools like ASU and LMU may still accept applicants

Spring 2025 CSU applications are submitted
Aug 1-31

UCR, UCM and UCSC accept in winter & spring. Applications are May-July.



Commit to a school you have been admitted to by the deadline

You don't want to miss the opportunity

CSU Commitment deadlines vary!

UC SIR must be submitted by June 1st



What admission office considers in Appeals

- Reviewed on a case-by-case basis
- Need to have merit/new information
 - New academic and personal information not previously in application
 - Extenuating circumstances
 - Winter/Spring grades and activities not considered
 - If waitlisted, cannot appeal
 - Less than 2% rate of reversal

Waitlist:

- *"For all campuses utilizing a transfer waitlist, the deadline to accept a waitlist invitation is May 15, with the exception of UC Santa Cruz (who gives 7 calendar days to opt in from the date they invite you on the waitlist)...You can accept waitlist offers from multiple campuses, but **you can only accept one offer of admission.**"*
- In the meantime, accept admissions to another school, but know you may lose your deposit if you end up at another school.



UCLA's Waitlist Example

Applicants are **invited** to be on UCLA's waitlist and are identified prior to the release of decisions

Applicants themselves **cannot request** to be placed on the waitlist

Pull from waitlist **if we have room** for certain majors

Cannot predict if students will/will not be offered admission

Opt-in to the waitlist by May 15, 2024



Final Thoughts

Meet with a counselor for help with the process

Pay special attention to the appeals deadline for each school

Apply for spring admissions

You can re-apply in Fall if you wish

Update your FAFSA with correct schools