



Campus Space Study

UC Merced is launching a significant initiative to better understand how campus space is currently used and how it can be utilized more effectively. As a finite and valuable resource, physical space requires thoughtful stewardship to ensure it supports the university's evolving needs. The study will examine how offices, workstations, and collaborative areas are used on a daily basis, with the goal of developing informed recommendations for effective use of existing space and future space planning and utilization.

Data Gathering

One of the initial steps in this effort is collecting data on building occupancy.

The study will utilize two methods to gather data:

- Live Observations: Student employees will conduct walk-throughs at various times of day to observe occupancy and usage.
- Occupancy Sensing: Sensing technology to analyze Wi-Fi and Bluetooth signals to estimate occupancy. Data is aggregated and the software takes provisions to maintain privacy.

Building	Walk-Throughs	Occupancy Sensing
Administration Building		
Arts & Computational Sciences (ACS)		
Biomedical Sciences & Physics (BSP)		
Classroom & Office Building 1 (COB1)		
Classroom & Office Building 2 (COB2)		
Downtown Campus Center (DCC)		
Facilities Support Buildings		
Granite Pass		
Health & Athletic Center		(First Floor)
Kolligian Library		
Science & Engineering Building (SE1)		
Science & Engineering Building 2 (SE2)		
Social Science & Management (SSM)		
Student Activities & Athletics Center		
Student Services Building (SSB)		
Sustainability Research & Engineering (SRE)		
Terrace Center		

The goal is to not identify *who* is in a particular building or space, but rather *how many* occupants are in general areas of a building.

Schedule

- Walkthroughs will begin on **September 29** and conclude on **November 14**.
- Occupancy sensor data collection will begin **September 29**.
- Findings presented and recommendations developed in Spring 2026.

More Information

- Space Planning Website: <https://spaceplanning.ucmerced.edu/campus-space-study>
- Contacts:
 - Maggie Saunders (msaunders4@ucmerced.edu)
 - Jason Doyle (jdoyle3@ucmerced.edu)