INTER-AMERICAN TRAINING PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

The Inter-American Children’s Institute (IIN), as a specialized agency of the Organization of American States (OAS) in the field of children and adolescents, has developed, since its inception, a variety of training activities, seeking to contribute to enhance the capacities of the human resources of the States of the region and, consequently, strengthen their capacities for the promotion and protection of the rights of children and adolescents.

Throughout this process, the IIN has generated quality theoretical, conceptual and practical content on different topics, achieving a significant supply of courses, as well as technical teaching experience.

This trajectory became consolidated and formalized in 2015 with the creation of the Inter-American Training Program (PIC, by its acronym in Spanish).

OBJECTIVE

The PIC aims to strengthen the capabilities of States and civil society for the promotion, guarantee and protection of the exercise of the rights of children and adolescents, through the development of training processes in different modalities, on different issues.

It is aimed at persons who are part of the systems of the promotion and protection of the rights of children and adolescents in the countries of the region.

COURSES AVAILABLE AND MODALITIES

The PIC is composed by a regular offer, integrated by courses with common features, which are offered to all the States of the Inter-American System simultaneously, and a special offer, integrated by courses of singular features and/or developed in agreement with/for a given State or institution.

Courses may be virtual (through the IIN-OAS Moodle Platform or the one that is opportunely agreed) or blended (with virtual and face-to-face stages). Eventually, there could be exclusively face-to-face training activities.
APPLICATION

Application to **virtual courses of the regular offer** can be conducted in three ways:

- through the **States**. The IIN-OAS notifies the institutions that are members of its Directing Council of the opening of the applications period, whereupon these institutions make a call for applications at the national level and send the IIN-OAS a list of applicants, organized by participation priority.

- through the **open call**. Any interested parties can apply personally through the Form available for this purpose on the IIN-OAS Website.

- Through **organizations with training agreements**. The IIN-OAS notifies the organizations with which it has training agreements of the opening of the applications period, whereupon these organizations make an internal call for applications and send the IIN-OAS a list of applicants, organized by participation priority.

Application to **blended courses of the regular offer** is carried out through the counterpart States. The States that decide to participate jointly in the proposal, make a call for applications at the national level and send the IIN-OAS their list of applicants, organized by participation priority. These courses do not have an open call or quotas for organizations with training agreements.

Application to the **courses of the special offer** is made specifically and/or according to whatever has been agreed with the counterpart.

Application for more than one course is allowed. However, it is only possible to take part in one per period. If a person is selected for more than one course in the same period, they must choose which course to attend.

PARTICIPANTS SELECTION

**Virtual courses of the regular offer** have 25 places for people nominated by States and 10 places for people applying through the open call.

The final selection of participants is made by the IIN-OAS, taking into account the following variables: number of States which have submitted candidates, equity regarding the nationalities of the participants, institutional insertion, amongst others.

For the call trough the States, in the event that there are more applicants than available places, the same number of places will be granted to each State that has sent applicants, following the abovementioned priority order.

In addition, places are guaranteed for the organizations with which the IIN-OAS has training agreements, according to the terms of each agreement.
**Blended courses of the regular offer** have 25 places for each participating State. The State is responsible for selecting participants.

To confirm enrolment, selected candidates should complete a Participant File and a Letter of Commitment. If a selected person decides not to attend or does not meet the requirements within the established deadline, another person with a similar profile will be selected to complete the quota.

Participant selection for the **courses of the special offer** is made specifically and/or according to whatever has been agreed with the counterpart. The requirements for confirmation of registration may or may not apply, depending on said agreement.

**EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION**

To evaluate participant performance in the **virtual courses of the regular offer**, different evaluation activities will be applied throughout the course, in various formats (such as essays, forum participation, questionnaires).

The teacher/tutor will grade each assessment activity based on a scale from 0 to 10, considering both formal aspects and elements that give an indication of the learning process.

The final course grade will be equivalent to a simple average of the grades obtained in all of the evaluation activities applied.

In order to pass the course, participants must complete the process, comply at least 80% of the required assessment activities, and achieve a final grade of 7/10 or higher.

The same criteria apply for the virtual phase of the **blended courses of the regular offer**. The evaluation methodology and grading criteria of the face-to-face phase will be proposed by the counterpart State and endorsed by the IIN-OAS. In order to pass the blended course, participants must pass both stages.

The evaluation methodology, grading criteria and approval criteria for the **courses of the special offer** are defined in each specific case and/or in agreement with the counterpart.

The IIN-OAS will issue an approval certificate to those participants who have passed the course.