

With a high percentage of our high school graduates continuing their education at the college level, it is important to have some information about the schools and the process your students will likely encounter. Hopefully this basic information will help in your discussions with your student about seeking an advanced education.

The landscape and the acceptance processes are similar to those faced by students in the US but differ in varying degrees.

Tuition charges at most public colleges and universities are small in comparison to the astronomical costs in the US. Of course there are living expenses to be considered. Occasionally these can be mitigated if the student has a friend or relative living where they plan to attend college. There are testing requirements for acceptance to the major public universities, but these seem to follow a more delayed time frame than those in the US. There also seems to be a preference to in-state students by the state universities. Some of this preference is understandable because the quality of education received by high school graduates varies significantly by state. Guerrero in general is a disadvantaged state and the Zihuatanejo area in particular is even more so. Within Zihua the public high schools vary in quality with Prepa 5 then Prepa 13 offering "classical" education at the top then Conalep a technical school then Cetis 45 following .



There are plenty of private school options competing for students. These offer many courses of study in fancy sounding career choices that attract our students, especially those with medium grades and the inability to leave from home for a college or university in distant city. As is the case in the US, the payout in securing a job post-graduation from these choices is questionable. There are two, however,



that deserve mentioning because they have been used by our students with some limited success. Sor Juana is a national organization that has been around for many years. Our students have attended Sor Juana for nursing and teaching studies and on some occasions to make up classes. The other is Instituto America, relatively new on the scene, where a number of students have taken nursing. Nursing study at Instituto or Sor Juana costs about \$1500 per year.

In general, our students are either solicited by the local colleges or seek out information about distant universities during their senior year. They begin investigating careers, tuition costs, living expenses, entrance requirements, and possible support from their Niños Adelante padrinos. They take entrance exams, often traveling to the college or university location to take these exams. The results are usually back by early to mid-July.

Zihuatanejo has three public colleges, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Grande, offering technically focused careers such as



Accounting, Business Admin, Computer systems, Architecture and Electromechanics. Almost all students require five years of study to complete their courses at this school. The other two schools are Facultad de Turismo, offering Hospitality related careers such as Hotel Management and Travel Agency management and UPN, a teachers college. All of these institutions are geared to prepare students for employment in the local economy.

Just 25 miles to the south is Universidad Tecnologica de la Costa Grande de Guerrero, Petatlan. This is a public school offering a broader selection of technically oriented careers than Tecno Zihua. The two are about on par from a ranking standpoint. In the recent past a fair number of our students have been attracted to Petatlan. A few ride a bus back and forth while others find housing there but return home on weekends. This school has longer daily class sessions including some Saturday classes so most all the students can complete their studies in four years. The wider selection of careers and the four years here versus five years at Tecno Zihua have made Petatlan a popular choice in recent years.

The top University in Guerrero, UAGRO located in the capital city of Chilpancingo, rates favorably with other Mexican universities. This University offers a full range of Arts and Science degrees.

UAGRO Chilpancingo is a good choice but to reach higher, one must venture to cities in other States. The closest is Morelia, four hours away by bus, where among others is the Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas Hidalgo a prestigious university ranked 15 in Mexico. Beyond Morelia in the eight to ten



UNIVERSIDAD MICHUACANA
DE SAN NICOLÁS DE HIDALGO
Cuna de héroes, crisol de pensadores

hour bus ride range are a host of important universities. UNAM and Politecnico in Mexico City are the number 1 and 5 ranked in Mexico. High ranking Universities in Queretaro, Leon and Guanajato are all good choices for our top students.

Friends of Niños does, thanks to the generosity of special sponsors, offer a few scholarships to the top high school graduates. These have included the Nicholas August, the Gallagher, the Sheahen and the Sanderson scholarships. Two \$6000 Gallagher scholarships have been awarded, one in 2014 and one in 2015, leaving this offering fully subscribed. Currently there are three offerings. The \$6,000 four year total Irene Sheahen Memorial Scholarship for a student leaving home to attend a major Mexican university, the \$10,000 five year total Sanderson Scholarship for an engineering student leaving home to attend a major Mexican university and the Nicholas August scholarship of \$500 awarded to the top graduating high school student attending the University of Petatlan.

There are other State and Federal sponsored scholarships for high achievement students.

The following tables contain more information about Colleges and Universities our students have attended. As mentioned above the tuition expense is small at the public institutions and living expenses, not including transportation, are in the range of \$200 per month. Bus rides back and forth to the distant cities like Mexico City are \$80 or Morelia at \$65. Bus rides to and from Petatlan are \$4.50 round trip.

The beca provided by Niños Adelante is \$500 per year so for a student to go away to even Petatlan let alone Mexico City or Morelia, their family must provide support.

COLLEGES ATTENDED BY OUR NIÑOS

The following are some numbers and information about colleges and universities attended by current and past Niños students.

Keep in mind, the costs shown below consist of tuition only. Most of the books, materials and tools are the responsibility of the students..

