

# Admission requirements for the PhD

## Academic background

The requirements for entry to the Doctorate program are set out in Royal Decree 99/2011 (January 28) which regulates official doctorate courses.

A minimum of 300 ECTS credits, a minimum of 60 of which must be from a Master's program, are necessary for admission to the doctorate program.

In addition, applicants must be in possession of a university degree with a minimum of 180 ECTS credits in one of the following areas:

- Business
- Economics, Engineering, Psychology, Sociology, or other discipline (candidates who do not possess a Business degree are required to have at least 18 credits in subjects related to business management).

Additionally, for access to ESADE's Doctorate in Management Sciences Program, the following admission requirements have been established:

1. Applicants must have GMAT/GRE.
2. Applicants must have taken a minimum of 25 ECTS credits in areas of methodology and theory related to business management.
3. Applicants must have completed a Final Masters Project/Dissertation (15 ECTS minimum) of one of the three following types:
  - Theoretical research contributing to an advance in the state of knowledge in a specific field.
  - Applied research involving the use of knowledge and existing research methods in a new application or to resolve a real world problem.
  - Literature review, an in-depth analysis of literature within a specific line of research that identifies gaps in current knowledge.
4. Applicants must have passed ESADE's qualifying exam.

## Languages

The programme is taught entirely in English. A number of language aptitude test are accepted. Minimum scores required for entry are as follows (Valid only for two years):

TOEFL:100  
IELTS:7.0  
Certificate in Advanced English:B  
Certificate of Proficiency in English:C  
PTE Academic: 72

If your mother tongue is English or if you have taken your university studies in this language (minimum 3 academic years), it is not necessary for you to demonstrate your level of English through an language aptitude test, provided that you present the corresponding documentation to justify this exemption.

It is not necessary to have knowledge of Spanish to be admitted to the Research Master in Management Sciences.

 **Admission criteria**

- GMAT/GRE grade: 20%
- Academic Transcript (bachelors and masters): 20%
- Convergence of candidate's research interests with ESADE's research lines (the annex provides a list of the research units and their main research lines): 20%
- ESADE "qualifying exam": 40%