

## UC MERCED, MUHSD ANNOUNCE MERCED AUTOMATIC ADMISSION PROGRAM



UC Merced Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz, Ph.D., and Merced Union High School District Superintendent Alan Peterson formally signed the first Merced Automatic Admission Program (MAAP) for students at MUHSD who complete specific requirements at the time of graduation.

“We were established not just in the Valley but *for* the Valley, and we will hold true to that promise,” Muñoz said during the signing ceremony at El Capitan High School. “We want every family in Merced County to know that a University of California education is right here close to home, and that you have the possibility to go from kindergarten through Ph.D. within minutes of your home, if you put in the work.”

## LIP-READING SOFTWARE HELPS USERS OF ALL ABILITIES TO SEND SECURE MESSAGES

A computer science lab focused on making human-computer interaction easier for people of all abilities has developed a digital lip-reader complete with its own repair system so the software can continue learning from its user.



## MECHANICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT NAMED THE CAMPUS'S FIRST RHODES SCHOLAR

UC Merced master's student Selina Brinkmann has been awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for study at Oxford University — a first for the campus.

“A Rhodes Scholarship being awarded to one of our UC Merced engineering students is an amazing first,” School of Engineering Dean Mark Matsumoto said. “This first showcases our growing stature as a research university and what I love about UC Merced. Selina’s hard work and desire to excel, which is seen in many of our students, has led to this prestigious distinction.”



**APRIL  
2021**







UC Merced, which just celebrated the 15th anniversary of its opening in 2005, is already recognized as one of the top universities for both its academic quality and its ability to transform the lives of its graduates. The university is highly ranked by several prestigious publications such as U.S. News & World Report, Washington Monthly, The Princeton Review, Money and others. It is increasingly being recognized for its outstanding academic programs and for its commitment to environmental sustainability.

## RECENT RANKINGS

**Top 100 | No. 40** among public universities (US News & World Report)  
**Top 100 | No. 56** among national universities (Washington Monthly's 2020 College Guide & Rankings)  
**Top 100 | No. 65** globally among universities younger than 50 years (Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2020)  
**Top 100 | No. 76** among national universities (Money's 2020 Best Colleges)  
**Top 100 | No. 86** among colleges and universities for Hispanics (Hispanic Outlook on Education Magazine)  
**University of the Year** (Education Dive's Dive Awards, 2018)  
**"Best 386 Colleges,"** two consecutive years (Princeton Review)  
**No. 1** among public universities in outperforming expected graduation rates (US News & World Report)  
**No. 3** in U.S. among universities younger than 50 years (Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2020)  
**No. 5** among all universities in social mobility (US News & World Report)  
**No. 8** among all universities in economic diversity (US News & World Report)  
**No. 12** most transformative colleges (Money's 2020 Best Colleges)  
**No. 13** among public universities for highest alumni giving rate (US News & World Report)  
**No. 19** for social mobility (Washington Monthly's 2020 College Guide & Rankings)  
**No. 51** for least amount of debt incurred by graduates (US News & World Report)  
**No. 145** for undergraduate engineering (among Ph.D.-granting schools) (US News & World Report)  
**No. 171** for Best Value (US News & World Report)

## SOCIAL MOBILITY

**No. 1** in the nation for student outcomes (US News Best Colleges 2020)  
**No. 1** among public universities in outperforming expected graduation rates (US News Best Colleges 2021)  
**No. 5** in the nation for social mobility (US News Best Colleges 2021)  
**No. 8** in the nation for economic diversity (US News Best Colleges 2021)  
**No. 51** for least amount of debt incurred by graduates (US News Best Colleges 2021)  
**No. 19** for social mobility (Washington Monthly's 2020 College Guide and Rankings)  
**No. 12** most transformative colleges (Money's 2020 Best Colleges)  
**No. 8** in the nation for performance of students who receive Pell Grants (Washington Monthly's 2019 College Guide & Rankings)  
**No. 8** in the nation for performance of first-generation students (Washington Monthly's 2019 College Guide & Rankings)

## SUSTAINABILITY

**Only university** in the nation to have all buildings LEED certified  
**Highest marks** on "Green Rating" (Princeton Review's Best Colleges Guide, 2021)  
**No. 1** in the nation for sustainable buildings (AASHE, 2020)  
**Tied for No. 1** in the nation for sustainable research (AASHE, 2020)  
**Tied for No. 5** in nation for sustainability investment and finance (AASHE, 2020)  
**No. 10** in the nation in sustainable waste operations (AASHE, 2020)  
**No. 6** overall among doctoral institutions (AASHE, 2020)  
**No. 5** in the nation for sustainability (Sierra Club's Cool Schools, 2020)

*\*Official numbers as of Fall 2020*

## TOP ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- **School of Engineering**  
**No. 129** in the nation among graduate schools (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)  
**No. 145** among Ph.D.-granting schools for undergraduate engineering (US News Best Colleges 2021)
- **Bioengineering**  
**No. 117** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)
- **Computer Engineering**  
**No. 106** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)
- **Electrical Engineering**  
**No. 129** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)
- **Environmental Engineering**  
**No. 84** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)
- **Materials Engineering**  
**No. 98** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)
- **Mechanical Engineering**  
**No. 117** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2021)
- **Biology**  
**No. 175** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2019)
- **Chemistry**  
**No. 122** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2019)
- **Mathematics**  
**No. 144** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2019)
- **Physics**  
**No. 146** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2019)
- **Psychology**  
**No. 90** in the nation (US News Best Graduate Schools 2018)

