

Regents Scholars Program

Office of Admissions

University of California, Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2016

(805) 893-7285



As one of the country's finest institutions of higher learning, UC Santa Barbara affords Regents Scholars many academic and pre-professional experiences to ensure they reach their full intellectual and career potential.

Academic Advising for Regents Scholars

Academic advising for Regents Scholars begins with UC Santa Barbara's Summer Orientation Program, in which staff prepare you to register for a full load of coursework appropriate for your first quarter at the university. Advising continues in your college and major departments, where you will consult with professional staff regarding courses and educational opportunities in your field. As a Regents Scholar, you are automatically admitted to the College of Letters & Science Honors Program, where you can consult with specially designated professional Honors advisers. In addition, all departments within the College of Letters & Science assign faculty and staff to advise their students. The colleges of Creative Studies and Engineering also assign faculty advisors to all entering freshmen. Specialized academic advising is just one of many benefits you will receive as a Regents Scholar at UC Santa Barbara. Join us in embracing the numerous intellectual opportunities that UC Santa Barbara affords its top student scholars.

The Selection Process

The Regents Scholars Committee represents a broad spectrum of UC Santa Barbara's faculty. The Committee selects Regents Scholars on the basis of academic excellence, breadth of academic preparation, and potential for exceptional success at UCSB.

Why Choose UCSB?

- UCSB is one of only 61 research institutions elected to membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities.
- The 1,050 UCSB faculty members include five recent Nobel Prize winners, recipients of the National Medal of Science, and members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Academy of Engineering.
- *U.S. News & World Report's* guide, "America's Best Colleges," the most widely read college guide in the country, ranked UCSB Number 10 among all public universities in the nation.

Program Benefits

In addition to the monetary award, Regents Scholars can take advantage of several benefits:

- Priority registration beginning winter quarter of the first year.
- Guaranteed housing in university-owned residence halls for the duration of the Regents Scholarship. (Housing application deadlines must be met.)
- Enrollment in college honors programs.
- Extended borrowing privileges at UC Santa Barbara's Davidson Library to accommodate research needs.
- Membership in UCSB's Regents and Chancellor's Scholars Association (RCSA), presenting opportunities for leadership, interaction with faculty, and academic and social programs.

Maintaining Scholarship Eligibility

To remain eligible for the scholarship, Regents Scholars are required to maintain both a quarterly and cumulative minimum grade-point average (GPA) of 3.20. If the cumulative GPA drops below 3.20, students are typically permitted two quarters to raise their GPA to 3.20 or above. Should the quarterly GPA fall below 3.20, students are expected to achieve at least a 3.20 GPA by the following quarter. The quarterly GPA may not drop below 3.20 more than twice. Students who lose their scholarship may petition to have it reinstated. Petitions and exceptional situations are reviewed by a faculty committee.

GPA:

To remain eligible for their scholarship, Regents Scholars are required to maintain both a quarterly and cumulative GPA of 3.20. Should the *cumulative* GPA drop below 3.20, students are normally allowed two quarters to raise their GPA above 3.20 if it is the first occurrence. Similarly, should the *quarterly* GPA fall below 3.20, students are typically allowed one quarter to raise their quarterly GPA above 3.20. Exceptional situations will be reviewed by a faculty committee.

In cases of marked improvement, students may be given, at the discretion of a faculty review committee, an additional quarter to make up any deficits. Students who lose their scholarship may petition to have it reinstated.

UNITS:

Requirements: A full-time unit load of *12 or more units per quarter, or 36 units per year*, is required for the Regents Scholarship. The 12-unit requirement applies to Summer quarters during which the student receives scholarship funding. Warning letters are sent to students whose end-of-quarter units fall below 12. Student records will be checked at the end of each Spring Quarter, and students whose units fall below 36 units for the academic year will lose their scholarship. This policy is subject to appeal, and could result in reduced award amount. A faculty committee will review appeals and make final decisions regarding the student's scholarship status.

Reduced Awards: Student records will be checked by computer on the census date (15 days into the quarter) for enrolled unit loads. Students whose loads are from 9-12 units will receive only 75% of their award, and students whose loads are from 6-8 units will receive only 50% of their award. Students whose loads are below 6 units will not receive any portion of their scholarship for that quarter.

Reduced Awards – Special Cases: Students who have an approved petition for a deficit load and reduced educational fee from their College will receive 50% of their award.

Questions & Answers

Are leaves of absence permitted?

Regents Scholars may be granted a leave of absence due to personal circumstances, by request to the Regents Scholars Committee. Usually, a leave of absence may not last more than one year (three academic quarters) and will be granted only once during a student's enrollment at UC Santa Barbara.

A request for a leave should be submitted to the Scholars Program Coordinator, Colenn Berracasa, to the mail or email address below.

May I use my scholarship to fund attendance in study abroad programs?

Yes, scholarship funds may be used while a student is enrolled in the University of California's Education Abroad Program. Additionally, the scholarship can be used with university-sponsored domestic programs, such as the Intercampus Visitor Program and the UCSB Washington Center Program in Washington D.C. The scholarship does not cover costs of non- University of California-sponsored programs.

Students who decide to participate in a non-UC sponsored program must file a petition for a leave of absence. The scholarship will be reinstated when the student returns to UCSB.

Can the scholarship be used for Summer Session expenses?

Financial support is available upon request for Regents Scholars who take a full load during a summer session, provided that the total number of funded quarters (or sessions) does not exceed 12 quarters for new freshmen or six quarters for new transfers. Requests to use a quarter's eligibility during summer should be sent to the Regents Scholarship Coordinator in the Financial Aid Office.

What happens if I graduate early?

Many Regents Scholars graduate in less than four years. One quarter's worth of eligibility is used for each quarter of attendance and for summer session attendance, if requested. Regents Scholars who graduate early and do not exhaust their full eligibility (12 or 6 quarters) will not receive the scholarship funds earmarked for any future quarters.

Whom do I contact with my questions?

Scholarship disbursements and financial aid:

Nicole Dominguez - Financial Aid Advisor
and Scholarship Coordinator

E-mail: nicole.dominguez@sa.ucsb.edu

Telephone: (805) 893-5949

Housing:

Pamela Cort - Housing Services

E-mail: pcort@housing.ucsb.edu

Telephone: (805) 893-4240

General Regents Scholarship questions:

Colenn Berracasa – Regents Scholars Program Coordinator

UCSB Office of Admissions

1234 Cheadle Hall,

Santa Barbara, CA 93106

E-mail: colenn.berracasa@sa.ucsb.edu

Telephone: (805) 893-7285