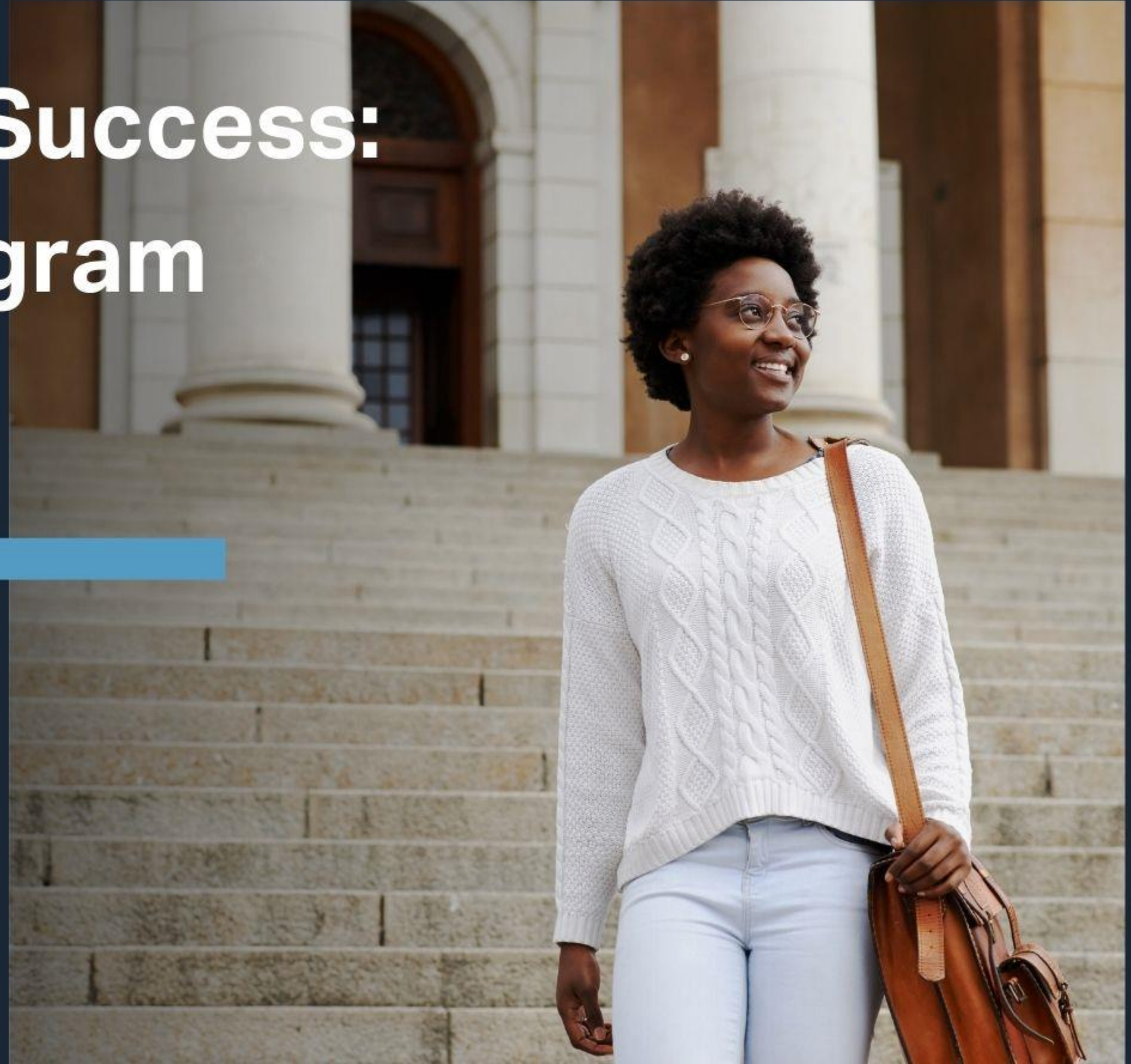


WEBINAR | SEPTEMBER 2024

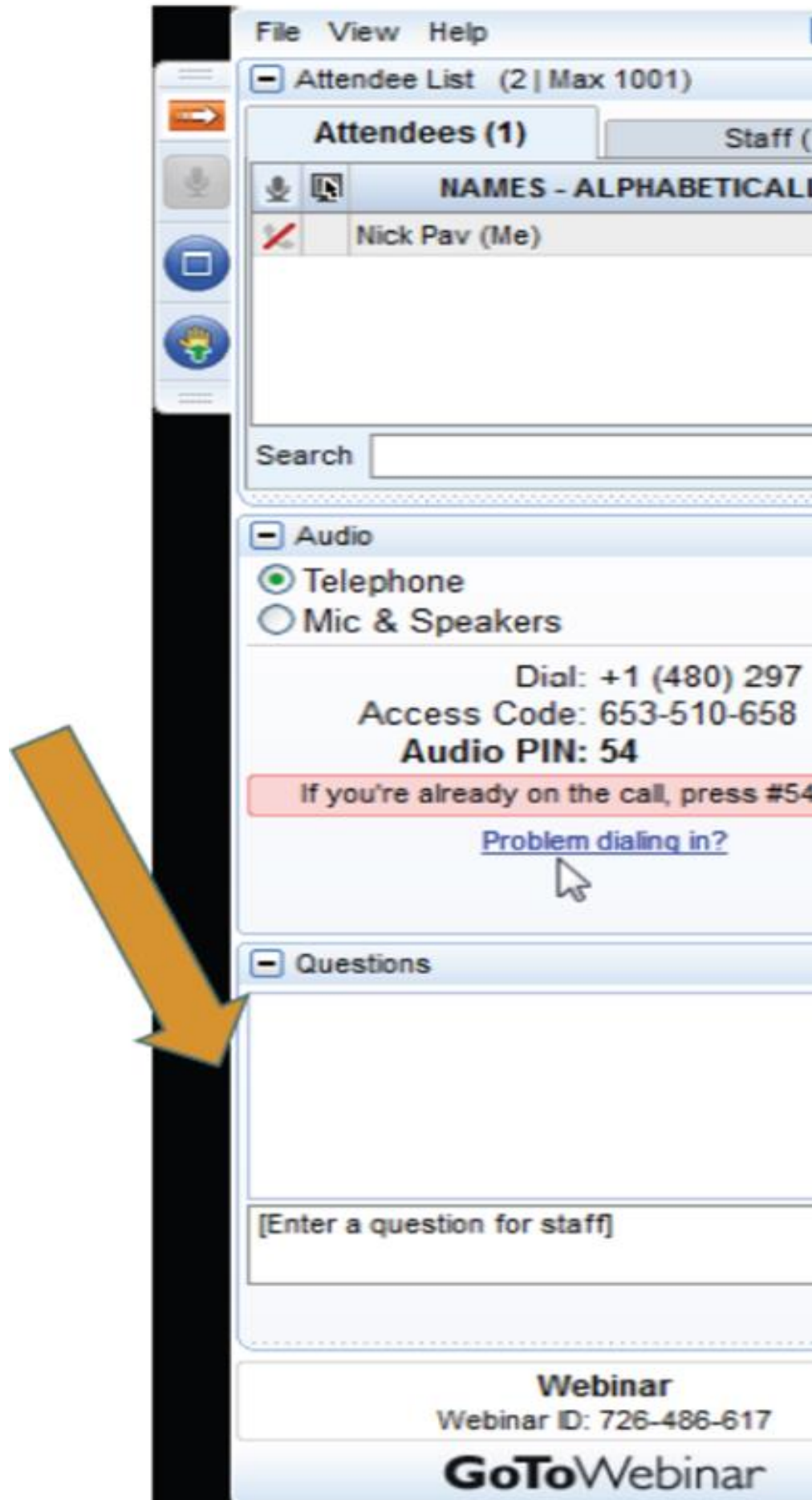
Fostering Educational Success: Guardian Scholars Program

ALLIANCE
for **CHILDREN'S**
RIGHTS



Logistics

- Webinar resources, including recording and supplemental materials, will be posted at <https://allianceforchildrensrights.org/resources/>
- All attendees are muted during webinar.
- Please submit questions using the "Questions" function on your GoToWebinar dashboard.



