



ICE CONSORTIUM

Università degli Studi di Genova – UNIGE
Technische Universiteit Eindhoven – TUE
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya – UPC
Alpen-Adria Universität Klagenfurt – UNIKLU
Queen Mary, University of London – QMUL

ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT/DOUBLE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN INTERACTIVE AND COGNITIVE ENVIRONMENTS (ICE) CALL FOR APPLICATION

Notice of admission procedure for the IIIrd cycle of the “Erasmus Mundus Joint/Double Doctoral Programme in **Interactive and Cognitive Environments**”.

Last date for the presentation of applications is:

- **15 January 2012 at 12 AM CET for EACEA grants**
- **21 September 2012 at 12 AM CET for Additional Grants**

THE ICE CONSORTIUM

Taken into consideration the laws and regulations in force in each involved countries of the ICE Consortium for delivering a doctoral title

and

Taken into account the assented Erasmus Mundus Joint/Double Cooperation Agreement among each consortium partner

STATES THE FOLLOWING

Article 1 – Implementation

1. A public selection is called for the admission to the three-year Doctoral Programme in Interactive and Cognitive Environments – IIIrd cycle – as per **Appendix A**, with administrative seat – concerning this public selection – at the University of Genoa as ICE Consortium coordinating institution.
2. The public selection shall proceed according to the instructions as indicated in the following art. 4 on the basis of qualifications and an interview.
3. According to the present notice, by qualifications we hereby imply: the information contained in the application and in the *curriculum vitae*, letters of presentation, the research project, other qualifications mentioned under art. 3, paragraph 4. The interview could be carried out either as oral colloquy or by means of videoconference, in accordance with the modalities and scheduling which will be indicated to the preselected candidates in the ICE Consortium website at <http://www.icephd.org>.
4. According to the definition stated in the European Commission Erasmus Mundus Programme Guide 2009-2013, we hereby consider the following two categories:
 - a) **Category A** fellowships can be awarded to doctoral candidates selected by EMJD consortia, who come from a country other than “a Member State of the European Union, an EEA-EFTA State (i.e. Iceland, Norway and Lichtenstein), Turkey, the Western Balkan countries (i.e. Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo under UNSC Resolution 1244/99, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) or Switzerland” and who are not residents nor have carried out their main activity (studies, work, etc.) for more than a total of 12 months over the last five years in one of these countries. The only exception to this rule applies to Third-Country doctoral candidates who have previously received an Erasmus Mundus masters scholarship in order to follow an EMMC;
 - b) **Category B** fellowships can be awarded to any doctoral candidate selected by EMJD consortia and who do not fulfil the Category A criteria defined above. Category B fellowship holders must perform their training/research periods in at least two different countries represented in the consortium; these two countries must be different from the country in which the doctoral candidate has obtained his/her last university degree.
5. The Erasmus Mundus Joint/Double Doctoral Programme in Interactive and Cognitive Environments offers doctoral candidates an education programme in the field of research related to computer science, electronic and telecommunication engineering. The Programme lasts 3 (three) years (an extension is foreseen in order to uphold the thesis defence within the first six months of the fourth year). During the 3-year period, a mobility scheme ensures that candidates will spend training/research periods in **at least two** different consortium institutions, as follows:
 - a) two compulsory periods will have to be spent by each candidate in at least two different partner countries (denoted as primary and secondary institutions);
 - b) the candidate will have to spend at least one year and a half in the primary institution, which represents the reference university for both administrative and educational aspects (**mandatory**);

