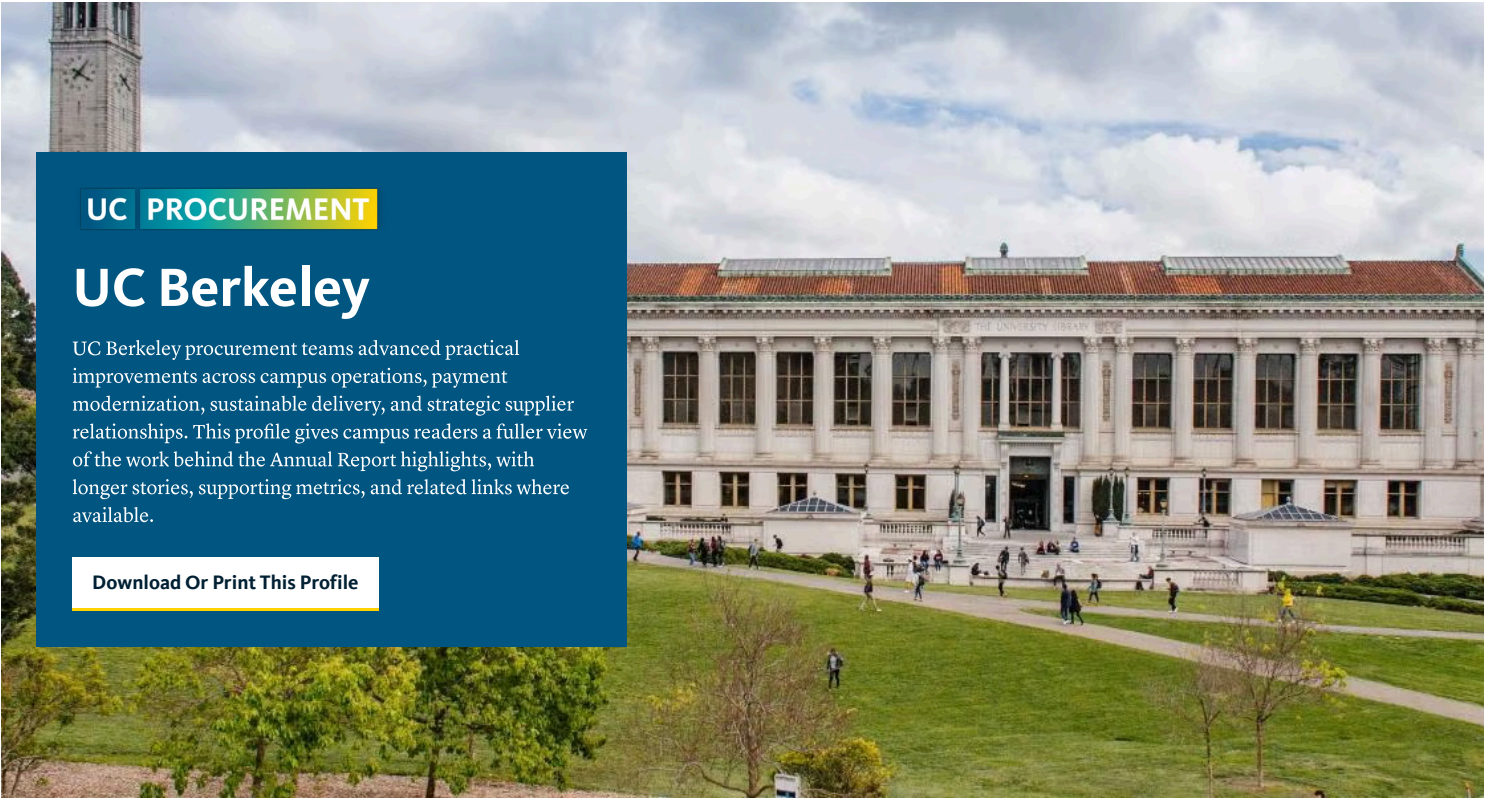




UC PROCUREMENT

UC Berkeley

UC Berkeley procurement teams advanced practical improvements across campus operations, payment modernization, sustainable delivery, and strategic supplier relationships. This profile gives campus readers a fuller view of the work behind the Annual Report highlights, with longer stories, supporting metrics, and related links where available.

