Universidad Icesi

Icesi is a private university that was founded in 1979 by local business leaders, who have since contributed significantly to Icesi’s initiatives by providing financial, institutional, and networking support.

Since its founding, our University has been systematic in pursuing its mission: The pursuit of learning, discovery, and knowledge and taking action to create a better world. For this purpose, Icesi has developed innovative academic programs and has encouraged students to search for knowledge through the “Active Learning” method, in order to produce better, well-prepared professionals. Our students have the knowledge and competencies necessary to stand out professionally in their disciplines.

Icesi is recognized as one of the most important and renowned universities in Colombia due to its rigorous academic standards and its wide and diverse range of undergraduate and graduate programs.

Over the past years, our University has generated new academic possibilities for students, including a wide variety of majors, and has opened its doors to partner universities around the world through exchange programs.

Our Vision

In 2022, Icesi University will be recognized by the Colombian society, national organizations, and international academic peers for the excellent education of its alumni, the increasing visibility of its research, and the positive impact of its interaction with the region and the country.

• 26 undergraduate programs, 23 masters programs, 17 medical specialties, and 1 doctorate program
• 6,091 students enrolled: 5,685 in undergraduate programs and 1216 in graduate programs
• 24 departments with 210 faculty members, 65.71% of them have Ph.D. or are pursuing doctoral degrees
• More than 14,700 alumni
• 42.75% of the student population has scholarships
Why study in Colombia?

Colombia lies in a distinctive geograhical location and is one of the most dynamic countries in Latin America. It has two coastlines along the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea and is bordered on the east by Venezuela, on the southeast by Brazil, on the south by Peru, on the southwest by Ecuador, and on the northwest by Panama. Colombia has three mountain ranges, tropical and cloud rain forests, and vast savannas. Colombia is considered the second most biodiverse country in the world, due to its diverse ecosystems and varied climate. Our cultural richness, which is influenced by our ethnic diversity, includes different types of music, dance, food, and customs.

Colombia has signed free trade agreements with Mexico, Canada, the US, the Republic of Korea, Chile, Peru, and the European Union, which have opened windows to developing our economy. Additionally, globalization has allowed our country to explore many opportunities in education and research, which denotes challenges for Colombian universities.

Cali

Cali is located in Valle del Cauca. It is 100 kms from Buenaventura’s port on the Pacific coast. Cali is the second most important city in Colombia, after Bogota. Cali has one of the fastest growing economies and is also the principal urban, cultural, economic, and industrial center of southwestern Colombia. The city is a cultural salsa music mecca, which has helped the development of a cultural industries cluster. This has contributed to our service-oriented economy which attracts an important number of tourists. Cali offers a region full of nature, adventure, and entertainment. It is an ideal place to have a fully South American experience.
University Welfare

University welfare management provides extracurricular activities in the areas of culture, sports and recreation, human development, and social projects in order to foster activities directed towards the social, emotional, and physical development of the students, educators, and administrative staff connected with the University community. University welfare management reinforces students’ values and capabilities and seeks to achieve a well-rounded education.
Campus

The campus is located in the southern part of Cali. It has 12,010 square meters, most of them are sports and outdoor activities.

The University is composed of 17 buildings totaling 49,443 square feet that host classrooms, auditoriums, laboratories, a library, ITC rooms, faculty lounges, offices, cafeterias, and recreational areas.

The building for student activities has rooms for handcrafts, dance performances, musical rehearsals, yoga, and games, among others.

- Founded in 1979
- Non-profit institution
- Total faculty members: 816
  - Full-time faculty members: 210
    - 65.71% full-time faculty members have Ph.D. degrees (includes faculty currently in doctoral programs)
    - 31% full-time faculty members have a Master’s degree.
- Part-time faculty: 554
- Total enrollment: 6901
- Undergraduate students: 5685
- Graduate students: 1216
## School of Engineering
- Computer and Software Engineering (System Engineering)
- Computer and Communication Engineering (Telematic Engineering)
- Industrial Engineering
- Industrial Design
- Interactive Media Design
- Biochemical Engineering

## School of Law and Humanities
- Laws
- Anthropology
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Political Science with an emphasis in International Relations

## School of Health Sciences
- Medicine

## School of Business and Economic Studies
- Business Administration with Emphasis International Business - Daytime
- Economics and International Business
- Economics with emphasis in Public Policy
- Public Accounting and International Finance
- International Marketing and Advertising

