California State University, Sacramento

California’s Capital University

California State University, Sacramento is the sixth largest university in the 23-campus CSU system, enrolling a multicultural student body of 28,500 while keeping a commitment to small classes. We’re California’s Capital University. Our students enjoy extensive research and work opportunities in Sacramento, the heart of California government.

Quality teaching is a top priority here, and more than 80 percent of recent graduates say their professors were enthusiastic and genuinely enjoyed teaching. Career preparation is also important. Thousands of our students from all majors earn academic credit working in internships and co-op positions.

CSUS, often called Sac State, was founded as Sacramento State College in 1947. Today, our 300-acre campus is sheltered by more than 3,000 trees and dotted with flower gardens. Miles of trails stretch along the nearby river parkway, linking the University and student housing with recreational areas.

And we are building to accommodate a growing student body. Recent additions include classroom buildings, the Alumni Center, and a major expansion of the student union. A new technology resource center opens in 2005. Also envisioned are a recreation and events center, performing arts center, classroom buildings, a larger bookstore, and on-campus student apartments. Our athletic complex has had more than $2 million in improvements in recent years, and was the site of the 2000 and 2004 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials.

The Capital Region

Sacramento is a city rich in California history, known for its relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Its mild climate, rivers and parks make it popular with outdoor enthusiasts. Residents enjoy all the benefits of an urban California lifestyle—art galleries, museums, theater, great restaurants and shopping—yet Sacramento is one of the most affordable big cities in California.

Sacramento is also the seat of government of the nation’s most populous state. It’s part of a Capital Region with more than 2 million people in the heart of Northern California, one of the country’s most beautiful areas. Within easy driving distance are San Francisco, the Napa and Sonoma valleys, historic gold country and the Tahoe region ski slopes.

Sacramento hosts the world’s largest traditional jazz festival each Memorial Day weekend. Its popular attractions include the State Capitol building, the State Railroad Museum, the Golden State Museum and the Crocker Art Museum. The area is also home to two professional basketball teams, the NBA’s Kings and the WNBA’s Monarchs, as well as AAA baseball’s Rivercats.
Academics

Our students enjoy personal attention from a faculty that has made superior teaching a priority. Our student-to-faculty ratio is 21 to 1, and more than 70 percent of our classes have fewer than 30 students.

We offer 60 undergraduate degrees and 40 graduate degrees in eight Colleges. Programs such as Learning Communities help students meet others with similar academic interests and develop strong ties with professors. We have a number of support services that help low-income and educationally disadvantaged students. Full-time students with a carefully planned schedule should be able to graduate in four years.

Teacher education is our largest academic program, followed by business, criminal justice, communication studies, psychology, and computer science.

We have a diverse student body of 22,562 undergraduates and 5,813 graduate students, drawn from all over the state and world. Nearly 80 percent say CSUS was their first or only choice. Our freshmen come from the top third of their high school classes, and 25 percent had a high school GPA of 3.5 or higher. Large numbers of transfer students come from two-year colleges. We also have more than 750 international students from 80 nations.

CSUS is on the semester system, with 16-week semesters in the fall and spring. A limited number of classes are offered in a summer session, and throughout the year about 150 distance-learning courses are taught via the Internet and cable channels. Students may also take classes overseas through study abroad programs in many nations, including Spain, Argentina, Australia, Canada and France.
We have extensive computer services and network access in computer laboratories throughout campus, as well as an expanding wireless network. All students are offered free e-mail and Internet access. Our six-story library has more than 1 million books and other materials, and provides students with free online access to thousands of periodicals.

About 5,000 students graduate from CSUS each year. We have 161,000 alumni. Roughly 80 percent still live in California and more than half live in the Capital Region, providing a valuable resource for current students.
We prepare students for careers.

Career Preparation

Sacramento, as the capital city in the sixth largest economy in the world, offers our students numerous work experience opportunities. We have the largest cooperative education program in California, placing students from all majors in paid positions where they get practical experience and earn academic credit. And hundreds of students work downtown in government-related internships and fellowships. These placements often lead to full-time positions.

About 36 percent of our students do volunteer work and more than 1,000 students take service-learning classes each year, gaining valuable work experience while helping their community. Our Career Center offers students job databases and sponsors an on-campus recruiting program used by hundreds of employers.
Student Life

Outside the classroom, there are many activities centered on campus and plenty of cultural and entertainment opportunities in the surrounding area. Students may attend all CSUS home athletic events for free, and generally attend other campus events for free or at a substantial discount.

More than half of our students join at least one of some 250 student organizations. One of the largest is the Ski Club, which has chalets on the north and south shores of Lake Tahoe.

Thousands of students participate in our recreational sports program. Boating and other water-sports are offered at the CSUS Aquatic Center at Lake Natoma.