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\$18.4M

Benefit Delivered

33.6% over target

17.6%

Economic Impact Spend

Toward UC goal of 25%

10.3mt

Of CO₂e averted

From virtual travel event

UC Berkeley Achievements by Strategic Pillar

- Economic and Community Impact
- Strategic Partnerships
- Drive Value and Savings

Economic and Community Impact

Turning Mattress Replacement Into Waste Reduction

Using UC’s Dormlife contract, UC Berkeley diverted 670 mattresses—more than 18 tons—from landfill, using the same competitively bid solution available to other public institutions without a separate RFP.



Challenge

Providing a comfortable residential experience for university students means continually replacing hundreds of mattresses in residence halls. But mattresses are notoriously difficult to dispose of and are traditionally destined for landfills. When it came time for a major mattress refresh at UC Berkeley, they faced the daunting challenge of staying true to Berkeley’s sustainability goals while efficiently managing hundreds of used mattresses.

Approach

UC Berkeley used UC's competitively solicited Dormlife contract to pair a major residence-hall mattress replacement with measurable waste reduction.

Result

Through certified recycling partners, 670 used mattresses were diverted from landfill, recovering 36,850 pounds of steel, foam, wood, and other materials - more than 18 tons of waste removed from the disposal stream. Dormlife also provided sustainability reporting to support UC waste-reduction goals.

Why it matters

The project pairs measurable material recovery with a reusable public-sector contract, making it a model for replicable sustainable purchasing.

At a Glance
670 Mattresses recycled
36,850 lbs Recovered materials

18+ tons
Diverted from landfill

Related Links:
[Dormlife Mattresses = Sustainability + Efficiency](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Supporting Local Small-Business MRO Purchasing

UC Berkeley is connecting everyday maintenance, repair, operations, tools, and facility purchases with a local small-business partner.



Challenge

Campus maintenance, repair, and operations purchases needed a way to support a local small business without changing the Grainger products and pricing departments already use.

Approach

UC Berkeley is using the Stygian Powered by Grainger catalog in BearBUY to connect everyday maintenance, repair, operations, tools, and facility purchases with a local small-business partner.

Result

Departments receive the same Grainger products and pricing they expect, along with responsive support from Oakland-based Stygian, Berkeley's approved small-business partner for the catalog.

Related Links:
[Small Business = Big Impact with Stygian](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Why it matters

The channel gives campus buyers a practical way to advance economic-impact goals through routine purchasing without changing product access.

At a Glance

Supports local SBE
Same product/price access with more impactful buying

Leads to expansion
Successful collaboration results in more partnerships with UCSF, UCLA, and UCOP.

From 2 to 18 staff
Opportunities created through UC strengthen California's small business community.

Berkeley's Virtual Sustainable Travel Event Expands Reach and Cuts Emissions

UC Berkeley's virtual Sustainable Travel Event reached more UC campuses while avoiding an estimated 10.3 metric tons of travel-related CO₂e.



Challenge

An in-person travel event limited participation and created avoidable travel emissions. UC Berkeley needed a format that could reach more campuses while keeping the focus on lower-carbon booking choices and containing overall travel costs.

Approach

UC Berkeley's third annual Sustainable Travel Event moved online in November 2025, expanding participation to additional UC campuses while eliminating an estimated 10.3 metric tons of CO₂e associated with presenter and attendee travel.

Result

The Berkeley Travel Team partnered with the Campus Sustainability Office and UCOP Central Travel Office to bring together travel suppliers and sustainability experts for sessions on lower-carbon booking choices, aviation, hotels, rental cars, and travel emissions.