Presenter



Stephany Rubio, Program
Director, UCSB Guardian
Scholars Program, University of
California, Santa Barbara



UC SANTA BARBARA
Guardian Scholars Program



UC Wide Program History



2005
Berkeley Hope
Scholars founded
by one student at
UC Berkeley

2022
UC system is
awarded funding
for CA foster youth



1998
Guardian Scholars
started at CSU
Fullerton

2007- 2019
Foster youth
programming expands
across the UC system



Renaissance
Scholars
Program



UC Campuses and their contact information

Campus	Program Name	Website	Contact Person
Berkeley	Berkeley Hope Scholars	https://www.hope.berkeley.edu/	Charly King Beavers charlykb@berkeley.edu
Davis	Guardian Scholars	https://opportunity.ucdavis.edu/programs/guardian-scholars	Valeri Garcia vqgarcia@ucdavis.edu
Irvine	Foster Youth Resilience In Education (FYRE) Scholars	http://fyre.due.uci.edu/	Martha Contreras m.contreras@uci.edu
UCLA	Bruin Guardian Scholars	https://www.guardianscholars.ucla.edu/	Teaira Nelson tnelson@saonet.ucla.edu

UC Campuses and their contact information

Campus	Program Name	Website	Contact Person
Merced	Guardian Scholars	http://guardianscholars.ucmerced.edu/	Edith Ramirez eramirez226@ucmerced.edu
Riverside	Office of Foster Youth Support Services	https://fosteryouth.ucr.edu/	Stephen Morales stephan.morales@ucr.edu
San Diego	Hope Scholars	https://oasis.ucsd.edu/programs/hope-scholars/index.html	Kesia Williams hopescholars@ucsd.edu
Santa Barbara	Guardian Scholars	http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/guardianscholars/home	Stephany Rubio stephany.rubio@sa.ucsb.edu
Santa Cruz	Renaissance Scholars	https://renaissancescholars.ucsc.edu/	Liz Moya emoya@ucsc.edu

Services Available Across the UC

Retention

Priority Housing And Enrollment
Material And Financial Assistance
Free Printing & Testing Materials

Liaison Services W/ Housing, Financial Aid, Counseling Services, etc.

Success

Mentorship
Career Advising & Development
Networking Opportunities
Graduate & Professional School Preparation
Tutoring & Academic Advising

Tips for Counselors/Educators/Social Workers etc.

- Be inclusive in your language and programming.
- Be aware of a few resources or organizations for current and/or former foster youth.
- Inform your students of resources and services that will be available to them in the UC system.
- Encourage students who may be current and/or former foster youth that higher education is a path they can take and succeed in.
- Engage in trauma-informed care training, if available or given the opportunity.
- Maximizing credits.
- GPA focus throughout K-12.
- UC Application (PIQs and sharing your story).

UC Application - Foster Youth Perspective

In order to be in the program there is no formal application process from our end as a program. The student's journey to Guardian Scholars Program starts with the UC Application. This is very important to convey to foster youth during the outreach process.



Check all that apply to you: *

- I am married or in a civil union/registered domestic partnership i
- I have children
- I've been in foster care or am a ward of the court in the United States

Are you a ward of the court or in foster care in California? *

- No Yes

- When I attend UC, I will be a current or former member of the U.S. military
- None of the above apply to me

Are you a dependent of a U.S. military veteran or service member? i

- No Yes

Clear

Save & continue

UC Application - Foster Youth Perspective

Once they answer yes to the foster youth question, the following information starts changing.

