

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU) ROADMAP

Freshman to Senior Year | A-G, GPA, major, and campus fit

CSU A-G MINIMUM: A History 2 | B English 4 | C Math 3 (4 recommended) | D Lab Science 2 | E Language 2 | F VPA 1 | G College-prep elective 1

9TH

START

- Begin the A-G sequence with C- or better in every required course.
- Stay on track in English, math, science, history/social science, world language, and approved electives.
- Explore CSU campuses, majors, and career pathways.
- Track courses from the beginning so no A-G category is missed.

10TH

BUILD

- Protect your A-G GPA; CSU calculates admission GPA using A-G courses completed after 9th grade.
- Continue math and world language; consider Honors/AP and/or one dual-enrollment course if ready.
- Explore majors, especially programs that may be impacted or highly competitive.
- Build activities, work, service, leadership, and career exploration that support your goals.

11TH

PLAN

- Continue beyond minimums where useful, especially a 4th year of math and advanced/major-related courses.
- Use dual enrollment to explore majors, strengthen preparation, and potentially earn transferable units.
- Research each CSU campus and whether your intended major is impacted; admission can be more competitive than system minimums.
- Compare costs, locations, housing, career outcomes, and admission profiles.

12TH

APPLY

- Finish A-G and maintain strong grades through graduation.
- Apply through Cal State Apply to a balanced set of campuses that fit your major and academic profile.
- CSU does not require SAT/ACT for admission and the standard application does not require a personal essay.
- Complete financial aid, monitor campus portals, send requested documents, and compare total cost before choosing.

DUAL ENROLLMENT: A smart option for students who want a head start, major exploration, or additional rigor. Choose transferable/appropriate courses and confirm how they fit your high-school graduation and CSU plans.

WORTH MORE TIP: Meeting CSU minimum eligibility does not guarantee admission to every campus or major. Impacted campuses/programs may use higher GPA thresholds and supplemental factors.

There's Just Not One Pathway to Success. | Plan early. Know your options. Choose your pathway.

Current as of August 2026. Admission policies can change; verify each college/campus during the application year. Official reference: California State University - Freshman Admission Requirements / First-Time Freshman Brochure.