



Uniservitate Memberships Announcement

The Uniservitate **programme** calls on Catholic, or Catholic-inspired, Higher Education Institutions (CHEIs) to become members of its global network and access training resources, global and regional activities, research scholarships, awards and other benefits linked to solidarity service-learning.

An initiative of Porticus, coordinated globally by the Latin American Center for Service-Learning (CLAYSS), *Uniservitate* aims to generate a systemic change in Catholic Higher Education Institutions through the institutionalization of Solidarity Service-Learning (SSL) as a tool to fulfill their mission of a holistic education, to foster agents for social change who critically engage for a better society according to the social teaching of the Church.

We understand networking as a strategy for systemic change. The encounter between educators and students who develop service-learning projects strengthens their practices. The encounter between institutions that promote, implement and systematize it produces stronger institutions. And the exchange between them, at a local and global level, impacts public policy and systems. This critical mass generates and sustains systemic change.

The **Uniservitate global network** is present on all five continents through seven regional hubs that support more than thirty universities that, during the first stage of the programme (2020 to present), were included as supported institutions —a condition that implies technical and academic assistance and financial support.

The new **Memberships** project adds to this structure to expand the scope of the programme. It does not imply any cost for the institutions, lasts one year —at the end of which its renewal can be requested— and includes benefits and services such as the following:

- [Belonging to a global network and learning community of SSL practitioners and researchers](#)
- **Access to online training resources**
 - Self-managed courses on SSL: basic concepts and steps to develop SSL projects (5 users for the online training platform).
 - Digital resources developed by the *Uniservitate* Community Members in different formats and languages.
 - Online self-assessment tools to identify the SSL institutionalization level achieved.
- **Participation in the call for [Small Research Grants \(2025\)](#):** Through its regional hubs and the intervention of a scientific committee, Uniservitate grants small research 2



funds for projects on specific service-learning topics. Service-learning can make a specific pedagogical contribution to Catholic universities, helping them integrate their social reach and spiritual identity with academic activities, offering innovative ways to achieve an education that unites “hands, head and heart,” as demonstrated by research and experiences developed by Catholic Higher Education Institutions.

- **Participation in the [Uniservitate Award \(2026\)](#):** Global recognition for the best “Solidarity Service-Learning Experiences (SSL) in Catholic Higher Education”. It is awarded by regions to initiatives that demonstrate effective contributions to the solution of socio-environmental problems, identified and addressed with organizations and community members; with active participation of students and a clear connection between service and educational planning.
- **Preferred registration to Global *Uniservitate* Symposia** (25th November, online): Limited space available for participation in the activities.
- **Exclusive Global and Regional Meetings.**
- **Meetings among CHEI Authorities and Community Engagement Leaders.**
- **Twin projects:** bi & multilateral joint SSL initiatives with colleagues from all around the world to share experiences and resources.
- **Bi-monthly newsletter.**
- **Possibility of applying to become an “accompanied institution” by *Uniservitate*.**

How can you be a member of Uniservitate?

To apply for the Membership project, the interested institution must complete [a form](#) with basic data and information about its experience or interest in solidarity service-learning and send [a formal letter of commitment](#) signed by the Rector or the designated authority.

Each application must also have the formal acceptance of the institutions of the corresponding region that, as regional hubs, are already members of *Uniservitate*.

Once accepted as members, institutions will only be asked to:

- Include the “*Uniservitate* Member” logo on the institution's website, linked to the Uniservitate website.
- At the end of the year, fill out a form that outlines the activities you have developed as part of the *Uniservitate* Membership programme and their impact on the institutionalization of service-learning.

Applications for membership open four times a year, in April, June, September and November.

For more information, please contact memberships@uniservitate.org.