Admissions

Undergraduate

Office of Admissions
Building (172H), 2nd Floor, Room 2-20
Phone: 805.756.2311; Fax: 805.756.5911
Tour Information Line: 805.756.5734
Email: admissions@calpoly.edu
https://admissions.calpoly.edu/

Admissions

Cal Poly comprehensively reviews all applications, seeking students who have strong academic records and are active in and outside the classroom. Admission to Cal Poly is highly competitive. Beyond the basic California State University qualifications, Cal Poly considers other factors for admission deemed important to the campus and does so in an objective format. Review the selection criteria for undergraduate applicants by starting here: Cal Poly Admissions (https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/transfer-student/selection-criteria/).

Applicants are notified of a formal decision by April 1.

First-Year Factors

When a first-year application is reviewed, the following are considered:

- The applicant's intended program of study (the major to which application is made)
- The applicant's college preparatory courses in secondary school
- GPA earned in college preparatory courses
- The applicant's extra-curricular activities and work experience
- Non-cognitive variables deemed important to the campus

For a comprehensive look at Cal Poly's selection criteria for a first-year applicant, including deadlines, visit Cal Poly Admissions Selection Criteria (https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/first-year-student/selection-criteria/).

The majors below have additional requirements:

- Art and Design – qualified first-year applicants will be requested to submit an electronic portfolio per specific instructions provided to the applicant
- Music – qualified first-year applicants will be requested to audition either in person or via specified media
- Architecture – qualified new transfer applicants will be requested to submit a portfolio per specific instructions provided to the applicant

Appeals to Undergraduate Admission Decisions - First Year and New Transfers

Cal Poly does not set aside spaces for students who appeal admission decisions. Every denied application has been reviewed for maximum consideration. Therefore, for an appeal to have merit it must bring to light new academic information, as well as information pertaining to extenuating circumstances that was not present in the application information that clearly shows the student to be stronger than had been earlier evidenced. Neither grades received in the current academic year nor mistakes made by the applicant on the application are a basis for an appeal or the reversal of a decision.

Review the Cal Poly Admissions website for complete information and instructions regarding the process to submit an appeal here (https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/not-selected/).

Application Procedures

For admission consideration, Cal Poly requires applicants to submit the online application (https://www2.calstate.edu/apply) with the corresponding $70.00 application fee, which is both non-refundable and non-transferable. The application and fee cannot be used to apply to another term.

Applicants should not submit additional information beyond the information submitted on the application unless requested to do so by the Admissions Office. Applicants are advised to submit complete and accurate information on the application for admission. Failure to file complete, accurate, and authentic application documentation may result in denial of admission, cancellation of academic credit, suspension, or expulsion (Section 41301 of Title V, California Code of Regulations).

View detailed online application information at https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/ (https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/).
Cal Poly Application Filing Periods

Cal Poly accepts undergraduate (first-year or new transfer) applications for the Fall term only.

First-Year Applicants apply through the online process. This process requires applicants to submit Cal Poly’s online application with the corresponding fee during the application filing period of October 1 to November 30.

*Please note: Applicants will receive notification of their admission status by April 1. Those selected must accept or decline Cal Poly’s offer of admission by May 1.

New Transfer Applicants apply through the online process. This process requires applicants to submit Cal Poly’s online application with the corresponding fee during the application filing period of October 1 to November 30.

*Please note: Applicants will receive notification of their admission status by April 1. Those selected must accept or decline Cal Poly’s offer of admission by May 1.

Offers of admission to Cal Poly are conditional pending satisfactory compliance with the “Terms and Conditions of Admission” found online at Terms and Conditions for First-Year Students (https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/first-year-student/accepted/admitted/checklist/terms-and-conditions/) and Terms and Conditions for Transfer Students (https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/transfer-student/accepted/admitted/terms-and-conditions/).

The California Promise Program

The California Promise Program enables a specific number of CSUs to establish pledge programs for entering first-time students who are both interested and able to complete baccalaureate degrees in four years. All CSUs have established programs for students with Associate Degrees for Transfer from any California Community College to complete their baccalaureate degrees in two years. The program is limited to students who are residents of California.

Students who commit to enter either the four-year or two-year pledge will be given a priority registration appointment for each state-supported enrollment period and will be provided with routine and thorough academic advisement. In order to remain in the program, students must meet with their advisors as prescribed, develop an enrollment plan and complete 30 semester units or the quarter equivalent within each academic year, including summer. Participating CSUs may stipulate other requirements as well. Interested students entering the CSU should contact university offices or visit The California Promise Program (https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/freshman/getting_into_the_csu/Pages/the-california-promise-program.aspx) website.

The California Promise at Cal Poly

Cal Poly has established a pilot pledge program for students with Associate Degrees for Transfer to complete their baccalaureate degrees in two years. The Bachelor of Arts in English is the only major available at this time. Interested students should contact Cal Poly’s Transfer Center (transfer@calpoly.edu).
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### International Admissions

Cal Poly, as part of the California State University (CSU) system, assesses the academic preparation of international students using factors such as academic performance, verification of English proficiency, and financial resources (to meet federal regulations). For this purpose, international students include those who hold U.S. visas as students, exchange visitors, or those in other nonimmigrant classifications. The CSU uses separate requirements and application filing dates in the admission of international students.

Reference the International Admissions section on the Cal Poly Admissions website for detailed information.

### Application Procedures

Cal Poly does not have a separate international application. International applicants submit the online application (https://www2.calstate.edu/apply) appropriate to their level of entry with the corresponding $70.00 application fee which is both non-refundable and non-transferable. The Cal Poly Admissions Office will contact each international applicant regarding additional requirements once the application has been received. View application information, deadlines and selection timelines by visiting https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/international-student/dates-and-deadlines.

For more information about international admission in addition to the application for admission requirements:

**International First Year Applicants** – visit https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/international-student/selection-criteria.

**International New Transfer Applicants** – visit https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/international-student/selection-criteria. Please note: Cal Poly does not accept applications for undergraduate transfer students with less than 60 transferable semester units (90 quarter units) or applications for second undergraduate degrees.

**International Graduate Applicants** – visit https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/international-student/selection-criteria.

After all required documents have been received, the Admissions Office will determine eligibility for admission and will notify the applicant of the result. International applicants admitted to Cal Poly will complete a visa questionnaire and receive a Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status (I-20 form) which is necessary to obtain a student visa to enter the United States or for requesting permission from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for transfer to Cal Poly from another U.S. institution. Other requirements may be imposed by USCIS. Applicants should note the I-20 form is valid for enrollment only at Cal Poly for the term indicated and that it includes an expiration date.

### Deadlines

#### Undergraduate Deadlines for International Students

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Application Filing Period</th>
<th>File Completion Deadline</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Oct 1 - Nov 30</td>
<td>March 1</td>
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#### Graduate Deadlines for International Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Application Filing Period</th>
<th>File Completion Deadline</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Oct 1 - program deadline or April 1st, whichever date is earlier</td>
<td>File Completion deadline is the same as the program deadline or April 1st, whichever date is earlier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>June 1 - September 1</td>
<td>September 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>August 1 - December 1</td>
<td>December 1</td>
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For detailed information about deadlines, visit https://www.calpoly.edu/admissions/international-student/dates-and-deadlines.

International students should also visit the Cal Poly International Center website at https://international.calpoly.edu/ for additional international student information and services.