

# POLYVIEW FALL 2009

Characteristics of Students Enrolled at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

## Applications for Fall 2009

There were 37,999 total applications in Fall 2009, which is a decrease of 2.6% from last year. The number of total applications had increased from a low of 13,441 in Fall 1993 to a high of 39,026 in Fall 2008.

Fall 2009 first-time freshmen (FTF) applications decreased by 1,863 (5.6%) from last year after climbing steadily since Fall 1993 to an all-time high in Fall 2008. This decrease is most likely due to the reduction of application fee waivers, limiting the number of campuses for which students can apply.

There were 3,577 early-decision applications for Fall 2009, of which 816 students were selected and 610 (74.8%) enrolled.

Fall 2009 new transfer applications have been up and down over the years. New transfer applications are up 16.4% from last year.

Fall 2009 new post-baccalaureate/graduate applications decreased 13.1% from last year.

### New Enrolled First-Time Freshmen

Average High School GPA	3.81
Average SAT Reading	579
Average SAT Math	623
Average ACT Composite	26.3

## Enrollment

Cal Poly enrolled 19,325 students in Fall 2009. Of these students, 18,302 (94.7%) were undergraduates, 141 (0.7%) were post-baccalaureate students, and 882 (4.6%) were graduate students. The Fall total enrollment of 19,325 is a decrease of 0.7% (146 students) from Fall of 2008.

Fall 2009 total headcount enrollment was over Cal Poly's internal headcount target of 19,119 by 206 students. Fall 2009 undergraduate headcount was 129 students over Cal Poly's internal undergraduate headcount target of 18,173. Fall 2009 post-baccalaureate headcount fell short of its internal target by 20 students, and graduate enrollment exceeded its target by 97 students.

Cal Poly enrolled a new first-time freshman class of 3,908 students in Fall 2009, which was 9.2% over Cal Poly's internal FTF target of 3,578. The Fall 2009 new transfer class of 716 students was higher than Cal Poly's internal new transfer target by 85 students.

The average load for all students in Fall 2009 was 14.39, with undergraduates carrying a load of 14.55, post-baccalaureate students carrying a load of 14.39, and graduate students carrying 10.98. This total student average load of 14.39 is up from last year's load of 14.14.

## Academic Performance

	Undergraduate	Post-Baccalaureate	Graduate
Average Fall Term Units	14.55	14.39	10.98
Average Cumulative GPA*	2.90	3.75	3.56

\*Based on the student's cumulative Cal Poly GPA, which does not include Fall 2009 grades.

## College Size

College	Under-Grad	Post-Bacc	Graduate	Total	Percent of Total
Ag, Food & Env Science	3,778		120	3,898	20.2%
Architecture & Env Design	1,818		63	1,881	9.7%
Engineering	5,187		322	5,509	28.5%
Liberal Arts	2,695		162	2,857	14.8%
Orfalea Business	2,327		60	2,387	12.4%
Science & Math	2,418	127	155	2,700	14.0%
Other	79	14		93	0.5%
<b>University Total</b>	<b>18,302</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>19,325</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



Engineering Plaza

(Represents a place of beginnings that spirals out infinitely)

## Institution of Origin (New Undergraduates)

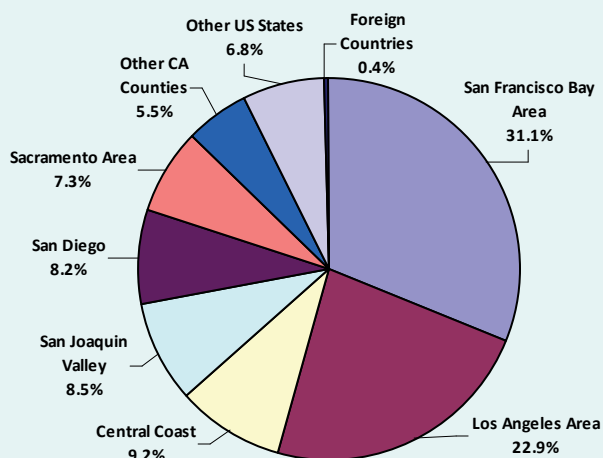
What institutions do new Cal Poly undergraduates come from? The top “feeder” schools for Fall 2009 new undergraduates are:

First-Time Freshmen—High Schools		New Transfers—Colleges
Arroyo Grande High School	Canyon Crest Academy (San Diego)	Cuesta College (San Luis Obispo)
San Luis Obispo High School	La Costa Canyon High School (Encinitas)	Allan Hancock College (Santa Maria)
Amador Valley High School (Pleasanton)	Monte Vista High School (Danville)	Santa Rosa Junior College
San Ramon Valley High School (Danville)	Atascadero High School	Santa Barbara City College
Wilson High School (Long Beach)	California High School (San Ramon)	Bakersfield College
Salinas High School	*St. Francis High School (Mountain View)	Sierra College (Rocklin)

