

Tecnológico de Monterrey and the
University of California
Call for Collaborative Research Proposals 2025

The Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (Tec de Monterrey) and University of California Alianza MX (UC Alianza MX) are pleased to announce the first “Call for Collaborative Research Proposals in Applied Sciences” between our respective institutions.

The main objective of this call is to enable the establishment of new collaborative research initiatives with the potential for creating permanent ties between Tec de Monterrey and the University of California (UC), that will grow and continue with the support of other institutional and extramural funds.

Collaborative research proposals should significantly promote scientific knowledge and technological advances that contribute to a positive social impact in at least one of each of the following areas. *(Note: Preference will be given to proposals that support multi-disciplinary research collaboration.)*

- Industrial Transformation
 - Industry 5.0
 - Industrial Competitiveness
 - Artificial Intelligence-Driven Economy
- Climate & Sustainability
 - Adaptation & Resilience
 - Sustainable Business Models & Supply Chains for the Circular Economy
 - Sustainable Development & Social Responsibility
- Prosperous Cities and Communities
 - Financial Inclusion & (Public) Entrepreneurship
 - Technological Innovation for Thriving Communities
 - Urban Sustainability, Green Infrastructure & Transformation Process

Selected proposals will be funded for a one-year period, with the possibility of extension with additional funds for the second year, based on progress and availability of funding.

1. Eligibility

Each proposal must be co-directed by at least four (4) eligible Principal Investigators (PIs): two (2) from Tec de Monterrey and two (2) from the UC. Proposals that include only one (1) PI from either university will not be considered for this call.

- a) To be considered for funding, proposals must include a minimum number of eligible PIs.

- i. Tec de Monterrey PIs must meet the following eligibility criteria: Be part of the institutional research model, as part of a National School, Research Institute, or Research Center.
 - ii. UC PIs must meet eligibility criteria established by [UCOP Principal Investigator Guidelines](#).
- b) Postdoctoral researchers and students are not eligible to submit proposals. However, proposals that also support research opportunities for postdoctoral researchers and students will be considered favorably in the evaluation process.
 - c) PIs and team members may submit only one original proposal to this call, and the proposal submission may not be an exact copy of any proposals submitted to other funding agencies.
 - d) PIs cannot participate in more than one project available.

2. Application

Applications must be submitted electronically as one file in .pdf format via the Google Form link on the last page of the call to be considered complete and eligible for funding. *(Note: The relevant UC sponsored projects office(s) should review applications prior to submission.)*

Applications must be written in English and include the following components:

- a) Cover sheet. Provide names and contact information for all PIs as well as an abstract that is understandable by a diverse review committee of academic experts.
- b) Project Plan. State the specific objectives of the project and provide background/context information, including a summary of relevant academic or scientific issues and literature. Describe the specific research tasks to be performed, indicating who will perform each task (the participation of all PIs must be evident) and the timeline governing the work. Explain the significance of the work in terms of its potential for the advancement of science, scholarships, or technology, as well as its possible impact on economic, environmental, political, or social development. If the proposal includes postdoctoral researchers or student research assistants, describe the work they will undertake, its relevance to their training or studies, and the supervision of their participation. Finally, discuss plans for continuation of the project beyond the grant period, including plans to seek additional funding from other sources.

The project plan should include the following components:

- i. Scientific objectives (2000 characters);
- ii. Research tasks and methodologies (4000 characters);
- iii. Timeline of activities and summary of expected results (4000 characters);
- iv. Significance of international research collaboration, including previous collaboration among PIs (2000 characters);
- v. Expected contributions and training of postdoctoral researchers or student research assistants (2000 characters); and
- vi. Plans for continuation of the project and additional funding options (1000 characters).

- c) Budget. Specify the cost and distribution of planned expenses for both Tec de Monterrey and UC PIs. The budget should be itemized on a year-by-year basis denominated in USD and include the following categories: Salaries/Wages; Employee Benefits; Laboratory Services; Research Materials & Supplies; Travel Costs, including flights, ground transportation, lodging, and meals; and Other Costs. Please refer to Section 4 for guidance on allowable and non-allowable expenses.
- d) Curriculum Vitae. Summarize relevant qualifications, publications, and research experience for all PIs (maximum 2 pages per person). CVs are not required for postdoctoral researchers or student research assistants.
- e) Institutional Support. Provide letters of support from each PI's home institution on official letterhead, including signatures of Unit Director(s) or Head(s) of Academic Departments of which PIs are members.
- f) Research Methods. Provide copies of approval or exemption for projects that use animals or human subjects, including pilot surveys or interviews. Evidence of requests submitted by PIs to the relevant authorities will be sufficient for the application, but evidence of approval or exemption will be required before research projects can receive funding support.

