

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO RÍO PIEDRAS CAMPUS

Graduate Student Handbook



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Introduction

Welcome to the University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras Campus! The Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research (DEGI, for its Spanish acronym) has elaborated this **Graduate Student Handbook** with the purpose of informing and guiding on the different standards and regulations governing graduate studies. You will also find valuable information about the services and assistance available to students so that you can benefit from them as you work toward your academic goals.

We wish you the best on your academic endeavors!



Message from the Dean

Dear graduate students,

We warmly welcome you to our Río Piedras Campus. It is with great pride that we welcome you as part of our graduate population; training to become professionals capable of critical thinking and with the ability to support arguments based on theory and research. For several years, our Campus has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation as a Doctoral University with High Research Activity, making us stand out in the country. And now, you are a part of this.

We have elaborated this Handbook as a guide on the regulations and the services available to you, thus allowing for a successful academic stay. In this handbook you will learn about the Institution's background, its mission and vision, as well as the graduate policy and other institutional regulations. In addition, you will find information on the different service units available to support your academic performance in an outstanding way. We know you will find the handbook very useful.

Congratulations, and thank you for being part of Puerto Rico's first educational center!

Ivelisse Acevedo Moreno, EdD
Assistant Dean of Graduate Student Affairs

Profile of the Río Piedras Campus Graduate

As stipulated in Academic Senate Certification No. 104, Academic Year 2016-2017.

Graduate's Profile

Graduates from the Río Piedras Campus' academic programs are capable of:

- Conduct research or projects with the aim of creating, offering solutions, or generating new knowledge.
- Critically evaluate knowledge from a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches.
- Exercise independent judgement and demonstrate creativity and initiative.
- Integrate theories, practical protocols, and ethical codes into their professional or research practice.
- Manage information in a critical, effective, and ethical manner.
- Incorporate technology into their professional or research practice.
- Effectively communicate the knowledge of their field or area of study.
- Engage in autonomous and continuous learning.
- Show commitment to the protection and enrichment of natural and cultural heritage.
- Demonstrate respect for human rights through actions that promote social inclusion and a commitment to diversity.
- Exhibit collaborative actions through multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary teamwork.
- Assume and promote leadership that contributes to individual and collective transformation.

Background of the Río Piedras Campus



History

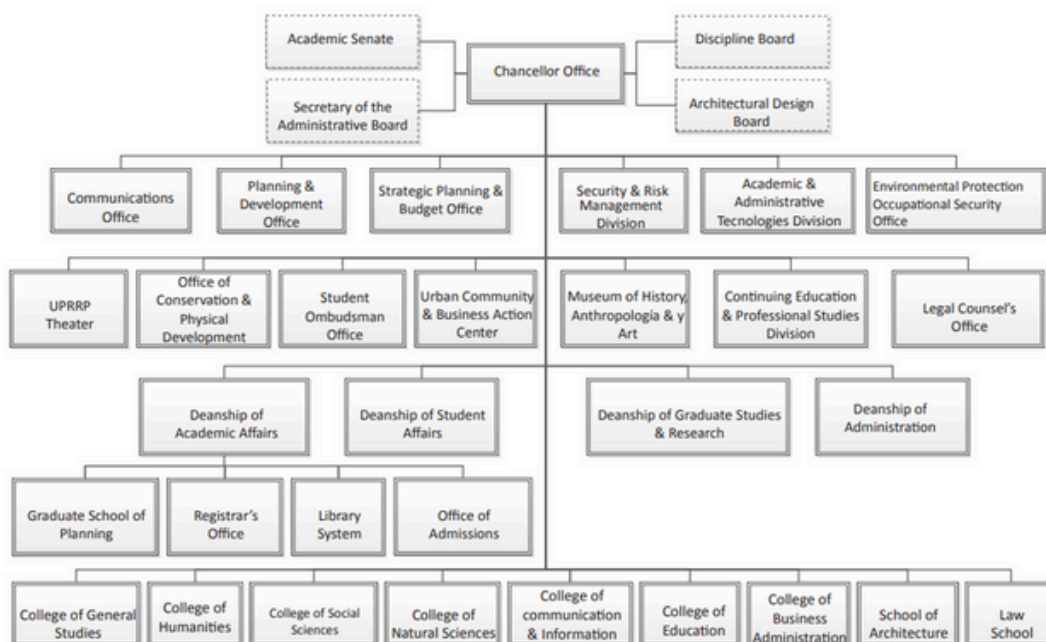
The Río Piedras Campus is the oldest and biggest university in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. Founded in 1903, the Campus stands out for its academic excellence, diverse academic offerings, and vibrant cultural and athletic activity.

It is the leading higher education center for research in Puerto Rico. It is home to sophisticated laboratories with exclusive instrumentation, important research centers, and it has a system of 30 libraries, most of them specialized. The Campus is the only institution on the Island certified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a Intensive Research Institution.

Our institution is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and by the Puerto Rico Council on Higher Education. We have over 25 accredited programs by professional agencies and organizations that oversee best educational practices.

To learn more about the history of our campus, [click here](#).

Organizational Chart of the Río Piedras Campus



Mission of the Río Piedras Campus

To promote the comprehensive development of students through support programs and services at the undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education levels, based on transformation, research, and a commitment to community service. This is grounded in quality, ethics, integrity, and the cross-cutting inclusion of diversity with justice. It also includes a commitment to institutional and environmental sustainability, as well as to the exchange and dissemination of knowledge and learning, with a research, creative, and academic focus at the local, regional, and international levels.

Vision of the Río Piedras Campus

The Río Piedras Campus is an essential public service—accessible and vital for the educational, economic, social, and cultural transformation of Puerto Rico. It reaffirms its distinction for excellence in research, teaching, and the development of the human being throughout all stages of life. It serves as a benchmark for creative work, innovation, and the generation and exchange of knowledge at the local, regional, and international levels. The success of its endeavors is achieved through an integrated and empowered university community that embraces diversity, inclusion, and equity.

To access the Río Piedras Campus Strategic Plan 2024-2029, [click here](#).

Institutional Regulations and Policies



Foto de la Torre de la UPRRP

General Student Regulations of the University of Puerto Rico

Governing Board Certification No. 70 (2016-2017)

PURPOSE


“The purpose of these Regulations is to set forth the rights and duties of students as members of the academic community, to establish the necessary structures for the most effective participation of students in university life, and to institute the rules that best enable the daily coexistence of students among themselves and with other members of the community.”

“The University of Puerto Rico Act and the traditions of this institution recognize the rights of students as members of the university community and lay down the legal, moral, and intellectual responsibilities to which they are bound as members of this community.

A university requires that the attendant conditions of coexistence be present for the full formation of the student as a free human being and for the development of a culture of service to the university community and to the Puerto Rican community. Therefore, a climate of freedom and tolerance, respect for the individual, willing commitment, and participation in the responsibilities of this community is of essence.

This University is proud to have students who are seriously concerned with the problems that affect the institution, as well as those affecting our community and society in general. The fact that students or groups of students sometimes feel morally compelled to publicly proclaim their views is a source of satisfaction and motivation.

On the other hand, the academic university community cannot and should not tolerate conduct that, under the pretext of free speech, infringes on the civil rights of other individuals or groups or constitutes a material disturbance of public order, the regular tasks of the units, or the holding of legitimate acts or functions. The right to dissent entails a special awareness of the rights of others and the acknowledgement that others are also entitled to dissent.”

To access the entire document, [click here](#). 

Student Regulations of the Río Piedras Campus

Academic Senate Certification 85 (2020-2021)

PURPOSE

"The Student Regulations are intended to set forth the rights that protect the students of the Río Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico as members of the academic community, establish the necessary structures for their most effective participation in university life, and outline the duties of the student body that are essential for daily coexistence within the university community, in accordance with applicable regulations and laws."

