International PhD Program in Neuroscience

Call for applications 2020
International PhD Program in Neuroscience

PhD positions: call for applications

- Molecular and cellular neuroscience
- Circuits and systems neuroscience
- Behavioral and cognitive neuroscience
- Neurological and psychiatric disorders
- Neurophotonics and brain imaging

Application deadline: February 29th, 2020

Program starting date: Fall 2020

Information and application: https://neurocampus-graduateprogram.u-bordeaux.fr/
Contact: neurocampus.graduateprogram@u-bordeaux.fr

Project reference 17*EURE-0028
CALL FOR PhD APPLICATIONS 2020
Bordeaux Neurocampus international PhD Program

Overview

The International PhD Program in Neuroscience of the Bordeaux Neurocampus Graduate Program is part of the Bordeaux University Research Graduate School and supported by the state-funded program “Investment for the future”. The Bordeaux Neurocampus Graduate Program includes a Master of Science (MSc) and a Doctoral Program (PhD) open to students from all disciplines with strong interest in neuroscience.

The PhD Program takes place within the research laboratories of the vibrant and international neuroscience community of Bordeaux Neurocampus which addresses a wide range of topics related to the complexity of brain function and diseases. The teams and partners have diverse as well as complementary expertise, that includes: biology of neural cells and synapses, animal and human behavior and cognition, physiology of neural networks, mechanisms of neurodegenerative and mental disorders. Multidisciplinary technological approaches and multiscale analyses are employed, at the molecular, cellular, systemic, behavioral, and clinical levels. The campus is ideally suited to make significant advances in our understanding of the mechanisms underlying the physiological and pathological brain.

Neuroscience research at the University of Bordeaux has become over the past 10 years one of the most productive communities across France and Europe. Bordeaux Neurocampus includes expert neuroscience laboratories affiliated with the University of Bordeaux and the CNRS, Inserm, INRA, INRIA and CEA.

Bordeaux Neurocampus International PhD Program

The Bordeaux Neurocampus International PhD Program in Neuroscience focuses on knowledge and innovation in basic and translational neuroscience. It provides cross-disciplinary training through 3 years of full-time work, carried out in the Bordeaux Neurocampus laboratories.

PhD students benefit from a variety of educational programs, top quality research facilities, ambitious training initiatives, international partnerships and conferences. It represents a minimum of 100 hours of additional courses, with a balance between disciplinary (neuroscience) and transversal training
The International PhD training offer includes:

- **Research projects** in Bordeaux Neurocampus laboratories covering a wide range of expertise and technologies from basic to applied and translational research
- **Monthly PhD seminar series** and other disciplinary training on various neuroscience related topics to provide students with broad knowledge in neuroscience
- **Hands-on training workshops** as a trainee or instructor in cutting edge research facilities at the Bordeaux School of Neuroscience
- **Transversal training**, such as language and communication skills, training to teaching, entrepreneurship and career development… A large offer is available to allow student to draw up personalized training plan according to their research and professional project.
- **International mobility** opportunities via structured academic partnerships
- **Access to research networks** through the wide community of local and international renowned scientists from various disciplines, etc.
- **Career guidance services** to support trainees employability in academia and industry

All courses are delivered in English.

The PhD Program in Neuroscience prepares students for different career opportunities (research, teaching, project management, scientific mediation, etc.) in the academic as well as in the private sector.

At the end of the International PhD Program in Neuroscience, graduates will have:
- A comprehensive understanding of scientific methods and techniques applicable to neuroscience;
- Self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems;
- The ability to communicate and collaborate with experts from other disciplines relevant to neuroscience.

**Candidate Profile and application requirements**

The International PhD Program in Neuroscience is open to Master students from all nationality and fields relevant to neuroscience. The candidate is expected to:

- Hold a Master degree* or equivalent diploma in a relevant discipline (biology, biochemistry, biomedical sciences, medical studies, pharmacy, cognitive sciences or psychology with a strong interest in neuroscience). Candidates with a Master’s degree in another subject (chemistry, physics, maths, engineering, computer science…) must provide documented interest in the field of neuroscience.
- Prove an excellent academic and scientific level
- Demonstrate previous experience in a research laboratory
- Have an adequate level of English to follow and participate in courses, projects, seminars, workshops, etc.

*Applicants are expected to hold and provide their Master diploma for the registration step at the latest.
Admission process

Admission to the PhD program involves 4 steps:

1/ **Online application** (pre-selection): personal and academic details, documents to be provided

2/ **Personal interview session** (selection) (in person at Bordeaux Neurocampus if possible or via visioconference): 30 minutes and a slide presentation support to present academic background, research experience, motivation for 3 preferred PhD research projects in 3 different teams of the Bordeaux Neurocampus laboratories, among a list of PhD research Projects **

3/ **Discussion and final validation with the PhD supervisor** (the applicant is invited to directly contact and organize meetings with the PhD supervisors of its preferred PhD research projects during his stay for interviews).

