

Call for Applications PhD Programs at the Institute of Global Development September 2026 Intake -Urgent Call for Applications

Zhejiang University (ZJU), one of China's leading research institutions, has been entrusted by the Chinese government with the establishment of the Institute of Global Development and will officially launch its inaugural doctoral programs in September 2026.

Program Overview

The Institute will offer:

PhD in Public Administration (Development Governance Focus)

The program duration is 3.5 years. All students will complete coursework in China during the first academic year (approximately 10 months). After completing required credits, students may return to their home countries and come back to China periodically for field visits, surveys, institutional secondments, or short research stays.

Scholarship Coverage

The program provides a full scholarship, covering:

- a) Tuition fees**
- b) Accommodation**
- c) Round-trip international travel expenses essential for study**
- d) Living allowance in China**
- e) Medical insurance**

Target Candidates

The program is designed for current and emerging leaders committed to development, governance, and global cooperation. Eligible nominees may include:

- a) **Government sector:** Director-level officials or Division Chief-level Professionals
- b) **Academic sector:** Senior leaders or faculty members from top universities (e.g., Vice Presidents, Deans, Department Heads, senior academic or teaching staff in higher education institutions)
- c) **Business sector:** Senior managers and executives from leading companies

Language Requirement

Applicants must meet English proficiency standards:

- 1 IELTS 6.5 or above, or
- 2 TOEFL 100 or above

Application Procedure

The application process consists of two mandatory steps:

Step 1:

Application to the Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office (ECCO) of the Chinese Embassy

The candidate must first obtain a formal recommendation from a relevant government authority in his/her home country addressed to the Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office (ECCO) of the Chinese Embassy regarding his/her program application.

With this recommendation, the candidate must then prepare the following materials and submit them to the ECCO for qualification review:

1. Original degree certificates (An Original copy needs to be prepared for each degree)
2. Official transcripts (listing all courses taken and all scores obtained)
3. Personal Statement (600–800 words, in Chinese or English; covering applicant’s academic background, work experience, achievements, study purpose, and future career plans)
4. Curriculum Vitae written in Chinese or English (should include, but not be limited to contact details, rank/position, employer, job title)
5. Two recommendation letters
6. IELTS or TOEFL score report
7. Certified physical examination form (issued within the last one month)
8. Passport (All Successful Candidates must enter China and register with Zhejiang University using the same passport as used for applying for the program)
9. Non-criminal record certificate
10. Written request asking ECCO to issue a recommendation letter (The request should clearly state whether the applicant is willing to be considered for other programs if the applied program is already full)

All the documents to be submitted should be in either Chinese or English. Otherwise, a notarized copy in Chinese or English is required. Applicants shall get back all the hard-copy materials from the Economic and Commercial Counselor’s Office of the Chinese Embassy. If admitted, they must take the documents to China and submit them to the Institute and Zhejiang University during registration in September.

The Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office of the Chinese Embassy will issue a formal recommendation letter to the Institute and Zhejiang University directly for applicants who successfully passes the qualification review.

Step 2:

Application to Zhejiang University After or concurrently with ECCO submission, applicants must submit required materials to Zhejiang University via: cisdg@zju.edu.cn

Required documents include:

- 1 Original degree certificates (An Original copy needs to be prepared for each degree)
- 2 Official transcripts (listing all courses taken and all scores obtained)
- 3 Curriculum Vitae written in Chinese or English (should include, but not be limited to contact details, rank/position, employer, job title)
- 4 Two recommendation letters
- 5 English proficiency test results (IELTS or TOEFL score report)
- 6 Certified physical examination form (issued within the last one month)
- 7 Passport copy (All Successful Candidates must enter China and register with Zhejiang University using the same passport as used for applying for the program)

Applications who fail in qualification review with the Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office will not be processed. Shortlisted Candidates will be contacted promptly for the next steps.

Application Deadline:

All application materials must be submitted before **March 25, 2026**