

Minimum Cumulative Progress (MCP)

This information is provided to help undergraduates in the College of Engineering understand the new Minimum Cumulative Progress policy that was established in June 2007 by UCSB's [Academic Senate \(Divisional Regulation 45\)](#). Although we are able to answer many questions now, some issues are still being resolved because the policy is so recent. We will update this site as soon as new information is available so please check back for updates.

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What is MCP and why is it important?

The MCP policy was designed and approved by the faculty to provide important guideposts for academic progress for all undergraduate students. By meeting MCP guidelines, students graduate in a timely manner and open up UCSB's admissions slots for new students. In addition, UCSB receives funds for undergraduate education based on the number of units our students take. This policy is designed to encourage students to take the number of units each quarter that improves UCSB's claim on university instructional revenues. At the same time, the MCP requirement establishes a reasonable expectation of student workload.

The College of Engineering curricula for all five undergraduate majors are designed to be completed in four years; thus, students who follow the established pattern of courses outlined on their curriculum sheet should be in compliance with this new regulation.

Freshmen who are well ahead of their general education requirements when they matriculate to UCSB, are still expected to take free electives (i.e. seminars, introductory courses, or Exercise & Sports Studies courses) to meet the established MCP thresholds.

What is the MCP guideline?

MCP was implemented for all new and continuing students starting with the Fall 2008 quarter.

For students who applied for admission to UCSB as freshmen, the chart below sets expectations for cumulative progress.

Guideline for Minimum Cumulative Progress (MCP)	
Number of MCP Quarters*	Units Completed**
1	12
2	27
3	42
4	56
5	71
6	86
7	101
8	116

9	132
10	148
11	164
12	180

*Includes all regular quarters at UCSB except those for which an MCP exception is granted (see below)

**Excludes units prior to admission to UCSB such as AP, IB and community college units earned in high school.

To satisfy the MCP guidelines, students are expected to enroll in a minimum of 12 units during a regular quarter of enrollment (fall, winter or spring quarters) and to meet the units completed target listed for each quarter of enrollment. For example: by the end of their second quarter, freshmen are expected to have completed 27 units, and by the end of their fifth quarter, students who enter as freshmen are expected to have completed 71 units.

Students who applied for admission to UCSB as freshmen should keep in mind that units earned before UCSB matriculation (e.g. Advanced Placement Exam units, International Baccalaureate credit, or enrollment in college courses while in high school) do not count for MCP. MCP is based only on units taken after you become a UCSB student; however, units earned prior to UCSB matriculation will count toward graduation requirements.

For students who applied for admission to UCSB as transfer students and enter UCSB with between 90-105 units, the first quarter at UCSB is considered to be quarter 7 for the purpose of MCP calculations. For these transfer students all units transferred to UCSB will count toward your MCP total. Transfer students who transfer with less than 90 units or more than 105 units are inserted at Quarter 1 of the table. Their MCP units completed is calculated as the units completed after first enrolment at UCSB, including units completed in the UCSB Summer Session immediately preceding their first fall quarter of enrollment.

How and when will the MCP policy be implemented?

The following information represents a change from what you might have heard about how MCP policy will affect continuing students in fall 2008. The result of this change is that no student will carry a MCP balance into the 2008-09 academic year. Please read the following carefully.

The policy will first be implemented in fall quarter, 2008. All students are subject to MCP irrespective of when they entered the university.

All students who applied for admission to UCSB as freshmen, irrespective of when they first enrolled, will start at quarter 1 on the above table. Note that this means that no units earned prior to fall 2008 will be included on the MCP total units completed. For example, a student who entered UCSB in fall 2006 will start fall 2008 at MCP quarter 1 with zero completed MCP units and will have to complete 12 units to remain in compliance. This is irrespective of the number of units completed between fall 2006 and summer 2008.

All students who applied for admission to UCSB as transfer students, irrespective of when they first enrolled, and who transferred with between 90 and 105 units, will start at quarter 7 on the above table. This means that only units completed prior to matriculation at will be included in the MCP unit total. For example, a transfer student who matriculated to UCSB in fall 2007 with 95 units will start in fall 2008 at MCP quarter 7

with a MCP total of 95 units and will be expected to have 101 MCP units completed by the end of the quarter. Any units earned in fall 2007 through summer 2008 will not be included in the MCP unit total, but will still apply toward graduation requirements.

All students who applied for admission to UCSB as transfer students, irrespective of when they first enrolled, and who transferred with less than 90 or more than 105 units, will start at quarter 1 on the above table. This means that no units earned prior to fall 2008 will be included in the MCP unit total. For example, a transfer student who matriculated in fall 2007 with 110 units, will start in fall 2008 at MCP quarter 1 with zero completed MCP units and will have to complete 12 units to remain in compliance. This is irrespective of the number of units completed between fall 2007 and summer 2008.

