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UC San Diego To Significantly Reduce Number of Non-Resident Students

🗂 July 12, 2021 (https://ucsdguardian.org/2021/07/12/uc-san-diego-to-significantly-reduce-number-of-non-resident-students/)

Jose Chavez (https://ucsdguardian.org/author/j2chavez/)



The California State Assembly Budget Committee announced a budget revision for the top University of California campuses that aims to reduce the number of international and out-of-state students enrolled. The floor report

(https://abgt.assembly.ca.gov/sites/abgt.assembly.ca.gov/files/Floor%20Report%20of%20the%202021-22%20Budget%20-%20%28June%2028%2C%202021%20Version%29.pdf) of the annual budget on June 28, 2021 outlines the Nonresident Reduction Plan which will commence the next admission cycle in January 2022 at UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, and UC San Diego.

The plan puts forward \$184 million to UC Berkeley, UCLA, and UCSD over the course of the next three years to cover the nonresident tuition lost (https://www.lajollalight.com/news/story/2021-07-05/uc-san-diego-faces-a-pivot-after-being-told-to-admit-more-california-students) by cutting out-of-state attendance. Each university has agreed to decrease nonresident enrollment to 18 percent of their respective undergraduate student body by 2025 in order to create more space for California students.

The Nonresident Reduction Plan offers a monetary incentive to counteract the loss in revenue put forth by covering lost expenses on an annual basis. For example, during the 2021-2022 application cycle, 900 less nonresidents will be accepted to the top UC campuses. The plan will then apportion \$31 million in January 2022 to compensate for reduced Nonresident Supplemental Tuition for that fiscal year, only to repeat until 2025. No acceptance offers sent out after the 2020-21 application cycle will be rescinded.

Once the plan has been implemented, there will be 4,500 more in-state students across the three UC campuses, including UCSD. The California Assembly Budget Committee also stated that a separate plan was in development that would increase in-state freshman enrollment by more than 6,200 next year; this would be up to UC leaders to determine how many each campus would be allotted.

The plan was devised in light of rapidly increasing UC enrollment from out-of-state and overseas. Non-California resident students occupy 57,019 campus seats all throughout the UC system and make up 25.7 percent of UCSD's undergraduate population (https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/fall-enrollment-glance).

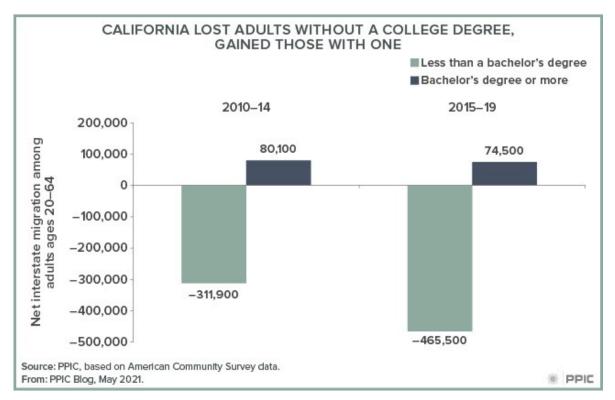
In an interview with The UCSD Guardian, the Chairman of the California Assembly Budget Committee, Phil Ting, expressed concern that the increase in nonresidents will dramatically disadvantage Californian students wanting to pursue public higher education.

"The state of California heavily invests in our children's K-12 education," Ting said. "Many public school students dream of going to a UC. We should do all we can to make that happen with adequate slots, reasonable tuition and more financial aid. Otherwise, talented young people will move out of state to get their degrees and may never come back. To me, that's a bigger loss. We want our kids to stay and contribute to California's economy."



California State Assembly Chair Phil Ting Picture taken by Rob Nikolewski for the San Diego Union Tribune.

These sentiments are reflected in statistics regarding the mass exodus of Californians (https://www.ppic.org/blog/whos-leaving-california-and-whos-moving-in/) over the past decade. According to the 2020 Census and American Community Survey data, the vast majority of people leaving California lack college education and disproportionately hail from the middle class. From the adults surveyed, 49 percent said they left the state to seek employment. Conversely, the demographics of people moving to California are young college graduates searching for the start to their careers.



Graphic courtesy of The Public Policy Institute of California.

