

Graduate School

Life Science Engineering



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DARMSTADT

FAQ – Application process

1. What documents do I need to submit for my application?

- CV
- Motivation letter
- Bachelor and Master certificate, Transcript of records
- Proof of English language skills
- At least two recommendation contacts

2. Can I submit my application if I have not finished my master's studies yet?

- Yes, as long as you will have your Master's degree by the time of starting your PhD. In that case, please send your bachelor's degree with your application

3. Do I need to translate my transcript of records?

- Yes, please provide your transcripts in English.

4. When can I submit my application?

- Once per year, the calls for several PhD positions are open = application track I
- Independent of the central call, you can always check for our open positions and apply directly to the research group leader = application track II

5. I have problems with the online application form. Who can help me?

- If you have any technical problems with submitting your application, please contact the Managing Director immediately

6. What is the difference between Track-I and Track-II?

- Application track I is a central call once per year for several PhD position followed by virtual interviews and a joint start of the PhD program for all accepted candidates
- Application track II is independent of the central call, students may apply to open positions throughout the year

7. How will my application be evaluated?

- All incoming applications will be evaluated by the Management Board of the Graduate School LSE and PIs associated to the GS LSE

8. Can I apply for the program several times?

- Yes you can.

9. How will I get my invitation for the virtual interview?

- The Managing Director will contact you via email whether you have been further considered in the recruitment process or not. In case of further consideration you will get details about the virtual interviews as date, time and zoom link.

10. What do I have to prepare for the virtual interview?

- Please prepare a short presentation about your research experiences of about 15 minutes in English. The presentation is followed by questions from the PIs.

11. What happens if I cannot participate the interview due to illness or rather reasons?

- In case of illness or other valid reasons, the interview date can be postponed. Your application will still be considered

12. Who is eligible for the PhD program?

- Doctoral students with an excellent master's degree in a life science or engineering disciplines as Molecular Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Synthetic Biology, Material Science, Computer Science, Micro- and Nanotechnology are eligible for the program

13. What is the language of the PhD program?

- The PhD program is international. The spoken language is English. However, each student can learn German at TU Darmstadt

14. How are the PhD positions funded?

- If not other stated, the PhD positions are funded by the project leader individually. The Graduate School funds the program activities (annual retreat, mobility allowance, etc.)

15. When can I start my PhD?

- Students who applied for track I will start together in October/November. Students who applied via track II will start whenever the funding of the project they applied for is starting (throughout the year)

16. How can I get support as international student?

- International Students get help by the Welcome Center and the International Student Service (ISS) of the TU Darmstadt. The Managing Director of the Graduate School LSE is also your direct contact.

17. Help for VISA

- The Welcome Centre is responsible for supporting international students in applying for a visa. International candidates who have received a job offer should register with the Welcome Centre immediately.

18. Do I have to be enrolled in the TU Darmstadt?

- After final acceptance in our program (only then), you require electronic application at our university, a final approval of your documents and acceptance of the PhD committee of the department of the research field of choice. The managing director will support you throughout the whole administrative process and answers all your questions.

19. Is there a possibility to improve my foreign language skills?

- Yes, the TU Darmstadt offers different language courses for all students and employees