## School of Natural Sciences
- Biology
- Chemistry with emphasis in Biochemistry
- Pharmaceutical Chemistry

## School of Education
- Bachelor of Education in Primary School
- Bachelor of Education in Teaching English as a Second Language
- Bachelor of Arts and Creative Technologies

## School of Administrative Sciences and Economics
**Doctorate**
- P.h.D. In Business Economics

**Masters in:**
- Business Administration, MBA, in cooperation with Tulane University, U.S.A.
- Marketing
- Finance
- Health Administration

(*) Research program

## School of Health Sciences
**Medical Specialties**
- Internal Medicine
- Pediatrics
- Rheumatology
- Hemato-Oncology
- Dermatology
- Cardiology
- Nefrology
- Psychiatry
- Cardiology Pediatrics
- Radiology
- Arthroscopy
- Abdominal Organs transplantation
- Liaison Psychiatry
- Gynecology and obstetrics
- Allergology
- Head and neck surgery
- Emergency medicine

## School of Law and Social Sciences
- Master in Law
- Master in Government
- Master in Psychosocial Intervention
- Master in Journalism
- Master in Social Management and Innovation
- Master in Social and Political Studies (*)

(*) Research program

## School of Natural Sciences
- Master in Biotechnology
- Master in Design of Chemical Products

(*) Research program

## School of Education
- Master of Education
- Master in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language

## Specializations:
- Specializing in environmental management
- Specialization in quality for competitiveness

Specializations:
- Commercial law
- Labor law and social security
- Labor and Social Security Legislation (not lawyers)
- Tax legislation (not lawyers)

Specializations:
- Public Law
- Business law
- Procedural law
- Criminal law
- Judicial law
- Tax law
- Specialization in Law (not lawyers)
• Master in Law
• Master in Government
• Master in Psychosocial Intervention
• Master in Journalism
• Master in Social Management and Innovation
• Master in Social and Political Studies (*)

(*) Research program
Internationalization

To develop a global perspective, the University offers undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to participate in study-abroad programs, academic trips, double degree programs, international internships, international scholarships language courses abroad, and offers financial-aid to study abroad. Also, it encourages faculty international mobility.

Master’s degree students have the opportunity for international experiences in Peru, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Spain, France, and the United States.

At Icesi, students can enroll in courses with international approaches and have the opportunity to learn different languages, such as English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Mandarin Chinese, and German, among others. Additionally, our undergraduate students participate in International Week, which is organized every year to broaden students’ global perspectives by dedicating a week to studying the socio-economic and cultural perspectives of a given country.

The interest of international students in studying at Icesi has been growing considerably. We are very proud of this result given the low number of foreign students in Colombia.

The Office of International Relations at Icesi University undertakes actions that promote the mobility of Icesi University’s students towards other geographies, in order for them to reinforce their knowledge and interpretation of other cultures with a more global vision. In addition, this Office promotes the mobility of students from universities of the five continents, so that they can experience student life at Icesi University through a Latin American approach, both at undergraduate or graduate levels.

Our 830 international destinations

- Bilateral agreements: 84 universities from around the world.
- ASCUN Crepúq agreement: 11 universities in Canada (Quebec)
- HRK Consortium: 401 universities in Germany
- ISEP Consortium: 328 universities from around the world.
- CALDO (Consortium with University of Alberta, Université Laval, Dalhousie University and University of Ottawa) – CCYK (Colombia Challenge your Knowledge): 9 universities

- More than 1550 of our alumni in undergraduate programs and more than 690 of our alumni in graduate programs have participated in international experiences in countries like the United States, Russia, France, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Japan, South Korea, China, Panama, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, and Peru, among others.

- 150 international students have come to Icesi.
Strategic Alliances

Fundación Valle del Lili
Fundación Valle del Lili is a non-profit institution; it is one of the most important hospitals in the region due to its infrastructure, human resources, and advanced technologies. In 2007, Fundación Valle del Lili was granted the ICONTEC recognition “Health Accreditation” which ranked the institution among the 13 best hospitals with the highest standards of quality in Colombia. The alliance with Icesi, offered since 2009, guaranties the academic excellence of our Medical program students.

Tulane University
Tulane University is one of the leading private research institutions in the United States, accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctoral degrees. The A.B. Freeman School of Business of Tulane University was founded in 1914 by a group of New Orleans business people dedicated to the advancement of management education.

Icesi and the A.B. Freeman School have had an alliance since 1999, which offers our students the opportunity to do a double MBA degree program. At Tulane University our students can participate in courses, visit companies, and attend lectures on different topics. Also, our students gain international experience in the second year of the MBA when they visit the Institut Catholique de Paris (Paris, France) and the Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences - GUCAS (Beijing, China).

