

Recommendation Form 2025

Instructions for the applicant

Please pass this form to each of the two referees whom you have asked to write a recommendation for you. Please inform the professor/instructor/lecturer that the recommendation form is to be sent directly to the Ruhr Graduate School in Economics (via mail or via email to the address provided in the box below).

Note to the professor / university instructor / lecturer

The candidate is applying for admission to the **Ruhr Graduate School in Economics** (RGS Econ, www.rgs-econ.de). We kindly ask you to complete this evaluation form to help us assess the applicant's ability to successfully participate in an internationally competitive Ph.D. program in Economics.

The Ruhr Graduate School in Economics (RGS Econ) is part of the Research Academy Ruhr and combines the expertise of the four UA Ruhr economics departments and the RWI - Leibniz Institute for Economic Research, one of Germany's leading economic research institutes.

The PhD program offers postgraduate education in all fields of economics, covering theoretical and empirical methods in microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, and allowing for specializations in e.g. monetary, behavioral, experimental, labor, health, industrial, resource, international, public, and theoretical economics. It combines rigorous, PhD-level course work with an exposure to the research environments at four economics departments, opportunities in policy-oriented research at the RWI, as well as a structure that fosters collaboration, facilitates networking with the international community, and provides sufficient guidance for a timely completion of high-quality dissertations.

RGS Econ is looking worldwide for applicants with an excellent academic record, a Master's or equivalent degree in economics or related fields, and a high research potential. Especially your assessment of the latter is highly appreciated.

You may answer in English or German, as you prefer. **We thank you for helping us in choosing the right candidates.** This recommendation will be held in strict confidence.

Please send your completed recommendation form **before March 24th, 2025**

via mail to the director of RGS Econ, Prof. Dr. Christoph Hanck:

Ruhr Graduate School in Economics

Prof. Dr. Christoph Hanck

TU Dortmund

Vogelpothsweg 87

44227 Dortmund, Germany

or – preferably – via email from your institutional account to its managing

director, Sascha Keweloh: sascha.keweloh@rgs-econ.de

(We will acknowledge the receipt of your letter via Email).

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Name of the Applicant | ▶ | |
| How long have you known the applicant? | ▶ | |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Name of Referee | ▶ | |
| Position/Title | ▶ | |
| Institution | ▶ | |
| Your institutional email address | ▶ | |
| Your research field(s) | ▶ | |

From which of the following do you know the candidate?

(Please tick or comment all that apply)

| | Introductory & Intermediate Levels | | | | Advanced & Graduate Levels | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Lectures | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sections / Tutorials | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Seminars | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exams | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> | one | <input type="checkbox"/> | several | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Research/Teaching Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | |
| Supervision of Master Thesis | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | |
| Supervision of Bachelor Thesis | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | | | | | | | | |

Please rate the performance of the applicant in comparison with other students in the same field who have the same amount of experience and training.

| | Truly outstanding (top 5%) | Exceptional (top 10%) | Very good (top 25%) | Above average (top 50%) | Below average | No judgement possible |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Motivation to pursue a PhD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal potential (self-discipline, determination) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Originality and intellectual creativity | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mathematical, quantitative and logical abilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Written expression and oral communication skills | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Knowledge in fields of economics | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Academic performance | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please comment on the applicant strengths and weaknesses and briefly summarize your personal impression of the applicant’s research potential and suitability for a rigorous PhD Program.

You may also provide a separate letter.

Do you recommend the candidate for admission to the Ruhr Graduate School in Economics?

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| I recommend the candidate very highly. | ▶ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I recommend the candidate. | ▶ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I recommend the candidate with reservations. | ▶ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| I do not recommend the candidate. | ▶ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| |
|--|
| Date ▶ |
| Place ▶ |
| (Electronic) Signature / Initials ▶ |

Please make sure that your referee report is complete. You may use the button below. Please send the PDF along with any additional material preferably via Email from your institutional email address to sascha.keweloh@rgs-econ.de.

Please click here:



(We recommend using Google Chrome or Adobe Acrobat in conjunction with this button.)