University of Zurich[UZH]

Digital Society Initiative

The DSI Excellence Program

for PhD Students

Apply now!

scholarships available!

Digitalization is fundamentally changing science and society. Since 2020 the Digital Society Initiative (DSI) of the University of Zurich (UZH) offers a complementary Excellence Program for doctoral students interested in digital transformation.

What exactly is the DSI Excellence Program for PhD students?

The DSI Excellence Program is a complementary PhD program. It features interdisciplinary courses about

- digital skills and technical knowledge
- interdisciplinary thinking and problem-solving
- critical reflection on all aspects of a digital society, including ethical, legal and societal aspects of digital change.

The Excellence Program is completed within two years and consists of compulsory and elective courses. To receive the certificate, students must obtain 12 ECTS in the DSI Excellence Program. More information on our courses.

Who is the Excellence Program for and who can apply?

The DSI Excellence Program is a complementary PhD program. We invite all PhD candidates interested in the digital transformation of society who expect that digitalization will have a significant impact on their PhD research to apply for the DSI Excellence Program. The applicants are prospective PhD students at UZH or doctoral students already enrolled at the University of Zurich, but at the very beginning of their PhD.

How do I apply and when will the program start?

The DSI Excellence Program starts each Fall Semester. The application deadline for the 2024 Fall Semester is January 15, 2024. You can apply for participating in the

- DSI Excellence Program
- DSI Excellence Program + scholarship

More details on the two different application processes.

Where will the Program take place?

At the Digital Society Initiative. The DSI is the University of Zurich's competence center on digital transformation.

Your advantages in the program?

- Improve your skills in research methods in various disciplines!
- Learn to reflect critically on digitalization!
- Be part of an exclusive peer network!
- Receive funding for your own interdisciplinary projects and research!

Interested in a scholarship?

Outstanding applicants are welcome to apply for a DSI Excellence Program scholarship. The student salary is comparable to the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) doctoral student salary.

More information on our scholarships.

Contact

Nina Cornelius-Malecha
phd-program@dsi.uzh.ch
Digital Society Initiative
University of Zurich

More information on the DSI program.