

# INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK RESEARCH SCHOOL (IMPRS)



## THE MECHANISMS OF MENTAL FUNCTION AND DYSFUNCTION (MMFD)

@ Graduate Training Centre  
of Neuroscience (GTC)



## About IMPRS

The International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) for the Mechanisms of Mental Function and Dysfunction (MMFD) offers a combined 5-Year MSc/PhD program to outstanding graduates. With state-of-the-art training and research under the guidance of leading scientists the IMPRS MMFD provides an extraordinary framework and working environment for graduate students.

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### **PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS**

- University of Tübingen – Faculty of Science and Faculty of Medicine
- Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics
- Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research
- Werner Reichardt Centre for Integrative Neuroscience
- German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems
- Bernstein Centre for Computational Neuroscience
- Centre for Neurosensory Systems
- Centre for Mental Health
- Institute for Neurobiology





“The IMPRS MMFD is a combined MSc/PhD programme with state-of-the-art training and research set within a superb academic framework.”

*Peter Dayan, IMPRS MMFD Spokesperson*

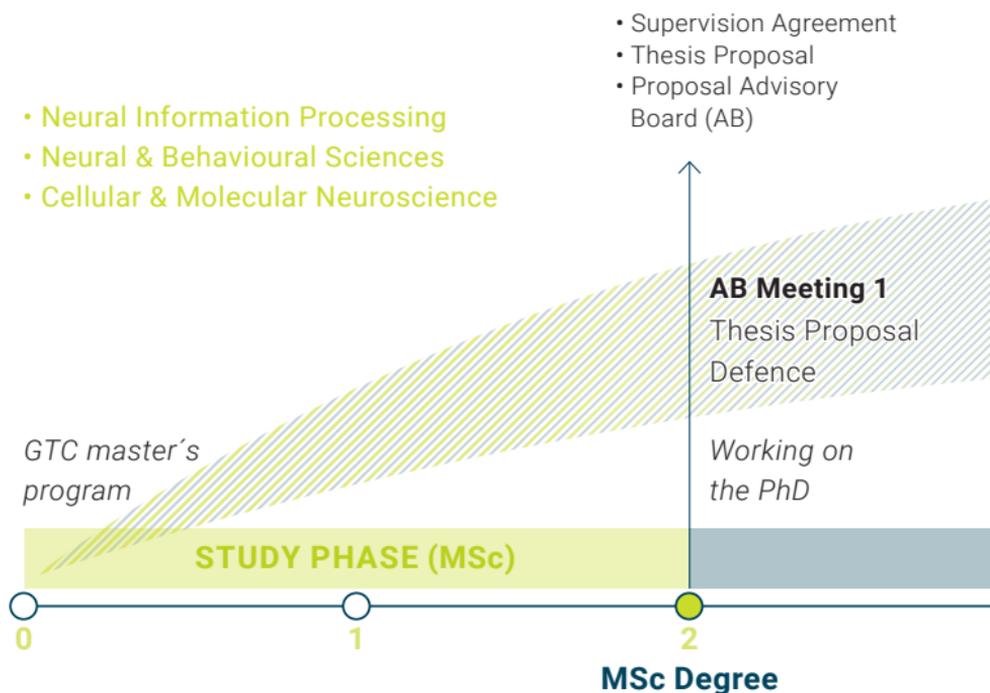


“The IMPRS MMFD is embedded in the GTC, a vibrant hub connecting the University of Tübingen, MPIs and numerous other research institutions for the successful training of young neuroscientists.”

*Marc Himmelbach, Head of GTC Neuroscience*



# Program Structure



## STUDY PHASE (MSc)

During the first two years, students follow the curriculum of one of the three Graduate Schools of the GTC.

- **Neural Information Processing**
- **Neural & Behavioural Sciences**
- **Cellular & Molecular Neuroscience**

The curriculum of each graduate school consists of broad and research-oriented training in neuroscience.

