



Department Application Waiver Policy

The UC Berkeley Political Science Department wants to make applying to our graduate program accessible to all. We understand for some individuals the application fee makes applying to our graduate program impossible. With this in mind, we have created this policy to help those in need request an application fee waiver from our department.

The request form for a department application fee waiver below will open two weeks after the application opens and will close one week before the application closes with zero exceptions for late requests. Fee waivers are awarded based on eligibility and on the order the requests are received. Submitting this form does not guarantee you will be awarded a fee waiver.

For all requests for an application fee waiver from UC Berkeley Political Science Department:

- **You must complete this [application fee waiver request form](#) by one week before the application closes.** You must submit your application before submitting the application fee waiver request form as no waiver will be granted without an application to attach it to. Email requests are not accepted.
- **You can only be granted a department application fee waiver one time.** If granted an application fee waiver from the department in a previous admissions cycle, you are not eligible for another department waiver, even if you didn't apply during the admissions cycle in which the waiver was granted.
- **Please include the circumstances or hardship that prevents you from being able to pay the application fee within the form.** DO NOT include any personal details like Social Security number, bank account numbers, etc. Prepare to have supporting documentation for your request. This can be personal statements, income records, currency exchange rates, etc. It will be up to the department's discretion if those documents will be needed, and if so, you will be contacted.

For US Citizen and Permanent Residents:

- **You must first apply to the University's application fee waiver program available on, <https://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/steps-to-apply/requirements/fee-waiver/>.**

If you are denied an application fee waiver from the University, then please complete the department's applications fee waiver request form and email a copy of your denial email from the university's applications fee waiver program to pscadmit@berkeley.edu.