\*Private School

## Geographic Origin of New First-Time Freshmen

Fall 2009 New FTF Enrollment by Geographic Region



Area	Counties
Central Coast	Monterey, San Benito, SLO, Santa Barbara
Los Angeles	Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura
San Francisco Bay Area	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, SF, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma
San Joaquin	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare
San Diego	San Diego
Sacramento Area	El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba
Other	All other CA counties

Almost one third (31.1%) of Fall 2009 new first-time freshmen (FTF) came from the San Francisco Bay area. Another 22.9% of Fall 2009 new FTF came from the Los Angeles area. The top “feeder” counties for Fall 2009 new FTF were Los Angeles (10.5%), Orange (8.3%), and San Diego (8.2%). The Central Coast area accounted for 9.2% of Fall 2009 new FTF, with 4.1% from San Luis Obispo County.

Note: Based on county/state/country of residence at time of application

## Study Abroad

In Fall 2009, 60 Cal Poly students studied in 8 countries as part of the California State University International Programs. Students participating represented a variety of disciplines, and most enrolled in intensive language study at their host universities.

As part of the National Student Exchange program (the only nationwide domestic student exchange program), 9 Cal Poly students studied at other universities across the United States. Cal Poly hosted 10 NSE students during 2009-10.

In Fall 2009, 34 students participated in international exchanges to various countries: Australia, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Spain, and Sweden. Other exchange sites are located in Austria, Brazil, Canada, China,

Finland, Honduras, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

Additional study abroad opportunities include the Australia Study Program, the Summer Study in London Program, the Thai Study Program, the Peru Study Program, the Valladolid Fall Studies Program in Spain, and extended field trips led by Cal Poly faculty.

Finally, Cal Poly sent students on the following affiliated study abroad programs during Fall 2009: AustraLearn (12); Cultural Experiences Abroad (44); Danish Institute for Study Abroad (3); and University Studies Abroad Consortium (47). Fifty-one Cal Poly students are enrolled in independent study abroad programs.

\*Study Abroad information provided by International Education and Programs

## International Students

In Fall 2009, Cal Poly enrolled 142 international students, including 120 undergraduates, 7 post-baccalaureates, and 15 graduate students. These students came from 40 countries. The 5 countries sending the most students to Cal Poly were France (14), Germany (12), Japan (12), Denmark (10), and China (7).

Note: International students consist of students enrolled at Cal Poly who are in the United States with an F or J visa.



## Ethnic Origin

Note: Student ethnic origin is self-reported.

	Undergraduate		Post-Baccalaureate		Graduate		Total	
Hispanic/Latino	2,164	11.8%	8	5.7%	94	10.7%	2,266	11.7%
African American	169	0.9%	1	0.7%	7	0.8%	177	0.9%
Native American	111	0.6%	0	0.0%	5	0.6%	116	0.6%
Hawaiian/Pacific Isl	13	0.1%	1	0.7%	0	0.0%	14	0.1%
Asian American	1,964	10.7%	4	2.8%	72	8.2%	2,040	10.6%
Multi-Racial	401	2.2%	5	3.5%	23	2.6%	429	2.2%
White	11,893	65.0%	103	73.0%	540	61.2%	12,536	64.9%
Non-Resident Alien	186	1.0%	7	5.0%	20	2.3%	213	1.1%
Unknown/Other	1,401	7.7%	12	8.5%	121	13.7%	1,534	7.9%
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>18,302</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>19,325</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

As of Summer 2009, Cal Poly converted to the new federal standards for collecting and reporting ethnicity. As a result, comparisons to previous years are not possible. 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.

Of the Fall 2009 total student population, 11.7% identify themselves as Hispanic/Latino, and 10.6% identify themselves as Asian American. The 2.2% of students that identify themselves as multi-racial consists almost exclusively of Fall 2009 new students, since the new collection method started with the Summer 2009 applicants.

## Student Age

The average age of Fall 2009 undergraduates was 20.4, with 95.7% under the age of 25.

	UG	PB	Grad	Total
Average Age	20.4	26.1	26.8	20.8
25 or Older	4.3%	39.0%	49.8%	6.6%

Note: Based on students' age at census date for Fall 2009 (11-2-09)

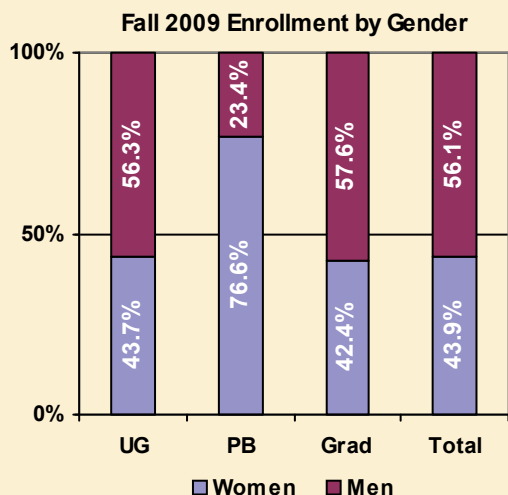
## Financial Aid

Of the 19,471 total students enrolled in Fall 2008, 47.0% received some type of financial aid during 2008-09. Similarly, 46.4% of Fall 2008 undergraduates and 52.0% of Fall 2008 first-time freshmen received some form of financial aid in 2008-09.