The University's fundamental objective is to serve the community by integrating the teaching-learning process, the creation and dissemination of knowledge, and the full development of the individual, including their ethical, humanistic, cultural, and social values.

This core objective implies that the University is a community committed to the free pursuit of truth, in order to ensure the transmission of knowledge and cultural values that provide continuity and direction to our society.

University life requires conditions that foster coexistence and are conducive to the student's full development as a free human being, as well as the growth of a sense of service to both the university community and the broader Puerto Rican society.

University regulations recognize students as members of the university community, outline the rights they enjoy, and establish the moral, intellectual, and academic responsibilities they are obliged to uphold as members of that community. Therefore, an atmosphere of freedom, tolerance, respect for human dignity, voluntary commitment, and participation in the responsibilities of this community is essential.

The University takes pride in its students' concern for institutional, community, and social issues, and views positively their public expression of opinions. The right to dissent implies respect for the rights of others, including their right to hold differing views. The university community must not tolerate behaviors that violate the civil rights of its members or others.

To access the full document, [click here](#).



Academic Integrity Policy

Certificación 64 (2022-2023) del Senado Académico

This policy has the following purposes at the UPRRP:

1. To establish what constitutes academic integrity.
2. To emphasize the importance of academic integrity in educational, research, and university life.
3. To educate, guide, prevent, and address breaches of academic integrity.
4. To provide a framework for managing situations and possible actions or sanctions related to violations of academic integrity, as outlined in the policy.

Each UPRRP student is responsible for:

1. Acting ethically and in compliance with academic integrity in their academic work, demonstrating their learning development and achievements.
2. Asking questions or seeking clarification about expectations for academic work in courses and what constitutes academic integrity.
3. Following the instructions or conditions set forth in the syllabus or course documents regarding exams, tests, assignments, and academic integrity.
4. Helping to foster an environment of dialogue and respect around academic integrity within courses and across the institution.
5. Participating in educational or orientation activities, workshops, and events related to academic integrity and associated topics.
6. Being familiar with this academic integrity policy and adhering to its principles and provisions.
7. Promptly and reasonably reporting any suspected, observed, identified, or experienced breach of academic integrity that occurs in a course, research work, thesis, master's project, or doctoral dissertation.

According to Article VI of the Academic Integrity Policy of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, the following are considered **violations of academic integrity**:

- A. Unauthorized access to academic records or institutional systems
- B. Fraudulent actions
- C. Unauthorized or unapproved collaboration
- D. Complicity
- E. Cheating on an exam or test
- F. Destruction or misuse of academic resources, equipment, and materials
- G. False representation or deception
- H. Academic interference
- I. Plagiarism
- J. Cyber plagiarism
- K. Cheating in various formats of distance learning or on digital platforms

To access the full document, [click here](#).



Academic Policy for Graduate Studies at the Río Piedras Campus

Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research (DEGI)

The Campus' Graduate Regulations are stipulated in Academic Senate Certification No. 95, Academic Year 2019-2020, *Academic Policy for Graduate Studies at the University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras Campus*. The Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research is responsible for overseeing and ensuring compliance with said regulations.

The Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research (DEGI, for its Spanish acronym) came to be thanks to Academic Senate Certification No. 76, Academic Year 1988-1989. DEGI is delegated the responsibility of working with the graduate students and programs of the Campus and implementing the Graduate Regulations.

DEGI, under Graduate Regulations, is responsible for promoting and coordinating graduate studies and research at the Río Piedras Campus. In addition, it is responsible for encouraging the integral development of graduate students through initiatives aimed at enriching their academic, intellectual and cultural experiences during their years of study. In order to fulfill its duties effectively and in a coordinated manner, DEGI serves as a link between the graduate programs and the Rector's Office and collaborates closely with the Dean's Office for Academic Affairs. Furthermore, DEGI elaborates and enforces the Evaluation Plan for Graduate Programs and Campus Research Centers in collaboration with the Graduate Studies and Research Council.

If you wish to access the Certifications previously mentioned, or stay updated on DEGI's calls and initiatives, [visit our webpage by clicking here.](#)



Admission

Academic Senate Certification No. 95, Academic Year 2019-2020, delegates to DEGI the responsibility of handling all graduate admissions. In addition, the certification helps classify students as full-time or part-time.

Types of Admission

Students interested in pursuing graduate studies at the Campus will have the following admission alternatives:

- **Regular** - Admission granted to applicants who, after obtaining a bachelor's or master's degree, apply for admission to a graduate program of their interest for the first time and meet all admission requirements.
- **Conditional** - Admission granted to applicants who do not meet all the required academic criteria. The conditions to be met, the term and the consequences of not complying with these conditions are communicated to the student in writing. **International students cannot receive conditional admission.**
- **Deferred** - Deferred admission is a privilege that graduate programs and schools can grant to talented candidates who wish to postpone their admission for a semester or a year.
- **Readmission** - Admission granted to a person who, after being inactive for one semester or more, wishes to continue their graduate studies in the same academic program in which they had studied prior to the interruption.

Academic Load

- **Full-time student** - The academic load of a full-time graduate student will be:
 - **Semester programs** - a minimum of eight (8) credits per semester.
 - **Trimester programs** - a minimum of six (6) credits per trimester.
 - Graduate students enrolled in courses registered as full-time, such as qualifying exam, *practicum*, internship, research, and doctoral dissertation writing, will be considered full-time students.
- **Part-time student** - The academic load of a part-time student will be:
 - **Semester programs** - a minimum of twelve (12) credits per academic year.
 - **Trimester programs** - a maximum of five (5) credits per trimester.

Registration

Once the student has been officially admitted to an Academic Program (whether under regular or conditional admission, study permit or readmission), the Academic Program will be responsible for registering the student in classes for their first academic session. For the second semester and onwards, the student must register courses on their own.

Registration Process

- Enrollment period - The Registrar's Office elaborates an academic calendar stating the periods and deadlines for registering for courses for each academic session.
- Course schedule - On the online portal MIUPI, there is a section titled *Horarios de Cursos* (Course Schedule) where you will find the academic offer for each session.
- Course selection - On the online portal MIUPI, there is a section titled *Selección de cursos* (Course Selection) where you will get access to the enrollment platform and instructions on how to use it.

After enrolling at the Campus or having registered courses in your academic record, it is important that you confirm your registration for each academic session. In addition, you must have a health insurance plan; otherwise, you will be required to enroll in the institutional insurance plan. You can confirm your registration, register for, and pay for the insurance plan through the MIUPI portal. You will learn more about this platform later on.

All graduate students must follow their program's curricular sequence. If a student wishes to:

- Take a course from another academic program on Campus: they must have authorization from their graduate program. The student will present the authorization to the Program offering the course they are interested in, and the Program will determine if authorization to take the course will be granted.
- Take a course on another Campus: they must apply for a special permit at the Registrar's Office.
- Take a course at another University (local or abroad): they must have a Memorandum of Understanding or Bilateral Agreement between institutions.

To drop courses after the registration period, the student must use the NEXT Portal to apply for a partial or total withdrawal (if the intention is to withdraw all courses). It is important to follow the academic calendar elaborated by the Registrar's Office. You can find instructions for both processes on the Registrar's Office's website.

Retention

Academic Senate Certification No. 95, 2019-2020 establishes the indicators for meeting academic progress and remaining a graduate level student. In addition, it establishes the maximum time granted to students to complete their studies according to the academic level of study.

Academic Progress

The criteria for academic progress for a graduate student, as defined in the institutional policy, include:

- i. maintaining the minimum GPA required by the Río Piedras Campus (3.00);
- ii. maintaining status as a regular student enrolled part time or full time;
- iii. be studying within the time to degree, have completed the courses and assignments required at the stages stipulated by their faculty or school and program to complete degree requirements;
- iv. approve 50% of the attempted credits per year.

The minimum retention and graduation grade point average will be 3.00 on a scale of 4.00. Each graduate school or program may establish additional retention rules, which will be available on the program's website.

