

BASIC NEEDS

REMOVING BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

At UC San Diego, we live and learn without limits. But for some students, access to basic needs is a major obstacle to educational achievement. And as income inequality has grown, our students have faced increasing housing, food, transportation and tuition expenses that place them at a financial disadvantage and reduce their opportunities for academic success. In turn, UC San Diego has responded by developing a holistic approach to these issues.

By working with local, regional and state partners to provide our students with access to resources that meet their basic needs, UC San Diego is able to provide nutritious no-cost food, emergency housing grants, educational support and wrap-around case management services. Together, this comprehensive network of programs and services ensures every Triton can live and study in an environment that nurtures their dignity, their health and their mind, empowering their long-term success at UC San Diego and beyond.

Our goal? To ensure all students have enough to eat; safe places to study, sleep and socialize; and financial support to attend classes and pay for essentials without undue stress. With robust, innovative and inclusive programs and outreach efforts, we can empower our students with access to food, housing, funding and other resources that allow them to focus on their education.

37 PERCENT

UC San Diego undergraduates did not have enough money to buy groceries (University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey, 2022)

22.780 POUNDS

Food recovered by UC San Diego's Food Recovery Network during the 2020-21 academic year

20 PERCENT

Increased the debt they carry on a credit card (University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey, 2020)

At UC San Diego, we believe that what we don't know today will forever change our tomorrows. Empowered by generosity and fueled by curiosity, we are unafraid to chase the unknown — to ask the questions no one has asked before and to push the boundaries of possibility. Together, we unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.





Together with your philanthropic support, UC San Diego will expand outreach for basic needs resources that improve access and affordability of essential needs. And we'll continue to build on programs, services and resources that serve all our students seeking affordable food and housing and other assistance, helping to ensure every member of our student body has what they need to focus on their education.

Learn more at giving.ucsd.edu.

BASIC NEEDS PRIORITIES

Food and housing insecurity, limited pre-college preparation and reduced social support networks limit access to academic success. Philanthropy can help students access the basic needs programs and services they need to focus on their education.

PRE-COLLEGE, FIRST YEAR AND TRANSFER STUDENT EXPERIENCE

» Existing pre-college, first year and transfer student programs incorporate basic needs education and outreach to help incoming students make connections and utilize on-campus resources.

BASIC NEEDS CENTER

» The Hub, UC San Diego's basic needs center, links students with more affordable groceries, stable housing, financial assistance and other services.

BASIC NEEDS SKILLS

» Financial literacy peer educators help fellow students learn about loan repayment, financial aid, credit and more.

STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS EXPERIENCE

» Case Management Services and the Hub Basic Needs Center partner to provide emergency financial relief, food and childcare resources, and individual consultations to more than 300 students with dependents.

WELLNESS SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

» Student peer educators, education programs and outreach cultivate student interests, build community and maintain school-life balance. A new pilot program encourages course development and research into housing and food insecurity.

CALFRESH

» UC San Diego partners with CalFresh, the largest food program in California, to provide funds to students who need to supplement their food budget.

EMERGENCY RELIEF

» Emergency relief resources help students facing homelessness, food shortages or medical emergencies connect with support services including the Housing Assistance Grant Fund and the Triton Food Pantry.

