

Institutional Overview

The National Interuniversity Board (CIN, by its Spanish acronym) was created by a Decree Law passed by Argentine President, Dr. Raúl Alfonsín, on December 20, 1985. The Board is a non-state controlled entity under public law mainly supported by the contributions of its members.

For the first ten years the CIN was exclusively formed by those National Universities that willingly decided to be part of it pursuant to their autonomy and, thus, adhered to the board as a coordinating body for university policies. As of the enactment of the Higher Education Act in 1995, University Institutes and Provincial Universities recognized by the Nation have been incorporated.

The CIN is in charge of proposing and coordinating policies for the development of Argentine Universities and of promoting activities for the higher education system. In addition, it is a compulsory consultation body in case of major decisions for the university system.

Together with the Board of Private University Presidents (CRUP, by its Spanish acronym) and representatives of the Regional Planning Boards for Higher Education (CPRES, by its Spanish acronym), the CIN is part of the Board of Universities presided by the Minister of Education of the Nation.

The functions of the CIN are:

- a.** To propose and coordinate common policies for the university institutions that form part of it.
- b.** To define and coordinate plans and activities in academic fields, scientific research, extension and outreach, and management among universities.
- c.** To coordinate the policies of member institutions with different educational levels and jurisdictions and with scientific and technical research and cultural bodies.
- d.** To form part of interuniversity coordination regional bodies.
- e.** To express well-founded opinions with regard to any project for the creation or closing of national university institutions.
- f.** To create and support self-assessment and external assessment for its members.
- g.** To coordinate, ensure compatibility, and establish proposals on the validity of full and partial programs of studies as well as on the degrees thereof.
- h.** To propose and promote a scholarship policy for professors and students that allows for actual implementation of policies for equal opportunities.
- i.** To promote common research programs, both national and regional.
- j.** To analyze the problems of general and higher education in Argentina and to present proposals to public powers.
- k.** To analyze the problems of general and higher education in the world, especially in Latin America, and to present proposals for academic exchange and integration.
- l.** To establish, increase, and coordinate relations of any kind with other public and private, national or foreign institutions that may grant financing lines, contributions or donations of funds or supplies and technical support for the execution of programs, projects and activities in the areas of science, technology, culture, and sports.
- m.** To report its activities to the whole national education system.
- n.** To cooperate, assist, and advice in the activities and undertakings of each of its members when required.

o. To act as a consultant body in the topics and matters submitted for advice and to participate at the Board of Universities pursuant to the provisions set forth under the Higher Education Act (Statute Section 2) Functions

As a member of the Board of Universities, the CIN carries out the following actions:

- a.** Decides, together with the Federal Board of Education, all criteria and guidelines to coordinate with other educational levels.
- b.** Participates in the Consulting Board of the Teacher Training Institute.
- c.** Determines which first degree university careers shall be subject to accreditation, the minimum number of hours for their curricula, the basic curricular contents and criteria on the intensity of practical training, and the patterns and standards for accreditation processes.

The CIN government bodies are:

- a.** The Plenary.
- b.** The Executive Committee.
- c.** The President.
- d.** The Vice-President.

The Plenary of University Presidents meets twice a year, in March and September, in ordinary sessions that take place at any CIN member University. In addition, when urgent or highly important matters arise, extraordinary sessions are held at the CIN headquarters located at the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

The Executive Committee is formed by ten members: the President and Vice-President of the CIN and eight members of the Board. Among them CIN representatives for the Board of Universities are elected.

The General Director, the Executive Secretariat and the Financial Secretariat are the permanent bodies in charge of managing the activities carried out by CIN and the related budget.

Permanent Commissions

Permanent Commissions analyze all matters that the CIN will consider. Each member of the Executive Committee presides one of the Permanent Commissions, with the help of a coordinator. The coordinator is also a University President.

Commission presidents and coordinators are technically assisted by professionals specially hired as advisors, and within the framework of the commissions there are networks that institutionalize and coordinate the work of those responsible for the different areas of the University Institutions that are members of the CIN.