Universidad Nacional (UNA), Costa Rica, Central America, is a higher education institution established in 1973.

UNA was founded in a century characterized by population explosion, transformation processes in education, and changes in the national production system. In that context, there was a clear need to provide higher education mainly to the less advantaged sectors of the population, particularly in rural areas.

Since the beginning, UNA has built a scientific, cultural, and social educational project that is comprehensive, inclusive and, above all, to the service of the Costa Rican society.
The Universidad Nacional is a public institution of higher education devoted to the comprehensive preparation of professionals, as well as to the generation and dissemination of knowledge, contributing to the transformation of society toward higher levels of welfare, freedom and sustainability; all of this through teaching, research, outreach and other production means targeted primary to the disadvantaged social sectors.
The Universidad Nacional is well-known in Latin America and the Caribbean for its academic excellence, innovation, and outreach at local, national, regional and international levels. Our students are distinguished by their comprehensive humanistic formation, as well as by their knowledge, skills, and abilities that respond to the needs of society.

UNA offers top-quality, up-to-date, relevant, flexible, and rigorous study options in accordance with the strategic areas of knowledge and academic articulation processes.

In terms of institutional management, independent, responsive, and streamlined processes facilitate decision-making, transparency, and accountability.

VISION

The Universidad Nacional is well-known in Latin America and the Caribbean for its academic excellence, innovation, and outreach at local, national, regional and international levels. Our students are distinguished by their comprehensive humanistic formation, as well as by their knowledge, skills, and abilities that respond to the needs of society.

UNA offers top-quality, up-to-date, relevant, flexible, and rigorous study options in accordance with the strategic areas of knowledge and academic articulation processes.

In terms of institutional management, independent, responsive, and streamlined processes facilitate decision-making, transparency, and accountability.
Principles

• Humanism
• Transparency
• Inclusion
• Probity
• Environmental responsibility
• Transformative knowledge

Values

• Excellence
• Social commitment
• Democratic participation
• Fairness
• Respect
Strategic Areas of Knowledge

- Environment, territory, and sustainability
- Scientific and technological development, and innovation
- Education and comprehensive development
- Humanism, art, and culture
- Eco-efficient, agricultural, and natural resources production
- Ecosystem-based health and quality of life
- Information and communication technologies
- Society and human development
Commitments undertaken by the University authorities 2015-2020

Overcome inequalities and eliminate all forms of discrimination

Defend human rights

Bet on sustainability

Art, Culture, Education and comprehensive development

Humanism and Academic Excellence Strengthening

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
Presence of Universidad Nacional in the Country

**Northern - Caribbean Huetar Regional Center**
Area: 10,807 m²
Sarapiquí Campus

**Chorotega Regional Center**
Area: 10,807 m²
- Liberia Campus
- Nicoya Campus

**Central Region**
- **Omar Dengo Campus**
  Area: 85,560 m²
  - San Pablo, Heredia: 15,755 m² *
- **Benjamín Nuñez Campus**
  Area: 19,838 m²
  - Lagunilla, Heredia: 8,300 m² *
- **Interuniversity Center, Alajuela**

* Lands acquired in 2013

**Brunca Regional Center**
Area: 8,803 m²
Coto Campus
Pérez Zeledón Campus

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
Organizational Structure

**Human resources (2015)**
- 3470 individuals
  - 53.1% Faculty members
  - 42.4% Administrative staff members
  - 4.5% Para-academic staff

**Buildings and facilities (2015)**
- 8 Campuses
- 8 Colleges
- 32 Schools
- 13 Institutes

**Study options (2015)**
- 136 Undergraduate programs
  - 89 specializations
- 54 Master's programs
  - 61 specializations
- 5 Doctoral programs
  - 9 specializations

18 accredited programs

Undergraduate and Master's programs accredited by the National Higher Education Accreditation System (SINAES)

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA

Additional information: www.una.ac.cr/index.php/m-carreras
Student Population in 2015

+19,189 Total students
(Data to August 5, 2015)

3,994 New students

90.8% Percentage of students enrolled in their first choice academic program

78.3% Public, adult learning, and rural schools

21.7% Private or foreign scientific schools

The admission of students from rural areas increased with the implementation of a new admission model in 2009.

62.9% Urban areas

37.1% Rural areas

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
Scholarships (2015) +50% of the students enrolled benefit from the scholarship program

Student Scholarship Fund = $12.6* million
Institutional contribution: 68.4%
Tuition fees: 24%
Other income: 7.6%
*Exchange rate: $1 = ₡541.27

80% Scholarship recipient population in the Regional Centers*
*Includes only scholarship recipients who are enrolled.