Historically, the UC system has preferred higher concentrations of out-of-state and international students. A policy memorandum (https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/may17/b1.pdf) describing a proposal from a UC Board of Regents Meeting in 2017 argued that "moderate levels of nonresident students" — with the proposed cap being 20 percent — not only contributed to intellectual and social diversity, but that \$70 million of the base tuition that nonresidents paid in 2016-2017 directly subsidized need-based aid for California students.

The policy was approved in May of that year but failed to meet the conditions outlined within the Policy on Nonresident Student Enrollment

(https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/2109.html), ranging from a demand that California residents should "continue to represent a minimum of eighty-two percent of all undergraduate students" and that "the proportion of nonresident undergraduates enrolled in the future may not exceed the proportion in 2017-18," which was around 18 percent.

According to an email sent to The Guardian from UCSD's University Communications department on July 8th, the enrollment of nonresident students has helped offset tuition costs for California students and provides revenue that "improve[s] educational programs for all students."

The statement also noted that these students contribute to the California economy as a whole through Nonresident Supplemental Tuition. Nonresident students at UCSD pay on average \$63,024 their first two years on-campus, which is nearly double the amount Californians pay.

UCSD raised a record \$365 million

(https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/education/story/2021-07-04/ucsd-california-residents?_amp=true) in private donations during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, UCSD lost a significant amount of money from various sources, including student boarding fees and losses in the usage of patient services issued to the public at campus hospitals and clinics.

In light of this plan being enacted, the UC system will continue to offer admission to graduate campuses to every California undergraduate resident applicant who meets the University's requirements for guaranteed admission. The university enrolls the top nine percent of California students who apply through the UC Statewide Guarantee

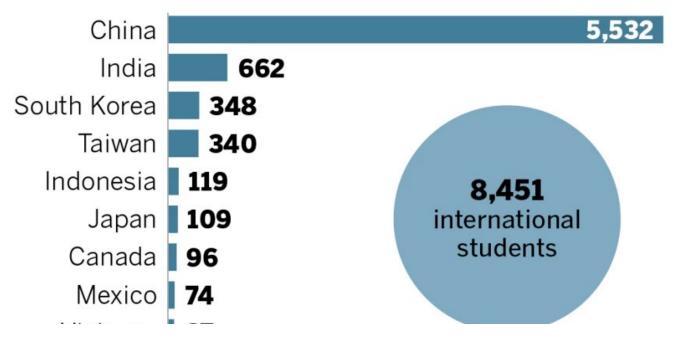
(https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/california-residents/statewide-guarantee/) program.

Assemblymember Ting noted that, while nonresidents will face more competition in the following application cycle, there is always a reasonable chance that they will be admitted.

Recruiting overseas

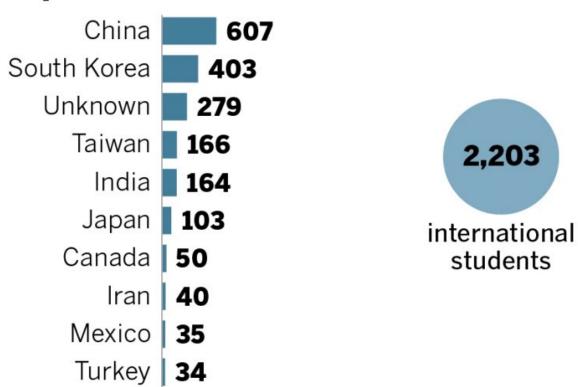
Following the 2008-09 recession, UC San Diego began to heavily recruit international students, who pay more than twice as much tuition as California residents. The shift has helped the university pay its bills and grow. The number of international students rose from 2,203 in fall 2010 to 8,451 in fall 2020.

Top feeder countries in 2020





Top feeder countries in 2010



Source: UC San Diego MICHELLE GILCHRIST U-T

Graphic courtesy of the San Diego Union Tribune.

"Competition will be tougher for nonresident applicants because there will be fewer slots for anyone outside California," Assemblymember Ting told The Guardian. "However, the reduction is 900 slots per year across three UC campuses, which means there is still a lot of room for them. We are not aiming to completely shut out nonresident students because they contribute to the diversity and college experience of everyone. We welcome what all students have to offer."

Many UC administrators describe nonresident students being integral in adding to the quality of campus-life and university, as communicated to The Guardian by Erika Johnson, the Assistant Director of University Communications at UCSD.