- c) the candidate will have to spend at least one year in the secondary institution (**mandatory**).
The mandatory period, under the approval of the secondary university, can rise to one year and half whenever detailed in the Doctoral Candidate Agreement;
- d) the residuary period (six month), if any, might be divided among other partner universities.
- 6. The total number of places, for a couple of universities, available through the competition is equal to double the total number of study grants available; the number of places available through the competition will in no case be fewer than 2 (two), of which all will have a study grant.
- 7. The number of grants may be increased on the basis of special agreements with public or private bodies. Such additional grants might be assigned either to applicants not succeeding for EACEA grants or to candidates applying for these specific places within the expiry date of this notice or of other successively published calls for application.
- 8. The increase in the number of grants can determine an increase in the number of possible doctoral candidates, although the maximum number of places cannot exceed twice the number of grants of differing kinds which have been activated for the Programme.
- 9. For each single ICE research area, information concerning the relevant research topics and the respective available places are published in Appendix A of the present notice of public selection. Any updates/amendments as well as any other more detailed information about the research topics shall be published on the ICE Consortium website at <http://www.icephd.org>.

Article 2 – Admission Requirements

1. Candidates who – within the relevant expiry date of this public notice – hold a 2nd Cycle academic degree (according to the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area (FQ-EHEA)), whose duration is at least 5 (five) years (e.g. 5-year Master of Science / Master of Engineering degree, or a 3+2-year Bachelor of Science + Master of Science / Bachelor of Engineering + Master of Engineering degree) and which has been conferred according to the rules and regulations in force in the applicant's country or an equivalent foreign academic qualification, may apply for the selection procedure without age or citizenship limitations. Candidates who have completed a 1st Cycle academic degree and are going to complete the 2nd Cycle academic degree track within the aforementioned date will be automatically excluded.
2. In the case of a degree obtained in a country other than ICE Consortium institutions' countries and judged suitable, should the qualifications not have been already deemed equivalent, the candidate shall require that this recognition be granted for the public selection purposes only. In such cases candidates shall also enclose the following documents:
 - a) the academic qualifications translated in English, as ICE Joint/Double Doctorate Programme official language;
 - b) all the documentation available concerning his career translated in English.
 Other documents (specified in the Doctoral Candidate Agreement which will be signed by the candidate and the Consortium) may be required according to each national regulation and shall be provided by the applicant within three months from the communication of the selected candidates list.

Article 3 – Application for Admission

1. In order to participate in the admission procedure, the candidates should apply for the assessment in accordance with the following procedure:
 - a) connect and register on ICE Consortium website at <http://www.icephd.org>, providing the requested data; no more than 3 (three) applications to different Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctoral courses are allowed (at risk of exclusion);
 - b) fill the application form* online at ICE Consortium website, including uploading of required documents, as specified in the following paragraph 3 and 4 and according to the instructions available at <http://www.icephd.org>;
 - c) upload the self-certifying statement concerning the truthfulness of the statements given and the authenticity of the documents attached to the application. This statement must be submitted using the form available on the online procedure webpage, which must be printed out, filled in and signed by the person concerned and attached by means of the online procedure.
 - d) after the successful completion of the application procedure, applicants will receive a confirmation e-mail. In case the applicant will not receive any communication concerning the receipt of the application within 7 days he/she is asked to contact ICE coordinating team at icephd@dibe.unige.it.
 - e) fix the submission of application by validating received confirmation e-mail. A copy of all required documents† will be automatically sent to the e-mail address ice.application@unige.it.
2. Applications for the selection procedure shall be drawn up and delivered according to the procedure detailed in previous paragraph 1, **within relevant expiry date of this public notice**.
3. Applications shall report – under the candidates' responsibility and at the risk of exclusion from the public selection – the following information:
 - a) the applicant's full name, date and place of birth, place of residence, contact telephone number and e-mail address chosen for the purposes of this selection;
 - b) the applicant's citizenship;
 - c) the preferred area of the doctoral course the candidate is applying for, as defined in Appendix A. The candidate shall indicate in his/her application for admission a ranked list of all the ICE research areas, ordering them from 1 (the most preferred area) to 5 (the less preferred area);
 - d) if candidate who is applying for EACEA grants wants to be considered also in the eventual next selection process for Additional grant places;
 - e) the type of degree held, date, grade and name of the awarding university or of the equivalent qualifications granted by a foreign university together with, in the case of degree obtained in a country other than ICE Consortium institutions' countries, the documentation in which its acceptance is granted for the sole purpose of this public selection as per art. 2. In case of candidates not holding a 2nd Cycle academic level, a description of the followed course shall be provided.
 - f) a statement whereby the candidate undertakes to communicate each/any change in residence or address as soon as possible.
4. Applications shall also include:
 - a) the candidates' *curriculum vitae et studiorum* duly dated and signed. The *curriculum* may include all the information relevant to the themes of the doctoral track the candidate has applied for. This information may concern: the title of their dissertation and a synthetic description of it, as well as a list of examinations sat, the grades and, if possible, a brief description of the relative syllabuses, previous research and/or work experience, any other qualifications (school qualifications included), certifications, publications, patents, etc.;
 - b) the certified academic degree and transcripts (mark sheets) of all university studies, i.e. Bachelor, Master or equivalent, with translation in English (mandatory) with correspondent Grade Point Average (GPA) (if available);
 - c) a presentation of the institutions which delivered the Bachelor-level degree and/or Master-level degree, containing the description of selection methods, international and national ranking, type of degrees delivered, teaching language, website, etc. (about 15 lines);
 - d) if candidate is non-native English speaker‡, a recognized international English test Certificate (e.g. IELTS min: 6.5; TOEFL min: 220 CBT, 550 PBT, 80 iBT; TOEIC min: 780, Cambridge min. C.A.E, Trinity min. GESE and ISE Intermediate, GRE min. Verbal Reasoning. 480, Quantitative

