

Long Beach City College **Honors Program** Student Handbook



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The Honors Program

The Long Beach City College Honors Program consists of specialized General Education courses designed to develop academic ability and intellectual curiosity in highly motivated students as they prepare to transfer. Honors courses provide intensive instruction and challenging course work through close interaction with faculty to provide students with an enriched educational experience. The Honors Program also offers opportunities for cultural enrichment and participation in undergraduate research conferences.

Honors Classes

Honors classes are smaller than the traditional class. With no more than 24 students, students interact closely with Honors faculty who have created specialized curriculum to develop strong “high-level” cognitive skills such as problem solving, evaluation, synthesis, and independent thinking. These classes emphasize the writing and research that enables students to excel in upper division classes after they transfer. When students join the Honors Program, they become members of a community of scholars.



Benefits of the Honors Program

- Specialized Honors classes with low enrollment.
- Priority registration. (You are not eligible your first semester in the Honors Program—see the Priority Registration section for eligibility requirements.)
- Access to Honors faculty and Honors Program staff.
- Access to Honors study lounge and computers in the LAC library.
- Personalized Honors academic counseling.
- Regular Honors updates to keep you informed of campus events.
- Enhanced preparation for upper division work.
- Invitations to participate in workshops and transfer events.
- Eligibility to participate in Honors research conferences.
- Eligibility to submit to Honors publications.
- Eligibility for scholarships.
- Eligibility for priority consideration and other transfer agreements for transfer applications at select colleges and universities. See the last page for more information.

Honors Counseling

LBCC Honors Counselors provide specialized Honors counseling during the primary (fall and spring) semesters. Limited hours are sometimes available in the winter and summer sessions. Counseling is offered at the **LAC** counseling offices in **Building A, Room 1111**.

Honors students are required to meet with an academic counselor at least once each fall and spring semester in order to remain in good standing in the Honors Program. If you can, work with an Honors Program Counselor, but a General Counselor or one you meet with for another program is okay too.

To schedule an appointment either call the Counseling Office at **(562) 938-4561** or **(562) 938-4560** or use one of the links below:

[Make an appointment with a General Counselor](#)

[Make an appointment with an Honors Program Counselor](#)

Maintaining Honors Status

To remain in “good standing” with the Honors Program, a student must:

- Maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 in transfer-level classes, earning a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.25 in all Honors classes taken, earning a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Complete at least one Honors course each primary semester (fall and spring) with a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Complete English 1H during your first semester in the program (unless you passed English 1 or equivalent before admission to Honors) and English 3H the semester immediately (fall or spring) after you complete English 1H.
- Complete five Honors classes (for a letter grade of A, B, or C) with at least a 3.25 GPA within three years of admission to the program.
- Maintain a course completion ratio of at least 80%. Multiple semesters of EWs may also result in an Academic Alert.
- Maintain all standards of student conduct as specified in the Long Beach City College Catalog, especially those regarding academic integrity. Academic dishonesty (such as cheating or plagiarism) will result in dismissal from the Honors Program.
- Meet with a counselor at least once each semester, preferably an Honors Counselor. To schedule an appointment either call the Counseling Office at **(562) 938-4561** or **(562) 938-4560** or use one of these links: [Make an appointment with a General Counselor](#) or [Make an appointment with an Honors Program Counselor](#).
- Attend the Fall Honors Meeting each academic year.
- Maintain contact with the Honors Program office. This includes checking email and Honors Canvas shell announcements at least twice a week, responding to all questions, completing required forms, and updating your contact information.

Academic Alert

If your GPA drops below 3.25 or you are not meeting one of the other requirements, you may be placed on Academic Alert status. If you receive an Academic Alert, you will also receive instructions for removing the alert and returning to good standing in the program. While on Academic Alert you remain an active part of the program, but are not eligible for priority registration.

Priority Registration

One of the benefits of the Honors Program is that Honors students who have completed at least one Honors course are eligible for priority registration. Students must be enrolled in an Honors course during the semester immediately before the semester in which they are registering. Priority registration is available in the **fall and spring semesters only**.

Honors students must first meet the college's requirements. The deadline to complete the first two items listed below is approximately one month before priority registration begins.

For the exact registration dates, see the LBCC website under Admissions:

<https://www.lbcc.edu/pod/registration-dates>.

- Must have completed Matriculation's online orientation, assessment, and placement.
- Must have an electronic Student Educational Plan (SEP) on file with a counselor.
- Must be in good standing for both academic and progress requirements.
- May not have completed 100 or more degree-applicable units.
- May not be a dual enrolled student.

In addition, students must be in good standing with the Honors Program.

- Must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 in transfer-level classes, earning a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Must maintain a GPA of at least 3.25 in all Honors classes taken, earning a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Must complete at least one Honors course each fall and spring semester with a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Must be enrolled in an Honors course for the semester immediately before the enrollment semester (spring enrollment to be eligible for fall priority registration and fall enrollment to be eligible for spring priority registration).
- Must complete English 1H and English 3H during first two semesters (fall and spring) in the Honors Program (unless the course requirement was fulfilled before joining the program).
- Must maintain a course completion ratio of at least 80%.
- Must attend the Honors Program Fall Meeting each year.
- Must fill out and update Honors Program paperwork each year.
- Must meet with a counselor at least once each semester, preferably an Honors Counselor.
- Must maintain all standards of academic integrity and collegiality.

Honors Research Conference

Students in the Honors Program are eligible to submit proposals to the Honors Transfer Council of California Research Conference. Students present original research that they have carried out in LBCC Honors classes. Some students choose to make oral presentations. Others present posters that they have prepared.



The conference takes place each spring. Abstracts are due to the Honors Coordinator at the end of November.

Applying for Honors Certification

Honors Scholar

To earn Honors Certification, a student must be in good standing with the program and complete each of the following requirements the spring before transfer and submit an application to the Honors Program by the posted spring deadline:

- Complete at least five Honors classes with a letter grade of A, B, or C.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 in transfer-level classes.
- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.25 in all Honors classes taken.
- Maintain a course completion ratio of at least 80%.

President's Scholar

President's Scholar is an additional honor given at graduation to students who exceed the "Honors Certification" standards.

Students with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75 and an Honors GPA of at least 3.75 may apply for this honor by the posted deadline of the spring semester of their final year before transfer.



TAP (Transfer Alliance Program) Certification

To earn priority enrollment consideration for transfer applications, students must meet the standards for Honors Scholar Certification with the GPA required by the transfer institution (see below). For UCLA and UCI applicants, the paperwork for this certification takes place in the Honors office during January and February after you submit your application. The other institutions do not require paperwork.

- Apply to the institution.
- For UCLA applicants only: Submit your UCLA Applicant Agreement Form. (UCLA will send you a link to their form after you submit your application.)
- Complete or be enrolled in at least five Honors classes with a letter grade of A, B, or C by the end of the spring semester before transfer.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA required by the institution (see below) in all transfer-level classes.

UCLA

To earn priority consideration for transfer applications to the School of Letters, Arts, and Sciences at UCLA, a student must meet the standards for Honors Scholar Certification and maintain a GPA of at least **3.5**.

UCI

To earn priority consideration for transfer applications to UCI's Honors to Honors Program, a student must meet the standards for Honors Scholar Certification and maintain a GPA of at least **3.7**.

Other HTCC Partner Institutions

To earn priority consideration for transfer applications to other HTCC partner institutions, a student must meet the standards for Honors Scholar Certification and maintain a GPA of at least **3.75**.