



Georgia Tech
Scheller College
of Business

Ph.D. Program



 Georgia Institute
of Technology

Technology
Square

Contents

The Doctoral Program	6
Courses of Study	8
Application and Admission	10
Testimonials	12
The Tech Square Innovation Ecosystem	14
Georgia Tech and Campus Life	16
Frequently Asked Questions	18



Georgia Tech taught me to be disciplined and focused in everything I did. I owe so much to Georgia Tech and the rigorous education I received. I've always felt a tremendous amount of gratitude and a strong desire to give back to the Institute. I have never been more optimistic about the future of Georgia Tech and our College of Business, and how we'll continue to define the innovative business school of the 21st century."

Ernest Scheller, Jr., IM 1952, Hon. Ph.D. 2013
Chairman Emeritus of Silberline Manufacturing Inc.

- **We invite you to learn more about our program and review our faculty research interests to see how they align with your professional goals.**
-

We accept applications each fall for admission to doctoral study the following fall semester. You may apply online at: gradadmiss.gatech.edu/apply-now

Graduate research and teaching assistantships are offered to admitted Ph.D. in Management students regardless of need and background.

If you have any questions regarding the application process or about the Ph.D. Program in Management at Georgia Tech, please contact the Graduate Office at 404.385.3896 or send an email to: renee.jamieson@scheller.gatech.edu

The Doctoral Program

- **Choosing a Ph.D. program that matches your skills and interests is critical to your academic, professional, and personal success.**



The Georgia Tech Ph.D. in Management offers small, flexible programs in Accounting, Finance, Information Technology Management, Marketing, Operations Management, Organizational Behavior, and Strategy and Innovation. The goal of the Ph.D. program is to develop scholars who are capable of making original contributions to their chosen fields. Most graduates begin careers as researchers, scholars, and teachers working in academic environments.

Program of Study

This is a full-time on-campus program that is completed in five years. While many Ph.D. students have earned an MBA or equivalent degree, knowledge of business or previous graduate work is not a prerequisite for admission. Each student works closely with an Advisory Committee composed of an advisor and two other faculty members from the chosen area of study. Together with the Advisory Committee, the student develops a program of study to meet his or her objectives, academic requirements, and career goals. The Ph.D. program stresses continual interaction between the student, advisor, and other faculty members in the student's area of study. Strongly research-oriented, the program emphasizes early and effective involvement in research. Students benefit from personal attention and close interaction with faculty, who place significant weight on learning outside the classroom.

Research Papers

In addition to course work, students typically assist in faculty research during the first year. These activities lead to the first research paper. The student identifies a topic of interest and prepares the first paper. During the second year, the student works on a research project leading to the second research paper. Both research papers are presented to faculty and graduate students. While it is possible that either or both of these papers may eventually form the underlying framework for the doctoral dissertation, that is not the primary intent. The main purpose of the papers is to challenge the student intellectually and to begin to develop research skills needed in later work. The papers themselves might arise from work that is of joint interest to the advising faculty member and student. The advisor works with the student to develop these research skills.

Teaching

Teaching of two classes is required. Typically, third and fourth year students will teach one class per year.

Comprehensive Exams

Comprehensive examinations in the student's field of study are taken during the summer between their second and third year. The exams include a section on research methodology and quantitative methods. Exams are generally written, but may also involve oral components. After completing the first and second papers and passing the comprehensive examinations, the student is ready to write a dissertation that will represent a significant and original contribution to knowledge in the field.

Dissertation

The student will present a dissertation project proposal to their Thesis Advisory Committee. The Committee provides advice and guidance during development of the research topic and while the research itself is conducted. The Committee is also charged with approving the dissertation after the research is completed and submitted as the doctoral thesis. A written proposal must be approved by the Thesis Advisory Committee at least one semester before the defense. The defense consists of an oral presentation of the proposal and its findings to faculty and graduate students.

Minor Requirements

Each doctoral student is required to complete a minor field of study. The student and their advisor determine the course work necessary to fulfill this requirement.



Courses of Study

Accounting

Accounting is a functional area of business that encompasses the production and dissemination of information used by various parties, including managers, investors, creditors, regulatory agencies, and others for decision-making purposes.

[Learn More](#)

Finance

The doctoral program in finance trains scholars to produce original research in the discipline. The economic and quantitative research focus in the finance literature requires that students develop their skills in a range of allied fields, such as economics, statistics, mathematics, and accounting.

[Learn More](#)

Information Technology Management

Information technology management continues to evolve at breathtaking speed. Advances in IT have profound effects on how firms generate value and how entire industries are structured.