"International students also enrich the campus intellectual environment," Johnson said. "UC San Diego students come from more than 100 countries around the world. They bring diverse perspectives, knowledge, and experiences that strengthen classrooms, research, and cross-cultural competencies of every UC San Diego student, faculty, and staff member."

Johnson also noted UCSD's goal is to admit as many qualified California residents as possible that the university's infrastructure will support.

"Our recruitment team is already dedicated to connecting with high achieving, first-generation, low-income, and students of color right here in San Diego and Imperial Counties, as well as across California, to build a deeper prospect pipeline into UC San Diego," Johnson said. "We are investing resources into infrastructure, facilities, financial aid, and faculty to enable expansion. This includes growing classrooms, residential spaces, laboratories and offices (from North Torrey Pines Living and Learning Neighborhood to upcoming Design and Innovation Building) as well as increasing the number of faculty."

Despite these investments, many students have expressed that they have not seen the quality of their education increase with higher tuition.

Out-of-state students like Songlin Wu, a junior Biology major from Eleanor Roosevelt College, note that some private universities closer to home would offer better learning opportunities for the same price.

"As a biology student, UCSD does have a very distinguished biology program and research," Wu said. "Although it does have abundant resources available to each student, there are some parts where I feel that my tuition isn't worth it. For example, we have three-hundred students in a lecture hall compared to a private university where you have, like, fifty. Besides that, I am too separated from my family and I have to pay for actual living, transportation, and food."

The 2021 University of California Budget was officially signed into law (https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB161) by Governor Gavin Newsom on Friday, July 9. The University of California Application opens for general admission beginning next Fall.

Picture by Anne Wernikoff for CalMatters

To learn more about The UCSD Guardian's coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic, click here → (https://ucsdguardian.org/tag/covid-19/)



(https://ucsdguardian.org/)





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■ Main Menu

Q

Submission: CALPIRG's 100% Clean Renewable Energy Campaign: 1st Climate Action Summit

☐ July 13, 2021 (https://ucsdguardian.org/2021/07/13/submission-calpirgs-100-clean-renewable-energy-campaign-1st-climate-action-summit/)
☐ Guest Writer (https://ucsdguardian.org/author/guestwriter/)



This piece was submitted by Rachel Tam, an Intern of CALPIRG Students, and co-authored by Manu Agni, UCSD AS President.

Earth Day this year has been exceptionally remarkable on the full-out transition to 100 percent clean, renewable energy: A strong kickoff has been made by President Joe Biden, setting the ambitious goal of cutting down at least half of US greenhouse gas emission by 2030. On the same day, student activism group CALPIRG Students organized the California Climate Action Summit (https://fb.watch/6iDjWBuSqr/), pushing the state to dedicate that target. Over 30 speakers ranging from state leaders and elected officials to scientists, hundreds of climate activists and students from over 25 campuses across the country gathered at the summit to demonstrate support and the need for 100% clean energy by the end of the decade to build a better future.

A fossil-fuel-dependent economy has tolled heavily on people and the planet's health and welfare (https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6kr8p5rq): oceanic ecosystems are exposed to toxins from oil spills, and communities, especially those of color and low-income, are suffering from rolling blackouts, heat waves, and the carbon-polluted water and air from energy production and severe wildfires. Due to the delayed warming effect, temperature rise and its impacts will still occur albeit ceasing greenhouse gas emissions now. With energy intercepting three major problems – air pollution, climate change, and energy instability, the transition to 100% clean renewable energy is fundamental to reach the carbon emission goal

on time. In her opening notes at the 100 Percent Clean Energy Panel, Laura Deehan, State Director of Environment

(https://www.facebook.com/calpirgstudents/videos/208173644116817/?

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JBCF9P7ZSuLerUY7SBKWSlaRNRQxdec), highlighted the unique leading role that California has: As the world's fifth largest economy and an innovation and cultural hub, it can influence other states to mimic our policies. Considering possible slowdowns, the golden state has no time for delay in speeding up the clean renewable energy timeline by 2030.

