



THE CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM- AY 2025-2026

April Lane, Office of Graduate Studies
Pre-Doctoral Program Coordinator

Commitment to Excellence with Diversity

History

California Pre-Doctoral Program:

- In its 35th year!
- Founded in 1989, by the CSU and UC
- Fun fact: It's funded by the CSU from the California Lottery Fund
- The Pre-Doc Program provides financial assistance for students interested in exploring and preparing for a doctoral program.

Awards are based on:

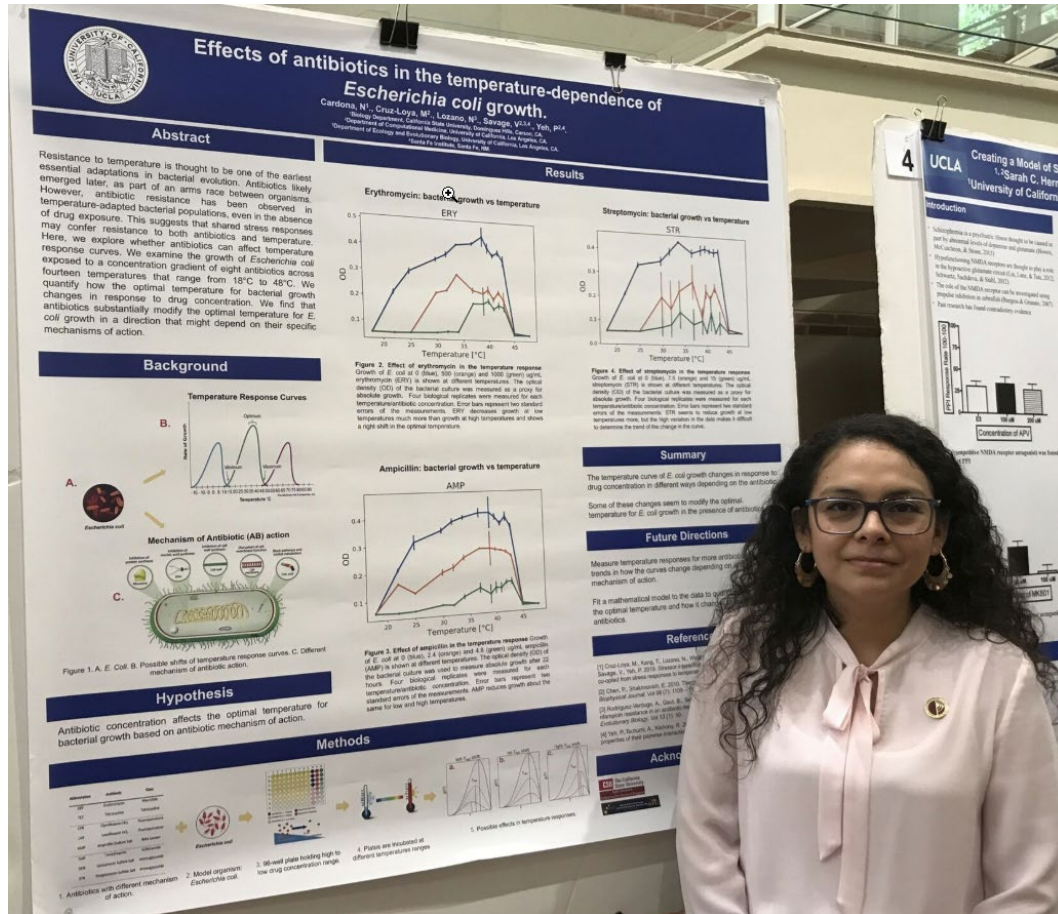
- competitive review of applications
- Demonstration of academic excellence while experiencing economic or educational disadvantage.
- Pre-Doc Scholars may use funds for
 - meeting faculty and students at U.S. doctoral-granting institutions, membership in professional organizations, subscriptions to academic journals, GRE preparation, to cover the cost of graduate school application and test fees.
 - provides an opportunity to apply for participation in a funded summer internship opportunity.

**I AM A CSU
SALLY
CASANOVA
PRE-DOCTORAL
SCHOLAR**



The California Pre-Doctoral Program is designed to increase diversity within the pool of university faculty by supporting the doctoral aspirations of students in the CSU.