[Learn More](#)

Marketing

Marketing is concerned with decisions that relate to a firm's customers, competitors, and network of partners including channel members and promotion agencies. It focuses on how customers make choices and how companies ought to design products, services, and programs to satisfy customer needs.

[Learn More](#)

Operations Management

Operations management is devoted to planning, creation, and management of an organization's resources and processes that create products or services, including the work force, equipment, information, distribution system, and materials, all of which represent a significant portion of total costs and controllable assets.

[Learn More](#)

Organizational Behavior

Organizational behavior investigates the impact of individuals, groups, and structure on behavior within organizations for the purpose of improving organizational effectiveness.

[Learn More](#)

Strategy and Innovation

Explaining and predicting competitive advantage is the defining question of strategic management. To answer this question, researchers draw on disciplines such as economics and sociology.

[Learn More](#)



Application and Admission

- Admission into the Ph.D. program is highly selective, with a limited number of offers extended each year.

Primary considerations include:

- Overall undergraduate grade point average and, if applicable, graduate grade point average
 - GMAT or GRE scores (required)
 - Compatible research interests with faculty
 - Career interests and goals as discussed in essays
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Overall appropriateness for graduate study
 - Ability to handle advanced-level research
 - TOEFL or IELTS (if applicable)
The TOEFL minimum score requirement is 100 on the TOEFL internet-based test (iBT). The IELTS score must be a minimum of 7.
-

A strong background in college-level mathematics, particularly knowledge of linear algebra, calculus, and statistics is necessary.

All international applicants must satisfy the English Language Proficiency Requirement to be considered for admission. Details on satisfying this requirement can be found at <https://grad.gatech.edu/english-proficiency>.

Georgia Tech school codes are:

- **GMAT - HWK-54-07**
- **GRE - 5248-4201**
- **TOEFL - 5248**

The Ph.D. Admissions Committee looks for applicants with a balanced application and a strong sense of direction. Average test scores for the past several years have been in the 90th percentile or higher. Acceptance into doctoral study may be made after either the bachelor's or master's degrees have been completed. The bachelor's degree must be from an accredited institution of higher learning.

The admission process to the Ph.D. program has two stages. First, applicants are screened by faculty in the appropriate academic area. Second, the Ph.D. Admissions Committee reviews applications and makes admission decisions as well as recommendations

Testimonials



"When I look back on my time in Scheller, I consider it the place where I learned how to be a kind scholar. The humility and kindness shown to me by my advisors has made me appreciate all facets of our profession—from research to teaching to service. I often tell my family and friends that I hope to be a good scholar like my advisors, as well as a good human being like my advisors....Knowing that you have the option to knock on the door of an eminent scholar in your field to discuss your research is an amazing resource for a budding researcher."

Priyank Arora, Ph.D. '18
Operations Management



"Within Scheller's research-focused environment, you can expect substantial personal and academic growth, supported by caring faculty dedicated to the success of the Ph.D. students and by tremendous research support from the school. I entered into research with multiple faculty members from day one of my program. They encouraged me to take initiative in research endeavors, emphasizing practical implications and insights into business practices."

Na Kyong (Kimberly) Hyun, Ph.D. '23
Marketing



"The faculty advocate extensively for Ph.D. students both within the program itself and externally. Our faculty are also always willing to give feedback on how we can improve as researchers and in the classroom. It's amazing to see how I've grown since I entered the program."

Charley Irons, Ph.D. '25
Accounting



"Without exception, every faculty member in our area was there for us and contributed to our growth and exposure to our field. I knew I could reach out to any faculty member with questions, for feedback, or for guidance. Some were my go-to subject matter experts for teaching, others for statistical analysis questions, many for just navigating life as a Ph.D. student, and almost everyone for research methodology and development questions. I am forever grateful to have learned from them."

Jonathan Kugel, Ph.D. '21
Accounting




"My Ph.D. advisor at Scheller was extremely patient and supportive. Whenever I asked for advice regarding ideas, papers, presentations, or the job market, he would respond very promptly and offer great help. I very much appreciate his continued support throughout my Ph.D. journey."

