

The Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development
Promoting Global Development Through Higher Education



**2005 Special Request for Applications
U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges,
and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative**



TIES Phase II

Date Issued: February 8, 2005

Closing Date: April 15, 2005

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded a Cooperative Agreement in September 1997 to the American Council on Education (ACE), with the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Association of American Universities (AAU), the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC).

The Agreement (HNE-A-00-97-00059-00) seeks to mobilize the resources of American higher education in support of international development cooperation. One portion of the Agreement supports partnerships between higher education institutions in the United States and in cooperating countries to demonstrate how they can apply their expertise collaboratively to development challenges, and to increase the capacity of institutions in USAID-assisted countries to contribute to development.

These partnerships, which involve the institutions' private and public sector partners, expand ways in which universities, colleges, and community colleges may meet their mandate of service to include the development of the local community, the region, the nation, and another part of the world. The program is administered by the Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (ALO).

Institutional Partnership Program Objectives

ALO and USAID seek to support U.S. academic institutions and consortia as they engage with higher education associations and institutions in developing and newly independent countries to:

- collaboratively address an array of complex economic, social, educational, and development issues and challenges;
- strengthen their respective capacities for conducting the educational missions of teaching, research, and service to address development priorities including, the improvement of basic and higher education;
- contribute to the preparation of a responsible citizenry and a skilled workforce engaged in a global marketplace;
- increase attention to and understanding of international education and development issues on campuses and among the institutions' constituencies; and
- disseminate information and share results of development cooperation both abroad and in the United States.

Through the Institutional Partnership Program, ALO links the technical and human capacity-building strengths of higher education institutions in the United States with their counterparts abroad to address USAID's goals.

For further information see the USAID web site:
www.usaid.gov.

2005 Special Request for Applications (RFA)

Partnerships under the Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Initiative

Meetings between President George W. Bush and President Vicente Fox have focused on an emerging common development agenda between the United States and Mexico. In 2001, Presidents Bush and Fox inaugurated the Partnership for Prosperity, a key bilateral initiative, which focuses on promoting economic growth and higher living standards for the citizens of both nations. In this public-private alliance,

both governments act as facilitators to leverage private sector expertise and resources to address shared development goals. The presidents stated that Partnership for Prosperity will, “help unfetter the economic potential of every citizen, so each may contribute fully to narrowing the economic gaps between and within our societies.”

The Training, Internships, Exchanges and Scholarships (TIES) initiative is an important component of the Partnership for Prosperity. USAID/Mexico, in cooperation with the U.S. Embassy, developed the TIES initiative to respond to goals set by Presidents Bush and Fox.

TIES seeks mutual, fully collaborative relationships between Mexican and U.S. higher education institutions and their public and private sector partners on both sides of the border. TIES enhances the capacity of higher education institutions of both nations to examine mutual development problems, work in strategic alliances to develop solutions, and create the basis for Mexico to benefit more fully from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and a planned Free Trade Area of the Americas. Training from these institutions will give Mexican participants the skills and the collaborative links necessary for them to respond more effectively to development challenges and opportunities.

Development of human capital is vital to strengthening Mexico’s competitiveness in the world market. Higher education partnerships are a vital means to strengthen Mexico’s current and future workforce and to respond to the opportunities offered by NAFTA and the global information economy. Capacity building initiatives that address Mexican competitiveness, target underprivileged areas, and fully engage the private sector, as addressed in the next section, are particularly sought.

TIES encompasses a college and university partnership component, which this RFA addresses, and a scholarship component for individual Mexicans at the community college level. The component titled “TIES Partnerships in Higher Education for International Development” focuses on establishing institutional partnerships between U.S. and Mexican colleges and universities in support of the Partnership for Prosperity and NAFTA opportunities.

Thirty-seven (37) higher education partnerships were recommended for awards of up to \$300,000 under Phase I of TIES funding. This exceeds the initial USAID/Mexico goal of establishing 35 higher

education partnerships under TIES funding. For information regarding these active partnerships, please visit the ALO website at www.aascu.org/alo.

TIES Phase II

Due to the enormous success of Phase I TIES partnerships, USAID/Mexico will invest in additional higher education partnerships in Phase II. Fiscal year 2003 was a transition year for USAID/Mexico as it moved into a new strategic plan. The program under the new USAID Mexico Country Plan, available on the USAID website at www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/country/mexico, has four areas of focus:

1. Economic growth (including natural resource management and access to finance);
2. Accountable governance and rule of law;
3. Infectious disease prevention and control;
4. Educational exchange and scholarships.

Applications for Phase II should respond to these focus areas.

ALO anticipates recommending approximately ten (10) applications for awards of up to \$500,000 each (approximately \$200,000 for years 1 & 2, and \$100,000 for year 3) for completion by September 2008. ALO in cooperation with USAID/Mexico encourages alliances of diverse partners, which bring advantages of scale, expertise, and sustainability. For example, higher education institutions bring intellectual resources, government partners bring policy expertise, NGOs bring the community, and the private sector bring access and rigor. Successful applicant institutions will have significant private sector involvement and typically propose at least ten long-term (two academic semesters) scholarships for Mexicans (leading to a degree, as appropriate) to be embedded within a partnership in addition to other training, internships, and exchanges. (Note: Only Mexican nationals are eligible for scholarships and training with USAID funds.).

Possible Components of TIES Partnerships

Possible components of institutional partnerships supported by the TIES initiative may include, but are not limited to:

- Master’s degree training in the United States for Mexicans; *
- Master’s degree training in Mexico with U.S. faculty or via distance education for Mexicans; *
- Dual degree programs for Mexicans with training in the United States or in Mexico; *
- Specialty training and sabbaticals in the United States for Mexican faculty; *

- Short-term training (workshops, seminars, professional training) in the United States and short-term training in Mexico for Mexicans;
- Internships in the private and public sectors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), or research institutions in either country for Mexicans;
- Follow-on training in either country for Mexicans;
- Student research and/or student exchanges (with USAID support for Mexican nationals only);
- Joint faculty research and/or faculty exchanges;
- Coordination, technical meetings, observation trips in the United States and Mexico;
- Innovative use of technology and distance education;
- Public and private collaboration (including foundations);
- Collaborative community level outreach and replication projects in Mexico; and
- Joint publications, media events.

* Indicates program components in which scholarships can be proposed to count towards the total number of scholarships (at least ten) supported.

A successful application will provide for the following: (1) training to build capacity in eligible focus areas (detailed below), as identified by the Mexican institution and local stakeholders; (2) appropriate persons selected through a fair and transparent process and that approximately half of training opportunities and scholarships offered to women; (3) training responsive to institutional and development priorities; (4) oversight provided by both institutions; (5) the trainees return to work in Mexico within a defined timeframe and to an established setting with follow-on support and monitoring from the partner relationship; and (6) private sector, NGO, and local government engagement in the partnership with significant cost-share contributions.