Students graduated in 2014 +3000 new professionals each year

597 Graduated from diploma and teacher's training programs *
1520 Graduated from bachelor's programs
681 Graduated from licentiate's programs
282 Graduated from master's and doctoral programs.

* In Costa Rica, the "University diploma" can be obtained, in some study programs, after completing 60-90 credits; the "teacher's training university certificate" is specific for the teacher's education area and can be obtained after completing 98-110 credits.

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA

58 Indigenous first-year students (2015)

27 Indigenous students are admitted through the traditional admission system

31 Indigenous students are admitted through a stratification and typification system (positive discrimination)

99% Indigenous first-year students are scholarship recipients

Origin and distribution of students by indigenous reserve:

Sarapiquí Campus
- Maleku
- Talamanca

Pérez Zeledón and Coto Campus
- Ngóbe
- Cábécar
- Boruca
- Bri bri

Costa Rica is a democratic, free, independent, multietnic and multicultural republic. 

Article 1, Political Constitution of Costa Rica
Academic Projects
Research, Teaching and Outreach

Programs, projects, and academic activities (PPAAs)
(I semester 2015)

- 615 Programs and projects executed with state funds
- 211 Integrated
- 213 Research
- 35 Teaching
- 50 Outreach
- 106 Academic management

PPAAs percentage by province
(I semester 2015)

- 74% Heredia
- 63% San José
- 62% Alajuela
- 62% Puntarenas
- 60% Guanacaste
- 57% Cartago
- 56% Limón

NOTE: Percentages do not total 100 percent because some PPAAs are carried out in various provinces.

Total PPAAs
(I semester 2015)

- 615 Programs and projects executed with state funds
- 313 Projects executed with private funds managed by FUNDAUNA

928 Total

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
Laboratories (2015)

- +90 Research
  Teaching
  Outreach

- Laboratories

- ISO 170025
  Training of laboratory staff

- $1,381,389*
  Annual investment in scientific
  and technological equipment
  (2015)

- $302,440*
  Investment in scientific and
  technological equipment for teaching
  purposes

- $434,858*
  Purchase of equipment and
  supplies related to laboratory safety

- $240,176*
  Quality Management

*Exchange rate: $1 = 541.27

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
Academic Production

Webometrics Ranking (2015)
Source: webometrics.info/en/Latin_America

UNA ranks 89th among 3754 Latin American universities

World ranking of repositories and e-journals (2015)

Webometrics institutional repository ranking
UNA ranks 79th among the Latin American Universities and 2nd nationwide
repositories.webometrics.info/en/top_portals

UNA e-journals portal 65th among the world’s top portals
repositories.webometrics.info/en/Latin_America

* Data retrieved on August 13, 2015
Electronic Journals
www.revistas.una.ac.cr

2014 26 e-journals
88.4% digital
84.6% indexed
245,452 accumulated downloads 2011-2014

EUNA
(University publishing house)
www.euna.una.ac.cr

Number of works published 2010-2014

2010 37
2011 41
2012 42
2013 54
2014 61

Libraries
(2014)

18 Libraries

$277,387*
Investment in the purchase of bibliographic products
2,770 Titles purchased
4,475 Copies purchased

*exchange rate: $1 = ¢ 541.27

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
"The Universidad Nacional has relationships with universities in more than 40 countries and regions"

+200 agreements with universities and research centers in the world.
UNA:
- Has an Environmental Policy.
- Has an Institutional Environmental Management Plan
- Has been awarded with the Ecological Blue Flag, a program of the Ministry of Environment, Energy, and Telecommunications of Costa Rica to acknowledge good environmental performance.

Consumption 2013-2014

Water consumption decreased by 13%

Power consumption decreased by 2% KWh/year/person

Paper consumption decreased by 22%

Solid waste separated 100 tons

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area / Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
2016
The Year of the Public Universities for Mother Earth

CONARE’s official communication: CNR-245-15 of September 2, 2015

CSUCA-official communication:
CV extraordinary session in Guatemala on November 20, 2015,
"The Necessary University"

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL, COSTA RICA
- Established in 1973 -

Data: Analysis and Information Section, Economic Planning Area
Infographic design: Office of Public Relations-UNA
Translation Service, Office of the Deputy President