Buenos Aires, March 2023

**Who we are**

For the last 16 years, Fundación Integrar has been offering scholarships to low-income students who seek access to higher education in order to be able to join the work force in a competitive way. The scholarship holders receive a stipend, academic advice during their career, emotional support from a mentor, and workshops and training to ensure their job readiness.

Two different scholarship program are available:
- The Integrar scholarship is intended for those who want to study a traditional career
-The IntegrarTEC scholarship is an intensive program for those who want to learn coding and programming.

**History**

it all started back in the early 2000s. At a soccer game, three friends who had just started the university met a young man who dreamed of going to college because he believed that getting an education would allow him to change his life for the better. The three friends realized that although the university is free in Argentina, the young man was so poor that he could not afford the transportation and study materials expenses. They decided to sponsor him; one of them assumed a mentoring role and all three got involved in keeping his motivation high despite the enormous difficulties he had to overcome. Over the years, they sponsored more and more young people and, in 2006, Fundación Integrar was born.
[ActaConstitutiva - Ingles.pdf](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1aCFGr975Zn1ey1q8bMVKaEMiOHMW0IOl&authuser=lcasal%40programaintegrar.org&usp=drive_fs)

 **Today**

Fundación Integrar is proud to have 147 graduates and more than 150 on going students. Most importantly, in a country with the highest youth unemployment in the region, 90 percent of Integrar graduates have a formal job, the vast majority of which is related to their field of study.

During the Alumni Annual Meeting, last December, we compiled the voices of our graduates in this [video](https://youtu.be/rwJfy3WBInM). Here are some [pictures](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OWq-MTd2CI7aihZwV_EbV5hJkZQbeRMe).

**General information**Fundación Integrar is a small NGO.
The staff consists of 6 employees and 2 part time employees.
Additionally there are 52 Volunteers, most of which are mentors.

Integrar is exclusively funded by donations of individuals living in Argentina, Argentinean expats, and some foreign philantropists. We also have the support of fifteen sponsors among which we are proud to count EY, Zurich, Credit Suisse, Fundación Fortabat and Fundación Kipp.

The number of beneficiaries (scholarships holders) in March 2023 is 141. Ninety of these are studying a traditional carrer, forty five are training as coders and programmers..

 **Fundación Integrar´s impact**

a) **Employability**

In a country with so much social inequality, at Integrar we believe that talent is distributed evenly among the population. For the last 16 years, our scholarship programs have provided opportunities for vulnerable young people who want to have a higher education to be able to join the working force with competitive skills and thus rise out of poverty.

**We are happy to report that 90 percent of 151 Integrar graduates have a formal job related to their career.**

**b) Gender**

In Argentina, six out of ten university students are women. This gender imbalance favoring women can be misleading: women only represent 25 percent of engineering and applied sciences and only 15 percent of programming careers. On average, women with formal jobs earn 29 percent less than their male peers, while those who work in the informal sector earn 36 percent less. According to the latest official data, the unemployment rate of men is 46 percent while it is 65 percent for women.

Seventy five percent of all our graduates are women.
Thirty percent of the first cohort´s graduates from IntegrarTEC were women. We are proud that they represent 50 percent of the second and on going cohort

More detailed information and testimonials can be found in the latest available Annual Report: [Informe de gestion 2021-2022](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1F48JLo8-aRJ4PebnGP3lrucpa2JcYA-y)

**The future**

Argentina is going through a severe crisis, and the context is highly recessive. According to the most recent official data, 60 percent of Argentinian children live below the poverty line, 53.5 percent of the total population is unemployed and youth unemployment is the highest in the Latin-American region. Gender is an additional vulnerability predictor: the unemployment rate of young women from the lowest quintile of wealth is almost twice that of young men.

Almost all of the economy is stricken by decades of crisis, but one industry is booming: the software industry. We expect technology to be a major driver of employment in the years to come.

Our aim is to be able to offer a larger number of [IntergrarTEC](https://youtu.be/-ee4iXn_ZyY) scholarships every year. Our goal for 2024 is to admit at least sixty students, fifteen more than were admitted in 2023. This ambitious growth is dependant on funding.

As of late march 2023 we already have half of the funding necessary to support the same number of scholarships than we made available this year. Fundraising for this specific program is of course on going and we are confident that we will be able to raise the same amount that allowed us to admit 45 scholarship holders this year.