

uStart Program



The uStart Program provides high achieving high school students from the Greater Victoria School District (SD61) the opportunity to enroll in selected courses at the University of Victoria (UVic) for dual credit during your grade 12 year.

As a uStart participant, you'll get to:

- Explore a university environment while completing high school
- Experience post-secondary education, tuition-free (see details below)
- Enhance your resume by demonstrating a commitment to education, time management skills and direction
- Receive elective credits towards your high school diploma, as well as university credit with UVic—giving you a head start on your post-secondary studies

Eligibility

Participation in the uStart program is restricted to students from Greater Victoria (SD61) in their **final year** of secondary studies. Students interested in participating will apply during their Grade 11 year.

The uStart program is open only to Canadian citizens and permanent residents in Grade 12. Other interested students should ask their counsellor about UVic's regular Accelerated Entry program.

Getting started

As early as possible, you should talk to your counsellor about your interest in the uStart program. Whether you'd like to take a course that piques a personal interest, or one that helps meet your educational goals, together you will be able to decide if participation is the right fit for you and your busy schedule.

Once the full uStart Program Guide is available, take the time to consider how courses offered at UVic can benefit your future goals and the degree/career you want to pursue. Applications must be submitted to your counsellor in April.

uStart program fees

UVIC TUITION

Tuition is paid by the Greater Victoria School District. Further details are available in the full uStart Program Guide.

UVIC ANCILLARY FEES

Ancillary fees are mandatory for all UVic students, including participants in the uStart program. These fees are approximately \$165 for uStart students, and include the University of Victoria Students' Society, Athletics and Recreation, and the Universal Bus Pass.

UVic ancillary fees **are your responsibility** and must be paid in full by the fee deadline. Ancillary fees are refundable only if you withdraw before the 100% drop date.

Please Note: Written notice to Undergraduate Admissions is required in order to withdraw from the uStart program.

Admission criteria

uStart applicants must meet the following admission criteria:

- Enrolled in Grade 12 at an SD61 school (Grade 11 at the time of application)
- Completing the full range of grade 11 and 12 courses required to be admitted to degree studies at UVic
- Minimum 85% average in all academic subjects to-date
- High academic standing (approximately 90%) in the field of study you plan to pursue at university
- Recommended for admission by your secondary school principal
- Complete all prerequisites identified for the course(s) you've selected prior to the first day of classes
- Demonstrate language proficiency if English is not your primary language (uvic.ca/esl)
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- At least 16 years of age (except under special circumstances)

NOW

Discuss the program with your high school counsellor

FEBRUARY

Obtain a copy of the full uStart Program Guide and application from your counsellor

BY APRIL 15, 2019

Prepare and submit the application and supplementary materials

EARLY MAY

uStart selection committee begins reviewing all eligible applications

MID-MAY

Successful applicants are notified by email

LATE MAY/EARLY JUNE

uStart students meet with their counsellors to go over the UVic timetable and make a final course selection

END OF JUNE

Official admission letters are mailed out to confirm students have been registered in their approved courses