The fastest, safest and most efficient way to receive your monthly UC retirement benefit is to have it deposited directly to your bank account. Your payments are deposited automatically, so there is no waiting in bank lines or for a check to clear. What’s more, your bank may offer incentives for using direct deposit.

This fact sheet explains how direct deposit works and how to set it up.
How Direct Deposit Works

THE BASICS
Your entire benefit must be deposited in a single account. The university can’t send part of the benefit as direct deposit and part of it as a check. Nor can it send direct deposits to banks outside the U.S.

WHEN FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE
UC sends the net amount of your monthly benefit to your bank, by way of an automated clearinghouse, so that the funds are available to you on the first of each month.

If the first falls on a weekend or holiday, your deposit will be available on the last banking day of the previous month, except in December. The direct deposit date for December benefit payment is the first business day in January.

To see all scheduled direct deposit dates for the year, go to ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/retirees/retirement-benefit-direct-deposit-dates.html.

ACCESSING STATEMENTS
You can view and print your monthly income statements by logging in to your account on UCRAYS and selecting "Benefit Payments" in the left menu. Statements are available on the first of each month and up to 18 months of statements are available.

ACCOUNT TYPES YOU CAN USE
You may use a checking, savings or trust account.

If you are using a trust account, it must be a grantor-type trust established for your benefit. The trust’s tax identification number must be your Social Security number.

How to Enroll in, Change or Cancel Direct Deposit

If you’re a UC employee and use direct deposit for your wages, you can elect to continue the service when you make your retirement election. If you don’t already use direct deposit, you can sign up for it when you retire or anytime thereafter.

If you are retired, you may sign up, change or cancel direct deposit at any time.

The most convenient and quickest way to sign up is online, by logging in to your account on UCRAYS. Select "My Account" on the left side menu and then click "Benefit Payment & Taxes" and follow the instructions.

You can also use the Direct Deposit for Monthly Benefit form (UCRS 160), available on UCnet.

If you use this form and want your benefit deposited to a checking or trust checking account, you must attach a voided blank check with the name imprinted on it, or have your financial institution complete section 4, to confirm your account number and financial institution.

If you want your benefit deposited to a savings or trust savings account, your financial institution must complete section 4 of the form.

PROCESSING DEADLINES
Typically, for direct deposit to take effect at the beginning of the following month, you generally must sign up by mid-month, subject to processing deadlines. Until direct deposit takes effect, your check will continue to be mailed to you.

If you decide to cancel direct deposit, it’s best to do so no later than mid-month so the cancellation will take effect at the beginning of the following month. Processing deadlines will determine the effective date.

KEEP UC INFORMED OF CHANGES
Once you have direct deposit, you must notify UC right away if you change your bank or bank account or update your direct deposit online. You can make the change through your UCRAYS account, or by contacting the UC Retirement Administration Service Center at 800-888-8267. To avoid an interruption in direct deposit, you may want to keep your old account open until you’re sure that your direct deposit is being transmitted to your new bank or account.
By authority of the Regents, University of California Human Resources, located in Oakland, administers all benefit plans in accordance with applicable plan documents and regulations, custodial agreements, University of California Group Insurance Regulations, group insurance contracts, and state and federal laws. No person is authorized to provide benefits information not contained in these source documents, and information not contained in these source documents cannot be relied upon as having been authorized by the Regents. Source documents are available for inspection upon request (800-888-8267). What is written here does not constitute a guarantee of plan coverage or benefits — particular rules and eligibility requirements must be met before benefits can be received. The University of California intends to continue the benefits described here indefinitely; however, the benefits of all employees, retirees and plan beneficiaries are subject to change or termination at the time of contract renewal or at any other time by the University or other governing authorities. The University also reserves the right to determine new premiums, employer contributions and monthly costs at any time. Health and welfare benefits are not accrued or vested benefit entitlements. UC’s contribution toward the monthly cost of the coverage is determined by UC and may change or stop altogether, and may be affected by the state of California’s annual budget appropriation. If you belong to an exclusively represented bargaining unit, some of your benefits may differ from the ones described here. For more information, employees should contact their Human Resources Office and retirees should call the UC Retirement Administration Service Center (800-888-8267).

In conformance with applicable law and University policy, the University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Please send inquiries regarding the University’s affirmative action and equal opportunity policies for staff to Systemwide AA/EEO Policy Coordinator, University of California, Office of the President, 1111 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA 94607, and for faculty to the Office of Academic Personnel, University of California, Office of the President, 1111 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA 94607.