### Semesters 1+2:

Focus on theory (lectures, tutorials, seminars)

### Semesters 3+4:

Focus on practical experience (laboratory/essay rotations and master's thesis)

**Courses start annually in October in the winter semester.**



## RESEARCH PHASE (PhD)

After qualifying with an MSc, students enter the PhD phase in one of the participating institutes. They work on their PhD projects under the supervision and guidance of their advisory board. Early in their career, students can also connect with other young scientists during the IMPRS retreat and at other exciting events.

**Potential research topics** cover a variety of fields in:

- **systems neuroscience**
- **cognitive and behavioral neuroscience**
- **computational neuroscience**
- **translational and clinical neuroscience**
- **cellular and molecular neuroscience**

# Funding and Support

- Master's students will receive a monthly stipend to cover their cost of living.
- During the research phase, PhD students will be funded by the lab at which they are conducting their research.
- Additional funding is available to support IMPRS PhD students in their career:
  - **bridging funds** – to ease the transition from the MSc into the doctoral program.
  - **travel funds** – for conferences, professional development and off-campus research.
  - **wrap-up grants** – to finalize research work and publications and to go towards a following postdoctoral project.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The GTC and the IMPRS coordinator supports students in obtaining a visa, finding short- and long-term housing, identifying career opportunities, arranging childcare, securing health insurance, setting up a bank account, and completing administrative forms.



# Neuroscience in Tübingen

We offer more than **65** courses  
in neurosciences and state-of-the-art methods



Connect with Tübingen's Neuroscience  
Community with over  
**100** active research groups across  
all areas of neuroscience

Young, diverse and vibrant environment

**250** PhD Students



Over **50%** of the IMPRS MMFD  
students are female

Over **60%** international  
neuroscience students



## Life in Tübingen

### **TÜBINGEN OFFERS ...**

a high quality of life. The historical old town has many cafes, restaurants and shops and is also close to nature reserves and parks. Furthermore, the Black Forest and Swabian Jura are not far away and offer opportunities for climbing, canoeing, hiking, mountain biking and skiing in winter.

### **TÜBINGEN IS PARTICULARLY ...**

welcoming with a cosmopolitan atmosphere where international guests will quickly feel at home. It is a safe city, where people of all ages can move freely without feeling threatened. With its many students and young families, Tübingen has the lowest average age in Germany.





### **TÜBINGEN IS LOCATED**

- ... in the middle of Baden-Württemberg
- ... in the southwest of Germany
- ... in the center of Europe
- ... nearby major centres of industry & technology and many start-ups are nearby, including renowned economic and cultural centres.

### **YOU CAN GET HERE EASILY ...**

by car, bus, train or plane. International guests can arrive conveniently via Stuttgart International Airport, which is a 20-minute drive away from Tübingen. A bus service connects the University with the airport.

# How to apply

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## ELIGIBILITY

Talented, curious and open-minded graduates with at least a BSc with strong backgrounds in neuroscience, biomedical sciences, computational science, applied mathematics, statistics, artificial intelligence, or engineering are welcome to apply.

## APPLICATION

Along with the usual application documents (motivational letter, CV, certificates), the application must consist of two reference letters and an English proficiency test.

## PERIODS OF APPLICATION

Calls for applications for the combined MSc/PhD track are issued **once a year in fall**.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For precise dates and comprehensive information about the IMPRS MMFD program and the application process, please see:

<https://www.kyb.tuebingen.mpg.de/imprs-mmfd>

Or scan the QR-Code.





“With state-of-the-art training and cutting edge research from leading neuroscientists, the 5-Year MSc/PhD IMPRS MMFD program gives me an excellent start for a career in neuroscience.”

*Gabriela Iwarma, IMPRS Student,  
Neural and Behavioural Sciences*



“The IMPRS MMFD offers an innovative 5-Year MSc/PhD program that provides a comprehensive theoretical and practical training and gives the opportunity to earn the doctorate under excellent research conditions.”

*Ryan Arlinghaus, IMPRS Student,  
Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience*

GRADUATE TRAINING CENTRE  
OF NEUROSCIENCE  
International Max Planck Research School

University of Tübingen  
Otfried-Müller-Straße 27  
72076 Tübingen – Germany  
[neuro.office@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:neuro.office@uni-tuebingen.de)