REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR BINATIONAL RESEARCH TEAMS AND UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS’ THESIS ON MIGRATION AND HEALTH

REQUIRED LETTER OF INTENT
DUE DATE: TUESDAY JUNE 1, 2021, 5 PM (PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME)

FULL PROPOSALS
DUE DATE: MONDAY JULY 19, 2021, 5 PM (PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME)

PROJECT PERIOD
NOVEMBER 1, 2021 – OCTOBER 31, 2022

Photo Credit: Antonio Turok
**RESEARCH TEAMS**

Up to **$15,000 USD**. To be eligible, each research team must include at least one principal investigator (PI) from a participating U.S. institution or university (see PIMSA Conveners list below) and one PI from either a CONACYT-accredited university or research institution in Mexico, or affiliated with UNAM.

**STUDENTS**

Up to **$2,000 USD**. Awards are for both graduate and undergraduate students to finance their undergraduate thesis, Master’s thesis, or PhD dissertation of students attending one of the PIMSA convening institutions in the United States (see PIMSA Conveners list below) or any university in Mexico.

**PIMSA CONVENERS**

- US-Mexico Border Health Commission, Mexican Section
- National Council on Science and Technology of Mexico (CONACYT)
- National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
- University of California (all campuses)
- University of Texas at El Paso
- University of South Florida
- Alianza UCMX

PIMSA is a consortium administrated by the Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA) of the School of Public Health, University of California Berkeley.
PIMSA GOALS

**Generating scientific knowledge** by supporting multidisciplinary research and translating it into social and institutional public policy recommendations that contribute to guaranteeing access to the rights of persons and groups on the move.

**Fostering of collaborative research** among U.S. and Mexican research institutions in order to create long-term linkages between U.S. and Mexican institutions to research the theme of human mobility and health.

**Support for community health and public and social action** through the creation of health education materials and evidence-based policy and program fact sheets on health, with realistic, coherent, and viable solutions, for decision makers and health providers, in general terminology for the general public.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

**Sustainability:** It is expected that PIMSA award recipients use the grant as “seed funds” to undertake preliminary research, the results of which will then serve towards obtaining future extramural funding.

**Policy-relevance:** It is expected that research results will advance the formulation of public policies in the field of human mobility and health.

**Publications:** It is required that binational teams send manuscripts derived from PIMSA financing to peer reviewed international journals. Likewise, results and recommendations emanating from PIMSA research should be disseminated as public policy papers for areas beyond the academic sector, including the media and decision makers.
ELEGIBILITY

RESEARCHERS

- Each research proposal must be co-directed by 2 Principal Investigators (one from the U.S., one from Mexico).
- U.S. PIs must be from one of the PIMSA convening institutions (see page 1).
- Mexican PIs must meet CONACYT eligibility criteria
  - Must hold full-time academic/research appointments in a Mexican institution of higher education or conduct research that is part of the National Register of Scientific and Technological Enterprises and Institutions (RENIECYT—Registro Nacional de Instituciones y Empresas Científicas y Tecnológicas).
  - Must be members of the National System of Researchers (SNI), except researchers from UNAM.
- PIs may only submit one proposal, however participation in other projects is allowed as an additional academic participant.
- PIs that have an active, incomplete PIMSA award are ineligible to apply.

STUDENTS

- Undergraduate, Master’s, or Doctorate level students attending one of the PIMSA convening institutions in the United States or any university in Mexico may apply.
- The awards are to finance undergraduate thesis, Master’s thesis, or PhD dissertation.
- At the time of the LOI submission, student applicants must submit a letter of commitment from their advisor/professor. In this letter, the faculty member must commit to supervising the full execution of the student’s research project including writing how they plan to do this, acknowledging the project plan and timeline as being feasible, and they should mention the importance of the research project.
- Student applicants must also obtain a document of institutional approval where their affiliation is verified (to submit when the full proposal is due).
- Students receiving any other CONACYT support may not be beneficiaries of this program.
FINDING BINATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATORS

IF NECESSARY, APPLICANTS MAY CONSULT ANY OF THESE BINATIONAL DIRECTORIES OF RESEARCHERS.

