

## BCS Program Posting

BCS Program General Description Link:

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/students/undergrad/degree-programs/bcs-program-second-degree>

BCS Program Application Instructions Link:

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/students/undergrad/degree-programs/bcs-program-second-degree/how-apply>

BCS Program Application Instructions Screenshot Proof:

The screenshot shows the UBC Vancouver Campus website. The header includes the UBC logo, the text "THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA", and "Vancouver Campus". Below this is a navigation bar for the "Faculty of Science Computer Science" department, with links to "About", "People", "Undergrads", "Grads", "Research", "News & Events", "Industry & Alumni", "Jobs & Careers", and "Engage". A search icon is visible in the top right corner.

The main content area is titled "How to Apply". It includes a sidebar with a list of links: "Prospective Undergrads", "How to Apply", "Degree Programs & Options", "Majors", "Minors", "Combined Majors", "Honours", "Second Degree options", "BCS 20-month 2nd degree", "What is BCS(ICS)?", "Academic Schedule", "How to Apply", "Bridging Module", "Co-op", "FAQs BCS Program", "Info for Int'l Students", "BCS Alumni Stories", "Contact / People", "BSc. Second Degree", "Program Learning Outcomes", "Graduation Requirements", "Mini-Streams", and "Go Global Exchange Program".

The main content area contains the following text:

To apply, ALL applicants (including UBC graduates and current UBC students) must fill out both of these applications:

[Online application for admission to UBC](#) is due January 15, 2022.

Are you a current UBC student graduating in May? Apply for a change of program for the next September through SSC (this will not affect graduation from your current program).

UBC graduates should apply for re-admission through SSC.

When completing the online application to UBC, select the Vancouver campus and the Bachelor of Computer Science or Integrated Computer Science: Bachelor of Computer Science Degree - Major or Honours.

**Note well:** You must submit official transcripts from all previous post-secondary institutions to the Registrar's Office. If you are a current UBC student or UBC graduate, you do not need to submit UBC transcripts, but you **MUST** submit transcripts from all *other* post-secondary institutions you've attended.

[Application to the CS department](#) must happen by **January 15, 2022** and meet these criteria:

1. You must have applied and paid UBC's application fee, or your application to the CS department will not be processed and the fee will not be refunded
2. Provide your resume
3. Contact information provided (name, email and phone number for two (2) references (referees will be contacted to submit references online by January 15, 2022)
4. Pay a \$100, non-refundable application fee (Interac, Visa or Mastercard only)
5. Provide evidence of completion of BC Principles of Mathematics 12 (e.g. BC high school, Pre-calculus Math 12, or equivalent)
6. Provide evidence of completion of a UBC-recognized/transferable first-year English course

Courses and Registration	>
Academic Advising	>
Facilities & Labs	>
Co-op & Careers	>
Research Opportunities	>
Scholarships & Financial Assistance	>
Get Involved	>
FAQs	>

Admissions has two phases:

**Phase 1.** The BCS program reviews applications. You may be contacted for a face-to-face or remote interview (particularly strong candidates may not need to interview). We will then forward a list of successful applicants to UBC Admissions.

**Phase 2.** UBC Admissions verifies that candidates hold a recognized Bachelor's degree and that they have met all program prerequisites including Math, English, and an appropriate GPA. If you successfully meet all requirements and judgements, you will be admitted to both UBC and the BCS (ICS) program by UBC Admissions.

Please read through the details below to ensure your application arrives on time and receives full consideration.

## Details

UBC's official admissions, promotion and program information is available in the [BCS Calendar Entry](#). You must meet the requirements listed there.

## BCS Interpretation of Admissions Criteria

UBC evaluates your application to BCS for completion of the minimum requirements listed in the BCS Calendar Entry (e.g., a recognized prior Bachelor's degree or the mathematics and English requirements). UBC also calculates a "30-credit GPA" (effective, UBC-equivalent GPA in the most recent 30 credits of undergraduate coursework) used by BCS admissions. The BCS leadership may also impose additional minima on applications based on recent history of competitiveness and applicant success in the program. If so, these will be listed on the [BCS application page](#).

