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Before joining SHEEO, Dr. Sablan was an assistant research professor at Georgetown University in the Center on Education and the Workforce where she led research on free college and higher education policy. She previously served as the inaugural 2016–17 American Educational Research Association/American Association for the Advancement of Science Congressional Fellow on the Senate Budget Committee, where she focused on college affordability policy. She has also held postdoctoral and institutional research positions at the University of Maryland and Loyola Marymount University. Dr. Sablan received her Ph.D. in urban education policy and M.A. in economics from the University of Southern California, and her B.A. in political science, B.A. in social policy, and Certificate in Advanced Leadership Studies from American University, where she was a Ronald E. McNair Scholar.