The amount of financial aid awarded in 2008-09 totaled over \$96 million, an increase of 7.1% over 2007-08. Of this \$96 million, 70.6% came from federal funds, while 14.2% came from state funds and 6.5% came from institutional funds.

Of 2008-09 financial aid, 62.3% came in the form of loans, 26.8% was grants, and 7.6% was scholarships.

## Student Gender



There were 8,488 women (43.9%) and 10,837 men (56.1%) enrolled at Cal Poly in Fall 2009. The proportion of women is up from the Fall 2008 proportion of 43.7%.

Among post-baccalaureate students, women outnumbered men. Of Fall 2009 post-baccalaureate students, 76.6% were female. However, at the graduate level, men outnumbered women. Of Fall 2009 graduate students, 57.6% were male.

## Housing

In Fall 2009, Cal Poly completed the final phase of Poly Canyon Village, housing 2,700 continuing student residents. Cal Poly housed 34.6% of Fall 2009 undergraduates and 95.5% of Fall 2009 first-time freshmen in on-campus residence halls.

## Degrees Awarded



### College Breakdown of Degrees Awarded in 2008-09

#### Bachelor's Degrees

Ag, Food & Env Sciences	20.5%
Architecture & Env Design	9.8%
Engineering	19.7%
Liberal Arts	21.4%
Orfalea Business	18.7%
Science & Math	9.6%
Other	0.2%

#### Master's Degrees

Ag, Food & Env Sciences	10.0%
Architecture & Env Design	5.6%
Education	21.5%
Engineering	33.8%
Liberal Arts	8.4%
Orfalea Business	12.0%
Science & Math	5.1%
Other	3.6%

The 3,824 bachelor's degrees awarded in 2008-09 is a 2.7% increase from last years' total of 3,723 bachelor's degrees awarded. The number of master's degrees awarded in 2008-09 (391) decreased 53 from 2007-08.

The College of Liberal Arts awarded the most bachelor's degrees among the colleges in 2008-09 with 820 (21.4%). The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences and the College of Engineering followed with 783 (20.5%) and 754 (19.7%) bachelor's degrees awarded, respectively.

	Bachelor's Degrees	Master's Degrees	Credential Recommendations
2004-05	3,568	298	233
2005-06	3,760	347	267
2006-07	3,684	453	225
2007-08	3,723	444	258
2008-09	3,824	391	262

The College of Engineering awarded the highest number of master's degrees with 132 (33.8%).

## Fields of Study

Cal Poly offers 66 bachelor's degree programs, including a new five-year pilot program of BA in Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies.

At the graduate level, Cal Poly offers 27 master's degree programs with the addition of an MS in Polymers and Coatings Science.

In addition to the degree programs, Cal Poly also offers 67 minors and 14 credential programs.

Eleven bachelor's and eight master's programs are unique to Cal Poly among the California State University system campuses.

## Retention & Persistence to Graduation

### One-Year Retention Rate for First-Time Freshmen

Fall 2001 Cohort	88.3%
Fall 2002 Cohort	89.2%
Fall 2003 Cohort	90.0%
Fall 2004 Cohort	91.3%
Fall 2005 Cohort	90.8%
Fall 2006 Cohort	89.9%
Fall 2007 Cohort	89.2%
Fall 2008 Cohort	91.4%

Cohorts used for retention and graduation rates are based on the federal "Student Right to Know Act" methodology, which is defined as any student entering post-secondary education for the first time in Fall term (or the preceding Summer term) who is enrolled as full-time in the Fall.

The Fall 2008 cohort's one-year retention rate of 91.4% is a 2.2% increase from the previous year's rate. The most recent six-year graduation rate for the Fall 2003 cohort is at 73.8%, the highest point on record. This rate is 8.6% higher than the six-year rate for the Fall 1996 cohort and 15.6% higher than the six-year rate of 58.5% for the Fall 1990 cohort.

### Six-Year Graduation Rate for First-Time Freshmen

Fall Cohort 1996	65.2%
Fall Cohort 1997	66.2%
Fall Cohort 1998	69.3%
Fall Cohort 1999	69.9%
Fall Cohort 2000	68.6%
Fall Cohort 2001	69.1%
Fall Cohort 2002	72.7%
Fall Cohort 2003	73.8%

PolyView is a publication of Cal Poly's Office of Institutional Planning & Analysis based on enrollment statistics for Fall quarter 2009.

