NENS Exchange Grants

FENS training and funding opportunities

Prof. Geert Ramakers

Member of the FENS Committee for Higher Education and Training (CHET)
Network of European Neuroscience Schools (NENS)

NENS currently gathers 200 school programmes across 27 European countries that offer MSc, PhD and doctoral degrees in neuroscience.

...of interest for students enrolled in a NENS school:

- **Exchange grants for training stays.**
- **NENS Graduate Fair, Best Poster Awards** at the FENS Forum: 10 NENS students receive waived registration and present their poster at the Fair. 1 MSc and 1 PhD Student personal prize of 1,000 EUR.
- **Slots in national courses:** 20 FENS and IBRO-PERC stipends of 750 € each available every year for MSc and/or PhD to attend 6 selected courses organised by the NENS schools.

www.fens.org/careers
Network of European Neuroscience Schools (NENS)

- Applicants are expected to spend a period of one to three months in another NENS lab of their choice in a different European country for the purpose of methodological training.
- The exchange grants cover travel and accommodation costs of up to EUR 3,000.
- Application deadlines: 15 April and 15 October (midnight, Brussels time).
- Results of the applications are communicated in maximum 2 weeks following the application deadline.
- The awarded grant is provided following the training stay, based on the submitted report (1-2 pages) and the receipts reflecting their stay.
- After your training stay you become a NENS Student Alumni, your report and stay is listed on the NENS Student Alumni Directory.
Network of European Neuroscience Schools (NENS)

• Am I eligible to apply for a NENS exchange grant?

To be eligible, you have to be:
  o MSc or PhD student enrolled in a NENS school programme and
  o member of a FENS society

• Is my school programme a NENS member?

  o Check the NENS Programme Directory whether your school programme is a NENS member.
Network of European Neuroscience Schools (NENS)

NENS Programme Directory

NENS currently represents 200 graduate neuroscience schools and programmes across 27 European countries. Explore the NENS Directory and discover the landscape of European neuroscience graduate education. Explore the NENS Programme Directory map below to find a neuroscience graduate programme.
Network of European Neuroscience Schools (NENS)

Your school programme is not a NENS member?

Ask your coordinator to join NENS via an online request, there is no membership fee required and numerous benefits

Not yet member of a FENS society?

Join one of the 44 national and single discipline societies of FENS, and take advantage of FENS benefits

www.fens.org/careers
What are the benefits for my school programme as a NENS member?

**Benefits for the School/Programme**

- Easy application process
- European neuroscience training community
- Get support: NENS Slots, exchange of best practices
- Develop your programme: call for clusters, increased international visibility at FENS Forum

**NENS Clusters**

- Increased cooperation
- Financial Support
- Bring neuroscience training and higher education to the next level

Support your students’ career!

www.fens.org/careers
Statistics: NENS exchange grants 2007- June 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of applicants</th>
<th>PhD applicants</th>
<th>MSc applicants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>244</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>82</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total awarded grants</th>
<th>PhD</th>
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<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>39</td>
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www.fens.org/careers
Statistics: NENS exchange grants 2007- June 2021

Success rate

PhD
Awarded applications: 77
Not awarded applications: 85

MSc
Awarded applications: 39
Not awarded applications: 43

www.fens.org/careers
Contact NENS

• **Ready to prepare your application for a NENS exchange grant?**
  Read before the “Tips for submission” available on NENS page

• **Do you have questions on NENS?**
  Contact NENS at nens@fens.org
Other training and funding opportunities for students with FENS support

- Two Bi-annual Schools
- ENCODS
- Travel Grants
- The Cajal Advanced Neuroscience Training Programme
FENS Schools

Two neuroscience schools organised in collaboration with partners and run by front-line scientists. Novel concepts and theories in neuroscience are discussed within an intimate setting that helps promote informal exchange.

FENS-Hertie Winter School 2021
“Multiscale approaches to probe psychiatric disorders”
9-15 January 2022 – Obergurgl, Austria

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this Winter School has been rescheduled.
Applications are now open.

FENS Summer School 2022
“Artificial and natural computations for sensory perception: what is the link?”
22-28 May 2022 – Bertinoro, Italy

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this Summer School has been canceled in 2021 and rescheduled to 2022.
ENCODS is a European training network of PhD students in Neurosciences. It holds annually cross disciplinary conferences to prepare early neuroscientists to meet the challenges in the field of neurosciences for today and the future.

- **ENCODS meeting 2022:** Paris, 9-10 July (satellite event to the FENS Forum)
Travel grants

- **Travel grants** are available for FENS members to attend the scientific annual meetings of the Japan Neuroscience Society, and the Chinese Neuroscience Society.

- In addition to grants and stipends for higher education and training activities, **financial support** is available for attending scientific meeting, such as:
  - FENS meetings: the FENS Forums and the FENS Regional Meetings (FRM)
  - Registration for the FENS FORUM 2022 in Paris opens in December 2021.
  - 200 FENS and IBRO-PERC travel grants available for MSc and PhD students
  - More information [www.forum.fens.org](http://www.forum.fens.org)
• Two-to-three week **hands-on** courses or neurokits

• Lectures by **renowned scientists** with methodological training sessions

• **Interactive** and engaging atmosphere

• **Experiments** within the frame of **short scientific projects**

• Two top European facilities in neuroscience training

• **Check the Cajal Training Programme:** [www.cajal-training.org](http://www.cajal-training.org)
Additional funding opportunities

The Brain Conferences

Two Brain Conferences are organised every year at Rungstedgaard, north of Copenhagen.

15 stipends of 1.000 EUR for each conference are offered by IBRO-PERC, Lundbeck Foundation/The Brain Prize and FENS.

- **RNA Mechanisms and Brain Disease** (20-23 Oct. 2021): Applications are open

- **Establishment and Maintenance of Brain Cells** (3-6 April 2022)

A FENS activity in partnership with Lundbeck Foundation, the awardee of The Brain Prize
Role of the CHET

What are the CHET members responsible for?

• Oversee the Higher education and training activities (propose strategic directions, create and implement new initiatives) so that FENS can offer a balanced, multidisciplinary, state of the art training portfolio for early-career neuroscientists.

• Provide input and topic suggestions for the schools and The Brain Conferences.
FENS Committee for Higher Education and Training (CHET)

Daniel Wójcik (PL)  Áine Kelly (IE)  Patricia Gaspar (FR)  Micaela Morelli (IT)
José Luis Lanciego Peréz (ES)  Geert Ramakers (NL)  Ana-Maria Zăgrean (RO)

July 2020 – July 2022
For enquiries pertaining to FENS higher education and training activities, please contact us.

- Email: chet@fens.org

Thank you!