* **The application form will be active within 15 days from the publication of the call**

† **The confirmation e-mail procedure will be active within 15 days from the publication of the call**

‡ EMJD ICE consortium considers the countries listed in the web page <http://www.purdue.edu/OEPP/Englishspeaking.html> as countries of native speakers. The candidates coming from these countries are not required to attach any other evidence of English proficiency. In addition, candidates coming from any other country may be considered as native English speakers, if they have completed a Master's program in a native English speaking country listed in

Reasoning 600, Analytical Writing 4.0) obtained in the last three years before expected starting date of the ICE course (i.e. if course starts in year n, obtained in year n-3, n-2, n-1 or n);

- e) a signed motivation letter, concerning what areas of research the candidate is interested in and why (no more than 500 words or one side of A4 paper);
- f) a signed letter of research statement, describing a research proposal related to the selected preferred ICE research area (no more than 500 words or one side of A4 paper).

Examples of research topics will be published in the ICE Consortium website at <http://www.icephd.org>.

The research proposal will be considered solely for evaluation purpose, in order to evaluate the candidate's capacity to organise and carry out the research. Should he/she be admitted to the doctoral course, he/she will carry out his/her research not necessarily on the specific activities described in his/her project. The ICE Consortium Boards reserves the right to assign different research track to candidates;

- g) at least one letter (and not more than two) of presentation of the candidate signed by a university lecturer or an expert in the area;
- h) any other qualifications relative to the areas of the research dealt with in the course (each of them no more than 5 pages long).
- i) the self-certifying statement concerning the truthfulness of the statements given and the authenticity of the documents attached to the application described in previous Article 3 Paragraph 1 letter c) of this notice.

In case of applicants with disabilities, certificate stating his current physical conditions and health shall also be provided.

