

Economics, PhD

BAECONPHD

Enjoy close contact with faculty and fellow classmates and many opportunities to actively participate in department activities and to discuss your ongoing research with visitors. Financial support for five years is offered through teaching and research assistantships, with stipends that are highly competitive.

Program description

Degree awarded: PHD Economics

The PhD program in economics provides rigorous training in microeconomic theory, macroeconomic theory, applied economics and econometrics. Additionally, students may select a primary area of specialization for study:

- applied microeconomics
- econometrics
- economic theory
- environmental and resource economics
- financial economics
- macroeconomics

This full-time doctoral program prepares students for teaching and research positions at four-year institutions of higher education and for research positions in public agencies or private business organizations.

The program is relatively small in size, with about 45 doctoral students in residence at any time. This low student-to-faculty ratio affords greater faculty attention and mentoring than larger programs. Students become valued members of the department, involved in teaching, research and seminar activities.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [W. P. Carey School of Business](#)

- **Location:** [Tempe](#)

Degree requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

In addition to completing 60 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree (30 credit hours beyond the master's degree) and 24 credit hours of research and dissertation, the doctoral student must accomplish five tasks:

1. Meet the qualifying examination requirement.
2. Present at least one area of emphasis.
3. Pass the comprehensive examination (both written and oral components).
4. Pass the dissertation proposal defense.
5. Complete a dissertation with an oral defense.

Students should see the Department of Economics graduate student handbook for details concerning these tasks.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the W. P. Carey School of Business.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE scores
4. three letters of recommendation
5. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide [proof of English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency.

The Department of Economics requires applicants to send official scores from the GRE directly to Graduate Admission Services. Applications are not reviewed until the GRE scores are received. ASU does not accept the GRE® General Test at home edition.

The admission policy weighs several factors, including letters of reference, overall GPA, GRE scores and performance in selected mathematics and economics courses. There are no absolute standards for any of the factors, but performance on each should clearly suggest academic potential that is far above those of the normal undergraduate student.

Admission guidelines are available on the Graduate Admission Services website. Applicants should see the program website for application deadlines and admission terms.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Career opportunities

Graduates with a W. P. Carey School of Business doctorate in economics embark on careers in research and academia, learning from thought leaders in their respective fields and gaining the resources of one of the largest universities in the U.S.

Career opportunities include:

- assistant professor
- economist
- research associate

Contact information

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