TIES Phase II Awards

USAID plans to make the following awards under five (5) focus areas:

I. Focus Area One: Rural & Micro-Finance *One (1) award*

USAID/Mexico began a new five-year rural and micro-finance activity in September 2004. The goal of the program is to improve access to financial services in Mexico for the vast majority of the population that still lacks such services. The program will focus on five key components. First, it will support the emergence

of a critical mass of strong financial institutions that will lead the development of the micro- and rural finance service sector. Second, USAID will foster the development of a local industry that can provide support services (training, auditing, and consulting) to financial institutions in a sustainable manner. Third, the program will work with local institutions to develop innovative products and services in rural finance and remittances. Fourth, the program will continue efforts to improve the legal and regulatory environment in Mexico and improve the quality and capacity of the supervision system. Finally, USAID will seek to improve the enabling environment for the micro- and rural finance industry by supporting cutting edge research, organizing conferences and seminars to disseminate best practices in rural and micro-finance.

A TIES partnership under this program area will build capacity of Mexican institutions to understand and address issues related to rural and micro-finance, as well as the impact of remittances on the financial sector. The program will do so by creating a U.S.-Mexican partnership to advance and improve capacity for research on rural and micro-finance issues affecting Mexico. The focus of such research capacity will be to promote informed public policy and debate in Mexico.

The program will develop an independent think tank or a department within a university to identify and study rural and micro-finance issues affecting Mexico. The partnership will support a Mexican institution or consortia to develop a long-term program to address rural and micro-finance issues in Mexico.

Applications should:

- Develop and fund specific studies of a wide range of rural and micro-finance issues and problems in Mexico including: a legal framework that supports a strong, competitive financial sector, the importance of public policies that promote financial intermediation, and the role of appropriate public policies in fostering innovation;
- Bring together a broad range of professionals from universities, the private sector, and government;
- Publish papers and analysis that further the public dialogue in Mexico on rural and micro-finance; and

- Organize public workshops and fora that bring academics, government officials and business professionals together to learn about and address the key rural and micro-finance issues in Mexico.

A diagnosis of research capacity and interest in the development of a think tank for rural and micro-finance is being conducted by the Ford and Hewlett Foundations in close collaboration with USAID. Applicants should consult the Ford Foundation to obtain the results of this diagnosis as part of the development of their applications.

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II. Focus Area Two: Democracy

Three (3) awards selected from subareas outlined below

1. Legal Education

Mexico is undergoing a profound change in the criminal justice system. During the past year, Mexico initiated the transition from a written, inquisitorial system, in which judges decide cases based on reading documentary evidence, to an adversarial system centered on oral arguments by prosecutors and defense attorneys. The Federal Congress, several state governments (e.g., Aguascalientes, Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Nuevo Leon, Oaxaca, Puebla), and the Assembly of Mexico City are currently considering, debating, or developing criminal justice reform applications. The State of Nuevo Leon has already passed an initial reform to the state code of criminal procedure that incorporates oral evidentiary proceedings in cases involving misdemeanor crimes. More states are expected to pass criminal justice reforms continuing and building the momentum of this trend. As a result of these reforms, law schools throughout Mexico are interested in developing new legal education programs that will prepare the next generation of lawyers to practice law in the new oral, adversarial justice systems of the country.

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

- Introduce specialized training programs that incorporate oral advocacy skills to strengthen legal education programs in Mexico, in one or more of the following jurisdictions: Aguascalientes, Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Nuevo Leon, Oaxaca, Zacatecas, and Mexico City.
- Support the development of special legal education courses on comparative law, evidence negotiation, interview and counseling, mediation, arbitration and forensic science.
- Support the development and implementation of legal aide clinical programs, as well as specialized clinics for students in legal education programs to practice prosecutorial and defense skills.

2. Public Affairs

The recent introduction and implementation of freedom of information (FOIA) and regulatory reform at federal, state and local government levels in Mexico is generating dramatic transformations in the efficiency, transparency and accountability of government services. Today, it is imperative to support the effective functioning of these two processes and create a thorough understanding of their respective operational and practical implementation factors in order to promote the effective functioning of democratic governance practices at these three levels of government.

Although freedom of information now permits citizens to request records on most federal government actions and services, FOIA is yet to happen in about a third of state governments and in most local governments across Mexico. Where FOIA is available and under implementation, there is a wide variance in the standards and structures that apply to FOIA laws, as well as in the absence of necessary complementary legislation on privacy and public records management. Additionally, citizens could benefit substantially by understanding their FOIA rights and learning to exercise them more effectively. The overall understanding of effective FOIA implementation, based on the analysis, monitoring, and evaluation of existing Mexican laws and international practices and developments, is basic to making Mexican governments at federal, state, and local levels accountable to the citizens they serve.

As part of its Good Governance Agenda, the current Mexican Administration undertook two important regulatory initiatives in 2004. The first was the launch of a Citizen Charter initiative for federal regulatory transactions, which includes significant private sector involvement. In addition on April 22, 2004, the Mexican government imposed a year long regulatory moratorium to ensure agencies streamline their regulatory promulgation processes. The administration charged the Federal Commission on Regulatory Improvement (COFEMER) and the Secretary of the Economy (SECON) with lessening the regulatory burden on business. These agencies must report to the President on a quarterly basis on progress achieved and have Presidential goals for reducing regulatory burden.

New government rules and regulations must meet the following criteria: 1) a clear justification for the government's involvement; 2) regulations must be maintained or issued only if potential benefits exceed potential costs; 3) there is no less costly alternative; 4) the negative impact of regulations on businesses must be minimal, especially with respect to small and medium sized firms; and 5) adequate funds and personnel to ensure effective administration and enforcement.

The federal law of administrative procedures represents another significant regulatory reform accomplishment. The law requires all regulatory agencies to prepare an impact statement for new regulations, which must include detailed information on the problem being addressed, the proposed solutions, the alternatives considered, and the quantitative and qualitative costs and benefits and any changes in the amount of paperwork businesses would face if a proposed regulation is to be implemented.

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

- Develop or strengthen Public Administration or Public Affairs Master's Program(s) with an emphasis on the following areas: freedom of information, access to/privacy of public records, regulation drafting, and regulation making process, including regulatory compliance, enforcement and oversight. This should include cost-benefit analysis, plain language, efficiency and competitiveness standards, global benchmarking, intra-agency coordination, training programs, civic education programs, advanced research, monitoring and oversight mechanisms, and public policy process for freedom of information and regulation making.

