



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Doctorate



International PhD – Einstein Center for Neurosciences Berlin

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin • Berlin

Overview

Degree	PhD, MD/PhD (for medical students), Dr rer nat, Dr rer medic, Dr phil
In cooperation with	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NeuroCure – Cluster of Excellence• Berlin School of Mind and Brain• Bernstein Center for Computational Neurosciences Berlin• Medical Neurosciences International Graduate Programme• Center for Stroke Research Berlin
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English
Languages	Courses are held in English.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• full-time
Mode of study	Fully on-site with voluntary online elements
Programme duration	8 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	Second week of January each year See the website for details.
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	Yes

Description/content

The PhD programme of the Einstein Center for Neurosciences Berlin (ECN) offers selected students the opportunity to become experts in neuroscience research and related disciplines. The combination of the ECN curriculum and courses offered by our partner institutions allows students the interdisciplinary study of neuroscientific disciplines (such as anatomy, physiology, cell biology, computation, pharmacology, neurolinguistics and philosophy). Learning about the research questions and methodologies of different scientific fields will help each student to generate his or her own curriculum and pursue an individual research focus and career plans.

The goal of the core curriculum is to provide a common foundation, so that all students have a strong knowledge base and a common language across the breadth of neurosciences, which is a highly diverse and multidisciplinary field.

Course Details

Course organisation	<p>Incoming ECN PhD fellows will attend a boot camp at the beginning of October. This three-week intensive programme will help the students to get an overview of the interdisciplinary fields of study before they take part in their first laboratory of choice.</p> <p>Students will familiarise themselves with the core curriculum of the Einstein Training Programme (ETP). The intensive programme features lectures on key neuroscience concepts. The focus will be on fundamental aspects such as neuroanatomy and neurophysiology as well as other relevant disciplines like philosophy and ethics.</p> <p>During the boot camp, the students will take a test for individual assessment and the identification of personal interests and strengths.</p> <p>Additionally, the students will attend weekly lectures to complement the core curriculum of their studies in each field. At the end of the lab rotation period (about six months), each ECN student will select a laboratory and a mentor for the PhD thesis.</p>
International elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International guest lecturers • Study trips
Integrated internships	<p>Internships are required. During the first six months, all students are expected to perform three separate laboratory rotations in labs of their choice. Each rotation usually lasts for a period of two months. During this time, the students gain hands-on experience in a variety of approaches and methods. They also get to know faculty members and their laboratory groups better. In this way, all PhD fellows are able to make an informed choice about their respective thesis labs.</p>
Special promotion / funding of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other (e.g. state level)
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	No

Online learning

Pace of course	Instructor-led (Specific due dates for lectures/assignments/exams)
Phase(s) of attendance in Germany (applies to the entire programme)	Yes, compulsory
Types of online learning elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to databases with study material • Flipped Classroom

- Online sessions
- Online study material provided by institution

Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	Approx. 315 EUR The student ID entitles students to free use of the public transportation system.
Costs of living	The cost of living will depend on your lifestyle. Given as a guide only: living costs might amount to 1,300 – 1,500 EUR per month, including accommodation and insurance.
Funding opportunities within the university	Yes
Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university	<p>The selected Einstein Center for Neurosciences (ECN) PhD fellows will be fully funded by scholarships for the first twelve months (1,800 EUR per month, tax-free, no insurance included). After the initial funding, an employment contract with the thesis advisor will be sought.</p> <p>Further information: https://www.ecn-berlin.de/education/phd-fellowships.html</p>

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	The formal qualification is a MSc or an equivalent degree.
Language requirements	<p>You have to provide a proof of proficiency in English through the TOEFL, IELTS or an equivalent test (see list below). If you are an English native speaker OR the main language of your study programme was English, you do not need to provide a language test.</p> <p>In order to prove your proficiency in English, the following certificates will be accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (grade "B" or higher) • Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (grade "C" or higher) • IELTS Academic (6 or higher) • TOEFL iBT (score 80 or higher) • TOEFL PBT (score 550 or higher) • CEF (C1 or higher) • UNlcert (level III or higher)
Application deadline	Second week of January each year See the website for details.
Submit application to	https://www.ecn-berlin.de/education/phd-fellowships/how-to-apply.html

Services

Possibility of finding part-time employment	Fellowship students are allowed to work parallel to their studies for a limited amount of working hours and a limited salary.
Accommodation	A simple way to find a room or an apartment is to search on the private housing market. Many students in Berlin live in shared apartments ("WG"). You will find these offers online, in various Berlin magazines or e.g. at the Welcome Service of the Freie Universität Berlin.
Structured research and supervision	Yes
Research training / discussion	Yes
Career advisory service	Yes, PhD students will be guided by the career development coordinator. The ECN also offers an internal job database.
Support for international students and doctoral candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome event• Visa matters• Support with registration procedures
Supervisor-student ratio	3:1

Contact

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.ecn-berlin.de/curriculum.html>

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📺 <https://www.youtube.com/@einsteincenterforneuroscie8489>

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Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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