

SGPE Affiliation

Process

- 1.1 Applications for affiliation open in summer until the end of July/start of August, to be assessed at the mid-August meeting of the Executive Committee. Applications open again at the start of the academic year until around mid-October, to be assessed at the November meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 1.2 Applicants are asked to provide transcripts and course outlines of their most advanced courses in Econometrics, Macroeconomics and Microeconomics.

If students have studied the SGPE MSc, or an equivalent programme at another SGPE institution, they will only be required to provide the details of their marks for the core courses.
- 1.3 Applicants should discuss their application for affiliation with their supervisor(s) and/or programme director. The application form requests that applicants confirm they have done this.
- 1.4 If students provide insufficient information in their application – e.g. regarding course content or textbooks used in their previous studies – their outcome decision may be delayed or provisional pending submission of further material.

Affiliation requirements and eligibility

- 2.1 Affiliation is only open to students currently enrolled on a PhD programme in Economics at one of the SGPE institutions.
- 2.2 Applicants are expected to have achieved depth of training in two and breadth of training in all three of the core areas: econometrics, macroeconomics and microeconomics. “Depth” is considered to be equivalent to the level at which these subjects are studied in the core courses of the SGPE MSc.
- 2.3 The usual standard expected in coursework is a mark of 60 or above (or equivalent). The SGPE Executive may use their discretion in considering marginal marks, or in taking into account lower marks from institutions that are known to assess particularly advanced material, or to apply stricter marking criteria than used on the SGPE MSc programme.
- 2.4 If training to date is not equivalent to the SGPE MSc then additional courses must be completed.
- 2.5 Applicants can complete courses for their affiliation requirements at another SGPE institution. However, these courses should be assessed beforehand by the SGPE Executive in order to confirm they meet the requirements.
- 2.6 Students may be asked to “test in” on up to two of the core courses of the SGPE MSc. Depending on whether the application is received in the July or October round and given the timing of the affiliation process, students may not be able to take these courses until the start of the next academic year. These courses may be specified.

- 2.7 Applicants required to “test in” on core courses are expected to reapply – upon successful completion of the core courses they would be granted affiliation and may go on to take other courses (including advanced courses) in the same academic year.
- 2.8 An applicant may reapply if they have previously been unsuccessful.

SGPE annual residential conference and additional courses

- 3.1 Attendance at the SGPE annual residential conference is compulsory for SGPE affiliates. The SGPE will fund attendance at the conference for affiliated students, as well as for students whose degree programme requires attendance at conference (e.g. ESRC-funded students).
- 3.2 Non-affiliated students are permitted to attend the conference once during their PhD career. Institutions are asked to contact the PG Office with details of any student who wishes to attend; the cost of this must be covered by the institution (this is calculated in the disbursement), and for every student who attends the institution must provide one additional member of staff to act as a discussant.
- 3.3 Students required to undertake core courses are not affiliated – they may attend the SGPE annual residential conference, but their department must cover the costs of their participation and provide a discussant.
- 3.4 Students should be prepared to attend the lectures of the courses they undertake. If available they may access lecture recordings, but it should be noted that lecture recordings may not be available for all courses.
- 3.5 Affiliated students, as well as students whose funding arrangements require additional training (e.g. ESRC-funded students) are welcome to undertake any MSc course (if course size allows), either as an auditor or including assessment.
- 3.6 SGPE affiliates are invited to attend additional activities arranged by the SGPE (e.g. Numerical Methods Bootcamps).

Outline of Affiliation Requirements

Please note that the following table is for guidance only and is not a guarantee of a particular outcome.

Status	Usual Requirements	Conference Invitation
Affiliation	Evidence of training in econometrics, macroeconomics and microeconomics – including at least two to the level of the SGPE MSc core courses – with no advanced courses	Yes
No affiliation	Insufficient evidence of training in econometrics, macroeconomics and microeconomics. Applicants may be able to “test in” on SGPE MSc core courses, after which they may reapply for provisional affiliation.	May attend subject to approval of home institution (including paying fee and providing a discussant)

Note: PhD students not seeking affiliation can undertake courses under current SGPE regulations, subject to a fee if the course is delivered by academic staff from a different institution to that at which the student is based (£250 per 10 credits, deducted from the disbursement). These can also be audited free of charge. Courses taken for credit by such 'external' students will be taken into consideration by the SGPE Executive during any subsequent application for affiliation, and may replace the need to undertake the core courses. The process for enrolling 'external' students on courses is communicated to PhD conveners at the start of the academic year.