



Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados
del Instituto Politécnico Nacional
Cinvestav - Unidad Mérida
Departamento de Ecología Humana

Call for Applications Researcher Position

January 9, 2025

The Department of Human Ecology at the Mérida Unit of Cinvestav is inviting applications for one researcher position.

Cinvestav, founded in 1961, is a leading research institution in Mexico and ranks among the top 100 research institutions worldwide. Cinvestav has nine units, including the Mérida Unit, which was established in 1980. The Mérida Unit is dedicated to cutting-edge scientific and technological research, as well as to the training of human resources at the postgraduate level (<https://portal.cinvestav.mx/merida>).

The Department of Human Ecology stands out in Mexico for its emphasis on the society-nature relationship through diverse viewpoints. Our research fields include human health, social organization, community dynamics, traditional knowledge and practices, and ecosystem processes. We focus on socio-environmental challenges and their solutions, prioritizing social and gender equity, health, and sustainability.

We offer master's and doctoral degrees in Human Ecology, recognized within the National Postgraduate System of Conahcyt. Our team is composed of 12 researchers with expertise in various fields, such as human biology, nutrition, epidemiology, social and psychological anthropology, child anthropology, ecology, community tourism, geoeidemiology, mathematical modeling, toxicology, medical entomology, parasitology, microbiology, molecular biology, coastal anthropology, cultural anthropology, ethnology, agroecology, socio-environmental impacts, public policy, and justice. While the focus is broad, the priority research areas for this call include Agroecology, Global Climate Change, Historical Ecology, Computational Sociology, Socioecological Processes and Sustainability, Human Health, and the Conservation of Biocultural Landscapes. We are looking for researchers with academic backgrounds who firmly commit to developing a research program centered on the relationship between society and nature.

Requirements

Academic Degree:

- PhD in a discipline relevant to research.

Research Experience:

- Demonstrated expertise in scientific research.
- Published works in indexed journals.
- Involvement in prior research projects and practical applications in social settings.
- Familiarity with qualitative and/or quantitative research methodologies, as applicable.

Technical Competencies:

- Expertise in the research domain.
- Familiarity with various field-specific tools and techniques.
- Skill in utilizing data analysis tools.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving abilities skills.

Collaboration and Networks:

- Collaborate with fellow researchers and engage in multidisciplinary teams to tackle complex issues.
- Participate in conferences and academic networks.

Practical Application:

- Ability to convert research into actionable insights or policy changes.
- Link to the societal effects of research.

Funding and Grants:

- Expertise in securing research funding and grants.
- Project coordination skills.

Human Resources Training:

- Proven expertise in human resources training by instructing courses and overseeing postgraduate study theses.

Important Dates

- Opening of the call: January 9, 2025
- Closing of the call: February 21, 2025

Application Procedure:

Candidates are requested to email Dr. Carlos Ibarra Cerdeña, Head of the Department of Human Ecology (cibarra@cinvestav.mx), with the following details bundled in a single PDF file:

- Degree titles (Bachelor's [mandatory], Master's [optional], and Doctorate [mandatory]).
- A cover letter clearly stating the reasons for their application.
- A work plan (maximum 15 pages) including a research proposal, proposed courses to teach, and a brief description of how the work plan would enrich current research lines, identifying areas of interaction with other researchers in the Department (consult <https://portal.cinvestav.mx/merida/ecologia-humana/conocimiento/directorio-de-investigacion>).
- Curriculum vitae.
- A brief description of the main achievements in research and teaching (two pages).

- A list of three academics willing to provide a reference letter for the applicant (name, institution, and contact information).

Applicants will receive an email confirming that their documentation was received correctly. Some may later be contacted via email to schedule an interview or seminar, either virtually or in-person. Ultimately, candidates will be informed of the selection process results in April 2025.

Notes:

- For applicants whose first language is not Spanish, proof of proficiency at a minimum of B2 level according to The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is required.
- The initial contract duration is one year. Following that, contract extensions may be provided every four years based on academic assessments and in line with institutional policies.
- The hiring request for the selected candidate is made through a proposal by the College of Professors of the DEH to the General Directorate of Cinvestav and is subject to budgetary constraints.
- For inquiries regarding the position, application, evaluation process, or eligibility criteria, don't hesitate to contact Dr. Carlos Ibarra Cerdeña.
- The decision made will be final and cannot be contested.

Cinvestav provides an attractive salary. The income will vary based on the academic category, determined by the criteria set by the Promotion and Incentives Commission for Cinvestav Researchers (COPEI) and the current tabulator at Cinvestav.