



Fall 2017 Enrollment – Frequently Asked Questions

How many additional students is Cal Poly expecting in the fall? Why is the freshman class bigger than expected?

- Final numbers are still being tallied and will be available in October. Current estimates are between 800 and 850 additional students this year. Offers of admission are conditional upon completion of academic requirements from high school. Final numbers are still being calculated as admitted freshman students make their final decisions on whether to attend.
- Cal Poly uses a variety of data and forecasting models in the process of determining the appropriate number of students to whom admission should be offered, given our targeted overall enrollment.
- The number of students the university admits is based on forecasts as to how many of those students will accept our offer of admission and ultimately enroll.
- As much as this process is data-driven, it is also subject to the variability of human behavior. While the university developed admissions models for 2017-18 based on maintaining steady state, a significantly higher-than-expected number of students responded positively to the university's offer of admission.
 - We eliminated our Early Decision process after discovering that a high proportion of under-represented students did not participate in Early Decision because it required students to make a binding financial commitment to attend the university before knowing the amount of financial aid for which they qualified.
 - Dropping Early Decision changed our modeling data, resulting in a higher yield than anticipated.
 - Our recently implemented campaigns aimed at student retention and increased graduation rates were highly successful and exceeded expectations.
 - Given our offers of enrollment are conditional upon prospective students accepting them and completion of academic requirements from high school, our exact final class size will not be known until October.
- Cal Poly is one of at least nine campuses within the California State University system reporting that more students accepted admission than were expected.
- It should also be noted that the incoming freshman class will include a significant increase in under-represented minority students, making it the most diverse class in the last two decades, and that it is one of Cal Poly's most academically accomplished incoming classes.

How is the university preparing to accommodate the incoming students?

- Cal Poly is taking every step to ensure that the student experience, inside and outside the classroom, meets the high standards our students expect and deserve.
- Our college deans and leadership in Academic Affairs are working to add class sections to meet student demand and are focusing their efforts on areas that will have the greatest impact on enrollment shifts.
- Student Affairs, ASI, University Housing, Facilities and public safety leaders are adjusting residence hall capacities; expanding seating in the Library, University Union, and other facilities; and supporting programs to ensure students' continued health and safety.
- University Union hours expanded to close one hour later than 2016-2017 academic year:
 - Monday – Friday 6:00am – 1:00am
 - Saturday – Sunday 8:00am – 1:00am
- Recreation Center hours expanded to open 30 minutes earlier and close 30 minutes later than 2016-2017 academic year:
 - Monday – Friday 5:30am – 12:30am
 - Saturday - Sunday 8:00am – 12:30am

Class schedules and offerings

- Cal Poly remains committed to its ongoing focus on improving graduation rates, as part of the CSU's Graduation Initiative 2025.
- To help stay on-track to graduate, students are encouraged to visit the Mustang Success Center for drop-in advising and general questions in addition to connecting with their college advising center.

Facilities

- The physical campus can safely and efficiently accommodate the incoming class.
- Cal Poly offices and departments — particularly University Housing, the Offices of the Provost and Registrar, and Facilities Management & Development — are coordinating to more efficiently utilize existing campus buildings and space to best accommodate the additional students and maintain the quality of the Cal Poly student experience.
- Over the summer, the university is working to convert underutilized rooms and campus space for additional classroom space and to increase utilization of existing space, particularly common area space in university housing.

Housing

- A record number of new students have joined the Mustang family this fall
- We have added beds in existing apartments in Cerro Vista and Poly Canyon Village

- Because the traditional residence halls are already tripled in most cases, we did not add any beds to South/North Mountain Halls or Yosemite and Sierra Madre
- To deliver the best possible student experience, we're providing:
 - New group study spaces in Poly Canyon Village
 - Common spaces integrated within the apartment living areas
 - New patio furniture for outdoor study spaces at Cerro Vista
 - A reduced rate for the 8-person apartment housing option
 - Upgrading wifi in Cerro Vista and Poly Canyon Village
 - Free laundry

Dining

- Dining is expanding offerings and quantities available at grab-and-go outlets throughout campus, such as The Avenue, Campus Market, Village Market, Julian's, and Metro Express.
- The current all-you-care-to-eat facility, 19 Metro, is being remodeled to increase efficiency and seating options, and allow for new food concepts and variety. It will also receive a new name, 805 Kitchen.
- Breakfast hours and offerings are being expanded at The Avenue and the all-you-care-to-eat facility.
- Dining is adding two Starbucks-branded kiosks to campus to alleviate lines at existing coffee venues.
- Canyon Café will replace Tacos To Go in Poly Canyon Village. This concept will be open for longer hours, serve breakfast, lunch and dinner items and provide freshman living in that area of campus easy access to broader menu variety.
- Many of our dining facilities can accommodate students to use the space for study space during and after meal times. See flyer advertising additional study space [HERE](#).

