



Ph.D. Positions in Environmental and Resource Economics

The [Environmental Markets Lab](#) (emLab) invites applications for incoming students to pursue their Ph.D. in Environmental and Resource Economics at the University of California, Santa Barbara. emLab-affiliated faculty bridge multiple Ph.D. granting departments including the Bren School, Economics, and Geography, and typically encourage students to pursue UCSB's interdepartmental [Ph.D. Emphasis in Economics and Environmental Science](#).

The Environmental Markets Lab is a team of scientists that advances economic research to deliver practical solutions for people and the planet. In collaboration with implementing partners, we design, test, and implement scalable solutions that work across boundaries—connecting science with policy, data with decisions, and ambition with action—to create pathways toward a future where environmental and human well being mutually reinforce one another. We endeavor to foster an inclusive, collaborative work environment to bring interdisciplinary expertise to solve critical environmental problems.

Applicants should be interested in pursuing research that draws upon economic theory and/or econometrics to explore solutions to environmental challenges. Ideal applicants would combine:

- (a) prior experience conducting academic research in environmental economics (e.g. senior thesis, pre-doctoral fellowship, or research assistantships);
- (b) sufficient quantitative training (e.g. excellence across calculus, real analysis, and/or linear algebra classes) to ensure success in the [EES program](#)'s prerequisites which include passing first-year Ph.D. qualifying exams in microeconomics and econometrics;
- (c) clear vision of the role economic research will play in their career, and why emLab and UCSB provide the needed scholarly community for their success.

Ph.D. student stipends, tuition, and summer salary are supported through a variety of fellowships, research assistantships, and teaching assistantships. Applicants are encouraged to review the Ph.D. admissions, funding, and curricular details in [Economics](#), [Bren](#), and [Geography](#) to identify the program that best fits their interests. Application deadlines vary by department, with the earliest being December 1, 2025. Please check the department's website for more information.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact emLab-affiliated faculty. In particular, Professors [Robert Heilmayr](#) and [Kyle Meng](#) are looking to recruit PhD students aligned with their research interests for admission in 2026. Initial emails should include the applicant's resume and a short statement of past research experience and interests.