- 5. The application and the documents as per the previous paragraphs 3 and 4 are required to be in English.
- 6. The statements in the *curriculum vitae et studiorum* are deemed to be substitute certifications or formal declarations before a commissioner of oaths. Should rules and regulations concerning substitute statements **not** be applicable candidates shall nonetheless take civil, administrative and legal responsibility for the statements reported in their *curriculum vitae*. The ICE administrative staff reserves the right to ascertain the truthfulness of such statements – as governed by laws in force. Candidates who make false statements shall automatically be excluded from enrolment and any grants awarded shall be retroactively withdrawn. Further administrative and/or penal sanctions foreseen by the laws and legislation in force may also be applied.
- 7. The ICE administrative staff cannot be held responsible for documentation which goes astray due to mistaken indications of e-mail address given by the candidate and/or due to the fact that the candidate has not communicated any changes or has communicated them too late. Furthermore, this office cannot be held responsible for any mistakes in electronic communication systems faults.
- 8. The ICE Consortium reserves the right to enforce, **even after the public selection is over**, sanctions which exclude candidates who have failed to comply with or meet up to requirements herein established.

Article 4 – Admission Procedures

- 1. Selective assessment for admission to the ICE doctoral programme is mainly concerned with establishing candidate aptitude for scientific research and it is carried out by the ICE Selection/Admission Commission based on qualifications and an interview.
- 2. The following criteria, on a maximum total score of 200, will be applied for the assessment of applications:
 - a) academic potential (class rank, GPA, etc...): max. 40, threshold: 10;
 - b) relevance of Master-level degree to ICE: max. 10;
 - c) quality of home institutions having awarded the Bachelor-level degree and/or Master-level degree (according to the ranking list published on the web site <http://www.webometrics.info>): max. 20;
 - d) English level: acceptable/non-acceptable;
 - e) motivation letter: max. 5;
 - f) letter of research statement: max 15;
 - g) letters of recommendation: max. 5;
 - h) other aspects of *curriculum vitae* (multiple degree, work experience, professional qualification, etc.): max. 5;
 - i) interview hold by two supervisors: max. 100, threshold: 75.
- 3. The selection process will be divided into two phases:
 - a) the evaluation of qualifications, in accordance with the rules indicated in the ICE Consortium web site: <http://www.icephd.org>, for a maximum score of 100: candidates who will receive less than 75 will not be admitted to the second phase;
 - b) the interview, as described below in paragraph 4, for a maximum score of 100: candidates who will receive less than 75 will not be admitted to the course.

At the end of the two phases, the candidates who will obtain a total score of 150 over 200 will be considered eligible for the grant and they will be inserted in the final lists, according to the rank defined by the final total score.

- 4. Drawn up according to the first phase results, the list of selected candidates for the interview shall be posted in the areas indicated in art. 5, paragraph 4. The interview will include the illustration of the research activities the candidate is interested in, also on the basis of previous activities stated in his/her *curriculum vitae et studiorum*. Two supervisors and members of ICE Selection/Admission Commission will held the interview (by means of remote connection facilities) evaluating also the pertinence of candidates skills with respect to specific research topics. During the interview the candidate shall also prove his/her proficiency in English language.
- 5. If during the selection the same score will be reached by a male or a female or a applicant with disabilities, the preference will be given to the one whose category is in minority in the composition of the final admission list. In case of equal score reached by two candidates of the same category the preference will be given to the one whose personal experience is more relevant in terms of previous mobility periods and/or candidate's array of achievements, subject to approval by Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA, <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu>).
- 6. **In order to sustain the interview, candidates will be asked to exhibit the same identity document attached to the application or other valid identification document in which they result clearly identifiable.** The tool exploited for the interview (e.g. Skype) is selected by the examining commission and the candidate is asked to manage the availability of the tool at his/her location.
- 7. Applicants for EACEA grants will maintain in the evaluation of qualifications the same score already obtained in case of participation to a call for additional places concerning the same cohort.

Article 5 – Examining Commissions and their Functions

- 1. The ICE Consortium appoints each year a Selection/Admission Commission which will carry out the selective assessment of the candidates. The commission is made up by five members coming from each partner institution and selected on the basis of their academic *curriculum vitae*.
- 2. Each examining commission member will carry out separately the evaluation, applying the same assessment criteria as established in art. 4, paragraph 2, in order to evaluate the applications and documentation submitted by the candidates.
- 3. Examinations will be performed separately for applicants to EACEA grants and applicants to additional grants. For each of the previously cited positions, a list of selection results will be drawn up.

