



## CEN School of Integrated Climate and Earth System Sciences (SICSS) Membership Application Guidelines (Doctoral Program)

### General information / Prerequisites

The graduate school SICSS is part of the Centre of Earth System Sciences and Sustainability (CEN) at Universität Hamburg.

SICSS links doctoral candidates of different scientific background and expertise and enables a structured, integrated and innovative education in climate system sciences. SICSS offers compulsory elements such as the introduction course and the annual retreat as well as elective courses on research or soft skills. SICSS also provides counseling on career development and planning. Core element of SICSS is the advisory panel system, a mentoring and guidance tool which is mandatory.

SICSS is open to doctoral candidates who are pursuing a doctorate at Universität Hamburg. The doctoral program in SICSS addresses research-oriented students with very good MSc degrees in earth system sciences and complementary disciplines dealing with climate research. Either the principal advisor or co-advisor of the doctoral candidate has to be involved in CEN. **An application for a SICSS membership is recommended directly with the admission to the doctorate in the respective faculty but no later than six months after the start of the doctorate.**

To be a member of SICSS it is important that there is a willingness to do a structured doctorate with all the duties. It is also desirable that there is a willingness to act as contact person after the doctorate, for e.g. advising new doctoral candidates in the SICSS or to be available as an alumnus for possible events.

### Application procedure

Membership applications are possible at any given time. New members are usually welcomed twice a year, at the beginning of the semester in April and October. A membership is granted for three years starting with the date of official admission as doctoral candidate at Universität Hamburg (*'Zulassung zur Promotion'*). Please contact us directly with the admission to the doctoral procedure in your respective faculty if you want to become a member at SICSS.

SICSS evaluates the application based on the following documents to be submitted by the candidate:

1. a motivation letter that demonstrates the interests in becoming a SICSS member and to do a structured doctorate,
2. a curriculum vitae,
3. the MSc certificate (or equivalent) and transcript of records (as electronical copies),
4. a thesis outline, summarizing the topic and the focus of the doctoral project.

The membership becomes finally valid once the candidate has handed in the following documents:

5. copy of the admission as doctoral candidate at Universität Hamburg (*'Zulassung zur Promotion'*)
6. information on the funding source and the duration of the funding,
7. declaration of consent for photos/videos for purposes of media and public relations,
8. supervision agreement signed by the principal advisor, co-advisor, panel chair and candidate.

Questions or applications via e-mail to: [alexandra.franzke@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:alexandra.franzke@uni-hamburg.de)

More information on SICSS: [www.sicss.uni-hamburg.de](http://www.sicss.uni-hamburg.de)

Contact: **Dr Alexandra Franzke**, CEN Graduate School SICSS, Universität Hamburg  
Grindelberg 5/7, 20144 Hamburg, Germany