

2026 PHD SCHOLARSHIPS – NOTICE – RECRUITMENT OF PHD STUDENTS

Job information		
	Organisation / Company	University of Caen Normandy
	Field of research	Law relating to protected persons; Family law; Property law
	Researcher profile	Early-career researcher (R1)
	Country	France
	Application deadline	<p>Thursday 4 June 2026, 3.00 pm</p> <p>Send the single document (PDF) by email to the DROIT NORMANDIE Doctoral School. The acknowledgement of receipt will not constitute proof of the application's admissibility.</p>
	Type of contract	Temporary
	Employment status	Full-time
	Is the post funded by the EU Research Framework Programme?	NO
	Is the post linked to a staff position within a research infrastructure?	NO

Job description		
	<p>Description of the post and the PhD project (specified and funded)</p>	<p>Funded thesis topic. <i>The orphan's inheritance</i></p> <p>Brief outline. Research into the estate of orphans aims to provide a general study of the assets of minors and their administration, whilst offering an innovative perspective. Given the growing opportunities available to minors to build up their own assets, this project aims to catalogue all possible sources of an orphaned minor's assets, whilst examining not only the composition of these assets but also their management. The increasing autonomy granted to minors despite their legal incapacity highlights the need to explore this subject. By examining the origin, composition, as well as the administration and transformation of an orphaned minor's estate, this study will demonstrate the role of the minor's autonomy within a system of legal representation. Building on this premise, this research will also highlight the shortcomings and the need to reform the system of legal representation for orphaned minors, in light of their increasing autonomy. In considering the tension between the minor's autonomy and the systems of representation to which the orphaned minor may be subject, it will be essential to examine existing or potential mechanisms that will enable the minor, according to their age and degree of maturity, to express their wishes or even to participate in decisions concerning the management and transfer of their estate. The case of orphaned minors is of particular interest: the death of one or both parents places them in a situation of increasing vulnerability, exposing them <i>de facto</i> to heightened risks. This study will therefore examine legal administration by a single parent, as well as guardianship of the minor (departmental, family and state guardianship).</p>

Requirements	Salary range	€2,100–2,300 per month
	Eligibility: subject-specific requirements	<p>Eligibility criteria vary depending on the project supervisor:</p> <p>To apply for the targeted PhD project funded by the University of Caen Normandy, the candidate must hold a Master's degree in private law or be on track to do so by¹September 2026. A distinction (AB, etc.) must have been obtained in the first or second year of the Master's programme.</p> <p>Furthermore, during their university studies, the candidate must have taken courses in the law of protected persons and in family property and non-property law, at both Master's 1 and Master's 2 levels.</p>
	Admission requirements	<p>Following the candidate's interview before a panel on Tuesday 9 June 2026, starting at 3.30 pm, and deliberation by the Executive Committee of the ED Droit Normandie, the student who meets the following admission requirements will be admitted to undertake a thesis on the <i>estate of an orphan</i>:</p> <p>(1) Hold a Master's degree in law (private or public) by¹October 2026, with honours, and have followed an academic course of study relevant to the funded thesis project.</p> <p>(2) Be able to articulate their position on the thesis topic to demonstrate their aptitude for undertaking doctoral research on the specified subject.</p> <p>(3) Be able to present, during the interview, their academic background, the merits of their analysis of the topic, and the research schedule for the three-year duration of the doctoral contract. Experience as a tutor or teaching assistant in law is a significant advantage.</p> <p>(4) Have written a private law dissertation on a topic related to the law of protected persons and/or family property and non-property law, in a format that meets academic standards. If the Master's degree is currently in progress, the candidate must present and justify their dissertation topic, a detailed argument, research avenues, the methodology followed and a bibliography.</p>

Applications		<p>The application must be submitted as a single PDF document with paginated pages. The document must contain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A cover letter briefly describing the candidate's research interests and explaining the reasons for their application to the thesis project. (2) A description of the three-year research programme. (3) A curriculum vitae (CV). (4) Copies of academic transcripts, diplomas and documents certifying the completion of courses and the award of a Master's degree in law (private or public). (5) The contact details of two referees or individuals able to recommend the candidate for the designated and funded doctoral research project. (6) A research dissertation on a topic addressing a classic or topical issue relating to protected persons (minimum length: 40 pages)
Place(s) of work		<p>University of Caen (Normandy, France) Faculty of Law Esplanade de la Paix, 14000, Caen</p>
Who to contact?		<p>Doctoral school email: gilles.raoul-cormeil@unicaen.fr</p>
Contact		<p>Supervisor's email address: laurence.vielpeau@unicaen.fr</p>