

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

COUNSELOR

CONFERENCE

Supporting resilience in student success —

A tale of two programs

An overview

- Origin story
- State funding
- Current state-of-affairs
- Services available
- Tips for counselors
- Resources



Introducing Guardian Scholars

Origin story



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



Current state of affairs

The 2022/2023 budget bill included funding for campus support programs for foster youth across all three public postsecondary systems. Language governing these programs was included in AB 183, the higher education budget trailer bill.



State funding and expanding programs

An increase of \$6 million ongoing General Fund to increase support for foster youth students across all UC campuses.

Funding to be used for...

- Outreach
- Collaborations with County Jurisdictions (K-12 Foster youth)
- Targeted marketing of Program Services
- Efforts towards student retention and academic success

Services available

Retention

- Priority housing and enrollment
- Material and financial assistance
- Free printing & testing materials
- Liaison services w/housing, financial aid, counseling services, etc.
- Community-centered programming

Success

- Mentorship
- Career advising & development
- Networking opportunities
- Graduate & professional school preparation
- Tutoring & academic advising

Tips for counselors

- 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.

Resources

Find all the campus contacts for current and former foster youth services directly on the UCOP website:



Foster youth campus resources

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

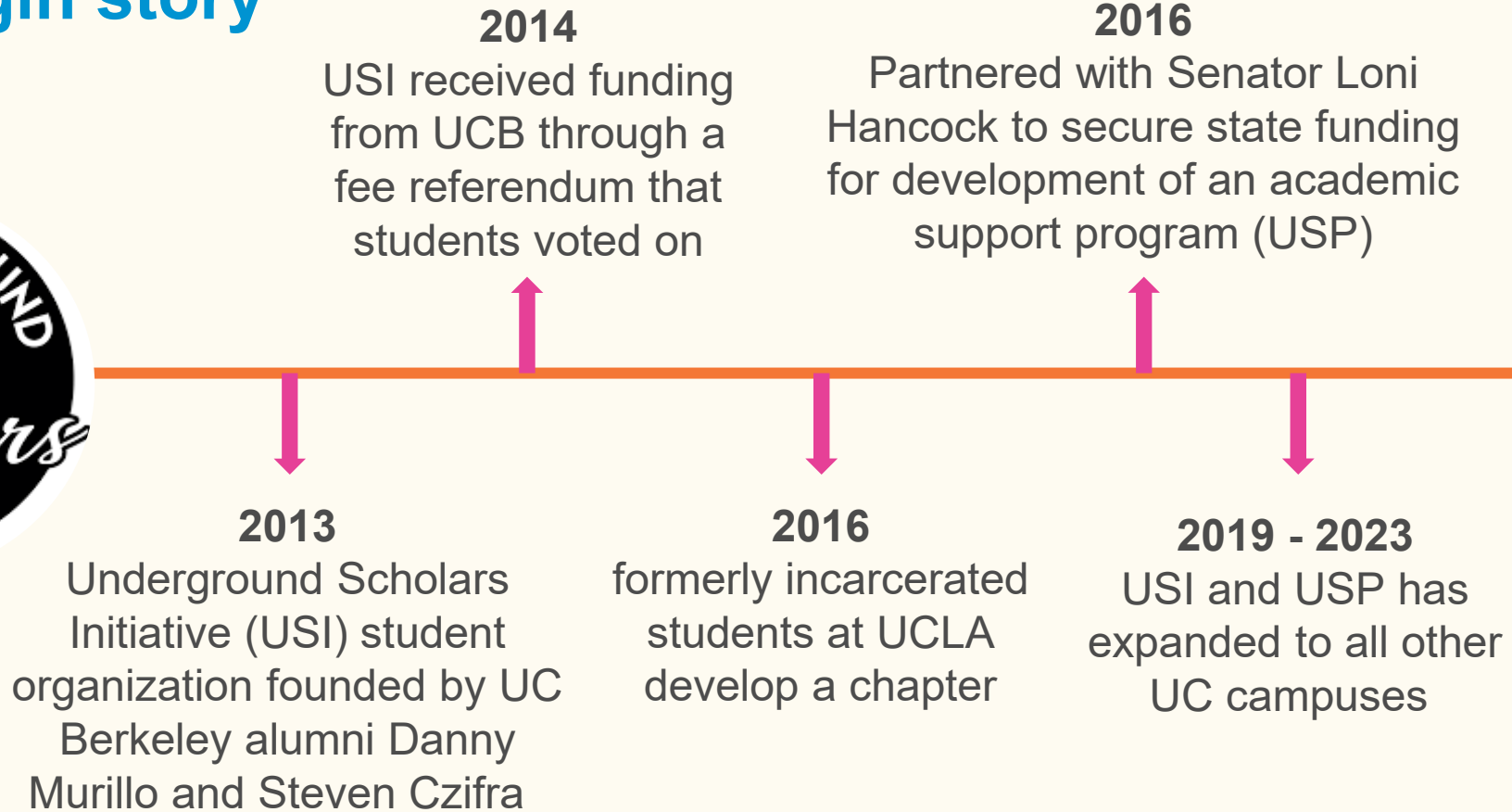
Foster youth campus resources cont.

