International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science (IMPRS-PHDS)

Call for Applications

This call is not an open call. Instead, this call is directed exclusively at doctoral students who are already affiliated with one of the 12 IMPRS-PHDS partner sites. You should respond to this call only if you are a doctoral student already affiliated with an IMPRS-PHDS site. Everyone else should please respond to the open call available at the school’s website at https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de.

The International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science (IMPRS-PHDS) is a new and unique three-year doctoral program that merges demography, epidemiology and data science. The PHDS school equips doctoral students not only with advanced knowledge of the theory and methods of demography and epidemiology (broadly defined as ‘population health’), but also with strong technical skills in statistics, mathematical modeling, and computational and data management methods (broadly referred to as ‘data science’). Possible dissertation topics are not limited to health, but cover all areas of demographic research, including mortality, fertility, migration, mathematical and social demography, as well as the impact of population aging on changing life courses, intergenerational transfers, and economic activity within populations.

IMPRS-PHDS is hosted at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR; https://www.demogr.mpg.de/) in Rostock, Germany. Founded in 2019, the school receives core support from the Max Planck Society, MPIDR, University of Rostock, and ten affiliated institutions. It does not charge fees, and accepts about 15-20 pre-doctoral fellows every year. The school’s curriculum is tailored to pre-doctoral students entering the School with a Master’s or equivalent degree and offers

- strong interdisciplinary research training in population, health and data science;
- high quality supervision across at least two institutes;
- extensive networking opportunities across 12 partner sites in Europe and the U.S.;
- a core training program at the MPIDR.

More information on the IMPRS-PHDS curriculum is available on the school’s website at https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de/.

All 12 institutions participating in IMPRS-PHDS are invited to encourage their doctoral students to submit an application to IMPRS-PHDS.

How to apply

- All applications must be made in English.
- Doctoral students affiliated with one of the IMPRS-PHDS partner sites and interested in joining IMPRS-PHDS should please apply by email to the school (address below). Please begin your email message with a statement saying that you apply for IMPRS-PHDS. You also need to attach the following items integrated in *a single pdf file*:
  1. A two-page curriculum vitae, including a list of your scholarly publications.
  2. A two-page statement of your doctoral research (or research plans). Explain how your doctoral research relates to the IMPRS-PHDS. Explain how you expect IMPRS-PHDS to promote your future career.
(3) A one-page **recommendation letter from your primary doctoral supervisor** at your home institution (i.e., IMPRS-PHDS partner institution) supporting your application.
- Send your email to the IMPRS-PHDS office: [phds@demogr.mpg.de](mailto:phds@demogr.mpg.de)
- Application deadline is **15 June 2020**.
- Applicants will be informed of their acceptance by 15 July 2020.
- Starting date of the new school year is 2 November 2020.
- All admitted students are invited to attend the PHDS core training courses starting on 2 November 2020.
- All admitted students and their primary doctoral supervisors are expected to attend the IMPRS-PHDS Annual Academy on 7-9 December 2020 at the MPIDR in Rostock, Germany. Attendees' travel and accommodation costs will be covered by the IMPRS-PHDS budget.

Email inquiries concerning IMPRS-PHDS and the application process should also be sent to [phds@demogr.mpg.de](mailto:phds@demogr.mpg.de).

IMPRS-PHDS values diversity and is committed to admitting individuals from minorities. Individuals with severe disability are especially welcome to apply. IMPRS-PHDS also seeks to increase the proportion of women in areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourages women to apply.