Time to Degree*

1. Master's Programs.

- Full-time students
 - Every graduate school or program will set a period of no longer than **four (4) years** from the admission date for a full-time student to complete all degree requirements.
 - For a professional or accredited program with more than 30 credits, the graduate school or program will set a period of no longer than **five (5) years** from the admission date for a full-time student to complete all degree requirements.
- Part-time students
 - The time to complete all degree requirements will be **one year in addition to the time stipulated for full-time students.**

2. Doctoral programs.

- Full-time students
 - Students will have a maximum of **seven (7) years** from the admission date to complete all degree requirements.
- Part-time students
 - Students will have a maximum of **eight (8) years** from the admission date to complete all degree requirements.

*Students who do not complete all degree requirements in the stipulated period will be dropped from their program or school.

Retention

Grades

Quantifiable grades

Students' academic performance will be recorded using the following quantifiable grading system: A, B, C, D, and F. This system will be used to measure students' achievements in academic experiences (courses, workshops, etc.) in which at least one quantitatively graded exam or project is required.

The grading scale will be as follows:

Grade	Scale
A	4.00-3.50
B	3.49-2.50
C	2.49-1.50
D	1.49-0.50
F	0.50-00

The minimum passing grade for a graduate course, whether it be core, major, or elective, will be **C**.

Non-quantifiable grades

The non-quantifiable grading system will be based on *Pass* (P) and *No Pass* (NP). This system will be used to measure students' achievements in certain courses and academic activities where it is not possible to do so in quantitative terms. These grades will not be translated into numbers when computing the student's academic index.

Course Repetition

Students may take the same course up to **two times**. **If a student fails a major course for a second time, they will be dropped from their program.** For repeated courses graded through the quantifiable system, the highest grade will be taken into consideration for purposes of academic retention and graduation index.

Retention

Leave of Absence

A leave of absence allows graduate students with academic progress to pause their studies for a period no longer than one academic year. This period will not count towards the time to degree. To request a leave of absence:

- The student must write a letter to their graduate program stating the reason for the petition and the period of time they are requesting. The school or program's Graduate Affairs Committee will evaluate the petition. If authorized, the Committee will send a copy of the petition and a letter of endorsement to the Dean's Office of Graduate Studies and Research (DEGI).
- DEGI will verify the following information:
 - Date of admission to the program – they will verify that the student is within the time to degree, according to the applicable certification, and that they comply with academic progress.
 - Whether a leave was previously granted – they will verify the number of semesters (leaves cannot be granted for more than 4 semesters).
- A letter, addressed to the person who signed endorsing the petition, accepting or denying the request will be drafted and sent to DEGI's Dean of Graduate Student Affairs for their review and final approval. Lastly, the response is sent to the graduate program.

Once the leave expires, the student is required to notify the graduate school or program of their intention of returning or make a special request for a second year of leave. If the student fails to do so, the graduate school or program can give away their spot. Any graduate student who abandons their graduate school or program without a leave of absence and wishes to return will have to apply for a new admission. **The time remaining to complete their studies will be determined from the date of their first admission to the program.** Courses previously approved in the program may be accepted for the degree if they were taken within a period of no more than five (5) years.

Extension

An extension can be granted once the time to degree has been exceeded. Extensions allow students to take courses after the fact. To request an extension:

- The student must submit, alongside the application, a detailed work plan signed by them and their mentor and a justification to their graduate school or program Graduate Affairs Committee. The School Director or Program Coordinator will process their recommendation to DEGI for certification with the corresponding signatures. DEGI will notify the coordinator or director of the school or graduate program, the applicant and the Registrar of the final decision.
- For master's and doctoral degrees, this period cannot be longer than one year. However, it may be extended if the student shows progress with their plan of study or their research/creation project.
- Students who do not complete all degree requirements once the period of the extension has ended must apply for a new admission to the program. The new admission will be conditional to the student's previous academic trajectories and the program's quota. Under this new admission, the student may request accreditation of up to **a maximum of 30% of the non-expired credits.**

*It is important to note that degrees will not be conferred to students who have exceeded the time to degree and who do not have an extension authorized by DEGI.

Graduation

The graduate policy establishes the requirements every graduate-level student must complete in order to receive the academic degree.

Graduation Requirements

GPA

A minimum GPA of **3.00** in a scale of 4.00 is required to graduate.

Qualifying Exam

The qualifying exam is mandatory for doctoral programs. This examination will determine students' candidacy for the doctoral degree, as established by each graduate program.

- Each graduate school or program will establish the nature, content, and length of the exam and the moment in which students will take it.
- The exam will be offered at least twice a year. The examination date will be announced during the first month of each term.
- Students may retake the exam or the failed section, as determined by the program's regulations, **only once**. If a student fails the exam a second time, they will be dropped from the graduate program and the School Director or Program Coordinator will inform the Registrar's Office.

Theses/Dissertations/Degree Projects

Theses, dissertations or creative projects and their dissemination are requirements of graduate programs to obtain the academic degree. Certification 95, 2019-2020 includes the specifications for:

- the composition of the thesis/dissertation committee,
- the master's thesis/research-creation proposal,
- the master's thesis/doctoral dissertation,
- the master's thesis/doctoral dissertation presentation and defense,
- the requirement for submission and publication of the master's thesis, creative project and/or doctoral dissertation
 - a. after the defense and approval of their master's thesis/doctoral dissertation, the student must submit the final document to the UPR Institutional Repository **on or before 30 days after the defense**.
 - b. the doctoral dissertation must be published on the UPR Institutional Repository and in ProQuest's "Dissertations and Theses".

Financial Aid

Existen dos unidades institucionales que brindan programas de ayudas económicas para los estudiantes graduados. Estas son: el Decanato de Estudios Graduados e Investigación, a través del Decanato Auxiliar de Asuntos Estudiantiles y la Oficina de Asistencia Económica adscrita al Decanato de Estudiantes. A continuación se presentan las ayudas económicas ofrecidas por el DEGI.

Aid Offered by DEGI



Formative Academic Experiences Program



The **Formative Academic Experiences Program** (**PEAF**, for its Spanish acronym) provides graduate students with academic and co-curricular experiences that expand their academic and professional training. Additionally, this program contributes to the development of research and teaching at the Campus—core elements of its mission.

Upon being accepted into the program, the graduate student will receive an economic incentive as well as tuition exemption. This will allow the student to devote full time to their studies and research or creative activity and finish their studies successfully in a timely manner.

Eligibility criteria:

- Apply through the call for applications issued by DEGI, usually during the months of November to January.
- Be a student with regular admission to a graduate program at the Río Piedras Campus.
- Have a GPA—cumulative and major—of **3.00** or higher in a scale of 4.00.
- Have a full academic load (8 credits or more).
- Not have a full-time job within or outside the institution.



Academic Merit and Exceptional Performance Fellowship



The **Academic Merit and Exceptional Performance Fellowship Program** (**PBMA**, for its Spanish abbreviation) is a competitive fellowship that acknowledges students with notable and commendable academic performances that distinguish them from others (including publications and creative works). It provides a monthly stipend of \$1,200 for students in master's programs and \$1,500 for students in doctoral programs. The fellowship recipient may also apply for other available DEGI funds for traveling—for research purposes or to attend congresses—and publication fees. It is necessary that the student demonstrates the need to strengthen their research or present the results of their work.

Eligibility criteria:

- Be a full-time student, as defined in Academic Senate Certification 38, 2012-2013; Certification 51, 2017-2018; or Certification 95, 2019-2020.
- Be a doctoral student, or a master's student if your program does not have a doctoral degree.
- Have satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the graduate program.
- Have a minimum GPA of **3.50** in a scale 4.00.
- Have passed more than 50% of the degree requirements (preferably including the qualifying exam).