<http://geography.about.com/od/politicalgeography/a/englishcountry.htm> attachment of Thesis is required). Also, candidates who have followed a degree programme fully taught in English in any other country, will be considered as native English speakers in case of submission of two mandatory documents: (1) an official certificate of the awarding university duly signed by a university representative stating that the official teaching language is English, and (2) the Master thesis written in English. All other candidates are required to attach a recognized international English test Certificates indicated in Art.3 Par. 4d of the present notice.

4. According to deadlines indicated in the previous paragraph, once the first selection phase has been completed, the commission shall draw up the general list of successful candidates based on final selection marks achieved by each candidate, computed as the average of the marks assigned by all members. The lists concerning evaluation of qualifications will appear solely on:
 - the notice-board of the relevant research departments/structures of the involved ICE universities;
 - Internet, in the ICE Consortium web site: <http://www.icephd.org>.
5. Most valuable candidates will be informed via e-mail of the date and time, the assigned potential doctoral research track and the modalities of the interview. The whole set of final lists, as well, will appear solely on:
 - the notice-board of the relevant research departments/structures of the involved ICE universities;
 - Internet, in the ICE Consortium web site: <http://www.icephd.org>.

No information whatsoever shall be posted to candidates. An e-mail will be sent to candidates informing about their successful or not selection.

Article 6 – Admission to the Courses

1. Candidates are eligible to be admitted to the courses according to the order in which they appear on the final lists until all available places, divided per research area and Category as per Appendix A, have been assigned, subject to the constraints as per art. 7, paragraph 2. The remaining candidates who are not adequately positioned on the final lists will be inserted, according the same criteria, in the reserve lists, having the possibility to access the courses in case of renunciation by admitted candidates.
2. Candidates successfully positioned in the final lists for a EMJD granted place will be admitted to the courses only upon the approval of the final lists by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA, <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu>), according to the Erasmus Mundus Programme provisions.
3. The total number of candidates admitted to the courses shall in no case exceed the total number of places available.

Article 7 – Grants

1. Grants are assigned according to the order of the final list and will cover **only** the regular doctoral course duration of **3 (three) years, starting from the official enrolment date** as indicated in the Doctoral Candidate Agreement, being expressly excluded from the grant coverage:
 - a) any period preceding the official enrolment date, even if it includes the actual start of the course;
 - b) any course extension;
 - c) the period of the fourth year required to sustain the defence of the thesis.
2. **EACEA grants cannot be assigned to more than 2 (two) candidates having the same citizenship.** The eligible candidates who are not selected for the EACEA grant due to this constraint, may decide either to accept a non-granted place or to participate to selection process for additional grants.
3. One or more further position under the same conditions of Category A grants might be made available by Eacea after the date of this call; such potential further positions are reserved exclusively to candidates holding the citizenship of Turkey or Western Balkan countries (i.e. Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo under UNSC Resolution 1244/99, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia); the effective availability of such positions will be communicated through the website when and if information in this will be received from Eacea; all rules applicable for Eacea grants in this call hold for such additional positions;
4. Candidates with equal grades will be granted funds on the basis of the same criteria of preference stated for the admission to the programme, as defined in the art. 4, paragraph 5.
5. The simultaneous use of other study grants or employment contract is not allowed, along doctoral course duration.
6. The annual gross amount including social security expenses, welfare and other contributions to be paid by the recipient of each grant is stated in Doctoral Candidate Agreement.

Article 8 – Enrolment Application Schedule and Contents

1. Candidates who have been admitted to the doctoral courses shall send by e-mail to the competent university administrations their enrolment applications, according to the deadlines and the e-mail addresses that will be published. Each candidate shall respect registration procedures of each hosting university.