Our student government offers numerous ways to get involved with campus life. It has an $8.5 million annual budget, and among the many programs it runs are the Children’s Center, the Aquatic Center, Peak Adventures and Safe Rides. Student government also helps fund UNIQUE Programs, which presents speeches, debates, comedy shows and concerts. Our Multi-Cultural Center presents other special programs and discussions.

The student newspaper, The State Hornet, is published weekly and online. We also have a student radio station known as KSSU.

We have a large ballroom, numerous theaters, a dance studio and a large music recital hall in which our arts programs present numerous shows. Exhibits by students, faculty and visiting artists are hosted throughout the year in four art galleries. Our annual arts programs include the nationally acclaimed Festival of New American Music in the fall and the popular Festival of the Arts in the spring.

Athletics

We compete at the Division I level and sponsor about 450 student-athletes.

Men compete in baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, tennis, and indoor and outdoor track and field. Women compete in basketball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, rowing, soccer, softball, tennis, indoor and outdoor track and field, and volleyball. Most CSUS athletic teams compete in the Big Sky Conference, which includes teams from Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Baseball and softball are part of the Big West Conference and men’s soccer is part of the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation. We offer scholarships in all sports. For more information, visit www.hornetsports.com.
CSUS continues to offer one of the best higher education values in the country.

Housing and Services

We have on-campus housing in five coeducational residence halls located near the American River. There is also plenty of off-campus housing available nearby. Visit www.csus.edu/housing for more information.

Unlimited bus and light rail service throughout Sacramento is free for CSUS students. Campus parking is available with a semester pass or daily permit.

Our Student Health Center, located near the residence halls, offers reduced-cost prescriptions and basic medical care for students. Student health insurance may be purchased at a group rate. Affordable and flexible childcare for children aged 6 months to 8 years old is available at our Children’s Center.

Tours

Prospective students and their families may visit www.csus.edu/admr/outreach.html for information about campus tours.

Cost

CSUS continues to offer one of the best higher education values in the country. Full-time undergraduate fees for 2003-04 are $2,513 annually, and fees throughout the CSU system remain the lowest among comparable universities nationwide.

The people of California provide strong support to the CSU system, with the state paying 70 to 75 percent of the cost of educating a student. Private donations and other sources pay another 5 to 10 percent.

Numerous types of financial aid are available, including scholarships, grants, work-study and loans. We distribute $102 million in various forms of publicly provided assistance each year, and about half of our students receive some form of aid. In addition, jobs are available on and off campus, and more than 70 percent of our students work. For more information, including information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that must be completed by all financial aid applicants, visit www.csus.edu/faid.

Admission

First Time Freshmen Requirements

The CSU requires a 15-unit comprehensive pattern of college preparatory study in high school for admission. Each of these requirements must be completed with a grade of C or better. The 15-unit comprehensive pattern of college preparatory study consists of:

A History/Social Science, 2 years, including 1 year of U.S. history or U.S. history and government

B English, 4 years

C Mathematics, 3 years: algebra, geometry and intermediate algebra (all students are encouraged to continue to enroll in mathematics through the senior year)

D Science, 2 years with a laboratory (one biological and one physical)

E Language Other Than English (LOTE), 2 years in the same language (subject to waiver for applicants demonstrating equivalent competence)

F Visual and performing arts, 1 year: two semesters must be in the same VPA area; art, dance, drama/theatre, music, etc.

G College preparatory Elective, 1 year selected from the above areas

Students apply to CSUS by completing the on-line application form at www.csumentor.edu, supplying SAT or ACT scores and official transcripts from high school and any previous colleges, and paying the $55 application fee (or submit an application fee waiver). Applicants are notified of acceptance beginning in early spring for the fall semester and September for the spring semester.
Paper applications will no longer be available; however a printable version of the application will be available to be downloaded and printed by campuses, counselors and students for those who are unable to submit an electronic application.

**Lower Division Transfer Admission Requirements**

For students who are high school graduates and have completed fewer than 56 transferable semester units (60 units beginning for Fall 2005) of college or university work:

1. You must meet the admission requirements for first-time freshmen, AND

2. You must have at least a 2.00 grade point average (2.4 for non-residents) on all college or university units attempted, and be in good standing at the last college or university attended AND

3. You must complete courses that satisfy the CSU General Education requirements in written communication and math/quantitative reasoning with a C- or better.

