Frequently Asked Questions

Q: General questions about the admissions process in PDN
A: See our step-by-step guide on how to apply

Q: How do I find a potential supervisor for my PhD or MPhil (research) in PDN
A: Applicants for the PhD and MPhil must identify a supervisor and agree on a research project before submitting their application.

Find a supervisor and research project area from the groups listed in the PDN research themes

Make contact with the supervisor(s) by email/telephone to find out more information about possible projects. You are advised to do this as early as possible.

Note: You do not need to identify a supervisor before applying for the following courses: MPhil in Basic and Translational Neuroscience

Q: When do I need to take my language test?
A: You do not need to take the test before you apply.

If you are made a conditional offer and have not already met our language requirements, one of the conditions of your offer will be that you pass a test at the required level.

Please note that test results only remain valid for two years.

Q: When can I expect a decision on the application, I submitted
A: Applications are considered in gathered fields which roughly correspond to the University’s central funding competitions and then on a rolling basis until the application deadline.

Interviews will last approximately 30 minutes and may be conducted in person, by Zoom or by Skype. Applicants are interviewed by at least two academic members of the Department.

Applicants who apply by the January funding competition deadline will be reviewed in January and can usually expect to receive a decision in February. We aim to have all decisions made by 15 June 2023.

General information can be found here.

Many more questions and answers can be found on the University Postgraduate Admissions frequently asked question pages
No further applications are being considered for the following programmes. These options are currently closed.

- BBSRC DTP - Cambridge 4 Year Programme in Biological Sciences
- Wellcome Trust 4Yr PhD programme Developmental Mechanisms
- MRC Integrated Doctoral Training Programme: In vivo Biology and Medicine
- BBSRC Training Programme in Integrative biology ‘Genes to Organisms’
- 4 year PhD Programme between Howard Hughes Medical Institute Janelia Farm Research Campus (JFRC) and the University of Cambridge