



AB 540 Requirements

1. Time and coursework requirements

California community college means either 12 units of credit per semester (or quarter equivalent per year) or a minimum of 420 class hours per year (or semester or quarter equivalent per year) in non-credit courses authorized by Education Code section 84757.

A. Attended a combination of the following:

- California high school
- California adult school (established by a county office of education, a unified school district or high school district, or the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation)
- California community college

For the equivalent of three years of more.

OR

B. Attained credits earned in California from a California high school equivalent to three or more years of full-time high school course work and attended a combination of elementary, middle and/or high schools in California for a total of three or more years.

2. Degree or Unit Requirements

Meet one of the following requirements:

- Graduated from a California high school (or attainment of the equivalent) prior to the start of the term (example: passing the GED or California High School Proficiency Exam)
- Earned an associate's degree from a California Community College
- Fulfilled the minimum transfer requirements from a California Community College to a UC or CSU campus

3. Signed Nonresident Exemption Request

The student must register as an entering student at, or current enrollment at, an accredited institution of higher education in California.

You also must have signed the California Nonresident Exemption Request, which states that you meet all the requirements to qualify for AB 540 status and, if you are undocumented, are in the process of adjusting your immigration status (or will do so as soon as you are eligible).

The exemption is not available for students who are absent from California, and are taking distance education classes from California community colleges.