The above mentioned deadlines will be binding under penalty of expiration. If applications will be not sent in within these dates, it will be considered as a withdrawal from the course and grant. Such rule will apply also to candidates admitted to the doctoral course and not holding a grant at first selection stage, who will be excluded in case no application is sent within the given deadlines.
2. The winners, besides stating his/her personal data and indicating the courses, shall also state in their applications that he/she has not enrolled in any other doctoral course or other study course which assigns an academic qualification, even though from other university than the consortium partners.

The grant holders shall also declare that:

 - a) they have never before been awarded grants for doctoral studies;
 - b) they will not add this grant to any other grant or employment contract;
3. Enrolment applications should also include a scanned copy of:
 - a) an identity document or other valid identification document (front and back);
 - b) a passport photograph;

Article 9 – Withdrawals and Prohibitions

1. Enrolment on another course which assigns an academic qualification, even from other universities, is not allowed.
2. Failure to obtain admission to the following year or exclusion due to serious default or unsuitable research activity results, in relation to the procedures established by the EMJD ICE Management Board, shall cause the withdrawal of the grant and the obligation for the candidate to return the instalments already received for that year.
3. Doctoral candidates who forfeit their grant during the year, but who continue their studies, shall return any grant instalments already received for that year.
4. Doctoral candidates with grants who drop out of the course during the year have the right to keep the portion of the grant which corresponds to the period of activity if and only if the EMJD ICE Management Board states that the candidates' activities up to that moment were regular and fruitful.
5. Candidates who are found to have made false statements shall be excluded from the course. Criminal punitive measures for the issuing of false documentation and untruthful statements may also be applied.

Article 10 – Access and Attendance Fees

1. Doctoral candidates who do not benefit from a grant shall pay access and attendance fees to the host university in one instalment that shall be paid on enrolment.
2. If payments are not carried out according to the above mentioned terms, the doctoral candidate shall be excluded by the courses.

Article 11 – Organisation of the Course

1. The course is planned to start within the period 1 October 2012 – 1 March 2013, depending on the different course timetable and organization of the relevant supervisory institutions, and lasts 3 (three) years (an extension is foreseen in order to uphold the thesis defence within the first six months of the fourth year).
2. The course is set up by two partners of ICE Consortium, according to the definition of a primary and of a secondary institution.
3. Doctoral candidates are required to have a period of study of at least one year in each of the host universities, according to the scientific and didactic requirements of candidates' track and subject to the provisions stated in the Doctoral Candidate Agreement.
4. Doctoral candidates may perform their curricular activities, full-time, in accordance with the procedures established by the ICE Consortium Boards of the host university.
5. With the approval of the ICE Consortium Boards, doctoral candidates may take part in research activities carried out by the consortium universities, provided they are in line with their formative academic studies.
6. Regardless of the theme of doctoral track chosen by the candidate, during the course the doctoral candidate shall carry out the research assigned to him/her by the ICE Consortium Boards.
7. Prior to the ICE Consortium Boards' approval, doctoral candidates may undertake support teaching as regulated by each host university statute.
8. Doctoral candidates may take leave of absence from the course in the following cases which shall be fully and duly certified: maternity, illness, civil or military service, postgraduate degree attendance or other singular cases subject to the preventive ICE Consortium Boards' approval. Absences may be made up at the end of the course. Should this prove unfeasible, candidates shall sit the final doctorate examinations in the following doctoral cycle. Should the course interruption last more than 30 days, grants shall be immediately withdrawn.
9. Each year doctoral candidates shall present a detailed written account of the activities carried out and present it to the EMJD ICE relevant Board and if required, discuss it according to the procedures established by the EMJD ICE consortium. Then the supervisory Board shall draw up a resolution and proceed to admitting the candidates to the following year. Should a candidate's performance be insufficient, the supervisory Board shall ask the Chancellor of the two host universities to issue an order to exclude the candidate from continuing the course.
10. Before the beginning of each course, the doctoral candidates who have been successfully admitted as per the above paragraph shall apply for enrolment for the following year. Candidates shall also – if required – enclose a copy of payment receipts as per art. 10, paragraph 1.

