



WHY PHD-ECONOMICS AT IBA?

The PhD in Economics at IBA is a fully funded program designed to develop expertise in economic theory, quantitative methods, and applied research. With a strong focus on Applied Economics, the program prepares students for policy planning, economic forecasting, and analytical roles across public and private sectors. Aligned with international academic standards, it offers a stimulating research environment that equips graduates for impactful careers in academia, research institutions, government, and multinational organizations.

- 48 credit hours, Evening and weekend classes
- 4 years completion time
- Focus on Applied & quantitative methods
- Aligned with international research academic
- Work with think tanks & global agencies
- Designed for careers in research, and policy

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES



IBA is located in Karachi — the financial hub of Pakistan — and is one of the country's most prestigious higher education institutions.

Its School of Economics and Social Sciences (SESS) is a dynamic academic hub that brings together two departments, two research centers, and three specialized labs. The school hosts over 1,000 students with a balanced male-to-female ratio (48:52), fostering diversity and inclusivity. With 45+ PhD faculty members, SESS emphasizes academic rigor, research excellence, and global engagement. Students benefit from international exchange opportunities, research grants, and vibrant campus life. SESS maintains global connections with a 1,200+ strong alumni network across the US, UK, Germany, Turkey, Canada, and beyond—many of whom have pursued graduate studies on prestigious scholarships like Fulbright, Erasmus, DAAD, and Chevening.



COURSE STRUCTURE

The PhD Economics program requires enrollment in all departmental courses, which build a strong foundation in advanced economic theory and research methodology. These courses cultivate analytical rigor and critical thinking, equipping students with the expertise to address complex economic challenges and contribute effectively to scholarship, policy, government, and industry.

FALL SEMESTER

- Topics in Microeconomic Theory
- Topics in Macroeconomic Theory
- Econometric Analysis

SPRING SEMESTER

- Topics in Research Methods
- Elective I
- Elective II

By the end of the first 2 semesters (Fall and Spring) a student must achieve a minimum CGPA of 3.0. Any student with a CGPA below 3.0 will be dropped from the program. Additionally, student must enroll in all required courses offered by the Department as part of the PhD Program.

ELECTIVE COURSES

The PhD Economics program offers advanced electives that support specialized research in key economic areas. Students can choose from courses such as Macroeconomic Modelling and Public Policy, Environmental Economics, International Trade, Financial Economics, and Monetary Economics. Additional electives like Institutions and Development and Advanced International Trade allow students to align their coursework with their research interests and academic goals.

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Fully Funded Program: PhD Economics students receive full funding, including tuition waiver and a monthly stipend starting from Rs. 85,000.

Performance-Based Assistantships: Assistantships include tuition support and stipends, subject to academic performance and full-time enrollment in the first two years.

Research Engagements: Opportunities to work with public/private research firms, government bodies, and international institutions on impactful economic research.

Institutional Collaborations: Engage in funded research with top-tier government, private, and international organizations.



ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING & CRITICAL THINKING

The PhD Economics program promotes advanced interdisciplinary learning, combining theoretical knowledge with real-world application. Students engage in policy-relevant research, economic modeling, and quantitative analysis, fostering critical thinking essential for leadership in academia, policy, and research.

RESEARCH LABS & FIELD EXPOSURE

Doctoral candidates benefit from access to research hubs like the Population Research Center and the Karachi Urban Lab. These labs offer opportunities for collaboration with global institutions, enabling data-driven research and policy analysis rooted in Pakistan's socioeconomic context.

SCHOLARSHIP & SOCIAL RELEVANCE

The program encourages inquiry into pressing national and global issues—ranging from development and inequality to macroeconomic policy—through a research agenda grounded in social impact, academic rigor, and ethical responsibility.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the PhD in Economics program are equipped to lead high-impact roles in academia, research, and economic policymaking, including:

- Senior Economist (IMF, World Bank, UN, etc.)
- Policy and Economic Advisor
- Lead Data & Forecasting Analyst
- Research Director at Think Tanks
- Tenured Faculty or Academic Researcher
- Chief Economic Consultant

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- MS/MPhil in a relevant subject from an HEC-recognized local or foreign university with a minimum of 60% marks or a CGPA of 3.0 out of 4.0.
- Applicants must fulfill specific departmental requirements, including a test and interview.

APTITUDE TEST EXEMPTION

Minimum score of 600 on the GMAT, or a GRE score of 160 in quantitative and 150 in verbal.



<https://economics.iba.edu.pk/postgraduate.php>

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Main Campus

University Enclave, University Road,
Karachi - 75270 Pakistan
Phone : +92-(21) 3810-4700

www.iba.edu.pk

+92 21 111 422 422

City Campus

Plot # 68 & 88 Garden / Kayani
Shaheed Road, Karachi - 74400 Pakistan
Phone : +92-(21) 3810-4701

[f](#) [i](#) [x](#) [in](#) [v](#) [ibakhiiofficial](#)



SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES PHD - ECONOMICS

DISCOVER. RESEARCH. TRANSFORM

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM