

PhD in Finance/Economics in Frankfurt, fully funded by SAFE

Fact Sheet

The Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE ("Sustainable Architecture for Finance in Europe") is dedicated to interdisciplinary research on the financial markets and their players in Europe as well as to independent, research-based policy advice. [More information](#)

Offer

SAFE offers funding to excellent applicants to the [GSEFM](#) PhD programs in [Finance](#) and [Economics](#) for the entire duration of the program. Funding translates into a scholarship of 1,300€ per month in the 1st program year and an employment contract in the following years. Core of the employment relationship is the work on joint research projects with SAFE researchers and the finalization of the PhD thesis. Sufficient time will be granted to fulfil mandatory course work.

SAFE offers its PhD students the exciting and inspiring environment of an inter- and cross-disciplinary research institution dedicated to excellent research output and research-based policy advice. Topical areas include financial intermediation, financial markets, household finance, behavioral finance, sustainable finance, macro finance, and law and finance. SAFE pursues a "pool concept" for its PhD students: while these are expected to choose a supervisor from among the SAFE professors, they are encouraged to interact and write papers with any other SAFE researchers, thus benefitting from different thematic perspectives and methodological approaches.

SAFE PhD students have access to the entire SAFE infrastructure, including a wide range of [research data](#), a high-performance computing cluster, funds for research experiments, conference travel and research stays, regular workshops, trainings, etc.

Requirements and expectations

- Scholarship holders are expected to entirely focus on their course work and studies and to pass the preliminary examinations after the 1st course year. An employment contract after the 1st year is conditional on passing the preliminary exams.
- As SAFE is dedicated to research in the field of Finance, its PhD students are expected to take courses in financial economics – either by choosing the PhD in Finance path or by taking financial economics as an elective in the 2nd course year of the PhD in Economics path.
- SAFE PhD students are expected to choose a supervisor from among the SAFE professors in the first months of the work contract. This decision implies an interest in the supervisor's topics and the intention to write at least one of the dissertation papers in this topical area; it does not exclude research projects with any other SAFE researchers.

Application

Visit the GSEFM website for more information on the [admission requirements](#) for the PhD programs and follow the instructions on how to apply. Make sure you choose SAFE as first preference funding source under "Application for Financial Aid" in the application form.

Any questions?

Please contact [Loriana Pelizzon](#) for any questions on the program you may have.