



Asuntos Internacionales y  
Cooperación Externa

UNA  
UNIVERSIDAD  
NACIONAL  
COSTA RICA

# Passport UNA:

Exploring the Universidad Nacional, Costa Rica



# MISSION

“The Universidad Nacional builds knowledge and prepares creative, critical humanist professionals by integrating the substantive actions in the national and international spheres with the social, artistic, cultural, and productive sectors, contributing to eco-social sustainability, peaceful coexistence, democratic transformation, and development of communities and society, with emphasis on the least favored sectors or those at risk of exclusion.”

# VISION

“UNA consolidates itself as a humanistic university with full autonomy dedicated to the formation of human talent; an innovative entrepreneurial institution leader in the scientific, artistic, cultural, and technological fields engaged with and at the service of all sectors of national and international society to contribute to human development in terms of sustainability, solidarity, equity and inclusiveness in the territories and communities.”

# HISTORICAL REVIEW

**In 1973, the Universidad Nacional, UNA.** emerged as a public institution of higher education with campuses in the province of Heredia, as well as in Liberia and Pérez Zeledón, formerly Normal Schools of Costa Rica.

This institution was founded in response to the need for a robust public higher education system, focused on strengthening humanistic vision, artistic creation, technology generation, applied knowledge, and human capital under the concept of ***“UNA: the Necessary University.”***

It opened its doors on March 14, 1973, with nearly 2,500 students enrolled and 200 teachers.



*President's Office Administrative Building, Omar Dengo Campus, Heredia*

## SELLOS VISITA



# STUDENT POPULATION

**19,434**  
Individuals study  
at UNA



Source: Office of the Registrar. Data as of 2023

**Our admissions model guarantees entry opportunities to students from all over the country:**



\*Number of students per province, as of 2023.

# UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

In 50 years of history, UNA has awarded

**+103.000** University degrees

Total number of individuals graduated  
2012-2022



Source: Office of the Registrar. Data as of 2022.





Liberia Campus



Nicoya Campus

NICARAGUA



Pérez Zeledón Campus



Sarapiquí Campus



Interuniversity Campus



Omar Dengo Campus



Benjamín Núñez Campus

PANAMA



Coto Campus

1. Juan Bertoglia Richards Marine Biological Station - Puntarenas
2. National Station of Marine and Coastal Sciences (ECMAR) - Puntarenas
3. Biological Station - Río Macho - Cartago
4. Santa Lucía Experimental Farm, Heredia



**8**

Colleges

**32**

Schools

**13**

Institutes and  
Research  
Centers

**17**

Libraries

**5**

Humanistic  
Schools



Campus Omar Dengo, Heredia. Región Central

## SELLOS VISITA





## Health Sciences

- School of Veterinary Medicine
- School of Human Movement Sciences and Quality of Life



## Exact and Natural Sciences

- Department of Physics
- School of Biological Sciences
- School of Computer Science
- School of Mathematics
- School of Chemistry
- School of Surveying





## Education

- Educology Division
- Basic Education Division
- Education for Work Division
- Rural Education Division



## Arts

- School of Performing Arts
- School of Art and Visual Communication
- School of Dance
- School of Music



## SELLOS VISITA





## Philosophy and Letters

- School of Literature and Language Sciences
- Ecumenical School of Religion Sciences
- School of Philosophy
- School of Library Science, Documentation and Information



## Earth and Sea Sciences

- School of Agricultural Sciences
- School of Environmental Sciences
- School of Geographical Sciences





## General Studies Center



## Social Sciences



- School of Management
- School of Economics
- School of History
- School of Planning and Social Promotion
- School of Psychology
- School of International Relations
- School of Professional Secretarial Studies
- School of Psychology



UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL  
COSTA RICA  
CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS GENERALES



FACULTAD DE  
CIENCIAS SOCIALES

# STUDY PROGRAMS



137

Undergraduate  
Study Programs



58

Graduate  
Study Programs



6

Doctoral  
Study Programs

## Accredited graduate programs



3

by the Central American Postgraduate Accreditation Agency (ACAP)



3

by the National System for the Accreditation of Higher Education (SINAES)



Campus Pérez Zeledón, San José.  
Región Brunca

A total of  
**41 UNA**

undergraduate programs accredited by  
**SINAES**

(National System for the Accreditation of Higher Education)



# TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND OUTREACH

## Number of projects, programs, and academic activities by knowledge area and by region

January 2022 to June 2023



# 579

Total programs, projects, and  
academic activities (PPAAs)  
active in 2022

# 262

PPAAs throughout  
the country

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION projects

### Origin of funds

EUROPE



Germany



Austria



Norway



European  
Union



Netherlands



Sweden



Switzerland

AMERICA



Estados  
Unidos



Canadá



Guatemala



Haiti



Costa Rica



**25** active  
international  
cooperation  
projects



**+2** billion  
colones  
total project investment



Source: International Affairs and External Cooperation Office.

# AGREEMENTS

## International partners by continent

Data according to agreements in force 2017-2022

### AMERICA



United States



Brazil



Mexico



Chile



Paraguay



Ecuador



Cuba



Honduras



Guatemala



Nicaragua



Costa Rica



Panama



Colombia



Argentina

### EUROPA



Germany



Spain



France



Italy



Belgium



Turkey

### ASIA



China



Japan





Asuntos Internacionales y  
Cooperación Externa

**La Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales y Cooperación Externa (AICE)** es la instancia articuladora y promotora de la Internacionalización y Cooperación externa de la Universidad Nacional, tiene a cargo las gestiones que promuevan el desarrollo de las relaciones de la UNA con universidades e instituciones internacionales de Educación Superior así como con otros actores de la sociedad civil nacional e internacional que puedan favorecer al quehacer sustantivo de la UNA y favorecer su internacionalización, tanto en la docencia, extensión, investigación y vida universitaria. Además, esta Oficina ejerce un rol de enlace en las Relaciones Internacionales de la UNA por medio de la Diplomacia Académica, Científica y Artística.







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