

**THE CORPORATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN MARINE SCIENCES -CEMarin  
OPENS CALL NO. 25 OF 2025, TO OFFER FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ACADEMIC  
ACTIVITIES IN MARINE SCIENCES.**

The Center of Excellence in Marine Sciences, CEMarin, is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to execute and support basic and applied research within the field of Marine Sciences. CEMarin is made up of Colombian universities: Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Universidad de Antioquia, Universidad del Valle, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano, Universidad de los Andes, Universidad del Magdalena, Universidad de Cartagena y Universidad del Norte; as well as the Justus Liebig University of Giessen and the Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), German institutions. Committed to the advancement of science and the contribution to the well-being of Colombian society, CEMarin promotes and conducts research and consulting in marine sciences, fosters the generation of knowledge, and the implementation of new technologies.

As part of its mission to contribute to scientific research, technology, innovation, scientific training, and entrepreneurship in marine sciences, CEMarin announces Call No. 25 to fund academic activities at the postgraduate level.

**1. CALL OBJECTIVES**

- a. Strengthen and disseminate scientific research in marine sciences, promoting national and international collaboration.
- b. Promote the professional, academic, and scientific development of young researchers from CEMarin member universities by supporting activities aligned with the corporation's current research areas.
- c. Foster and consolidate collaboration among researchers within the CEMarin network.

**2. DIRECTED TO**

CEMarin Early Stage Researchers who are developing their thesis work within the framework of the current [research lines of CEMarin](#), have the direct support of a CEMarin Researcher, and are affiliated with one of the member institutions.

**3. MODALITIES**

- a. **Modality 1: Specific Activities**

Categories	Details
<b>Attendance to events and courses</b>	Payment of registration fees for conferences, congresses, courses, and workshops related to a project. Air and/or land transportation tickets. Accommodation and travel expenses for attending events.
<b>Partial tuition payment</b>	Financial support to partially cover the tuition fees for master's or doctoral programs, subject to available resources for this modality (3.600.000 COP). <sup>1</sup> .

\*Non-financeable items: Staff fees, personal expenses, maintenance, and administrative fees.

**b. Modality 2: Financial support for master's and doctoral thesis projects (project execution)**

Categories	Details
<b>Travel expenses within the framework of professional practice</b>	Mobility (air and/or ground transportation tickets, maritime-river transport) and per diems for academic stays and/or field trips.
<b>Materials and supplies</b>	Expenses for field trips, equipment, materials, reagents and/or laboratory supplies, bibliography, etc.
<b>Services &amp; software</b>	Software licenses, payment for laboratory analysis services, among others.

\*Non-financeable items: Staff fees, personal expenses, maintenance, and administrative fees.

#### 4. TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNT

For this call, \$69.442.408 Colombian pesos (COP) are available. The maximum amount financed per person is \$9.000.000 COP for modality 2 and \$3.600.000 COP for modality 1, according to CEMarin's financial conditions. The total cost of the project financed under modality 2 must have corresponding funds from the member institution of at least 30% of the project value. These values can be represented in kind, such as co-supervisor time, supplies, and university facilities. It

<sup>1</sup> For this category, the funds will be transferred directly to the student for the payment of the corresponding amount. Supporting documents and invoices must be attached: tuition bill and proof of payment.

This support will be granted only once, meaning it will only be valid for the payment of one (1) semester.

is important to note that the amounts awarded will be subject to applicable legal withholdings according to the tax status of the applicant.

<b>Availability for both modalities:</b>	\$69.442.408 COP
<b>Modality 1:</b>	Up to \$3.600.000 COP per person
<b>Modality 2:</b>	Up to \$ 9.000.000 COP per person

## 5. DURATION AND FINANCING LIMITS

- Modality 1:** Up to six (6) months.
- Modality 2:** Up to twelve (12) months.