3. Forensic Science & DNA Analysis

The new Government of the State of Chihuahua has expressed its commitment to addressing forensic and legal issues in the border region that has manifested itself most visibly in the disappearances and deaths of hundreds of women in Ciudad Juárez over the past ten years. Most of these crimes have not been fully investigated, nor have the latest DNA technology and forensic science techniques been used to identify the victims and help the victims' families bring closure to these tragic cases. As part of the state government's commitment, the State Attorney General recently announced plans to strengthen and improve the investigative capacity of state officials responsible for the collection and handling of evidence, as well as increase and improve the forensic analysis capacity of the state-run DNA laboratory.

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

- Develop or strengthen a master's degree program in Forensic Science and DNA Analysis at a university in the State of Chihuahua. This program should incorporate the major aspects of forensic science, such as generation of physical evidence by criminal activity; collection and preservation of physical evidence; analysis of physical evidence by forensic science laboratory; forensic anthropology; DNA analysis and profiling; forensic psychiatry and criminal profiling; criminal law and forensic science; presentation of scientific expert testimony in court; and ethics and forensic science.
- Develop curricula for continuing education programs, such as conferences, seminars and certificate programs (diplomados) for forensics scientists from the State of Chihuahua and throughout Mexico.
- Develop curricula for educational seminars and training programs for Mexican justice sector officials (prosecutors, judges and defense attorneys), as well as for human rights defender NGOs, about the proper uses and applications of forensic science and DNA analysis.

- Support research, publications and activities to address policy issues and institutional development needs related to forensic science and DNA analysis at a state and national level in Mexico.

4. Mental Health Services for Survivors of Trauma

Mental health services for survivors of trauma are needed in Mexico. Of specific interest to USAID is strengthening and developing mental health services for victims' families, and providing training to those who work with survivors of trauma, in Ciudad Juárez and in the state of Chihuahua given the tragic murders of over 370 young women throughout the state.

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

- Strengthen master's level program(s) in the State of Chihuahua in the areas of psychology, sociology, and social work to strengthen mental health services available to survivors of trauma, including violence, crime, torture and other causes (including, but not limited to, lower income individuals) in Ciudad Juárez and Ciudad Chihuahua.
- Through a consortium of government agencies and NGOs, provide immediate services to families of the missing women in Ciudad Juárez and Ciudad Chihuahua with plans for long-term collaboration and capacity building to strengthen and increase access to mental health services for individuals who are survivors of trauma (including, but not limited to, low-income individuals and victims of crime) and their families. A consortium of organizations should be contemplated which would include the U.S. and Mexican higher education partners, as well as local NGOs representing, and providing services to, victims (of crime and other trauma) and their families.
- Include a research component into the implementation of treatment strategies to determine which interventions are most effective in treating symptoms and assisting individuals return to daily activities.
- Train lawyers, state officials, and others (such as educators, staff of NGOs and local organizations) in the state of

Chihuahua working with victims' families, other trauma survivors, and victims of violence in the mental health consequences of these kinds of cases and in interview techniques that are sensitive to their experiences.

III. Focus Area Three: Environment

Two (2) awards selected from subareas outlined below

The USAID/Mexico Environment Program focuses on the conservation of critical natural resources and biodiversity, with an emphasis on watershed management, and informing communities about the benefits of conservation. Guiding the Environment Program is the premise that if economic opportunities are increased, particularly in areas where communities rely on natural resources, then forests, wildlife, and other resources can be conserved more effectively. To achieve the Environment Program's planned results, activities will increase local capacity for community management of natural resources and watersheds. This will include training in basic business skills and planning, as well as the introduction of better practices for forestry, agriculture and other natural resource uses that reduce environmental impacts, create jobs and add value to local products. In addition to working at a local level, the Program also works to strengthen Mexico's federal capacity to promote watershed management and conservation and to support communities in areas of high biodiversity. Overall, the program seeks to create and support alliances that involve the private sector, NGOs, higher education institutions, and government institutions to facilitate the exchange of information and to increase the overall impact of USAID's programs.

1. Improved Management of Parks and Protected Areas

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

- Develop master's level training program in protected area management, within the Mexican context, that also provides short term training for community leaders, protected area managers, and other professionals. The program must focus on one or more of the following states: Chiapas, Oaxaca and the Monarch butterfly protected areas in Michoacán and the state of México.

In addition, research and practical exercises must:

- Address protected area management, including biological, social and economic impacts on protected areas and local communities, financial arrangements for the sustainability of protected areas, and the sustainable use of resources;
- Address natural resource management issues through applied research, technical assistance and practical training related to protected area management; and
- Collaborate with and involve Mexican research institutions, NGOs, and government agencies responsible for the management of natural resources and protected areas to create an integrated and sustainable program.

Applicants should consult with the Secretary of the Environment's Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (CONANP) in development of the application and have as an objective of the program to develop a continuing policy dialog with CONANP on improved management of parks and protected areas.

The primary contact at CONANP is:
David Gutierrez, Director
Conservation Management, CONANP
Tel: 011 (52 55) 5449-7006
E-mail: daguti@conanp.gob.mx

2. Community Based Watershed Management

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

Develop a master's level program in Community Based Watershed Management that focuses in one or more of the following states: Oaxaca, Chiapas, Tabasco and Veracruz. The program should include pilot projects and training in community based watershed management that support natural resource conservation and should address the following issues:

- Watershed assessment and planning that involves multiple levels of stakeholders;
- Identify and promote opportunities for environmental service systems, especially those linked to water use;

- Livestock management and the impacts of grazing;
- Forest management, including silviculture, sustainable harvest plans, and fire management;
- Community based governance mechanisms and decision making processes;
- Extension and outreach services, including environmental education and water quality monitoring; and
- Financial transfer mechanisms for environmental services.

The program should collaborate with state and federal institutions working in community based watershed management, such as the Secretary of Agriculture's *Fideicomiso de Riesgo Compartido* (FIRCO) and the Secretary of the Environment's *Comisión Nacional del Agua* (CNA).

The primary contact at FIRCO is:
Juan Antonio Casillas, Director
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FIRCO
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The primary contact at CNA is:
José Luis Pablos, Subdirector
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3. Pollution Reduction and Efficient Energy Use

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

Develop a Clean Production and Renewable Energy (CP/RE) master's-level program. Through established program internships, students should provide private sector, local government and NGO partners with environmental diagnosis and recommendations to decrease contamination within industry, municipalities, and rural communities that are economically viable and environment-friendly. The partnership will also support a mechanism to assist program graduates in the creation and implementation of innovative, small businesses that will offer skills obtained to private

industry and government institutions. The geographic focus must include one or more of the following states: Oaxaca, Chiapas, Veracruz, Tabasco, Quintana Roo, Chihuahua or any of the northern border states.

