Full-Time PhD Application Form (IEGSD) 2027

UNU-MERIT / Maastricht University – the questions you can expect in the online application form

Important – Terms of Application

- Application deadline: **15 February 2027** (midnight CET).
- If you apply before the deadline, your referee has until **22 February 2027** to submit their letter.
- Applications cannot be held over to the following year. Re-applicants must submit a new form.
- Academic year start upon admission: **September 2027**.

The online form consists of **eight parts**. You can interrupt at any stage and continue later – a personal resume link is emailed to you when you start. Fields marked with * are required. Please prepare the documents listed in parts 6 and 7 in advance (maximum 2 MB per file).

Start Registration

Email address *

your@email.com

1/8 Personal Data

Name (as stated in passport)

Official first name(s) *

Last name *

Sex

Sex (as stated in passport) *

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female
- ◯ X

Personal Details

Marital status *

Date of birth *

dd / mm / yyyy ▦

Place of birth *

Country of birth *

Nationality *

Second nationality (if applicable)

Correspondence Address

Please provide as much detail as possible to facilitate communication.

Street & house number *

Town / City *

State / Province

Postal code

Country *

Phone

Email *

your@email.com

2/8 Language Skills

Fluency in English is a prerequisite. Please select your level for each skill.

Speaking *

- ◯ Basic
- ◯ Functional
- ◯ Advanced
- ◯ Mother tongue

Reading *

- ◯ Basic
- ◯ Functional
- ◯ Advanced
- ◯ Mother tongue

Writing *

- ◯ Basic
- ◯ Functional
- ◯ Advanced
- ◯ Mother tongue

☐ I obtained a degree from an all-English academic programme (at least one academic year). *Please upload proof under step 6C (Additional Documents).*

2A/8 English Proficiency Test

Please select the English proficiency test you have taken and enter your score.

You can skip this part if you obtained a degree from an all-English programme, or if English is your mother tongue for speaking, reading and writing.

English proficiency test	Minimum requirement
TOEFL	100 iBT (5 on the new 1–6 scale); Maastricht University's TOEFL code is 7102
IELTS	7.0 / 7.5
Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) / C1 Advanced	185
UN Language Competence Level	Level 4 (expert language competence)

Test *

Select a test ▾

Score *

Tests in the list: TOEFL, IELTS, CAE / C1 Advanced, UN Language Competence Level.

3/8 Other Information

How did you find out about this PhD programme? *

- ◯ Maastricht University website
- ◯ UNU-MERIT website
- ◯ Social media of UNU-MERIT
- ◯ Online job or academic announcement platforms
- ◯ Recommendation from a current PhD fellow
- ◯ Recommendation from a UNU-MERIT alumnus
- ◯ Partner university network
- ◯ Other

If other, please specify

4/8 Financial Resources

This is a four-year, full-time, Maastricht-based programme. Estimated costs are **€15,000–20,000 per year** (living expenses only). Please indicate how you expect to finance your participation. *This information does not influence the admission decision.*

Funding source(s) – tick all that apply *

- ☐ I wish to apply for the UNU-MERIT fellowship
- ☐ I am currently applying for another scholarship

Potential scholarship provider

- ☐ I have already obtained a scholarship / grant

Scholarship provider

- ☐ Self-sufficient
- ☐ Other

If other, please describe

5/8 Letter of Recommendation

We require one letter of recommendation from a current or former professor or employer. Please provide the contact details of your referee below.

Important

Your referee will be contacted automatically once you submit your application. Please ask their permission in advance. These details **cannot be changed** after submission.

Use a **professional email address only** – letters from free email providers (gmail, yahoo, hotmail, etc.) will not be accepted.

Once the referee has successfully submitted the recommendation, you will receive a notification. It is your own responsibility that the referee submits the letter of recommendation in time.

Your referee must submit their letter by **22 February 2027**.

Referee name *

Referee email *

your@email.com

6A/8 Education: Bachelor Degree

The Dutch Ministry of Education requires confirmation of your degrees.

If you hold a single integrated degree covering both bachelor and master level (minimum 4 years), you may upload it for both entries.

Bachelor Degree Details

Institution *

Field of study *

Graduation date *

dd / mm / yyyy

Upload Documents

Bachelor Certificate *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Bachelor Grade list *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Explanation of grading scale *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

6B/8 Education: Master Degree

Master Degree Details

Institution *

Address *

Field of study *

Graduation date *

dd / mm / yyyy

Upload Documents

Master Certificate *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Master Grade list *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Explanation of grading scale *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

6C/8 Education: Additional Documents

Optionally upload up to five additional degrees or documents you consider relevant. *If not applicable, skip by clicking Next.*

Document 1

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Document 2

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Document 3

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Document 4

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

Document 5

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

7/8 Required Documents

Research Proposal Details

Title of research proposal *

Keywords (3–5) *

e.g. innovation, development, impact evaluation

Document Uploads

Letter of Motivation (1–2 pages) *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF only, max 2 MB

Curriculum Vitae *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF only, max 2 MB

Copy of Passport *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF / JPG / GIF / PNG / BMP, max 2 MB

PhD Research Proposal (2–3 pages) *

Choose file No file chosen

PDF only, max 2 MB

8/8 Statement

By submitting this application I certify that all information provided is accurate and complete. I have read and accept the Terms of Application. I understand this is an application only and does not guarantee admission.

I can provide original or certified copies of my educational certificates on request.

After clicking "Submit Application", your application is final and can no longer be edited. Your referee will be contacted automatically.

☐ Optional: I would like to receive information about other programmes and courses offered by UNU-MERIT, and I consent to UNU-MERIT retaining my email address for this purpose in accordance with its privacy policy.

Date

Filled in automatically

Place *

City where you are signing this