International Admissions
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International Admissions for MS Computer Science

Fall 2026 Semester Intake	**Classes Start August 24, 2026** (Arrive on August 19, 2026
Priority Application Period – October 1, 2025-January 31, 2026	Estimated Admission Decision by February 20, 2026
Late Application Period – February 1 – June 1, 2026	Estimated Admissions decision 4-6 weeks

Why choose the MSCS Program at CSU Channel Islands?

- Small program with approximately 24 students per class, which means lots of interaction with professors.
- An excellent value at $739 per unit, 32-unit program for a total cost of **$23,648*** (does not include housing)
- A public university located in a warm climate in Southern California. 1 hour north of Los Angeles. 10 minutes from the beach. California has an excellent economy and is the tech hub of the USA.
- Program is STEM OPT eligible. Many companies nearby as we are located along the 101 Tech corridor.
- Flexible options. Students can choose either a thesis or master project. Students are allowed to take up to 2 non-COMP classes offered by the MBA program or MS in Mathematics program.
- Full time program with classes offered in the evenings on weeknights (if living off-campus must provide your own transportation, students are strongly encouraged to live on campus to be able to walk to class. Public buses are limited).

Courses in the MS Computer Science Program (please note not every course is offered every semester)

COMP 510	Advanced Image Analysis Techniques
COMP 520	Advanced Database Systems
COMP 524	Security
COMP 529	Cloud Computing
COMP 532	Computational Bioinformatics
COMP 546	Pattern Recognition
COMP 549	Human-Computer Interaction
COMP 550	Advanced Software Engineering

COMP 554	Algorithms
COMP 566	Geometry and Computer Graphic
COMP 569	Artificial Intelligence
COMP 571	Biologically Inspired Computing
COMP 572	Neural Networks
COMP 575	Multi-Agent Systems
COMP 578	Data Mining
COMP 590	Advanced Topic in Computer Science

Suggested Study Plan and Tuition and Fees per semester. Pay per semester, installment payment plan available.

Fall 2026 - $6,651	Spring 2026 -$6,651	Fall 2027 - $7,390	Spring 2027 - $2,956
9 units – 3 courses	9 units – 3 courses	10 units – 2 courses + thesis & Seminar or 3 courses + project & seminar	4 units – Thesis + seminar or project + seminar

What is the application process?

Applicants submit the application and supporting documents to the International Programs (IP) Office. The IP office conducts the initial review, an outside evaluation is not required except for applicants who only hold a 3-year degree. Applications are sent to a committee for review.

Minimum CSU Admission Requirements – Please note meeting these requirements only ensures your application will be sent to the Committee. The Committee has higher standards for admission:

- Hold a bachelor's degree equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree. 3- year degrees accepted with a WES evaluation that states degree is equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree. 180 ECTS units require an evaluation. For applicants with a 3-year degree + an additional PGD or MS degree do not require a WES evaluation. You can check your degree equivalency at: https://applications.wes.org/degree-equivalency-tool/ If WES states that your degree is equivalent, then you can get a WES evaluation. Most 3-year degrees from Ghana, Uganda and United Kingdom do not need a WES evaluation. Email if you have a 3-year degree and are unsure it is equivalent to a U.S. degree.
- Have a minimum 2.75 out of 4.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA or 2.75 in the last 60 semester units (2 years).
- Meet English proficiency requirements – Acceptable exams and scores - TOEFL iBT score of 80, or IELTS score of 6.5, or PTE score of 56, or Duolingo score of 105. Meet program specific requirements (page 2)

Program Specific Requirements and MS Computer Science Committee expectations

The Graduate Admission Committee takes a holistic approach in reviewing applicants. All documents an applicant submits are reviewed. Applicants are selected based on who is a best match for the program based on the applicant pool. The program is highly competitive with limited spots available. It is possible to be placed on a wait list for admission. Students admitted on the wait list will be offered a seat in the program as slots become available.

Prior completion of computer science courses with high marks is weighed heavily in the admission decision. The table below is meant to be a guideline for applicants. The courses are not a hard requirement, but completing most or some of these classes with high marks will increase your chance at admission.

Typical Expectations of Computer Science UG coursework to be completed during your bachelor's program with high marks. You can read course descriptions of the courses at: https://compsci.csuci.edu/degrees/bs-cs-courses.htm

CSUCI Undergraduate (UG) courses	Degree of Importance
COMP 150 Object Oriented Programming COMP 151+L Data Structures and Program Design COMP 354 Analysis of Algorithms MATH 150 – Calculus I MATH 300 – Discrete Math	High - Mostly Required with high marks, but consideration based on other courses/grades taken.
COMP 162+L – Computer Architecture & Assembly MATH 240 – Linear Algebra MATH 352 – Probability and Statistics COMP 350/L – Software Engineering COMP 362+L – Operating Systems	Medium - Good to have taken these classes with high marks but not necessarily required. Completion of these classes strengthens your application.
COMP 345 – Digital Image Analysis COMP 351 – Distributed Computing COMP 420+L – Databases COMP 424 – Computer System Security COMP 425 – Computer Game Programming COMP 429+L – Computer Networks COMP 445 – Advanced image Analysis & Pattern Recognition COMP 451 – Advanced Object-Oriented Programming COMP 452 – Computational Bioinformatics COMP 462+L – Embedded Systems COMP 464+L – Computer Graphics COMP 469+L – Artificial Intelligence COMP 470+L – Mobile Robotics COMP 478 – Introduction to Data Mining	Low - Not Required but in addition to completion of the courses that are high and medium above, completion of some of these classes with high marks will strengthen your application. Other coursework in the following is helpful: Machine Learning, Neural Networks, Cloud Computing, Data Science, Cryptograph and Mobile App/Development.

Ready to Apply?

CHECKLIST – Documents required for an admission decision. Upload documents in the online application.

- **CSUCI** International Admissions Application **www.Calstate.edu/Apply** . Please note we share the online application with the 22 other campuses of the CSU, filter by campus and select "Cal State Channel Islands"
- $70.00 non-refundable application fee can be paid online when submitting the application.
- **Soft Copies of Transcripts (**aka Individual Mark Sheets from the University). If degree has been awarded, include provisional certificate (certificate must be awarded before start of program). **Official copies due August 18, 2026**
- **English Proficiency Exam –** one of the 4 acceptable exams, soft copies ok for TOEFL, PTE, IELTS, request official Duolingo score to be sent to CSUCI.
- Two letters of recommendation (professional or academic). Can upload PDF letter or email recommenders in application.
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Statement of Purpose (aka Personal Statement or Motivation Letter)
- GRE not required, but taking the GRE exam is encouraged

I-20 issued 2-3 business days after receipt of the following: Passport, Affidavit form, bank statement required available funds of $35,302 (estimate $22,000 living expenses). $250 deposit towards the first semester tuition & fees

*Fees subject to change. **admission requirements subject to change