

UCLA TAP Guide for San Diego Mesa College Honors Students

- **Benefits**

- The UCLA Transfer Alliance Program (TAP) gives you the opportunity to enhance your ability to transfer to UCLA at the junior level from Mesa College. Students are certified after completing the Mesa College Honors Program and given priority consideration for admission to UCLA
- UCLA and TAP California Community Colleges (including Mesa) cooperate to assist students in the transfer process.
- Mesa College offers an enriched academic program and all the courses necessary to transfer, including General Education requirements and preparatory courses for majors.
- Designated faculty and counselors at Mesa College help students plan academic programs that meet major and general education requirements and honors certification.
- While students are in the Mesa College TAP program, meaningful linkages with UCLA are provided such as on-campus informational meetings and tours, library privileges, and opportunities to attend selected UCLA cultural and athletic events.
- TAP scholarships: Renewable, \$5,000 per academic year

- **Eligibility requirements**

- Successfully complete the Honors Program at San Diego Mesa College
- First or alternate major must be in the UCLA College of Letters and Science
- Complete 60 UC transferrable units at Mesa or other SDCCD colleges
- Complete IGETC or the GE requirements for your major
- Complete the prep for your major and alternate major

- **Honors Program Completion**

- Earn a 3.25 or better, cumulative, UC transferrable GPA
- Complete 15 units of UC transferable honors coursework (classes or contracts)
- Give 10 hours of community service
- Attend at least 4 Honors activities



- **UCLA TAP Preparation Timeline**

- **Year One, Fall Semester:**

1. **August:** Attend Mesa Honors orientation to learn about UCLA TAP and other transfer opportunities
2. Make an appointment with your campus honors counselor to create an Ed Plan that will allow you to take all the courses you will need to transfer successfully to UCLA and your other top priority transfer choices
3. Take one (or two at most) honors courses or contracts, carefully following contract deadlines
4. **Mid-September – early November:** Register for UCLA TAP Day at the honors office and at www.tap.ucla.edu/conference.htm
5. If you have selected a major, begin taking major prep courses
6. Begin fulfilling IGETC or the GE requirements for your major (see www.ASSIST.org)
7. Become active in the Mesa Honors Program
8. Prioritize your studies and earn the best grades you can
9. **November:** Make arrangements to attend UCLA TAP Day conference

- **Year One, Spring Semester:**

1. Based on your honors experience fall semester, decide on how many honors courses or contracts you have time to take spring semester and sign up for these early

2. Continue strategies 5 through 8 above
 3. Begin to consider what you would like to say in your Personal Statement (see guidelines at <http://www.honorstcc.org/docs/PersonalStatementHTCC.pdf>)
 4. Begin to engage in honors research, when possible, to prepare to present your work at conferences or for publication
- **Summer between Year One and Year Two**
 1. Write the first draft of your personal statement (see item 3 above)
 2. See your honors counselor again to make sure you are on track
 - **Year Two, Fall Semester (2 semesters prior to transfer):**
 1. **August:** Continue to take honors courses and contracts toward your minimum goal of 15 units of honors. It is best to surpass the minimum if possible.
 2. **September:** Get LOTS of feedback on your personal statement
 3. **Late September – early November:** If you have not yet done so, register for UCLA TAP day in the honors office and at www.tap.ucla.edu/conference.htm
 4. **October:** Attend personal essay writing workshops and finish your personal statement
 5. **October:** Attend our UC application workshop
 6. **Mid November:** If you have not done so, make all arrangements with your campus to attend UCLA TAP Day
 7. **November 1 – 20:** Fill out your UC application –DO NOT wait until the last minute as the site often gets shut down due to excessive use the last day which is usually November 30.
 8. **November: Click on the UCLA TAP button on the UC application.**
 9. **November:** You may state an alternate major as part of the UCLA TAP agreement, and you MUST do so, on the UC application, if you wish to be considered for this 2nd choice major. However, it **cannot** be one of the impacted majors listed below:
 - Pre-Business Economics
 - Communication Studies
 - Pre-Economics
 - English
 - Pre-Global Studies
 - Pre-History
 - Pre-International Development Studies
 - Pre-Political Science
 - Pre-Psychology
 - Pre-Sociology

Your **first** choice major **can** be any major in the College of Letters and Science including these impacted majors.

- **Year Two, Spring Semester (immediately prior to transfer)**
 1. **January:** Fill out the fill-able Word version of the UCLA TAP certification form at <http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/tap/certification.htm> Leave the UCLA ID number and the number of transferable units blank, then print it out
 2. **January:** Complete and send in your UC application update with your fall grades
 3. **January:** Make an appointment to see your campus honors counselor
 4. **January/ early February:** Make an appointment (to occur after the above appointment) to see your campus honors transfer coordinator
 5. **January/early February:** Consider any special circumstances that you would like UCLA TAP admissions officials to consider regarding your application, that you have not already stated in your UC application and ask your campus transfer coordinator if it should be included by him/her on your certification form.
 6. Be sure to sign and date your certification form and make sure your counselor and coordinator do so also
 7. Take sufficient honors courses or contracts to complete the Honors Program
 8. **Late February:** Finish all your volunteer hours and honors activities requirements and completion form by March 1st

9. **Late April /Early May:** Check online to see if you were accepted
10. **Late April /Early May:** Apply for UCLA TAP scholarships, go to:
<http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/tap/scholarship.htm> for details

- For further information on the UCLA TAP Program go to:
www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/tap/