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Academic Education Programs Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce People's Republic of China

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**Renmin University of China**

2026 Master Program of Development and Governance

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# **I Program Description**

## **Academic Education Programs Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce PRC**

Degree Education Programs sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China, first initiated in 2008, is designed to foster high-end business officials and managerial personnel for the recipient countries, offering one-year and two-year master programs as well as three-year doctoral programs for the purpose of educating high-end and inter-disciplinary talent working in the applied fields of government, trade, foreign affairs, agriculture, technology, education, culture and health, building intellectual capacity and facilitating the economic and social development of the recipient countries. These programs provide a platform for governmental officials, research fellows, and senior managerial personnel on their master and doctor education in China, which are fully conducted in English. Admission requirements include a bachelor's degree, relevant working experiences, and good physical conditions, essential for the high-compact curriculum needed for the degrees.

Graduates of these programs are now working in their specialties back in home and undertaking an increasingly significant role in the economic development cooperation between China and their home countries.

## **Master of Development and Governance**

Supported by the national government of China, the Master of Development and Governance program is designed to provide future leaders of developing countries with technical training in the economics of development. Drawing on lessons from the Chinese experience, the program seeks to equip students with a strong theoretical and practical grounding in economics and policy analysis. Students are provided with a combination of intimate classroom instruction from world-class faculty and personal guidance from dedicated faculty and practitioner mentors - all in the setting of the world's most vibrant and fastest growing economy. Graduates of the program are prepared to pursue rewarding careers in public service in their home country or in international agencies, NGOs, or private sector organizations in developing countries.

### **Prospective Students:**

Our prospective students are mid-to-senior level officials or managers from the government, the media, NGOs, and other public sectors, who have demonstrated superior performance, both academically and in their work. By the time of matriculation, each must have obtained an undergraduate bachelor's degree.

### **Program Objective:**

To prepare policy makers and practitioners for developing countries.

### **Enrollment Plan:**

In 2026, we have planned to enroll up to 15 students in Master of Development and Governance program, duration of which is two years.

### **Financial Aid:**

The Ministry of Commerce PRC will sponsor universities' teaching and managerial costs, students' basic living allowance and international air tickets.

Students are waived of tuition fee, teaching materials cost, field study cost and thesis guidance fees. Free accommodation on campus is provided for students. The university will purchase comprehensive medical insurance on students' behalf. The annual stipend for master's students is 36,000 RMB, which will be distributed monthly based on the student's actual stay in China. There is also a settlement allowance of 3000RMB/person. Students can enjoy one international return flight ticket and one return flight ticket for visiting family in their home country.

Except monthly stipend and settlement allowance, all other funding are used for the program by the Ministry of Commerce and the university, rather than being given to the students directly. The Ministry of Commerce PRC only provides funding for students within two years. No further funding is available for students who postponed their due graduation.

## **II University Profile**

### **1) Renmin University of China**

Renmin University of China (RUC) is a comprehensive research-oriented university focusing on humanities and social sciences. It also offers a range of courses in the natural sciences, information technology and environmental sciences. The university's

overriding tasks have consistently been the pursuit of truth and progress, cultural transmission and educating the country's future elites. With 14 "double first-class" disciplines, among which 9 are ranked A+ by China's Ministry of Education, Renmin University of China is well placed to become an influential leader in the Chinese humanities and social sciences. With the support of a dedicated leadership, its students, faculty and staff, RUC continues to grow in influence as one of the most important trend-setters in Chinese higher education today.

## **2) School of Economics**

Founded in 1939 as the political economy research division of the Northern-Shanxi public school, the School of Economics has been at the center of China's economic transformation. It has a reputation for excellence in research and teaching.

Renmin University of China is recognized throughout the country for pioneering the advancement and development of theoretical economics in China. With an invaluable faculty body, which is dynamic and diverse, School of Economics has always been an important base for economic teaching and research in the country.

The School of Economics trains and cultivates some of the country's top students, many of whom go on to become leaders in government and business. Currently, the School of Economics is home to approximately 2000 students, including 1000 undergraduates, 500 master students, 400 doctoral students and nearly 150 students from abroad.

The School of Economics has established partnerships with more than 50 well-known universities in more than 30 countries, including Europe, the United States, Japan and Australia, and also has good cooperation with domestic government departments, well-known enterprises, financial and research institutions. The China Macroeconomic Forum, the "Belt and Road" Economic Forum, the Political Economy Forum, the World Economic Forum, thematic lectures on development theory and Chinese practice, and the International Cooperation Case Center for Small and Medium Enterprises established by the college have received good social response.

