CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM

2020-2021
WHAT IS THE CALIFORNIA PRE-DOCTORAL PROGRAM?

Aim: Enable students to explore and prepare to succeed in doctoral programs in their chosen fields of study.

Mechanism: Financial and mentor support for juniors, seniors, and graduate students who wish to pursue doctoral degrees at accredited U.S. universities

Other Potential Benefit: All awardees will be designated Sally Casanova Scholars and will have an opportunity to apply for a summer research experience
PRE-DOC CAN HELP YOU SUCCEED!

**Financial support**

Funding with a maximum amount of $3,000 that can be applied for conference travel, professional development, and research materials.

Travel funds of up to $500 to support your mentor to attend a conference with you.

**Mentorship by a CSU faculty mentor**

With the aid of a SJSU Faculty Sponsor, Sally Casanova Scholars are exposed to unique opportunities to help prepare them to succeed in doctoral programs.
WHO CAN APPLY TO PRE-DOC

Upper-division or master's degree students who are matriculated upper-division or master’s students who are enrolled at SJSU as of Spring 2020, and will also be enrolled at a CSU campus for at least one semester for academic year 2020-21

Applicants are required to have a faculty sponsor who will be available during the academic year to help them implement a plan that will prepare them for admission to a doctoral program

Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or a DACA recipient.

Students interested in obtaining professional degrees are not eligible.
To support the Sally Casanova Scholar by guiding them through the program

May accompany them to doctoral-granting campuses for site visits, or professional meetings, which will expose them to their field of interest

Assist applicants with information about academic careers, identify appropriate journal subscriptions and learning experiences, as well as ensure that they are prepared for doctoral study

Assist with the preparation of the application form
PRE-DOC MENTORS
WHO CAN SERVE AS A FACULTY MENTOR?

Seek a **Faculty Mentor** (a **SJSU faculty member** in your field — **an assistant, associate or full professor, but not a lecturer**) who knows you well and is willing to support your application to the Pre-Doctoral Program, serving as your mentor during the award year.
HOW TO FIND A PRE-DOC FACULTY MENTOR

• Undergraduate advisor
• Research mentor/thesis advisor
• Faculty member who does the kind of research you want to pursue in your doctoral program
HOW TO ASK A FACULTY MEMBER TO SERVE AS YOUR MENTOR

Visit a faculty member during office hours or send a faculty member a brief email using your SJSU email account.

Be respectful and use appropriate titles (e.g. Dr., Professor, etc.)

Introduce yourself.

State your year in school.

Provide career/graduate school aspirations.

Briefly mention relevant courses, grades/GPA, previous lab experience.

Optional: provide a CV/résumé, unofficial transcript.
HOW TO ASK A FACULTY MEMBER TO SERVE AS YOUR MENTOR

Review the faculty member’s research and determine what and why it interests you

- Discuss why participating in this research relates to your academic and career goals

Faculty members are very busy and may not respond right away. Give them a week or two to respond, then send a follow up email or visit during their office hours

Don’t give up. If a match doesn’t work, ask faculty if they know of any colleagues who would be willing to serve
HOW TO ASK A FACULTY MEMBER TO SERVE AS YOUR MENTOR

When meeting with faculty

• Be on time and prepared
• Bring copies of your resume/CV, unofficial transcripts etc.
• Dress appropriately and listen attentively
• Be ready to discuss your goals and interests regarding your research interests, graduate school and career aspirations
• Discuss expectations:
  • What is the time commitment?
  • Make clear your availability
  • Make clear your intentions for the relationship
  • Provide information regarding opportunities for the faculty member (funding for supplies, conference travel)
APPLICATION GUIDELINES
1. Download pdf version of packet from http://www.sjsu.edu/cgs/current-students/funding-opportunities/SallyCasanovaPreDoctoralScholarship/

2. Work on your essay prompts while you are seeking a Faculty Mentor.

3. Complete your Student Budget Plan with Faculty Mentor

4. Submit application to the Pre-Doc Campus Coordinator Jeffrey Honda at jeffrey.honda@sjsu.edu
YOUR APPLICATION PACKET SHOULD INCLUDE

General, Personal, and Educational information sections completed on the application

Student Budget Plan

Three Essays

Faculty Sponsor Form

Faculty Sponsor 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. There must be absolutely no typos.

Be very clear in your Student Budget Plan. 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.
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

What should the letter address?

• Mentor holds student in high regard (excellent academic student with research potential)

• Detail your
  • Ability
  • Skills
  • Mastery of theory and method
  • Accomplishments
  • Motivations

• Mentee potential to succeed as a doctoral student
PAPER APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Submit to your application package to Interim A.D. Jeffrey Honda no later than February 17, 2020

Finalized documents must be uploaded to the Chancellor’s website by February 28, 2020

Make sure your Faculty Mentor knows that he or she will receive an email from the Chancellor’s Office requesting they upload Their letter of recommendation
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The College of Graduate Studies 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 CGS.

The sooner you submit, the more time CGS will have to work with you.
Applicants will be selected on the basis of three major criteria:

- Potential for success in completing a doctoral program
- Probable effectiveness of the student/faculty plan
- Level of economic and education disadvantage
SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2020-2021
SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Available to Sally Casanova Scholars who are not admitted into a Ph.D. program for fall 2020 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
SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE - COSTS

Costs Associated with the Summer Research Experience

- 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
SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Scholars are primarily responsible for identifying and contacting potential faculty sponsors

- Work with pre-doc advisor and faculty mentor for potential sponsors and institutions
- During scholarship year, take the opportunity to look at other institutions if you choose to make campus visits
Applications for Sally Casanova Scholars will become available online in November 2020.

The deadline for application submission is February 27, 2021 and must go through the CSU Pre-Doctoral Program at the Office of the Chancellor.

Your CSU faculty mentor must approve your application as indicated by their signature on the final application.

Three essays will be required along with application submission.
SALLY CASANOVA
SCHOLAR: MARY OKIN
CONTACT

Interim Associate Dean Jeffrey Honda at jeffrey.honda@sjsu.edu

Graduate Studies Associate Cheryl Cowan at cheryl.cowan@sjsu.edu
THANK YOU!

Presented by
The College of Graduate Studies
San José State University