GRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE AND EQUITY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94607-5200

September 15, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you have had a pleasant and restorative summer. We write with a transfer admissions update: Effective with the implementation of the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) for fall 2025, Language Other Than English (LOTE) is no longer a required area of the intersegmental General Education (GE) pattern.[1] However, the Cal-GETC certification form will have LOTE certification available as an option to select.

This memo contains guidance for students who are currently pursuing Cal-GETC and may also be considering the optional LOTE certification. It also speaks to California community colleges whose leadership may be considering how and when to offer the optional LOTE certification to students interested in transfer to the University of California.

The Language Other Than English area remains a graduation requirement for many UC colleges and majors, so the university strongly recommends that applicants choose the optional LOTE certification. While there is currently no single method for satisfying LOTE requirements that applies across all UC campuses and programs, we offer the following guidance on how students can satisfy LOTE prior to transfer during this transition period for Cal-GETC. (Ongoing guidance regarding the LOTE graduation requirement can also be found at the regularly updated UC graduation requirements page.)

Campus-specific guidance

UC Berkeley: The College of Letters and Sciences will not allow the optional LOTE certification on the Cal-GETC form to satisfy LOTE for transfer students. Beginning in fall 2026, students will need to complete a second semester (or third quarter) of a college-level course in a language other than English, with a grade of C- or better, to satisfy the LOTE graduation requirement.

UC Davis: The optional LOTE certification on Cal-GETC will be accepted to satisfy the LOTE graduation requirement in the College of Letters and Science. Should a student enter UC Davis with a completed Cal-GETC that does not have the optional certification completed, the campus will accept an amended Cal-GETC form with the certification after a student has matriculated.

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[1] IGETC (which still requires Area 6: Language Other Than English) will still be accepted by UC campuses for those students retaining catalog rights to follow the IGETC pattern.

UC Irvine: The optional LOTE certification on Cal-GETC will be accepted to satisfy the LOTE graduation requirement. Should a student enter UC Irvine with a completed Cal-GETC that does not have the optional certification completed, the campus will accept an amended Cal-GETC form with the certification after a student has matriculated.

UCLA: The optional LOTE certification on Cal-GETC will be accepted to satisfy the LOTE graduation requirements. Should a student enter UCLA with a completed Cal-GETC that does not have the optional certification completed, the campus will accept an amended Cal-GETC form with the certification after a student has matriculated.

UC Merced: Please contact the campus Office of Undergraduate Admissions directly at admissions@ucmerced.edu.
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UC Riverside: Optional LOTE certification on the Cal-GETC form is not required. Some majors may require a Level 3 or 4 LOTE requirement, which may be satisfied either with coursework completed at UC Riverside or with applicable transfer credit from another institution.

UC San Diego: Revelle College and Eleanor Roosevelt College will allow the optional LOTE certification on Cal-GETC to satisfy the LOTE general education requirement. Should a student enter UC San Diego with a completed Cal-GETC that does not have the optional certification completed, Revelle and Eleanor Roosevelt Colleges will accept an amended Cal-GETC form with the certification after a student has matriculated. The other UC San Diego colleges do not specifically require LOTE and will not accept the LOTE certification for their general education requirements.

UC Santa Barbara: All three colleges at UC Santa Barbara — Letters and Science, Engineering and Creative Studies — will accept the completed Cal-GETC certification to satisfy General Education requirements. For the College of Letters and Science where there is a LOTE requirement, Cal-GETC will fulfill all GE requirements, including LOTE. The optional LOTE certification is not required.

UC Santa Cruz: There is no LOTE graduation requirement. Optional LOTE certification on the Cal-GETC form is not required.

We hope this information is clear and complete. If you have questions regarding the use of the optional LOTE certification on the Cal-GETC form, please contact Molly Thompson at molly.thompson@ucop.edu. Questions regarding how a LOTE certification may be applied at an individual UC campus may be directed to the campuses directly. Additional general LOTE related queries may be sent to AskUC@ucop.edu.

Sincerely,

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