



**GRADUATE SUCCESS THROUGH ACADEMICS AND RESEARCH (STAR) 3+1 ACCESS PROGRAM
DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES**

I. SCOPE

Services:

Overview

The Success Through Academics and Research (STAR) Program offers post-baccalaureate degree seekers a great learning environment for becoming competitive applicants to and successful students within a five-year period. The 3+1 Access Track offers a unique curriculum to current fourth year / senior students in university who want to accelerate their learning in fields such as Engineering, data science and analytics for business, and humanities and become competitive candidates for the graduate programs at UC Irvine and/or U.S. universities. Students in the 3+1 Access Track will receive integrated academic, professional, and communication skills training through rigorous credit-bearing courses. Moreover, students who may be eligible to participate in a 10-week internship to boost their resumes and interaction with business professionals in the U.S. by extending their program.

Students' qualifications for admission will be carefully evaluated by reviewing their transcript, resume, statement of purpose, English language requirement, and any additional materials submitted to the STAR Program. Also, students will receive the ACTS (Authentic, Comprehensive, Targeted, Strategic) focused graduate application assistance from UCI Continuing Education. Program advisers will help students become familiar with demanding graduate school culture at a top university, build a strong professional network, and set a right-fit educational path for reaching their goals. Program and program requirements may be subject to change. Student applications may not be processed, and any aforementioned tuition discounts may not be offered until this Agreement is fully executed.

Course grades will be maintained on Division of Continuing Education transcripts. Credit for course work may be granted by the student's Home Institution at its sole discretion.

This Program does not guarantee admission to any graduate program.

Academic Program

1. Students who have completed the first three years in university with a chosen major or have completed an adequate number of courses in programming will be eligible for this 3+1 Access Track.
2. While at UCI, 4th year students are required to complete the curriculum outlined in this 3+1 Access Track and are expected to meet the graduation requirements of their home universities at the same time.
3. During students' studies in the 3+1 Access Track, students receive graduate application assistance to apply to UCI and other top universities; students may also be advised by DCE academic advising unit to chart out an appropriate course of study.

4. Students will also be given the opportunities to develop and extend their networking with industry leaders, admissions office representatives, and other students at UCI through academic courses and other student events / activities.
5. Upon successful completion of the 3+1 Access Track and graduation requirements for the bachelor's degrees issued by students' home universities, students continue to attend UCI or another graduate school by completing the master's degree program that has accepted them.

Program Curriculum

Program curriculum information can be found at <https://ip.ce.uci.edu/programs/star/>.

Full-Time Study Requirements

A full-time course of study in STAR, in compliance with both UC and U.S. immigration requirements, is defined as:

- Minimum 12 units per quarter
- Students may take graduate units with special approval by STAR. Additional fees will be charged.
- No more than 4 units or one course per quarter may be taken in an online format.

To successfully complete STAR, students must fulfill all program requirements, including maintaining program academic performance standards in all coursework. Students may be disqualified if they fail to meet UC academic and/or behavioral standards.

University will monitor each student's academic and personal progress. After each student signs the FERPA *Authorization to Release Information to a Designated Third Party*, University may report student's performance to designated recipients, including UCI Undergraduate Admissions, the admissions units of other US university campuses, and the student's parents/guardians.

Available Intakes: Winter, Summer and Fall

Program Dates can be found on UCI's website at <https://ce.uci.edu/international>.

The admissions requirements can be found at <https://ce.uci.edu/programs/international/gstar/311-track>.

Internship

Students may participate in an optional unpaid 10-week internship upon successful completion of the 3+1 Access track during the STAR program. Internships are supervised, unpaid paraprofessional positions, which provide students the opportunity to work in a real-world setting, practice skills and concepts learned in their STAR program and develop professional contacts while earning six units of academic credit. Internships last 10 weeks, and many are in mid-sized organizations in the growing high-tech business environment of Orange County, as well as in the greater Los Angeles area. Internships enhance the student's education and develop career paths through exposure to the American business environment. An internship also increases English language capacity, helps to develop adaptability to different environments, and shapes future goals. Internships range from a minimum of 20 hours per week to up to 35 hours per week for a minimum of 200 hours in the quarter.

Students may choose from a comprehensive list of companies or seek an internship on their own. UCI is not responsible for any costs students may incur during their internship. The Internship Experience staff will determine if an outside company is suitable to meet the student's professional goals as well as meet the UCI's strict requirements for host sites. As a culmination to the internship, students are required to complete an 8-10-page reflection paper, which details their work experiences. The Internship course carries six (6) academic quarter credits and is considered full-time study if completed in the final quarter of study.

Optional Practical Training (OPT)

OPT is temporary employment that is directly related to an F-1 student's last major area of study. An F-1 student may be authorized by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to receive up to one year of paid practical training. To be eligible for OPT, students must complete nine consecutive months of full-time study in Accelerated Certificate Programs and successfully complete STAR. UCI provides information and immigration advising support for students interested in OPT. UCI, however, cannot guarantee OPT authorization and does not provide OPT placement services.

II. FEES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Fees (i.e., Rates/Cost): Program Fees can be found under **Tuition and Fees** on UCI International Programs website at <https://ce.uci.edu/international>. Students enrolling under this Agreement will be provided a 10% discount on program only. Should a higher tuition fee discount be published on UCI's website for the quarter(s) a student enrolls it will be applied. Discounts from all sources may not be combined or cannot exceed the largest single discount.

Payment Policies and Deadlines: can be found under **Tuition and Fees** on UCI International Programs website at <https://ce.uci.edu/international>.

Terms of Payment: Pursuant to Section 3.2 of this Agreement and Payment Policies and Deadlines.