Congratulations!
Now what...?
Decisions, Decisions

Congratulations! You got into many of your top choice schools! So, where are you going to go?

Narrowing down your choices:

- Visit all campuses you are considering
- Review your financial aid package to see which offers you the best deal
- Research the school’s career center. What opportunities do you have for employment, internships, volunteer experience in your field?
- Do you have opportunities to engage in research as an undergraduate?
Paperwork:

- **CSU:**
  - Send official transcripts from *every* college and university ever attended
    - You will submit your transcripts twice for most CSUs. Once after Fall grades are posted and again after Spring grades are posted. Specific due dates vary by campus, generally they are January 31st and July 15th
    - Request IGETC or CSU GE Breadth certification if you meet the requirements
  - Send AP, IB, SAT, ACT, or CLEP scores as **needed with final official transcripts**
  - Submit statement of intent to register to your transfer institution (should be only one school). Deadlines vary by campus; May 1st to June 1st
    - Deposit will be required
    - Sign up for a New Student Orientation!
  - AA-T or AS-T verification forms due mid March (dates vary every year, check the academic calendar). Turn in to Enrollment Services at COM
Paperwork:

- **UC:**
  - Update your UC application online by January 31st
    - UC Berkeley requires the UC Academic Update as well as their own update through your MyBerkeleyApp account by Jan 31st
  - UC Notice of Admissions sent out between March 1st and April 30th
  - Read Notice of Admissions very carefully! Important information and deadlines are in the notice.
  - Submit State of Intent to Register by June 1st!
  - Submit all final transcripts from *every* college and university ever attended (including IGETC certification if applicable) by July 1st
  - All other documents and exam scores (for example, AP), due July 15th
    - Don’t forget high school transcripts if you are using high school coursework to fulfill the foreign language requirement!
  - Sign up for a New Student Orientation
Paperwork:

- Other information UCs and CSUs may require:
  - High School transcripts (for the foreign language requirement)
  - Immunization records
  - Health insurance information

- You only need to send what was requested by the institution. Check your email and To-Do list through your student accounts regularly.

- Read all emails, notices, and messages CAREFULLY and COMPLETELY for information about what to submit and when.
How to order COM official transcripts:

Log into your student portal. Under your student tab, click on “Order Official Transcript”

Make sure your browser allows pop ups
How to order COM official transcripts:

This is the new window that will pop up.

To begin, click on “Start My Order” (indicated by the red arrow)

Follow all prompts until you get to the end and receive your confirmation.

Important: Under the “Order Options” screen, request that transcripts be sent after final grades have been posted.

Your first two regular order transcripts will be free. After that, they will be $6 per copy.
How to order COM official transcripts:

If you need IGETC or CSU certification, from the first screen “Ordering Overview” click for more information and to access the Request for Certification form.
Graduate from COM

- Petition for a degree with Enrollment Services at COM
  - While not necessary to transfer, many transfer students meet degree requirements
  - Every year, mid March is when the deadline will be to submit your petition to graduate
  - Make an appointment with your counselor for help in completing the applications
- Submit application to participate in graduation ceremony - due every year in mid March
- Register for the Transfer Recognition Reception in the Transfer and Career Center
Maintain good academic standing

- Notify the admissions office immediately if:
  - You are unable to register for a course that was listed on your application for Spring
  - You fail to complete a course with a passing grade
  - It will be better to work with them early on rather than risk having your offer of admission revoked once they receive your final transcript
Preparing to go:

- Sign up for a New Student Orientation
- Consider Summer programs
  - Earn credit and get familiar with your new campus
- Look for a bank branch near your school. Consider switching banks if there isn’t one
- Search for employment if needed
  - If eligible for work study, secure your on campus job ASAP! They get taken quickly.
Preparing to go:

- Financial Aid
  - Don’t let money hold you back once you begin at your new school. Make sure all financial aid is in order and ready to go by the time you start.
  - Apply for scholarships, check out the resources in the Transfer and Career Center for assistance
  - Many students don’t know that they can appeal their financial aid awards. If you feel you may be qualified for more aid, ask!
  - Thinking about taking out a loan? Get a good idea of what you are signing up for by calculating your loan repayments with the Repayment Estimator
  - Compare your financial aid packages to see which school offers you the best deal
# UC Berkeley’s Financial Aid Appeal Form

## Financial Aid and Scholarships Office
2014-2015

**STUDENT BUDGET APPEAL**

Budget appeals must be submitted by the following dates: fall only students - December 9, 2014; All others - May 1, 2015. Please note that Direct Loans are available only if the federal funds requirements, including the Master Promissory Note, Entrance Counseling and Parent PLUS Loan Application are completed by the following dates:

- Fall only: Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan - November 30, 2014; Parent PLUS: October 31, 2014
- Fall/Spring or Spring only: Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan - April 30, 2015; Parent PLUS: March 30, 2015