Article 12 – Conferment of Qualification

1. The joint or double doctoral title is obtained by completing the course and sustaining successfully the defence of the thesis:
 - a) the thesis shall be written in English and shall be accompanied by an abstract in the languages of the two supervising institutions;
 - b) the thesis shall be discussed in English during the final examination, according to modalities described in the Doctoral Candidate Agreement.
2. Following the discussion of the thesis and positive evaluation expressed by the competent boards, the pertinent universities of ICE Consortium will award the doctoral title in "Interactive and Cognitive Environments", in conformity with the respective national regulations in force. The joint or double nature of the doctoral title and its legal definition will be stated in the Doctoral Candidate Agreement which will be signed by the candidate and the Consortium at the time of enrolment.

Article 13 – Personal Data Protection

1. Personal data supplied by candidates will be collected by the University of Genoa, Department for Student Management and Education and International Activities – High-Level Academic Training, as coordinating institution of the ICE Consortium, and handled for selection and career procedures and used for selection and career procedures – as per the Italian Legislative Decree/Executive Order (D.L.vo) No. 196 of 30.06.2003.

Article 14 – Availability and Information

1. This public notice of admission procedure together with the application form is available in the ICE Consortium website at <http://www.icephd.org>. Further information may be obtained in the ICE Consortium website.

Genoa, 25th November 2011

THE ICE CONSORTIUM COORDINATOR
Universit  degli Studi di Genova

IL RETTORE
Signed Prof. Giacomo Deferrari

APPENDIX A

Interactive and Cognitive environments (ICE)	
Research Areas	Research Topics
Assistive Technologies for Health and Autonomous Living	Human-Computer Interaction Pervasive Computing Multimedia systems & simulation environments
Network Embedded System	Pervasive Computing Distributed Mobile systems Multimedia Networks
People Inspired Technologies	Human Computer Interaction Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Systems Data Mining
Design for Social Interaction (DSI)	Adaptive systems Autonomous systems Aware environments
Multi-sensor Surveillance	Cognitive Data Fusion Machine Learning Digital Signal Processing

Some examples of detailed research projects within each research area may be obtained in the ICE Consortium website at <http://www.icephd.org> as traces upon which candidates may compose their letter of research statement.

The total number of granted places are:

- 5 (five) for **Category A** candidates;
- 3 (three) for **Category B** candidates.

Successful applicants will be enrolled as ICE doctoral candidates and will receive a grant from the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) as an employment contract. On the other hand, ICE doctoral candidates commit themselves to pay course tuition fees.

A **Doctoral Candidate Agreement** will be signed with EMJD granted candidates in which monthly payments are specified (**12 instalments of € 2,800 as gross salary[§] each as employment contract and of € 600 as fixed contribution for laboratory-based course**) together with the lump sum (€ 7,500) for travelling expenses (only to Category A candidates).

As a general rule, the monthly fixed contribution of € 600 for laboratory-based course activities will be retained by the consortium in order to cover tuition fees.

Tuition fees have been fixed as € 11,800 for Category A candidates and € 10,000 for Category B candidates per year. A fee waiver will be applied to EMJD granted candidates for a total fee amount of € 7,200 per year.

Tuition fees will be used to **provide services** to candidates **as periods of stage in partner industries, participation to summer school, trips, logistic and didactic support, etc.**

Non-granted candidates will have to pay the full tuition fees and **will have the same services of granted ones** (e.g. periods of stage in partner industries, participation to summer school, trips, logistic and didactic support).

[§] The gross amount is not intended as an employee gross but as an employer gross. Therefore, **each university**, according to each national legislation, **will deduct from the monthly amount both the employer's taxes and the employee's taxes**. In average, an equivalent net salary will be guaranteed to all PhD candidates.