

STUDY IN PRAGUE
FOR A CZECH AND US DEGREE

PhD in Economics

Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economics Institute
A joint workplace of Charles University in Prague and the Czech Academy of Sciences
Dedicated to excellence and innovation in economics research and education



About CERGE-EI

“CERGE-EI has had a transformative effect on teaching and learning about economics. If we had another five such organizations in equally key parts of the world, the prospects for global economics theory, empirics and policy would be greatly enhanced.”

Simon Johnson
Professor, MIT

CERGE-EI

Founded in 1991 in Prague, Czech Republic, the Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economics Institute (CERGE-EI) has established itself as one of the world’s top centers of excellence in economics education and research. A joint workplace of Charles University in Prague and the Czech Academy of Sciences, CERGE-EI provides a world-class graduate education in English and produces cutting-edge research. CERGE-EI holds research seminars and public lectures several times each week, delivered by leading economists from Europe and North America.

International Recognition

The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) places CERGE-EI among the top 2% of 1500 Economics Departments and Research Centers worldwide. Research Papers in Economics (RePEC) has ranked CERGE-EI among the top 5% of more than 13,000 economic institutions worldwide.

International Faculty

Our faculty members are outstanding researchers who publish widely across a broad range of fields in theoretical and applied economics. They come from many of the world’s top graduate programs including Princeton University, the University of Chicago, the London School of Economics and University College London.

Successful Alumni

Our graduates are employed in more than 30 countries. They typically pursue academic careers in prestigious university departments around the world, or hold high-level positions in international organizations, including The World Bank, IMF, EBRD, OECD, government ministries and central banks, think-tanks, and private-sector organizations, including major banks and consulting firms.

PhD in Economics Program

“A first-rate PhD program. The fact that CERGE-EI has such high quality students with such diverse backgrounds makes it unique in the world.”

Joseph Stiglitz
Professor, Columbia University
2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics
Member of CERGE-EI Executive and Supervisory Committee

US-style PhD Degree

The US-style PhD program is designed for outstanding students who desire a rigorous graduate education in economics at a prestigious research institution. It has a permanent charter issued in the United States, and is fully accredited in the Czech Republic. Graduates thus receive both a US and a Czech PhD degree.

International Student Community

Our students come from almost three dozen countries on five continents and have a wide variety of backgrounds, including degrees in economics, mathematics, international relations, physics, computer science, engineering, business or sociology.

Full Tuition Waivers and Stipends

Almost all PhD students receive full scholarships, including tuition waivers and living stipends, and can thus focus on their studies. Students in good academic standing retain their scholarships for a full four years, after which CERGE-EI provides teaching and research opportunities, with appropriate stipends, until their dissertations are completed.

Study Stays at Top US and European Universities

Students are supported to spend a semester or academic year on mobility, to conduct part of their dissertation research working with experts in their fields at leading universities in Western Europe and North America.

Research Opportunities

PhD students often join in faculty research projects as full partners. They are also encouraged to publish their research work and regularly receive conference travel support.

Individual Approach

Thanks to the relatively small size of the institution, our students are able to discuss their research projects and ideas in depth with faculty members. They also receive personal attention from the Study Affairs Office that helps them with everything from visas to housing. The Academic Skills Center helps students to develop their written and oral communication skills.

Duration

2 years of master's level coursework, followed by approximately 2–3 years of supervised PhD dissertation research

Language

English

Start Date

September every year

Location

Prague, Czech Republic

How do I apply?

“CERGE-EI gave me the most powerful tools for success: a critical mind combined with determination. It transformed my dreams into goals and my goals into achievements.”

Petar Stankov
2014 PhD graduate
Senior Assistant Professor, University of National
and World Economy, Bulgaria

Eligibility Criteria

- Strong background in mathematics is an advantage.
- Sufficient proficiency in English to read, write and fully understand study material is necessary.
- Previous education in economics is welcome, but not required.
- Masters degree or equivalent.

Documents Required

- Online application form
- Curriculum vitae
- Statement of motivation
- Certified copies of BA and MA diplomas and transcripts
- Two letters of recommendation
- Optional: TOEFL, IELTS, or other certified English language exam score / GRE or other proficiency test score

Application Deadline

- April 30
- No application fee

Admission Process

Documents are evaluated by the CERGE-EI Admissions Committee. Students may be admitted directly or invited to the summer preparatory semester for intensive training in intermediate microeconomics, macroeconomics, and mathematics. This takes place in Prague, Czech Republic in July and August.

Number of Admitted Students

Approximately 30 students admitted each year.

Contact

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