**Upper Division Transfer Admission Requirements**

For students who have completed 56 or more transferable semester units (60 units beginning for Fall 2005) of college or university work:

1. You must have at least a 2.00 grade point average (2.4 for non-residents) on all college or university units attempted, and be in good standing at the last college or university attended, AND

2. You must have completed 30 semester units of General Education courses or other university graduation requirements including the following four courses with grades of C- or better:
   - A course which meets the General Education requirement in Written Communication (ENGL 1A at CSUS)
   - A course which meets the General Education requirement in Oral Communication
   - A course which meets the General Education requirement in Critical Thinking
   - A course which meets the General Education requirement in Math which is above the level of intermediate algebra

*see index in the last section of this catalog for locating additional information

**please check our website at www.csus.edu/admn/
for current lower division applicant deadlines
The College of Arts and Letters offers a diverse array of disciplines: art, communication languages, history, design (graphic design, interior design, and multimedia), humanities and religious studies, journalism, music, philosophy, theatre and dance, graduate liberal arts, and learning skills programs.

Graduates of the College of Arts and Letters can take advantage of numerous internships, service projects, or department research activities to expand and develop their expertise. The location of CSUS in the capital of California also benefits students. A growing regional concentration of high tech industry helped establish a new program in digital media (video and multimedia) in communication studies. The public history program is CSUS’ first Ph.D.-granting program, in conjunction with the University of California, Santa Barbara.

There’s more . . .

Within the College of Arts and Letters is the School of the Arts, which includes the departments of art, design, music, and theatre and dance. The School offers a rich calendar of performances and exhibits by students, faculty and guest artists year-round, culminating with the popular Festival of the Arts each spring. For more information on the School of the Arts, refer to the index in the last section of this catalog.

The annual Festival of New American Music, sponsored by the Department of Music, attracts the nation’s most creative artists, composers, and conductors to CSUS stages each fall.
College of Business Administration

The College of Business Administration includes the departments of accountancy, management, management information science, and organizational behavior and environment.

In addition to its academic departments, the College also operates several centers and institutes that provide important support for regional businesses and agencies, and valuable experience for students. These programs include the Center for Small Business, the Center for Tax Education, the Government Accounting Institute, the Insurance Education and Research Program, and the Real Estate and Land Use Institute.

The College offers numerous scholarship opportunities for qualified students. Exciting real-world internships also are available, many tied to the University’s Capital Region location and its top-level businesses.

CSUS business students have the benefits of working with experienced faculty who stay in touch with the latest trends in the field of business. New faculty members are drawn from the top institutions in the country, and they bring contemporary perspectives into the classroom experience. Business students are encouraged to participate in one of the more than 16 professional chapters and clubs ranging from the International Business Organization to the American Marketing Association, to explore the vast range of careers available in the fields of business.

There’s more . . .

Regional businesses assisted in the creation of a new accounting information systems concentration, which gives students a strong foundation in both accountancy and computer technology.
The College of Continuing Education offers more than 1,000 public professional development courses with more than 14,708 annual enrollments. With 70 percent of the fastest-growing jobs requiring post-secondary education, the College is continuously evolving to provide the skills required by today’s information and technology-driven workforce.

Individual courses, workshops, seminars and certificate programs are available in a wide range of career fields including Business Operations and Management, Information Technology, Criminal Justice, Health and Human Services, K-18 Education, Test Preparation, Executive Leadership and International Business.

The College is also home to innovative degree programs including the bachelor’s of vocational education that enables working professionals to earn credit for work experience, and the MSBA in taxation, taught in an entirely virtual classroom.

Contract and corporate education through the College of Continuing Education enables employers to bring the most flexible, cost-effective and personalized education opportunities to their employees. The College has a long-standing tradition of providing quality education for such clients as Aerojet, American Red Cross, Apple Computer, Bank of America, Blue Shield, Caltrans, Hewlett-Packard, Intel, KVIE TV6, SMUD, Vision Service Plan as well as city and county offices, school districts and state agencies throughout California.

The College’s Conference & Training Services group (CTS) is recognized throughout California as a leader in the event planning industry. Handling more than 150 statewide projects each year, CTS offers a full range of services designed to anticipate and facilitate all aspects of any size conference, training workshop, seminar or meeting.

There’s more . . .

The English Language Institute attracts ESL students from around the world, equipping them to improve their English skills and transition into an American university environment.
The College of Education is responsible for the professional development of teachers, administrators, and counselors to meet the needs of California’s diverse schools, families, and communities in the 21st Century. Professional development includes the initial preparation of candidates for basic, specialist, service, and administrative credentials; advanced programs leading to graduate degrees for experienced practitioners; the preparation of school administrators and those who will guide public policy in education; and the preparation of counselors and school psychologists for schools, families, public agencies, and private agencies. The College also makes a substantial contribution to the undergraduate curriculum at CSUS, offering baccalaureate programs in Child Development and Vocational Education.

Preparation programs for these professionals must provide a blend of knowledge, theory, and practical application in the real world. All aspects of the preparation must meet the most rigorous standards set for the professions by state and national professional associations and accrediting bodies.

Approximately 700 first-time teachers graduate from the teacher preparation program each year. In addition, more than 1,000 student interns are placed into community schools and social service agencies for service learning projects and for supervised fieldwork leading to credentials and licensure. CSUS ranks among the top of all CSU and UC institutions in the number of special education teaching credentials issued in California each year.

