

## **UC Irvine Statement on Graduate Admissions**

April 2020

Recognizing the challenges to teaching and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academic Senate of the University of California, Irvine, in consultation with the Graduate Council and Graduate Division, adopted the following principle:

UC Irvine evaluates applicants for admission to its graduate and professional programs holistically, meaning that we consider an applicant's combination of academic record, personal accomplishments, letters of recommendation, personal statements, and test scores in making our admissions decisions. UC Irvine will take into account the significant disruptions to students' undergraduate education caused by the COVID-19 pandemic when reviewing applicants' transcripts and other admissions materials from the Winter and Spring 2020 terms. We understand that many institutions across the country instituted Pass/Not Pass and other grading policies during these terms. Thus, we will not penalize students for the adoption of Pass/Not Pass and other grading options during this period, whether the choices were made by institutions or by individual students. Our admissions evaluation will focus primarily on a student's academic performance prior to this period, and if applicable, following this period. What is most important is that applicants show appropriate evidence overall that they are prepared for the program to which they are applying.