



# **TNE 23-0034 NEUROBRIDGE**

## **CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY**

### **STUDENT MOBILITY**



## § 1 – General Information

The partners of the PNRR-TNE project “Bridging neuroscience with neurotechnologies: an international advance education program (NEUROBRIDGE)”, proposal ID TNE23-0034, are launching an open call for the allocation of international mobility grants for study, internships, and thesis research at the partner universities of the PNRR/TNE neurobridge (see Appendix 1). All mobility activities must be concluded by March 31, 2026. The mobility opportunities must adhere to the following criterion: students from Italian universities can only carry out mobility at a foreign university, while students from foreign partners must carry out mobility at an Italian university.

## § 2 – Eligibility Criteria, mobility duration and allowed activities

Students enrolled in first, second, or third-cycle degree programs at partner universities of the PNRR/TNE project are eligible to participate in this selection notice. They can apply for a mobility of minimum 2 and maximum 6 months, excluding travel days, towards one of the international partners.

Mobilities can be activated for one of the following purposes:

- Attending courses;
- Taking exams;
- Research aimed at thesis preparation;
- Internships.

Students must pass at least one of the didactical activities foreseen in the Learning Agreement. If a student fails to pass one of the exams listed in the Learning Agreement, they will be required to return the financial contribution received. This does not apply to those participating in mobility for internships or thesis research (training activity). In these cases, participants must provide proof of attendance at the laboratory or internship. If the certificate of attendance is not provided, the participant will be required to return the financial contribution received.

### § 3 – Host Universities

Students from one of the Italian partners (see Appendix 1) can apply for a mobility towards either one of the international partners already participating in the project (see Appendix 1) or an international partner not included in the list, provided that a specific agreement is in place between such international partner and one of the Italian partners.

Students from international partners can apply for mobility towards one of the Italian partners listed in Appendix 1. The international partner from which mobility is possible is either one of those already participating in the project (see Appendix 1) or an international partner not included in the list, provided that a specific agreement is in place between such international partner and one of Italian partners.

### § 4 – Application submission

Applications must be submitted using the specific Application Form available at this [link](#). The following documents must be attached to the application:

1. Self-certification or documentation proving enrollment at home university and completed exams;
2. Self-certification of a bachelor's or master's degree, including the final grade (only for candidates enrolled in a master's degree or PhD program);
3. Curriculum vitae;
4. Motivation letter
5. A valid ID document.
6. Proposed mobility program (either Training program proposal or Exam program proposal)

## § 5 – Evaluation of Applications and Participant Selection

Applications will be submitted to the Scuola Normale Superiore, the project leader, which will forward them to a Commission consisting of the scientific coordinators from the Italian partner universities involved in the NEUROBRIDGE project. The Commission will convene remotely on a monthly basis, provided there are applications to review, to evaluate and either approve or reject them. Approved applications will be ranked for the allocation of mobility contributions based on the following criteria:

a) Academic merit:

1. Weighted grade point average (GPA): Evaluation of academic performance based on the student's weighted average of completed exams;
2. Academic progression and timeliness: Assessment of the student's ability to progress regularly through their academic program, completing exams and coursework within the expected time frame;
3. Relevant extracurricular experiences: Evaluation of additional activities such as internships, research projects, academic publications, or other extracurricular experiences related to the field of study;

b) Relevance of the proposed mobility program abroad;

c) Candidate's motivation.

Candidates deemed eligible but not awarded, will be placed on a reserve list. In the event of a withdrawal by a grant winner, these candidates may participate in the mobility program. The list of selected candidates for each destination will be published at this page: <https://www.sns.it/en/transnational-educational-initiatives-tne>. Selected candidates and eligible candidates will also be notified by email.

## § 6 – Acceptance Procedures at the Host University

The names of the selected candidates will be forwarded to the host university, which will provide final confirmation of acceptance. Candidates will be informed by the host university of the procedures for enrolment. Selected candidates must submit the required documents to the host university following its instructions. If the selected candidates do not comply with these procedures, the home university will not be held responsible for any rejection by the host institution. The host university reserves the right to reject candidates who do not meet the required criteria or fail to submit the necessary documentation.

## § 7 - Obligations of Grant Recipients

### 7.1. Before Departure

- Learning Agreement: Grant recipients must sign a learning agreement (either a Learning agreement for Exams or a Learning agreement for Training) with the Italian university responsible for disbursing the financial support.
- Study Visa Application: The partner universities will inform incoming grant recipients about the visa application process and will issue all documents necessary for VISA procedures.