Applications and programs should:

- Address, through applied research, technical assistance and practical training, all aspects of CP/RE, including pollution prevention, energy efficiency, recycling, green procurement, solid waste management, waste water treatment, and renewable energy at industrial, municipal and community levels;
- Develop training skills to increase the application of CP & RE technologies by the private sector and municipalities; and
- Collaborate with the Centro Mexicano para la Producción más Limpia (CMP+L) and/or one of its two regional centers.

The primary contact for CMP+L is:
Dr. Jorge Perez, Director General
Centro Mexicano para la Producción más Limpia
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Web: www.cmpl.ipn.mx

The success of this activity will be determined by the amount of assistance that the program provides to private industries, municipalities, and rural communities; the number of Mexican professionals trained; and by the amount emissions and other pollutants are reduced.

IV. Focus Area Four: Rural Prosperity for Small-Scale Producers **One (1) award**

A TIES partnership under this program area will:

Develop a program or build a U.S.-Mexican consortium that will identify market opportunities for small scale rural producers and assist farmers and farmers' associations to respond to new market opportunities and increase competitiveness. Programs must demonstrate clear and significant participation from private sector partners that support small-scale producers. Activities should be targeted at assisting farmers in Mexico, in one or more of the following states: Michoacán, Guanajuato, Queretaro, Oaxaca and Chiapas. The success of the program will be measured

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by the increased volume and value of sales generated, and by the number of small-scale producers that benefit.

Applications and programs should:

- Strengthen the capacity of Mexican institutions to understand market changes affecting small-scale producers, and develop mechanisms that assist small scale rural agricultural producers to be more competitive as a greater portion of fruits, vegetables and other products are marketed through large supermarket chains;
- Facilitate market response with information, support services, establishment of business partnerships, and improved compliance with laws and standards to meet market requirements;
- Improve the quality of rural business strategies and the enabling environment with emphasis on connecting the poor to market opportunities;
- Develop and/or strengthen extension services which support small scale rural producers and create links with both national and international agricultural organizations (such as the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)), as well as the private sector, particularly larger U.S. based producer cooperatives that can provide models and expertise to Mexican counterparts;
- Work with the Government of Mexico on appropriate strategies, including resource allocation and rural finance opportunities, to increase the competitiveness of small-scale growers.

V. Focus Area Five: Health **Three (3) awards selected from subareas outlined below**

USAID works with Mexico on the prevention and control of two important public health challenges for both the United States and Mexico: Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS. There is also a current focus on U.S.-Mexican cross border collaboration for health issues such as emergency medical response and improving the lives of people with disabilities. TIES higher

education partnerships fulfill a key role in the USAID/Mexico health program by developing and improving professional skills and capabilities, forging links between academia and health systems, and facilitating the application of academic knowledge and research to community needs, with the potential for improved information, policies, and services.

1. Prevention & Treatment of Infectious Diseases

Support a university partnership in collaboration with Mexico's National Institute of Public Health (INSP) to develop graduate level training and professional certification programs in the field of infectious disease focusing on TB and HIV/AIDS, with preference to projects that contemplate the relationship between the two diseases, their co-infection and treatment, and focus on cost and cost effectiveness analysis of prevention and control strategies. The program design should include components aimed at working with communities, states or municipalities in practical application of the skills acquired in the university setting.

The primary contact at INSP is:
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Tel 011- 52 -777 311 3783
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E-mail: sbertozzi@correo.insp.mx

2. Emergency Health Care

Support of a university partnership in a Mexican border state to develop a program in emergency health care and trauma services in the U.S.-Mexican border region with special emphasis on bilateral collaboration of services and referrals. It is strongly recommend that the following partners on both sides of the border be involved: hospitals, health centers/clinics, health departments, and ambulatory service providers.

3. HIV/AIDS Prevention

Support a university partnership in a Mexican border state to strengthen the bilateral response to HIV/AIDS on the U.S.-Mexican border by focusing on effective HIV/AIDS prevention, policy dialogue and formulation of operational policies for the region, and on strengthening of binational health system collaboration, with a focus on more reliable data collection reporting, as well as, improving quality and continuity of care.

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The program should emphasize outreach and application of skills in states and municipalities.

4. Services for Persons with Disabilities

Support a university partnership in Nuevo Leon to address the unique needs of persons with disabilities by training health and para-health professionals/care providers in family-centered care and specialized services including but not limited to: physical and rehabilitative therapy, special education techniques, vocational training and job coaching.

Preference will be given to partnerships which contemplate community and workforce integration for people with disabilities, and which involve the private sector and local NGOs in designing and sponsoring programs for vocational training, internships, and job placement.

Partners are encouraged to collaborate with the Instituto de Nuevo Amanecer (INA).

The primary contact at INA is:
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Coordinadora de Relaciones Estrategias
Instituto de Nuevo Amanecer

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Cost Sharing

ALO in cooperation with USAID/Mexico seeks to provide funding for competitive applications from partnerships of higher education institutions in the United States and Mexico and their private and public sector partners. ALO in cooperation with USAID/Mexico encourages alliances of diverse partners, which bring advantages of scale, expertise, and sustainability. USAID funding is expected to be only a portion of the resources that are brought to the respective partnerships. The minimum expected total cost share from all partners is 25% of the requested award amount. Approximately \$10 million dollars in USAID/Mexico funds for TIES Phase I partnerships have leveraged over \$13 million dollars in cost share contributions. USAID/Mexico encourages similar commitments from TIES Phase II partnerships.

Both the quality and the quantity of cost sharing and other contributions proposed in the application will be taken into account by the peer reviewers toward determining the most competitive and highest ranked

applications for USAID/Mexico funding. Partnerships among higher education institutions with private sector partners including non-traditional partnerships are encouraged. Applicants should itemize all cost sharing, including waivers of tuition and other academic costs, faculty release time, stipends, professional development funds, internship value, travel, supplies, equipment, other direct costs, indirect costs, et cetera.

Cash and in-kind contributions will be accepted as part of the applicant's cost sharing when such contributions are: (a) verifiable from the applicant's records; (b) not included as contributions for any other federally-assisted program; (c) reasonable for the accomplishment of partnership objectives; and (d) not paid by the federal government under another grant.

Terms of the Solicitation

Contingent upon the availability of USAID funds, ALO will conduct a peer-reviewed competition to make approximately ten (10) awards of up to \$500,000 each (approximately \$200,000 for years 1 & 2, and \$100,000 for year 3), with implementation by September 2008. Activities under an award are anticipated to commence in September 2005 and be completed by September 2008.

Strong applications will be characterized by the way in which the proposed activities respond to institutional and developmental priorities in Mexico; fit within an institutional framework for master's degree programs; the strength of the alliances among the higher education institutions and their private and public sector partners; the quality and quantity of cost sharing and other contributions that all the cooperating parties, including the private sector, bring to the partnership; how the partners provide oversight of training or research; and the way in which the partnership aims to develop the sustainable capacity of Mexican higher education institutions.