Related Links:
[Berkeley Sustainable Travel Event 2025](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Why it matters

The event demonstrates how procurement and travel programs can combine supplier engagement, education, and event design to reduce environmental impact.

At a Glance

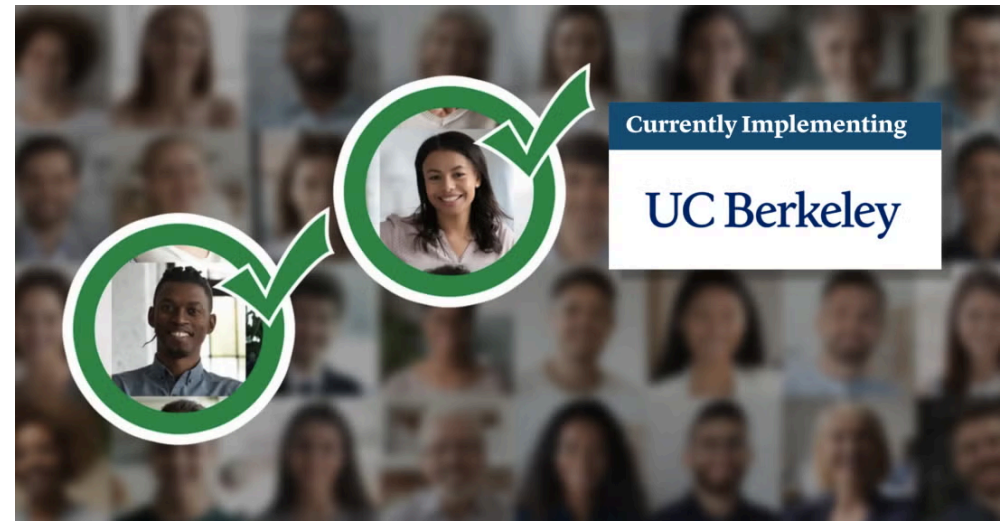
10.3 metric tons
Of CO₂e associated with attendee travel eliminated.

Travel costs
Exhibitor, presenter, and attendee travel costs eliminated.

Strategic Partnerships

Building the Blueprint for Workforce Transformation

UC Berkeley is leading the way as UC’s first Hays MSP pilot campus, shaping a more connected, consistent approach to contingent workforce management.



Challenge

UC Berkeley was the first campus in UC's Managed Service Provider rollout and needed a consistent way to manage contingent labor before the FY27 implementation. Discovery work had to connect hiring, approvals, purchasing, and workforce oversight.

Approach

UC Berkeley began work with Hays in May 2026 as the first campus in UC's phased Managed Service Provider rollout. Discovery workshops brought Procurement, hiring managers, and departments together to design a more consistent approach to contingent labor.

Early Result

The program combines Hays' Three Story Software with planned JAGGAER integration to connect hiring, approvals, purchasing, and workforce oversight.

Related Links:
[Building the Blueprint for Workforce Transformation](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Why it matters

FY26 discovery and design laid the groundwork for implementation in FY27 and a planned early 2027 launch, with a focus on improving visibility, compliance, and administrative efficiency.

At a Glance

FY26
Discovery and design
FY27
Implementation groundwork laid (to be applied to future campus rollouts)
Early 2027
Program launch planned

Berkeley Helps Shape Public Sector AI Procurement Tools Through Strategic Collaboration

UC Berkeley is working with procurement software providers as a strategic design partner for emerging AI procurement tools.



Challenge

Public-sector purchasing tools often miss higher-education realities such as policy compliance, funding limits, and multi-department approvals. UC Berkeley needed to shape emerging AI procurement tools as a design partner, not

Why it matters

By contributing campus expertise early, Berkeley is helping shape solutions around the realities of public-sector purchasing.

At a Glance

Design Partner
To influence development of AI procurement tools
Considerations
Policy compliance, funding limits, complex approvals
Higher Ed Wins
Incorporates realities of higher ed procurement environment

only as an end user.

