



## Call for applications ENS Group - China Scholarship Council (CSC) Phd program 2025

The Écoles Normales Supérieures (ENS-PSL, Paris-Saclay, Lyon, Rennes) have signed a cooperation agreement with the *China Scholarship Council (CSC)* which provides **funding for 20 PhD students in the ENS group**, on the basis of a selection by the ENS and by the CSC.

The selection criteria will take into account the quality of the application, the host laboratory at ENS' interest in the topic of research, and the existing cooperation with the home university of the candidates.

The scholarship is for a maximum duration of 4 years. Its amount is **1350 €/month**.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Candidates must be citizens and permanent residents of the People's Republic of China at the time of the application and must not be currently working abroad
- Successful candidates must return to China upon completion of their PhD studies or after a postdoctoral stay abroad (upon agreement by CSC)
- Candidates must fulfill the general admission and selection requirements of ENS and doctoral studies department and obtain the agreement of the relevant doctoral school. They must have a good level in English for candidates in science, or in French for candidates in the humanities.
- Candidates must be accepted by a laboratory supervised by ENS Ulm
- Candidates must either apply as full PhD students who will obtain an ENS diploma (or an ENS diploma and a Chinese diploma, through co-direction of the project in France and in China) OR visiting PhD students, who will obtain a Chinese diploma and wish to spend a period of time abroad at ENS

### **SCHEDULE:**

- **STEP 1: CALL FOR THESIS TOPICS PROPOSALS**  
**FROM October 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 TO November 15<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Researchers must send thesis topic proposals to the DRI, [dri@ens.psl.eu](mailto:dri@ens.psl.eu), by **November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. The proposal formula is available to download on the ENS website.

- **STEP 2: PUBLICATION OF THESIS TOPICS AND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**  
**FROM December 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 TO February 14<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Thesis topics available at ENS will be posted on the ENS website no later than December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Chinese candidates must contact the thesis supervisor in order to complete the application.

The application form must include the following documents:

- Research project application form (download from ENS website), signed by the thesis supervisor;
- Detailed CV (including level of English or French language – depending on the discipline, as well as current address);



- Copy of passport
- Statement of purpose (in English or French);
- Signed CV of thesis supervisor
- Acceptance letter signed by the ENS thesis supervisor and the head of the laboratory; the signature of the head of the “Ecole doctorale” is also required for the Full PhD student

**Application deadline: February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

- **STEP 3: SELECTION BY ENS – February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025:** Deadline for students to submit complete applications to the DRI([dri@ens.psl.eu](mailto:dri@ens.psl.eu)), copying the intended thesis advisor on the message.

If the total number of candidates exceeds 20, the final selection will be made by a committee composed of members from the four ENS. The list of candidates selected by the ENS will then be communicated to the relevant doctoral programs.

The ENS Group will send the chosen applications to the CSC **early March, 2025**

- **STEP 4: FINAL SELECTION OF CANDIDATES BY CSC IN CHINA – March 2025**

Candidates pre-selected by the ENS Jury must also apply on the CSC application platform:  
<http://apply.csc.edu.cn>

**This platform will be open in March 2025.**

Applicants must specify that they are applying for the specific ENS-CSC agreement  
*(in Chinese: 与法国高师集团合作奖学奖学金).*

The selected candidates will be announced at the end of June 2025.

- **STEP 5: REGISTER AT ENS – July 2025**

Following the announcement of the results of the CSC commission, successful candidates will be contacted by the DRI. These students should then register at ENS-PSL in their chosen discipline.

**Contact:**

International Relations Office  
(Direction des relations  
internationales)  
[dri@ens.psl.eu](mailto:dri@ens.psl.eu)