Applications must identify clearly: (1) Support of USAID/Mexico's Country Plan as outlined on page two; (2) Support of USAID/Mexico's TIES Strategic Objectives to enhance capacity of scholars and participating institutions to respond to the common development agenda; (3) The particular development focus area addressed through the partnership; (4) The goals and objectives of the undertaking; (5) The activities to be accomplished, with a description of how they relate to the specific development issue; (6) The rationale for the collaboration with specific partners: higher education institutions and the private

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sector; (7) The schedule of activities by year; (8) A monitoring and evaluation plan that indicates in quantifiable and objective terms the expected development outcomes; and (9) The summary budget, annual budgets, and budget narrative, including cost sharing from the partner institutions, the private sector, and other parties, and travel and per diem for at least one representative each from the U.S. institution and the Mexican institution to attend ALO's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. or a TIES conference in Mexico during each year of the funded collaboration.

Applications must also include an abstract (three pages maximum) summarizing items (1) through (9). Award funds for the partnership will be disbursed to the lead institution, association, or consortium in the United States, based on the applicant's implementation of the work plan, stated budget, and submission to ACE/ALO of financial, tax, and narrative progress reports. It is the lead U.S. institution's responsibility to provide disbursements (reimbursements) for its collaborating partner(s) in accordance with the agreed-upon activity schedule and budget.

Applications must be received at ALO by **5:00 p.m., Daylight Savings Time (DST), April 15, 2005**. Faxed or electronically transmitted applications will not be accepted. Peer review of applications is scheduled for May 2005. Notification about awards is expected in June 2005.

Awards will be executed as subagreements between the lead U.S. university, college, community college, or consortium, and the American Council on Education (ACE), through the Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (ALO), under USAID Cooperative Agreement HNE-A-0097-00059-00. Institutions recommended for awards will receive a draft version of a subagreement to review. After all parties agree upon the subagreement, partnership activities are expected to commence immediately thereafter. **No ALO award or any cost share funds may be expended prior to a fully executed (i.e., signed by both parties) subagreement between ACE/ALO and the lead U.S. institution.**

TraiNet Requirements

In order to comply with Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS), and Department of State regulations regarding tracking and monitoring participants, any foreign national who is sponsored fully or partially, directly or indirectly, using USAID funds for participant training activities in the U.S. must enter the U.S. on a J-1 visa (nonimmigrant exchange visitor

visa) processed under a USAID exchange visitor program number. The U.S. institution must use the Training, Results and Information Network (TraiNet) to document and track all USAID participants. U.S. institutions should allow at least 2 months for the processing of visas when planning activities in the United States for Mexicans. Information regarding USAID's J-1 visa requirements may be found on-line at the Participant Training Website (www.usaidtraining.net/index2.htm). Administrators must adhere to the regulations detailed under TraiNet, Visa Compliance System (VCS), the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), and USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS) 253.

Eligibility and Review of Applications

ALO welcomes applications from the member institutions of ACE, AACC, AASCU, AAU, NAICU, and NASULGC, and from other regionally accredited, degree-granting, U.S. higher education institutions. ALO also welcomes applications submitted by higher education consortia. USAID/Mexico and ALO also encourage applications from institutions that seek to foster partnerships with Mexican institutions that have not received a previous TIES award. **Institutions with current TIES awards are eligible to present new applications from other academic departments or for a different development area.**

Applications will be reviewed by panels of higher education experts in international development who have experience in Mexico and Latin America and representatives from USAID/Mexico. Awards will be made on the basis of the reviewers' recommendations of merit and concurrence from USAID/Mexico. The application should be prepared in collaboration with the Mexican partner institution(s), incorporate significant private sector contribution of resources, and fully address a focus area defined in the RFA.

Application Review Guidelines

Peer reviewers will use the following criteria to evaluate the applications:

I. Strategic Objective and Focus 20 points

Soundness of case made for addressing an identified strategic objective and development focus, outlined in the RFA, which contributes to increased and more equitable long-term growth and competitiveness of Mexico.

II. Training, Partnership Design, and Potential Results 30 points

Coherence, appropriateness, and feasibility of the partnership; quality of master's degree training and/or other training/research to enable Mexicans to take advantage of opportunities created under NAFTA and the Partnership for Prosperity; appropriateness of activities implemented with new and proven approaches and techniques; extent to which partner institutions provide oversight of training and plan for trainees to return to Mexico within a defined timeframe and to an established setting with follow-on support and monitoring from the partner relationship; probability that programs will enhance curriculum, research and service to the private and public sectors as well as Mexican communities; well-conceived implementation plan and timetable and likelihood of achieving results.

III. Scholarships 10 points

Number (at least 10) of graduate level scholarships for two academic semesters of training (leading to a degree, as appropriate); demonstrated relevance of the training to assist partner institutions directly address the development issue they have identified; an established fair and transparent process to select scholarship and training recipients, of which approximately 50% are for women.

IV. Partnerships, Mutuality and Sustainability 20 points

Strength of institutional commitment (engagement of faculty, students and administrators) within alliances between the U.S. and Mexican institutions; strength of multiple partners to assure enduring relationships and continued impact of joint U.S.-Mexican efforts (private sector firms and foundations, NGOs and community-based organizations other higher education institutions, and the public sector,); extent to which partnership

activities provide participating Mexican higher education institutions and other partners with a legacy that can be used to continue to address the development focus as part of curriculum and development programs; and quality of plans for U.S.-Mexican higher education partnership to continue to be active in developing or assisting these legacy programs in Mexican partner institutions.

V. Cost Sharing and Cost Effectiveness of Overall Budget 10 points

Quality and quantity of the U.S. institutional cost sharing for scholarships, waivers of tuition and other academic costs, and other contributions from the additional U.S. partners (private sector firms, foundations, NGOs, and other higher education institutions); quality and quantity of the Mexican institutional cost sharing for proposed activities, including scholarships and other programs, and other contributions from the Mexican partners (private sector firms, foundations, NGOs and other higher education institutions) to meet requirement for significant contributions from partner organizations; demonstrated cost-effectiveness and accuracy of budget with a clear, detailed explanation provided in the budget narrative.

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan 10 points

Strength of plan for monitoring and reporting on how proposed partnership activities will impact social and economic development, including the effectiveness of methodology for collection of baseline data to measure results; clear and appropriate benchmarks of progress, and appropriateness of instruments. The plan for monitoring and evaluation must include external assessment and how progress and results will be communicated and reported to USAID/Mexico through ALO. The monitoring and evaluation plan can extend beyond the funding life of the partnership, e.g., uses of the training/research to address development problems once master's level trainees have returned to Mexico.

Total Points: 100 points

Application Format

The contents of the application should be provided in the order listed below:

Title Page (Please complete ALO form in full and obtain signatures of authorized officials.)