- BINATIONAL DIRECTORIES OF RESEARCHERS IN MIGRATION AND HEALTH:
  http://repository.ucdavis.edu/researchers.php
  https://hiaycb.files.wordpress.com/2021/03/uc-binational-researches-directory.pdf

- DIRECTORY OF RESEARCHERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA WITH A HISTORY OF COLLABORATION WITH MEXICO:
  http://suave2.sdsc.edu/main/file=170442Gs_Test_no1_5_19.csv&view=grid&id=5ec465d84a22d16aa44ba254
RESEARCH PRIORITY AREAS

Research proposals should emphasize the context of human mobility from a binational perspective, and the impact that the problem or topic of interest has on health, although the methodologies and solution proposals can be focused on the local level, depending on the topic. Likewise, the research questions should focus on the expected impact of the results on public policies.

The following research areas will be given priority but are not exclusive. If your research does not fit in any of these categories but you feel that it will contribute to the field, please contact PIMSA administration.

- **The Impact of COVID-19 on Migrant Populations.**
- **Mental health** and its relationship with mobility, including depression, PTSD, domestic violence and violence from a public health perspective, alcoholism, and substance abuse.
- **Chronic diseases**, including nutrition-related conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, and obesity.
- **Infectious diseases**, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- **Occupational and environmental health**, including injury and accident prevention, pesticide exposure, respiratory illness, heat-related illness; and worker’s rights.
- **Access to health care**, including best practices for health prevention and promotion; strategies for expanding health insurance; legal aspects of access to health care; and the use of technology to reduce health disparities and health information technologies.
- **Health of returnees or people in transit**, including offers or barriers of public and private health systems, patterns of search and demand for care and its relation to the social integration of mobile persons; and chronic, infectious, or emerging diseases related to return migration.
- **The health of migrant minors**, including minors migrating and/or crossing the border unaccompanied, living in the U.S. or returning to their countries of origin.
- **The impact of climate justice on the health of migrant populations**, including the climate change as a catalyst for climate migration due to sudden-onset or slow-onset climate disasters.

*For PIMSA research purpose we use the term “migrant” referring to international migrant, as someone who changes his or her country of usual residence, irrespective of the reason for migration or legal status.*
INSTRUCTIONS TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION

Letters of Intent (LOI):
- Submit one LOI (online) for each research team or each student.
- Maximum length of 300 words.
- Include type of study, methodology, objectives, location(s) of the study, expected results, and public policy implications. It should be concise and explanatory. LOIs that do not include these elements will be disregarded.
- All proposals must incorporate a binational (US-Mexico) perspective.
- Applicants will be notified by June 18, 2021, whether or not they are invited to submit a full proposal.

Full Proposal:
- **10 pages maximum for PI projects, 5 pages maximum for students** (not including relevant attachments), double spaced, 12 pt Arial font. English is the preferred language.
- **Relevance**: explain the importance of the project in the current context and the impact of the project in the field of migration and health in Mexico and/or the U.S.
- **Background** information and review of recent relevant literature: describe the background of the project and detail the current state of the literature related to the subject and justify the need for the project.
- **Proposal Objectives**: Clearly describe the objectives of the proposal.
- **Methodology**: describe the methodology and analyses you will use to carry out the research project. Detail your plan to collect, analyze, and interpret data.
- **Work plan, task responsibilities, and timeline**: explain clearly and/or chart the timeline for your project and map the responsibilities of each member of the research team. Include all parties, including PIs, additional academic participants, researchers, and/or students who will be involved in the project.
- **Health Policy Impact**: one of the objectives of PIMSA is to influence health policy. Consider this when constructing your research project and describe the impact of the study's findings for informing health policy at the local, state, national or regional level.
- **Attachments (do not count towards page limit)**:
  a. Budget and Budget Narrative: the budget template is available on the application website; each expense must be detailed in a budget narrative.
  b. CV of each participant: 3 pages maximum.
  c. Institutional Approval: form is available online for download.
  d. References/Bibliography: one-page maximum
  e. Relevant attachments such as survey instruments, models, timeline, etc. Optional.
REVIEW PROCESS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

All proposals are peer-reviewed by a binational panel of academic and policy experts using the following criteria: Project relevance; appropriateness of research design and methodology; PIs’ or students’ capability to undertake and complete the project; potential impact of findings on the analysis, development, or implementation of health policies in their respective areas; timeline, and budget. In the case of student proposals, the commitment of the student’s advisor/professor to both the project and the student is also considered.