Financial Aid



Dissertation, Thesis, or Equivalent Project Fellowship Program



The **Dissertation, Thesis, or Equivalent Project Fellowship Program (PBDT)**, for its Spanish abbreviation) is a competitive fellowship that allows the recipient to devote full time to their dissertation, thesis, or equivalent project required to complete the degree. It provides a monthly stipend of \$1,200 for student's in master's degree programs and \$1,500 for students in doctoral programs. The fellowship recipient may also apply for other available DEGI funds for traveling—for research purposes or to attend congresses—and publication fees. It is necessary that the student demonstrates the need to strengthen their research or present the results of their work.

Eligibility criteria:

- Be a full-time student, as defined in Academic Senate Certification 38, 2012-2013; Certification 51, 2017-2018; or Certification 95, 2019-2020.
- Be a doctoral student, or a master's student if your program does not have a doctoral degree.
- Have a minimum GPA of **3.50** in a scale of 4.00.
- Have passed all courses, the qualifying exam, and have their proposal for dissertation, thesis, or equivalent project approved.
- Be in the final stage of research and writing, and expecting to complete the degree in the period in which they will enjoy the fellowship.
- Be within the time established to complete the degree, in accordance with Certifications No. 38 (2012-2013), No. 51 (2017-2018), and No. 95 (2019-2020) approved by the Academic Senate, as applicable.



Scholarships for the Support of Graduate Student Research and Professional Development



The purpose of this DEGI scholarship program is to encourage research by supporting graduate and undergraduate students to participate in academic and cultural events. In addition, financial assistance is provided to students who travel to collect primary data for their research. DEGI's evaluator committee will be constituted of DEGI's Dean, the Assistant Dean of Research, and the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs. The allocation of funds will depend on the available budget.

Available scholarships:

- Scholarship to Participate in Academic and Cultural Events (Undergraduate and Graduate Level).
- Research Trip Scholarship (Graduate Level).

Financial Aid

Aid Offered by the Financial Aid Office

The Financial Aid Office, affiliated with the Deanship of Students, aims to provide quality services that tackle financial needs of graduate and undergraduate students who meet the corresponding requirements, so that they can obtain a university degree. The Office offers: scholarships, work and study programs, and federal student loans. The following financial aid is available to graduate students:

Loans

This source of financial aid comes mainly from federal funds granted by the Federal Department of Education. The maximum amount of authorized funds will be subject to the cost of study established by the Institution. To participate in the program, each student must submit an application.

- You can find the application on the [Financial Aid Office Website](#). In the “*Documentos* (Documents)” section, select “*Solicitud de Préstamo* (Loan application)”. All instructions must be followed when submitting the application.
- If you are applying for a loan for the first time, you must complete the “Master Promissory Note” (MPN), and “Entrance Counseling” on the following website: <http://studentloans.gov>.

Work and Study

This federal financial aid program provides students with jobs in and outside the units and campuses. It aims to give students the opportunity of gaining experience and new skills in their area of study.

Special Fund for Grants of the University of Puerto Rico

The Special Fund for Grants of the University of Puerto Rico, also known as Law 44, allows the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico to allocate a 3% of the projected net income of the Traditional Lottery attributable to the previous month, by virtue of Article 14 (d) of Law Number 10 to benefit UPR students through grants. These grants provide financial assistance of up to \$1,000 per recipient per academic year, based on the provisions of the Regulation presented in [Certification 49 \(2018-2019\)](#) of the UPR Board of Governors. The Financial Aid Office is in charge of awarding this grant in accordance to the established regulations.

Students that are eligible based on their Expected Family Contribution (EFC), as determined by FAFSA, will not have to fill out an application—the grant will be automatically awarded, based on economic necessity, until the available funds are exhausted. According to Certification 49, the EFC of participating students cannot be greater than 5,486.

Financial Aid

Eligibility Criteria for Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office will evaluate applications from students who meet the following requirements:

A. Classification in a degree program. For graduate students, classification includes conditional admissions. In the case of conditional admission, financial aid will cover a maximum of 30 credits in preparatory courses.

B. Academic index for financial aid purposes. To be academically eligible, students must achieve the minimum cumulative average as established in the retention rate of their program or unit of study.

C. Meet all criteria for satisfactory academic progress:

1. Maintain the minimum GPA required by your unit;
2. Maintain regular student status, full time or part time; and
3. Be studying within the established time to degree.

Graduate Academic Progress Review Process

In order to participate in any financial aid program, students must comply with Academic Progress (as detailed on page 8 of this Handbook). If for some reason a student does not have academic progress and wishes to participate in financial aid programs processed by the Financial Aid Office, they may undergo a review process if there is compelling evidence to justify the period without academic progress.*

Graduate students without academic progress will receive a written notice of non-satisfactory academic progress for purposes of financial aid offered by the Financial Aid Office. According to federal regulations, the affected student may file for review on the basis of one or more of the following mitigating or extenuating circumstances:

- Severe or prolonged illness
- Accident
- Death of a family member
- Severe illness or injury of a family member
- Significant changes in the economic situation or legal circumstances
- Compulsory military service

Academic Progress Review Process

Institutional policy states that the deadline to request the academic progress review is ten calendar days after the first day of class. The process will be as follows:

- The graduate student is notified of non-satisfactory academic progress.
- The student requests an academic progress review through the Financial Aid Office.
- The Financial Aid Office creates a record with the documentation provided by the student. This record is forwarded to DEGI's student affairs area, who in return forwards it to the student's graduate program.
- The graduate program schedules the student for an academic evaluation and the elaboration of a Plan of Study that will allow the student to achieve the required academic progress.

- The academic unit forwards the record to DEGI's student affairs area, where the Institutional Academic Progress and Graduate Eligibility Review Committee meets to discuss the case. From that discussion, the request is either favorable recommended or denied.
- The Committee will notify the student of their decision in writing. A copy of the decision goes on the student's record.
- In cases of favorable recommendation, the indicator will be changed in the Student Information System and the student may apply for loans.

Documents to be Presented as Evidence

- Original medical certificate
- Death certificate
- Divorce decree
- Decree of bankruptcy
- Foreclosure judgement
- Termination, severance, or resignation letter
- Statement of Service

*It is important to note that the Academic Progress Review Process is only valid for purposes of participating in financial aid provided by the Financial Aid Office. Students that request an academic progress review **will not be able to participate in any of DEGI's initiatives**, even if the determination is favorable.

Other Relevant Policies

Below you will find more institutional policies that may be of your interest as a graduate student.

You can access the original Spanish versions of these certifications on the Board of Governor's Certifications System by [clicking here](#).



Title	Certification	Fiscal Year
<i>Policy on the Illicit Use of Drugs, Controlled Substances and Alcohol Abuse of the University of Puerto Rico</i>	32	1999-2000
	Amended by:	
	33	2005-2006
	94	2003-2004
<i>Regulations on the Illicit Use of Drugs, Controlled Substances and Alcohol Abuse of the University of Puerto Rico</i>	33	1999-2000
<i>Policy and Procedures for Handling Situations of Sex or Gender Discrimination at the University of Puerto Rico</i>	107	2021-2022
<i>Policy Against Discrimination at the University of Puerto Rico</i>	58	2004-2005
<i>Institutional Policy on Coexistence at the University of Puerto Rico</i>	38	2015-2016
<i>Institutional Policy on the Use of and Access to Information Technology Resources at the University of Puerto Rico</i>	85	2022-2023
<i>University of Puerto Rico Institutional Policy for Data Classification</i>	86	2022-2023
<i>University of Puerto Rico Institutional Protocol for the Prevention and Appropriate Handling of Domestic Violence Situations in the Workplace.</i>	66	2020-2021
<i>Policy on Patents, Inventions and their Commercialization of the University of Puerto Rico</i>	34	2018-2019
<i>Protocol for the Prevention and Intervention in Cases of Harassment and Bullying of Students at the University of Puerto Rico.</i>	33	2024-2025
<i>Policy and Eligibility Rules for Participation in the Financial Aid Program of the University of Puerto Rico.</i>	55	2016-2017
	Amended by: 108	2018-2019

You can access the following documents by clicking them.

