

DEVELOPMENT, PH.D.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions to the Development, Ph.D. have been suspended as of spring 2019 and will be discontinued as of fall 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact the department (academicaffairs@cals.wisc.edu).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking admission to the program must already hold a master's degree in a social science, preferably with a thesis requiring original research. Previous experience living and/or working in a developing country in some capacity (Peace Corps, non-government organizations, individual initiatives, etc.) is an important aspect of a successful applicant's background. A student's application is judged on the basis of previous academic records, letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and a research proposal. This proposal will form the cornerstone of the student's program. It will provide the admissions committee with a clear explanation of the direction the student intends to take with the research. In their statement of purpose, students should clearly outline their reasons for choosing the Ph.D. in development.

The online application must contain the following:

- Personal statement
- The research proposal
- Official transcripts for all post-secondary institutions attended
- Three letters of recommendation
- A curriculum vitae

Test Scores. General Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores for all applicants and TOEFL or IELTS scores for international applicants are required.

Details on the requirements can be found on the program website (<http://devstudies.wisc.edu/admission.html>).

FACULTY ADVISOR

Applicants will not be admitted unless a member of the program faculty agrees to serve as advisor. If the Admissions Committee judges your application favorably, you will receive a provisional admission. You should identify one or more potential advisors from the list of faculty (http://devstudies.wisc.edu/people_faculty.html) and include that information in your Reason for Graduate Study. The Admissions Committee will contact potential advisors in order to obtain a match. Most students remain with their initial advisor; others find a more compatible match during the first semester.

DEADLINE

The Development Studies Program will only consider applications for fall semester admission. The deadline is January 15.

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. **Applicants must meet** the minimum

requirements (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>) **of the Graduate School as well as the program(s)**. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>).