

California Pre-Doctoral Program

The California Pre-Doctoral Program is designed to increase the pool of potential faculty by supporting the doctoral aspirations of CSU students who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages. Winners will be designated as Sally Casanova Scholars, as a tribute to Dr. Sally Casanova, for whom the award is named. With the aid of a faculty sponsor, these scholars are exposed to unique opportunities to explore and help prepare them to succeed in doctoral programs.

Applications are made available in December and are typically due to the Graduate Studies Office (MH 112) no later than 5pm, Friday, March 2, 2012. Please read the attached Applicant Guide for further details.

WHAT THE CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM OFFERS STUDENTS:

Working one-on-one with faculty members from both CSU and doctoral-granting institutions, students receive funding up to \$3,000 for activities such as:

- Visits to doctoral-granting institutions to explore opportunities for doctoral study
- Travel to a national symposium or professional meeting in their chosen field; other related activities such as membership in professional org. & journal subscriptions
- Graduate school application & test fees
- Additional funding for participation in a summer research internship program to receive exposure to the world of research in their chosen discipline.

WHAT THE CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM OFFERS FACULTY SPONSORS:

- An opportunity to identify and mentor a promising upper division undergraduate or a master's student in preparation for doctoral study
- Up to \$1,000 in travel funds to accompany the student to UC and other doctoral-granting campuses for site visits, or to national symposia or professional meetings.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility is limited to junior, senior and graduate students that are enrolled at CSUF in a degree-seeking program as of Spring 2012 and who will also be enrolled at CSUF for at least one semester of the academic year 2012-2013. The program is designed for students interested in obtaining research doctorates. Students interested in obtaining professional degrees (law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, or an MBA degree) are not eligible. The program places a special emphasis on increasing the number of CSU students who enter doctoral programs at one of the University of California (UC) institutions. Applicants must also be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

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APPLICANT GUIDE

1. **Email** : your name, CWID#, potential doctoral discipline, potential doctoral-granting institutions you are interested in visiting, and all institutions you have attended. This information will be reviewed to determine your eligibility for the program. If you qualify, we will send you an electronic copy of the application form; check to see which transcripts CSUF has on-file; and obtain an official CSUF transcript.
2. You must have a faculty sponsor from CSUF who will be available for the duration of the plan specified in the application. Choose a faculty member in your discipline who you know well, admire, and know will assist you. Their guidance will play a large role in your success.
3. Fill out the checklist included in the application. Required submission materials:
 - a. An original and two copies of your application. **Applications must be typed.** You will need to send an e-file to your faculty sponsor so that his/her materials are typed as well.
 - b. An original and two copies of a signed confidential letter of evaluation from your faculty sponsor.
 - c. An original and two copies of your transcripts from each institution you have attended. (Imaged official transcripts on-file at CSUF can be used instead of purchasing new ones.) It is not necessary to purchase your official CSUF transcript.
4. Make sure your SSN is on every page of your application materials. This way, if your materials are separated, the pages can be easily identified as belonging to your submission package.
5. Keep in mind that this program places special emphasis on increasing the number of CSU students who enter graduate programs at one of the University of California campuses. Additionally, applicants are selected as Sally Casanova Scholars based on: potential for success in completing a doctoral program; probable effectiveness of the student/faculty plan; and level of economic and educational disadvantage.
6. **YOU** must accept responsibility for turning in **ALL** application materials to the Office of Graduate Studies by the campus deadline: **5:00pm Friday, March 2, 2012**. Incomplete or late packages will not be accepted.