4/ **Registration** at the Life and Health Science Doctoral School of the University of Bordeaux

**The list of available PhD research projects will be published after the pre-selection step, within the interview session, and may be updated within the official notification of successful applicants. Before that, applicants are highly encouraged to find out about the specific expertise and projects led by the different laboratories and teams of Bordeaux Neurocampus and which could be of interest for them.**

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening of online application</td>
<td>December 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online application deadline</td>
<td>29/02/2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-selection by the steering committee</td>
<td>April 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal interviews (in person at Bordeaux or via skype)</td>
<td>May-June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting with the PhD supervisors</td>
<td>May-June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final selection by the steering committee</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Validation by the PhD supervisors</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Official notification by the Graduate Research School</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>July 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start</td>
<td>Fall 2020 (September – November)</td>
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Salary, Tuition Fees and Funding

- Each year, the PhD program offers fully-funded full-time PhD positions on a fixed-term 3 year contract
- Mobility grants are available upon application: successful applicants will also be able to apply for international mobility stipends, as well as for teaching activities for additional remuneration
- Annual registration fees are calculated according to the University of Bordeaux rules and regulations fees.

Successful applicants will be expected to register at the University of Bordeaux. PhD students of the program are enrolled in the Life and Health Science Doctoral School of the University.
How to apply

Applications must be filled and submitted online (at https://aap.u-bordeaux.fr/siaap/pub/appel/view/116) before February 29th 2020.

1/ Form: The application form and its different categories (personal information; academic background; laboratory experience; reference) must be filled online.

- If you are from a French University, part of the Education-Research Identity Federation Renater, click on “Institutional account”, then, find your university on the proposed list and then log in or register with your institutional account.
- Else click on “Account of the application” > “Register” > “By creating and account in the application” > and choose your institution or “no affiliation”, as you can see in the following screenshots:
- Then log in and “start the application process” by filling information directly online (no pdf to fill out) as below:
2/ Documents: the application must include the following documents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Documents</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Must include / comments</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CV</td>
<td>1-2 pages /Max 1Mo</td>
<td>Curriculum Vitae incl. photo, University education, professional experience, main scientific achievements and research experience, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passport</td>
<td>Max 1 Mo</td>
<td>Copy of original passport (or Identity Card)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cover Letter</td>
<td>Max 500 words/1Mo</td>
<td>Motivations, skills, experience, knowledge, fields of interest, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Diploma</td>
<td>Max 1 Mo</td>
<td>Copy of official Master transcript (or equivalent Diploma) including marks, honours and ranking. In case diploma is not available yet, please provide a registration attestation from University; however, applicants are expected to hold and provide the copy of their Master diploma for the registration step at the very latest. If official transcript is not available in English or French, please provide official English translation or official attestation from the University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Test (if available)</td>
<td>Max 1 Mo</td>
<td>Proof of adequate level in English for non English natives, such as TOEFL or IELTS or TOEIC or proof of CEFR level in English <a href="http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr">http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/resources/european-language-levels-cefr</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications (if applicable)</td>
<td>Max 1 Mo</td>
<td>Previous scientific publications, communications, and/or posters, if applicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRE test (if available)</td>
<td>Max 1 Mo</td>
<td>Graduate Record Examination scores, if available <a href="https://www.ets.org/gre">https://www.ets.org/gre</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A unique merged pdf document</td>
<td>Max 5 Mo</td>
<td>Including all the previous documents merged in one unique pdf document</td>
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3/ Reference: To complete the application, one or two reference persons must be filled in the category "referent" in the online application. Once the applicant has finalized and submitted his application, these persons will automatically receive an e-mail asking to click on a link. There, they will be asked if they approve or not the student’s application and will be able to upload a reference letter (BEFORE SAVING), which will automatically complete the student’s application file.

Be careful, it is the entire applicant’s responsibility to inform the referent persons about this procedure and especially to make sure they will support their application before the application deadline, by uploading first a reference letter, in PDF format, before clicking on “Save”.

4/ Submission: then click on “Finalize submission”
Please note:
- All submitted information and documents must be:
  - In PDF or JPG format
  - In English or in French
  - Entitled “lastname_firstname_documentsname”
  - Provided separately and not exceed 1Mo
  - In addition all information should be merged in a unique PDF file (not exceeding 5Mo)
- Applicants are expected to hold and provide the copy of their Master diploma for the registration step at the University of Bordeaux at the very latest
- Ineligible or incomplete applications will not be transmitted to the pre-selection committee
- If you need assistance, please contact us before February 15th at neuroscience.graduateprogram@u-bordeaux.fr

Selection

Admission is highly competitive and focuses on the excellence of the candidates.

Pre-selection (upon application form) is based on:
- The quality of the academic background (cursus, specialities, transcripts of Master degree, grades, ranking, language capacities, etc.)
- The research experience and the technical skills
- The motivation (for neuroscience, research, Bordeaux…)
- The quality of the reference letters

Final selection (upon personal interview) is based on:
- The quality of the academic background (cursus, specialities, language, etc.), the research experience and the technical skills
- The motivation and the justification of 3 preferred PhD research projects in 3 different teams of the Bordeaux Neurocampus laboratories, among a list of PhD research projects**
- The relevance of the argumentation, the quality of the slide presentation, the communication skills, etc.
Our partners

Project reference 17-EURE-0028

CONTACT

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