In addition, for cases of students attending school away from home an approximate cost is 4000 pesos per month for the food and lodging expenses.

Associates Degree will be the equivalent of "Carrera Tecnica", usually two years and Bachelors Degree is the equivalent to "Licenciatura" or "Ingenieria", usually 4 to 6 years depending on the career. Most graduates are required to perform an internship, usually non paid, for a period of 4 to 6 months prior to receiving their degree.

| Name of School Nombre | Careers offered Carreras | Federal, State or Private | Tuition Matricula | Location, Distance from Zihua |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|---|
| Instituto Tecnológico De la Costa Grande Zihuatanejo (Tecnológico) Rank 411 | Accounting Business management Computer Systems Electromecanica Architecture | Federal National technical college | 2,500 pesos per semester | In Zihuatanejo |
| Facultad de Turismo Zihuatanejo Non ranked | Hotel management Travel agency Bachelors degree In Tourism | State tourism college | 800 pesos per semester | In Zihua On the road to la Majahua |
| Universidad Pedagógica Nacional (UPN) Non ranked | Education | National Public | 2,150 pesos per semester | Zihuatanejo |
| Instituto America Non ranked | Nursing Piscologia | Private | 10,600 pesos per semester | Zihuatanejo |
| Sor Juana Non ranked | Law Tourism Business administration Accounting | Private | 10,500 pesos per semester | In Ixtapa |
| IDESUM Non ranked | | Private | 8,720 pesos per semester | Zihuatanejo |
| CEDVA Non ranked | Culinary | Private | 4,800 pesos per semester | In Zihuatanejo close to the bus station |
| Universidad Tecnológica de la Costa Grande de Guerrero Petatlan Rank 362 | Industrial engineering Engineering electromecanic Tourism Business admin | Public Technical College | 2,200 pesos per semester | Petatlan 40 km south on the way to Acapulco |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Universidad Autonoma de Guerrero Acapulco campus</p> <p>Non ranked</p> | <p>Medicine Law Different Engineering Architecture Psychology Education</p> | <p>State college</p> | <p>11,400 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Acapulco 240 km south 4 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad Hipocrates Acapulco</p> <p>Rank 368</p> | <p>Medical</p> | <p>Private</p> | <p>42,000 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Acapulco 4 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Instituto Tecnologico de Morelia</p> <p>Rank 85</p> | <p>Engineering Computer systems Administration Accounting</p> | <p>Federal National</p> | <p>2,500 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Morelia 370 km 4 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas Hidalgo (UMICH) Morelia</p> <p>Rank 15</p> | <p>Architecture Education Medicine Law Engineering Arts</p> | <p>State university</p> | <p>500 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Morelia 370 km 4 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad Morelia la Salle</p> <p>Rank 194</p> | <p>Accounting Psychology Law Education science Marketing</p> | <p>Private</p> | <p>30,000 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Morelia 370 km 4 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad Autonoma de Guerrero UAGRO (Chilpancingo)</p> <p>Rank 50</p> | <p>Architecture Education Medicine Law Different Engineering</p> | <p>State university (This is Guerrero's major University)</p> | <p>400 pesos Per semester</p> | <p>Chilpancingo 350 km 6hrs by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro</p> <p>Rank 25</p> | <p>Medicine Law Different Engineering Architecture Psychology</p> | <p>State University</p> | <p>3,600 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Queretaro 700 km 9 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad de Leon</p> <p>Rank 195</p> | <p>Law Arts Science Engineering Economics</p> | <p>State University</p> | <p>15,990 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Leon 10 hrs by bus</p> |
| <p>Instituto Tecnologico de Leon</p> <p>Rank 103</p> | <p>Engineering Business Admin Computer Systems Industrial Engineering</p> | <p>Federal National</p> | <p>2,800 pesos per semester</p> | <p>Leon 10 hrs by bus</p> |
| <p>Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM)</p> <p>Rank 1</p> | <p>All Carrears</p> | <p>Federal</p> | <p>free</p> | <p>Mexico DF 10 hours by bus</p> |
| <p>Instituto Politecnico National</p> <p>Rank 5th</p> | <p>Medicine Law Different Engineering Architecture Psychology</p> | <p>Federal National University</p> | <p>400 pesos per semester Additional expense's depending on the career</p> | <p>Mexico DF 600 km 10 hours by bus</p> |

| | | | | |
|---|---|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Colegio Libre de Estudios Universitarios (CLEU) Not Ranked | Criminology | Private | ? | Mexico DF |
| Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla Rank 8 | All Carrers | State University | 500 pesos per semester | Puebla |
| Universidad Politecnica de Puebla Rank 250 | Engineering Industrial Engineering | State | ? | Puebla |
| IstitutoTecnologico de Colima Rank 113 | Accounting Business management Computer Science Engineering Architecture | Federal National | 2,700 pesos per semester | Colima 10 hours by bus |
| UNIDEP Not Ranked | Various Carrers | Private | 10,200 pesos per Semester | Zihuatanejo |