- [Student Regulations of the Río Piedras Campus \(Spanish document\)](#)
- [University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras Campus Academic Integrity Policy \(Spanish document\)](#)
- [Academic Policy for Graduate Studies at the University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras Campus](#)



Student Support Services Units and Offices



Deanship of Students

The Deanship of Students has the mission of helping students complete their academic-professional project through a variety of services, programs and initiatives that allow for students to integrate and adapt to the Institution and for the development and strengthening of a set of competencies that contribute to their formation as a social, happy, adaptable and productive person.

The Deanship has different units that offer a variety of services to students in order to help them achieve their academic, professional, and personal goals.

Student Development Counseling Department (DCODE)

The Student Development Counseling Department (DCODE, for is Spanish abbreviation) is affiliated to the Deanship of Students of the Río Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico. It is composed of a multidisciplinary team of helping professionals with academic preparation specializing in Counseling, Social Work and Psychology and licensed to practice in Puerto Rico. DCODE has been accredited by the International Accreditation of Counseling Services (IACS) since 2008.



Available services:

- Counseling, social work, and psychological services (individual or group)
- Well-being, mental health, academic success, and career selection workshops
- Crisis intervention and emergency services
- Professional training for the university community

Support groups:

- LGBTQIA+ Student Support Group
 - Contact: mariela.santiago3@upr.edu
- First-year Student Support Group
 - Contact: richie.delgado@upr.edu
- Thesis or Dissertation Student Support Group
 - Contact: marta.rodriguezcolon@upr.edu

Contact Information:

787-764-0000 ext. 86500, 86501

dcode.consejeria@upr.edu

Third floor, Lázaro Library

Deanship of Students

Office for Students with Disabilities (OSEI)

The services of the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSEI, for its Spanish abbreviation) are provided by professionals specialized in the field of rehabilitation counseling. These are professionals that, with adequate knowledge of behavior, human development and social institutions, use the principles and techniques of rehabilitation counseling to provide people with disabilities or functional diversity with services compatible with their needs and strengths (Law 58, 1976). Through its staff and specialized services, the Office seeks to offer a service of excellence that has an impact on the academic success of students with functional diversity or disabilities.



Available services:

- Evaluate and mediate reasonable accommodations
- Coordinate note-taking, reader, and sign language services
- Provide transportation within the Campus and its surroundings
- Offer conferences, workshops, and orientations on topics related to functional diversity
- Intercede in situations of conflict related to reasonable accommodations
- Coordinate early registration services
- Coordinate the use of the Library System for Persons with Impairments (SBPI, for its Spanish abbreviation)

Requirements for requesting services:

- Be a student admitted to the Río Piedras Campus
- Complete the eligibility application form
- Provide medical evidence of physical, mental, or emotional condition filled out by a specialist
- Participate in an initial interview

Contact Information:

787-764-0000 ext. 86360

oapi.rrpu.edu

University Center (*Centro Universitario*), First floor

Student Mentors Program

Peer counseling program, affiliated to the Deanship of Students, comprising a multidisciplinary team and duly trained students from different schools and colleges and different years of study. The program contributes to shaping leaders through a program for college sophomores, juniors and seniors that trains them in order to facilitate the integration to university life of incoming high school students.



Contact Information:

787-764-0000 ext. 86494, 86499

estudiantes.orientadores@upr.edu

University Center, Second floor

Deanship of Students

Medical Services

Medical Services operates under the provisions of Puerto Rico's Department of Health Law 101 for medical-hospital facilities, which defines them as a Diagnostic and Treatment Center. As a health facility, it has the responsibility to ensure clinical care of quantity, quality and excellence to the university population. This is achieved through the availability, continuity and accessibility of the services offered. The purpose of the Medical Services Department is to promote the good physical, mental and social health of the entire university community, as well as the attainment of the best lifestyles.



Available services:

- Each patient receives an initial evaluation, treatment, and follow-up. If necessary, patients will be referred to specialists.
- Medical evaluation and care is provided. First aid is offered and, if necessary, the patient is referred using an ambulance or transportation service to the nearest Emergency Room on campus. The Emergency Room offers services to the entire university community and visitors.
- The medical records of patients to be clinically evaluated are initiated and located. In addition, the medical forms required for new admission, readmission, and transfer students admitted to the Campus are received.
- Counseling the university community on topics related to the promotion of health and security.

Contact Information:

787-764-0000 ext. 86569

EMERGENCY: Ext. 82020

serviciosmedicos.rp@upr.edu

Next to the University Center

University Center

The University Center is the meeting point and geographical center of the University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras Campus. Designed by architect Henry Klumb, it was inaugurated in 1960.

It is the ideal institutional space to offer services and facilities for leisure, recreation and complementing academic life. The Center is also the right place to hold events that promote the socio-cultural development of students. Among the main services provided in this space are: the Student Ombudsman's Office, the General Student Council, the Office for Students with Disabilities, the office for the Student Mentors Program, the Medical Services Clinic, as well as the Events Unit and the UPR Tuna.

Contact Information:

787-764-0000 ext. 86625

centro.universitario@upr.edu

Deanship of Students

Student ID

All students of the Campus have the opportunity of having an identification card. Any student who wishes to issue a student ID must follow the process detailed below.

Process for obtaining a Student Identification Card or Student ID:

STEP 1: PAY

- Before going to the Bursar's Office, call extension 86301 or write to idestudiantil.rrp@upr.edu to check if you are entitled to a paid student ID or if you are required to issue a new payment.
- The \$10.00 fee can be paid at the Bursar's Office (2nd floor of the Central Tower in Plaza Universitaria). Turn in the receipt to the Student ID office (2nd floor of the North Tower in Plaza Universitaria) at the time of picking up the student ID.
- *In the event of duplication due to loss, theft, or damage, you must pay the same cost again and go to the University security office and fill out a Lost Property Notification form or provide the Puerto Rico Police Complaint number if you have one.*

STEP 2: PICK UP YOUR STUDENT ID

- Pick-up location: Second floor in the North Tower of Plaza Universitaria.

An official photo ID, such as a driver's license, passport, voter registration card, or birth certificate, is required.

You must also show your current class schedule to evidence active student status. Only the person whose name and photo appear on the student ID can pick up the card. Cards are not sent by mail.

Academic and Administrative Technologies Division (DTAA)

The Academic and Administrative Technologies Division (DTAA, for its Spanish abbreviation) provides members of the university community with technological support services and technical assistance in their daily work. They are responsible for managing and ensuring the proper functioning of the administrative information systems that reside on Campus. Some services the DTAA offers students are: Next Portal, institutional e-mail address, Wi-Fi, Moodle, MIUPI, and Help Desk.

Next Portal

Portal UPR is an electronic services portal designed for students and employees of the University of Puerto Rico. Users can access a variety of important resources and tools for their academic and work life.

Students

Students can access their class schedule, grades, financial aid information, institutional e-mail MS Outlook, Microsoft applications and Microsoft 365, among others.

Accessing the portal

To access the portal you must use your institutional e-mail (@upr.edu). If it is your first time accessing your account, you must answer the security questions in order to use your e-mail account.

- First-year students: Access with the password assigned in the admissions portal.
- If you have problems accessing your account: You must create a service order at the Help Desk.

Credentials:

- **User**: name.lastname@upr.edu (in some cases, there may be a number after the last name)
- **Password**: UPRrpXXXX (where “XXXX” are the last 4 digits of your student number)

Wi-Fi

Steps to connect to the Wi-Fi:

1. Select SSID: uprrp-estudiantes.
2. Open your preferred web browser; the authentication portal will pop-up. Most mobile devices will automatically open the authentication portal.
3. Type in your credentials in the respective boxes.
 - a. User - student number, without dashes (e.g. 801241234);
 - b. password - UPRrp#### (where #### are the four numbers of your personal identification number or pin).
4. Once you click “Access” you will be connected.