## 6. REQUIREMENTS

- Be associated as a CEMarin Early Stage Researcher.
- The student must have a minimum GPA (last semester completed) of 3.8 in the master's or doctoral program they are enrolled in at one of the CEMarin member institutions.<sup>2</sup>.

### Additionally, for Modality 2::

- The student's director or co-director must be a CEMarin researcher.
- Funded academic activities must be within the framework of a research project and/or master's or doctoral thesis.

## 7. GENERAL APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- A photocopy of the identification document (ID card or passport).
- Motivation letter including a statement that the graduate thesis research topic and/or academic activity corresponds to the specific theme of the current research lines of CEMarin (maximum 1 page).
- Updated student CV.<sup>3</sup>.
- Transcript from the member institution showing the GPA of the last semester completed in the master's or doctoral program.

### Modality 1: Specific Activities

#### Justification for the resource request:

<sup>2</sup> Students must be in the second semester or beyond of their master's or doctoral program. This does not apply to first-semester students.

<sup>3</sup> All CVs of students applying to this call will become part of the CEMarin CV Bank, which will give the student the opportunity to participate in the different projects developed by the CEMarin Corporation.



- Detail the reasons for requesting the resource and specify the activities to be carried out.
- Attach supporting documents for the chosen funding categories (e.g., proof of acceptance to conferences, workshops, courses, submitted articles, tuition bill, etc.).
- Attach the overall budget corresponding to the planned activities, based on the budget format shown in Table 1. If additional support beyond the requested is required, justify its origin.

Category	Detalle	Start Date	End Date	CEMarin (COP)
Transportation	Meals in Mexico City for 5 days	01/04/2025	05/04/2025	\$1.200.000
Per diem	Meals in Mexico City for 5 days	01/05/2025	10/06/2025	\$1.800.000
Event registration payment	Registration fee for international scientific event as speaker			\$600.000
Total				\$3.600.000

**Table 1.** Budget format - Modality 1.

## **Modality 2: Financial support for master's and doctoral thesis projects (project execution)**

### **Sponsor letter**

Letter from the CEMarin Researcher who is the thesis director or co-director approving the student's participation in this call and formalizing the corresponding counterpart. The letter must confirm that the thesis project and/or academic activity has been approved, specifying the development stage and the current master's or doctoral semester the student is enrolled in

### **Thesis project document including:**

- **Title.** The title should provide the reader with sufficient information about the research topic.
- **CEMarin Research Theme.** The student must appropriately justify how the proposal relates to the call and CEMarin's research areas.
- **Total Project Duration.**
- **Associated Institutions.** Institutions involved in the project.
- **Name of the Director (Sponsor) and other Project Members.** Mention both the director and associated researchers. It is important to emphasize if they are CEMarin Researchers and/or CEMarin Alumni.
- **Project Description.** Must contain:

- **Background.** Describe the scientific or technological environment at the time the proposal is submitted, not only by recounting or citing authors or sources, but also by showing the general analysis of the topic that allows deducing the hypothesis or research question. This formulation must be precise, clear, and direct. Therefore, each of the terms and categories used in the question will be developed in the objectives, the theoretical framework, and the respective methodology.
- **Objectives.** The aim and purposes of the doctoral work, master's thesis, or research project. They should be concise, realistic, measurable, and achievable. Indicate the general and specific objectives.
- **Methodology.** Describe the experimental design of the project, such as the number of replicates, sample size, sampling techniques, or experimental units, among others. Also, the procedures or techniques that will be applied and how the data analysis will be performed. Please be concise, specific, and indicate which methods are associated with each specific objective of the project.
- **Expected Results.** The research results should be of high quality and/or publishable as one or more academic papers indexed in journals (WoS/Scopus), technological products such as patents or prototypes.
- **General Timeline.** Must chronologically order the relevant research activities.
- **Budget.** The general budget must present aspects such as: field trips, materials and reagents, equipment, bibliography, publication costs, mobilization costs to participate in national and international forums, symposia, seminars, and events that seek to socialize the products generated by the funded research. Keep in mind that the project funding must have corresponding funds from the University, of at least 30% of the total project value (the values can be represented in kind, such as the co-direction time of the director, inputs, and facilities of the universities). Base it on the budget format presented in Table 2.

