

## Campus Highlight Reference Sheet

Thank you for your work as ambassadors of UC Santa Barbara! The following pages have the most up-to-date facts and achievements to help you in your advocacy. Please feel free to reference this when you meet with others to convey the power and potential of UC Santa Barbara.

### Academic Success & Leadership Facts

- No. 8 Times Higher Ed. Interdisciplinary Science Rankings, Worldwide, 2025
- No. 12 Forbes Magazine Best Colleges Rankings, 2025
- No. 12 Princeton Review Top 20 Best Career Placement Universities, 2025
- No. 19 Best University for Social Mobility U.S. News & World Report, 2025
- Eight UC Santa Barbara researchers and one alumna have won the Nobel Prize, including the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics, which went to UCSB faculty John Martinis and Michel Devoret.
- UC Santa Barbara ranked No. 179 out of over 1,500 global institutions, according to the 2026 QS World University Rankings.
- According to the 2024-2025 Nature Index, UC Santa Barbara ranks No. 37 among all U.S. research institutions. This means that UCSB is one of the top producers of high-impact science in the country, and our research is appearing in the most selective scientific journals worldwide.
- Our faculty includes top recipients of the Pulitzer Prize, the Millennium Technology Prize, the National Medal of Technology and Innovation and the Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics, the National Book Award, and an Emmy Award
- UC Santa Barbara is a pioneer of diverse programs and majors, including Black studies (1968), Chicana/o studies (1969), environmental studies (1970), feminist studies (1988), and Asian American studies (1995)

### U.S. News & World Report

The U.S. News & World Report 2026 Best Colleges report included UC Santa Barbara in multiple rankings:

- No. 14 public school among national universities
- No. 41 overall national university,
- No. 21 best college for veterans

- No. 19 best national university for social mobility

U.S. News also ranked UC Santa Barbara undergraduate programs in psychology (33), computer science (35), engineering (42) and economics (44) among the top 50 programs of their kind nationwide, along with graduate programs in materials (3), physics (9), ecology and evolutionary biology (12), chemistry (24) and sociology (36), among several others.

## Student Opportunity Facts

- The high school GPA of 90% of enrolled freshmen is 4.0+
- 17:1 student-faculty ratio translates to small class sizes and a personalized learning environment
- Over 50% of undergraduates participate in faculty-led research
- 28% of students are Pell Grant recipients

## Campus Facts

- 1944 — Established as a UC campus
- 200+ majors and credentials
- 10 national institutes and centers
- 7 natural reserves
- 90+ startups based on UCSB technology
- 20 Division I sports
- 23,000 undergraduates, 3,000 graduate students, 1,200 faculty
- 1,127 acres with 7+ miles of bike path
- Includes approximately 2.5 miles of coastline along the Pacific Ocean, and 6 more miles of shoreline along the Goleta and Devereaux Sloughs
- UC Santa Barbara continues to hold a Gold rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, is designated a Platinum-level “Bicycle Friendly University,” and is a Certified Bee Campus — marks of broad sustainability efforts across campus community.



For more facts, scan the QR code  
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