International Center of Training and Medical Researches - CIDEIM
CIDEIM is a 50 year old non-governmental organization dedicated to developing basic and applied research and to educating human resources in the study of infectious diseases. Its mission is to reduce the impact of these diseases and to improve the quality of life of the people affected. CIDEIM has an international projection due to the support of the World Health Organization (OMS). In 2008, CIDEIM arrived at Universidad Icesi as part of a strategic alliance to support new Natural Sciences and Medical School programs.

A.B. Freeman School of Business is recognized as one of America’s leading business institutions, consistently ranked among the nation’s best by prestigious publications such as Business Week, Forbes, and U.S. News & World Report.
Research Groups

The Colombian National System for Research and Innovation COLCIENCIAS, monitors and assesses the intellectual production of Colombian researchers annually. Researchers are affiliated with research groups, and COLCIENCIAS classifies this groups according to their intellectual contributions.

School of Business and Economic Studies
• Economics, Public Policy, and Quantitative Methods
• Competitiveness and Marketing in Organizations
• Investment, Financing, and Control

School of Engineering
• I2T - Group of Informatics and Telecommunications
• Leonardo
• iCUBO

School of Law and Social Sciences
• Nexus
• Precedente

Entrepreneurship Development Center - CDEE
• Entrepreneurship

School of Health Sciences
• Biomedical Research

School of Natural Sciences
• Natura

CREA
• Learning and Teaching Resources Center

12 research groups working in 86 research lines in different disciplines through more than 160 research projects.
Accreditations, Certifications and Recognitions

Icesi continuously improves the quality of its institutional processes and has achieved recognition through national and international accreditation and certification.

Icesi has a commitment to quality and excellence in teaching. Evidence of this includes the fact that our University and all our eligible undergraduate programs are accredited by the Ministry of Education’s National Board of Accreditation (CNA).

The School of Business and Economic Studies has attained important accreditations. In 2014, the MBA program was re-accredited by AMBA, for five years, and in 2014, the school was accredited by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business-AACSB. This accreditation is awarded to the best schools in the world and only two schools in Colombia have this honorable distinction.

Additionally, our University has an Executive Education and Consultancy Center, which has the ISO-9001:2008 quality certification obtained in 2008 and endorsed by IQNet.

The Entrepreneurship Development Center (CDEE), founded in 1985, not only teaches entrepreneurship and business plan courses but also provides free advice to start ups. This center was granted the award for “Best Entrepreneurship Educational Program outside the USA” from the US Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) in 2010.

Our Learning Model

Icesi has been characterized by its promotion of academic excellence. This correlates with our own active learning philosophy, a proprietary methodology which we have been developing and applying for two decades and which has been replicated by several partnering and competing institutions in Colombia.

The distinctive feature of Icesi is its instructional model. We call it “The Active Learning Model.” In our model of learning, the student is responsible for his/her own learning and the instructor is a facilitator who guides the learning process and instills intellectual curiosity.

Icesi’s average class size is 21 students

The University’s Active Learning Model fosters a significant student-faculty interaction. According to our institutional education project, our students’ learning experience benefits from smaller groups where competencies such as self-learning skills, critical thinking, leadership and teamwork, ethics and social responsibility, and problem solving are highlighted.

Culture of Scholarship

As stated in our Mission, research is a key part of the University’s daily life. “The pursuit of learning, discovery and knowledge” can only be reached through an active research agenda. Therefore, research activities are a core part of faculty life. This is the result of a continuous improvement effort to nurse a research environment in which all kinds of intellectual contributions are supported and encouraged.

Placement Achievements

91% of alumni are employed or create their own business, one year after their graduation.

The Professional Development Center (CEDEP) trains, guides, helps, and coaches undergraduate students getting their internships. CEDEP strengthens students’ self-knowledge and helps them with their transition to the job market.

CEDEP has a program that assists the placing of first year alumni and offers a job placement service.

68% faculty members have Ph.D. degrees or are currently studying in a doctoral program.

