

2021-2022 Sally Casanova CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM?

This program enables students to explore and prepare to succeed in doctoral programs in their chosen fields of study and provides financial and mentor support for juniors, seniors, and graduate students who wish to pursue doctoral degrees at accredited U.S. universities.

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

- A fully funded summer research experience at a doctoral-granting institution
- Financial support with a maximum amount of \$3,000 that can be applied to conference travel, campus visitations, professional development, and research materials
- Research mentorship of a CSUDH faculty sponsor

WHO CAN SERVE AS A FACULTY MENTOR?

A CSUDH faculty member in your field — an assistant, associate or full professor who knows you well and is willing to support your application to the Pre-Doctoral Program. Applicants are required to have a faculty mentor who will be available during the award year to help implement a plan that will prepare you for admission to a doctoral program.

HOW DO I APPLY TO THE PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM?

1. In order to apply you must **first** meet with the California Pre-Doctoral Coordinator, Dr. Terry McGlynn at tmcglynn@csudh.edu by **December 15th, 2020**. It is highly recommended that you schedule an appointment early to determine your eligibility and discuss the application process.
2. Download the PDF version of the application packet from the [CA Pre-Doctoral Program Website](#) (Will become available early December).
3. The application packet is a template only. Your final application will be filled out online with multiple attachments.
4. Work on your essay prompts (see Essay Questions on Page 3). Make an appointment with the [CSUDH Writing Center](#) for support.
5. Complete your **Scholar Plan Budget Proposal** (page 4) with your CSUDH faculty mentor.
6. Submit application to the Pre-Doc campus coordinator. Once the campus coordinator has approved your draft application, you will be given access to the website where you will submit your final application and attachments.
7. The online submission process can be started and saved before your final submission. You can work on the online application over multiple sessions
8. All attachments must be saved as PDF documents

YOUR APPLICATION PACKET SHOULD INCLUDE

- General, personal, and educational information sections completed on the application
- Scholar Plan and Budget Proposal
- Three Essays
- Faculty Sponsor Form
- Faculty mentor letter of recommendation (your faculty mentor will upload this document when notified by Chancellor's Office)
- Transcripts

TIPS TO PRODUCE A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

- Complete your essays thoughtfully, answering the prompt thoroughly
- Do not go over the word limit
- Check for typos
- Be very clear in your Scholar Plan and Budget Proposal. Provide estimated dates. Research the costs of travel and attendance at professional meetings. Your plan should be realistic, and it **must** add up to \$3,000

WHAT SHOULD THE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION ADDRESS?

It should detail the mentee's ability, skills, accomplishments, motivations, and potential to succeed as a doctoral student.

PAPER APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Submit your application package to the [campus coordinator](#), no later than **January 25, 2021**. Finalized documents must be uploaded to the Chancellor's website by February 19, 2021. Make sure your faculty mentor aware that he or she will receive an email from the Chancellor's Office requesting they upload their letter of recommendation.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The campus coordinator will work with you to polish your application package before online submission to the Chancellor's Office. You cannot submit your application to the Chancellor's Office without receiving a code from the campus coordinator. The sooner you submit, the more time the campus coordinator will have to work with you.

SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Available to Sally Casanova Scholars who are not admitted into a Ph.D. program for fall 2021 academic year
- Allows scholars to pursue doctoral-level research under the guidance of a faculty member at an institution of their choice
- Scholars may participate at any accredited doctoral institution within US
- Established partnership with UC offer added benefit of enhanced professional development, and dorm residency
- Scholars are primarily responsible for identifying and contacting potential faculty sponsors. You may also work with the campus coordinator and faculty mentor to identify potential sponsors and institutions

SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (COST COVERED)

- Travel to and from institution
- Room and board
- Stipend ranging between \$4000-\$5000 for 8-10 weeks of research
- Scholars may not work elsewhere during this time period

CAMPUS VISITATIONS

If you choose to make campus visits, take the opportunity to look at other institutions and research graduate programs of interest.

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Essay Questions and Scoring Rubric

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESSAYS 1-3: Each essay should be approximately 300-600 words in length and must be typed. Please include essay question at top.

Essay Questions:

1. Describe the field of study in which you would like to pursue a doctoral degree and the research questions or theoretical perspectives that interest you in this field. Although you should be specific, please use language that someone outside of your discipline would understand.

2. What elements of your educational, research, community service and/or personal experience have contributed to your interest in and preparation for pursuing doctoral study, and your determination to succeed in it?

3. Many professionals with doctoral degrees enter careers to serve as college and university faculty, and most faculty serve a diverse student body. Describe your interest in a faculty career and experience you have had, or plan to have, that would prepare you for it.

Scoring Rubric:

Criteria #1: Academic record strength

Applicant excelled in coursework in their undergraduate career (last 60 units). Or, if applicable, master's as identified in their overall G.P.A.

- 4 - applicant demonstrates truly outstanding academic achievements
- 3 - applicant demonstrates strong academic achievements
- 2 - applicant demonstrates moderate academic achievements
- 1 - applicant fails to demonstrate academic achievements

Criteria #2: Robustness of letter of recommendation

Letter from faculty mentor indicates applicant is held in extremely high regard in academics and research and shows a strong interest in mentoring the applicant

- 4 - letter indicates that nominee is in top 5% of students and the recommender holds them in extremely high regard
- 3 - letter indicates strong support and the applicant has good potential
- 2 - letter of recommendation shows support, but does not indicate the applicant has good potential
- 1 - recommender had not worked closely with the applicant or did not offer strong support

Criteria #3: Clarity and relevance of budget

Applicant shows a budget plan and clear potential to use the funds as a stepping stone to a Ph.D. program

- 4 - applicant has provided a strong and realistic budget that shows balance in visits to campuses, attendance at professional meetings, application fees and other areas
- 3 - applicant's budget is good but may not show strong support in pursuing Ph.D. programs
- 2 - applicant's budget seems somewhat unrealistic in some areas and doesn't strongly support the pursuit of a Ph.D. program
- 1 - applicant provided a budget that is unrealistic and doesn't provide strong support for pursuit of a Ph.D. program

Please provide details on the components of the plan and assign a tentative dollar amount to each. An award of \$3,000 is made to each Scholar. **Please note that travel is permitted only within the U.S.**, and visits to doctoral degree-granting institutions are limited to those universities that are accredited. Summer research experiences are funded separately from this budget.

	Activities (provide specifics)	Dates Activities Will Occur	Estimated Cost
1	Visits to University of California campuses		\$
2	Visits to other doctoral-granting institutions		\$
3	Attendance at professional meetings, symposia, seminars, colloquia		\$
4	Graduate school applications (all UC campuses waive application fees for Sally Casanova Scholars) and/or admission test fees, e.g. GRE		\$
5	Student memberships in professional organizations; subscriptions to professional journals; special software, minor upgrades of computer capacity, research materials, etc. NOTE: Research related expenditures (for example, computer software, computer memory upgrades, laboratory supplies) are limited to a total of \$500		\$
			\$
		Total Estimated Cost (Must add up to \$3000)	\$