Do you live by yourself?

No Yes

What was your total income earned in 2022? [i](#)
(Include your spouse's income, if relevant)

We may use this information to help us determine if you're eligible for certain outreach programs, scholarships, and the application fee waiver. This information is not used for financial aid.

Income

\$.00

UC Application - Foster Youth Perspective

Who lives with you at your home address? Click other.

Do you live by yourself?

No Yes

Clear

Who lives with you at your home address?

Please provide information about your family members who live at this address with you.

Spouse or partner

Child / children

Parents

Other

UC Application - Foster Youth Perspective

Who lives with you at your home address? Click other.

Who lives with you at your home address?

Please provide information about your family members who live at this address with you.

Spouse or partner

Child / children

Parents

Other

If there are other family members who live with you, please tell us who they are.

For example: A grandparent or other relative.

Describe other family members*

Group Home

UC Application - Foster Youth Perspective

Most Common Question:

Do I talk about my experience in foster care in my PIQs?

This is a very common question and the best answer to give a student is to say "It's entirely up to you," but also encourage and empower the student that their story of success despite adversity could be something to write about in their PIQs.

Important: Remind them that saying they were in foster care does not guarantee admission or grant them special opportunity for admission. Their application will still be read comprehensively and holistically as all other applicants.



How will a student know they are in the program for UCSB?

We tell each prospective student the following:

As long as you answered "YES" to the Foster Youth question on the UC Application , and if you're granted admission into the university and complete your SIR, you will automatically be placed on our incoming student roster and we will reach out to you inviting you to be a part of the program.



2009

UCSB Guardian Scholars is a registered student organization within Office of Student Life

2023

UCSB Guardian Scholars Program is fully staffed allowing for 180+ enrolled foster students to be served

2008

Lisa Przekop meets Jojo, a foster youth transfer student from Hancock College. This meeting inspired the formation of the UCSB Guardian Scholars Program

2022

UC System is awarded funding for CA foster youth, helping the UCSB Guardian Scholars Program grow

2024

The Resource Center will open on Sep. 30th with the largest incoming cohort of over 80 new students

UCSB Guardian Scholars Program Timeline



Meet our Team



Sophia Jeffe

**Guardian Scholars
Program Coordinator**

Sophia.Jeffe@sa.ucsb.edu



Stephany Rubio

**Guardian Scholars
Program Director**

Stephany.Rubio@sa.ucsb.edu



Lisa Przekop

**Guardian Scholars
Program Founder**

sblisaprz@gmail.com

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

Office of Admissions
1234 Cheadle Hall
(805) 893 -7349

Guardian Scholars Resource Center
Annex Building 434 Room 122
Schedule an appointment!

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!

Office of Admissions
1234 Cheadle Hall
(805) 893 -5631

Guardian Scholars Resource Center
Annex Building 434 Room 122:
Schedule an appointment!

CONTACT US!

If you wish to speak to anyone on our staff or wish to text in a quick question, feel free to use the following cell number: (805) 451 -1407

Meet your Student Peer Advocates



**Andrea
Munoz**

Student Peer Advocate

4th Year | *Sociology Major*
Email: amunoz-cruz@ucsb.edu



**Mireyah
Hernandez**

Student Peer Advocate

2nd Year | *Environmental Science Major*
Email: mireyah@ucsb.edu



**Jeffrey Mejia-
Diequez**

Student Peer Advocate

4th Year | *Geography Major*
Email: jeffreymejiadiequez@ucsb.edu



**Lisa
Houn**

Student Peer Advocate

4th Year | *Communications Major*
Email: hhoun@ucsb.edu

Departmental Liaisons

These UCSB staff have volunteered to serve as their respective departmental liaisons to the program and you as students. Due to their support, Guardian Scholars receive priority consideration, expedited appointments, and most of all, access to compassionate staff with whom you can trust.