Which units count towards my MCP unit total?

- Units from all credit-bearing courses completed with a passing grade at UCSB are counted. The [Linguistics Department's ESL courses](#), which do not count for baccalaureate credit, will be counted in your MCP total.
- Units from in-progress courses (IP) will be counted as units passed.
- Incomplete units are counted in the quarter during which the course was originally taken once a passing grade is assigned.
- If a student receives a passing grade in a course and then repeats and passes the same course, units from each enrolment will count as MCP units during each relevant quarter up to a total of 16 letter graded, repeated units. For excess letter graded repeats, beyond 16 repeated units, if the course was not passed at the first attempt, the units from the repeated course WILL count as MCP units. For excess letter graded units, beyond 16 repeated units, if the course was passed at the first attempt, the units from the repeated course WILL NOT count as MCP units.

What about Advanced Placement units, International Baccalaureate units, or units completed prior to matriculating to UCSB?

For students who applied for admission to UCSB as freshmen applicants, advanced placement (AP) units, International Baccalaureate (IB) units, and units completed prior to the first regular full-time quarter at UCSB, will not count toward MCP; however, units earned prior to UCSB matriculation will count toward graduation requirements.

For students entering the university in Fall 2009 and thereafter, units taken in the [UCSB Summer Session](#) immediately preceding your first fall quarter of enrollment (including the [FSSP](#) or [Transitions](#) programs) will count in your MCP unit total.

Do courses completed over the summer count toward minimum progress?

After fall 2008, any units earned from UCSB summer course work after matriculation at UCSB will count toward MCP. Similarly, any transferable units earned at another college's summer session after fall 2008 will count toward minimum progress.

Starting in summer 2009, summer will provide an opportunity for students to earn MCP units. This will allow

students to reduce an MCP deficit or bank MCP units for future quarters.

Can I be granted an exception from MCP?

The [Academic Senate regulation](#) gives the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies the authority to grant exceptions for certain periods of time from MCP. MCP exceptions granted for any quarter result in neither the quarter nor the units earned during that quarter being included in MCP totals.

Exceptions will be granted without requiring any action by the student in the following circumstances:

- The relevant period of study for students attending [UC EAP](#), UCDC and UC Sacramento.
- Students registered with the [Disabled Students Program](#) who, because of their disability, are designated by DSP as requiring an accommodation in the form of an exception to MCP. The MCP Exception may be either permanent or temporary.
- Where approval of a complete retroactive withdrawal for a quarter is approved, the quarter is treated as an MCP Exception.
- Where a student is put on an academic enrollment agreement, an MCP exception will be made based on the units required in the contract. There is no limit on the number of Contract Exceptions given.
- EAP Reciprocity Students
- Inter-Collegiate Athletes

Students may petition, with appropriate supporting documentation, for an MCP exception. A petition for an exception to MCP may be submitted using the form available under the MCP menu item in [GOLD](#). Petitions will be considered on a case by case basis.

Can I review my own MCP record?

Your MCP record may be viewed by selecting the MCP menu item in [GOLD](#). If you have questions regarding your MCP record, please contact the College's Office of Undergraduate Studies.

When will the College first review my MCP status?

For students who have an even numbered MCP quarter in spring 2009, the first MCP review will take place at the end of spring 2009. Students with an odd numbered MCP quarter at the end of spring 2009 will have their records reviewed for the first time at the completion of their next even numbered MCP quarter. Subsequent reviews will take place at the end of each student's even numbered MCP quarter.

What happens when I have an MCP deficit?

If, when the college reviews your MCP record, you have an MCP deficit for the previous two consecutive MCP quarters, you will be placed on MCP probation. If you continue to carry an MCP deficit for two further consecutive MCP quarters, you will be subject to dismissal because of failure to comply with MCP.

Will I still be able to graduate if I have not met minimum progress?

If you have officially filed to graduate and have met all degree requirements you will be allowed to graduate

even if you are subject to MCP dismissal.

What happens if I have more than 12 MCP quarters?

Please consult with an advisor in the College of Engineering Office of Undergraduate Studies.

What if I have more questions?

The College of Engineering academic advisors are available to meet with you on an individual basis to discuss your progress and academic record. Contact us by email: coe-info@engineering.ucsb.edu, call us at (805)893-2809 or stop by our office, Harold Frank Hall room 1006, (Monday - Friday from 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00).