Suyun (Sue) Wu, Ph.D. '22
Accounting



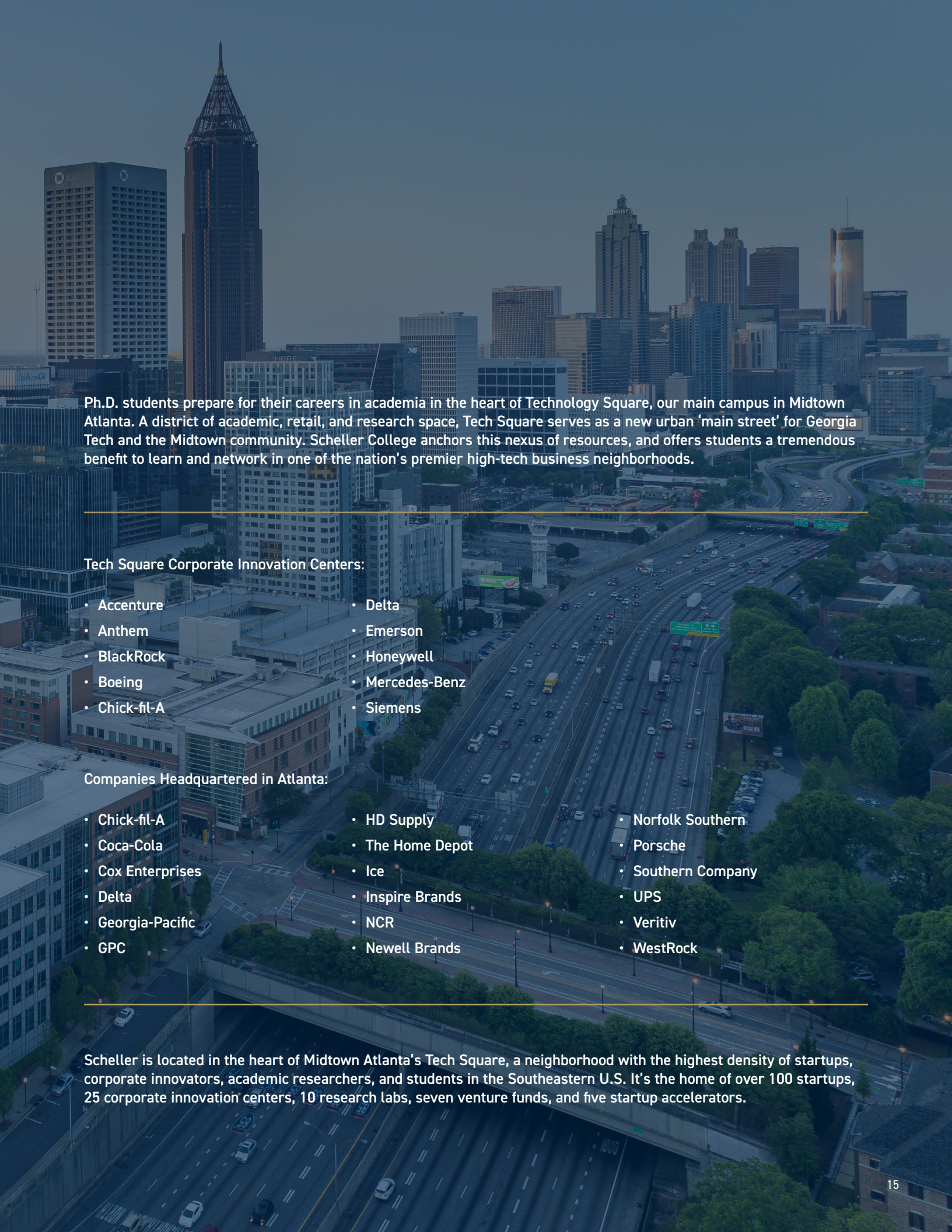
"At Scheller, there are great opportunities to learn from other departments and universities. For example, I took courses taught by professors in Industrial and Systems Engineering at Tech and I also cross-registered for some courses at Georgia State University. Some students have attended classes at Emory University or other universities in Atlanta."

Qixin Ye, Ph.D. '26
Information Technology Management

An aerial photograph of Atlanta, Georgia, showing a dense urban landscape. In the foreground, a large parking lot is filled with cars. Behind it, several modern high-rise buildings are visible, including one with the 'accenture' logo. The background shows more city buildings and a hazy horizon. The text 'The Tech Square Innovation Ecosystem' is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, sans-serif font. 'The' and 'Innovation Ecosystem' are in white, while 'Tech Square' is in a gold color.

The Tech Square Innovation Ecosystem

- ▶ Georgia Tech's Ph.D. program in Atlanta's Technology Square offers students a unique learning environment in the heart of a thriving city.



Ph.D. students prepare for their careers in academia in the heart of Technology Square, our main campus in Midtown Atlanta. A district of academic, retail, and research space, Tech Square serves as a new urban 'main street' for Georgia Tech and the Midtown community. Scheller College anchors this nexus of resources, and offers students a tremendous benefit to learn and network in one of the nation's premier high-tech business neighborhoods.

