

## Information for applicants

Applicants must hold a **Master's degree (inclusive Research thesis)** or equivalent from a university in the field of Natural Sciences. Applicants still studying should anticipate receiving their degree not later than 6 months after the interview date. A provisional certificate from the University, stating the examination marks already obtained, should be provided. During completion of the online application form, you will be required to upload a scanned copy of your certificates as PDF file of not more than 3MB.

Once you have registered, you will receive a personal login. Please check also your spam folder! With this login, you can check the status of your application anytime.

The application form consists of several sections. Please fill in the mandatory fields and **SAVE** the form. Using this login you can edit your form before you **SUBMIT**. Once you have submitted the form you will no longer be able to make any changes or add information, however you can check the status of your recommendation letters.

The application package consists of

### 1. Personal Information

If you have multiple names, please enter the name from your passport, we will use it later for your visa application. If applicable, please use hyphens.

Please enter an address used by courier services and at least one telephone number.

### 2. Education

Enter information about your university and thesis. If you have not graduated yet put an approximate date. **Please assist us in assessing your academic performance by entering the best and worst grades used by your university, i.e. 1 best, 5 worst or A best F worst.**

Applicants holding (or expecting to hold) a **MSc (Master in Science) degree including a research thesis** are eligible to apply. Please find a list of accepted university degrees at the end of this document. If you hold a degree that is not a MSc and is not listed below, please send the name of the degree in the original language and the English translation to [phdmdc@mdc-berlin.de](mailto:phdmdc@mdc-berlin.de) and we will inform you whether you are eligible to apply.

If you hold a B.Sc. degree, you are unfortunately not eligible to apply.

### 3. Honours/ awards

Please list only international publications.

### 4. Research interest

You can find out which research areas and group leaders are represented in this Selection round at [http://www.mdc-berlin.de/de/phd\\_ausbildung/phd\\_program/Application\\_Portal/Recruiting\\_group\\_leaders/index.html](http://www.mdc-berlin.de/de/phd_ausbildung/phd_program/Application_Portal/Recruiting_group_leaders/index.html).

Research experience: Please list any supervised research projects extending at least several weeks.

Please describe your research interest and motivation to apply to the MDC. You can specify your preferred research groups here. Should there be a significant gap in your academic career please describe how you maintained your interest in research.

#### **5. Names and addresses of 2 referees**

Please enter the names, addresses and affiliations of two referees. We recommend choosing referees that know you personally and are willing and able to write a description of your academic performance.

It is essential that your referees complete the reference form before the application deadline. You can check the status of your references after submission.

#### **6. Supplementary information**

Please tell us where you have heard about the International PhD program at the MDC first.

#### **7. Documents**

We require scanned versions of the following certificates:

- university degree certificates
- translation of your university degree certificate in English or German if available
- transcript of records: official list of coursework including grades
- GRE score if applicable
- Language test if applicable
- other major certificates

Please upload only pdf files in our online application system.

#### **8. Submit and Preview**

The completed application must be SUBMITTED latest by the application deadline. After submission you cannot change or add information, but you can check the status of your references. If there are any questions or problems, please contact our Graduate Office at [phdmdc@mdc-berlin.de](mailto:phdmdc@mdc-berlin.de)

Applicants will be assessed on the basis of their application and the letters of recommendation. Short-listed candidates will be invited for a three-day interview. We will reimburse travel expenses and provide free accommodation.

If you are accepted to the program, you should start the PhD project no later than 6 months after the interview date.

### Accepted University Degrees:

- Algeria:** Diplome d'Etudes Approfondis
- Australia:** Masters by research
- Austria:** Magister, Diplom Ingenieur
- Belarus:** Diploma and Doctoral candidate exam of a full University
- Belgium:** Licenciè/Licentiaat
- Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Diplomirani
- Bulgaria:** Diploma (4-5 years of Study)
- Canada:** Master
- China P.R.:** Master
- Croatia:** Diploma
- Czech Republic:** Magister
- Denmark:** Cand. Scient.
- Egypt:** Master of Science
- Finland:** Licensiaatti or FK
- France:** Masters or Diplome d'Etudes Approfondis (DEA)
- Germany:** Diplom, Master, Diplom (FH). Candidates with a FH Diplom are welcome to apply. During the first year they might have to complete additional studies and exams. In this period payment might be lower.
- Greece:** Diplomatochos including a postgraduate study with thesis equivalent to Master.
- Hungary:** Diploma (OKleveles)
- India:** Master obtained by Indian Institute of Technology or other recognized Universities. Graduates from other Universities might have to complete additional studies and exams in the first year. In this period payment might be lower.
- Iran:** Master with at least 15/20, including foreign language exam, exam of knowledge and recommendation from the Professor.
- Ireland:** Master including a thesis or dissertation
- Israel:** Master (final grade 80%; thesis 85%)
- Italy:** Esame di Laurea
- Morocco:** Diplome d'Etudes Approfondis
- Netherlands:** Doctoraal examen (Doctorandus)
- Norway:** Candidatus
- Pakistan:** Master including a B.Sc. in the same field
- Poland:** Magister
- Portugal:** Licenciado
- Romania:** Diploma
- Russia:** Diploma and Doctoral candidate exam of a full University
- Slovakia:** Magister
- Slovenia:** Diplom
- Spain:** Licenciado including tesina or proyecto de carrera
- Sweden:** Fil. Cand. or Högskoleexamen (160 Points)
- Switzerland:** Diplom
- Tunisia:** Diplome d'Etudes Approfondis
- Turkey:** Yüksek Lisans Diploması (5 – 6 years)
- Ukraine:** State exam (Diploma, Master) allowing admission to Aspirantura
- United Kingdom:** Master including a thesis or dissertation.
- United States of America:** Master including a thesis obtained from a Research University of the Carnegie List
- Yugoslavia:** Diploma