A Few Program Statistics



- Over 2600 Scholars funded
- 40 percent of each cohort end up in fully funded Ph.D. programs
- Since 2014-15 AY, average of 13 Sally Casanova scholars are admitted each year into a Ph.D. program at a UC campus
- Since 2013-14 AY, almost 25% of Sally Casanova Scholars receive funding for their Ph.D. program through the Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program

Scholar Data Since 2013

- 90 percent of the scholars are first generation
- 82 percent are students of color
- 65 percent of the scholars are female
- 20 percent are Juniors
- 20 percent are Seniors
- 60 percent are Master's students



2019 UCLA Sally Casanova Scholar's Summer Research Cohort

Program Details

- Supports the doctoral aspirations of CSU students who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages
- Emphasis is on increasing the number of CSU students who enter Ph.D. programs at one of the University of California campuses
- Awardees are designated a Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholar and work closely with their CSU faculty mentor
- The Scholar and their mentor will develop an overall plan that leads to eventual enrollment in a doctoral program

The Program Provides

- Travel Funds for the student to visit U.S. doctoral-granting institutions to meet with faculty and students and/or to attend professional meetings appropriate to the student's development.
- Development Funds for activities such as student membership in professional organizations, subscriptions to academic journals, graduate school applications and test fees, GRE preparation, and the cost of minor research materials.
- A Summer Research Experience opportunity at a UC campus, or other U.S. major research university, fully funded by the Pre-Doctoral Program, so that the scholar can participate in doctoral-level research prior to applying to a Ph.D. program. Separate application if awarded.

Participant Eligibility

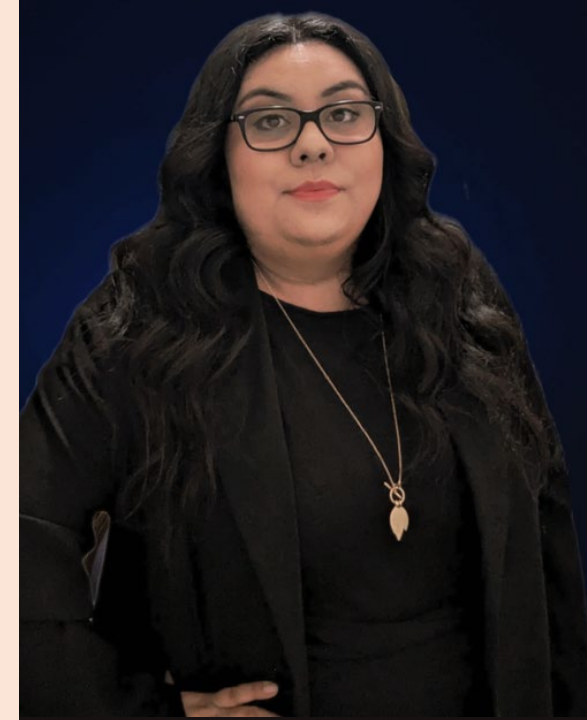
- Upper-division or master's degree students enrolled at CSUSB as of Spring 2025 and Fall 2025.
- Applicant must have a faculty mentor from the student's home campus who will be available for the duration of the plan specified in the application.
- The program is designed for students interested in obtaining research doctorates.
- Undocumented students are welcome to apply.
- Students not eligible to apply: International students and students interested in obtaining professional masters or doctoral degrees (for example, law, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, or an MBA degree, or Ed.D)



OUR 2024-2025 CSUSB Sally Casanova Pre- Doctoral Scholars

Top to Bottom, Left to Right:
Benjamin Roath (M.A. English and
Writing Studies), Erick Herrera
(B.A. Sociology and Ethnic
Studies), Evy Zermeno (M.A.
History), and Gary Williams (MPA
Leadership Concentration)

Read more about our Scholars:



Application Details

- Components of the application include:
 - Personal Information
 - Educational Information
 - Three Essays
 - Faculty Mentor Letter of Recommendation
 - Student Budget Plan*
 - Transcripts

*No longer need to submit when you apply.

CSU The California State University

**CALIFORNIA
PRE-DOCTORAL
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**2024-25
APPLICATION**

2013-14 Scholar,
San Francisco State University

2009-10 Scholar,
Cal Poly Pomona

2013-14 Scholar,
San Jose State University

2014 Summer Research Experience- UC Irvine
CSU Fullerton, San Francisco State University, CSU Northridge

<https://www.calstate.edu/predoc/apply>

Sample application available online

Selection Criteria

- Applicants are selected based on three major criteria: potential for success in completing a doctoral program, probable effectiveness of the student/faculty plan, and level of economic and educational disadvantage.
 - If you are interested in applying, start now:
 - Step 1: You need to work with a tenured or tenure-track CSUSB faculty mentor. Network early to connect with faculty!
 - Step 2: Prepare your application materials.
 - Step 3: Complete the online Pre-Doc application:
 - **Planned opening: December 2, 2024**
 - Faculty Review* - Submit application packet (draft) to me by **January 17, 2025***
 - **Closes: February 14, 2025**
 - Contact me, your campus Pre-Doctoral Coordinator, with any questions.
- *Faculty Review Committee optional but is strongly recommended*

Additional Information

- CSUSB Office of Graduate Studies – California Pre-Doctoral Program Website:
<https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/california-pre-doctoral-program>
- California Pre-Doctoral Website:
<https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/predoc/>

GOOD LUCK WITH THE PROCESS!

- **Reach out to me with any questions you may have about applying.**
- **I'm available to meet in-person, via Zoom, or by the phone**

April Lane

Pre-Doctoral Program Coordinator

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**Please take a moment to complete the workshop
satisfaction survey:**

bit.ly/3EJX5WP