Beyond that, the BCS program reviews each complete application (including essays, resume, reference letters, and transcripts) according to four broad criteria that are roughly equally weighted:

- 1. Suitability of academic background:** relative to the needs of the BCS program. By default, this is your 30-credit GPA. We may adjust this on the basis of factors including: grades in highly relevant coursework (especially any introductory computing courses taken); graduate coursework (not normally counted in the 30-credit GPA); excessive computing background (where we generally consider strong work in the equivalent of UBC CPSC 110, 121, and 210 a positive; CPSC 213, 221, and 310 neutral; and additional coursework increasingly negative, because it is too close to a computing degree); and unusually challenging or easy coursework (e.g., we might classify an applicant with a Biological Engineering degree who retakes introductory biology as part of their last 30 credit GPA as unusually easy coursework).
- 2. Realistic plan for success:** How well you have set yourself up for success in the program. Your grades and coursework (particularly in areas related to computing) also impact this criterion. We consider factors like if you have explored computing on the job or via online coursework. Additionally, we look for evidence you can manage heavy workloads or are transitioning into a new discipline. Here, and in the subsequent criterion, your application will be stronger where you build on a realistic understanding of the program.
- 3. Motivation for program:** How prepared you are to enthusiastically engage with computing and keep doing so for the duration of a challenging 2-3 year program. You should explain to us why BCS is a good choice for you and why you're a good choice for BCS. We want to understand your excitement for, and commitment to computing, BCS, and UBC, founded through your background. Ideally, your application should back up your enthusiasm with evidence.
- 4. Contribution to community:** We want to hear how you plan to contribute to your community, the UBC community and computing community through your actions upon attaining your BCS. We also want to hear how you will help create a diverse and vibrant community of students in BCS. Of particular interest is if you have previously contributed strongly and positively to your colleagues and community. We will also consider how you fit into a program that draws ideas and perspectives from a diverse range of backgrounds across many dimensions.

Your GPA has a significant impact on our evaluation of your application, but is far from the only deciding factor.

## Reference

"How to Apply." *Computer Science at UBC*, 17 Mar. 2011, <https://www.cs.ubc.ca/students/undergrad/degree-programs/bcs-program-second-degree/how-apply>.

## Cover Letter

5959 Student Union Blvd  
Vancouver, BC V6T 2C9

April 5, 2022

Steve Wolfman  
BCS Director  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Dear Dr. Wolfman,

Please consider my application to the BCS program. I believe my motivation for computer science, academic background, and community engagement experiences make me a strong candidate for the BCS program.

Through my experience of completing CPSC 100, CPSC 103, and CPSC 110 at UBC, I have developed a great interest in coding and computer science. Whether working as an individual or in a group, I have enjoyed the intellectually stimulating and problem-solving nature of this discipline. I believe my continued efforts and engagement in these courses illustrate my passion and enthusiasm for computer science, and I want to realign my career direction to computer sciences while incorporating it with my first degree. I hope to become a professional in the biotech industry through software development. I believe the BCS program will provide the strong technical foundations necessary and enable me to fulfill my goals.

My academic background also makes me a suitable candidate for the BCS program. I meet the requirements for proficiency in English, math, and computer literacy as evidenced by my prior studies. In term 1 of the 2021W session, I earned 16 credits and obtained an average of 88.8%, showcasing my ability to proficiently handle a rigorous workload. As you can see in my enclosed resume, creating a personal project based on CPSC 103 material demonstrates both my enthusiasm for the field and my ability to actively apply what I have learned. Also, from the CPSC 100 group project, I learned that leveraging everyone's strengths and creating an environment that empowers the open exchange of ideas and perspectives enables us to use synergy in creatively meeting goals. These experiences will help me get involved in the cohesiveness of a community-focused program such as BCS.

One of my primary reasons to join the BCS program is to play a pivotal role in shaping a strong community. By being an active member of a community, I will contribute to collective learning and growth. Furthermore, through my participation in student leadership positions and community service roles, I've become adept at conflict mediation, group facilitation, and active listening. These are all prerequisites for a field that often involves working in diverse groups. These skills have now become a permanent asset, which I will use to contribute back to the community and be an effective member of the BCS cohort.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you feel I would be a good fit for the BCS program, please email me at [gargkash@student.ubc.ca](mailto:gargkash@student.ubc.ca) to arrange an interview at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Kashish Garg  
Encl: Resume

## **Resume**

### **Kashish Garg**

5959 Student Union Blvd

Vancouver, BC V6T 2C9

(123-456-7890)

[gargkash@student.ubc.ca](mailto:gargkash@student.ubc.ca)

#### **OBJECTIVE**

Admission into the BCS program for the 2023/2024 Winter Session

#### **COMPUTER**

#### **SCIENCE**

#### **EXPERIENCE**

##### *University of British Columbia*

- CPSC 100: Computational Thinking— Final Grade: 89
- CPSC 103: Introduction to Systematic Program Design— Final Grade: 86
- CPSC 110: Computation, Programs, and Programming— Final Grade: 91

##### *Technical Projects*

- CPSC 100 Group Course Project—Collaborated with other students to build a playable snake/trivia game; built using the visual programming language, Snap!
- Personal project based on CPSC 103 material—Created a TV show recommender system using a TV show dataset; built using Python

#### **COMMUNICATION**

#### **AND COMMUNITY**

#### **ENGAGEMENT**

#### **EXPERIENCE**

##### *Cashier*

- Interacted with a variety of customers
- Problem-solved to meet customer needs

##### *Nursing Home Junior Volunteer*

- Interacted and learned to appropriately communicate with many residents
- Maintained a patient and empathetic attitude during communication with residents
- Assisted with activity programs (exercises, crosswords, spiritual services, etc.)

