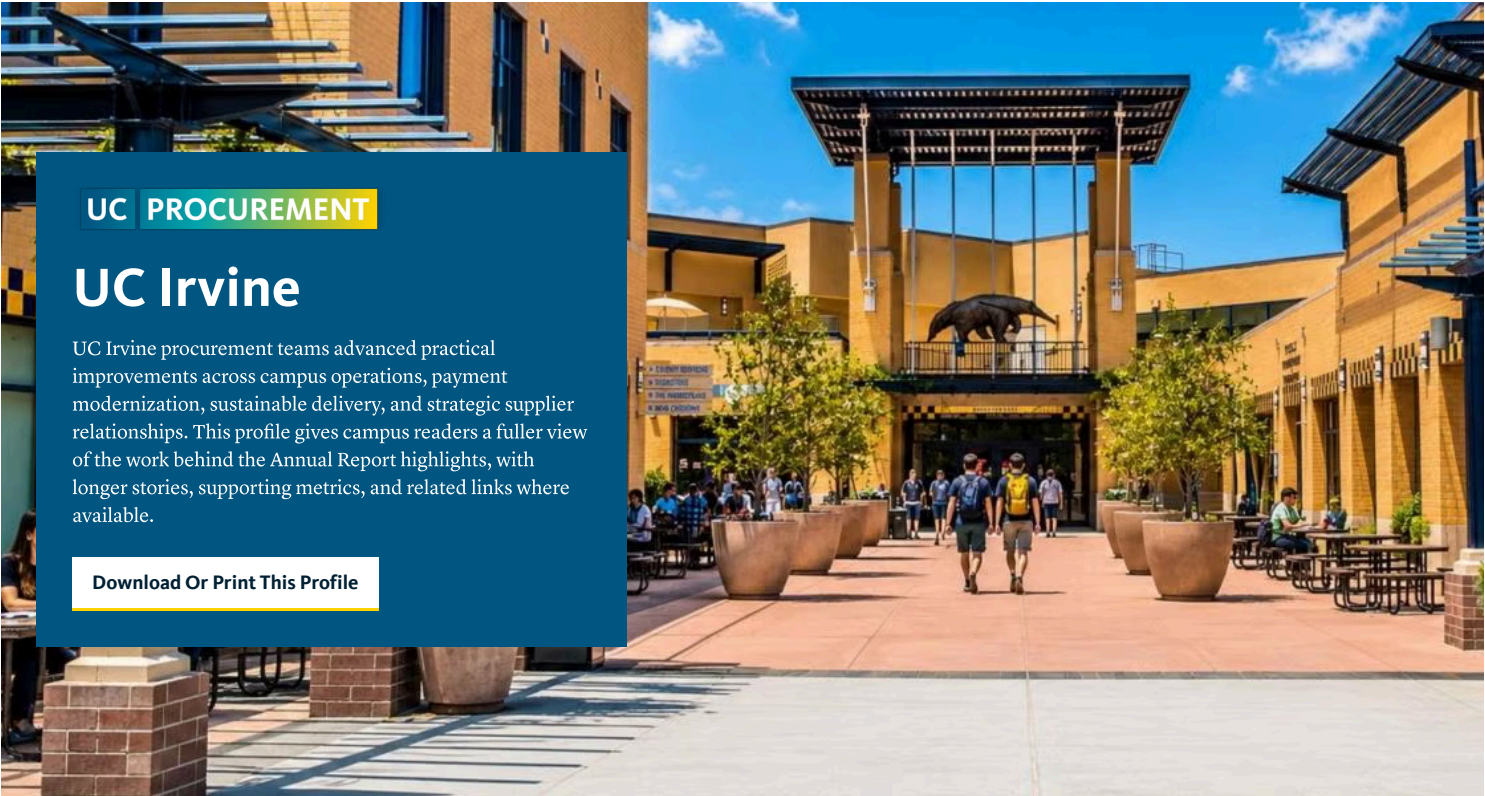




UC PROCUREMENT

UC Irvine

UC Irvine 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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\$19.9M

Benefit Delivered

9.7% over target

22.9%

Economic Impact Spend

Toward UC 25% goal

\$470M

Total Spend

For FY26

UC Irvine Achievements by Strategic Pillar

- Economic and Community Impact
- Drive Value and Savings
- Continuous Improvement
- Risk Management

Economic and Community Impact

UCI Supplier Showcase Sparks New Connections

More than 300 campus attendees met with 130-plus supplier representatives at UCI’s 2025 Supplier Showcase, building relationships and surfacing new sourcing opportunities.



Why it matters

The event connected departments directly with suppliers, showcased new products and services, and brought together new partners, including small businesses.

At a Glance

300
Campus attendees

130 + 39
Supplier representatives +
sponsoring suppliers

12
Certified small businesses

Challenge

Campus buyers needed a direct way to meet suppliers, including certified small businesses, and to see new products and services in one setting.

