Admission Requirements

The INS program offers a wide range of research opportunities in neuroscience. Students with backgrounds in biochemistry, biology, chemistry, engineering, genetics, medicine, molecular biology, physics, and related fields are encouraged to apply.

1. Eligibility and Certificate of Degree

Students (international or local) with bachelor’s or master’s degree from accredited institutions are eligible to apply for the Ph.D. program. All applicants are required to submit certification of the highest degrees from each academic institution attended.

2. English Requirements

Applicants whose first or native language is not English are required to submit scores for TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT as part of the application. The best of English proficiency can be waived for applicants who have recently completed five or more years of study in an English-speaking country or have graduated from a university where English is the primary language (official certification should be provided).

Under special circumstances, applicants who have difficulty submitting TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT scores on time but who have been otherwise determined to be qualified for graduate study may be admitted conditionally to the program.

The recommended scores for the TOEFL, IELTS, and GEPT are summarized as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL</td>
<td>550 (Paper-based)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IELTS</td>
<td>5.5 (High-intermediate level)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEPT</td>
<td>550 (Paper-based)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Interview

Applicants should be interviewed by the INS Admission Committee. The interview process will be conducted online or in person, depending on the applicant’s location and the current travel restrictions.

4. Academic Transcripts

Official transcripts of courses, including grades and grading scales, are an explanation for any non-standard grading system and are highly recommended.

5. Statement of Purpose and Study Plan

The statement of purposes should contain a brief statement of the student’s interests and career goals, together with a description of past accomplishments that are not evident from other documents submitted. If applicable, the result of any research in progress may be specified.

6. Other Evidence of Scholarly Achievements

Please provide your M.S. thesis, research publications, and descriptions of research experiences to be evaluated by the INS Admission Committee.

7. Letter of Recommendation

Two letters of recommendation are required. The letters should be directly sent by the referee.

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For more information and updates, please visit the Taiwan International Graduate Program (TIGP) homepage.

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Institute of Molecular Biology

INS Program Assistant

Ms. Huan-Yi Shen

For information concerning this program, please contact:

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Introduction

The Interdisciplinary Neuroscience (INS) graduate program integrates approaches from chemistry, molecular and cellular biology, physiology, imaging, and computer science in the study for neuroscience. Historically, integrating distinct disciplines to explore the causes and efficacious treatments for neurological and psychiatric disorders has been challenging. Therefore, the Neuroscience Program of Academia Sinica (NPS), by teaming up with the School of Life Sciences and the School of Medicine of National Yang-Ming University (NYMU), the Medical College of Academia Sinica, National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), National Taiwan University (NTU), and the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience of National Yang-Ming University (NCYU), established the INS graduate program tasked with the training of Ph.D. students, to conduct neuroscience research using multidisciplinary approaches. INS will expand its repertoire to include in vitro cell and molecular neurobiology, clinical neuroscience, extreme neuroimage, neural imaging and cognitive, and computational neuroscience. A dedicated yet advanced curriculum will lead the learning process. In combination with seminars, symposia, and retreats, INS will provide active and flexible training processes to help students reach their highest potential.

Once admitted, TIGP candidates receive a stipend of NT$34,000/month (approx. USD 1,130) for the first year. For students who perform well, this stipend will be extended for a further 2 to 3 years. Post the evaluation by the INS Admission Committee.

The statement of purposes should comprise a brief statement of the scientific interests and career goals, and a justification for choosing the INS program. For applicants using a non-standard grading system, an explanation for any difference between the original grading and the equivalent standard grading should be provided. Official transcripts of courses, including grades and grading scales. An explanation for any change in grades or courses taken. Under special circumstances, applicants who have difficulty submitting TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT scores as part of the application. The test of English proficiency can be waived for applicants who have completed their undergraduate studies in English medium universities (official certification should be provided).

Applicants whose first or native language is not English are required to submit scores for TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT. Students who fail the qualifying examination on the first try should apply for re-examination in the following semester. Students who fail the qualifying examination on the first try should apply for re-examination in the following semester.

NATIONAL CENTRAL UNIVERSITY, TAICHUNG CITY, TAIWAN

Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience (ICN) at National Central University (NCU), founded in 2003, is the first graduate institute in Taiwan dedicated to the interdisciplinary research on human cognition and its neuroanatomical mechanisms in the brain. Located in one of the leading universities in Taiwan with rich scientific and humanistic facilities, the ICN at NCU aims at cutting-edge research areas, collaboration with internationally renowned scholars and institutions through active on-campus and off-campus activities.

Research Areas

Neural Development/Degeneration
Molecular/Cellular Neuroscience
Clinical/Translational Neuroscience
Physiology/Systems Neuroscience
Cognitive/Social Neuroscience
Neuroinformatics/Applied Sciences

For the up-to-date faculty list, please check our website.

National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

National Taiwan University is one of the top research universities in Taiwan. Now, the university has 11 colleges, with 54 departments and 103 graduate institutes. We have more than 2000 faculties, 17,000 undergraduate students and 10,000 graduate students. The neuroscience is one of the main research groups in the NTU. The cross-departmental Neurology and Cognitive Science Program has more than 100 faculty members from many departments and medical centers located at the heart of Taipei city, which provide easy access to city lifestyle for both on-campus and off-campus activities.

Admission Requirements

1. Eligibility and Certificate of Degree
2. Two Letters of Recommendation
3. Statement of Purpose and Study Plan
4. Two Letters of Recommendation
5. Phone/Skype Interview
6. Official Transcripts of Courses, Including Grades and Grading Scales
7. TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT

Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree

Courses and Curriculum

1. All graduate students in the program are required to take the courses for the INS graduate program. Electives can be selected from this program, other campuses and TIGP programs at Academia Sinica.
2. Ph.D. students in this program are limited to two to seven years of study to finish their degree.

Qualifying Exam

TIGP-INS Qualifying Exam (QE) will be held in Fall Semester every year. Students with master’s degree should take the QE before the second academic year starts. Students who fail the qualifying examination on the first try should apply for re-examination in the following semester.

Thesis Advisor

Students are required to select two thesis advisors from campuses (Academia Sinica and NCKU/NYMU/NTU/UC). One advisor will be the primary advisor and the other will be the co-advisor. These thesis advisors can be selected from any faculty from this program.

Program Review

The degree requirements will not be passed unless the student fails the program review. The Ph.D. candidates should meet with their Thesis Advisory Committee every year to assess their thesis progress.

Degree Requirements

1. Research requirement: 18 credits for students entering with a master’s degree and 30 credits for students with a Bachelor’s degree.
2. Pass the Degree Pre-examination after reviewing all the supporting documents, the candidate will be permitted to go on and present. Successful completion requires the agreement of 80% or more of the Pre-examination Committee. Candidates who fail the pre-examination can apply for re-examination. Only one re-examination is permitted. Students who fail the re-examination should withdraw from the program.
3. Pass the Degree Examination

ACADEMIA SINICA Taiwan International Graduate Program