3. Evaluation

Tec de Monterrey and the UC are committed to the principles of peer review and parity in the selection processes. Each proposal will be reviewed and evaluated by a committee of experts from both institutions. Proposals should be written for a committee constituted of 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 project objectives, budget request, and proposed timeline of activities;
- d) Contribution of the project to the advancement and application of knowledge, including educational, social, or technological innovations; and
- e) Academic background and qualifications of the PIs, as well as complementarity between binational counterparts.

Reviewers will also consider the meaningful participation of PIs at both institutions, potential development of new programs and resources to support long-term collaborative activities, participation of post-doctoral researchers and students, and stated intention to apply for extramural funding that may provide long-term support for collaborative activities.

Awardees will be selected jointly by Tec de Monterrey and the UC, taking into consideration evaluations obtained from both Parties. Awardees will be contacted directly, and the full list will also be published on the UC Alianza MX website. Decisions on the projects selected for funding will be final.

4. Funding

Tec de Monterrey and the UC will provide the following funds:

Each institution has a maximum fund of \$150,000 USD (or equivalent in MXN) to support three (3) projects, each funded over a one-year period, with the possibility of extension for the second year, based on progress and availability of funding.

Institution	Cash Contribution	Additional Support or In-Kind Contribution
Tec de Monterrey	Up to \$25,000 USD (or equivalent in MXN) per project per year	In-kind contributions will support the hosting of research workshops at Tec de Monterrey.
UC	Up to \$25,000 USD per project per year	An additional sum of up to \$5,000 USD per project per year will be made available for travel expenses to participate in research workshops hosted by Tec de Monterrey.

- a) The agreement between Tec de Monterrey and UC Alianza MX for the 2025 Call for Collaborative Research Proposals provides up to the maximum amount of funding listed above for three (3) selected proposals. Research projects will be executed in an initial period of 12 months, with a possibility of extension for an additional 12 months.
- b) All funds will be administered in accordance with Tec de Monterrey and UC policies and procedures. The portion of the grant awarded to UC PIs will be transferred to their respective UC campus and the portion of the grant awarded to Tec de Monterrey PIs will be transferred to their department.
- c) PIs will be required to complete and sign Conditions of Award and Assurances before transferring funds requested for Year 1 of the project budget.
- d) PIs will be required to submit a progress report on the project for Year 1 and request for additional funding no later than 30 days before the conclusion of the initial project period (12 months). These progress reports will be reviewed and evaluated by Tec de Monterrey and UC Alianza MX before funds can be transferred for the extended project period (12 months).
- e) PIs are responsible for administration, accounting, and timely completion of financial reports.
- f) Final scientific and financial reports are to be submitted jointly by all PIs to both Tec de Monterrey and UC authorities and PIs should also retain copies. Financial reports will be audited.
- g) Tec de Monterrey and UC Alianza MX support must be acknowledged in all publications and products resulting from this financial support.

Allowable expenses include the following:

- Research materials and supplies

- Laboratory access and services
- Domestic and international travel—including transportation, lodging, and meals—for planning, research, and training; field, laboratory, and archival research; and data collection. (Note: Conference attendance is given lower priority in the review process.)
- Only for UC participants: salaries or stipends for research assistants not eligible to serve as PIs. *(Note: These salaries may be paid to postgraduate researchers or students.)*

Non-allowable expenses include the following:

- For UC participants: salaries, wages, or stipends paid to PIs; tuition and fees for student participants; indirect costs or institutional overhead; reimbursement for activities outside of the project period; and sub-awards. (Note: Funding allocated to the PIs will be transferred directly by Alianza MX to each recipient.)
- For Tec de Monterrey participants: salaries, wages, or stipends paid to PIs; tuition and fees for student participants; indirect costs or institutional overhead.

5. Additional information

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

- Tec de Monterrey: Neil Hernández Gress (ngress@tec.mx); Bertha Sofia Villarreal González (sofia.v@tec.mx)
- UC Alianza MX: Anaid Linares, Research Engagement Coordinator (anaid.linaresrojas@ucr.edu)

Activity	Date
Publication of the Call and Beginning of Application Period	Monday June 9, 2025
End of Application Period and Deadline to Submit	Monday September 15th, 2025

Publication of Results	October 2025
Start Date for Selected Research Projects	November 2025

Please submit a complete application at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/NRUVT2aXeaDMUCMD9>