Approach

UC Irvine Procurement Services hosted the 2025 Supplier Showcase on September 10, bringing more than 300 campus attendees together with over 130 representatives from 39 sponsoring suppliers, including 12 certified small

businesses. Attendees included UC Systemwide Procurement, the UCIBuy+ Project Team, OIT, The Hill Bookstore, and Transportation & Distribution Services

Result

The event connected departments directly with suppliers, showcased new products and services, and brought together partners including UC Systemwide Procurement, the UCIBuy+ Project Team, OIT, The Hill Bookstore, and Transportation & Distribution Services.

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

Small Business First Compliance Now Built Into UCIBuy+

UC Irvine embedded Small Business First supplier search and guided approval steps in UCIBuy+, making it easier for departments to find certified suppliers, follow policy, and track waivers.

Challenge

Small Business First requirements were easy to miss when no strategically sourced agreement applied. UC Irvine those rules inside the UCIBuy+ workflow, including search tools and waiver steps.

Approach

UC Irvine integrated Small Business First (SB First) program requirements directly into the UCIBuy+ purchasing workflow. When no strategically sourced agreement applies, most non-construction purchases between \$10,000 to \$250,000 must be directed to certified Small Businesses (SBE), Microbusinesses (MB), or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBE).

Result

Integration into UCIBuy+ includes: supplier search tools like Supplier.io, Cal eProcure, UC Irvine's certified-business directory to help departments find SBE or DVBE partners, and guided process steps like supplier search results, supplier quotes, statements of work, and waiver submissions.

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

Why it matters

This integration has increased policy compliance and trackability, and streamlined the waiver approval process.

Drive Value and Savings

UCI Modernizes Payments & Increases Revenue

UCI’s Payment Plus program gives participating suppliers faster, secure virtual-card payments while reducing administrative costs and risk and generating incentive revenue.



Challenge

Supplier payments were due for modernization, and UC Irvine needed a virtual-card program that could reduce administrative cost and payment risk while creating incentive revenue.

Approach

UC Irvine launched Payment Plus in July 2025 to modernize supplier payments and create a new source of incentive revenue. Procurement Services invested approximately 450 hours in project management, testing, technical coordination, supplier strategy, communications, and cross-functional collaboration to bring the program live.

Result

Participating suppliers receive faster, secure virtual-card payments, while UC Irvine reduces administrative costs and payment risk and earns incentive revenue on eligible transactions.

Related Links:
[Payment Plus: A Faster Way to Pay Suppliers](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Why it matters

Ongoing spend analysis and supplier engagement are expanding participation and extending the program's value.

At a Glance

~450
Implementation hours

Faster & Secure
Virtual-card payments

Revenue
Card use generates earnings

UCI Embraces New Lab Equipment Maintenance Option

The UC-wide Remi Group agreement connects UCI labs to 24/7 repair support, broad equipment coverage, and cost-saving terms to help control maintenance costs and keep equipment running.

Challenge

Campus laboratories needed a UC-aligned option for equipment repair and preventive maintenance, with clearer service terms than one-off original-equipment arrangements.

Approach

UC Irvine promoted the new UC-wide Remi Group agreement as a preferred option for laboratory equipment repair and preventive maintenance.

Result

The contract provides access to a service network covering more than 22,000 equipment types, 24/7 dispatch support, online service-history tracking, a 25% discount from OEM list prices, and a 2% patronage rebate under UC-aligned terms.

Related Links:
[The Remi Group UC-Wide Agreement](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Why it matters

These features will reduce maintenance costs, simplify service management, and support equipment uptime.

At a Glance

25%

Discount off OEM list prices

2%

Patronage rebate

Continuous Improvement

UCIBuy+ Transforms Purchasing Experience

UC Irvine launched UCIBuy+ alongside a redesigned Procurement Services website, bringing modern purchasing technology together with clearer processes, guidance, and support.



Challenge

UC Irvine needed a modern purchasing foundation that combined new technology with clearer processes, training, and website guidance for the campus community.

Approach

In April 2026, UC Irvine Procurement Services launched UCIBuy+, modernizing campus purchasing and establishing a new foundation for procurement operations. Department feedback and subject-matter expertise shaped updated content and navigation, creating a more integrated purchasing experience that pairs modern technology with clearer processes, resources, and support for the UC Irvine community.

Result

The implementation combined process redesign, new guidance and training, and preparation for new workflows with a complete Procurement Services website relaunch on April 13.

Related Links:
[UCI Launches UCIBuy+ to Upgrade Purchasing](#)
[Related Annual Report pillar page](#)

Why it matters

UCIBuy+ gives the UCI community a clearer, more connected way to purchase—pairing modern technology with practical guidance and support to make procurement easier to navigate today and ready for future workflows.

