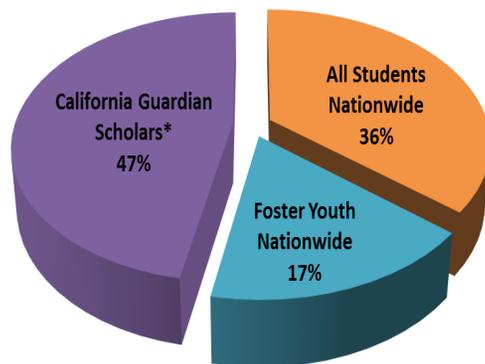


## Find Your Future

Studies show that foster youth students enrolled in Guardian Scholar programs are *three times* more likely to persist in college compared to traditional foster youth students.

Because of the support services they receive, students are able to actively engage in the full college experience and succeed academically .

Average Persistence Rates:  
Guardian Scholars (1998-2012)



\***California College Pathways:** Survey of 14 UC, CSU, and community college campuses.

## Join Guardian Scholars

To apply to Guardian Scholars, you must be enrolled at UC Merced, submit your SIR, and meet at least ONE of the following requirements:

- Lived in verified, court-ordered, foster care, legal guardianship, or kinship care upon your 18th birthday.
- Currently in foster care and receiving AB-12 funding.
- Chafee Grant eligible.
- ILSP eligible.

Apply online at:

***GuardianScholars.ucMerced.edu***

or use your smartphone to scan the QR code below for more information!



Guardian Scholars  
UC Merced  
5200 North Lake Rd.  
Merced, CA 95343

Phone: 209-228-2394  
Fax: 209-228-2484  
E-mail: [guardianscholars@ucmerced.edu](mailto:guardianscholars@ucmerced.edu)  
Web: [guardianscholars.ucmerced.edu](http://guardianscholars.ucmerced.edu)



## Fostering Educational Success





## Independence is only the beginning...

*Turning 18 should be a celebration, but many young people in foster care emancipate into less-than-ideal circumstances:*

- Only 54% of foster youth complete high school.
- Only 10% of former foster youth attempt higher education; less than 3% actually obtain a degree.
- 51% of emancipated foster youth are unemployed.
- 40% of foster youth are homeless within a year of emancipation.

UC Merced is dedicated to reversing these statistics and ensuring the success of every foster youth that passes through our halls.

*All Guardian Scholars receive the following services:*

- Orientation
- Priority Registration
- Priority Housing
- Tutoring
- Textbooks
- Personal Counseling
- Mentoring
- Field Trips
- Workshops
- Academic Advising
- Liaison Services
- Internships
- Scholarships
- Emergency Assistance



*"What I love most about Guardian Scholars is that I don't have to face my problems alone. They've helped me realize I have every tool I need to succeed in life. Sometimes that reminder is all you need."*

-Jonathon H.

