

Call for PhD Candidates for the Sino-Dutch Agriculture Green Development Program

The Sino-Dutch Agriculture Green Development PhD Program (the AGD-PhD Program) is proposed to be established jointly by China Agricultural University (CAU) and Wageningen University (WUR). It is not only an education and research base between CAU and WU, but also a Chinese and Dutch communication and collaboration platform for agricultural education and science. This program has been approved by the China Scholarship Council (CSC) for the third round implementation with three years of student admission from 2023 to 2025, and is now calling for 2 PhD candidates who intend to receive their PhD degree from WUR and start their PhD research in 2025.

Qualifications

We are looking for candidates, who have

- Chinese nationality (age<35);
- an MSc degree in the field of Resources and Environmental Sciences, Plant Sciences, Animal Science, Food Sciences, Microbiology, Agricultural engineering science and technology or Economics from China Agricultural University or Wageningen University;
- meet CSC's requirements (<https://www.csc.edu.cn/article/3292>)
- completed their MSc education in English, or meet both WU's and CSC's requirements with regard to English proficiency:
<https://www.wur.nl/en/education-programmes/phd-programme/practical-information/entry-requirements.htm>
<https://www.csc.edu.cn/article/1473>
- the appropriate background, skills and competencies as listed per project in appendix 1.
- Interest in doing research in an interdisciplinary context

Documents required (all the documents should be merged into one pdf file):

- CV in both Chinese and English (Appendix 2);
- Certificates of bachelor and master degrees and transcripts from China Agricultural University or Wageningen University (master degree certificate should be received not earlier than 1st Sep 2024, new MSc graduates should prepare a certification for the deadlines of the master degree being awarded before August 31, 2025);
- Language Proofs: valid TOEFL or IELTS Proof in two years, or other proofs as WUR and CSC required (<https://www.wur.nl/en/education-programmes/phd-programme/practical-information/required-documents.htm>; <https://www.csc.edu.cn/article/1473>)
- Two reference letters in your applied field (send to agd-csc@cau.edu.cn by referees);
- Abstract of your MSc dissertations in both Chinese and English;
- Copies of publications, awards, patents;
- Copies of ID;

Beside the merged documents, a motivation letter for the topic you apply for is also needed, in which you explain 1) which of the three topics you are applying to, 2) why you apply for that specific topic, and 3) why your background and skills fit with what is required for PhD research on that topic.

Application Deadline:

Please submit all the documents required by the deadline of **May 25th, 2025**.
to agd-csc@cau.edu.cn with the email title "name_1+3".

Evaluation and Admission

- 1st selection: the program office will check the qualifications of the applications;
- 2nd selection: Interviews (screen interview) by the joint CAU and WU supervisory team three weeks after the 1st selection;
- Admission and appointment of the CAU and WUR supervisors is determined by the academic committee of the AGD-PhD Program.

Education and training

The AGD-PhD program is conducted around China's agriculture green development, and all the AGD-PhD candidates will be supervised by supervisors from both CAU and WU. A four-year education and training procedure was designed for the PhD candidates, one year at CAU and then three years at WU.

Scholarships

The Scholarships include:

- A living allowance during the stay in the Netherlands (in reference to the CSC standards of the year, about 2000 EUR/month), including livings, accommodation and Insurance, etc.;
- a return flight from CAU to WU;

Contact Information

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