Moodle

Online portal for e-Learning at the Río Piedras Campus. To access Moodle you must use your institutional email (@upr.edu).

Academic and Administrative Technologies Division (DTAA)

MIUPI

Electronic services portal where students can select courses, view their grades, pay tuition, request payment extensions, view and print class schedules, among other services.

How to access MIUPI

- **User:** Student number, without dashes (e.g. 801241234)
- **Password:** Your pin number or the last 4 digits of your social security number

If you cannot access the platform, you must go to the Registrar's Office to corroborate your data.

All new students must wait 24 hours after completing the enrollment process in order to access MIUPI.

HELP DESK

Here you will be able to request a service order regarding any technical problem you experience in any of the above mentioned platforms or with your institutional email access.

International Affairs and Relations (DARI)

The Office for International Affairs and Relations (DARI, for its Spanish acronym), offers services to international and exchange students and faculty members. DARI operationalizes educational and cultural exchange opportunities with counterpart universities in the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia through bilateral and multilateral agreements (consortia). It is also the unit that processes visas for graduate students.

Bilateral agreements make it possible to adjust study costs. Both the students we send abroad and the students we receive at our institution benefit from paying the costs of study at their home university while attending a prestigious university where the costs could be very high.



Requirements

- Be a full-time student with at least 24 approved credits.
- Have a GPA of 2.75 or higher.
- Have satisfactory academic progress (as defined in page 8 of this handbook).
- Cannot have an “Incomplete” grade the semester prior to the exchange.
- Cannot be in probation.
- Cannot have any debts with the University.

National Student Exchange Program (NSE)

The National Student Exchange (NSE), facilitates the exchange between universities of the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam and Hawaii and groups nearly two hundred (200) recognized universities and colleges.

Types of plans

Plan A: Receiving University tuition fees. Scholarship application and tuition payment at the Receiving University.

Plan B: Tuition cost from home university. File your grant application with the UPR Financial Aid Program. You will pay for your studies at the UPR.

International Student Exchange Program (ISEP)

The International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) is a consortium that offers study options at institutions around the world, including summer programs. It brings together more than three hundred (300) universities in forty-two (42) countries around the world for a semester or one academic year.

Types of ISEP

ISEP Exchange: These are reciprocal exchanges between two international universities affiliated to the program. Study at one of the universities of the ISEP consortium while paying your tuition at the Río Piedras Campus. In addition, benefit from plans that include housing and meal plans.

Direct ISEP: This program allows the reception of a student without reciprocity. Pay for tuition, housing, and meals according to the costs established by the consortium.

International Affairs and Relations (DARI)

International Students

Students of foreign nationality who apply for an academic degree at our Institution and have the recommendation of admission from a graduate program at the Campus, must have a visa and a Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status (I-20 Certification). The Office of International Affairs and Relations (DARI) will contact the international student to issue the I-20 Certificate whilst each student must apply for an F-1 visa (student visa) at their embassy. It is important to note that the issuance of the visa is at the discretion of the embassy of the foreign student's country of origin. Therefore, the UPRRP has no authority to participate in this process.

DARI gets in contact with every admitted international student to process the I-20 Certificate. In order to do so, it is important for each student to prove that they have sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses in the United States of America. The person responsible for issuing and signing the I-20 Certification is Architect Luis F. Irizarry, the official designated by the Institution (DSO). The I-20 is sent to the student once they have been officially granted admission and it has been determined that they have the necessary economic funds.

Academic Studies

Upon admission, and once they've received the visa and I-20 Certification, each international student has the following responsibilities:

- Attend and pass all registered courses.
- Maintain full-time student status and have satisfactory academic progress.
- Have a full academic load for each term of study. If you are unable to study full time, or need to withdraw from a course, you must immediately contact your DSO prior to processing the withdrawal or entering partial studies.
- Must complete the degree within the required time frame. If situations arise that do not allow you to meet this requirement, you should contact your DSO for the possibility of an extension to the I-20.

Important

While studying in the United States, it is important to maintain your F-1 student visa status. Your visa status is linked to your purpose or reason for being in the United States. If the U.S. Department of State issues you an F-1 student visa, it implies that you are coming to the U.S. territory to study and you must not take any action that deviates from that purpose. Therefore, you must comply with the purpose for which you were issued a visa and follow the regulations associated with that purpose.

Contact Information

787-764-0000 ext. 86200

info.dari@upr.edu

North Tower, Second floor

Registrar's Office

The Registrar's Office is the entity responsible for safeguarding students' academic records. In addition, the Office offers direct services to students.

Duties of the Office

- Assist in the evaluation of students' academic work through the collection and controlled dissemination of information related to student achievement at the Campus.
- Help students adapt to the demands of university life by providing them with timely information about academic standards, curricula, and the services offered by the institution.
- Collaborate in institutional planning by collecting and disseminating data on student academic achievement, physical plant utilization, enrollment by courses and sections, suspensions, honor enrollment, etc.
- Collaborate in the formulation of academic and administrative norms, especially those related to the services offered.
- Collaborate in research projects by providing data available in the Office and that may be useful for such projects, subject to privacy regulations.
- Provide student directory information in accordance with the rules regarding the private and confidential nature of the academic record.
- Interpret for the university community the rules governing the academic life of the student body and ensure compliance with them.
- Develop, in coordination with the colleges and schools of the Campus, an effective pre-registration and registration system.
- Establish work programs that allow the Registrar to determine and certify the eligibility of students requesting transfer, readmission, enrollment, graduation, reclassification, honor enrollment, probation, academic suspensions, academic progress, athletics and similar services regulated by the policies in force at the Institution.

Applications

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Academic credit transfer | • Transfers (undergraduate level) |
| • Degree certificate | • Special permit |
| • Diploma | • Partial and total withdrawals |
| • Graduation application and payment | • Study certificate |
| • Special certification | • Course description |
| • Change of name and/or Social Security Number application | |
| • Academic progress review | |
| • Authorization to take courses at other institutions | |
| • Change of college or major | |
| • Online and extension payments | |

University Center for Psychological Services and Studies

The **University Center for Psychological Services and Studies (CUSEP, for its Spanish acronym)** is a unit of the Psychology Department of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. It functions as a training and research center for the faculty and students of the Graduate Psychology Program. It receives participants from both the university community and the general community. CUSEP has been providing its services free of charge for more than 30 years.



CUSEP offers:

- consultations,
- individual psychotherapy,
- play therapy,
- couples therapy,
- family therapy,
- group psychotherapy, and
- psychometric, psychological or psychoeducational evaluations.

Services are provided by graduate students who are doing an internship in clinical psychology under the supervision of providers licensed to practice psychology in Puerto Rico. These supervisors assume ethical and professional responsibility for each case treated by the students.

Requesting services at CUSEP:

You can request CUSEP's psychological services by calling (787) 764-0000 ext. 87680, 87681 or visiting the Center on the fourth floor of the Rivera Building, #55 Universidad Avenue, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico. You can also write an e-mail to cusep.rp@upr.edu **stating your name, phone number, and the service you are interested in.**

Security and Risk Management Division

The Security and Risk Management Division, affiliated to the Rector's Office, serves the university community 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The functions of the Security Division include protecting the members of the university community against risks to their safety and integrity, protecting public and private property on campus, maintaining order and overseeing the normal performance of university tasks.

