



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO STUDY PHD BY RESEARCH IN DATA SCIENCE
ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022
SEPTEMBER INTAKE**

The Management of the University of Rwanda (UR) wishes to invite interested and qualified candidates to apply for the PhD by research in Data Science offered at the African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS), College of Business and Economics (CBE).

The African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS) is one of 24 Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence in ACE II Project. The main objective of ACE II Project is to strengthen selected Eastern and Southern African higher education institutions to deliver quality Postgraduate education and build collaborative research capacity in the regional priority areas. ACE-DS is a regional centre and will combine expertise in statistics, economics, business, computer science, and engineering to use big data and data analytics to solve development challenges. ACE-DS will address specific development challenges by:

- Offering a research hub for postgraduate students, attracting international expertise and practitioners in **Data mining, Econometrics, Biostatistics, Demography and Actuarial Science**
- Stimulating collaboration between academics, partners and stakeholders.
- Demonstrating the relevance of the Centre for innovation, job creation and economic prosperity; and
- Securing resources to stimulate multidisciplinary collaborative international research projects.

The programme lasts for 3 - 4 years and it is a full-time PhD Program by research which requires publications and thesis; professional development courses and seminars will be offered.

I. Entry requirements

To be admitted, interested candidates must have a MSc Degree in Statistics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Information Technology, Economics and other related fields.

II. Key dates for this call

Closing of online application process: 30th July 2021



III. Required documents for application

1. A cover letter addressed to the Director of UR CPGS indicating for which program of study the application is being made and the motivation to join the program
2. Notarized BSc, MSc Degrees and transcripts (Equivalence from HEC will be required for degrees obtained out of Rwanda)
3. Copy of your ID or Passport
4. Updated Curriculum Vitae
5. Two recommendation letters from academic referees who are knowledgeable about the applicant.
6. Sponsorship letter from an organization (if any)
7. Applicants from countries where English is not the language of instruction at higher education must provide an English Proficiency Certificate from a relevant body or institution.
8. PhD research concept note of a maximum of 3000 words.

IV. Selection criteria

Completeness and accuracy of required documents (see previous section)

V. Funding

1. There are 3 scholarship opportunities available in ACE-DS on a competitive basis (highest marks) for eligible candidates.
2. Self-sponsored and candidates with sponsorship from employers or other organizations are encouraged.

Note: Female candidates both national and international are strongly encouraged to apply.

VI. Application process

1. Go to UR Website (www.ur.ac.rw)
2. [Go to Admission, Applicant Portal](#) and click to ([New Application](#))
3. Fill the **Biographical Form** and click (**Save**) at the end. You will get “**Your Student ID Reference Number**”.
Please keep this ID Number as it will be your ID identification for all transactions at UR



4. Create a PIN of 5 numeric digits, do not start with a 0 (This PIN will serve as your password to access your student account.)
5. Candidates are requested to submit all required documents by using the [Link: pgfile.ur.ac.rw/pgfile/findme.php](http://pgfile.ur.ac.rw/pgfile/findme.php)

N.B:

- All documents must be in PDF
- If all required documents are not submitted, you cannot go to the next step.
- When your submission succeeds, a message will be sent to your e-mail box.

VII. Further information

For any additional information, clarifications or inquiry, please do not hesitate to contact:

1. Mr. Charles NZARAMYIMANA, Tel: (+250) 788456452 and for more information, please visit ACE-DS website: <http://www.aceds.ur.ac.rw>
2. Jocelyne MUTAGANDA, UR Postgraduate Studies Officer, Tel: (+250) 786147759; email: jmutaganda@ur.ac.rw

Done at Kigali, June 22, 2021

Dr. Emile BIENVENU
Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research
University of Rwanda