LILI HERNANDEZ

Position: Financial Aid Advisor, Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

Email: lilihernandez@umail.ucsb.edu

Phone: (805) 893-8811

JEFF LANDECK

Position: Writing, ESL & Foreign Language Coordinator, CLAS

Email: jeff.landeck@sa.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-4757](tel:(805)893-4757)

DR. MERIDITH MERCHANT

Position: Psychologist, Counseling Services

Email: meridith.merchant@sa.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-4411](tel:(805)893-4411)

LANA SMITH-HALE

Position: Career Counselor, Career Services

Email: ana.smith-hale@sa.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-4649](tel:(805)893-4649)

JESSICA PAREDES

Position: Counselor, Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

Email: jessica.paredes@sa.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-4578](tel:(805)893-4578)

ANDREW VESPER

Position: Chief Social Worker, Student Health

Email: andrew.vesper@sa.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-3380](tel:(805)893-3380)

MARIO MUNOZ

Position: Assistant Director, Apartment Assignment Services, Housing and Residential Services

Email: mmunoz@housing.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-7391](tel:(805)893-7391)

REBECCA SEGUNDO

Position: Basic Needs and Rapid Rehousing Manager, Basic Needs Resources

Email: rebecca.plotkin@sa.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-5949](tel:(805)893-5949)

JACK RIVAS

Position: Academic Advisor, College of Letters and Science

Email: jrivas@lts.ucsb.edu

Phone: [\(805\) 893-2948](tel:(805)893-2948)

UC SANTA BARBARA

Campus & Community Resources

Wellness Resources

[Counseling & Psychological Services](#)

[CAPS Groups & Workshops](#)

[Student Mental Health Coordination Services](#)

[Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity](#)

Housing Resources

[Isla Vista Tenants Union](#)
Phone: (805) 968-6704

[Community Housing Office](#)
Phone: (805) 893-4371
Email: housinginfo@housing.ucsb.edu

[Rapid Rehousing Program](#)

Food Resources

[AS Food Bank](#)

[CalFresh Assistance](#)

[Food, Nutrition & Basic Skills Program](#)

[Miramar Pantry](#)

Financial Resources

[AS Grant Workshop](#)

[AS/EOP Grants](#)
Contact: (805) 893-4758
Email: EOP@sa.ucsb.edu

[Financial Crisis Response Team](#)
Contact: Rebecca Plotkin,
Basic Needs Coordinator
financialcrisis@sa.ucsb.edu

Legal Services

[AS Legal Resource Center](#)

[Undocumented Student Services](#)

[Office of the Ombuds](#)

Academic Support

[ONDAS Student Center](#)
Phone: [\(805\) 893-3457](tel:(805)893-3457)
Email: ondas@itsc.ucsb.edu

[Transfer Student Center](#)
Phone: [\(805\) 893-7799](tel:(805)893-7799)
transferstudentcenter@itsc.ucsb.edu

[Campus Learning Assistance Services](#)
Phone: [\(805\) 893-3269](tel:(805)893-3269)



ACADEMIC SERVICES

- Priority Registration
- Priority Advising
- Professional Development funds
- Summer Scholarship
- MAPS Program
- FAFSA support

BASIC NEEDS

- Housing Guarantee
- Financial Crisis Relief
- Cal Fresh Assistance
- ASFB Grocery Program
- GSP Supply Cabinet
- Temporary Housing assistance

SUPPORT SERVICES

- Counseling Referrals
- Mentorship Referrals
- Financial Aid Advising
- Academic Advising
- Guardian Scholars Program Advising

COMMUNITY

- Study Sessions
- Holiday Celebrations
- Family-Style Events
- Advocacy and support
- Community Workshops
- Mentorship

Guardian Scholars Program Resources



Guardian Scholars Resource Center

Annex Building 434 Room #122 | *Located across from Storke Tower*

Office Hours:

Hours of Operation will regularly change based on program events and student appointments but you should expect the center to be open from:

Monday	9:00-4:00pm
Tuesday	9:00-4:00pm
Wednesday	9:00-4:00pm
Thursday	9:00-4:00pm
Friday	9:00-4:00pm

Stop by Resource the Center to:

- Receive Guardian Scholars Staff advising/ support
- Connect with peers and access a quiet space
- Study and print documents
- Access technology and school supplies
- Store and prepare food
- Grab non-perishables and snacks
- Prepare coffee/ tea and other beverages
- Access supply cabinet with hygiene/cleaning supplies
- Pick-up online grocery orders from ASFB

Guardian Scholars Grocery Order Program

- Use the AS Foodbank website to place your online order
- Place your order 24 hours in advance
- Complete one of the following forms using your student identification information:
- Using the AS Foodbank Website, place an order for prepackaged food that can be picked up at The Guardian Scholars Office (Building 434 Room 122) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2-5pm
- Using the AS Foodbank Website, place an order for prepackaged food/ produce that can be picked up at the UCen (Ortega Side) from Monday-Friday 11-5pm

SCAN ME



Guardian Scholars Program Scholarships

Parent & Family Fund

Examples of Eligible Expenses Include:

- Summer Camps/ Daycare
- Family Housing Assistance
- Unexpected Academic Expenses
- Emergency Medical Expenses

Summer Tuition & Housing Scholarship

To be eligible to receive the full \$4,000 Scholarship students must:

- Enrolled in Summer Classes
- Living locally/ in-person
- Eligible to receive financial aid
- Remote: receive up to \$2,000

Basic Needs Emergency Grant

Examples of Eligible Expenses Include:

- Unexpected Academic Expenses
- Emergency Medical Expenses
- Legal fees/ Safety Needs
- Temporary Housing Costs

Professional Development Grant

Examples of Eligible Expenses Include:

- Driver's Education Expenses
- Trainings + Conferences
- UCSB PACE Programs + Classes
- Study Abroad Expenses

Need to apply for a Scholarship? Email your Program Coordinator or Program Director explaining your circumstances. You will undergo a needs assessment and be asked to provide documentation or receipts of eligible expenses.