Category	Activity	Start Date	End Date	CEMarin (COP)	University (COP)
Travel	Flights Bogotá to Mexico City	01/04/2025	05/04/2025	\$2.500.000	\$0
Per diem & transport	Meals in Mexico City for 5 days	01/04/2025	05/04/2025	\$3.000.000	\$0
Materials & others	PCR reagents, tubes, biological material (fish), prints	01/05/2025	10/06/2025	\$3.500.000	\$0

Services	Laboratory analysis	20/06/2025	20/07/2025	\$0	\$3.857.142
Total				\$9.000.000	\$3.857.142

**Table 2.** General budget format – Modality 2 (specify external financing of at least 30% of total project value).

## 8. COMMITMENTS (AFTER RECEIVING FUNDS)

- Produce a general (non-scientific) dissemination note about your work or event participation, minimum one (1) page, in Spanish and English, for publication in the CEMarin virtual bulletin, social media, and/or [SONAR](#) magazine.
- Acknowledge CEMarin as the funding entity using the affiliation “CEMarin Early Stage Researcher” in at least one of the following: (a) any publication (e.g., scientific articles, book chapters, preprints, in-progress articles), (b) presentation at a national or international scientific event (congresses, workshops, meetings, posters), or (c) technological products (patents, prototypes). A certificate must be obtained.
- Participate as a speaker or organizer in a **CEMarin-designed activity when requested**.
- Provide five (5) high-quality photos from the research site and at least one (1) photo with the beneficiary present.
- Use the budget exclusively for the defined activities and submit supporting documents within one (1) year.

## 9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The property rights to the results obtained in each case will be governed by the internal Intellectual Property regulations of the corresponding CEMarin member university.

## 10. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Modality 1: Specific activities**
  - Quality of the motivation letter: 20%
    - Relevance according to the terms of reference
    - Clarity and writing
    - Coherence
    - Length
  - Justification for the resource request: 25%
  - Relevance of the academic activity in relation to the development of the thesis project and the strategic research lines of the CEMarin Corporation: 25%
  - Relevance and coherence of the budget: 20%



- v. Academic average: 10%
- b. **Modality 2: Financial support for master's and doctoral thesis projects (project execution)**
  - i. Quality of the motivation letter: 15%
    - Relevance according to the terms of reference
    - Clarity and writing
    - Coherence
    - Length
  - ii. Scientific quality of the proposal based on the criteria defined by the scientific committee: 55%
    - Well-constructed theoretical framework accompanied by a general context and appropriate scientific references
    - Hypothesis, question, and objectives related to the research problem
    - Documented and adequate methodology to achieve the proposed objectives
    - Feasibility of achieving the project objectives with the current activities and timeline
    - Originality
    - Realistic budget consistent with the presented activities
  - iii. Broad impact of the proposal: 10%
  - iv. Relevance of the budget: 10%
  - v. Academic average: 10%
  - vi.

The proposals will be submitted to evaluation by CEMarin, initially by the call for proposals area, in a second instance by academic peers, and finally by the CEMarin scientific committee if necessary, clarifying the issue of conflicts of interest.

## 11. TIMELINE

Activity	Date
Call publication	May 20, 2025
Application period	May 20 to November 30, 2025 <sup>4</sup>
Application evaluation	Results sent within 20 business days after application

**Note:**

<sup>4</sup> Or until the resources allocated to this call are exhausted.

Documents must be sent in PDF format via email to [convocatorias@cemarin.org](mailto:convocatorias@cemarin.org) with subject: Call No. 25 of 2025, Modality 1 or Modality 2.