As a leader of the 100 percent renewable energy movement and member of the civil and environmental engineering faculty at Stanford University, Professor Mark Jacobson noted in the opening speech at the Summit

(https://www.facebook.com/calpirgstudents/videos/305322970947583/), 100 percent renewable clean energy is already doable in the near future. In his 2021 infographic (https://sites.google.com/stanford.edu/wws-roadmaps/home) on California's ability to go full renewable, it is demonstrated that the total wind-water-solar energy supply can fully meet the end-use demand including the transmission and distribution losses in the two-year simulation, at low cost, no matter if California is interconnected with the WECC grid or works as an isolated grid. As confirmed by the California Independent System Operator (https://www.latimes.com/environment/newsletter/2021-04-29/solar-power-water-canals-california-climate-change-boiling-point), California has hit over 80 percent renewable energy a couple times this year, even as high as nearly 95 percent. Furthermore, new technologies and resources are tapped into to supplement present clean renewables, like offshore winds along the California Coast (AB525), which as Assemblymember David Chiu (https://www.facebook.com/calpirgstudents/videos/208173644116817/? hc_ref=ARREorOt5xVKYLpIfxojUZyRYZgkkzJknHl-

JBCF9P7ZSuLerUY7SBKWSlaRNRQxdec) said, "[is]an incredible potential to meet clean energy goals, combat climate change, and to provide a ton of good paid jobs." With the hardwares already available, formulating policy is the jumpstarter for getting more renewable projects on the table.

"We are very good at setting climate goals ... but those goals are not self-executing. We have to fill it in with the actual tangible steps to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels ... where we are less good," noted State Senator Scott Weiner

(https://www.facebook.com/calpirgstudents/videos/208173644116817/?

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JBCF9P7ZSuLerUY7SBKWSlaRNRQxdec), resonating with San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria's experience (https://www.facebook.com/calpirgstudents/videos/208173644116817/?

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JBCF9P7ZSuLerUY7SBKWSlaRNRQxdec) in both creating the Climate Action Plan and implementing policies at city level. Challenging the status quo and making political choices are crucial yet hard, therefore the continuous conversation of pushing renewables and cutting down fossil fuels is needed.

College students have an immense ability to act as trailblazers when it comes to sustainability, and influencing policy decisions. For instance, UC San Diego students organized to create the U-Pass program in 2014, building on the student-centered unlimited transit program started in 1969. "Having among the highest transit-usage rates in the region, UCSD students contributed to reducing fossil fuel dependence through the all-inclusive, free public transit program, which is among the first of its kind in the state," said Associated Students President Manu Agni. Another example is the Senate Bill 100, where CALPIRG Students collected over 25,000 petitions, submitted resolutions to student governments, collected over 100 sign-ons from California Community leaders, and held lobby meetings with officials, contributing to the passing. Students' voices play the key role in communicating with local officials: Reflecting the need and support of transitioning to renewable energy. This way, state officials can thus make the best decisions through the effective teamwork and collaboration of all levels. As Assemblymember Buffy Wicks echoed (https://www.facebook.com/calpirgstudents/videos/305322970947583/), "My colleagues need to hear from you on these issues. You need to hold our feet to the fire, and don't ever stop."

This is a generation that is the first to experience climate change, and also the last to change before everything becomes unstoppable. Students not only hold the power of change in the future, but also now; it is our call to influence decisions and make impacts for a 100 percent clean renewable society, and build the desirable world for our generation and the next one to live in.

Photo by Li-An Lim (https://unsplash.com/@li_anlim) on Unsplash (https://unsplash.com/).



(https://ucsdguardian.org/)





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■ Main Menu

Q

UCSD Students Express Frustration with New Campus Housing Lottery System

🗂 July 22, 2021 (https://ucsdguardian.org/2021/07/22/ucsd-students-express-frustration-with-new-campus-housinglottery-system/) & Kaitlin Lee (https://ucsdguardian.org/author/kdl002/)



A number of UC San Diego students have expressed frustration with the university's usage of a lottery system to determine eligibility for on-campus housing. This prompted many to take to social media platforms to discuss their anxiety about finding housing and issues such as high housing prices around La Jolla.

In April 2021, UCSD Housing Dining Hospitality announced (https://hdh.ucsd.edu/housing/roomselection/pages/index.html) plans through email to implement a new priority housing allocation. In recent months, HDH decreased its housing capacity due to triples being removed from undergraduate housing (https://triton.news/2021/04/ucsd-ends-two-year-housing-guarantee/). The priority list goes

- as follows:
 - Scholars, Regents Scholarships, and the PATHS Program).

 New incoming freshmen, first-year transfers, and second-year students who stayed on

• Students in programs that mandate their four year on-campus residency (i.e. HOPE

• Remaining second-year students, including second-year transfer students.

campus for the entirety of the 2020-2021 school year.

