

Summer Scholars Program

To support student-assisted community responses to health-threatening conditions of poverty and other social determinants of health.



Program Overview

The UCLA Blum Center Summer Scholars Program is a unique opportunity for graduate students to work with Latin American universities, international institutions, governments, and community organizations that are improving the health and social conditions of low-income and vulnerable populations. UCLA faculty members and representatives from host organizations in Latin America provide mentorship for participating students.

Since our 2013 inaugural year, the UCLA Blum Center has placed 13 students in research positions throughout Los Angeles and Latin America. Summer Scholars represent a range of graduate programs including: Public Health, Political Science, Latin American Studies, Social Welfare, and Urban and Regional Planning. Past research projects have addressed diverse topics such as:

- Socioeconomic and political barriers for Peruvian recipients of reparations following the country's civil war
- Decision-making processes for seeking emergency and care options
- Delivery service strengthening for women who have experienced intimate partner violence
- Diagnosis and prevention of adverse birth outcomes

- Social determinants of sexual health and HIV/syphilis rapid tests
- Data collection to inform programs to prevent food-borne diseases
- Risk factors associated with development of liver disease

Past Partners and Sites

ORGANIZATION	LOCATION
St. John's Well-Child and Family Center	Los Angeles, CA
Salud Mesoamérica 2015 Initiative	Panama City, Panama
FNE International	Leon, Nicaragua
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua	Leon, Nicaragua
Institute for Mexican Social Security (IMSS)	Cuernavaca, Mexico
Pan American Health Organization	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Cayetano Heredia University	Lima, Peru
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)	Los Angeles, CA

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