Transportation, Parking, and Safety

- To address the limited supply of available parking spaces, support campus sustainability efforts and encourage incoming students' sense of campus community, freshman students living in university housing are not permitted to bring automobiles to campus for the duration of their freshman year (fall through spring quarters). This includes students who have enough credits to be considered sophomores at any time during their first academic year at Cal Poly. Therefore, the increase in freshman enrollment is not anticipated to have a significant negative impact on parking or traffic throughout campus.
- Transportation & Parking Services continually monitor their programs and resources in order to more efficiently utilize the campus's finite parking resources. There are a number of convenient transportation options available to the Cal Poly community: Zipcar, PolyRides, bicycle, taxi/Uber/Lyft, SLO Transit (free with Cal

Poly ID), RTA bus, and Amtrak bus/train. It is our hope that students will learn to use sustainable transportation alternatives while attending Cal Poly.

- Cal Poly enjoys a low crime rate and safe campus. However, we are not immune to crime and crime still sometimes occur despite our efforts. UPD officers are on duty patrolling campus and the surrounding areas 24/7. To provide the safe environment the campus enjoys, UPD partners with many departments such as Housing, Dean of Students, the Counseling Center, ASI, SAFER, and Student Affairs to proactively address safety concerns. The majority of crime on campus involves property; crimes of opportunity where valuables are not properly stored/secured. UPD will increase crime prevention efforts within Housing for the additional residents to educate them on personal safety, awareness, and property safety.
- The hiring of additional police officers has been approved to address the expected additional calls for service with the increase in residential population.

Availability of textbooks and course materials

- University store is closely monitoring enrollment by class every day to ensure an adequate supply of books and other needed supplies.
- The store will increase ordering of books and supplies in the fall, particularly for freshman-level courses and will offer pick-up daily (not just during move-in weekend) for online orders, which will be ready within 24 to 48 hours of placement.
- The University Store will be open Sundays from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm to help students with a variety of needs and keep up with extra work.
- The Library also provides affordable options for students through the course reserves service and the textbook match program.
 - Course Reserves are course-specific and supplemental materials set aside by instructors for their students and are available at the library's circulation desk on the first floor. Students can visit the Course Reserves page to search for their course materials: <http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/course-reserves/>
 - Textbook Match program: Each quarter the library provides links to assigned textbooks that are available as e-books from the library. Please visit the Textbook Match page (<http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/textbook-match/>) to search for e-book textbooks.

Alternative locations for study space

- Additional study spaces will be available in various locations on campus. Please see the latest flier [HERE](#), which advertises additional study locations and extended hours.
- The University Union study lounges and lobby spaces are available during operational hours.

- Monday – Friday 6:00am – 1:00am
 - Saturday – Sunday 8:00am – 1:00am
- The Recreation Center has added group study space that can accommodate approximately 30-40 people during operational hours
 - Monday – Friday 5:30am – 12:30am
 - Saturday - Sunday 8:00am – 12:30am

Health, counseling and other wellbeing-related services

- Campus Health & Wellbeing remains committed to providing basic services, including assessing all students who present for services during normal business hours and recommending a relevant course of action, based on their medical or psychological concern. It is likely that additional student demand will limit available services.

High-speed internet and other information technology services

- Cal Poly's Information Technology Services is working with University Housing on upgrading Wi-Fi systems in on-campus housing to accommodate increased usage.
- ITS is also assessing its Service Desk, Portal and Enterprise applications, and back-end Wi-Fi infrastructure to ensure that all are prepared to accommodate additional usage as needed.

Parent and family programs

- Mustang Family Weekend, planned for Oct. 20-22, 2017, remains the best time for parents and supporters to come to campus to visit their freshman students.
- Registration and space will not be limited for any upcoming fall move-in events or Mustang Family Weekend events hosted by Parent and Family Programs.