Undergraduate Student Profile

Current Undergraduate Student Diversity and Access

UC Irvine strives to provide a quality education to a diverse mix of undergraduate students. This past year, 27% of our undergraduates were from under-represented minority groups. This represents an increase of 87% in terms of the proportion of our fall undergraduate enrollments in the last ten years. In raw numbers, the increase has more than doubled.

We take great efforts to make our educational programs accessible to families. The proportion of our new undergraduates who come from families of limited means or who are 1st generation has increased substantially in recent years. Half of our new freshmen and new transfers are now Pell grant recipients and/or 1st generation students.
**Undergraduate Retention and Graduation Rates**

UC Irvine is very successful in retaining and graduating our undergraduate students. The graphs below compare universities with a similar mission as UC Irvine -- the public research universities who are members of the American Association of Universities (AAU). Our 2nd year retention rates are in the low 90 percent range, which are above the median (black line) and mean (black X) for public AAUs.

Our most recent comparative graduation rates at 4-years (68%) and 6-years (86%) are among the top ten graduation rates for new freshmen. The four year rates are based on the 2008 freshman cohort year and the six year rates on the 2006 cohort year.
Undergraduate Student Profile

Undergraduate Cost of Attendance

The University has strived to keep the costs of a college education for families relatively steady. The actual cost to families for a UCI education is actually lower when one considers the various levels of financial aid available. Undergraduate students attending UCI during 2013-14 received on average of $16,550 in grant or scholarship aid. The average net price to attend UC Irvine has remained relatively stable in recent years, particularly for families of limited means.

Estimated Resident Expenses for Recent Academic Years

Undergraduate students attending UCI during 2013-14 received on average of $16,550 in grant or scholarship aid. The average net price to attend UC Irvine has remained relatively stable in recent years, particularly for families of limited means.

Average Net Price of Attendance by Family Income

About 50% of UC Irvine’s recent graduates make use of federal student loans to finance their undergraduate education. On average our students have between $15,000 and $19,500 of federal loan debt by the time of graduation in recent years, which remains well below the national averages. Our students are fiscally responsible with their loan debt, with a 2 year default rate of only 2.3%, compared to the national average of 6.8% for public 4-year institutions.
Undergraduate Student Profile

The Changing Landscape of Undergraduate Enrollments

Like all University of California campuses, UC Irvine maintains high standards for the level of academic preparedness of its students and encourages students of diverse backgrounds to benefit from the academic opportunities offered at our campus. While UCI has seen a steady increase of new undergraduate enrollments in our past history, it is anticipated that in the coming years, California’s high school graduate numbers will decrease or remain relatively steady. Projections from the WICHE 2012 publication, *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates*, illustrates this leveling off and continued change in California’s demographic make-up.

Even with the projected leveling in the number of high school graduates for the State, the desire for a college education has increased. UC Irvine’s application volume continues to grow each year, and we now receive over 65,000 new freshman applications for our roughly 5,500 openings for new freshmen.