



Advocacy

AT A GLANCE

The Triton Underground Scholars program is working to build a prison-to-university pipeline by increasing the number of formerly incarcerated people pursuing higher education at UC San Diego. We do this by supporting the development of similar programs at other colleges and by advocating for policies that directly affect justice-impacted individuals. We work with admissions professionals, deans, and faculty on UC and community college campuses in the San Diego region to eliminate barriers to higher education faced by criminal justice-impacted students.



California Legislative Information

[California Legislative Information](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/): Interested in learning about the [legislative process](#)? Want to [track active bills](#) as they make their way through the house and senate? Or are you just curious about who [your representatives are](#)? This website provides you with all the information you need to become an engaged member of your community.
<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

Advocacy in Action



Scholarships, Fellowships, & Other Opportunities

[Underground Scholars Initiative at UC San Diego](https://oasis.ucsd.edu/programs/USI-folder/About.html)- Official student organization at UC San Diego comprised of justice-impacted students and our allies at UC San Diego. Get involved with monthly meetings, self-help/educational workshops, and other community building activities such as BBQ's and beach days!
<https://oasis.ucsd.edu/programs/USI-folder/About.html>

[Berkeley Underground Scholars Policy Institute Fellowship Opportunities](#)- Each year the Berkeley Underground Scholars program hosts a year-long policy institute where fellows learn in-depth about the legislative

process in California and engage in policy coalitions. Applications open each Fall and all justice-impacted students currently enrolled at any of the UC campuses are encouraged to apply. [Email us!](#) for more information!

[Underground Scholars Ambassadors Program](#)- Paid Leadership Development opportunity open to ALL formerly incarcerated community college students. Applications open each spring and all current community college students across the state of California are encouraged to apply. [Email us!](#) for more information!

Helpful Links



Community-based Resources & Helpful Information

[Fresh Start: Comprehensive Criminal Record Relief Program](#) -A criminal record can make finding employment, obtaining housing, enrolling in and funding an education, and securing other civic opportunities very difficult. The good news is that there are options for you to move forward, even if you have made mistakes in the past. From reducing felony convictions to misdemeanors to dismissing/expunging your criminal record to getting Certificates of Rehabilitation, the **County of San Diego Office of the Public Defender** is pleased to help you with your Fresh Start!

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/public_defender/fresh_start.html

[SDSU Project Rebound](#)- Project Rebound is a special admissions and support program for students impacted by the justice system, or transitioning out of prisons and jails. Operating within the California State University system since 1967, Project Rebound has helped hundreds of individuals earn bachelor's and master's degrees. Project Rebound has a proven model to promote restorative justice, reduce recidivism, and empower individuals through higher education.

https://sacd.sdsu.edu/transformativ-justice/project_rebound

[Rising Scholars Network](#)- The California Community Colleges are committed to serving students who have been impacted by the criminal justice system. Colleges supporting these students proudly form the Rising Scholars Network.

Find a Community College near you at <https://risingscholarsnetwork.org/>

[Root & Rebound](#)- Community-based re-entry organization- Restores power and resources to the families and communities most harmed by mass incarceration through legal advocacy, public education, policy reform and litigation.

<https://www.rootandrebound.org/>

Reach Out!



Questions, comments, or just want to connect?

[Complete our TUS Progam Application!](#) Current community college students and students accepted to UCSD are required to complete our application in order to be considered for supportive services, however, all justice impacted individuals are encouraged to connect with us and can do so using this form. <https://forms.gle/CEkTXV9TfKQEHZmt6>

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