Table of Contents

Abstract (not to exceed 3 typed, double-spaced pages, 12-point font)

Narrative (not to exceed 20 typed, double-spaced pages, 12-point font) of the proposed partnership describing:

- The specific **Development Objective(s)** in Mexico to be addressed.
- The **Training, Partnership Design and Potential Results** of the collaboration to benefit Mexicans under NAFTA and the Partnership for Prosperity.
- **Alliances, Mutuality and Sustainability** and number of **Scholarships** included in the partnership.
- **Activities** to be accomplished over the course of the partnership (include chart in the Appendices)
- **Monitoring and Evaluation.** Results indicators, effectiveness of methodology for collection of baseline data and measurement of results, and reporting of progress.

Appendices (*Attachments beyond the stated appendices will not be read or taken into consideration*):

- **Summary Budget Form and Annual Budget Forms** to be completed for each year of activity indicating costs of personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, other direct costs, and

indirect costs requested for award and contributed as cost sharing.

- A detailed **Budget Narrative** to explain cost effectiveness of overall budget and the basis for the calculations of the figures presented in the summary budget and annual budgets (i.e., cost computations and explanation for personnel, fringe benefits, travel expenses including transportation and per diem, equipment, supplies, other direct costs, indirect costs and cost-sharing and contributions from partners).
- **Proposed Scholarships** (a list of the number and type of scholarships).
- **Other Partnership Components Chart** that lists other training, internships and exchanges.
- **Schedule of Planned Activities** with completion dates by year (funding not to extend beyond September 2008) for all proposed activities, specifying components of the partnership and anticipated development outcomes (see attached form).
- 1-2 page **Résumés** of each of the proposed lead U.S. and Mexican institution director(s) and other expert personnel.
- **Signed Letters of Support** from the presidents, chancellors, or other chief executive officers of the cooperating institutions in the United States and Mexico, in addition to the signature of the proposed U.S. partnership director and letters of support from other participating organizations, including the private sector.
- **Signed Letter from Appropriate Official at Applicant Institution** verifying that all costs cited conform to established institutional policies and practices.

Application Summary

2005 Request for Applications

U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Deadline: Applications must be received by **April 15, 2005, 5:00 p.m. (EDT)**. Faxed or electronically submitted applications will not be accepted. All elements of the application must be received by the deadline. Faxed copies of the application title page and letters that include all necessary signatures may be used as a placeholder in the application, provided signed originals are received at ALO within seven (7) calendar days of the deadline.

Eligible Applicants: All members of the American Council on Education (ACE), the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC), the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Association of American Universities (AAU), the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), and other regionally accredited, degree-granting, U.S. higher education institutions. USAID/Mexico and ALO encourage applications from institutions that seek to foster partnerships with Mexican institutions that have not received a previous TIES award. Institutions with current TIES awards are eligible to present new applications from other academic departments or for a different development area.

Award Period: Activities funded through this competition are expected to commence immediately after the final subagreement has been fully executed. The application should not seek funding for partnership efforts beyond September 30, 2008.

Award Amount: Up to \$500,000 (approximately \$200,000 for years 1 & 2, and \$100,000 for year 3). Applications that indicate a budget request for more than the total stipulated amount will not be reviewed. Partnership awards are contingent upon expected obligation of funds by USAID.

Cost Sharing: The minimum expected total cost share from all partners is 25 percent total of the award amount. Cost share may include waivers of tuition and other academic costs, faculty release time, stipends, professional development funds, internship value, travel, supplies, equipment, other direct costs, indirect costs, et cetera.

Commitments: Representatives from the U.S. and Mexican institutions are expected to attend the annual ALO conference in Washington, D.C. or a TIES conference in Mexico each year. Partners must also share resource materials with ALO, USAID, institutional partnership program colleagues, and other interested parties.

USAID requires that any foreign national sponsored fully or partially, directly or indirectly, using USAID funds for participant training activities in the U.S. must enter the U.S. on a J-1 visa (nonimmigrant exchange visitor visa) processed under a USAID exchange visitor program number. The U.S. institution must use the Training, Results and Information Network (TraiNet) to document and track all USAID participants.

Note: Once an application has been received, there is to be no contact with the ALO office until the completion of the peer review process in order to ensure fairness to all parties concerned. Letters of communication from members of the U.S. Congress in support of an application are discouraged as these may be thought to prejudice the peer-review process. Such letters will not be forwarded to peer reviewers. Upon final announcement of the award, all applicants are invited to request copies of their peer reviewers' scores. Neither personal reviews nor comparative score tabulations will be shared.

Application Title Page

2005 Special Request for Applications U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Please refer to the electronic version on the ALO Web site at www.aascu.org/alo.

1. **U.S. institution:** _____

2. **Cooperating institution:** _____

3. **Name of proposed partnership:** _____

4. **Development Area:** Microfinance & Rural Finance Democracy Environment
 Rural Prosperity for Small –Scale Producers Health

5. **Key personnel:**

U.S. partnership director's name: _____

Title: _____ Dept.: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Mexican partnership director's name: _____

Title: _____ Dept.: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

6. **Other cooperating U.S. institution(s) and director(s), if any (add sheets as necessary):**

Institution: _____

Co-partnership director's name: _____

Title: _____ Dept.: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

7. Other partners in the private sector (add sheets as necessary):

Organization/Company: _____

Key contact name: _____

Title: _____ Dept.: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

8. Funds requested of ALO: \$ _____ (not to exceed \$500,000)

9. Cost sharing from the U.S. institutional partner(s): \$ _____ (Percentage of Award: _____)

10. Cost sharing from the Mexican institutional partner(s): \$ _____
(Percentage of ALO Award: _____)

11. Cost sharing from private sector partner(s): \$ _____ (Percentage of Award: _____)

12. Cost sharing from public sector partner(s): \$ _____ (Percentage of Award: _____)

13. Total cost sharing from all partner(s): \$ _____ (Percentage of Award: _____)

14. Total cost of partnership activity: \$ _____
(Add lines 8 through 11)

15. One sentence description of partnership: _____

16. Do any of the partner institutions have a current TIES award? _____ **If so, please give name of the institution(s) and development area(s).** _____

Please note that TIES Phase II does not offer sustainability awards for previous TIES partnerships.

17. Please list any other U.S. federal agencies where you have submitted this particular application or any similar/overlapping application for funding. Also, if this application is a component of a larger project that has been funded or for which funds are being sought, please explain (please use separate sheet).