· Junior and Senior students.

Incoming second-year students who did not stay on campus for the 2020-2021 academic year were placed into a lottery system. By contrast, incoming second-year students (including transfer students) who lived in their respective campus housing for the entirety of the school year were provided guaranteed housing and were not included in the lottery.

For some, the new lottery system seemed to be unfair for students who felt uncomfortable with living on-campus during the pandemic. Thurgood Marshall College sophomore Teresa Bacerra said that the lottery created uncertainty about her housing situation.

"I felt like all of the circumstances and situations that other students like me had to deal with were not taken into consideration," Bacerra said. "We were placed on the lottery unsure of what was going to happen. Many details were not mentioned or clear. The housing website didn't have specific dates for when housing contracts would be released." Students were informed of lottery results in June, but the website never specified specific dates beforehand.

Amitis Hayati, another Marshall College sophomore, agreed that the new lottery system seemed to be unfair to students who were taking the pandemic seriously.

"I feel that it punishes the students that did the right thing and stayed home," Hayati said.

"Those of us who sacrificed the college experience for the health of ourselves and those around us never get to live on campus now."

Aside from the lottery, students have also expressed frustration (https://www.reddit.com/r/UCSD/comments/omhv3e/off_campus_housing_is_ass_right_now/) and concern (https://www.reddit.com/r/UCSD/comments/okksbv/housing_this_years_is/) over the rising demand for off-campus housing this year, with La Jolla already standing as the 21st most expensive city to live in California (https://www.salaryexpert.com/cost-of-living/united-states/california/la-jolla). Furthermore, San Diego County's median home price is rising (https://www.lajollalight.com/news/story/2021-06-23/san-diego-home-price-record) due to opposition to new projects, housing regulations in California, and rising labor and material costs, which worsen the housing crisis.

The San Diego Union-Tribune

(https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/education/story/2021-07-18/housing-shortage-uc-san-diego) reported the average rent in University City to be \$2,745 per month in the second quarter of 2021. The average rent in San Diego County overall was reported to be \$2,009 per month in the second quarter.

In an interview with The UCSD Guardian, Roger Revelle College senior Claire Andolina said that securing housing even farther from campus is becoming more competitive.

"Off-campus housing 8 miles from campus can be \$900, and people will fight over it," Andolina said. "The demand and prices are so high around San Diego, no wonder people are ready to brawl each other for any chance to live on campus."

Andolina went on to explain that commuting to campus remained a hurdle even after securing housing.

"Before COVID hit, I was using a car, train, and bus, all to get to campus, and then a Lyft, train, and then car to get back home,"Andolina said. "This altogether took about three hours each day."

In response to these complaints UCSD told The Guardian in an email that the university is doing its best to help as many students who applied to live on campus.

Offers for the third priority group were sent out on June 14, which made it hard for students to determine when to start searching for housing in May. The University also mentioned that it is typical for students to start applying for off-campus lodging around May, then receive contracts in June.

Furthermore, according to an email from UCSD Student Affairs Representative Erika Johnson sent to The Guardian, "Since students in priority three all share the same priority, a lottery was determined to be the most fair way to allocate the remaining housing contracts among that priority group."

Some claimed that they had been told that UCSD planned to set aside 500 rooms for quarantine usage. Johnson clarified that there will not be a dedicated on-campus space for this purpose as the university plans to rent hotel space for quarantine housing.

UCSD is not the only UC campus to establish a priority system for the 2020-2021 year. Similarly, UC Merced and UC Berkeley both implemented on-campus housing priority for Fall 2021. They also both prioritize first-year students and certain students (such as athletes and those in financial need) over sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

On its Undergraduate Housing website, HDH suggests to students who haven't been offered housing to look at off-campus housing options and recommends visiting their Off-Campus Housing website (https://offcampushousing.ucsd.edu/) or searching Facebook groups such as UCSD Students Off-Campus Housing (https://www.facebook.com/groups/2387457222/).

"Through the Off-Campus Housing Office, students can schedule a housing consultation to review off-campus housing options, receive general first-time lease signing information as well as find move-in and move-out resources," the website states.

Besides on-campus housing, UCSD plans to reopen most campus services and allow for inperson learning for Fall 2021. More information on UCSD's campus planning can be found here (https://returntolearn.ucsd.edu/).

Photo courtesy of Ellie Wang for The UCSD Guardian.