



Application process for the Life Science Zurich – PhD Program in Ecology

Dear student

If you intend to apply for the Life Science Zurich – PhD Program in Ecology you have to fulfill these requirements:

- A Master's degree (MSc) or equivalent from a university before starting the PhD Program in Ecology
- Sufficient knowledge in ecology / environmental sciences (equivalent 10 ECTS-points) and in mathematics (including statistics) and physics (equivalent 6 ECTS-points)
- Excellent knowledge of English

Application process

Please go to <http://www.lifescience-graduateschool.ch/application.html> and perform step one of your application. You have to provide at least two referees. Please check the mail addresses of your referees carefully before submitting the form. Mistakes in mail addresses are the most common reason why referees do not get our invitation for a reference letter. You will not be able to make any changes once you have submitted the form in step one. After having done step one of your online application, an email with the link to your application will be sent to you (otherwise you should contact me). Please keep this URL safe, it allows you to follow your application online, but only until the deadline. After the deadline the application link will expire.

Now you should complete step 2 of your online application. Before the deadline you can perform any changes. Please note that the deadline cannot be extended. **We will not consider any incomplete applications!**

What sort of information do we expect in step two?

- *Uploads:* Upload your Master degree, your Bachelor degree and the corresponding academic transcripts with your marks as PDF files. We cannot accept any application with uploads in jpeg or doc format.
- *Education & training:* Describe your education and training in general: major and minor subjects, practicals.
- *Course work:* We are particularly interested in your education in ecology and statistics. Please provide us with a list of the courses you attended in these topics including credit points and marks.



- *Research experience:* A short description of the topic, aims, methods and results of your Master thesis.
- *Research interests:* Describe shortly what you would like to do in your PhD and in which of the participating research groups you would like to do your PhD thesis.

Further responsibilities

It is your responsibility to ensure that at least two of your referees have sent their recommendations to the LSZGS before the deadline. Please contact your referees and ask them to fill in the form in time. After the deadline the application link will expire and we will not consider applications with less than two reference letters submitted online.

If your referees did not get any email from LSZGS, please check first the mail addresses that you provided. If you have made a mistake in a mail address or if you want to add a third referee, you cannot do it yourself. You have to send all the required details to me by mail.

Please read all instructions carefully including the frequently asked questions <http://www.lifescience-graduateschool.ch/index.php?id=263> before you contact me. If you contact me, please provide your identification ID or the URL of your application, as we normally have more than 200 applications per period.

Procedure after deadline

The admission committee will meet in July and December to decide about a shortlist of candidates invited for an interview. You will be informed about the decision of the committee by end of July or end of December respectively.

Please note that final acceptance depends on:

- passing the interview
- finding a PhD position in one of the participating research groups
- satisfying the formal admission requirements of the University of Zurich or the ETH Zurich (depending on the affiliation of your future mentor)

With best regards,

Dr. Philippe Saner
Coordination
Life Science Zurich – PhD Program in Ecology