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



Introducing Underground Scholars

Origin story



Building a prison-to-university pipeline



State funding and expanding programs

An increase of \$4 million ongoing General Fund to increase support for the Underground Scholars Program.

Current state of affairs

Read more on the 2023-2024
proposed state budget

"... with \$80 million in approved spending on alternative schools and the continuation of \$15 million for programs to connect incarcerated youth to higher education, the new state budget furthers the goal of improving the lives and futures of incarcerated youth."



Services available

Recruitment

- Cross enrollment programs
- Ambassador programs
- Transfer programs
- Incarceration to college program

Retention

- Community space/ events
- Tutoring and advising
- Employment and leadership development
- Financial support
- Housing assistance

Advocacy

- State policy and budget advocacy
- Advocacy for students
- Policy research
- Humanizing language

Tips for counselors

- Be informed and raise awareness of programs and services you can refer your students to once they transition into the UC system.
- Use humanizing language when communicating with students involved in the carceral system.
- If given the opportunity, engage in trauma-informed care training.
- Acknowledge student successes and accomplishments.

Resources

Find all the campus contacts for formerly incarcerated and system-impacted students directly on the Berkeley Underground Scholars website!



USI UC BERKELEY:

Link to Join: <https://callink.berkeley.edu/organization/usi>

Instagram: @theundergroundscholars

Facebook: facebook.com/undergroundscholars

USI UCLA:

Bruin Underground Scholars Program Website: <https://undergroundscholars.ucla.edu/>

Bruin Underground Scholars Program Email: undergroundscholars@saonet.ucla.edu

USI UCLA Student Org Email: undergroundscholars@gmail.com

Instagram: @undergroundscholarsinitiative

USI UC IRVINE:

Email: uciundergroundscholars@gmail.com

Instagram: @undergroundscholarsuci

Facebook: USIatUCI

USI UC RIVERSIDE:

Website: <https://highlanderlink.ucr.edu/organization/usi-ucr>

Club President: Carlos Cruz - ccruz019@ucr.edu

Mailing Address: 900 University Ave HUB 229

Riverside, CA 92521

Email: undergroundscholarsucr@gmail.com

Instagram: @undergroundscholarsucr

Underground Scholars campus resources

Campus	Program Name	Website	Contact Person
Berkeley	Berkeley Underground Scholars	https://undergroundscholars.berkeley.edu	Azadeh Zohrabi azadehzohrabi@berkeley.edu
Davis	Underground Scholars	https://linktr.ee/undergrounducd	undergrounducd@gmail.com
Irvine	Underground Scholars Program	https://undergroundscholars.uci.edu	Hector Cervantes hcervan1@uci.edu
UCLA	Bruin Underground Scholars Program	https://www.guardianscholars.ucla.edu	Aaron Bray abray@saonet.ucla.edu

Underground Scholars campus resources cont.

Campus	Program Name	Website	Contact Person
Merced	Bobcat Underground Scholars	https://learning.ucmerced.edu/bobcat-underground-scholars	Edith Ramirez eramirez226@ucmerced.edu
Riverside	Riverside Underground Scholars	https://diversity.ucr.edu/underground-scholars-initiative	Ismael Davila ismael.davila@ucr.edu
San Diego	Triton Underground Scholars	https://oasis.ucsd.edu/programs/USI-folder/	Collen Murphy usi@ucsd.edu
Santa Barbara	GaUCHO Underground Scholars	https://gauchoundergrounds.wixsite.com/my-site	gauchoundergroundscholars@gmail.com
Santa Cruz	Underground Scholars Program	https://undergroundscholars.ucsc.edu/	Joshua Solis jgsolis@ucsc.edu

Thank you