2023 Call for Applications

EuReCa
International PhD Program

Europe, Research & Care

Applicant’s Guide

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 847718

TOGETHER,
LET’S BEAT CANCER
EuReCa International PhD Program

Overview

Created in 1909 by Nobel Laureate Marie Curie, Institut Curie brings together a world-class multidisciplinary cancer research center and a model hospital group in Paris and its surroundings.

Institut Curie’s EuReCa international PhD Program provides PhD students with high level interdisciplinary, inter-sectorial, and international training & coaching with dedicated career development plans, secondments and mentoring.

EuReCa PhD fellows will carry out research in a vibrant environment based on the pluri-disciplinary approaches and excellence offered by 88 research groups comprising Institut Curie’s 13 joint units organized in 6 research areas and a translational department:

- Epigenetics, RNA, and Genome Dynamics
- Cell Biology and Developmental Biology
- Physics of Living Systems and Chemical Biology
- Radiobiology and Molecular Imaging
- Tumor Biology and Immunology
- Computational Biology and Systems Biology
- Translational Research

Benefits of completing an EuReCa PhD

- Access to technology platforms and equipment for scientific imaging, genomics, proteomics, and bioinformatics
- Research work presentation in the annual scientific meeting for young researchers
- Travel grants to attend meetings, summer schools, conferences or courses abroad
- A Personalized Career Development Plan
- Opportunity to attend every year 300 conferences & seminars in English
- Support and networking with the students and postdocs’ association (Adic)
- Registration at Sorbonne Université, PSL University or Paris-Saclay University and affiliation to a Doctoral school
- Housing at the Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris (CIUP)
- French courses for free on campus
- A vibrant campus life in Paris & Orsay (catering facilities, sports equipment, a Student Help Desk, social events, ...)
- A PhD fellowship of 2100€/month (monthly growth salary)
List of PhD positions available in 2023

• Histone variant H3.3 and cellular programs during development and cancer
  Thesis director(s) Geneviève Almouzni & Iva Simeonova
  Research team Chromatin Dynamics
  Research dept. UMR3664 – Nuclear Dynamics

• Optical Mapping on single chromosomes of DSB repair events by recombination in normal and cancer cells
  Thesis director(s) Valérie Borde
  Research team Chromosome dynamics and recombination
  Research dept. UMR3244 - Dynamics of Genetic Information: Fundamental Bases and Cancer (Dig-Cancer)

• Polymer modeling of local chromosome dynamics upon gene induction
  Thesis director(s) Antoine Coulon & Vittore Scolari
  Research team Genome Functions in Space and Time
  Research dept. UMR 3664 - Nuclear Dynamics / UMR168 Physical Chemistry Curie

• The role of mechano-chemical cues in vertebrate axial patterning and somite generation
  Thesis director(s) Karine Guevorkian and Benoit Sorre
  Research team Dynamic Control of Signaling and Gene Expression
  Research dept. UMR168 - Physical Chemistry Curie

• Temperature scaling of gene regulatory networks for C. elegans larval development
  Thesis director(s) Wolfgang Keil & Christopher M. Hammell
  Research team Quantitative Developmental Biology
  Research dept. UMR168 - Physical Chemistry Curie

• Investigating the role of Polycomb in epigenetic regulation and inheritance during mouse germline formation and embryogenesis: study of a new member of the PRC2 complex, EZHIP (Ezh2 Inhibitory Protein) using transgenic model
  Thesis director(s) Raphaël Margueron
  Research team Mechanisms of Repression by Polycomb Proteins
  Research dept. U934/UMR3215 - Genetics and Developmental Biology

• Deciphering the dynamics of gene co-expression at the single cell level to understand patterning and epithelium-to-mesenchyme transition in development and cancer
  Thesis director(s) Anne-Hélène Monsoro-Burq
  Research team Signaling and Neural Crest Development
  Research dept. UMR3347 / U1021 – Signaling, Radiobiology and Cancer

• Contribution of the roles of RNA species in the regulation of the human NHEJ-factor KU functions during DNA replication
  Thesis director(s) Vincent Pennaneach & Sarah Lambert
  Research team DNA Recombination, Replication and Genome Stability
  Research dept. UMR3348 – Genome Integrity, RNA and Cancer
Application