Parking Permit

To acquire a parking permit you must:

1. Fill out the form in its entirety. You can access the form on the [Security Office Webpage](#). The vehicle must be in the Permit Office area for the staff to place the permit.
2. Present the following documents:
 - Driver's license
 - Vehicle license
 - Class schedule
 - Student ID
 - Payment receipt

Student Parking

It is important to note that the parking lots designated for students on and off campus are not for specific colleges or schools, but for the use of all students and are distributed as follows:

- First-year students: parking lot R, next to the ROTC. After 6:00 p.m. first-year students may use any of the parking lots designated to students inside the campus.
- Students from second year onwards (including graduate students): may park at any of the following parking lots:
 - D1 and D3 – near the School of Law
 - E – near the School of Architecture and next to the campus entrance (Barbosa Avenue)
 - K – next to the parking garage inside the campus and parallel to the Gándara Avenue
 - N1 – near the College of Natural Sciences
 - R – next to the ROTC
 - S – next to the campus entrance located in the Ponce de León Avenue



Library System

The libraries of the University of Puerto Rico are guided by the standards of the Association of College and Research Libraries; they are spaces of creation, research, and innovation with physical and virtual environments where the entire university community has access to resources and information services. Their goal is to contribute to expand learning, facilitate the creation of new knowledge, support academic offerings and contribute to the integral and continuous development of the university community.



Available services:

- individual and group study spaces
- loan of information resources, audiovisual and computer equipment
- information literacy skills development programs
- interlibrary loans
- printed and electronic reserve collection
- digitization projects
- institutional repository
- cultural activities
- academic conferences
- access to databases

Campus Libraries

- Library System (José M. Lázaro Library)
- Santiago Iglesias Hijo Library, School of Architecture
- School of Law Library
- School of Business Administration Library
- Néstor M. Rodríguez Rivera Library, College of Natural Sciences
- Monserrate Santana de Palés Library, Graduate School of Social Work
- Dr. Rafael Picó Library, Graduate School of Planning
- Ángel Quintero Alfaro Library, College of General Studies
- Gerardo Sellés Solá Library, College of Education
- College of Humanities Seminars

As part of the Library System, there is also the **UPR Institutional Repository**. The Repository is a digital data archive with open access to the results of the research and creative work of all members of the UPR. Its objective is to provide access, store and publish documents in different formats created by professors and students. It is a graduation requirement for every student to deposit their thesis or dissertation in the Institutional Repository. A subject guide **LibGuide** with information on how to carry out this process is available on the Library System's web page.

Office of the Student Ombudsman

The mission of the Office of the Student Ombudsman is to provide the student community with an accessible, neutral, confidential, and independent space for conflict resolution and advisory services to the university community on the rights and duties of students, ensuring fair and reasonable treatment at all levels of the institution. The office offers assistance to students in seeking solutions to conflicts with professors, employees or other students of the Campus. It also provides services to any person of the university community, as long as the matter is related to an active student. Its main role is to offer advice regarding the different student rights and duties, regardless of the existence of a conflict.



The following is a non-exhaustive list of the most common situations that are brought to the attention of the Student Ombudsman's Office:

- Grade revision
- Academic dishonesty
- Issues with administrative applications
- Conflict mediation
- Informal counselling
- General or directed workshops and lectures
- Situations of violence
- Sexual harassment
- Discrimination

The Office can help students with the following:

- Listening to their situation and offering possible solutions under their rights as students
- Intercede with the various administrative authorities of the campus to help students assert their rights
- Inform students on the Campus' functioning, institutional policies, and administrative structure
- Help students solve interpersonal, administrative, academic and economic situations in accordance with institutional regulations.

Contact Information

Office of the Student Ombudsman
787-764-0000 ext. 86600, 86601 and 86603
procuraduria.rp@upr.edu
University Center, Second floor

Compliance and Audit Office - Title IX

What is Title IX?

Title IX is a federal law, enacted in 1972, to ensure that staff and students in educational institutions are treated with equity and fairness. Title IX protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, and others from all types of sex discrimination, including discrimination on the basis of sexual identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. Under Title IX, sex discrimination can also include domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual harassment. This law protects all students regardless of the sex of the offender or the person affected. All students, employees, and visitors of institutions that receive federal funding are protected under Title IX in all the programs and educational activities of the institution to which they belong or aspire to belong, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, full- or part-time status, disability, race or nationality.

Sexual harassment in the work area and academia is an illegal and discriminatory practice that is not in the best institutional interests. Under the new Title IX regulations, sexual harassment is an umbrella term that includes unwelcome conduct that meets one or more of the following requirements:

- For an employee to condition educational opportunities for a student in exchange to engaging in unwanted sexual conduct (quid pro quo).
- Inappropriate conduct that a reasonable person perceives as severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that limits access to a program or activity at an educational institution (hostile environment).
- Sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking—as defined in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA, 2013), which amends the Jeanne Clery Act.

You have the following rights under the protections of Title IX:

- Report what happened to the Institution and request that all complaints of sex discrimination be investigated and resolved promptly and equitably in a fair and impartial manner.
- Use the support services available within and outside the Institution.
- Option to report incidents of sexual violence to the University or local law enforcement. Even if you choose to have the state police investigate, this does not relieve the Campus of the obligation to respond promptly and effectively to the incident alleged in the complaint or grievance and to conduct its own investigation and report.
- Receive immediate assistance, including changing classes if necessary, medical services, escort services, among others.
- Receive reasonable accommodation services or other types of accommodations (academic support, orientation, career counseling, health, psychological, among others).
- Report any retaliation by University employees, the alleged aggressor, or other students. Strong action will be taken if such retaliation occurs, in accordance with institutional regulations.
- To know the status and course of the investigation.
- Present witnesses and evidence.
- The right to receive written notice of the results of your complaint and any appeals, including any sanctions related to your case.
- Appeal process equally accessible to both parties.
- The University must protect you as necessary, even before an investigation is completed. The University must do so as soon as it receives notice of sexual assault.

Compliance and Audit Office - Title IX

- The educational institution must clearly identify where you can go to speak confidentially with someone, and who can provide support services, counseling, or academic assistance. Some individuals, including counselors or advocates for affected persons, may speak with you confidentially without triggering a formal investigation by the University.
- If the alleged perpetrator is allowed to have an attorney, you also have the right to an attorney.
- The University must resolve your complaint based on what school administrators believe most likely occurred (this is called the preponderance of the evidence standard). The University cannot use a higher standard of proof.
- You have the right to receive written notification of the outcome of your complaint and of any appeal, including any sanctions related to your case.
- You have the right to receive documentation of all proceedings, including factual findings, transcripts, or audio recordings.
- If the investigation reveals that sexual violence has created a hostile environment, the University must take prompt and effective action to stop the sexual violence, eliminate the hostile environment, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects. Appropriate remedies generally include disciplinary action against the perpetrator, but may also include measures to help you continue your education (for example, academic support, retaking a class without penalty, and counseling). These remedies are in addition to any interim measures provided.

Prohibited Conduct Under Title IX

- Sexual harassment
- Stalking
- Sexual assault
- Harassment
- Domestic violence
- Retaliation
- Dating violence
- Cyber violence
- Pregnancy discrimination
- Discrimination based on sexual orientation
- Discrimination based on gender non-conforming identity

Process for Filing a Complaint

1. Send an email to titulo9.rp@upr.edu or call the Office of Compliance and Audit – UPRRP at 787-764-0000 ext. 83275 or 83278.
2. After your communication, you will receive a call from the Title IX Office. Interviews will be conducted in person or remotely, if necessary.
3. Arrangements will be made with the relevant offices to ensure that interim and safety measures are maintained.

Contact Information

Dr. Joselyn Rivera Román

Title IX Coordinator

787-764-0000 ext. 83275 or 83278

titulo9.rp@upr.edu

SIEMPRE VIVAS Metro

SIEMPRE VIVAS Metro is an interfaculty project made up of faculty and students from various disciplines that offers support, accompaniment, and guidance to victims and survivors of gender-based violence at the Río Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico. It currently maintains collaborative ties with different campus units and community organizations.

SIEMPRE VIVAS Metro was born out of the need to create a service-learning project that strengthens skills and competencies within the university community context to address issues related to gender-based violence. The program uses four main strategies to develop and promote safe spaces for women on campus. From these safe spaces, collective power is fostered in the fight for rights, justice, and equity from a feminist perspective. These strategies are: (1) supportive accompaniment, (2) activism, (3) alliance building, and (4) education.

