

Gerrick Cardenas - Fast Track Class of 2023

My name is Gerrick Cardenas and I am an electrical engineering student at UCLA. I'm from Carson, California, which is a suburb not too far from Los Angeles. I am grateful to have been admitted to the Fast Track class of 2023 and look forward to growing both as a person and as an engineer during my time at UCLA.

As a kid, I had no idea what kind of career I wanted to pursue. I did, however, know that I enjoyed math and science. In elementary school, I became interested in outer space, so the idea of becoming an astronaut came to my mind. However, that has since changed. I grew up playing a lot of video games, which led to an interest in computers. Additionally, in high school, when I took physics, I really liked electromagnetism. These factors influenced me to choose electrical engineering when applying for college. Although I am still learning about what this field exactly entails, I am excited to grow as an electrical engineer. Additionally, I am considering taking on physics as a double major.

For me, UCLA was the clear choice. It was close to home which made the adjustment to college life easier. It is also the top public university in America. I knew that there would be plenty of opportunities for me here. Getting admitted to the Fast Track program here was another factor that impacted my college decision. I felt that I had a place here at UCLA and that I would be able to explore other opportunities as well. Currently, I am participating in Bruin Racing Baja, ACM AI, Fresh Produce Art, and Smash Bros. Club. In the coming years, I look forward to meeting new people, trying new things, and growing as an engineer.