CAPPED MAJOR

What does Capped Major status mean?
Capped Major status means there is a cap on the number of students admitted to the major. All of our CSE majors are capped as of Fall 2019. Students who were not admitted to UCSD directly into a capped major will have to apply to change into it.

I’m a student who was not admitted as a CSE major. What should I do prior to applying?
Enroll in the CSE courses that fulfill eligibility requirements for applying to the major. They are offered every quarter. There is flexibility in enrollment planning for degree progress, and we encourage students to plan strategically prior to their enrollment period.

What are the eligibility requirements for applying?
1. Minimum of eight units of CSE courses completed at UC San Diego for a letter grade, drawn from the following courses: CSE 8B or CSE 11, CSE 12, CSE 15L, CSE 20 (Math 15A), CSE 21, CSE 30, and CSE 100.
2. All of the following courses (or their accepted equivalents) must be completed prior to application: CSE 8B or 11, CSE 12, CSE 15L, and CSE 20 (Math 15A).

How will decisions be made?
Students who meet a 3.3 GPA cutoff for screening courses will be entered into a lottery. Students will be randomly selected until the open number of seats in CSE are filled. Please note a student can only apply twice and there are no guarantees.

What are my odds of being accepted into the major?
It is extremely competitive to change to a CSE major. Chances of getting in to the major are based on how many applicants there are compared to the number of openings. Openings vary based on:

- Number of incoming freshmen and transfer students admitted into CSE
- Number of CSE majors who graduated
- Number of continuing students who switched out of CSE

COMPUTATIONAL MAJORS

If I am interested in the computational sciences, what are my options at UC San Diego?
There are several excellent choices available, offered by top ranked departments. All of the majors below (or specializations within them) prepare students for graduate work or a lucrative career in computational science. (This flyer describes the CSE department’s major only.)

How do I decide the best option for me?
Make your primary focus your academic and career goals. Talk to Career Services, advisors, mentors, and the departments below. You will find that there are at least two majors that will allow you to achieve your goals!

Computational Science Options
General Information: computingpaths.ucsd.edu/
Computing Paths Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/computingpaths/
Bioinformatics Specializations: be.ucsd.edu
   biology.ucsd.edu
   cse.ucsd.edu
Cognitive Science: cogsci.ucsd.edu
Computer Science & Engineering: cse.ucsd.edu
Economics: economics.ucsd.edu
Electrical & Computer Engineering: ece.ucsd.edu
Interdisciplinary Computing and the Arts (ICAM):
   visarts.ucsd.edu
   music.ucsd.edu
Mathematics: math.ucsd.edu

CSE STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE
Computer Science and Engineering Building
Room 1200
(858) 534-8872
csepeeraai@eng.ucsd.edu
cse.ucsd.edu

UC San Diego
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
Prospective Computer Science & Engineering Majors
Can I hold an internship while attending UCSD?
Yes, absolutely. Internships are an invaluable experience. The majority of our students participate in at least one internship experience, often in the summer, and as early as the end of their freshman year. Some resources to look into include the CSE faculty, the Corporate Affiliates Program, DECaF, TechTalks, the Team Internship Program (TIP), and the Career Service Center.

I am interested in CSE Research, what are some examples of what past students have studied?
Drone construction, cyber security, facial recognition software, robotics, virtual reality, web and application development, and so much more!

What is the Five-Year B.S./M.S. Degree Program?
This program allows students to complete the requirements for the master’s degree within one year following the receipt of their bachelor’s degree. Students should consult a CSE Advisor early, as the deadline to apply is a year before the expected bachelor’s graduation date.

If I am interested in graduate school or a career in education, what opportunities are available for me?
Talk to faculty about the possibility of signing up for research or project units. Sometimes students may earn credit towards their degree for these units. There are so many paths to take after your undergraduate years, and the more you get involved in during your time at UCSD, the more doors that will open for the future.

Can I attend CSE courses before I submit my SIR?
You can schedule a Triton Tour with the Office of Admissions and Relations with Schools to discuss attending courses prior to admission into UCSD:
http://admissions.ucsd.edu/tours/

What are the next steps after I submit my SIR?
Carefully review the application timeline posted on the UC San Diego Admissions webpage:
Deadline to submit transcripts and AP scores will be posted there!

If I am a prospective student, can I meet with a CSE advisor to talk about majoring in CSE?
Unfortunately, CSE advisors cannot meet with prospective students. They can only meet with current students due to the high volume of students within the department. The CSE Department is also not involved in the Admissions process for students incoming to UCSD. All questions regarding application to UCSD should be directed to the Office of Admissions.

What co-curricular opportunities are available for CSE majors?
There are so many opportunities available! Consider applying to be a Tutor, studying abroad, joining a student organization, participating in a research project, and holding an internship. More information can be found at: https://cse.ucsd.edu/undergraduate/student-opportunities

What next steps/careers are available for CSE graduates?
Many students continue on to graduate school, while others pursue lucrative professional careers in areas such as design of computers/software, multimedia systems, databases, parallel computation, bioinformatics, etc. Examples of employers include Google, Amazon, Apple, Microsoft, etc.

Is there a high demand for CSE graduates?
The field of computer science and engineering is experiencing rapid growth, and most of our graduates find full-time positions upon graduation.

What is the difference between the B.S. Computer Science and the B.S. Computer Engineering degree?
The B.S. Computer Science program focuses on software. The B.S. Computer Engineering program focuses on both hardware and software.

What is the difference between the Computer Engineering majors offered by ECE and CSE?
ECE and CSE both offer a B.S. Computer Engineering program. The degree requirements are identical. Both are capped Majors, and students apply to them separately. Contact ECE for information about their process and application.

What is the difference between the B.S. Computer Science and the B.S. CS: Bioinformatics degree?
The Bioinformatics Specialization places emphasis on biochemistry and biology courses in addition to computer science courses.

Several departments offer a Bioinformatics Specialization. What are the differences?
This interdisciplinary major is offered by CSE, Biological Sciences and Bioengineering. All of the Bioinformatics programs require the same lower-division and core courses, but the upper-division electives will vary by department.

What should I do if I have more questions about the degree programs?
We encourage prospective and current students to review our CSE Undergraduate webpages:
https://cse.ucsd.edu/undergraduate/
There, you will find information about degree programs/requirements, courses, internships, research, graduation and much more.