1. Retention rate is the percentage of new, full-time students from a given Fall entering cohort who are still enrolled at UCI in the Fall Quarter of each succeeding year. For example, 92.7% of new freshmen who entered UCI in Fall 2011 were still enrolled in Fall 2012 (the Fall Quarter of their second year).

2. Students who have graduated are no longer included in the numerator (students enrolled in the subsequent Fall Quarter) but are still included in the denominator (students in the entering cohort). Retention rates therefore decline as graduation rates increase.

3. Entering cohorts include new full-time students who paid fees and registered for at least one course by the end of the 3rd week of classes (see Enrollment Notes for more information).

4. Full-time status is defined as 12 units or more attempted in the initial quarter of enrollment.

5. Reports that are by school or by major are based on the student’s primary major at time of entry.

6. Retention is tracked based on students’ entering cohorts, and students are not excluded from the cohort once not retained. Therefore, it is possible for a student to “stop out” for a period of time and be counted as not retained for one year and retained for the next year. For example, a student who does not return the fall of their 3rd year but comes back the fall of their 4th year will be counted as not retained at the beginning of their 3rd year and retained at the beginning of their 4th year.