The College has a long history of innovative and productive partnerships with K-12 teachers, schools, families, and communities. Its programs address significant issues such as educating diverse student populations, identifying student success factors, and providing integrated community services. Our Center for Counseling and Diagnostic Services is one of the largest providers of low-cost counseling services in the Sacramento region.

There’s more...

In addition to its on-campus programs, the College offers graduate and credential programs in off-campus centers in counties throughout Northern California. The College offers courses to distant learners via cable television and also offers an online graduate degree program (MET) to distant learners throughout California.
The College of Engineering and Computer Science offers undergraduate programs in civil engineering, computer science, computer engineering, construction management, electrical and electronic engineering, mechanical engineering and mechanical engineering technology. The College offers M.S. degree programs in civil engineering, computer engineering, computer science, electrical and electronic engineering, mechanical engineering, and software engineering.

The College is recognized as a leader in the nation for its excellent programs and facilities. Because the Sacramento region is home to a growing number of high tech companies and to numerous county, state and federal agencies, it is an ideal location for unique internship, cooperative education and part-time employment opportunities for students, and high-paying jobs for graduates.

The CSUS engineering program recently was ranked in the top 30 programs in the nation among those focused on undergraduate engineering education by U.S. News & World Report. CSUS was the first public university in the State to offer a master’s degree in software engineering. The College strongly emphasizes the need for its students to connect early in their academic careers with the professional, real-world areas they are studying.

There’s more . . .

The new M.S. program in computer engineering was recently approved to meet the demand for advanced degrees in this dynamic area.
College of Health and Human Services

The College of Health and Human Services includes the disciplines of criminal justice, kinesiology and health science, nursing, physical therapy, recreation and leisure studies, social work and speech pathology and audiology.

The College provides a high-quality education that well prepares health and human services graduates for current and future professional practice. Students can choose from 17 degree programs and several specialization options. College courses are built around three components: the theoretical basis for the discipline; skills achieved through laboratory experiences and fieldwork, which allows students to apply classroom and laboratory knowledge to real-life situations.

The College emphasizes the importance of community relationships and operates numerous programs throughout the region to improve the quality of life for residents. Examples are the LIFE Center in midtown Sacramento, a facility that provides fitness services and fall risk reduction classes for older adults. Students are given the opportunity to give back to their communities in other programs such as the Sac-Mentoring Program. The program fosters experiential learning for college students as they engage in a mentor relationship with students at Hiram Johnson High School and the Sacramento Unified School District Academic Mentor Program.

There’s more . . .

The College’s Maryjane Rees Language, Speech and Hearing Center provides important health services to area residents and opportunities for students to get supervised experience in a clinical setting.
The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics includes the departments of biological sciences, chemistry, geography, geology, mathematics and statistics, and physics and astronomy. These programs prepare students for science-related careers, in teaching or in a variety of other science and mathematics-related fields. Career opportunities are excellent for science majors interested in teaching. Job opportunities in the area are very good for majors in science and mathematics.

Departments are well equipped with modern computers and scientific instrumentation, and the College emphasizes a hands-on curriculum, including time in the laboratory or the field. Community partnerships with government agencies, schools and private companies provide students with excellent internships.

In addition to courses in major areas of science and mathematics, the College offers a variety of individualized activities such as independent study, research, and community work. Each department in the College has at least one active student group. Additional programs of the College include Science Educational Equity (SEE), the Center for Mathematics and Science Education, and the Sacramento Area Collaborative for Teacher Education (SACTE) co-supported by the College of Education.

There’s more . . .

The Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey has its Western regional headquarters in Placer Hall, one of the newest campus buildings, and the home of the geology department.
College of
Social Sciences and
Interdisciplinary Studies

The College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies offers bachelor degree programs in anthropology, Asian studies, economics, environmental studies, ethnic studies, family and consumer sciences, gerontology, government, liberal studies, psychology, social science, and sociology; minors in those programs as well as California studies, labor studies, public policy and administration, and women studies; and master’s degree programs in anthropology, economics, government, international affairs, psychology, public policy and administration and sociology.

The College is dedicated to developing in its students a sense of responsibility to participate in and contribute to the human community and a healthy natural environment. Central themes across the curriculum include relationships among individuals and groups, the nature and influence of culture, the functioning of the political system and economy, regional planning and development, and relationships among nations.

Its strong community programs include the national award-winning Mall Hall, a program that brings the power of the Internet as a learning tool and information resource to senior citizens, young students and other groups who have limited access to computers.

There’s more . . .

The department of ethnic studies has developed a nationally recognized model of service learning, attention to diversity, and conflict resolution in high school.
Let your talents bloom at California State University, Sacramento!