

University of California, Davis

2026 GREAT Summer Research Program Application Process

1. **September - October** – UC Davis sends program information to International Programs Office and schedules Information Sessions for the students
2. **October – December** - Students are nominated for the GREAT Program by their home university's internal selection process. Selection is based on the following admission criteria:
 - i. Strong interest in a UC Davis graduate school program
 - ii. Excellent academic credentials (a minimum B grade point average or the equivalent of a 3.4 on a 4.0 scale)
 - iii. Demonstrated interest in the relevant research fields
 - iv. High ranking and recommendation from the home university
 - v. English proficiency (Minimum TOEFL scores of 550 PBT/80 IBT or 7 IELTS). English proficiency should be verified as accurate by your office.
3. **By December 15** – Students' home university's International Programs Office sends an official copy of the students' most recent academic transcripts and the nomination spreadsheet to the GREAT Program Coordinator (Mr. Greg Gundersen (great@ucdavis.edu)). Please list the nominated students in the spreadsheet provided; and do not send anything as a RAR file since our email firewalls will not let those types of documents through.
4. **Late December** - All nominated students will be contacted by the GREAT Program staff with detailed instructions on how to complete the individual application, which will be due on **January 5, 2026**. Students will need to submit the below for this phase of the application:
 - Copy of the photo page of passport
 - Official report of English language score(s) (or proof of upcoming scheduled test)
 - Three preferred research faculty mentors or fields
 - \$50 Application Fee
5. **February** – After a review of applications by UC Davis faculty, GREAT Program staff will notify partner universities and students about admission decisions as they are made. Students will have one week to accept or reject the admissions offer. For students who accept, there will be a \$1000 deposit collected to secure their space in the program.
6. **February – March** - welcome materials, visa information, and next-steps information are sent to the students
7. **July – August** – GREAT Summer Research Program