## **3) Life on Campus**

Renmin University of China has three campuses: Zhongguancun Campus and Tongzhou Campus in Beijing, and Suzhou Campus in Jiangsu Province. Students will be accommodated at the Beijing campuses (Zhongguancun or Tongzhou), which is typical of the continental monsoon climate, hot and humid in summer, cold and dry in winter, with very short spring and autumn. Its maximum temperature is generally between 35 ~ 40 °C and extreme minimum temperature is generally between -14 ~ -20 °C.

Students will stay in university dormitories. Each student is equipped with one single bedroom with bathroom. It has a communal kitchen, communal laundry room, coffee shop, convenience store, gym and so on.

Renmin University of China has plenty of learning spaces, a total of four teaching buildings, mainly in the center of the campus, convenient for students to commute. Renmin Library, with a total construction area of about 45,000 square meters. In addition, the library also set up a number of study rooms, seminar rooms, theaters, and lounges.

Many western style restaurants and cafe shops are located in the Renmin campus. Century Gymnasium, badminton, table tennis, basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis and other ball games venues are available on campus.

## III Education Plan

### 1) Program Coursework:

A total of 34 graduate credits are required to complete the program, including a thesis. The program comprises 7 credits of required basic courses, 21 credits of required core courses, 4 credits of elective courses, and 2 credits of social practice. The requirements are as follows:

Required Basic Courses	
Contemporary Chinese Politics	3 Credits
Chinese Language Study	4 Credits
Required Core Courses	
Development Microeconomics	3 Credits
Development Macroeconomics	3 Credits
Institution and Transformation	2 Credits
Applied Microeconomics	3 Credits
Applied Macroeconomics	3 Credits
Contemporary Chinese Economy	3 Credits
Thesis Writing and Standardization	1 Credit

Statistics and Econometrics	3 Credits
Elective Courses	
Economics of Open Economy	2 Credits
Frontiers in Experimental Economics	2 Credits
Social Practice	2 Credits

## 2) Student Support:

### Academic and Professional Guidance:

The purpose of this program is to train top-level applied professionals who have a solid theoretical foundation of economics and applied skills as well as an understanding of Chinese society and culture, and able to grasp and analyze the status quo and policies of economic development in developing countries.

In addition to class lectures, research tours are another highlight of this program. During the two-year study, our school organizes students to visit government agencies, factories and learn about the cultural and historical heritage of modern China. Students will have the opportunity to know about local economy and industrial development, so that they can have a more intuitive understanding of the development status of different cities in China, which will further contribute to their study of economic theories.

The School of Economics also organizes regular forums and seminars in all fields of economics every year. These activities always keep track of the international academic frontiers, and invite students to participate in, which can effectively mobilize students' learning and research initiative.

In the dissertation writing,

1. Thesis supervisors can help students to explore their research theme, and give detailed instruction for students to collect and read relevant reference materials.
2. Make the necessary review of the essay written by students, and give them guidance in terms of overall structure and research tools.
3. Monitor the progress of thesis writing regularly, help students modify and polish the essay to meet university's requirements.

### Research Support:

The school of economics embraces all over the world, connecting China and the West. It has established cooperative partnership with more than 40 well-known universities in more than 20 countries, such as Europe, America, Japan and Australia. It also has good cooperation with domestic government departments, well-known enterprises, financial and research institutions.

### **Living Support:**

Adjusting to living in a new country can be a challenge. To make the transition to living in Beijing easier, the School provides living assistants for students in the program. These assistants help students to get established in Beijing and solve problems in daily life.

### **3) Alumni Network**

In addition to professional training in economics, participation in the program offers students a great networking platform and opportunities to come into contact with alumni. The School of Economics has held foreign aid programs for more than ten years and has many outstanding alumni, including

Mr. M. Mohamed Saïd Fofana, a member of the “Seminar on Trade Facilitation for African Countries” in 2006, who was elected Prime Minister of the Republic of Guinea in 2010;

Mr. Guerrero Jorge Hidalgo, who participated in a training program in the School in 2002, was appointed as General Consul of the Republic of Ecuador in Shanghai in 2009.

The program has established a high-quality alumni platform for the participants, providing them with opportunities to build extensive networks and achieve resource sharing. While learning professional economic knowledge, participants can interact with many outstanding alumni, which helps accumulate valuable networking resources for their future careers.

In 2010, Mr. Dia, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, attended the opening ceremony of the African Trade Facilitation Training Course hosted by our university and delivered a speech. After the training session concluded, he sent a special thank-you letter to our university, highly commending the effectiveness of the training course.

### **4) Field Study**

Field trips will be arranged for students to visit business corporations, special economic zones, Chinese government agencies, etc., to gain first-hand knowledge of how Chinese economy operates under various changing conditions in the big picture of its reform and opening-up process.

