

2026-27 COUNSELOR UPDATE

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS | A Division of Student Success and Well-Being



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR WHAT'S NEXT

Technology is changing every industry, and at UCF, students learn how to put it to work in ways that make a difference. As **Florida's Technological University**, we're preparing graduates with the skills and experience they need to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

While UCF is Florida's top producer of engineering and computer science graduates, technology reaches far beyond those disciplines. Students across campus are using emerging tech to solve problems, improve communities and explore new possibilities in health care, education, business, hospitality, the arts and more.

From conducting undergraduate research to collaborating with industry partners, students gain real-world experience that prepares them for what's next. At UCF, technology isn't relegated to a single major or career path. It's part of how students learn, create and lead.

EARLY ACTION DATES FOR SUMMER & FALL 2027

Application and material submission deadlines allow time to submit materials, including October test results.

UCF's Early Action (EA) deadlines for the 2026-27 admission cycle are not changing. First-time-in-college (FTIC) students who wish to apply through EA must submit their application and \$30 application fee (or approved fee waiver) by **October 15**. All required supporting documents, including official test scores and the SPARK Form, must be received by **November 15**.

Students are encouraged to request their official SAT, ACT or CLT scores well in advance of the deadline to ensure timely delivery. Applicants who meet the EA deadlines will receive a final admission

decision or deferral for new information on **December 4**.

EA at UCF is **non-binding**. Students admitted through this option must confirm their enrollment by **May 1**. Admitted EA students also receive **priority consideration for merit scholarships** and **early access to the on-campus housing application**.

UCF will continue to review applications on a **rolling basis** for students who complete their application after November 15. These applicants will receive decisions on a rolling basis between **January and May**. Students who apply after the EA deadlines are not eligible for deferral and may receive an admission decision of **admit, pathway admit, waitlist or deny**.

FALL 2026 FRESHMAN (FTIC) CLASS PROFILE*

4.1-4.5 GPA MIDRANGE (WEIGHTED CORE)

1310-1430 SAT MIDRANGE

28-32 ACT MIDRANGE

92-100 CLT MIDRANGE

97% STUDENTS EARNING AICE, AP, DE, OR IB CREDIT

**projected*

TOP 5 MAJORS FOR FRESHMEN (FTIC)

1. COMPUTER SCIENCE
2. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
3. FINANCE
4. BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
5. BIOLOGY

KEY DATES	Early Action	Regular Decision
Application Deadline	Oct. 15 S F	March 1 S May 1 F
Material Submission Deadline	Nov. 15 S F	March 1 S May 1 F
Decision Notification	Dec. 4 S F	March 1 S May 1 F
Decision Outcomes	Admit, Pathway, Defer, Deny	Admit, Pathway, Deny, Waitlist
.....		
S Summer Term F Fall Term		

HELPING EVERY KNIGHT THRIVE

Success at UCF is about more than earning a degree. It's about helping students build connections, discover their interests, achieve their goals, and find purpose along the way.

That philosophy comes to life through BEAM, UCF's framework for student success. Developed by staff, vetted by students and grounded in research, BEAM focuses on four interconnected areas: Belonging, Engaging, Achieving and Meaning. Together, they encourage students to connect with the UCF community, get involved in experiences that matter to them, work toward their goals and discover what gives their UCF experience purpose.

CARE WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

When challenges get in the way, Knights don't have to navigate them alone. UCF's new Center for Student Care and Advocacy creates a holistic service hub for students navigating academic, personal or financial challenges. By connecting students with care, guidance and key campus, academic and community resources, the center will help remove barriers and empower students to move forward.

From finding their place on campus to navigating the choice between majors, UCF surrounds students with people and resources dedicated to helping them turn their aspirations into achievements and thrive throughout their college journey.

CAREER SUPPORT BUILT FOR WHAT'S NEXT

The Kenneth G. Dixon Career Development Center is also evolving to better connect student experiences with opportunities that prepare them for life after UCF. Through a new framework focused on career navigation, industry partnerships, experiential learning and student engagement, the center is creating a more intentional career development ecosystem. Students will have greater opportunities to explore career and post-graduation pathways, gain real-world experience, connect with employers and prepare for what's next.



WHERE EXPERIENCE MEETS INNOVATION

UCF is taking its longstanding partnership with Universal Destinations & Experiences to a new level with the Universal School of Experience Leadership & Innovation at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management.

Backed by a \$10 million investment from Universal, the first-of-its-kind school will prepare students for careers in themed attractions, immersive experiences and destination innovation. Students will learn from UCF faculty and Universal leaders while gaining hands-on experience with emerging technologies and real-world industry challenges.

Building on more than two decades of collaboration, the new school gives students a distinctive advantage preparing for the future of experiences in the heart of Orlando's hospitality and entertainment industry.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF BUSINESS

A historic \$50 million gift from UCF alumnus and entrepreneur Barry S. Miller '95 has established the Barry S. Miller College of Business. The largest single philanthropic investment in university history will help advance business education in emerging areas such as artificial intelligence, fintech and digital risk.

For future Knights, the investment will expand opportunities for hands-on learning, industry engagement and career preparation, helping students develop the skills and experience they need to lead in an increasingly technology-driven business world.

WHY EARLY ACTION MATTERS AT UCF

Early Action (EA) continues to be the preferred path for first-year students applying to UCF. Of the 28,612 students admitted for Summer and Fall 2026, 22,090 (77%) applied through EA, compared to 6,552 admitted through the regular rolling admission process.

