FENS actively supports graduate education, postgraduate training and professional development in neuroscience in Europe.

Higher education offered by FENS includes high-level schools, advanced training courses, travel grants, webinars and online education, as well as programmes for student exchange and short visits. FENS also connects neuroscience graduate school programmes in Europe, providing a platform for interaction and exchange of best practices.

Higher Education & Training





FENS Schools

FENS offers an annual programme of two high-level neuroscience schools: the FENS Summer School and the FENS-Hertie Winter School (in collaboration with the Hertie Foundation).

Run within an intimate setting by leading scientists around novel concepts in neuroscience, they allow informal interaction between students and faculty, and provide participants with a broad perspective on a dedicated field.

Grants and Stipends

FENS has several programmes offering travel grants and stipends to early-career researchers. These aim to facilitate mobility and scientific exchange, and to provide early career scientists with an opportunity to attend FENS and international partner meetings, training courses and schools.

The CAJAL Advanced Neuroscience Training Programme

Supported by FENS, the International Brain Research
Organization (IBRO), the Gatsby Charitable Foundation,
the University of Bordeaux and the Champalimaud
Foundation, the CAJAL Programme is an independent
European hub for hands-on training with state-of-the-art
technology across disciplines in modern neuroscience.

Dedicated to PhD students and postdocs, the CAJAL courses are project-based and combine lectures by renowned scientists with experimental sessions.

Network of European Neuroscience Schools (NENS)

NENS brings together over 200 graduate schools and programmes that offer MSc, PhD and MD-PhD degrees in neuroscience across 28 European countries. Through the NENS exchange grants, students can gain methodological and practical experience in another European laboratory that is part of NENS. The network also offers stipends and awards for MSc and PhD students.

Online activities

FENS organises an annual series of online educational activities to address timely and emerging scientific topics and to reinforce the development of skills and training.

European Neuroscience Conference by Doctoral Students (ENCODS)

ENCODS is a European training network for PhD students in neuroscience. It holds an annual cross-disciplinary conference that prepares young researchers to meet the challenges in the field of neuroscience today and in the future.

Get involved! fens.org/training