Preparing Campus for a New Way to Buy

Pairing the UCIBuy+ launch with training, hands-on support, and a website shaped by campus feedback helped users navigate new workflows and set the stage for ongoing improvement.

Challenge

UCIBuy+ would fail as a technology-only launch. UC Irvine needed change management, training, and a redesigned website before go-live.

Why it matters

Informed, supported users can adopt UCIBuy+ with confidence, while campus feedback and

Approach

Ahead of UCIBuy+’s April 2026 launch, UC Irvine Procurement Services treated implementation as a campus change-management effort, not simply a technology deployment. Procurement developed guidance and training, communicated new purchasing processes, and supported Department Buyers and other campus users to prepare for new workflows. Department feedback also informed the redesigned Procurement Services website, while subject-matter experts validated its content.

Result

The coordinated approach established a stronger foundation for ongoing education, customer support, and process improvement after go-live.

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

expert-validated guidance give Procurement a foundation for lasting support and continuous improvement.

Building Buyer Readiness for UCIBuy+

UCI’s Procurement Fundamentals course makes purchasing training a prerequisite for UCIBuy+ access, giving department buyers a consistent foundation in procurement practices.

Challenge

Department Buyers could not receive UCIBuy+ access without a shared foundation in purchasing thresholds, bidding, sourcing, compliance, and payment methods.

Approach

In FY26, UC Irvine launched the “Procurement Fundamentals” course to give Department Buyers a consistent foundation in purchasing principles before receiving UCIBuy+ access. Training covers purchasing thresholds, competitive bidding, supplier sourcing, compliance requirements, and appropriate payment methods.

Result

By making course completion part of the Department Buyer access requirements, UC Irvine linked system access directly to procurement readiness, strengthening buyer knowledge and establishing a repeatable training foundation for new and experienced departmental purchasers.

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

Why it matters

Buyers enter UCIBuy+ with a shared understanding of purchasing rules and practices, supporting more informed, consistent decisions across campus.

Risk Management

Building In Safeguards for Digital Purchasing

UCIBuy+ brings security, privacy, accessibility, insurance, and contract reviews into UCI software and IT purchasing, with safeguards tailored to product and data risk.



Challenge

Software and IT purchases needed security, privacy, accessibility, insurance, and contracting controls inside UCIBuy+, scaled to the data risk of each purchase.

Approach

UC Irvine embedded security, privacy, accessibility, insurance, and contracting controls into software and IT purchasing through UCIBuy+. Suppliers handling UC Irvine data or systems now undergo an OIT security review with coordinated privacy assessment, while digital products must address WCAG 2.1 Level AA accessibility. For higher-risk P3/P4 software, departments upload a Purchase Agreement.

Result

Why it matters

Risk-based reviews build security, privacy, accessibility, and contractual safeguards into software purchases—helping protect UCI data and systems while supporting responsible access for the campus community.

Now cyber liability requirements scale with data risk, from \$500,000 for P1 to \$10 million for P4, with Risk Services and Campus Counsel involved when suppliers cannot meet requirements.

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

Faster Low-Risk Routing with Stronger Controls

UCI’s May 2026 UCIBuy+ release streamlined InfoSec review for eligible low-risk purchases and added data checks and governance controls across key compliance fields.

Challenge

Post-launch, UCIBuy+ recognized the need for stronger validation and governance, including PALCard exceptions, duplicate InfoSec routing on low-risk items, and inconsistent compliance-field defaults.

Approach

UC Irvine strengthened UCIBuy+ controls in a May 2026 release focused on PALCard exceptions, data validation, and governance. Certified Unit Information Security Lead review can now bypass central OIT InfoSec routing for eligible low-risk P1/P2 items, reducing duplicate approvals.

Result

New warnings flag mismatches between requisition data and supplier, Small Business, Export Control, InfoSec, Privacy, Accessibility, and Covered Services responses. UC Irvine also restricted personal defaults for critical compliance fields and standardized after-the-fact PO reasons.

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

Why it matters

This release reduces duplicate approvals while catching inconsistent information earlier, helping UCI balance efficient purchasing with reliable compliance oversight.

Strengthening Covered Service Compliance

UCI integrated Covered Services guidance into purchasing support, helping departments secure reviews and contracts before work begins and identify potential issues sooner.

Challenge

Covered Services rules were easy to miss until work had already started. Departments needed campus guidance that moved review and contracting earlier in the process.

Approach

During FY26, UC Irvine Procurement Services strengthened Covered Services compliance by translating systemwide requirements into practical campus guidance. Procurement helped departments identify when services require review and contracting before work begins, reinforced approved purchasing processes, and incorporated Covered Services requirements into broader purchasing support.

Result

Moving compliance earlier in the process helps UC Irvine identify potential issues before services are performed while giving departments clearer direction for engaging suppliers appropriately.

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

Why it matters

Departments get clearer direction before engaging suppliers, helping UCI address potential risks early and ensure required reviews and contracts are in place before work begins.

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.