University of Zurich

PhD Position in Accounting (60%)

Start date: August 2027
Application deadline: January 15, 2027

The University of Zurich invites applications for a fully funded PhD position in Accounting. The accounting group takes a rigorous, economics-based approach to research, and doctoral students are admitted to the group as a whole rather than to an individual supervisor. Applications are welcome from candidates interested in all areas of accounting, including but not limited to:

- Financial accounting, disclosure, and capital markets
- Managerial accounting, performance measurement, and incentives
- Corporate governance and accounting
- Disclosure regulation, sustainability, and real effects
- Interdisciplinary research at the intersection of accounting, economics, and finance

All methodological approaches are welcome: analytical, archival, experimental, and field-based.

The position

The appointment is at 60%. It is a salaried position, not a partial stipend. The program combines the doctoral student's own research with a rigorous international education in accounting research.

The first year is devoted primarily to foundational coursework. From the second year, doctoral students develop their own research under close faculty supervision, alongside advanced courses and limited teaching duties, which consist of supporting courses and examinations. The program is academically oriented: it prepares students for faculty positions at leading universities and for research-oriented careers at international organizations.

Research environment

The position is based in an international accounting group whose research includes financial accounting and capital markets, corporate governance, disclosure regulation, and sustainability. The group comprises Prof. Hui Chen, Prof. David Oesch, Prof. Evgeny Petrov, and Prof. Thomas Rauter, and it continues to grow. Doctoral students are integrated into the group's research from the start and present their work in internal and external seminars.

Profile

- Required: a Master's degree in accounting, finance, economics, statistics, or a related quantitative field, completed by the start of the position. Candidates who expect to complete their degree by August 2027 are encouraged to apply.
- Required: an outstanding academic record, in particular in quantitative coursework.
- Required: strong spoken and written English. Knowledge of German and a language certificate are not required.
- Optional: GMAT or GRE scores.
- Optional: prior research experience, which is an advantage.

What the position offers

- Funding for the duration of the doctorate, with a salary in accordance with the University of Zurich salary scale for doctoral candidates
- Structured doctoral training and close supervision
- Financial support to present research at international conferences
- Place of work in Zurich, with University support for appointees of all nationalities in obtaining Swiss residence and work permits

Application

Applications should be submitted as a single PDF containing a CV, academic transcripts, and a statement of purpose of at most two pages via the job portal. Candidates should also arrange for two letters of recommendation to be sent directly to Falko Zapf, PhD program administrator (falko.zapf@business.uzh.ch). Applications and letters of recommendation must be received by **January 15, 2027**. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to online interviews; all applicants will be informed of the outcome in spring 2027.

Questions about the program may be directed to the PhD program coordinators, Prof. Evgeny Petrov (evgeny.petrov@business.uzh.ch) and Prof. Thomas Rauter (thomas.rauter@business.uzh.ch). Questions about the application process may be directed to Falko Zapf.