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EMBL International PhD Programme

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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.

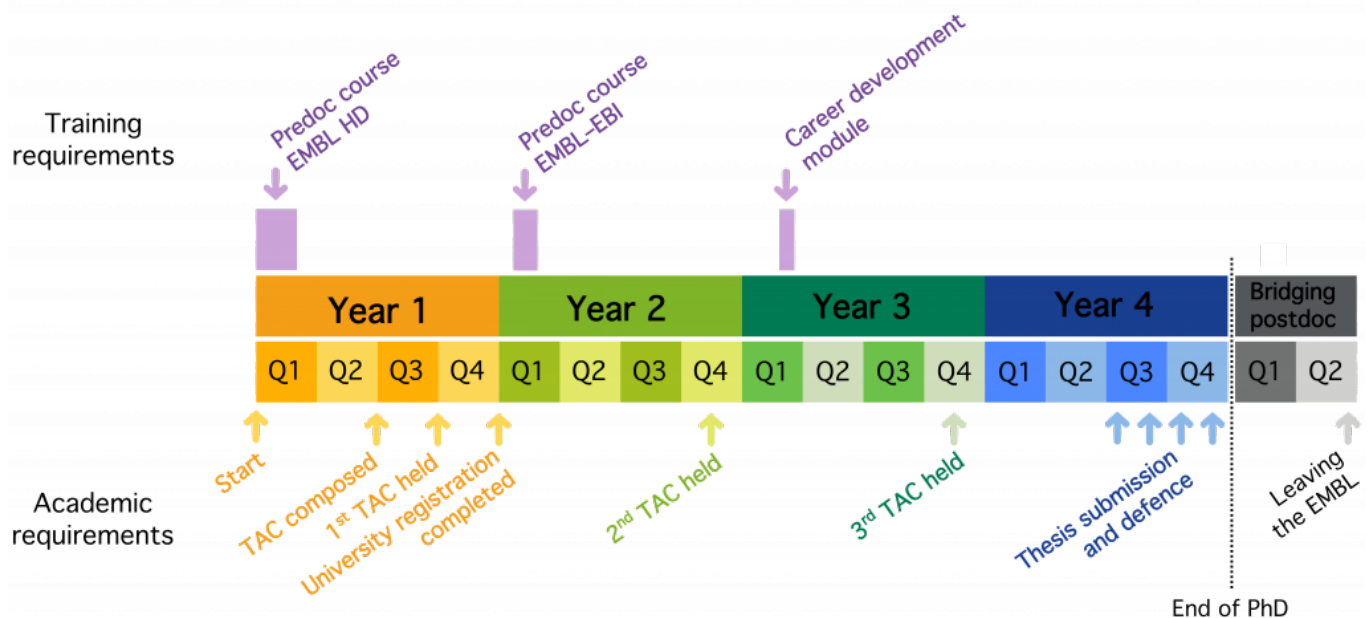
The following timeline presents the **structure and requirements** of the EIPP at a glance:

Fellowship rates →

The stipend is competitive by

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University registration

EMBL students are required to register with a university of their choice, which will award the PhD degree. Students may also obtain a 'Joint PhD degree' from EMBL and one of our partner universities across Member States, which is based on EMBL's authority to grant its own PhD degree.



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one-week **Bioinformatics Course**, organised during the second year at EMBL-EBI. In their third year, students benefit from a **Career Development module**. This provides students with broad interdisciplinary training (both theoretical and practical), class cohesion and networking opportunities across EMBL sites.

advantage of the courses offered by the [EMBL Fellows' Complementary Skills](#) and the [Professional Development & Training Programme](#) (Intranet link for staff members only). In order to prepare fellows for their next career steps, the [EMBL Fellow's Career Service](#) offers a comprehensive set of workshops and webinars, as well as individual career guidance.



Additional opportunities

Our students enjoy plenty of opportunities to develop hands-on transferable skills by participating in the organisation of [PhD symposia](#) and retreats, or by engaging in public outreach activities and teaching. They are also invited to contribute to EMBL's committees to represent the predoc community and to shape the future of the programme. EMBL is committed to support students in reaching their professional aims by providing access to [EMBL Courses and Conferences](#) as well as by encouraging students to attend international conferences.

Why choose EMBL for a PhD?

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