Financial Support

Admitted UC LEADS Scholars are funded as part of their summer research experiences and are eligible to utilize an academic year research expense fund to continue their research and professional development growth throughout the academic year.

Professional and Academic Development

UC LEADS Scholars broaden their professional and academic experiences through workshops, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) training, and ongoing presentations to peers, staff, and academics.

Research Experiences

UC LEADS Scholars are provided an opportunity to engage in summer research experience at UCSB and at another UC campus of their choice as a fully funded scholar. Scholars are able to present their research findings to other peers, staff, and academics at the annual UC LEADS Symposium.

Mentorship

Each scholar is mentored by a member of the UC faculty, who assists the student in designing a plan of research and enrichment activities fitted to the individual interests and academic goals of the scholar.

OUR MISSION

The University of California Leadership Excellence through Advanced Degrees (UC LEADS) program is designed to engage and educate California’s future leaders by preparing promising students for advanced education in science, technology, mathematics and engineering (STEM). UC LEADS is designed to identify upper-division UCSB undergraduate students with the potential to succeed in these disciplines, but who have experienced situations or conditions that have adversely impacted their advancement in their field of study.
PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS

UC LEADS Scholars embark upon a two-year program of scientific research and graduate school preparation guided by individual Faculty Mentors. Scholars are provided with an excellent opportunity to explore their discipline, experience a research environment, and improve their opportunities for future study in their chosen field. By providing valuable educational experiences for a diverse pool of graduate applicants, the University empowers a new generation of leaders.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The UC LEADS program is open to any students who meets ALL of the following requirements:
• Participants should apply prior to their junior year and/or should be on track to receive the baccalaureate degree at the conclusion of the second year of the UC LEADS program
• Student must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
• AB540 students are eligible to apply
• Must be in a Mathematics, Science, or Engineering major
• Minimum 3.0 GPA for consideration
• Successful applicants must also demonstrate experiences, situations or conditions that have impacted their advancement in a STEM field of study, such as the absence of a role model in STEM; absence of a family member who received a four-year college degree; or graduation from a high school with poor financial or curricular support
• Applications from individuals who are underrepresented in the graduate student and faculty populations in STEM fields of study are strongly encouraged. These groups include women, African Americans, American Indians, Filipino Americans, and Chicano/Latinos. However, in accordance with state law, preference in selection may not be given to applicants on the basis of race, color, gender, or national origin

UC LEADS PROGRAM STAFF

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