Our University has adopted policies, strategies, and procedures to encourage and coordinate research activities and to enforce its institutional support of faculty research. Given the increasing amount of faculty members with Ph.D degrees, Icesi provides incentives to faculty to improve, in number and quality, intellectual contributions.
The University has established support centers to foster research activities which facilitate intellectual production, networking, and faculty mobility. The following are our University centers:

**School of Business and Economic Studies**

**Foreign Trade Consultation Office-Icecomex:** Provides pro-bono advice to local SMEs in trade processes.
- www.icesi.edu.co/icecomex

**Research Center in Economics and Finance - CIENFI:** In charge of research projects with external funding and consulting activities for NGOs, private companies, or the subnational or national government.
- www.icesi.edu.co/cienfi

**Public Policy Observatory - Polis:** Created as an academic unit of the School. Polis is an academic center where faculty, policy makers, mass media, and citizens come together to discuss and evaluate public actions and policies.
- www.icesi.edu.co/polis

**Center for Corporate Governance Studies - CIGO:** Develops research projects for the identification of existing problems in Colombia that are associated with the lack of a culture that respects stockholders’ rights. The center also aims to propose solutions to improve transparency and fair treatment to all individuals working in companies.
- www.icesi.edu.co/cigo

**Accounting and Finance Consulting - CENSEA:** Helps small businesses with accounting and financial topics.
- www.icesi.edu.co/censea

**Globalization Observatory:** Discusses issues concerning world events regarding globalization.
- E-mail: lcmanfredi@icesi.edu.co

**Stock Exchange Point:** A place of information in real time and a financial lab.
- www.icesi.edu.co/departamentos/finanzas_contabilidad/pbvc.php

**School of Law and Social Sciences**

**Intervention and Social Responsibility Observatory - OIR:** Dedicated to informing, analyzing, and reporting on the status of Contemporary Social Intervention in the city of Cali and the region.
- www.icesi.edu.co/observatorio_intervencion_social

**Interdisciplinary Studies, Legal, Social, and Humanist - CIES:** Seeks to consolidate interdisciplinary research work on legal and social subjects that contribute understanding and solving issues on regional and national levels.
- www.icesi.edu.co/cies

**Icesi’s Group of Public Actions - GAPI:** Makes visible the problems of violation of collective rights and the social, economic, and cultural rights of the citizens of Cali and promote viable and relevant solutions through the use of legal resources.
- www.icesi.edu.co/grupo_acciones_publicas_icesi

**Legal Consulting and Mediation Center:** Serves as practice for law students who provide free legal assistance to the community, mainly to persons of low income.
- www.icesi.edu.co/consultorio_juridico/

**Transnational Processes Laboratory:** Created as an academic space dedicated to the study of different transnational dynamics that occur nowadays in the world from the perspective of the Colombian case.
- www.icesi.edu.co/facultad_derecho_ciencias_social es/laboratorioprocesostransnacionales.php

**Ethnographic Laboratory:** Provides a space for training in the field of ethnography and to strengthen students’ research training in the Anthropology undergraduate program.
- www.icesi.edu.co/blogs/cultura
Research Center for Congenital Anomalies and Rare Diseases - CIACER: Conducts research on rare diseases and congenital anomalies faced by the people of south-western Colombia.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/ciacer

Emergency Training Center and Medical Emergencies: Trains the community about effective CPR to reduce mortality and neurological effects associated with cardiac arrest.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/centro_entrenamiento_internacional

Research Center for Social and Health Economics-PROESA: An independent non-profit corporation created for conducting research, disseminating knowledge, and providing impartial and objective guidance for policy design in social protection and health economics.
  • www.proesa.org.co/proesa

Entrepreneurship Development Center - CDEE: Provides free advice to new entrepreneurs.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/cdee

Alaya’s Center: Contributes to improving the productivity and competitiveness of small businesses in their areas of influence through mentoring programs and specialized training.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/cdee/centro_alaya/centro_alaya.php

Cultural Industries Center: Created as a multidisciplinary center for studying the cultural industry in Cali, formulating public policy for the sector, and providing continuous education to the sector.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/cdee/cic

Professional Development Center - CEDEP: Guides students in choosing and pursuing their career paths. The CEDEP is a bridge between the needs of organizations and students.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/cedep

Consulting and Continuing Education: Offers training and consulting to the corporate sector in which professionals from different disciplines can develop multiple skills.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/educacion_continua

School of Health Sciences

School of Education

Learning and Teaching Resources Center - CREA: Supports the efforts of academic departments to deliver instruction by appropriately qualified faculty and guides the School’s efforts to define appropriate sets of activities for participating faculty.
  • www.icesi.edu.co/crea

Writing Center
Develop in students skills of analysis, synthesis, problem solving and critical thinking.
  • http://www.icesi.edu.co/crea/cursos_e_programas_de_escritura