

# GIGA Doctoral Programme – Application Information

## Mandatory qualifications

- A university degree (Master or equivalent) with a very strong grade point average in Political Science/International Relations, Economics, History, or a related discipline. Normally we expect candidates to have a GPA of 1.5 or better (German system or equivalent);
- A high-quality project proposal that shows a clear fit with the GIGA's research agenda, i.e. region-specific analysis relating to Africa, Asia, Latin America, or the Middle East as well as questions of global significance on a topic that integrates well into one of the four research programmes of the GIGA. Projects with a cross-regional or a comparative area studies focus are particularly welcome;
- Strong command of the English language (German is not a prerequisite).

## Our offer

- An academic environment that facilitates innovative research and provides excellent possibilities for individual development,
- Full integration into the research structure of the GIGA,
- An office space in an open-plan office in Hamburg's city centre and options for mobile work,
- A comprehensive training programme consisting of social science modules and soft skills,
- The possibility to apply for additional mobility grants for field work and conference attendance.

## Application process

**First step:** Submit application form to [dpgiga@giga-hamburg.de](mailto:dpgiga@giga-hamburg.de).

You can find the application form in the download area on our website. Please make sure that you meet the mandatory qualifications and that you fill out all required fields of the form. Please note that we will only consider fully completed forms. After an assessment period of up to 10 working days, you will receive an answer from us as to whether you qualify for the second step or not.

**Second step:** Please submit full application consisting of the following:

- Letter of motivation
- CV
- Research proposal of maximum 2,000 words
- Simple copies of degrees and academic transcripts (BA, Diploma, MA)
- Proof of English-language skills
- Academic writing sample

After an assessment period of up to 20 working days, you will receive an answer from us as to whether you reach the third step or not.

**Third step:** Interview

The interview will take about 35 minutes. It will consist of a presentation of your research proposal (max. 5-7 minutes), followed by a question and answer session regarding your project as well as more general issues.

We strongly welcome international applications. Diversity and the reconciliation of work and family life are of great importance to the institute. The GIGA promotes the equality of all genders. Additionally, we actively encourage applications from persons with disabilities.

Please refer to our [FAQs](#) for any further questions. You can also contact us via email at: [dpgiga@giga-hamburg.de](mailto:dpgiga@giga-hamburg.de).