PhD program at Leeds
The PhD Program at the University of Colorado Leeds School of Business challenges you to investigate complex questions and innovative ideas, while working closely with prominent faculty and scholars to generate groundbreaking research. The program prepares you for research and teaching careers at leading universities—recent graduates have accepted tenure-track positions at Indiana University, University of Georgia, University of Melbourne and Tulane.

Choose your discipline
Leeds PhD students study all academic disciplines and focus their research on advancing one key area.

Accounting
Examine corporate disclosure, information intermediaries, market microstructure, corporate governance, executive compensation, and standard setting.

Finance
Study corporate finance, structure of securities markets, valuation and asset pricing, derivatives, corporate governance, and information economics.

Marketing
Explore the drivers of consumer behavior, mechanisms of consumer decision-making and indicators of firms’ strategic success.

Organizational Behavior and Information Systems
Focus on leadership, diversity, emotions, teams, machine learning, behavioral information security, natural language processing, cognitive information processing and technology utilization.

Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Operations
Work closely with renowned scholars on firm strategy, innovation, entrepreneurship, pricing and revenue management, supply chain management and logistics.

Explore funding options
Leeds automatically considers applicants for full funding if they meet the December 1 application deadline. Doctoral students receive full tuition waivers, support for a premium health insurance plan, and a $30,000 annual stipend to work as research/teaching assistants.

Additional funding is available through other sources, including teaching and fellowships. PhD students are encouraged to apply for the summer Gerald Hart Doctoral Research Fellowship—designed to encourage early involvement in scholarly research and publication with a faculty member.
Below are the general requirements to complete a PhD in Business Administration (specifics vary between academic disciplines):

- **Coursework**
  Complete at least 30 credits of graduate-level work in your discipline.

- **Math Camp & Economics Preliminary Examination**
  Finance and Accounting students must attend and pass Math Camp before the start of their first year. Finance students must pass an economic preliminary examination prior to the start of their second year.

- **Comprehensive Examination/Second Year Papers**
  Demonstrate comprehension of coursework through an examination or second year research paper in your academic discipline.

- **Teaching**
  Serve as a teaching apprentice for three sections of a course, then independently teach two courses of your own.

- **Dissertation Hours**
  Complete at least 30 credits of dissertation hours.

- **Dissertation Proposal Defense**
  Develop, present and successfully defend your dissertation proposal.

- **Final Oral Dissertation Defense**
  Demonstrate your expertise in the theory and methodology of your specific research in your academic discipline.

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The benefits of an PhD from Leeds reach far beyond your resume. The Leeds alumni community is 42,000+ strong, spanning the U.S. and 72 countries. Being part of our alumni network means having numerous resources and opportunities available to you: professional development, valuable connections, local and global industry networks, and special invitations to events.
Admissions Requirements
Our faculty look for applicants who have a strong command of research skills, as well as excellent written and verbal communication skills. Strong applicants are intellectually curious and highly motivated by academic inquiry. We are committed to increasing ethnic, cultural and gender diversity among our faculty, staff, and students as well as ensuring equal opportunity to all students.

Application materials

BACHELOR’S DEGREE (or equivalent)
Hold at least a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.

GMAT OR GRE
Submit official GMAT or GRE scores that are less than 5 years old regardless of the applicant’s previous educational experience.

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY
Be proficient in English. Scores from the TOEFL or IELTS are required unless your native language is English.

PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:
- A current vitae/resume
- Three letters of recommendation
- One set of unofficial transcripts

PERSONAL STATEMENT
Provide a personal statement that explicitly addresses your academic interests, including research interests and career objectives.

The deadline to apply for admission is December 1. All applications received by that date are automatically considered for student funding.
Leeds School of Business
The Leeds School of Business is a top-ranked business school preparing students today to become the innovative thinkers of tomorrow.

We are the eighth oldest business school in the U.S. and part of the renowned University of Colorado Boulder, which boasts five Nobel Prize Winners, eight MacArthur Fellows, and leadership in aerospace, biotech, engineering and other sciences.

Choosing the Leeds School of Business for your doctoral degree means you are joining a vibrant research community of award-winning faculty, ranked #24 in the world for research productivity.

With Leeds’ six research centers and initiatives, PhD students have access to the latest state-of-the-art research and ideas.

At Leeds, we are redefining business education, driving innovation, advancing entrepreneurial mindsets and making positive impacts.

Join Leeds and change your future today.

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