

---

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL**

**AFRICAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN DATA SCIENCE (ACE-DS)**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PHD BY RESEARCH IN DATA SCIENCE**

The University of Rwanda (UR)-College of Business and Economics (CBE) wishes to inform interested candidates to apply for the first intake of the PhD by research in Data Science in African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS). African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS) is one of 24 Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence in ACE II Project. The main objective of ACE II Project is to strengthen selected Eastern and Southern African higher education institutions to deliver quality post-graduate education and build collaborative research capacity in the regional priority areas. ACE-DS is a regional centre and will combine expertise in statistics, economics, business, computer science, and engineering to use big data and data analytics to solve development challenges. ACE-DS will address specific development challenges by:

- Offering a research hub for postgraduate students, attracting international expertise and practitioners
- Stimulating collaboration between academics, partners and stakeholders.
- Demonstrating the relevance of the centre for innovation, job creation and economic prosperity; and
- Securing resources to stimulate multidisciplinary collaborative international research projects.

1. **Name of the Postgraduate programme:** PhD by research in Data Science in one of the following areas of specialization : **Data mining, Econometrics, Biostatistics, Demography Actuarial Sciences.**
2. **Duration:** A maximum duration of four years.
3. **Admission Requirements:**
  - A master's degree in Statistics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Information Technology, Economics and other disciplines related to data science.
4. **Applicants are required to:**
  - Completed Post-Graduate application form
  - Copy of Bachelor's degree and Master's degree, or its equivalent
  - Copies of all academic transcripts (Bachelor's and Master's)
  - Personal Statement (Motivation letter) with regard to why you wish to do a PhD in Data Science (approximately 500 words in English)
  - PhD research concept note of a maximum of 3000 words.
  - Copy of National Identity card or Passport for foreigners
  - Curriculum vitae
  - Copies of scientific publications if any.



- A proof of payment of non-refundable application fee 10,000RWF for nationals and members of East African Community (EAC) and 12,000 RWF for others.

5. **College and Campus on which the programme is offered:** CBE-Gikondo campus
  6. **Mode of attendance:** by research but some courses and workshops will be organized for PhD students.
  7. **Payments and Fee Structure for Postgraduate studies:** 4,200,000RWF total fees for the whole study period for national and EAC students. International additional 20% of the Nationals and EAC fees.
  8. Link to Key dates for Postgraduate Programmes.
    - a. Opening and closing of application process: **29<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.**
    - b. Opening and closing of admission process: **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017**
    - c. Opening and closing of registration process: **24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 – 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017**
    - d. Starting period: **September 2017**
  9. **Information for national Students:** Selected students will benefit from research funds from African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS).
  10. **Information for International Students:** Students from EAC and others countries are encouraged to apply because African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS) will give support for travel, stipend, medical insurance and research funds for the best candidates.
- Note: Female candidates both national and international are strongly encouraged to apply.**
11. **Submission:** The documents should be submitted to African Centre of Excellence in Data Science (ACE-DS) through emails : [cruranga@gmail.com](mailto:cruranga@gmail.com) and [kabanoignace@gmail.com](mailto:kabanoignace@gmail.com)
  12. **Contact:** For any inquiries and further clarifications, please contact Charles Ruranga, the Deputy Centre Leader through email: [cruranga@gmail.com](mailto:cruranga@gmail.com) or call +250 788 484 421.



**Françoise Kayitare Tengera**  
**Acting Principal**  
**University of Rwanda - College of Business and Economics**