

INTERDISCIPLINARY CALL FOR DOCTORAL APPLICATIONS 2025

Joint Ph.D. Grants of

The Graduate School for Life and Health Sciences (Life)
The Academy of Excellence « Complexity & Diversity of the Living Systems » (Academy 4)
The Institute for Modeling in Neuroscience and Cognition (NeuroMod)

Université Côte d'Azur

OBJECT OF THE CALL

The present call covers 2 interdisciplinary PhD positions of 3 years each:

- **1 PhD grant funded by EUR LIFE / NEUROMOD.** To apply for this grant, the interdisciplinary project must be at the intersection of biology and brain modeling, including cognitive sciences. The subject must be relevant with respect to the NeuroMod institute disciplines: modeling in a broad sense (mathematics, physics, informatics, data science), neuroscience, and cognition. A co-supervision from two distinct disciplines is appreciated, but not a prerequisite.
- **1 PhD grant funded by EUR LIFE / ACADEMY 4.** To apply for this grant, the interdisciplinary project must be at the interface of Biology and another scientific discipline.

RULES OF THE CALL

ARTICLE 1 – ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The hosting team must belong to Université Côte d'Azur (UniCA).
- At least one of the supervisors must be a member of EUR LIFE.
- The PhD grant must start before October 31, 2025.
- **Concerning the PhD grant funded by EUR LIFE and NEUROMOD**, the main supervisor must be Habilitated to Direct Research (HDR) or equivalent. Co-direction by both laboratories is accepted but not mandatory. The main supervisor and the applicant must belong to the same doctoral school.
- **Concerning the PhD grant funded by EUR LIFE and ACADEMY 4**, the main supervisor must be Habilitated to Direct Research (HDR) or equivalent. Co-direction by both laboratories is accepted but not mandatory. The main supervisor and the applicant must belong to the doctoral school ED85 or to ED364 when one of the supervisors belongs to ECOSEAS.

ARTICLE 2 – EVALUATION CRITERIA

- The subject of research must clearly be **interdisciplinary** and fulfill the specific conditions of the grant outlined in the "OBJECT OF THE CALL" section.
- **Scientific quality** of the project (challenges involved, originality, feasibility within the timeframe of the project).
- **Quality of the supervision** (CV of supervisor(s) including publications and project management in relation with the project, scientific and technical environment, availability of

the supervisor(s) with respect to their supervision load, a recommendation letter of the supervisor).

- **Excellence of the candidate** (CV, academic records, motivation letter, recommendation letter...).
- Ability of the candidate to master the interdisciplinary aspects of the subject.

ARTICLE 3 – DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

The application can be either in French or in English, with a preference for English.

Research Project

Scientific presentation of the project (**max. 5 pages**) – **form to fill out** (see [Online Word Document](#)), which includes:

- Project summary (1/2 page), detailing: primary discipline, secondary discipline, primary Doctoral School.
- Public summary (1/2 page)
- Description of the project including scientific aim, context, methods, interdisciplinary impact, originality and feasibility (workplan).
- The relevance of the interdisciplinary consortium (positioning of the project with respect to the EUR LIFE & NeuroMod or EUR Life and Academy 4).

Supervision

- Brief CV of supervisor (and co-supervisor, if applicable), including 5 recent publications over the past 3 years.
- Feasibility statement: signed by the student, the supervisor and the head of the host team or laboratory, explaining that the material conditions for carrying out the project are secured, especially for aspects regarding experimental facilities.

Concerning the candidate

- CV of the candidate.
- Motivation letter (max. 1 page).
- At least 1 recommendation letter of previous supervisors/tutors.
- Master transcript including detailed marks and ranks (if the Master is not finished yet, a transcript of the grades obtained so far).

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

ARTICLE 4 – SELECTION COMMITTEE

Applications will be examined by a Scientific Jury made up of members from the *Conseil de l'École Doctorale Sciences de la Vie et de la Santé* (ED85) / LIFE Graduate School and experts covering the complementary disciplines.

ARTICLE 5 – IMPORTANT DATES

- March 31, 2025: launch of the call;
- May 12, 2025, at noon: deadline for applications;
- June 3, 2025: notification of the preselected candidates;
- Between June 9 and 20, 2025: auditions (by videoconference, if necessary) of the preselected candidates;

ARTICLE 6 – APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application must be uploaded by the supervisor of Université Côte d'Azur at the following link:
https://nuxeo.univ-cotedazur.fr/nuxeo/nxdoc/default/1184ffdf-50d0-460e-8f74-b7024d37a1d5/view_documents (under "projects").

The file must be assembled into a single pdf file named as follows:

- For the **joint call between NeuroMod and LIFE**:
LAST NAME of the candidate_First name_LIFE_Neuromod_PhD2025
- For the **joint call between Academy 4 and LIFE**:
LAST NAME of the candidate_First name_LIFE_Academy4_PhD2025
- For a **joint application to both grants**:
LAST NAME of the candidate_First name_LIFE_Academy4_Neuromod_PhD2025.

ARTICLE 7 – FUNDING AND RECRUITMENT

- Limited term contract to begin before October 31, 2025.
- The PhD student will have to follow the rules of the corresponding primary Doctoral School.
- The recruited candidate is expected to be working 5 days a week on the project in their host laboratory, except special agreement with the supervisors.
- Monthly salary is comparable to Marie Skłodowska-Curie grants (2000€ net per month depending on the university pay scale at the time of employment).

ARTICLE 8 – CUMULATION OF OTHER ACTIVITIES

The position may not be combined with other activities. The recruited candidate will be expected to work full-time on the research project, except for potential teaching duties, up to 64 hours/year of teaching and in accordance with the corresponding department head.

ARTICLE 9 – NOTIFICATION IN CASE OF CHANGES

If applicable, the recruited candidate must notify Human Resources about any administrative changes that may occur during the period of the contract.

Contact: eur-life.direction@univ-cotedazur.fr