

APPLIED ECONOMICS (ONLINE) (ECAE)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Behavioral and Social Sciences

ABSTRACT

The **Online Master of Science (MS) in Applied Economics (ECAE)** is a professional master's degree program designed primarily to enhance the professional development of applied economists. The program is not designed to prepare students for PhD programs in economics. The program prepares students to work as analysts in government agencies, private firms, and non-governmental organizations.

The ECAE program is an evening program with synchronous online class meetings one evening per week (Washington, DC time zone). While there is some asynchronous online content in all of our courses, students are expected to participate in the weekly synchronous class meetings and engage with the course instructors and the other students during those meetings. Students seeking fully asynchronous and self-paced instruction should not enroll in our program.

The ECAE program operates on a quarter-term academic calendar. Students can complete the 10-course ECAE program in 15 months if they take 2 courses per quarter.

The ECAE program's curriculum is identical to that of the ECAO (DC-based) and ECAM (on-campus) programs. All credits earned online in the ECAE program location would count for the in-person programs if the student transfers to an in-person version of the program. Students enrolled in the online program are allowed to take some courses in the in-person programs and vice versa.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The economics department does not offer fellowships or graduate assistantships to any students in the ECAE program. Domestic students in the program are eligible for the US Department of Education's Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans and Federal Grad PLUS Loans. Some of our students also have their tuition paid, at least in part, by an employer or other 3rd party. The University's Financial Services Center provides Third-Party Billing when the third party requires a bill from the university.

More information about financial aid is available from the University of Maryland's Office of Student Financial Aid.

CONTACT

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Online Program

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Website: <http://masters.econ.umd.edu>

Courses: ECON (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/econ/>)

Relationships: Applied Economics (off-campus) (ECAO) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/applied-economics-off-campus-ecao/>), Applied Economics (on-campus) (ECAM) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/applied-economics-on-campus-ecam/>), Economic Analysis (off-campus) (Z074) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/economic-analysis-off-campus-z074/>), Economic Analysis (on-campus) (Z098) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/economic-analysis-on-campus-z098/>), Economic Analysis (online) (Z174) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/economic-analysis-online-z174/>)

ADMISSIONS

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Statement of Purpose (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/gradschool.umd.edu/files/uploads/admissionsforms/umdstatementofpurposeecaocamz074z098.pdf>)
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/>))

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- CV/Resume
- Supplementary Application (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/default/files/2023-05/umdsupplementaryapplicationappliedecon.pdf>)

***Visa Eligibility:** This program is not eligible for I-20 or DS-2019 issuance by the University of Maryland.

International applicants who need the University of Maryland to sponsor an F1 student visa must apply for Fall enrollment to the College Park version of our program (ECAM).

International applicants who already reside in the U.S. on existing visas that permit study (G4 and H4 visas, for example) may apply to either version of the program, similar to domestic students.

Applicants who are unsure about their preferred location should contact masters-econ@umd.edu before submitting an application.

The Golden Identification Program is not eligible for Continuing Education Programs (Graduate, Post-Baccalaureate, Non-Credit Learning) administered through the Office of Extended Studies. To learn more about Golden ID, click here (<http://registrar.umd.edu/current/registration/golden-id.html>).

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline	Spring Deadline	Summer Deadline
Domestic Applicants			

US Citizens and Permanent Residents	June 10, 2026	December 10, 2025	N/A
International Applicants			
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas	N/A	N/A	N/A

RESOURCES AND LINKS:

Program Website: masters.econ.umd.edu (<http://masters.econ.umd.edu>)

Application Process: gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/application-process/step-step-guide-applying (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/application-process/step-step-guide-applying/>)

REQUIREMENTS

- Applied Economics (online), Master of Science (M.S.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/applied-economics-online-ecae/applied-economics-online-ms/>)