

Application

[Registration for the 2023 PhD Summer Recruitment is now open.](#)

Apply now by filling in the [online application form](#) (online application is compulsory).

2023 Summer Recruitment timeline:

Application opens	February 2023
Application submission deadline	03 April 2023, 23:59 CETS
Reference deadline	05 April 2023, 23:59 CEST
Interview dates	To be confirmed
Written application results	Will be announced in May 2023
Expected start date	Flexible; by October 2023 at the latest

Full details regarding the interview process will be sent to invited candidates.

Information for applicants: EMBL does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interviews, processing, training or any other fees). EMBL will not ask for any bank details.

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Admission

We welcome applications from highly qualified students of all nationalities. Applicants must hold, or anticipate receiving before starting at EMBL, a university degree that would formally qualify them to enter a PhD or equivalent programme in the country where the degree was obtained. All applications need to be supported by a minimum of two academic reference letters, and are evaluated solely on the basis of qualification and scientific potential.

EMBL is a signatory of DORA. Find out how we implement best practices in research assessment in our recruitment processes [here](#).

PhD candidates with prior EMBL association

EMBL welcomes visitors, interns, trainees, master rotation/thesis students and other scientists who are associated with EMBL for training purposes.

Candidates who have previously been associated with EMBL are welcome to apply. To ensure equal treatment of all applicants to the EIPP, candidates with prior EMBL association will be specifically reviewed by the Graduate Committee.

Candidates are considered to have prior EMBL association if:

- they have been associated with EMBL within the 12 months before the application deadline.
- they have been associated with EMBL during any time of the predoctoral recruitment procedure (from the application deadline until the date of the Initial Admission Assessment)

Please do not hesitate to [contact the EMBL Graduate Office](#) for any further questions.

Interview structure

Invitations will be sent to the successful candidates via email, who will be asked to join Slack for further communication.

PANEL ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW

As a first round of interviews, a 30 minute **panel interview** is conducted by EMBL Faculty members. Successful candidates only will progress to the next step – individual interviews with Group Leaders, which will take place in January/February.

FURTHER 1-ON-1 INTERVIEWS

The interview week is filled with **1-on-1 interviews** and **detailed discussions** with Group Leaders, as well as interactions with group members. **Nota bene:** We recommend to have a short presentation prepared and be ready to discuss your educational background, scientific interests and any research projects you have worked on previously. Interviewed candidates will be asked to submit their **preference** of the research groups.

INTERVIEW RESULTS

EMBL Graduate Office will communicate the **interview results** to the candidates via email after the interview week.

Reference requirements

Referees must submit their online references by **6 October 2022, 23:59 CET**. We strongly suggest that you complete the 'general info' and 'references' part of the online application first to give your referees enough time to complete the reference online. Furthermore, please make sure to contact your referees before completing this part to find out if they are available and willing to provide a reference. It is your responsibility to ensure that references reach us on time.

You can submit your application irrespective of whether your referees have completed the online reference form. Your referees can access the online form after you have submitted and until the given deadline.

We only accept references provided through institutional email accounts. Only in cases where the referee does not have an institutional email address, i.e. only holds a 'hotmail', 'gmail' etc. account, we ask you to:

1. Complete the form with the available email address.
2. Inform your referee NOT to complete the online form.
3. Ask your referee to send a reference letter on institutional headed paper, signed and stamped as a PDF document to graduate-office@embl.org
4. Ask your referee to include your application ID number (8 digits) in the reference letter.

Shared Applicant Pool

The EMBL International PhD Programme receives far more applications from very good candidates than we can invite for interview. Applicants who are not short-listed, and have indicated that we can share their application, become part of our shared applicant pool. Applications will be added into the pool twice a year – in December and June. Principle investigators based at other research institutions may request access to the pool by filling in the questionnaire below.

Programme overview

The EMBL International PhD Programme (EIPP) provides state-of-the-art training to its students, featuring a good balance between theory and practice, individual mentoring and creative freedom as well as teamwork and early independence. The average **duration of a PhD thesis** at EMBL is around 4 years. EMBL predoctoral fellowships are initially awarded for 3.5 years, with the possibility of a half-year extension. During their time at EMBL, fellows profit from outstanding laboratory and research facilities and enjoy close mentoring by highly qualified scientists.

In addition to the direct supervision by the respective Group/Team Leader, each EMBL PhD student has a **Thesis Advisory Committee (TAC)**, consisting of the primary EMBL supervisor, two other EMBL advisors and a chosen university advisor. They jointly guide the student during the thesis work. Students meet with their TAC members annually as outlined below.

After the first TAC meeting, students enrol with their chosen university according to the respective procedures. Thesis submission and thesis defense are also regulated by the university.