

# Doctoral Assistant Position (PhD) in Economics

The [Institute of Economics \(IdEP\)](#) of the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) in [Lugano, Switzerland](#) invites applications for a full-time Doctoral Assistant position (PhD). Applications received by **January 15, 2021** will be given priority. The starting date is September 1, 2021.

The focus of our PhD students is their doctoral research and the completion of related PhD courses. To support this goal, the working environment we provide is very attractive, including compensation (all PhD students are paid a salary from the beginning), infrastructure, and opportunities for research and teaching assistant positions.

**Doctoral School in Economics at USI** In advancing to the PhD degree, students pass through two major stages, (i) course work and (ii) the completion of a dissertation.

**Year 1** is devoted to developing a strong foundation in the basic tools of economics, including full-year courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics ([core courses](#)). Successful candidates are required to apply by [April 15, 2021](#) to the [Swiss Program for Beginning Doctoral Students in Economics](#) at the [Study Center Gerzensee](#) of the Swiss National Bank (SNB). The [application form](#) requires candidates to submit their [GRE test scores](#). In year 1, successful candidates will devote most of their work time to this program. Successful completion of the program satisfies the 1<sup>st</sup>-year course requirements (30 ECTS).

**Year 2** is devoted to deepening courses to bring successful candidates to the research frontier of their field(s) of interest and to developing the dissertation topic. Starting from year 2, in addition to doctoral work, successful candidates will provide part-time assistance in the institute's research projects and/or teaching activities.

**Years 3 to 5** are devoted to completing the dissertation, which consists of at least three original research papers. Successful candidates will present their research progresses regularly to their supervisor(s) and in informal seminars to the rest of the faculty and doctoral students, who will provide constructive feedback that will improve the research.

The ideal candidates have, or are upon completion of, a Master's degree in Economics, Econometrics or a related field. Candidates with a general interest in quantitative empirical research will be given a strong preference.

Applications should be sent to [idep@usi.ch](mailto:idep@usi.ch).

Candidates should include the following information:

1. A complete CV, including your date of birth, two references (see point 3), any programming skills and other relevant information that might be important for us.
2. A transcript of your university education (Master's Degree or equivalent), including the grade point average (GPA).
3. The names and email addresses of two academic references that could be contacted for more information.
4. A personal statement giving concrete evidence of your promise as a member of the academic community and providing the selection committee an image of you as a person.
5. Your GRE test score (if available).

Owing to the large number of applications received, only those applicants whose profiles are likely to fit the positions will be notified for further details and eventual interviews. Qualified applicants will be interviewed starting from January 18, 2021.