For counselors working with students who are serious about UCF, applying by the EA deadlines offers important advantages. EA is non-binding, giving students the flexibility to consider other options while receiving an earlier admission decision, priority consideration for merit scholarships and earlier access to the on-campus housing application.

QUICK FACTS

DEGREE PROGRAMS

112 Bachelor's

98 Master's

34 Doctoral

3 Professional Doctoral

3 Research Specialist

MALE-FEMALE RATIO

47% Male • 53% Female

FACULTY

1,900 • 82% with doctoral degrees

GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

Students come from **67 Florida counties**, all **50 states** and **more than 150 countries** — with the highest number from Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, India and Vietnam.

TOP PRODUCER

UCF awards more than **18,000 degrees** a year and is one of the top producers of graduates among public universities in the nation.

PLAN YOUR UCF GROUP VISIT EARLY

Give your students the opportunity to picture themselves as Knights. UCF invites school and community organizations to submit group tour requests for up to 50 people, offering students the chance to explore campus together and hear directly from current students about academics and life as a Knight. Space for group tours is limited, so please submit requests early.

Students can also experience UCF with family and friends during our daily guided campus tours, offered weekdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Whether as a class or individually, there's no better way to discover all UCF has to offer.

Visit admissions.ucf.edu/visit for info.

A PREMIER OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH ACHIEVERS

For high-achieving students ready to think boldly and push boundaries, the Burnett Honors College offers an exceptional academic experience that pairs the opportunities of a major research university with the personalized attention of a close-knit academic community.

Through small, discussion-based classes, personalized coaching, priority registration and access to undergraduate research, honors students benefit from a highly engaged learning environment.

Admission to the Burnett Honors College is selective and students must apply separately in addition to submitting the university admission application. We encourage you to identify strong candidates early and direct them to honors.ucf.edu for requirements and additional information.

Honors applications are available from September 15 through March 15 with a priority application deadline of January 15.

SPARK ISN'T STARS: WHAT TO KNOW

Many colleges use STARS to collect students' self-reported academic records, but UCF does things a little differently. SPARK, the Self-Provided Academic Record for Knights, is UCF's own system, designed specifically for first-time-in-college applicants enrolled in a U.S. high school or home-education program. Students access SPARK through their Future Knight Portal after they submit their application and use it to report their high school coursework and grades for admission review.

Because SPARK is unique to UCF, counselors can help students avoid common mistakes by encouraging them to have a copy of their transcript in front of them, and enter courses and grades exactly as instructed. Students should include dual enrollment, virtual school, pre-high school courses that earned high school credit, and senior-year courses that are in progress or planned.

SPARK uses semester grades, and students whose schools report numerical grades should convert them to letter grades using their school's grading scale. One more tip: Use a laptop or desktop. Mobile devices and Safari can cause issues when completing or submitting the form. Students should also carefully review their SPARK before submitting it. UCF will later verify the information against their final official transcript.

Need more help? UCF offers a step-by-step video explaining how to access, complete, review and submit the SPARK form at youtube.com/ucfadmission.



PREEMINENT — AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR STUDENTS

UCF has earned designation as a Preeminent State Research University, the State University System of Florida's highest distinction. The designation recognizes excellence across measures of student success, research and innovation — from retention and graduation rates to research expenditures, patents and the strength of UCF's faculty and students.

For future Knights, preeminence means even greater opportunities to learn, discover and prepare for what's next. Recognized among the nation's Most Innovative Universities by *U.S. News & World Report* for eight consecutive years, UCF continues to invest in outstanding faculty, student success and groundbreaking research that brings new ideas into the classroom. With more than \$285 million in annual research expenditures, a four-year graduation rate that has risen nearly 14% in four years and a culture that encourages students to turn ideas into impact, UCF is building on its momentum to deliver an even stronger student experience.

Preeminence isn't simply a recognition of where UCF is today — it's an investment in where our students can go next.

100+ MAJORS. ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES.

ZERO DEBT

70% of FTICs go on to graduate with no educational debt from UCF

73%

of undergraduate students receive financial aid



NO. 2 graduate and **No. 3** undergraduate game design programs in the world (The Princeton Review and *PC Gamer*)

NO. 1

supplier of graduates to the aerospace and defense industries (*Aviation Week*)

COUNSELOR EMAIL LIST

If you are not on the list and would like to receive periodic updates from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, please send your name, title, school, mailing address, email address and telephone number to Haley Wharton at haley.wharton@ucf.edu.

THE FLORIDA SUS MATRIX

The Florida SUS Matrix provides counselors with a quick overview of all 12 State University System institutions. For the latest admission requirements, deadlines and program info, visit each university's official website or flbog.edu/resources/admissions-tour.

ADMISSIONS STAFF

We are pleased to introduce you to our team:

YOUR UCF PARTNERS



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Admissions

admissions.ucf.edu

Burnett Honors College

honors.ucf.edu

Housing and Residence Life

housing.ucf.edu

Office of Student Involvement

osi.ucf.edu

Orientation

orientation.ucf.edu

Student Financial Assistance

ucf.edu/financial-aid

Undergraduate Admissions

University of Central Florida

P.O. Box 160111

Orlando, Florida 32816-0111

407.823.3000

facebook.com/UCFadmissions

instagram.com/UCFadmissions

youtube.com/UCFadmission

STUDENT SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING

Kiplinger and Forbes
rank a UCF education among
the nation's best values.



Opening September 2026, the new Roth Tower at Acrisure Bounce House football stadium will elevate the game day experience with premium seating, hospitality spaces and enhanced amenities for Knight Nation.