

## Call for applications for a COHE scholarship for graduate students pursuing a doctorate in a field related to human ecology

The European College of Human Ecology has decided to offer a COHE scholarship for graduates to support doctoral studies in a thematic area that promotes the further development of human ecology.

The European College of Human Ecology invites doctoral students to apply for a COHE doctoral scholarship at the University of Kassel, which is collaborating with the European College of Human Ecology for this purpose.

The doctoral thesis should deal with a relevant topic in human ecology and also be suitable for promoting human ecology and contributing to the dissemination of its findings.

Doctoral candidates will be geographically based at the partner university and must be admitted as doctoral candidates to the University of Kassel under the supervision of their primary advisor. Confirmation from the advisor is required that the doctoral program meets all the requirements of the admitting university.

The COHE doctoral scholarship covers a funding period of 3 years. It is a monthly living allowance of up to €1,300 and is oriented towards the DAAD rates: The first year is a conditional scholarship, which is extended if an annual report adequately documents the project and is approved by the supervisor.

Tuition fees are not covered by the COHE doctoral scholarship. Scholarship recipients are required to pursue their doctoral studies on a full-time basis. During the scholarship period, recipients may work a maximum of 10 hours per week. Scholarship recipients may not receive any additional funding from other sources for the purpose of pursuing their doctoral studies.

### **Application requirements:**

- Applicants must have completed a MA/MSc degree with very good results in a subject area related to human ecology.
- The applicant's most recent academic degree must have been obtained no more than six years ago.
- If an applicant has already started his or her doctoral project, this must have been no more than three years ago.
- Funding is only available for the first doctoral degree. If you already have a doctoral degree, funding is not available.
- Very good English language skills (CEFR level: C1 or higher), demonstrated by one of the following documents:
  - TOEFL with a minimum score of 95 IBT (Internet-based test);
  - IELTS 7.0 or higher;
  - the Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English or an equivalent certificate.
- Native German speakers and applicants who have completed their degrees entirely in English do not need to submit an English language certificate.
- Academic or professional experience in one of the subject areas related to human ecology.
- For foreign applicants for a doctoral scholarship: The applicant has not lived in Germany for more than 15 months (except for study purposes or as a refugee).

Additional application requirements that are of advantage:

- For foreign applicants, a good command of German is an advantage.
- If applicants have successfully participated in COHE events in the past, such as summer universities, online courses, or conferences, this is particularly advantageous.

## **Application documents:**

Please submit the following documents in a single PDF file. Only complete applications in the order listed below will be accepted:

- A detailed CV (including academic background, list of publications [if applicable], professional experience, language skills, volunteer work);
- A doctoral project proposal (approx. 2000 words, including topic, research question, brief overview of relevant literature, theoretical approach, research design and methodology, justified assignment to human ecology, and potential supervisors.
- A timeline for the doctoral project together with a preliminary table of contents;
- A summary of the master's thesis (approx. 1500 words);
- A scanned copy of an English language certificate, if required;
- Scanned copies of the following documents in the original language with translations attached if the language of these documents is not German or English:
  - The certificate and transcript of your recognized master's degree with a list of all subjects and grades;
  - The certificate and transcript of your recognized bachelor's degree with a list of all subjects and grades;
  - Certificates of completion of additional courses of study, listing all subjects and grades, if applicable;
  - Scanned copies of certificates of previous professional experience, if applicable.
- Application data sheet (see appendix)
- Signed declaration of good academic practice (see appendix)

## **Completion and submission of your application documents**

The application form must be completed and included with your application documents. Your application documents must be submitted by November 30, 2025 (12:00 p.m., GMT+1) to [board@cohe-europe.de](mailto:board@cohe-europe.de).

## **Two letters of recommendation**

In addition to your application, you must submit two recent letters of recommendation from professors, lecturers, or other individuals who can assess your academic performance.

The referees must sign the letter and send a scanned copy from their email account to the following address: [board@cohe-europe.de](mailto:board@cohe-europe.de)

As in the letters themselves, your full name and "Letter of Recommendation" should be included in the subject line of the email.

The letters of recommendation must also be received by COHE no later than November 30, 2025.

Successful applicants must submit officially certified photocopies of all submitted documents and translations at a later date.

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## Further conditions

All applications will be checked using a plagiarism detection program.

By submitting your application, you agree to this.

The use of AI tools in the preparation of the proposal is not permitted.

For further information or questions, please contact the COHE staff:

Email: [board@coh-europe.de](mailto:board@coh-europe.de)

The COHE homepage: [www.coh-europe.de](http://www.coh-europe.de)

## COHE-Doctorate Scholarship - Application Data Sheet

Please send this Data Sheet as part of your application with all requested documents

### PERSONAL DATA

Last Name:

First Name:

Gender:

Date of Birth:

Country of birth:

Nationality:

Marital status:

### Address and contact details:

Street:

City:

ZIP:

Country:

E-Mail:

### YOUR Master

Name of University:

Department:

Title of master thesis:

Date of completion of master degree:

Previous Studies:

BA Degree:

Subject:

Commentary:

## Declaration of Good Academic Practice

The use of AI tools in the preparation of the proposal is not allowed. All applications will be checked for plagiarism.

*I confirm that I have independently created this application / PhD proposal, utilizing only the resources explicitly mentioned. Any sections derived from other works, whether as direct quotations or paraphrased content, have been correctly cited and referenced.*

*If I do this despite my own declaration, this constitutes academic misconduct and can lead to exclusion from the application process.*

**Location, Date:**

**Signature:**

**Name:**