Tech Square Corporate Innovation Centers:

- Accenture
- Anthem
- BlackRock
- Boeing
- Chick-fil-A
- Delta
- Emerson
- Honeywell
- Mercedes-Benz
- Siemens

Companies Headquartered in Atlanta:

- Chick-fil-A
- Coca-Cola
- Cox Enterprises
- Delta
- Georgia-Pacific
- GPC
- HD Supply
- The Home Depot
- Ice
- Inspire Brands
- NCR
- Newell Brands
- Norfolk Southern
- Porsche
- Southern Company
- UPS
- Veritiv
- WestRock

Scheller is located in the heart of Midtown Atlanta's Tech Square, a neighborhood with the highest density of startups, corporate innovators, academic researchers, and students in the Southeastern U.S. It's the home of over 100 startups, 25 corporate innovation centers, 10 research labs, seven venture funds, and five startup accelerators.



Georgia Tech and Campus Life

- ▶ Since opening to a student body of 129 over a century ago, Georgia Tech has broadened its resources to serve more than 45,000 students. Tech students come from every state and more than 90 countries to pursue studies in Business, Computing, Design, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Sciences. These six colleges offer more than 80 master's and doctoral programs, representing a wide range of traditional and interdisciplinary studies. From its original campus, consisting of two buildings on nine acres of land, Georgia Tech has grown to occupy more than 400 acres and 160 major buildings. This expansion includes Technology Square, a multifacility complex that is home to the Scheller College of Business. Located in the heart of Midtown Atlanta's vibrant and growing technology corridor, this complex provides extensive exposure to the business community.



GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY


Established by Act of the General Assembly
Oct. 13, 1885; site selected Oct. 20, 1886.
Administration Building erected, 1887.
First session, Oct. 7, 1888.

In July, August, 1864, this site was occupied
by one of a series of forts connected by rifle-
pits which 12 mi. in extent, encircled Atlanta.
During siege operations the city was defended
by Gen. Hood's Army of Tennessee.
Opposing this sector were the 4th and 20th Corps
of the Federal Army of the Cumberland posted
in the area between 10th and 14th Sts. The
siege began July 22d and ended August 25.

GEORGIA HISTORIC MARKER

1994

060-998



Frequently Asked Questions

When is the Ph.D. program application deadline?

The application deadline is January 6.

Do you have a part-time program?

Our Ph.D. program is full-time only. This includes two years of coursework and the final years of research and preparation for the dissertation.

What standardized tests are required for admission?

Ph.D. applicants may take either the GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test, institution code: HWK-54-07) or the GRE (Graduate Record Examination, institution code: 5248-4201). We do not have minimum required scores, however, the average scores for admitted Ph.D. applicants are usually in the 90th percentile or higher. These tests must have been taken within five years of the submission of the application.

All international applicants must take and submit official results from either the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language, institution code: 5248) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) taken within two years of the applicant's intended matriculation date. A TOEFL score of at least 100 on the internet-based test or 600 on the paper version is required. International applicants who have received a degree from a U.S. degreegranting institution do not need to submit a TOEFL. IELTS score must be a minimum of 7.

Is an MBA or master's degree required before admission?

We have many students who enter the program with only bachelor's degrees. About three-fourths of our admitted applicants do have a master's or other advanced degree.

What is the average length of time it takes a student to receive a Ph.D. degree?

Most Ph.D. students complete the program in five years of full-time study.

What criteria make a successful applicant?

Faculty members are looking for a close match between their research interests and the interests of the applicants. They also want to ensure that the applicants have the strong analytical and quantitative abilities required for original doctoral research. A well-focused research statement and clear understanding of the rigors of doctoral study are crucial. Successful applicants will also have strong letters of reference from those capable of discussing their research potential, excellent grades, and exceptional GMAT or GRE scores.

I would like to meet with faculty to discuss my candidacy. How do I set this up?

Interviews are not a required part of the application process. If faculty members have a question about your application or about your background, they will contact you directly. You may contact the Ph.D. coordinator in your area of interest to ask specific research-related questions or contact the College of Business Graduate Office to meet with staff to learn more about the Ph.D. program.

What financial aid is provided?

All Ph.D. students admitted to the program will be awarded a graduate research assistantship (GRA) with admission. The GRA provides a reduction in tuition and an annual stipend of \$35,000. This assistantship is provided for up to five years, based on the student's continued academic success, progress toward the degree, and satisfactory evaluations by the faculty. For U.S. students, additional funding is available through loans.

Contact Us

scheller.gatech.edu/explore-programs/phd

renee.jamieson@scheller.gatech.edu

404.385.3896



Georgia Tech

**Scheller College
of Business**

800 W. Peachtree St. NW

Atlanta, GA 30308

scheller.gatech.edu