

Be informed!

- Read Cal State L.A.'s pledge to students to know what's expected of all parties.
- Obtain the latest info, answers, and tips at www.calstatela.edu/semester

Plan ahead!

- Run a Campus Academic Advisement Report (CAAR), a.k.a. degree progress report, online to know where you stand.
- Verify your major or declare one if you haven't already.
- Most majors require classes that must be in sequence (e.g., Chem 101, 102, 103); be mindful of starting and completing your required course sequence(s) before semester conversion begins.
- If you need to retake a quarter class, do so before semesters begin.
- Seek advisement!

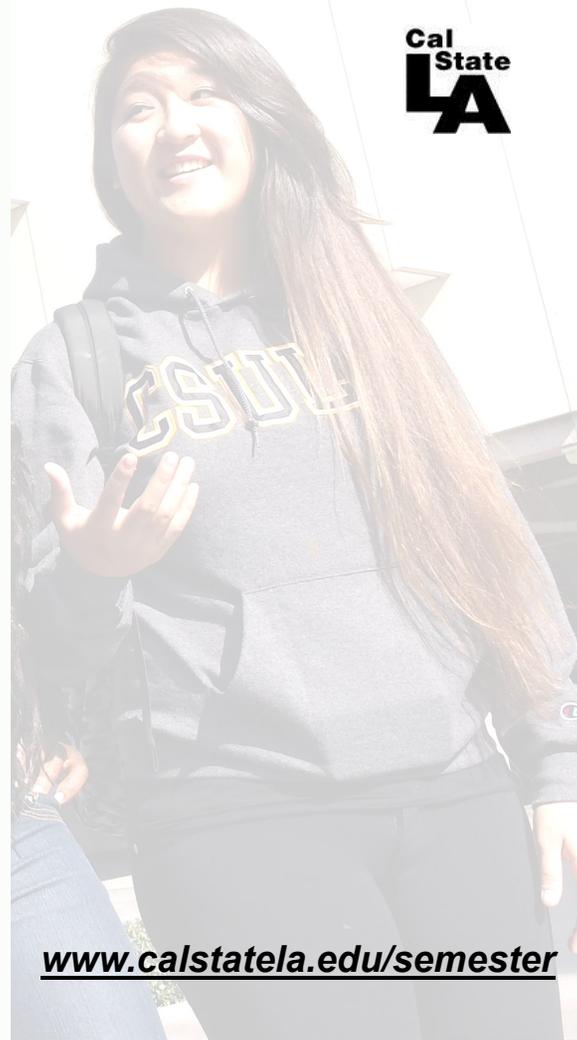
Create and follow your IAP plan!

- With an advisor, create an Individualized Advisement Plan.
- Take the courses specified in your plan each quarter, or semester.
- To stay on track, do not reduce the number of classes you take, change majors, or drop out.
- Graduate on schedule and according to the plan!

Getting Ready For Semesters

Q2S

A Transition Guide
for Cal State L.A. Students



www.calstatela.edu/semester

PLEDGE TO CAL STATE L.A. STUDENTS

In planning and implementing our conversion from quarters to semesters for Fall 2016, California State University, Los Angeles is committed to supporting the academic progress of its students and ensuring the continued academic integrity of its degree programs.

Cal State L.A. Will Support Students' Academic Progress:

- Full-time tuition (general and instructional fees) for the new two-semester academic year will cost no more than a three-quarter academic year, provided there are no state mandated increases to tuition or associated costs.
- Students who began their academic programs under the requirements of the quarter system may choose to complete their requirements with semester course equivalents, or they may switch to the new semester program requirements in place after conversion.
- The financial aid application process (i.e., FAFSA and all applicable deadlines are expected to remain unchanged. Students seeking financial aid assistance will be considered for all programs, and eligibility will be determined in accordance with published federal and state regulations.
- Academic advisors will work with students to develop an Individualized Advisement Plan that maps out their academic requirements for a timely graduation.
- Academic advisement centers and academic departments will continue to provide comprehensive academic advising based on accurate and up-to-date information.
- Effective planning to ensure timely completion of university and degree program requirements will be particularly important throughout the transition from quarters to semesters and thereafter. The university will provide timely and informative support to all students who began their academic career under quarters and will complete it under semesters.

Academic FAQs

Why is Cal State L.A. transitioning to semesters?

Changing to semesters has the potential to positively impact the quality of the educational experience that our students receive. Specifically:

- Semester calendars are currently in use at approximately 90% of all other colleges and universities, and the adoption of a semester calendar at Cal State L.A. will facilitate our alignment with other institutions.
- There is a potential for improved student success and graduation rates because semesters are 5 weeks longer than quarters, and entering freshmen will have a longer period to adjust to college before final exams than in the current quarter system. In addition, all students will have greater opportunities for internships, service learning, and study abroad programs.



Have more questions?

Check out our website at...
<http://www.calstatela.edu/semester>

Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/CalStateLASemester>

Twitter
https://twitter.com/CSULA_Q2S

Instagram
<http://instagram.com/CalStateLASemester>

Academic FAQs

Will the academic credits I earned under quarters still count?

Yes, students will be able to combine earned quarter credits with semester course credits to complete the degree requirements.



What is the formula for converting quarter credit hours to semester hours?

To convert quarter credit hours to semester credit hours multiply quarter credits by 2/3 (or 0.67).
Example: 180 quarter credit hours x 2/3 = 120 semester hours.

Will my GPA change as a result of the conversion?

No, your GPA will remain the same.

How many credit hours will it take to be considered a full-time student?

An undergraduate student must enroll in 12 or more semester units to be considered full time. Full-time graduate students are those who are admitted to a master's or Ph.D. degree program and carry at least 8 semester units of 500 or 600 level courses.

Will I be able to take courses in the summer?

Yes, summer sessions will continue to be available in the semester calendar. However, the summer session preceding the conversion to semesters in Fall 2016 will be an accelerated six week quarter.

Financial FAQs

Will it cost more to attend Cal State L.A. under semesters?

No, the annual cost under semesters will be exactly the same as under quarters provided there are no state mandated increases to tuition or associated costs.

The CSU Fee Schedule can be found at: <http://www.calstate.edu/budget/student-fees/mandatory-fees/1314-feeschedules.shtml>.



Note: *Financial aid recipients will see an adjustment in their award packages to accommodate the fact that their award will be dispersed over two terms instead of three. Consult with the Student Financial Aid Office if you have questions.

**The fees on the CSU Fee Schedule are subject to change during the quarter to semester transition.

How will the onset of semesters affect my financial aid?

While the total annual amount of financial aid you qualify for under semesters will remain the same, the individual disbursements will be adjusted proportionately to meet semester requirements. This will allow you to cover the cost of 15 weeks versus 10 weeks of classes under quarters. As we transition to semesters, pay very close attention to ALL Financial Aid notifications. Financial Aid notifications are sent to your Cal State L.A. email account. Please make sure you have your email linked to any device or other email you are using.

