Financial Resources Guide for Prospective Bren School Master’s Students:

Annual Cost Breakdown for the 2020-21 Academic Year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarterly Fees + Tuition</th>
<th>California Residents</th>
<th>Out-of-State Domestic Residents*</th>
<th>International Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic and Campus-based Fees + Tuition</strong></td>
<td>$4,518</td>
<td>$4,518</td>
<td>$4,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)</strong></td>
<td>$3,333</td>
<td>$3,333</td>
<td>$3,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health Insurance (UC SHIP)</strong></td>
<td>$1,266</td>
<td>$1,266</td>
<td>$1,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition (NRST)</strong>*</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$5,034</td>
<td>$5,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Quarterly Cost:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,117</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,151</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,151</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cost for 2020-21:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$27,351</strong></td>
<td><strong>$42,453</strong></td>
<td><strong>$42,453</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that fee and tuition costs are subject to change at the discretion of the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) and the PDST is considered for a 3% increase annually.

*Most out-of-state domestic students establish California residency for tuition purposes and do not pay NRST in the second year.

Quick Facts:

- The cost of a graduate education at UCSB is significantly less than at most other well-respected universities, making the Bren School a particularly cost-effective choice among environmental science and management programs.
- UCSB's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships provides work-study and loans, offering up to $45,000 a year to CA residents and up to $65,000 a year to out-of-state students.
- For domestic non-residents from other U.S. states, establishing California residency after your first year is easy, resulting in significantly reduced tuition costs in your second year.
- The number of Bren students graduating with debt has decreased in recent years, with only 32% graduating with debt in 2018.
- Over 60% of MESM students secure academic student employments that pay for their quarterly salary, tuition and health insurance.
- In the 2018-19 academic year, Bren students secured 124 academic employment positions, primarily TA positions, in 19 campus departments, including Earth Science, Environmental Studies, Economics, Physics, Women’s Studies, and Anthropology, among others.
6 Common Funding Options for Bren Students:

1. **Bren School Recruitment Fellowships:** Each year the Bren School is able to offer general Recruitment Fellowship funding to 25-40% of its incoming MESM students. Recruitment fellowships are based primarily from donor support; therefore, the number of prizes and the individual award amounts vary from year to year. All MESM applicants are automatically considered for these fellowships; no supplemental application is required. Bren School admission letters will include a financial offer if the applicant is selected to receive a Recruitment Fellowship award.

2. **UCSB Fellowships:** The [UCSB Graduate Division](https://graduation.ucsb.edu/funding) and the [UCSB FinAid Office](https://finaid.ucsb.edu/) have several lists of funding opportunities, including [campus-wide funding](https://finaid.ucsb.edu/funding), and [University of California opportunities](https://www.ucop.edu/education/financial-aid/student-opportunities.html). The UCSB Division of Student Affairs also has a [list of scholarships](https://www.studentaffairs.ucsb.edu/scholarships) on their website. Pivot is also a good resource for fellowship and grant opportunities: [https://pivot.proquest.com/funding_main](https://pivot.proquest.com/funding_main)

3. **Financial Aid:** The [UCSB Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (FinAid)](https://finaid.ucsb.edu/) distributes financial aid, work-study, and other FAFSA-related support to UCSB students. There is a "[Cost of Living Calculator](https://www.studentaffairs.ucsb.edu/cost-of-living-calculator)" on their website to provides students with a better sense of the total costs including rent, books, food, and other personal expenses. Additional graduate student loan information can be found on their website along with a link to the [Financial Awareness Counseling](https://www.studentaid.ed.gov) which is available through the Department of Education’s Federal Student Aid site and is a great tool for students to use when managing their finances.

4. **Academic Student Employment (ASE):**
   a. **Teaching Assistant (TA):** The Bren School doesn’t offer undergraduate courses; therefore, Bren students find [TA positions](https://www.ucsb.edu/employment) through other UCSB departments. This is done by contacting departments or faculty members directly. The Environmental Studies, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics departments often hire Bren students, and are good places to start. Current students and Bren School staff offer support to students having trouble finding positions. Additional academic employment opportunities can be found [here](https://www.ucsb.edu/employment) and [here](https://www.ucsb.edu/employment).

   b. **Graduate Student Researcher (GSR):** Some Bren Students work with faculty members or private researchers as GSRs. To obtain an GSR position, students inquire about opportunities directly with individual faculty members. More details can be found on the [UCSB Graduate Division’s website](https://graduation.ucsb.edu/research-and-employment/graduate-student-researcher).

   c. **Readers:** A Reader appointment is for a student to serve as a "course assistant," which will normally include grading of student papers and final examinations. These are good opportunities for students who do not want to commit to a TA or a GSR position but who still want to work on campus. More details can be found on the [UCSB Graduate Division’s website](https://graduation.ucsb.edu/research-and-employment/reader).
5. On-Campus Employment and Work Study:
   a. **Student Assistant positions.** Many MESM students work as Student Assistants in administrative capacities at Bren (e.g. Event Planning, Career Development, Admissions, etc.) While these positions aren’t always directly related to the student’s professional interests, they pay a decent hourly wage, are convenient opportunities for students, and are less demanding than a TA position which can easily take up to 20 hours of time per week. Bren School staff advertise positions at the beginning of each quarter and positions vary between 5-15 hours a week.
   b. **Writing and Math Consultants.** The Bren School typically hires writing and math consultants from the 2nd-year MESM class to tutor current MESM students. Bren School staff will send these advertisements to students via email.
   c. Additional graduate student campus employment resources can be found on the [UCSB Graduate Division’s website](http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money).

6. Off-Campus Employment: Sometimes students prefer to work part-time positions off-campus that are related to their post-graduation career goals. Off-campus internships and job opportunities are regularly circulated to students through Bren email lists including ([random@bren.ucsb.edu - click here](http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money) to subscribe.) In addition, the [Bren Career Development team](http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money) circulates job and internship announcements through BrenConnect. The career team is always available ([career@bren.ucsb.edu](http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money)) for career advising if a student is having trouble with their internship or job search.

---

**Additional UCSB Resources for Students:**

- **UCSB Graduate Student Resource Center (GSRC) Funding Resources:** The [UCSB Graduate Student Resource Center](http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money) has many funding resources available including: a funding peer who is available for all grad student funding-related questions ([fundingpeer@graddiv.ucsb.edu](mailto:fundingpeer@graddiv.ucsb.edu)), a list of funding databases, links to campus funding resources and employment opportunities, personal finance workshops, emergency funding resources, and more! Visit the GSRC’s website for more information: [http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money](http://www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/money)

- **UCSB Basic Needs Resources:** For information on food pantries, prepared meals, food security and CalFresh advocates, financial crisis response team, etc.: [http://food.ucsb.edu/](http://food.ucsb.edu/)

- **Questions? Please contact us at:** [admissions@bren.ucsb.edu](mailto:admissions@bren.ucsb.edu)