Applicants have to complete an online application form in English when the call is open. Incomplete applications will not be eligible. No application will be accepted after the deadline January 9th, 2023 at 4:00pm CET (GMT +1). Applicants may apply for 1 or 2 thesis project(s) via the online application system. The following documents are required:

- a CV,
- a motivation letter,
- a copy of the high school degree,
- a copy of the university degrees including the Master’s degree or equivalent university degree (translated by the applicant in English) if available,
- a copy of the university grade transcript from the Master’s degree or equivalent university degree (translated by the applicant in English) if available,
- 2 recommendation letters. Referees must have submitted their recommendation letters by the end of the call. We strongly advise applicants to contact their referees as soon as possible so that referees have enough time to upload the recommendation letter online. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the 2 recommendation letters are uploaded by the referee before the call ends. Recommendation letters must be written on headed paper and bear the signature of the referees and an official stamp.

Please make sure all the documents requested are uploaded before submitting your application.

Eligibility criteria

- Early-stage researchers (ESR) shall at the call deadline be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree. Full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when a researcher obtained the degree which would formally entitle him or her to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which the researcher is recruited or seconded, irrespective of whether or not a doctorate is or was ever envisaged.

- Applicants from all countries are eligible. The applicants may not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc) in France for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the call deadline. Time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention, compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.

- Applicants must be in possession of (or be about to obtain) a European master degree or equivalent master’s degree which would formally entitle them to embark on a doctorate.

Apply now at training.institut-curie.org/eureca until January 9th, 2023
Recruitment process

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, Institut Curie is organizing all recruitment steps remotely. Selected PhD students will be contacted by the Human Resources Department to help organize their arrival according to national sanitary requirements in 2023.

• Eligibility check

At the end of the call, applicants will be informed of their eligibility by email. Eligible applicants will go through the 1st selection round.

• 1st selection round

Selection of 3 to 5 candidates per project by the Review Board

A committee composed of scientists from Institut Curie and experts from partner universities and organizations will rank the applications. For each PhD thesis project, applicants will be ranked and either shortlisted, on waiting list, or not selected.

Shortlisted candidates (3 to 5 per project) will be invited for the 2nd selection round.

• 2nd selection round

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an online interview as well as meetings, presentations & live sessions during the 3-days interview session in April 17-19, 2023.

All shortlisted candidates will be interviewed by the Selection Committee. They will remotely discover the host laboratory, Institut Curie’s campus, the Curie museum and Institut Curie’s technology platforms.

• Feedback & redress process

Within a week after disclosure of the results (eligibility, first & second selection rounds), applicants can appeal the decision by contacting phd.eureca@curie.fr.

• Evaluation criteria

Online applications will be evaluated on 3 main criteria. Board members will evaluate to which extent the application meets the criteria, by using a scale from 0: Fail to 10: Outstanding.

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<th>EDUCATION</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE</th>
<th>MOTIVATION/COMMUNICATION</th>
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<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
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- Academic education
- Academic excellence (incl. prizes, participation in international programmes such as Erasmus)
- Dual degree/diploma

- Work/training experience in academia/hospital/private sector
- Cross domain incl. translational/clinical experience
- International experience

- Motivation regarding the selected project(s)
- Ability to work in English at an academic level
- Openness and creativity

According to European policy, there is no disadvantage due to career breaks (for example, for family reasons).

• Contact

For questions regarding application, please read the FAQ.
Are you ready to apply?
Check the list!

Eligibility criteria

Candidates must:
- be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and have not been awarded a doctoral degree at the call deadline.
- not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc) in France for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the call deadline.
- have (or be about to obtain) a European master degree or equivalent master’s degree which would formally entitle them to embark on a doctorate.

Required documents for online application
- Your CV
- A motivation letter
- A copy of your high school degree
- A copy of your master’s degree or equivalent master’s degree (translated by the applicant into English) if available
- A copy of the university grade transcript from the master’s degree or equivalent master’s degree (translated by the applicant into English) if available
- Two recommendation letters. Referees need to have submitted their recommendation letters by the end of the call for applications. We strongly advise applicants to contact their referees as soon as possible so that the referees have enough time to upload the recommendation letter online. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the two recommendation letters are uploaded by the referee before the end of the call for applications. Recommendation letters must be written on headed paper and bear the signature of the referees and an official stamp.

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