

EDUCATION IN COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is a thriving country where a highly capable and competitive workforce can be found; thanks to the vision its authorities placed on education and the welfare of its citizens.



PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES VS PUBLIC STATE UNIVERSITIES

105,000 — students enrolled — 102,000

45,000 — yearly graduates — 15,000

32 — number of universities — 5 (With multiple campuses)

4,000 graduate from an engineering program annually

TOP 3

PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

FOUNDED IN 1964



Offers courses and programs leading to officially recognized higher education degrees such as pre-bachelor's degrees, bachelor's degrees and master's degrees in several areas of study.

This institution also has branch campuses in Managua, Nicaragua.

FOUNDED IN 1940



Largest state university in the country.

Offers a wide range of academic programs and has more than 40,000 students in its seven campuses that are located throughout the country.

Annual graduates is approximately 6,000 students.

FOUNDED IN 1990



Offers courses and programs leading to officially recognized higher education degrees such as bachelor's degrees in several areas of study.

This institution also has branch campuses in Liberia, Guanacaste.

FOUNDED IN 1973



Considered one of the best universities in the country.

Seven locations throughout the country, with its main campus located in Heredia.

FOUNDED IN 1989



Offers courses and programs leading to officially recognized higher education degrees (i.e. certificates, diplomas, associate's or foundation degrees), bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and doctoral degrees in several areas of study.

This institution also has branch campuses in Heredia, Santa Cruz, Pérez Zeledón, Grecia and Cañas.

FOUNDED IN 1971



Dedicated to the research and development of technology and related sciences.

Main campus in Cartago enrolls 5,000 new students every year.

HISTORY

1948

The Costa Rican Army is abolished after a civil war.

1957

A new Army of teachers is formed, armed with books. An example is set of solidarity, education and welfare. Universal and required primary education achieves this goal.

1960 – 1970

Advances in the creation, consolidation and diversification of state higher education are realized.

2018

Two state and one private university are considered among the very best universities in Central America and Mexico.

Other schools hold privileged places within the world rankings.

1949

A new model of State begins. This includes:

- Social & Labor Guarantees
- Solidarity Health Plans
- Human Rights
- Education

1990

Expansion of private universities begins.

PERCENTAGES & NUMBERS

55%

of university students are women

23-26

Age most students graduate from public universities

42%

of private university students are 25 years or older

22%

of graduates in technology & engineering are women



75%

of university students come from urban areas



48.5%

of Costa Ricans between the ages of 18-25 were enrolled in a higher education program in 2017

25%

of Costa Ricans have a university degree

A LEADER IN TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE

The commitment to education has paid off through the attraction of medical and technological companies looking to Costa Rica as a destination with a skilled and eager talent selection.

Contact us to learn more about nearshore development and the Costa Rican Talent Pool.

THE PREMIER NEARSHORE DESTINATION



On top of the stable political and economic environment, a central location and an oasis of natural beauty, Costa Rica also has incredible talent to offer.



With an annual 4,000 new graduates going on to engineering and technology careers.



Costa Rica is beginning to position itself as an attractive technological development destination for clients from around the world.