18. Signatures: An officer from each cooperating institution must authorize this application (add pages as necessary).

U.S. Institution

Partnership Director Name

Signature

Date

Title

Partnership CEO (or designee) Name

Signature

Date

Title

Mexican Institution

Partnership Director Name

Signature

Date

Title

Partnership CEO (or designee) Name

Signature

Date

Title

Budget Instructions and Forms

Applications must include a line-item summary budget together with a narrative explanation of the budget figures for Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3. Clearly indicate the method of cost computation and how the total charge for each budget item was determined for the ALO award, the cost sharing by the applicant institution and other partners in the narrative. The items on the five-column budget form are: (1) Personnel (wages and salaries); (2) Fringe Benefits; (3) Travel; (4) Equipment (if applicable; typically a cost shared item); (5) Supplies; (6) Other Direct Costs; (7) Total Direct Costs; (8) Indirect Costs; and (9) Totals.

All of the items listed in the five column budget, whether supported by ALO award monies or cost sharing contributions, must be reasonable, necessary to accomplish partnership objectives, allowable in terms of the applicable federal cost principles, auditable, and incurred during the award period. The minimum expected total cost share from all partners is 25% of the requested award amount.

1. Personnel (Line I). Personnel includes all individuals involved in the partnership who are employed by the applicant institution. Stipends for any individuals not employed by the applicant institution are usually listed and documented under Other Direct Costs. The budget narrative must provide the position, title, and the method of cost computation of the actual wages/salary, including summer salary, for each individual. Calculations should be shown as a percentage of academic year or annual salary and must conform to established institutional policies and practices.

Example 1.	ALO Award	Applicant Institution Cost Share
Partnership Director: 10% time x \$75,000/yr.		\$7,500
Partnership Coordinator: 20% time x \$60,000/yr.	\$12,000	
Administrative Assistant: 50% time x 4 wks x 40 hrs./wk x \$10/hr. = \$800		\$800

Example 2.	ALO Award	Applicant Institution Cost Share
The Partnership Director will spend 10% time during the academic year and one month each in summer 200X and summer 200Y based on a 9-month salary of \$75,000/yr.		\$7,500
Calculation: $\$75,000/9 = \$8,333$. $\$8,333 \times 2 = \$16,666$.	\$16,666	

2. Fringe Benefits (Line II). Fringe benefits may include established institutional contributions for social security, employee insurance, pension plans, etc. Only those benefits that are not included in the institution's indirect cost pool may be considered direct costs. Fringe benefits are calculated on the basis of a certain percentage of annual salary. Where more than one fringe benefit rate is used, include each as appropriate.

Example:	Applicant Institution Cost Share
Partnership Director: 25% x \$75,000/yr.	\$18,750

3. Travel (Line III). In compliance with the "Fly America Act" (<http://www.tvlin.com/resources/FlyAct.html>), all international air travel rates must be based on the use of U.S.-registered carriers and/or international carriers "code-shared" with U.S. carriers when available. In the latter instance, travelers must have tickets issued by a registered U.S. carrier.

Provide the actual calculations for each trip (domestic and international) by specifying the trip origin, trip destination(s), the number of individuals traveling, the length of the trip in days, and the per diem for each of the destination(s). For international travel per diems, refer to: <http://www.state.gov/m/a/als/prdm>. For domestic travel per diems, refer to: <http://policyworks.gov/org/main/mt/homepage/mtt/perdiem/travel.shtml>.

Example:

ALO
Award
\$3,322.50

The partnership director and coordinator will make an initial visit to the Mexican partner institution in Year 1. All rates are calculated using U.S. carriers and per diem according to the most recent U.S. Department of State rates for foreign travel.

Travel from City of Origin to Final Destination:

Transportation: 2 travelers x \$600 (round-trip on Airline Name) = \$1,200

Lodging, Meals and Incidental Expenses (M&IE): 2 travelers x 10 days x \$100/day

(no more than the maximum per diem for Destination City) = \$2,000

Ground transportation: From (place of origin) to airport (city of origin),

2 travelers x 30 mile roundtrip @ .37.5/mile = \$22.50

From airport (destination city) to hotel, 2 travelers by taxi = \$100

Total = \$3,322.50

N.B. Applicants must budget for attendance at ALO's annual 2½ day conference in Washington, D.C. or Mexico for each year during the award period. Partnerships are expected to send representatives from the U.S. and Mexican institutions. A maximum of two partnership representatives may be funded with ALO award monies to attend the conference each year (Additional partnership personnel may attend, subject to approval by ALO, if they are funded by other sources).

4. Equipment (Line IV). Permanent equipment is defined as non-expendable personal property with a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. ALO discourages the use of award monies for equipment-related costs. In-kind equipment contributions, however, are appropriate and encouraged.

5. Supplies (Line V). Supplies include consumable supplies, materials to be used by the partners and items of expendable equipment; i.e., items costing less than \$5,000 and with an estimated useful life of less than one year. The detailed budget narrative must list the types of supplies with accompanying approximate total costs and indicate the approximate cost per unit, where applicable.

Example:

Paper, notebooks, pencils, pens, and magic markers: \$80

20 books x \$5/book = \$100

Total: \$180

N.B. Supplies consumed by the partnering Mexican institution under a subaward from their partner U.S. institution should appear under Other Direct Costs (below).

6. Other Direct Costs (Line VI). All ALO award monies to be expended by cooperating institution(s), under a subaward, must be itemized and explained in this section.

a) Give the cost of all training activities for Mexicans including instruction, participant and travel costs per person and per activity. Indicate costs charged to the ALO award (USAID) and cost share by the applicant institution and other partners. This information is required to process individuals in the USAID Training, Results and Information Network (TraiNet).

b) Stipends for any individuals not employed by the applicant institution should be listed in this section.

Example 1:

Dr. X will be the outside evaluator. He will spend 3 days during each of two years on the partnership. His established fee is \$400/day x 3 days/year x 3 years.

ALO Award: \$3,600

c) The cost of photocopying and printing, long-distance phone calls, equipment rental, postage, and other services related to partnership activities, which are not included under other budget categories or under indirect costs should be included in this category.

Example 2:

Telephone: long-distance \$25/month x 18 months

ALO Award: \$450

7. Total Direct Costs (Line VII). Provide accurate calculation of total for Direct Costs. Total Direct Costs are calculated by adding lines I through IV (Personnel + Fringe Benefits + Travel + Equipment + Supplies + Other Direct Costs = Total Direct Costs)

8. Indirect Costs (Line VIII). Indirect costs are calculated by applying a federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate (NICRA) to a distribution base (usually some or all of the direct costs of the partnership; e.g., salaries plus fringe benefits). The budget narrative must state the applicant institution’s NICRA and that of other collaborating U.S. institutions.

Example:

Applicant Institution
Cost Share

The Applicant Institution’s current federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate (NICRA) is 26 % of salaries and fringe benefits.

Calculation: 26% of \$60,000 = \$15,600

\$15,600

9. Totals (Line IX). Provide accurate calculation of Totals. Totals are calculated by adding Direct and Indirect Costs (Lines VII and VIII).