Contact Information

SIEMPRE VIVAS Metro

787-764-0000 ext. 83503

siemprevivas.metro@upr.edu

Central Tower, Second floor

Plaza Universitaria, UPRRP

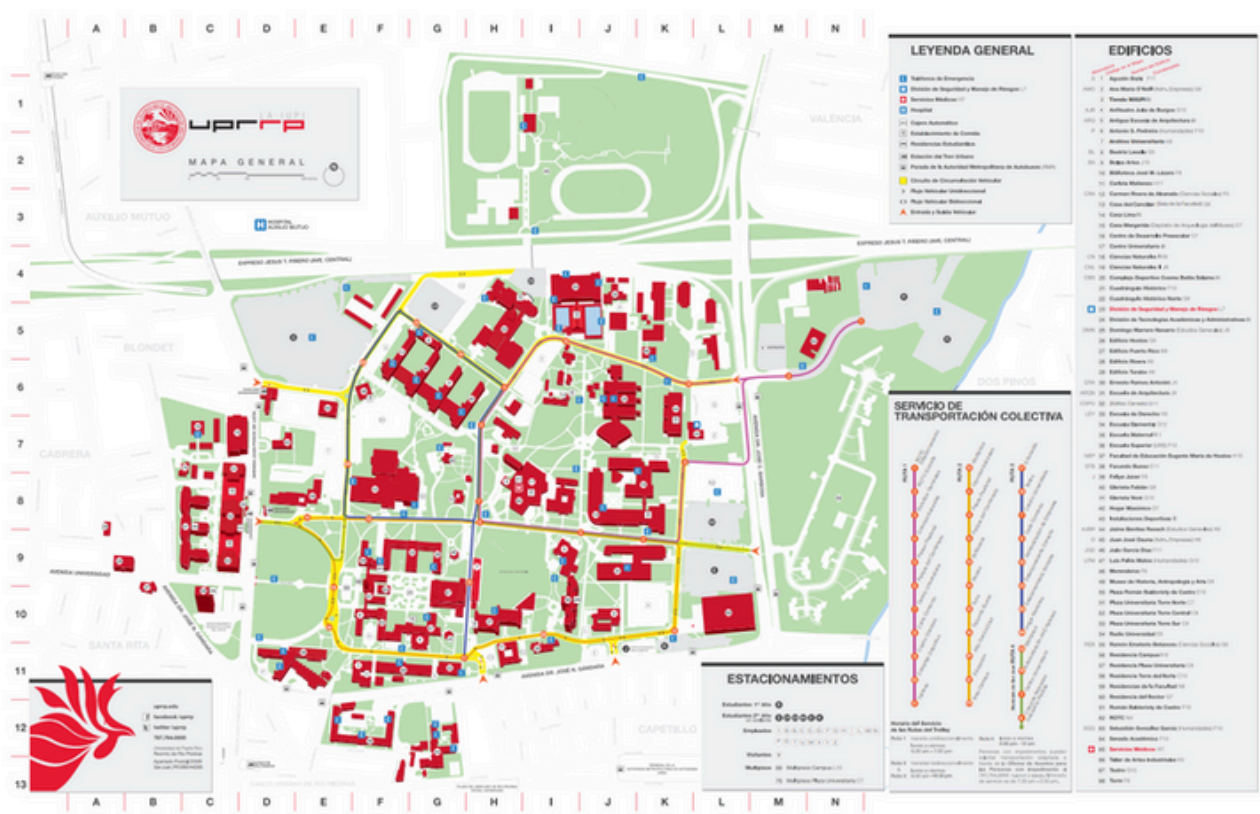


Culture and Student Life



Site Map

You can access the map by clicking the image.



Himno al Alma Mater

(Hymn to the Alma Mater)

“CANTEMOS UNIDOS
UN HIMNO AL ALMA MATER:
CANTEMOS CON FUERZA
EL HIMNO DE LA VIDA
QUE ANUNCIA JUVENTUD,
AMOR Y LIBERTAD;
DÉ GLORIA AL LUCHADOR,
HONRA DE LA UNIVERSIDAD.”



Campus Logos

The use of the campus logos, as stipulated in the Brand Manual, is exclusive and official in nature. If you need access to them, you may visit the Templates and Logos section using your institutional credentials, or submit a written request via email to actividades.comunicaciones@upr.edu. You must identify yourself, provide your contact information, and indicate the specific use for which you need the logo, as well as the desired format.



Mascots



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Athletics Department

The Athletics Department is responsible for promoting student participation in intercollegiate sports programs. Its top priority is to safeguard the physical and emotional well-being of student-athletes, enabling them to achieve their social, academic, and athletic goals.

In addition, the Athletics Department is responsible for complying with all regulations established by the governing bodies of university sports, specifically the Intercollegiate Athletic League of Puerto Rico (LAI).

Official Sports

- Track and Field (W/M)
- Basketball (W/M)
- Soccer (W/M)
- Baseball (M)
- Weightlifting (W/M)
- Judo (W/M)
- Olympic Wrestling (W/M)
- Swimming (W/M)
- Tennis (W/M)
- Table Tennis (W/M)
- Softball (W/M)
- Volleyball (W/M)
- Beach Volleyball (W/M)
- Taekwondo (W/M)
- Cheerleading

Contact

Ramón Hernández Cruz
Athletics Director
ramon.hernandez19@upr.edu
Ext. 86319

787-764-0000
atletico.uprrp@upr.edu

Dariel Collazo Nazario
LAI/NCAA Compliance Officer
dariel.collazo@upr.edu
Ext. 86313

Musical Ensembles

Our campus is home to outstanding musical and artistic ensembles that represent the institution in a variety of settings. If you are interested in joining one of these groups, you must be a student at our campus and pass an audition. A student may belong to more than one ensemble.

For more information: 787-764-0000, ext. 89740

Email: hector.reyes6@upr.edu

Flag Bearers (Abanderadas)

Coordinator: Events Unit

Prerequisite: Audition

Description: Not an academic course

Dance Team

Coaches: Terreny Romero and James Thomas

Prerequisite: Audition

Description: Not an academic course

Tuna

Director: Edithmarie Claudio

Prerequisite: Audition

Description: Not an academic course

Symphonic Band of the University of Puerto Rico (MUSI 3181 Sec. 0U1)

Director: Prof. Nelson Corchado

Prerequisite: Audition

Description: Performance of traditional and contemporary wind band repertoire. Includes symphonic and popular repertoire transcribed for this medium.

Coralia (MUSI 3071 Sec. 2U1)

Director: Dr. Carmen Acevedo Lucío

Prerequisite: Audition, Musi 3175 or its equivalent

Description: Chamber choir with mixed voices that explores repertoire from the Renaissance through the 20th century. Also performs folk (Puerto Rican and Latin American) and traditional repertoire.

University of Puerto Rico Choir (MUSI 3201 Sec. 1 Female Voices, MUSI 3201 Sec. 2 Male Voices)

Director: Dr. Carmen Acevedo Lucío

Prerequisite: Audition

Description: Mixed voice choir performing mostly a cappella. Study and performance of choral works. Includes secular, religious, and folk songs.

Student Organizations

Our campus offers a variety of student organizations that provide services and opportunities to enrich your academic and professional journey. There are organizations of different nature: community, academic, environmental, social, cultural, religious, athletic, and political.

To learn more about the different organizations, you can consult the **Organizations Directory** by visiting the website of the **Deanship of Students**.

Contact Information

Gladymir Santamaría Encarnación

Student Organizations Coordinator

Plaza Universitaria, North Tower, Second floor, Office #2175

Monday to Friday 8:00AM – 12:00PM / 1:00PM – 4:30PM

787-764-0000 Ext. 86445

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