



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO STUDY PhD PROGRAMMES IN INTERNET OF THINGS

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024
SEPTEMBER INTAKE**

The University of Rwanda through its African Center of Excellence in Internet of Things (ACEIoT), College of Science and Technology with financial support from the World Bank ACE II project. The UR-ACEIoT aims to train a critical mass of African Scientists and Engineers in the field of IoT through Higher Education and Research. This provides a great opportunity for African students to enrol in multidisciplinary post-graduate programs in the field of IoT.

ACEIoT supports PhD fellowships through full or partial scholarships in the following programmes:

1. PhD in IoT with Specialization in Wireless Intelligent Sensor Networking
2. PhD in IoT with Specialization in Embedded Computing Systems

The ACEIoT is seeking for researchers who have interest to conduct their research and studies on the above programmes. Research topics should focus towards the development of new innovative approaches and solutions with relevance to the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) priority domains, focusing on low-cost, open and sustainable solutions. The research outcome should describe an overall working system/product/prototype or a real-world deployment experience. Solutions to real world problems faced by the East and Southern African region would be of particular interest.

I. Programme, entry requirements, duration and mode of attendance

1. Applicants must have an MSc degree in the relevant discipline of Engineering/Technology (Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Technology, Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Communications Engineering) and applicants should have scored a minimum of Second-Class Upper division or equivalent at the Bachelor's level.
2. Second Class Upper division is equivalent to a cumulative average > 70% Preference will be given to candidates with work experience in the related field.
3. Applicants must submit a research concept note relevant to the PhD degree sought. The concept note should not exceed 2000 words. The concept note should clearly define the research problem, elucidate research done so far to address the problem with annotated references, identify gaps, justify the research work to be done, formulate clear objectives, methods, and indicate expected outcomes, how the outcome will tackle problems related to the priority domains such as agriculture, energy, health, etc., focusing on low-cost, open and sustainable solutions.



4. Applicants should also submit a copy of the abstract of their Master's thesis as well as copies of their scientific publications.
5. Applicants are encouraged to interact with one or more of our research faculty to identify a possible main supervisor and, informally, meets/corresponds with him or her, or else ACEIoT assists to identify an appropriate main supervisor and introduces him or her to the candidate at the time of admissions.

II. Key dates for this call

Application deadline: July 17, 2023

III. Required documents for application

1. A cover letter addressed to the Director of UR CPGS indicating for which program of study the application is being made and description of the motivation to join the program;
2. A curriculum vitae (CV);
3. Notarized Masters and Bachelor's degrees and transcripts;
4. Recommendation letters from at least two academic referees who are knowledgeable about the applicant;
5. Support letter from employer (if any);
6. Copies of valid identification card and/or passport;
7. Sponsorship letter from an organization (if any);
8. Applicants from countries where English is not the medium of instruction must provide an English proficiency certificate from a relevant body or institution in their respective countries;
9. Research concept note relevant to the PhD degree sought;
10. Master's thesis abstract;
11. Copies of publications;
12. Proof that they have applied for Equating Foreign Qualifications at higher educational council (HEC) of Rwanda for applicants from outside Rwanda and Rwandans who obtained their degrees outside Rwanda.

IV. Selection criteria

Completeness and accuracy of required documents (see previous section).



Note:

All selected applicants will be notified through email. If you are not notified, it means that your application was not successful.

Incomplete applications will not be processed.

For more information, please visit our website: <http://aceiot.ur.ac.rw>

V. Funding

There are 10 partial scholarship opportunities which will cover the tuition fees available on a competitive basis for eligible candidates from Eastern and Southern Africa Region (Rwanda, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Burundi, Mozambique, South Sudan, Congo DRC, Uganda, and Zambia).

The scholarship criteria will base on the novelty of the submitted research proposal, capacity to do research, interview marks, etc.

Note: Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

VI. Application process

1. Go to UR Website (www.ur.ac.rw)
2. Go to Admission, Application Portal and click to ([New Application](#))
3. Fill the **Biographical Form** and click (Save) at the end you will get “Your Students ID Reference Number”. Please keep this ID Number as it will be your ID identification for all transaction at UR
4. Create a PIN of 5 numeric digits, do not start with a 0 (This PIN will serve as your password to access your student account.)
5. Candidates are requested to submit all required documents by using the [link pgfile.ur.ac.rw/pgfile/findme.php](http://pgfile.ur.ac.rw/pgfile/findme.php)



NB:

- All documents must be in PDF
- If all required documents are not submitted, you cannot go to the next step.

For any additional information, clarifications or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact:

1. Mr. Benjamin Hakizimana, Administrator for postgraduate studies and Research, Tel: (+250) 781637573 or Jean Baptiste Mugiraneza IT Officer: (+250)722016900; (+250)783016900 and for more information, please visit the ACEIoT website: <http://www.aceiot.ur.ac.rw>
2. Gashayiha Gloriose, the CPGS officer. [Tel:0792988304](tel:0792988304); e-mail: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw

Done at Kigali, on...../...../ 2023

Dr. KAYIHURA Muganga Didas, PhD
Acting Vice Chancellor