### Type of Allowances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Allowances</th>
<th>Amount Included in Standard</th>
<th>Allowable Additional Expenses</th>
<th>Maximum Budget</th>
<th>Documentation Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Rent, Mortgage, Utilities (MC)</td>
<td>US $790/month - $7,722/Academic year</td>
<td>Actual expense above the standard budget allowance up to: Family Housing: $15,985/academic year. Not in Family Housing: $1,024/academic year.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Copy of a signed lease. If rent is not shared equally, you must provide documentation of your share (if married, net unit will be split equally).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Residency Hall Fee (MC)</td>
<td>$2,444.46/yr</td>
<td>Actual expense above the standard budget allowance up to: Off-Campus: $1,500 (commuting/trips home combined). Living with relatives: $1,950 (not in family housing). On-Campus: $600 (trips home) and $300 (commuting to and from work).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Transportation (MC)</td>
<td>Off-Campus: $80/month - $960/Academic yr; Living with relatives: $125/month - $1,495/Academic yr; On-Campus: $650/semester - $3,200/Academic yr.</td>
<td>Off-Campus: $1,500 (commuting/trips home combined). Living with relatives: $950 (not in family housing). On-Campus: $600 (trips home) and $300 (commuting to and from work).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Cost of a Personal Computer (KDP to KDD): Cost of CPU, monitor, required peripherals not included</td>
<td>You may only request a budget increase for a computer purchase once every three academic years.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Necessary Medical/Dental Expenses</td>
<td>Not included</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Children’s Expenses (MC)</td>
<td>Off-Campus: $259/month - $3,055/academic yr; Living with relatives: $85/month - $930/academic yr; On-Campus: $259/semester - $1,295/academic yr.</td>
<td>Off-Campus: $1,500 (commuting/trips home combined). Living with relatives: $1,950 (not in family housing). On-Campus: $600 (trips home) and $300 (commuting to and from work).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) Special Books &amp; Supplies (KDD)</td>
<td>Off-Campus: $300/academic yr (Includes textbooks, lab supplies, and necessary travel expenses).</td>
<td>Actual expense above the standard budget allowance.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Copy of billing statement/receipts, including cost, date, and type of investment. The billing statement/estimate must indicate the amount paid by insurance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Aid Verifications

- It is important to provide your financial aid verifications as soon as they are requested of you. The longer you delay, the longer your financial aid may be delayed.

If asked for a verification, it will appear on your To Do list, something you should be checking regularly.
Know the student services and where they are located:

**Important services include:**

- Department or Major Advisors
- Peer advisors
- Admissions Office
- Tutoring
- Financial Aid
- Scholarship Office
- Career Center/Internship Office
- Library
- Student Parent/Child Care
- Transfer Student Services Center
- Re-entry Student Services
- Health Center
- Educational Opportunity Program (like EOPS)
- Student Disability Services
- Associated Students/Student Government
- Registrar
- Student Housing
- Veteran Services
- Study Abroad office
Research policies and procedures at your new school

- **Academic:**
  - Add and drop dates
  - Drop with a “W” date
  - Retroactively drop with a “W” process
  - Emergency withdraw procedures
    - Good to know the process *before* an emergency happens

- **Safety:**
  - Campus police phone numbers
  - How to report a crime
  - Emergency posts/call boxes around campus
  - Security escort services for night classes
If moving to the new school...

- Look for housing ASAP
- Identify the housing resources at your new school - many have offices or departments dedicated to this
- Become familiar with your new community, even before you move there.
  - Where are the grocery stores?
  - How is the transportation system? Will you need a car? Would it be better to use public transit?
  - What can you do for fun?
- If you have children, find out about local schools and child care resources, there may be a Student Parent Center on your campus to help you
Some notes on adjusting to new school

Prepare to feel overwhelmed - it’s very normal

- Academics are harder
  - It’s ok if you do not do as well as you expected to your first semester. Give yourself time to adjust.

- Culture shock
  - You do belong at your new campus - you got in for a reason! But things are different at a university.
  - If you have trouble adjusting, combat it with new connections:
    - Internships, research, clubs, student government, sororities, fraternities, anything to make you feel you belong.
    - But don’t do too much too soon! Take it easy your first semester - fewer/easier classes, less or no work, etc.
    - Know your support services! And don’t be afraid to ask for help! (transfer office, counseling, financial aid, health center, etc.)
    - Consider living on campus. Many universities have dormitories for transfer and re-entry students.
    - Go to the gym on campus - great stress reliever and great way to meet new people.
Other tips:

- Sign up for the school’s health insurance plan
  - Receiving health services on campus is very efficient and stress free for most students. Trying to find a local provider that accepts your current health plan may not be.
  - UC campuses mandate insurance for students, either the UC insurance or private insurance.
  - Some campuses may require you purchase the school’s health insurance plan. Check this before you enroll.

- Eating cheap:
  - News Flash! Eating out all the time is expensive. The school meal plans are pretty pricey, too.
  - Find microwaves and refrigerators on campus you can use to save $$
  - Many universities and colleges have offices on campus to connect you with food pantries, help you apply for Cal Fresh, and more if needed.

- Always check your email!
Congratulations and have fun!