



U.S. - Mexico At a Glance

Education

February 2009

Three members of the Mexican Cabinet are former Fulbright scholars, as is the current Mexican Ambassador to the United States.

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Almost 15,000 Mexicans currently study in the U.S., most of them undergraduates and concentrated in Texas and other border states. Up to 9,500 Americans study in Mexico. Mexico has maintained its position as the seventh receiving country of U.S. students.

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To date, USAID has granted over 1,000 scholarships under its TIES (Training, Internships, Exchanges and Scholarships) program.

The Mexico-U.S. Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange (COMEXUS) oversees the **Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholarship Program**. Established by a bilateral treaty in 1990, "Fulbright-Garcia Robles" is the flagship program in U.S.-Mexico academic exchanges. Both countries directly contribute a combined total of over \$3.5 million a year to the program. In 2008, over 300 Mexicans and Americans participated in COMEXUS exchange programs at leading Mexican and American universities.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) supports the **Training, Internships, Exchanges and Scholarships (TIES)** program to promote partnerships and linkages between U.S. and Mexican universities to address development issues, such as access to micro-finance, watershed management and border health. Currently there are 64 university partnerships in the TIES program. USAID also funds one- and two-year technical training programs in the U.S. for disadvantaged rural indigenous teachers and for Mexican youth, respectively. Teachers and youth return to their communities to implement skills gained and lead community projects

The U.S. State Department provides funding for the Institute of **International Education (IIE)** to administer 13 EducationUSA advising centers that provide guidance to students throughout Mexico for greater access to tertiary education in the United States. IIE also administers 7 outreach offices which focus on advising to indigenous and marginalized communities as well as the Regional Educational Advising Coordinator which supports EducationUSA centers in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. IIE offers exams, hosts an internship program and manages scholarships on behalf of public and private donors. Nearly 15,000 Mexican students are enrolled in higher education institutions in the United States.

An **Office of English Language Programs** of the U.S. State Department, based in Mexico City, provides extensive training programs in English language teaching to Mexican teacher trainers and classroom teachers at all educational levels - primary, secondary and tertiary - throughout Mexico. The program focuses on training Mexican English teachers in public school systems. The Regional English Language Officer (RELO) serves six countries in Central America in addition to Mexico: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama.



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