##### *Carihi Secondary School*

- Leadership committee (2014-2017)—Organized various large-scale and small-scale events with other students
- Interact committee (2014-2017)—Organized various fundraisers to give back to the local community

#### **EDUCATION**

University of British Columbia

B.Sc. in Biology—Expected Graduation May 2022

Last 30-Credit GPA: 4.0/4.3

Carihi Secondary School

Dogwood Diploma—June 2017

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

Cashier (part-time 2016-2017)—Superstore Gas Station, Campbell River

Junior Volunteer (part-time 2017)—Yucalta Lodge Nursing Home, Campbell River

#### **REFERENCES**

Available on request

## Reference Request #1

5959 Student Union Blvd  
Vancouver, BC V6T 2C9

April 5, 2022

Oluwakemi Ola  
Assistant Professor of Teaching  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Subject: Request for Reference

Dear Dr. Ola,

I hope this letter finds you well! This is Kashish Garg; I was your student in CPSC 100 during Term 1 the 2020W session.

I am completing my biology degree this May and am currently preparing my application for UBC's second degree computer science program, BCS, for the 2023/2024 Winter Session. As a former student of yours, I wanted to humbly ask if you would be willing to provide a recommendation letter for the BCS program. I learned a lot from your lectures and our office hour discussions fostered my interest in computer science, and would greatly appreciate a reference letter from you. I was wondering if you would be able to write a reference letter centered around these main points?

1. My effort in learning course concepts through lecture and discussion board participation
2. My interest in the computer science field through our office hour discussions
3. Your assessment of my performance in CPSC 100

If you are willing to provide a reference letter, I can send any information you would need, including my resume, cover letter, and unofficial transcript. Thank you for your time and consideration, I understand that this is a busy time of year. Please email me at [gargkash@student.ubc.ca](mailto:gargkash@student.ubc.ca) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kashish Garg

## Reference Request #2

5959 Student Union Blvd  
Vancouver, BC V6T 2C9

April 5, 2022

Jessica Wong  
Lecturer  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Subject: Request for Reference

Dear Dr. Wong,

I hope this letter finds you well! This is Kashish Garg; I was your student in CPSC 103 during Term 2 the 2020W session.

I am completing my biology degree this May and am currently preparing my application for UBC's second degree computer science program, BCS, for the 2023/2024 Winter Session. As a former student of yours, I wanted to humbly ask if you would be willing to provide a recommendation letter for the BCS program. I learned a lot from your lectures and our office hour discussions strengthened my interest in computer science and the Python programming language, and would greatly appreciate a reference letter from you. I was wondering if you would be able to write a reference letter centered around these main points?

1. My effort in learning course concepts through lecture and discussion board participation
2. My interest in the computer science field through our office hour discussions
3. Your assessment of my performance in CPSC 103

If you are willing to provide a reference letter, I can send any information you would need, including my resume, cover letter, and unofficial transcript. Thank you for your time and consideration, I understand that this is a busy time of year. Please email me at [gargkash@student.ubc.ca](mailto:gargkash@student.ubc.ca) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kashish Garg

### Reference Request #3

5959 Student Union Blvd  
Vancouver, BC V6T 2C9

April 5, 2022

William Bowman  
Assistant Professor  
University of British Columbia  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Subject: Request for Reference

Dear Dr. Bowman,

I hope this letter finds you well! This is Kashish Garg; I was your student in CPSC 110 during Term 1 the 2021W session.

I am completing my biology degree this May and am currently preparing my application for UBC's second degree computer science program, BCS, for the 2023/2024 Winter Session. As a former student of yours, I wanted to humbly ask if you would be willing to provide a recommendation letter for the BCS program. I learned a lot from your lectures and our office hour discussions reinforced my interest in computer science and the Racket programming language, and would greatly appreciate a reference letter from you. I was wondering if you would be able to write a reference letter centered around these main points?

1. My effort in learning course concepts through lecture and discussion board participation
2. My interest in the computer science field through our office hour discussions
3. Your assessment of my performance in CPSC 110

If you are willing to provide a reference letter, I can send any information you would need, including my resume, cover letter, and unofficial transcript. Thank you for your time and consideration, I understand that this is a busy time of year. Please email me at [gargkash@student.ubc.ca](mailto:gargkash@student.ubc.ca) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kashish Garg