### **5) Academic Calendar**

Our master degree program is a two-year full-time program. Students enrolled in this

program are expected to complete the coursework, conduct research, and write a thesis within two years.

There are two academic semesters in Renmin University of China. Spring semester starts from the end of February to the beginning of July, while fall semester starts from the beginning of September and ends in the end of January. In between, there are summer and winter break.

## **6) Thesis**

Master thesis: By the end of the second semester, a student shall choose a professor as his/her supervisor, and determine the subject matter on the basis of a real world problem in economics to be solved in China or in his/her own countries. In the fourth semester, students are expected to complete their theses and each pass an oral defense.

Thesis or dissertation shall be written in English.

## **7) Degree**

A master degree of economics will be conferred upon a candidate in the master program after his/her successful completion of required credits and thesis.

# **IV Application**

## **1. Requirement**

All applicants must meet the following admission requirements:

- 1) Applicants must be non-Chinese citizens from developing countries, with a valid passport, or any other identification certificate sufficient to verify his/her nationality;
- 2) Applicants must be non-Chinese citizens from developing countries, in good health, and under the age of 45 (born after September 1, 1981).
- 3) Applicants for the master program must have attained a Bachelor degree or above;
- 4) Applicants must be proficient in English (IELTS score of 6.0 or above, or a TOEFL score of 90 or above.) . Non-native English speakers or candidates whose undergraduate education was not conducted in English are required to submit proof of English proficiency;
- 5) Possess an educational background equivalent to a bachelor's degree or above from a Chinese university.
- 6) Be in good physical and mental health and provide a health certificate or medical examination report issued by a local public hospital, and have no diseases that are prohibited from entry and long-term residence in China according to Chinese laws and regulations. No Academic Education Programs sponsored by the Ministry of

Commerce of the PRC severe hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, or other serious chronic diseases, mental illnesses, or infectious diseases that may pose a significant threat to public health. Not in the recovery period from major surgeries and acute illness seizure. No severe physical disabilities, and pregnant. Female students who become pregnant during their studies in China will be withdrawn from their studies.

- 7) Only applicants recommended by the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy in the country that accords with the candidate's nationality will be considered.
- 8) Individuals who are already studying in China or have applied for and been admitted to other Chinese government scholarship programs are not eligible to apply.

## 2. Procedure

### Useful information:

Please choose the program "Master of Development and Governance program".

#### 1) Online Application

Applicants must log in to the International Students Application System of Renmin University of China (<https://international.ruc.edu.cn/application/>) within the application time, fill in the application information authentically, upload the application materials, print the application form and sign it.

#### 2) Application to Chinese Government Scholarship

The applicants should apply to both the university and the Chinese Scholarship Council at the same time while applying for the master program. Applicants should log in the Chinese Government Scholarship Information System (<https://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn>)

To complete the form successfully, please note the following information:

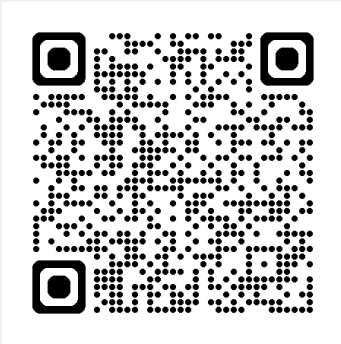
- (1) The program category is "Type B";
- (2) The agency No. of Renmin University of China is 10002;
- (3) Discipline of our program is "Economics",  
Major is "Development Economics";

Print out the form, put on a hand-written name and date, and then post a photo on it.

Documents		Requirements	Original copy	Photocopy
1	Chinese Government Scholarship Application Form	Please visit <a href="http://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn/#/login">http://studyinchina.csc.edu.cn/#/login</a> , fill in the application form, print it out, sign, date, and post a photo on it.	1	0

2	Final Education Certificate	Applicants who have graduated should submit the final education certificate, which must be officially certified by authorities such as the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE) or through the Apostille process. Applicants who are in their final year of study should initially provide an official Certificate of Expected Graduation (the expected date of graduation must be no later than August 31, 2026), and must submit the formal academic documents prior to enrollment.	1	1
3	Official Transcripts	Transcript must include a list of all completed courses up to graduating year. If the score is not in centesimal system, an explanation of the grading scale is needed.	1	1
4	Personal Statement and Study Plan	The personal statement and the study plan shall be written in English. It provides an opportunity for students to present their including personal study and work experience, academic research achievements, research plans, career planning after graduation, etc.	1	0
5	CV	In English.	1	0
6	Two Recommendation Letters	Two recommendation letters from two professors or associate professors written in Chinese or English are mandatory. The recommendation letters must contain the signature, name, position, department, e-mail, and other information of the recommender of the referee.	1	0
7	English Proficiency Certificate	The valid IELTS Academic overall score of 6.0 or above, or a valid TOEFL iBT overall score of 90 or above. Applicants who are native English speakers, or who have completed or are pursuing a degree where the medium of instruction is English, are not required to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores.	1	1
8	Foreigner Physical Examination Form	Be in good physical and mental health and provide a health certificate or medical examination report issued by a local public hospital, and have no diseases that are prohibited from entry and long-term residence in China according to Chinese laws and regulations. No Academic Education Programs	1	0

		sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of the PRC severe hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, or other serious chronic diseases, mental illnesses, or infectious diseases that may pose a significant threat to public health. Not in the recovery period from major surgeries and acute illness seizure. No severe physical disabilities, and pregnant. Female students who become pregnant during their studies in China will be withdrawn from their studies.		
9	Valid Passport Identification Page	<p>The applicants must hold an ordinary passport. The validity of the passport must be later than March 31, 2027. If the applicants are currently in China, please provide the visa page.</p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p><b>a.</b>The university does not accept applicants who hold the following documents to apply as international students: <i>Travel Permit of the People's Republic of China, Exit Entry Permit of the People's Republic of China, Mainland Travel Permit for Hong Kong and Macao Residents, Mainland Travel Permit for Taiwan Residents, Residence Permit for Hong Kong, Macao/Taiwan Residents of the People's Republic of China, etc.</i></p> <p><b>b.</b>Applicants are not allowed to change the passport or personal information from the date of application until 3 months after onsite registration. The personal information includes name, gender, date of birth, nationality, passport number, and etc. If it was unavoidable to change their passport or personal information due to extremely special circumstances or force majeure, a written application should be submitted to the university for the consent from the university. If the identity documents and personal information submitted by the applicants did not match the personal information provided during the application and admission process, the university will turn down the enrollment procedures.</p>	0	1

10	ID photos	Two-inch (passport size) photos	4	0
11	Certificate of No Criminal Record	<p>a.Applicants who are currently not reside in Chinese mainland should offer the certificate issued by the local public security department.</p> <p>b.Applicants who are currently reside in Chinese mainland should offer the certificate issued by entry and exit administration departments of China.</p>	1	1
12	Nationality Proof	<p>According to <i>the Nationality Law of the People's Republic of China and the Letter No.12 [2020] of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China</i>, some applicants shall provide additional materials as <i>National Proof Documents</i>. (Please scan the following QR code for specific requirements.)</p> 	1	1
13	Statement of Guarantee	<p>The template of the State of Guarantee can be downloaded from the website of the International Students Office (<a href="http://iso.ruc.edu.cn/ENGLISH/Download/ApplicationDocuments/index.htm">http://iso.ruc.edu.cn/ENGLISH/Download/ApplicationDocuments/index.htm</a>). The Statement of Guarantee should be signed by the economic guarantor.</p>	1	1

### 3) Submission

- 1) Submit all the application materials listed in the above table in hard copy to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy. Hard copy must include both the original copy and the photocopy, as indicated in the table. For emails and addresses of the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Offices, please visit <http://www.china-aibo.cn>.

- 2) Submit a written request to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy for an official recommendation letter and clearly state: whether the applicant is willing to be considered for a similar program at other universities if the program at Renmin University of China is already full.

**Reminders:**

- a) All the documents to be submitted should be in Chinese or English. Otherwise, a notarized copy in Chinese or English is required.
- b) An original copy of degrees, transcripts and language certificates must be presented for on-site verification.
- c) Applicants will get back all the hard-copy materials, both original copies and photocopies from the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office. If admitted, they must immediately email the scanned copy of all the application materials to the contact person in Renmin University of China. And they need to take the documents to China and submit them to School of Economics, Renmin University of China during registration in early September.
- d) None of the materials submitted to the School of Economics, Renmin University of China will be returned. For important documents such as degrees and transcripts, a scanned copy will be accepted as a replacement of the original copy. In this case, the original copy must be presented for on-site verification.

### **3. Deadlines**

The application deadline for the master program is June 6, 2026

## **V Contact**

Contact person: Ms. Wang

E-mail: [econ@ruc.edu.cn](mailto:econ@ruc.edu.cn)

Telephone: (86-10)62511102

Fax: (86-10) 62511102

Website: [econ.ruc.edu.cn](http://econ.ruc.edu.cn)

Address: Room 611A, Mingde Main Building, Zhongguancun Ave. 59#, Haidian District, Beijing 100872

### **Other Notes**

1. All application materials will not be refunded regardless of the application outcome.

2. The Chinese government will not provide any explanation or clarification regardless of whether the application is accepted or not.
3. No expenses for spouses or children to visit China will be provided.
4. Procedures for coming to China and relevant requirements will be explained in the admission documents.