UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
ALIANZAMX

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-ALIANZA MEXICO

2025 Seed Funding Opportunity for Mobilities to Mexico

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

About the University of California Alianza MX

As a UC-based Initiative, Alianza MX is uniquely positioned to foster collaborations between the UC and Mexican partners to solve problems and seize opportunities in the California-Mexico agenda. Alianza MX does so by supporting a bilateral approach to basic and applied research as well as the two-way mobility of students and professors between California and Mexico.

Context

Supporting the 10 UC campuses in increasing the mobility of UC students to Mexico is among Alianza MX's most strategic goals. Our proximity, shared border, integrated societies, and bilateral California – Mexico relationship make Mexico an ideal and strategic destination for academic mobility.

In addition to being the most vital commercial partner to the U.S., Mexico boasts cultural abundance, ecological diversity, and an array of rigorous academic and research institutions willing to build strong partnerships. To sustain a healthy bilateral U.S.- Mexico relationship for the future, we must invest in the binational understanding of tomorrow's leaders.

Seed Funding

Alianza MX has reserved a seed fund to support mobilities for UC students to Mexico in 2025-2026 of up to USD $50,000 per campus.

The funding amount per campus is on reserve for each of the 10 UC campuses, however it will be transferable to other campuses if any one campus does not present proposals by the deadline established by this Call and/or the proposal (s) submitted do not achieve sufficient marks during the Evaluation Committee's assessment.

The funds can be allocated to one or more mobility projects to Mexico throughout the year and will be awarded by Alianza MX to proposals that meet the criteria stated on this Call and based on the assessment and ranking of an Evaluation Committee.

Allowable expenses under this Call are limited to travel expenses in the form of:

- transportation costs for participating students and lead faculty;
- lodging; meals and incidentals;
- educational and/or excursion fees;
- supplementary global health/travel insurance;
- additional documentation required for travel, when applicable.

Budgetary discretion will be deferred to the home campus according to the budget included in the proposal. Funds will be disbursed to the home campus coordinating office/department according to campus guidelines.

Supplementary Funds

In addition to meeting the criteria outlined below, proposals must include a minimum of 15% of the overall cost of the program in supplementary funding from the respective UC campus. The proposal must indicate the amount of supplementary funding and its intended use for the mobility.

Eligibility Criteria

The mobility modality will be open to determination by the requesting campus but limited to the following:

- Faculty-led program
- Study abroad at a Mexican institution
- Capstone Project
- Field research

All proposed mobilities must meet the following criteria:

1. All participating students must be of the Undergraduate or master's level. PhD and postdoc students are excluded from this Call.

2. All proposed programming must contemplate the participation of at least 8 students.

3. All proposed mobilities must have an academic and/or curricular value for participating students that can be quantifiable. Proposals must clearly state the learning outcomes of the proposed mobilities.

4. All proposed mobilities must take place between September 2025 through August 2026.
5. All proposed mobilities must be planned to extend between 10 days and 6 weeks. Academic symposiums, conferences, and other events of this kind are excluded from this Call.

6. All proposals must be submitted to Alianza MX by the coordinating office at the UC campus. Faculty members interested in submitting a proposal must do so through their corresponding department and/or their campus global office.

7. All proposals must comply with corresponding campus guidelines for student international travel. Applicants must be prepared to submit proof of approval before any awards are issued.

8. All proposed mobilities must be planned and coordinated by the campuses themselves or through a partnering institution in Mexico.

9. After the mobility completion, awardees must provide Alianza MX participating student testimonials, photographs, projects and/or presentations that can be used for communication purposes.

All proposals submitted by the deadline established in this Call will be reviewed and assessed by an Evaluation Committee based on the following criteria:

a. Clarity of the stated learning outcomes.
b. Quantifiable academic and/or curricular value for participating students.
c. Cost-efficiency of the proposal.
d. Engagement with partner Mexican Higher Education institutions.
e. Viability of the programming becoming sustainable and recurrent.
f. Content of the programming and its relevance to the U.S. and California-Mexico Agenda.

Special consideration will be awarded to proposals that show a direct collaboration with a Mexican partner institution.

Who Can Apply

Proposals from UC faculty members and administrators are welcomed. Please note that all proposals must attach a letter of support from the corresponding department Chair or Director.

Submission

A complete application submitted to Alianza MX must include the items listed below and must be submitted electronically in PDF format via this Google form prior to the application deadline in order for the application to be considered complete.

1. **Seed Funding for Mobilities to Mexico Application Form.** The Google form can be accessed here or by request via email to julio.sosa@ucr.edu.

2. **Summary of Proposal.** This document should summarize:
    - the specific mobility modality and activities to be undertaken;
    - the expected timeline;
    - the specific learning outcomes of the proposed program;
    - the academic and/or curricular value for participating students that can be quantifiable (please specify if the proposed program is credit-awarding);
    - the scope of collaboration with a Mexican partner institution
    - the relevance of the proposed program to the U.S. and California-Mexico Agenda.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL MUST NOT EXCEED 3 PAGES

3. **Letter from the applicant's UC Department Chair.** This letter should provide a statement of support for the applicant's proposed program, confirm their approval of the program and timeline. (Not to exceed one page)

4. **A letter from the corresponding campus Risk Management office** certifying that the proposed mobility meets campus guidelines for international travel must be submitted before any awards are issued. Please verify with your campus Risk Management office the timelines and procedures to request an assessment.[1]

Deadline

Proposals will be accepted through September **27th, 2024.**
Proposals may be submitted here.

Please submit one form per proposed project.

Results

[1] Alianza MX will allow for a delayed submission of this document past the proposal submission deadline to allow corresponding offices enough time to conduct the appropriate assessment.

Results will be available in December of 2024 on the Alianza MX website.

Contact

Questions may be directed to Julio Sosa, Academic and Research Programs Officer at julio.sosa@ucr.edu