



## Cinvestav - University of California

### Call for Collaborative Research Proposals 2022

Cinvestav and University of California Alianza MX (UC Alianza MX) are pleased to announce the first “Call for Collaborative Research Proposals in Basic and Applied Sciences between Cinvestav and the University of California.”

The main objective of the program is to enable the establishment of new collaborative research initiatives with potential for creating permanent ties between Cinvestav and the University of California that will grow and continue with the support of other institutional and extramural funds.

Proposals are expected to lead to development of major, long-term collaborations among groups of researchers from both institutions, and to significantly advance knowledge in agriculture, plant genomics, marine sciences, health, and other related disciplines with a positive impact on society. The program favors projects that also enhance student training and researcher exchanges.

#### 1. Eligibility

Each proposal must be co-directed by eligible Principal Investigators (PIs) from Cinvestav and the University of California.

- a) Postdoctoral researchers and students are not eligible to submit proposals, though PIs are encouraged to submit proposals that include academic participants from their institutions, including postdoctoral researchers and students.
- b) Eligible proposals must include at least two (2) PIs from either Cinvestav or the University of California, and preference will be given to proposals that support multi-disciplinary collaboration among larger groups of researchers (two or more from both institutions). from each university. Proposals that include only one PI from each university will not be considered for this call.
  - i. Cinvestav PIs must be full-time researchers (Investigador Cinvestav Nivel 3).
  - ii. University of California PIs must meet eligibility criteria for research or training contracts and grants by academic appointees in the following title groups: (1) Members of the Academic Senate, including emeriti; (2) Appointees in the Agronomist series, including emeriti; (3) Appointees at 50 percent or more of full time in the Adjunct Professor series, the Clinical Professor series, the Professional Research Series, or the Cooperative Extension Specialist series.

The PI may submit only one original proposal to this call (i.e., it may not be a copy of proposals submitted to other funding agencies).

Selected proposals will be funded for two years.

## **2. Applications**

All applications should be written in English and include the following:

- a) Application Form. Provide summary information about the project. Keep in mind that the abstract should be understandable by a review committee of diverse academic expertise.
- b) Institutional support for PI:
  - a. Cinvestav PI institutional support signed by the Unit Director or Head of the Department; and
  - b. University of California PI institutional support signed by a Unit Director or Head of the Department.

*Note: All PIs must submit proof of institutional support from their units or departments at each institution.*

- c) Budget request specifying the cost of all items (in USD). The budget must also include planned expenses, scheduled activities and cost distribution for both Cinvestav and University of California.
- d) Abridged CVs for the PIs and academic participants (except student research assistants), including a list of most relevant recent publications. CVs should not exceed 2 pages per person.
- e) Any project that uses animals or human subjects, including pilot surveys or interviews, is required to get prior approval or exemption. Copies of approval or research permits must be included as an attachment.
- f) Project plan. Provide background information about the project, summarize relevant academic or scientific issues and literature, and state the specific objectives of the project. Describe the work to be performed, indicating who will perform each task and the timeline governing the work; discuss plans for continuation of the project beyond the grant period, including plans to seek additional funding from other agencies. Explain the significance of the work, in terms of its potential for the advancement of science, scholarships, or technology and its possible impact in regional, environmental, economic, or social development. The meaningful participation of the PI must be evident in the project plan, and if the proposal includes student research assistants, it

should describe the work they will undertake, its relevance to their graduate study, and the supervision planned for their participation. Also provide a list of key scientific articles related to the project.

The project plan should include the following components:

- i. Scientific objectives (4000 characters);
- ii. Description and methodologies (6000 characters);
- iii. International context (2000 characters);
- iv. Current and previous cooperation among PIs (2000 characters); and
- v. Detailed schedule of activities and summary of expected results (6000 characters).

### **3. Submission of proposals**

Research proposals must be submitted to the following email address: [alianzaucmx@ucr.edu](mailto:alianzaucmx@ucr.edu).

Proposals must be received by **Friday October 28, 2022 at 11:59 pm** (Pacific Time) to be eligible for consideration.

### **4. Scientific evaluation**

Cinvestav and the University of California are committed to the principles of peer review and parity in the selection processes. Each proposal will be reviewed, evaluated, and rated by a committee of Mexican and US researchers. Proposals should be written for a committee constituted by individuals with broad expertise and interests.

The following criteria will be applied to the evaluation:

- a) Quality and originality of the project;
- b) Clarity in the presentation of the problem, scientific approach, objectives and research goals;
- c) Congruence between objectives, financial request, and viability to finish the project in two years;
- d) Contribution of the project to the advancement of knowledge, its applications, or development of technological, educational, or social innovations; and

- e) Academic background of the PI and the research group, as well as complementarity between binational counterparts.

Reviewers will consider meaningful participation of collaborators from both institutions, potential development of new research programs and resources, potential for establishing long-term collaborative activities, and participation of graduate students.

Reviewers will also consider PIs' stated intention to submit applications for extramural funding for their proposals that may provide additional long-term support.

## 5. Selection of awardees

Awardees will be selected jointly by Cinvestav and the University of California, taking into consideration evaluations obtained from both Parties.

Awardees will be contacted on **Monday November 28** and the full list will also be published on the UC Alianza MX website. Decisions on the projects selected for funding will be final.

## 6. Funding

The following funds will be provided by Cinvestav and the University of California:

Institution	Cash Contribution	Contribution in Kind
Cinvestav	\$2,000,000 MXN (approx. \$100,000 USD)	Research workshop organization
University of California	\$2,000,000 MXN (\$100,000 USD)  An additional sum of up to \$50,000 USD per project will be made available for travel expenses to participate in research workshops hosted by Cinvestav.	

- a) The agreement between Cinvestav and the University of California Alianza MX for the 2022 Call for Collaborative Research Proposals provides a maximum funding of (2) proposals for two years (\$1 million MXN per year, \$50,000 USD per year).
- b) All funds will be administered in accordance with Cinvestav and University of California policies and procedures. The portion of the grant awarded to UC PIs will be transferred directly to their respective UC campus and the portion of the grant awarded to the Mexican PIs will be transferred directly to their department at Cinvestav.

- c) No indirect costs or institutional overhead may be charged against funds awarded under this program.
- d) Each institution is responsible for administration, accounting, and timely completion of financial reports.
- e) Final scientific and financial reports are to be submitted jointly by all PIs to Cinvestav and University of California authorities and PIs should also retain copies. Financial reports will be audited.
- f) Cinvestav and University of California support must be acknowledged in all publications and products resulting from this financial support.

***Allowable expenses include the following:***

- Domestic and international travel—including transportation, lodging, and meal expenses—for planning, research, and training; field, laboratory, and archival research; and data collection. (Note: conference attendance is given lower priority in the review process.)
- Research materials and supplies
- Only for the University of California: salaries or stipends for student research assistants that are not eligible to serve as PIs (may be undergraduate or graduate students)

***Non-allowable expenses include the following:***

- For Cinvestav participants: purchase of equipment, including computers, tablets, and other electronic devices.
- For University of California participants: purchase of equipment, including computers, tablets, and other electronic devices in excess of \$1,000 USD per item.
- Salary payments to PIs or other academic collaborators
- Student tuition or fees for research assistants
- Indirect costs or institutional overhead assessments

## **7. Additional information**

For additional information on the Call for Collaborative Research Proposals please use the following contact information:

- Cinvestav Coordinación de Relaciones Internacionales: [cori@cinvestav.mx](mailto:cori@cinvestav.mx)
- University of California Alianza MX: [anaid.linaresrojas@ucr.edu](mailto:anaid.linaresrojas@ucr.edu)