### 7.2. During Mobility

- Arrival Certificate: Upon arrival at the host university, recipients must report to the relevant office to record their arrival date on the Certificate of Stay, indicating the official start date of the mobility period.
- Amendments to the Learning Agreement: If changes to the Learning Agreement are necessary during mobility, the recipient must complete the "During the Mobility" section, have it signed by the host university, and send the document (including the "Before the Mobility" section) to their home university's relevant office.

### 7.3. Upon Return

At the end of the mobility period at the host university, grant recipients must send the following documents to [TNE-NEUROBRIDGE@sns.it](mailto:TNE-NEUROBRIDGE@sns.it)

- Confirmation of Stay: Attesting to the start and end dates of the mobility;
- Copy of travel documents or boarding passes;
- Final version of the Learning Agreement.

### 7.4. Transcript of Records (TOR)

At the end of the mobility period, the host universities will issue a Transcript of Records (TOR) listing the courses attended, the exams taken, the grades received, and the number of credits earned. This certification will be sent to the student and his/her home university.

For students conducting thesis research, internships or courses during their mobility, a report from the host university certifying the work completed will serve as the attendance certificate.

## §8 - Financial Contributions and Payment Procedures

### 8.1. Financial Support

The mobility grant will be assigned to beneficiaries in the form of either:

i) An individual scholarship determined by each institution granted to the student for international mobility, along with reimbursement of duly documented travel expenses. In accordance with Italian Law No. 207/2024, reimbursable expenses must be paid using traceable methods such as debit or credit cards, or bank transfers

or

ii) reimbursement for eligible and duly documented expenses. In conformity with Italian law n. 207/2024, reimbursable expenses must be paid using traceable methods such as debit or credit cards and bank transfers.

### 8.2. Payment Methods

The applicant who has chosen the (i) individual scholarship option, will receive payments on a monthly base, after the arrival at the host university; otherwise, if the (ii) reimbursement option has been chosen, once the Learning Agreement is signed by both parties, an advance payment may be made to the participant, according to the specific rules in force at the Italian partner institution that is involved in the mobility, observing its directives, also in relation to the daily spending limits.

In case of pre-financing, the remaining balance will be paid after the end of the mobility, upon submission of the final documentation listed in Article 7.3.

### 8.3. Repayment of Grants

If the mobility period is shorter than the minimum limits set in Article 2, the participant will be required to repay the entire grant that was advanced. If the amount of the advance payment exceeds the total grant calculated based on the actual mobility period, the difference will need to be repaid. The participant will receive an email with repayment instructions.

If the participant fails to pass at least one of the exams listed in the Learning Agreement or its Amendment, they will be required to return the financial support received.

Participants in mobility for internships or thesis research must provide proof of attendance at the laboratory, internship or courses. Failure to provide this certificate will require repayment of the financial support received.

### 8.4. Other Contributions

The financial support provided by the PNRR/TNE NEUROBRIDGE international mobility project is compatible with other grants provided by regional authorities or other entities, as long as these funds do not originate from European sources, in compliance with the ban on double funding.

## §9 - Recognition of Educational Activities Undertaken During Mobility

At the end of the mobility period, the partner universities guarantee full recognition of the academic activities completed abroad and certified by the host university through the Transcript of Records TOR. Recognition of study periods will be carried out in accordance with the internal regulations of each university.

## §10- Insurance

The partner universities of the TNE NEUROBRIDGE project offer insurance coverage for accidents and third-party liability at the study/work site for all participants. Participants are responsible for ensuring adequate health insurance coverage during their stay abroad, under the regulations of the host country. On this basis, an insurance policy has to be issued, and the corresponding expenditure is eligible to be refunded.

## §11 - Safety Conditions

All mobility is subject to an assessment of the security conditions in the destination countries, based on local and national provisions. For students departing from Italian universities, the guidelines of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) will be followed. The PNRR/TNE NEUROBRIDGE Commission reserves the right to exclude applications to countries or regions deemed unsafe due to political crises, armed conflicts, or humanitarian crises.

## §12 – Processing of personal data

The EU Regulation 2016/679 on General Data Protection Regulation (hereinafter GDPR) is applicable to the personal data provided when applying to the call.

