



## Cal-SOAP San Diego Newsletter

September 2021

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# Cal-SOAP News

The latest on college information, financial aid, college testing and more!



September 2021

San Diego & Imperial Counties Cal-SOAP (California Student Opportunity and Access Program) offers free services to help students pursue a postsecondary education, especially students who are low-income or will be first in their families to pursue a college degree. Through advisement and academic services, Cal-SOAP helps students and families understand the college-going process and how to do everything from applying to college to filling out the FAFSA or CA Dream Act to searching for the perfect career fit. Follow us at: [www.calsoapsandiego.org](http://www.calsoapsandiego.org), FB and Twitter @SanDiegoCalSOAP or IG @calsoapsandiego.



## Seniors and Financial Aid

Every high school senior should fill out either the [FAFSA](#) or [CADAA](#). The FAFSA is accepted by vocational schools, community colleges, public universities, and private universities. Application window is every year from October 1-March 2. Need individual help? Attend one of our free, virtual Cash for College events. [Flyer and registration links](#). You are never required to take a loan if offered one, and [these forms](#) allow your college to determine how much aid you will need. Grants, work study and scholarships from colleges await you, don't leave money on the table! FAFSA is accepted everywhere in the USA, including [Hawaii](#). In addition to state and federal aid, also research private [scholarships](#). Imperial County families: in-person Cash for College Workshop on Saturday, 10/23 9am-1pm at Central Union High School. Want help via text? Personal FAFSA assistance chatbot available starting October 1: [FAFSA help by text](#).

## Cal-SOAP Financial Aid Webinar Series

In 2021-2022, Cal-SOAP offers a series of different webinars about FAFSA, Dream Act, and other financial aid forms like the CSS/PROFILE. Learn about paying for college at a UC, CSU, private university or community college. Next webinar: Wednesday, October 20, 6pm-7:30pm. [Flyer and registration link](#).



**CSAC CALSOAP**  
SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL COUNTIES CONSORTIUM

**HOVER HIGH SCHOOL • CALSOAP**

**College Night**  
A California Virtual College Fair

**OCT. 13, 2021**  
**6:00-7:00PM**

**DON'T MISS IT!**

- Over 30 colleges & universities in attendance
- Interact with college admissions advisors
- Open to all San Diego Unified students & families

CARDINAL HIGH SCHOOL

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## October 13 Virtual College Fair

All San Diego Unified School District students and parents are invited to attend a free virtual college fair hosted by Hoover High and Cal-SOAP on Wednesday, October 13, 6pm-7pm. Register [here](#).



## How to find a college that is perfect for you

If you're interested in finding your dream college, check out these opportunities: [NACAC Virtual College Fairs \(nation-wide.\)](#) College Fairs for [CSU, UC and private universities in California](#): October 6 and 16, 2021. Seniors: Fall is application season! Applications for most four-year universities are due November 30, 2021. Apply to [CSU, UC](#), or [private colleges](#). Community college applications typically open in spring. Here's a comprehensive list of [college application deadlines](#). Here are [10 helpful college application tips](#). And keep [these factors](#) in mind when deciding on which colleges are a perfect fit for you.

## Video Gallery: Where to attend and why?

Why attend [UC San Diego](#)? Check their [October 2 Virtual Fall Showcase](#). Why consider a [community college](#) such as [Mesa, City or Miramar](#)? Why choose [San Diego State University](#)? What is life like at [Point Loma Nazarene](#)? What are the benefits of the [University of San Diego](#)? Click on the links to see short videos that will show you the benefits and opportunities available at our various local colleges and universities.



# Spotlight on College Readiness Coaches

Meet two of our wonderful Cal-SOAP staff, **Rachel Burdeos** and **Daniel Lopez**



I am happily a senior at UCSD, specifically John Muir College. I am pursuing a Bachelors of Science Degree in Human Biology. I am on the Pre-Med track and my goal is to attend the UCSD School of Medicine after I graduate. I plan to be a Pediatric Endocrinologist. I have worked for Cal-SOAP for a little over a year now! It's been amazing! The most rewarding part of my job is being a mentor to the students. Cal-SOAP has given me the opportunity to give back to my local community. When I was in high school, Cal-SOAP helped me prepare for the SAT, college applications, and financial aid. In this job, it is so rewarding to be able to help students apply for financial aid to be able to afford college, apply to colleges, and show them different paths for their future. I wanted to work with students because I truly love helping them. My job with Cal-SOAP has made me feel like I have come full circle, in that I can help students in the same way I was helped. I am a born and raised San Diegan, specifically Chula Vista! I love my hometown. I absolutely adore my two Shih Tzu pups, Bella and Buddy, who are brother and sister. When I am not working, I enjoy hanging out with friends & family, going to the beach, going to concerts (pre-pandemic), gardening at home, and trying new food places & cafes. **-Rachel B**

I am currently finishing my bachelor's at San Diego State while also applying to grad school this semester in Counseling. I have worked with Cal-SOAP for about two years and have been promoted to Calexico's LEAD CRC. The most rewarding part of my job is being able to make a difference in my student's life whether that is advocating for them or simply being a light of guidance. At the end of the day, these students are our future, and I am glad I get to impact my students and see them become mature adults. I spend my time completing my coursework to be able to pursue my education further. My family is where my time usually goes especially when it comes to needing their support. **-Daniel L**



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Imperial Valley: FB and IG @ivcalsoap. <https://www.icoe.org/news/find-your-path>