Approach

UC Berkeley is working with procurement software providers as a strategic design partner for emerging AI tools. Rather than purchasing technology only as an end user, the campus is contributing feedback on practical challenges such as policy compliance, funding constraints, and multi-department approval chains.

Result

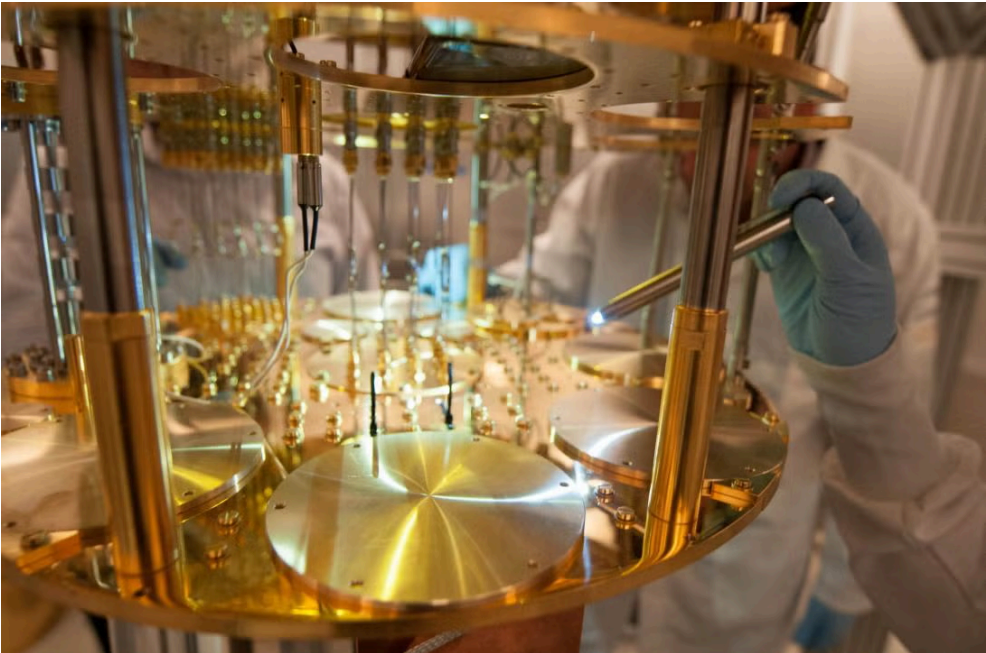
This co-creation approach brings real operational needs into product development and aims to produce tools better suited to higher education.

Related Links:
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Drive Value and Savings

Duty-Free Guide for High-Value Research Equipment

UC Berkeley’s new guide helps researchers assess potential duty-free treatment for scientific equipment and plan for the paperwork, timing, and costs involved.



Why it matters

The resource helps researchers evaluate tariff-mitigation opportunities while planning for documentation, timing, and cash flow.

At a Glance

Reduces time/effort
Guide provides structured pathway

Clearer expectations
Clarifies and simplifies process

Cost savings
Successful applications help mitigate tariffs

Challenge

Departments importing high-value scientific equipment needed a clear way to seek duty-free treatment without assuming a refund is automatic. The federal application is complex, and cash-flow planning still matters if duties are due when equipment arrives.

Approach

UC Berkeley published a structured pathway for departments seeking duty-free treatment on high-value scientific and research equipment through federal Form ITA-338P. The process may apply when imported equipment supports educational or scientific work and no equivalent U.S.-manufactured instrument can meet the intended use.

Result

Procurement guidance also sets realistic expectations: the application is complex, departments may need to pay duties when equipment enters the country, and refunds depend on later federal approval.

Related Links:
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Explore the FY26 Annual Report

Economic and Community Impact
Enhance opportunities, sustainability, and community value.

Strategic Partnerships
Partnerships that extend campus and systemwide impact.

Drive Value and Savings
Financial stewardship, savings, and total value.

Continuous Improvement
Better processes, tools, services, and training.

Risk Management
Compliance, resilience, and risk reduction.