



UC MEXUS - CICESE
Graduate Student Short-Term Research and
Non-degree Training
2016-17

The University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC MEXUS) and the Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE) are pleased to announce a joint program to support short-term stays for graduate student research and training.

The purpose of the short-term stays will be to accomplish specific laboratory, library or field research or to undertake specialized training. Graduate applicants will be considered who will be actively engaged in scholarly or scientific activities at the host UC campus or CICESE, with an emphasis on using the stay to advance their own academic development and professional training.

Dependent on the pool of applicants, reviewer recommendations, and available funding, awards are offered with a preferred even division between CICESE and UC graduate students. Awards for CICESE graduate students support their training and research at any of the ten UC campuses. Awards for UC graduate students support their training and research at CICESE.

Based on the parameters of the proposed stay, awardees will receive funding to supplement existing fellowships and other forms of financial support up to a maximum of \$1,700 per month (for up to three months); up to \$550 toward the purchase of one round trip travel to and from the host institution; up to \$150 per month toward short-term health insurance (for up to three months), and a one-time payment up to the cost of visa processing if needed. Please note that the monthly stipend amount is determined based on the maximum monthly stipend of \$1,700 *less* other funding such as scholarships and fellowships including UC MEXUS-CONACYT Fellowships.

Graduate student training at host institutions may last from a minimum of two weeks to a maximum total of three months. Graduate students may request support for more than one short-term training experience at a host institution within a single application period. For example, applicants may propose two non-continuous two week stays at the same institution (with return to the home institution between the short-term training periods), as long as they clearly contribute to the advancement of the applicant's research and academic development. Successful applicants may be awarded for no more than three short-term stays in all, and the total duration of the combined stays may not exceed three months.

Activities for all candidates should include scientific and academic development at the graduate level, with the purpose of providing unique expertise for the applicant and increasing knowledge and access to new conceptual frameworks, techniques and methodologies.

Successful applicants to the UC Riverside campus may consider linking their stay to the UC MEXUS Resident Scholar program, and should consult that program's call for proposals for details:
<http://www.ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/resident-scholars-program.html>

Eligibility

UC applicants must be enrolled for the duration of the stay in a master's or doctoral level program at the University of California. CICESE applicants must be enrolled for the duration of the stay in a master's or doctoral level program at CICESE. All applicants must have been continuously enrolled in their graduate program for at least one academic year by the time the proposed stay begins and be considered in good standing within their program. This program is directed ideally to students who have advanced to candidacy or completed their required coursework.

CICESE graduate students may apply only for residencies at a UC campus and must be hosted by eligible UC faculty or researchers.¹ UC graduate students may apply only for residencies at CICESE and must be hosted by a faculty member or researcher who holds a full-time academic/research appointment in CICESE.

All applicants must provide an invitation from the host institution to undertake a residency, as well as a project plan that has been approved by their home institution's advisor and host. (See p.3 for more details regarding required materials.)

Conditions of Award of Training Program

UC MEXUS-CICESE graduate student training participants are expected to advance their own academic training at the host institution by doing one or more of the following: conducting research; acquiring theoretical, methodological, and/or technical training; and/or auditing courses offered at their host's institution, department, or campus. Participating graduate students must be affiliated with the host institution during the entire period of the stay.

Each short-term training stay is expected to result in the completion of the proposed work within the project period, and a final narrative report of activities must be submitted jointly by the graduate student and signed by the host faculty member to UC MEXUS within 90 days of the completion of the residency. Failure to do so will prevent the recipient from receiving additional awards from UC MEXUS programs. The support of UC MEXUS and CICESE shall be acknowledged in proposals, publications, conference materials, exhibitions, videotapes, or other products of the stay. A copy of each such product must be provided to UC MEXUS and CICESE.

This program does not allow training periods to be deferred more than 90 days from the originally proposed start date. If applicants are unable to undertake their stay within this time period, they may reapply to a future competition.

¹ UC faculty or researchers may find the criteria for eligibility under the UC Policy on Eligibility to Submit Proposals at <http://www.ucop.edu/raohome/cgmanual/>

Submission of Applications

The items required to constitute a complete application package are listed below. Each item must be submitted electronically by email in PDF format prior to the application deadline in order for the application to be considered complete.

- ❑ **UC MEXUS-CICESE Graduate Student Training Application Form** (available at ucmexus.ucr.edu or request form by email to veronica.sandoval@ucr.edu)
- ❑ **Curriculum vitae of graduate student applicant** (not to exceed five pages), including educational achievements, academic positions and/or awards, a list of publications and current works in progress.
- ❑ **Letter from the applicant's current faculty advisor** at the home institution indicating that the applicant is in good academic standing within their current masters or doctoral program. The letter should indicate support for the applicant's participation in this short-term stay as well as their familiarity with and approval of the applicant's project plan and timeline. It should briefly address the applicant's academic qualifications, how the graduate student would benefit from conducting a stay at the host institution, as well as the ability of the student to continue to make good progress towards completion of their respective degree (ideally 1 page, not to exceed 2 pages).
- ❑ **Letter of intent from the faculty host** indicating their willingness to oversee the applicant's short-term training stay and serve as a mentor to the graduate student during the period of training. The letter of intent should provide support and approval for the applicant's project plan, indicate host support for the proposed activities, and discuss the potential benefit of the stay to the student (ideally 1 page, not to exceed 2 pages).
- ❑ **Project plan written in English or Spanish** for activities to be undertaken (ideally 1 page, not to exceed 2 pages). Applicants should include a timeline that details the activities in which they will be engaged during their academic stay at the host institution. They may discuss any research to be performed, courses they will be auditing, training that they will acquire, as well as their involvement in any other scholarly activities. For research activities, applicants should describe the proposed research and the specific goals and objectives of the work to be undertaken. It would be helpful if the project plan also included a discussion of how this stay supports their academic training at the home institution.

Please note that letters of intent are a very important aspect of the evaluation process. They must be distinct with unique content.

Send all items listed above in PDF format to veronica.sandoval@ucr.edu. Questions about electronic submission of these items should be directed to Veronica Sandoval, Academic Programs Coordinator at UC MEXUS, at the above email address or by phone at 951-827-3582.

Deadline for receipt of applications

To be considered, proposals must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the following date:

Friday, March 31, 2016 (for stays initiated no later than October 31, 2016)

Late or incomplete proposals, faxes or documents in non-PDF format will not be accepted.

Review Process and Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed and award decisions made jointly by UC MEXUS and CICESE. Outside review may be requested for some proposals. In addition to such standard review criteria as clarity, quality, and feasibility of the proposal, UC MEXUS and CICESE will assign importance to the significance of the proposed activities for the student's academic advancement and training and appropriateness of supervision from UC or CICESE faculty and researchers.

For additional information about this program, please contact:

Wendy DeBoer, Ph.D.
Director of Academic Programs, UC MEXUS
University of California, Riverside, CA 92521
Tel. (951) 827-7339, wendyd@ucr.edu
website: ucmexus.ucr.edu

Álvaro Armenta, PhD
Jefe del Departamento de Coordinación y Seguimiento Académico
CICESE, Ensenada, México
aarmenta@cicese.mx
Tel. (+52) 646 175-0500 ext. 23023