### **Data controller**

The Scuola Normale Superiore, in the person of its pro tempore Director, and situated in Pisa, P.za dei Cavalieri 7, tel +39.050.509111, pec: protocollo@pec.sns.it, is the data controller regarding personal data.

## Purposes of data processing and legal basis

In compliance with the principles of lawfulness, correctness, transparency, adequacy, pertinence and necessity pursuant to Art. 5, paragraph 1 EU Reg. 679/2016, the Data Controller undertakes to process any personal data provided freely by the user - that is, any information or personal or identifying data collected to enable the user to access certain services he or she has requested, such as personal address, e-mail address, any particular or judicial personal data inserted freely by the user via the submission of the application form - are processed for the sole purpose of carrying out institutional activities and in the interest of the subject requesting the service for the following purposes:

- Management of student and staff participation in international mobility programs;
- Organization of activities related to mobility, including contacts with partner universities;
- Fulfillment of administrative and legal obligations;
- Administrative management of the NEUROBRIDGE project.

### Categories of data recipients and possible data transfer

Data processed for the above-mentioned purposes will be communicated to, or in any case accessible to, all employees and collaborators assigned to the competent offices of the Data Controller and the NEUROBRIDGE project partners, who, as referents for data protection and/or systems administrators and/or responsible for data processing, will be adequately instructed for the purpose by the Data Controller. The Scuola Normale Superiore may convey the personal data it controls to other public administrations should the latter need to process the same for any proceedings regarding their own institutional competence, as well as to all those public subjects to whom, in the presence of the related requirements, the communication is rendered mandatory by any EU instructions, or by any other laws or regulations. Management and retention of personal data collected by the Scuola Normale Superiore is via servers also through third parties.

### Period of data retention

Automatically collected browsing data are retained for 5 years after the end of the project and will then be cancelled.

### Rights of interested parties

Pursuant to Articles 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 21 of EU Reg. 679/2016, interested parties have the right to request from the Data Controller the following: access to their personal data and to all other information; the correction of incorrectly inserted personal data and the integration of incomplete data; the cancellation of their data, with the exception of those contained in documents that must obligatorily be retained by the Scuola Normale Superiore and if there is no prevailing legitimate reason for proceeding to the processing of the data; the limitation of the processing in the presence



of one of the hypotheses referred to in Art.18 of the above-mentioned Regulations. Interested parties also have the right to object to the processing of their personal data, without prejudice to the necessity and obligatoriness of the processing for the purposes of establishing the relationship; to revoke their consent to non-obligatory processing of their data, without prejudice to the legality of the processing based on consent given prior to the revocation. Interested parties may exercise any of the above-mentioned rights by sending an e-mail to the Data Controller, e-mail address [privacy@sns.it](mailto:privacy@sns.it) Interested parties have the right to lodge a complaint with the Data Protection Authority, pursuant to Art.77 of EU Reg. 679/2016. For any further information, the Data Controller may be contacted at the following e-mail address: [dpo@sns.it](mailto:dpo@sns.it)

## Appendix 1

Italian Partner	International Partner
<b>Scuola Normale Superiore</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Sydney School of Psychology (USYD, Australia)</li> <li>• University of Western Australia School of Psychological Science (UWA, Australia)</li> <li>• The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health (FLOREY, Australia),</li> <li>• Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP, Brasil)</li> </ul>
<b>Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of São Paulo Institute of Biomedical Science Department of Physiology and Biophysics (USP, Brasil)</li> <li>• Universidade Federal de Uberlândia (UFU, Brasil)</li> <li>• Universidad de la República, Facultad de Ciencias (UDELAR, Uruguay)</li> <li>• Universidad de Valparaíso, Facultad de Ciencias (CINV, Chile)</li> </ul>
<b>Politecnico di Bari</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Facultad de Ciencias Médicas (UNC, Argentina)</li> <li>• Faculty of Engineering, Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Bogotá (UDISTRITAL, Colombia)</li> </ul>



## Università di Pisa

## Università di Cagliari

- Université Cadi Ayyad Faculty of Sciences- Semlalia Marrakech (FSSM, Morocco)
- University of Tunis El Manar Faculty of Sciences (UTM, Tunisia)
- Kenya Medical Research Institute Kemri Graduate School (KMRI, Kenya)
- University of Zimbabwe, Medical School Surgical Sciences Department (UZ, Zimbabwe)
- University of Yaoundé Faculty of Science (UY1, Camerun)
- University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (WITS, South Africa)