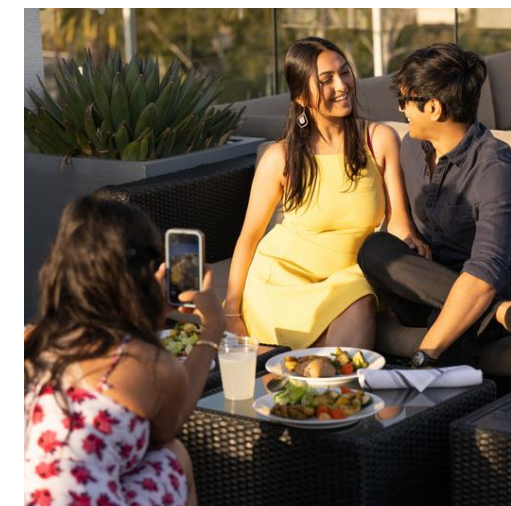
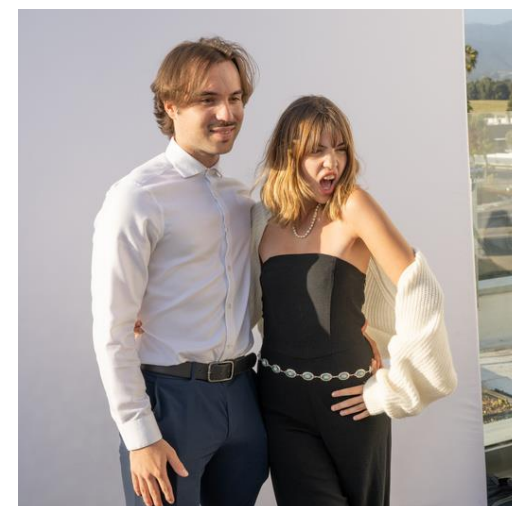
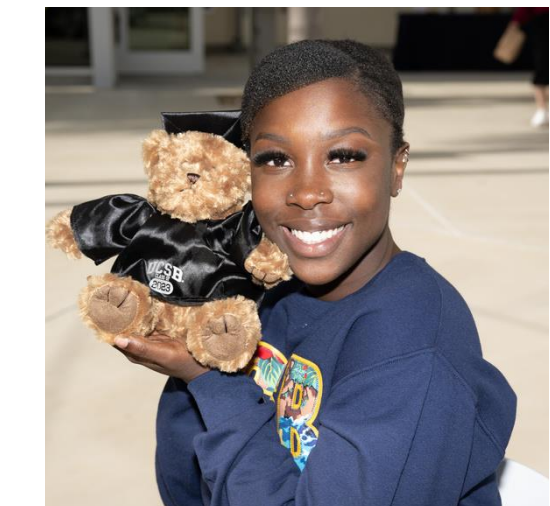
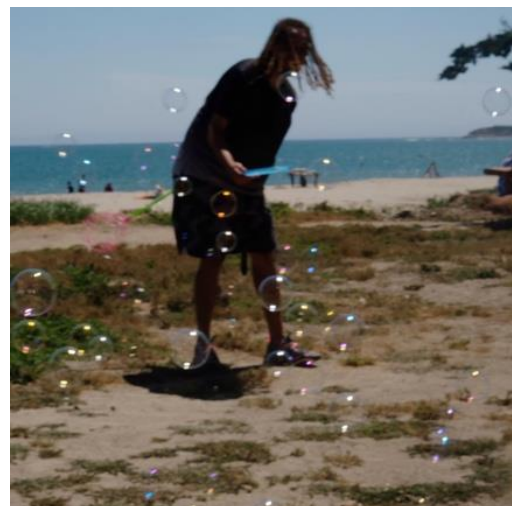
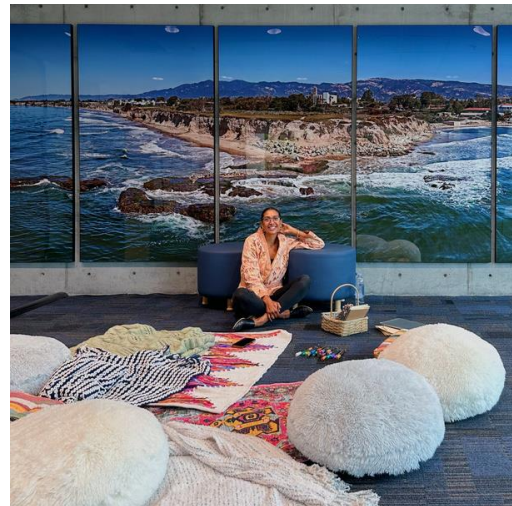
Annual Student Success Scholarship

In honor of Foster Youth Awareness Month in May, the Guardian Scholars Program will offer the Student Success Scholarship. This scholarship aims to recognize and support the achievements of students who have experienced foster care and demonstrated resilience and dedication to their academic and personal growth.

- Two recipients will be awarded \$2,000 each.
- Applicants must be current students enrolled in the UCSB Guardian Scholars Program.
- Applicants should have a minimum GPA of 2.0
- Recipients should be comfortable sharing their accomplishments at the SA Divisional Meeting
- Applicants must have room in your financial aid award letter to receive scholarship

Recipients are selected based on their academic achievements, involvement in the community, and their potential to inspire others with their stories of success and resilience.

Guardian Scholars Community Events



ALLIANCE *for* CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Webinar resources, including recording and supplemental materials, will be posted at <https://allianceforchildrensrights.org/resources/>

STAY
CONNECTED

allianceforchildrensrights.org



**THANK
YOU**



@allianceforchildrensrights