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

Higher education offered by FENS includes advanced schools and training courses, travel grants, webinars and online education, as well as programmes for student exchange and short lab 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 advanced neuroscience schools: the FENS-Chen Institute-NeuroLéman Summer School in Switzerland and the FENS-Hertie Winter School in Austria. They are organised within intimate settings by leading scientists around novel concepts in neuroscience. They also facilitate and provide informal opportunities for students and faculty to share their research, knowledge and experiences.

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.

NENS Programme Directory

The NENS Programme Directory provides the most comprehensive online source of information on neuroscience graduate education, schools and programmes offering MSc, PhD and MD-PhD degrees in neuroscience in Europe.

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.

The FENS Friday webinar series takes place once a month on Fridays. Each one focuses on a particular topic of interest. All events are free to attend and are open to anyone from anywhere in the world. Registration is required.

Grants and Fellowships

FENS fosters professional development for early career researchers through several grant and fellowship programmes. These offer support for travel, accommodation and attendance of courses, workshops, schools and international neuroscience meetings. Such opportunities help to enhance the experience and skills of early career researchers so they can build their careers, increase their networks and advance their work.

Advanced Training

FENS actively promotes advanced training in neuroscience for early career scientists with the support of partner organisations. FENS is committed to encouraging intra-European and global scientific mobility and exchange, and it aims to develop as well as broaden the scope of methodological training through goal-directed laboratory visits in established European laboratories. FENS also supports advanced hands-on training courses such as the CAJAL Advanced Neuroscience Training Programme which is project-based and combines lectures by renowned scientists with experimental sessions.

European Neuroscience Conference by Doctoral Students (ENCODS)

ENCODS is a European training network for PhD students in neuroscience, and offers an annual cross-disciplinary conference that takes place in different European cities, normally coinciding with the FENS Forums and FENS Regional Meetings. They prepare young researchers to meet the challenges in the field of neuroscience today and in the future. The ENCODS programme encompasses plenary talks from both eminent and rising scientists, who stay for the full length of the conference to offer ample possibility for interaction. Students are also offered training to improve skills that are critical during and after their PhDs



fens.org/training

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