



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
HARRIS SCHOOL  
OF PUBLIC POLICY



**BECAS**  
CARLOS  
ANTONIO LÓPEZ  
Excelencia es futuro

# LEADING WITH IMPACT

Evidence-Based Decisions for Policy  
Analysis, Design, and Communications





## PROGRAM DETAILS

### START DATE

**Tuesday, September 15, 2026**

### FORMAT

**Hybrid | Virtual + In-person in Asuncion**

### DURATION

**8 weeks of virtual coursework + 2-day in-person  
Policy Hackathon**

### SCHEDULE

**Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 9 PM (Asuncion time)**

*A few sessions will take place on Wednesday evenings at the same time*

### DELIVERY

**English | If needed, inquire about simultaneous Spanish-English  
interpretation options when applying**

### FEES

**Fully sponsored by BECAL**

### UPON COMPLETION

**Certificate of completion from the University of Chicago  
Harris School of Public Policy**



## WHY THIS PROGRAM

Paraguay stands at an important moment to strengthen institutional capacity, improve transparency, and enhance effective governance. The professionals shaping decisions across government and institutions today will play a central role in advancing the country's long-term development. The program is designed to support public administrators build the technical, leadership, and ethical foundations needed to advance their work and deepen their impact.

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

This program is designed for government employees who are already doing substantive work and are ready to sharpen their analytical and leadership capabilities. You are a strong candidate if:

- Your work involves shaping, implementing, or evaluating programs or policy
- You regularly work with data, budgets, reports, or policy documents but want stronger frameworks for turning that information into decisions and recommendations
- You are being asked to take on more responsibility and want to build the analytical and leadership foundation to meet that challenge with confidence
- You have at least two years of professional experience in institutions responsible for Paraguay's economic policy and management

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the program, participants will be able to:

Design and evaluate policies using structured analytical frameworks

Apply data and evidence to support decision-making and justify recommendations

Manage budgets, stakeholders, and teams with greater confidence and integrity

Communicate complex ideas as clear, compelling narratives for diverse audiences

# Coursework grounded in evidence, designed for practice, and built around the challenges Paraguay's public sector faces today



**Course 1: Policy Foundations**  
Participants explore the full policy cycle, including agenda-setting, stakeholder mapping, financial feasibility, and execution, through scenarios grounded in the Paraguayan public sector.

**Course 2: Data-Driven Decision Making**  
Participants learn to interpret statistical outputs, evaluate evidence, and conduct basic quantitative analysis using Excel and Python. The two-week format provides time for hands-on practice with real datasets.

**Course 3: Strategic Public Leadership**  
Topics include change management, ethical decision-making, institutional integrity, and practical frameworks for addressing corruption, applied through government-specific case studies.

**Course 4: Public Finance**  
This course covers revenue collection, fund allocation, procurement controls, and expenditure management. Participants analyze real budget documents and work through fiscal planning and cost-benefit exercises.

**Course 5: Translating Evidence for Impact**  
Participants learn to distill research findings, evaluate competing claims, and construct evidence briefs that connect analytical rigor to actionable recommendations.

**Course 6: Effective Policy Communications**  
Participants practice building persuasive narratives tailored to specific audiences, translating technical content into messages that are accessible and strategically framed.

**The Policy Hackathon | Two Days, In-person in Asuncion**  
The program culminates in a two-day intensive where participants apply everything they have learned to a real-world policy challenge in the Paraguayan context. Working closely with Harris faculty, teams develop and present their recommendations to a panel of experts.



**APPLY TODAY**

<https://becal.gov.py/especializaciones-asistidas/>

**QUESTIONS?**

Contact [gestiondebecas@mef.gov.py](mailto:gestiondebecas@mef.gov.py)



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The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy is a global leader in evidence-based policy education. For more than three decades, Harris Public Policy has empowered leaders worldwide to move beyond ideology and intuition, applying data-driven insights and analytical rigor to tackle today's most pressing challenges. Through executive education, Harris Public Policy equips decision-makers with practical frameworks and evidence-based strategies to drive measurable, lasting impact.



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BECAL (Becas Carlos Antonio Lopez) is Paraguay's national scholarship and professional development program, committed to investing in advanced human capital through targeted funding and strategic partnerships with leading academic institutions. BECAL equips Paraguayan professionals with the knowledge and skills to strengthen their institutions, advance their careers, and contribute to the country's long-term economic and social development.