N.B. Cost sharing by the applicant institution should be clearly stated in the budget as the applicant’s contribution. Preference is given to applicants proposing to waive or substantially cost share indirect costs in order to utilize the highest possible proportion of award monies for direct partnership costs.

Upon completing the budget, applicants should double-check to ensure that the figures in the budget and narrative are consistent, are correct, and that all costs included in the application conform to established institutional policies and practices before the application is submitted to ALO.

2005 Special Request for Applications
U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Summary Budget
Totals for Years 1-3

Please refer to the electronic version of this form and budget forms for Years 1 through 3 (in Excel) on the ALO Web site www.aascu.org/alo.

Mth/Yr to Mth/Yr	ALO Award	Applicant Institution Cost-Share	Cooperating Institution Cost-Share	Other Cost-Share	Total
I. Personnel	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
II. Fringe Benefits	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
III. Travel	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
IV. Equipment*	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
V. Supplies	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
VI. Other Direct Costs**	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
VII. Total Direct Costs (= I+...+VI)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
VIII. Indirect Costs***	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
IX. Totals (=VII+VIII)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

* Institutions are discouraged from requesting award monies for equipment.

**Amounts budgeted for training, which include instruction, participant and travel costs, should be itemized in the budget narrative under Other Direct Costs. These costs should be indicated as unit costs per participant as well as totals.

*** Institutions are encouraged to contribute indirect costs as part of their cost sharing.

2005 Special Request for Applications
U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Annual Budgets
(A separate form is required for each twelve-month period for Years 1, 2 and 3)

Please refer to the electronic version of this form (in Excel) on the ALO Web site www.aascu.org/alo.

Mth/Yr to Mth/Yr	ALO Award	Applicant Institution Cost Share	Cooperating Institution Cost Share	Other Cost Share	Total
I. Personnel	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
II. Fringe Benefits	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
III. Travel	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
IV. Equipment*	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
V. Supplies	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
VI. Other Direct Costs**	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
VII. Total Direct Costs (= I+...+VI)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
VIII. Indirect Costs***	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
IX. Totals (=VII+VIII)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

* Institutions are discouraged from requesting award monies for equipment.

**Amounts budgeted for training, which include instruction, participant, and travel costs, should be itemized in the budget narrative under Other Direct Costs. These costs should be indicated as unit costs per participant as well as totals.

*** Institutions are encouraged to contribute indirect costs as part of their cost sharing.

Proposed Scholarships †

2005 Special Request for Applications U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Proposed Scholarships*†	Yes	No	Number	Estimated Cost from USAID/ALO per Individual	Proposed Cost share per Individual	Estimated Total Cost
1. Master's degree training in the United States for Mexicans, resulting in degrees*						
2. Master's degree training in the United States for Mexicans <i>not</i> resulting in degrees*						
3. Master's degree training in Mexico for Mexicans with U.S. faculty or via distance education resulting in degrees*						
4. Master's degree training in Mexico for Mexicans with U.S. faculty or via distance education <i>not</i> resulting in degrees*						
5. Dual degree programs for Mexicans with training in the United States and/or Mexico*						
6. Specialty training and sabbaticals for Mexican faculty*						

* Indicates program components in which graduate scholarships of two academic semesters can be proposed to count toward the total number of scholarships (at least ten) supported. One individual who studies four (4) academic semesters would count as two (2) scholarships.

† Proposed components of the partnership must be explained fully in the Schedule of Planned Activities.

Other Partnership Components Chart†

2005 Special Request for Applications U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Other Partnership Components†	Yes	No	Number	Estimated Cost from USAID/ALO per Individual	Proposed Cost Share per Individual	Estimated Total Cost
1. Short-term training (workshops, seminars, professional training) in Mexico for Mexicans						
2. Short-term training (workshops, seminars, professional training) in the United States for Mexicans						
3. Internships in the private and public sectors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), or research institutions in the United States for Mexicans						
4. Internships in the private and public sectors, NGOs, or research institutions in Mexico for Mexicans						
5. Faculty exchange (Mexican faculty to the United States)						
6. Faculty Exchange (U.S. faculty to Mexico)						
7. Student exchange (Mexican student to the United States)						
8. Student exchange (U.S. student to Mexico)				No USAID/ALO funds may be used		
9. Joint faculty research						
10. Student research				USAID/ALO support for Mexican nationals only		
11. Collaborative Community-Level Outreach						
12. Innovative Use of Technology and Distance Education						
13. Public and Private Collaboration (including foundations)						
14. Coordination, Technical meetings, and Observation Trips in the United States						
15. Coordination, Technical meetings, and Observation Trips in Mexico						
16. Publications and media events						

†Proposed components of the partnership must be explained fully on the Schedule of Planned Activities.

Schedule of Planned Activities by Year

(Add sheets for each year)

2005 Special Request for Applications

U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Year ___ of ___

Time Frame <i>(Start & End Dates)</i>	Planned Activity	Anticipated Development Outcomes

Application Checklist

2005 Special Request for Applications U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships (TIES) Partnership Initiative

Please use this checklist to ensure completeness of the application:

- ___ **Title Page** (ALO form with all required signatures)
- ___ **Table of Contents**
- ___ **Abstract** (3 pages typed double-spaced, 12-point font)
- ___ **Narrative** (20 pages typed—excluding appendices—double-spaced, one-sided, 12-point font)
- ___ **Appendices** (*Attachments beyond the appendices below will not be read or taken into consideration.*)
 - ___ **Schedule of Planned Activities**
 - ___ **Summary Budget and Three Annual Budgets** (4 ALO forms in total)
 - ___ **Budget Narrative with explanation of costs**
 - ___ **Proposed Scholarships**
 - ___ **Other Partnership Components Chart**
 - ___ **Schedule of Planned Activities**
 - ___ **Résumés** (not to exceed 2 pages per person)
 - ___ **Signed Letters of Support**
 - ___ **Signed Letter from Official at Applicant Institution**

Send the original application plus seven (7) hard copies of the complete application package containing title page, table of contents, abstract, narrative and appendices (all on loose-leaf paper, clipped together — no three-ring binders, staples, or plastic bindings), and a diskette or CD (Microsoft Word/Excel for PCs) containing the abstract and entire application, including all budget forms, budget narrative, and other appendices to:

U.S.-Mexico Training, Internships, Exchanges, and Scholarships Initiative

Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development
1307 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20005-4701

Deadline: Receipt at ALO by 5:00 p.m. (EDT), April 15, 2005

Faxed and electronic applications will not be accepted.

Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (ALO)
1307 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20005
Phone: (202) 478-4700; Fax: (202) 478-4715
E-mail: alo@aascu.org Web site: www.aascu.org/alo