RESEARCH AWARD BUDGETS

The amount established for awards is:

**Up to $15,000 USD for binational research teams**
**Up to $2,000 USD for students**

If funds are to be expended at both the U.S. and Mexican institutions, the budget must specify the planned distribution and breakdown of costs and funds at each institution. Each institution must be prepared and willing to accept and administer funds, which will be transferred once award documents are completed.

The project period is up to 12 months maximum.

**Allowable expenses include:**
- Student research assistants and/or a non-faculty researchers affiliated with the participating universities.
- Data collection expenses, including field and archival research.
- Expenses related to project planning, collaborative research and training. In addition, the cost must be included in the budget for at least one of the researchers/students to travel to the Summer Institute on Migration and Global Health, organized by PIMSA and its partners in California (usually in the Bay Area) to present their research results in a poster once their project has concluded and/or their data is ready to present (2022 or 2023). Conference registration fees are waived for PIMSA presenters.
- Up to $2000 can be used for supplies and services, including computer-related supplies such as software.
- Subcontracts to other institutions or additional academic participants not eligible as a PI.

**Items that will NOT be approved include:**
- Indirect costs or institutional overhead assessments;
- Salary payments to PIs or any other academic salaries, except student research assistants and/or a non-faculty researcher affiliated with the university;
- Tuition or tuition fees, costs of promotional materials or publications;
- Equipment purchases in excess of $2,000, including computers, computer parts, and accessories;
- Publication costs in excess of $500 (including translation and editing).
- In the case a research assistant is receiving any other support from CONACYT, they may not be a beneficiary of this award.
CONDITIONS OF RESEARCH AWARDS AND DELIVERABLES

Projects are expected to be completed within the project period, and all reports must be submitted electronically. Final deliverables will be due 60 days after the project end date.

For Research Teams:

- A 1,500 word document prepared for a policy audience with recommendations based on the main results (English and Spanish). In the case of Mexico, it must contribute to and inform the National Strategic Program (PRONACES) on Mobility and Human Rights. It is recommended that the format be as a fact sheet or infographic.
- A draft of a manuscript from this project for publication (journal format, English or Spanish).
- A Financial Report specifying how the research funds granted by PIMSA were used. Unspent funds should be returned to PIMSA.

For Students:

- A document, based on the main research findings, 1,500 words, prepared for a broad audience and decision-makers in public policy. In the case of Mexico, it must contribute to and inform the National Strategic Program (PRONACES) on Mobility and Human Rights. The document must be presented in Spanish and English. It is recommended that the format be in the form of a fact sheet or infographic.
- A Financial Report specifying how the research funds granted by PIMSA were used. Unspent funds should be returned to PIMSA.

The support of PIMSA shall be acknowledged in proposals, publications, conference materials, exhibitions, electronic recordings, or other products of the awards. An electronic copy of all results and end products must be provided to HIA as the Office of Record for this program. HIA reserves the right to post results such as reports, publications, and presentations on the PIMSA section of the HIA website.

Investigators may be asked to meet with public officials and/or participate in policy briefings to discuss the implications of their work. It is also anticipated that PIs may be asked to participate in policy brief trainings in order to assist in the preparation of policy recommendations. For a period of up to three years following the end of the award, PIMSA reserves the right to approach either researcher to obtain updated information on publications or grants that resulted from the PIMSA-financed research. A written or electronic confirmation of submission of a publishable manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal should be sent to PIMSA. If published, upon publication a copy of the article should be emailed to PIMSA.
ADMINISTRATION OF AWARDS

For this cycle, all funds will be administered by the Health Initiative of the Americas. The portion of the award for PIs within the UC system will be transferred directly to the academic department at the respective campus. The portion of the award to non-UC entities, as well as PIs in Mexico, will be transferred directly to the respective institutions under mutually agreed terms.

Each PI and each student (under the supervision of their advisor) is responsible for accurate and appropriate administration of funds, accounting of expenditures, and completion of accurate and timely financial reports. No indirect costs or overhead assessments are allowed. PIs / students are equally responsible for preparation of required deliverables, and for acknowledgment of PIMSA support in written products resulting from the award. Final reports and accounting of funds are to be submitted jointly by both Co-PIs / students within the deadlines established by HIA as the Office of Record for the program.

Questions?

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