In Fall 2011, Cal Poly selected 37.4% of first-time freshmen (FTF) applicants. Of these 12,341 selections, 35.0% enrolled, producing an entering FTF class of 4,316 students. The Fall 2011 FTF yield of 35.0% is an increase from the 32.2% yield from the Fall 2010 FTF class and is the highest FTF yield since Fall 2003.

The College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences had the highest FTF selection rate (48.2%), as well as the highest FTF yield (52.2%). The College of Architecture & Environmental Design had the lowest selection rate (27.5%), and the College of Science and Mathematics had the lowest yield (25.2%).

Cal Poly selected 22.2% of Fall 2011 transfer applicants. Of the 1,517 new transfer selections, 53.3% enrolled, resulting in a Fall 2011 new transfer class of 808 students.
The Fall 2011 FTF class is more diverse than the previous year. A typical grouping of ethnic origins that is referred to as “under-represented minorities” (URM) consists of Hispanic, African American, and Native American. The Fall 2011 FTF class URM percentage increased from 13.2% last year to 14.7% this year.

As of Summer 2009, Cal Poly converted to the new federal standards for collecting and reporting ethnicity. Among the changes is a new option for students to identify themselves in multiple races. Because of the new “multi-racial” category, we no longer aggregate students into a “non-white” category.

Cal Poly went over its Fall 2011 first-time freshmen target by 15.1%, with an enrolled class of 4,316 students. The Fall 2011 FTF class quality continues to climb, with record-high SAT and ACT averages. The average high school GPA stayed the same as last year but is still a record high.

In addition, Cal Poly has enrolled the highest numbers of National Merit® Scholars this fall, with 2 National Achievement™ Scholars, 17 National Hispanic Scholars, and 16 National Merit® Finalists.

Cal Poly came in under its Fall 2011 new transfer target by 8.1%.

The College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences enrolled the largest proportion of new transfers, with 26.4% of the 808 new transfers in Fall 2011.

The College of Engineering and Orfalea College of Business had the highest transfer GPA among the colleges.