

The California Pre-Doctoral Program

The California Pre-Doctoral Program is designed to increase the pool of potential faculty by supporting the doctoral aspirations of California State University students who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages. A special emphasis is placed on increasing the number of CSU students who enter graduate programs at one of the University of California campuses.

Each of the applicants selected will be designated a Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholar and will work closely with a California State University faculty sponsor to develop an overall plan which leads ultimately to enrollment in a doctoral program. The plan is to be tailored to the specific goals and career objectives of the student.

Program Provisions

The program provides:

1. Travel Funds for the student and faculty sponsor to visit U.S. doctoral-granting institutions, and/or to attend a professional meeting appropriate to the student's development.
2. Funds for other related activities, such as student membership in professional organizations and subscriptions to journals, graduate school application and test fees, GRE preparation, and the cost of minor research materials.
3. Possible opportunity to apply for a fully funded summer research Internship that allows the student to participate in doctoral-level research.

Eligibility Criteria

The students selected as Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholars must:

- be upper division or master's degree students who are currently enrolled at California State University, Fresno, and for at least one semester of the previous academic year.
- be either U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- have a faculty sponsor who will be available for the duration of the plan specified in the application.

The program is designed for students interested in obtaining doctoral degrees. Students interested in entering professional schools to obtain professional degrees in law, medicine, dentistry or related fields are not eligible. Current or previous California Pre-Doctoral Scholars are not eligible to apply.