

PhD student in Bioinformatics within the LipidBRIGHT doctoral network

Are you fascinated by how lipids contribute to human disease? Step into the world of lipid research with the European doctoral network LipidBRIGHT to uncover how lipid signalling and metabolism drive disease—and innovate future therapies.

Offer Summary

One PhD position is available at SciCross AB, Skövde, Sweden, **within the EU-funded Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Network LipidBRIGHT**. The project has a duration of 36-months and will be performed in collaboration with the 7 other European partners of the LipidBRIGHT consortium.

The PhD project at SciCross will focus on advanced bioinformatics and artificial intelligence (AI) methods to integrate lipidomics, multi-omics and clinical data for biomarker discovery, patient stratification and disease modelling. The position offers extensive collaboration with international academic and industrial partners and includes secondments at complementary organisations within the consortium. The PhD student will be enrolled at the University of Skövde, the degree-awarding institution.

The LipidBRIGHT Consortium

Lipids are of vital importance through integration in cell membranes, as energy source and in cellular signaling and function. As such, they also play decisive roles in cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, cancer and chronic inflammatory disease. These diseases affect 33%, 60%, 10% and 33% of Europeans, and are responsible for >60% of global deaths. The European Doctoral Network LipidBRIGHT combines scientists, clinicians, companies and stakeholder organisations with expertise in these disease fields. By integrating expertise in lipids from the clinical, biomedical, technological and data science field across disease borders and by transferring complementary knowledge and technology, LipidBRIGHT aims to speed up innovations towards improved disease prevention, diagnosis, prognosis and therapy.

LipidBRIGHT will train scientists in a close cooperation between academia, SMEs and industry partners. Key objectives are to provide: 1) Excellent scientific training on interdisciplinary level, covering lipid biochemistry and pathophysiology as well as clinical application; 2) Excellent complementary skills in personal and career development as well as business training required to extend beyond scientific research; and 3) Exposure to both academic and non-academic environments, required to build bridges between researchers and entrepreneurs and support the future translation of research findings in innovative products and services.

LipidBRIGHT builds on available patient cohorts, advanced technologies and established cooperations and strives to synergistically improve structural training on European level. LipidBRIGHT will nurture the development of young, broadly-trained scientists able to successfully bridge clinical with basic research as well as academia and industry, which is a cornerstone in effectively combatting complex diseases as cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, cancer and chronic inflammatory disease. Contributing partners in LipidBRIGHT: Universiteit Maastricht (NL), Catholic University Leuven (BE), University Hasselt (BE), University Hospital Jena (DE), INSERM (FR), University Utrecht (NL), SciCross (SE), RD –Néphrologie SAS (FR), University of Bern (CH).

For more information: <https://www.cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101225380>

Research focus

The PhD candidate will work on one or more of the following interconnected areas:

- AI- and machine-learning-based integration of lipidomics, transcriptomics, proteomics and clinical data
- Identification and validation of lipid-based biomarkers for cardiovascular, renal, inflammatory and cancer-related diseases
- Development of predictive models for patient stratification and disease progression



- Computational disease modelling and target prioritisation linked to lipid metabolism
- Translation of bioinformatics results toward clinical decision support and therapeutic development

The exact research direction will be refined jointly with the supervisors, taking into account the candidate's background and interests.

Place of work

- You will be employed by SciCross AB and the place of work will be Skövde or Stockholm (supervisor Dr. Pierre Dönnés).
- You will be enrolled as a PhD student at the University of Skövde (academic supervisor Prof. Jane Synnergren).

Requirements and Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility criteria

According to the EU rules for the EU-Doctoral Network projects, the recruited researchers must comply with the following conditions:

- are — at the date of recruitment — doctoral candidates (DCs) (i.e., may not have a doctoral degree).
- DCs can be of any nationality.
- DCs must comply with the following mobility rule: they must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of the recruiting beneficiary for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before their recruitment date. For beneficiaries that are international European interest organisations or international organisations: the DCs must not have spent in the same appointing organisation more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the recruitment date. Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays and time spent by the researcher as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not considered.

Required qualifications

- A Master's degree (or equivalent) in **bioinformatics, computational biology, data science, systems biology, biomedical engineering, computer science**, or a related discipline
- Strong interest in **AI/machine learning** and biological or clinical applications
- Solid programming skills (e.g. Python, R, or similar)
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in an international, interdisciplinary environment

Desirable experience

- Experience with omics data analysis (e.g. lipidomics, transcriptomics, proteomics)
- Familiarity with machine learning or statistical modelling
- Interest in translational or clinical research
- Experience working with large or complex biomedical datasets

The DC will receive a 36-month scholarship/salary to cover her/his living costs. The gross amount of the doctoral scholarship is based on a living allowance that is dependent on a country correction coefficient which takes into account the cost of living in the country of the recruiting institution. The scholarship/salary will follow the MSCA-DN model and will be highly competitive. Additional funding is provided for candidates with a registered partner without income and/or dependent child(ren); it will be lower if the candidate has a registered partner with income.

The cost of all training activities, including all expenses related to travel and accommodation to attend annual meetings and other network organized events will be paid by the network through the Horizon Europe MSCA-DN grant. DCs will have access to a dedicated workspace and to research facilities. Bench/consumables costs to execute the research project will be covered by the institutions.



How to apply

Interested candidates can apply by submitting the following documents:

- Motivation letter in English indicating their interest in the project and how this fits with their research ambitions.
- Research statement describing the applicant's research experience (e.g. master's thesis project, any other relevant research experience) in relation to the selected project.
- Detailed curriculum vitae in European format, including personal information (gender, age), studies, list of publications, participation in research projects, extracurricular training, mobility, other qualifications or relevant skills.
- Certified copy/ies of Academic Degree/s in the original language along with a certified translation into English, and/or Diploma Supplement.
- Certified copies of official Academic Transcripts relating to all academic courses taken to earn every degree (bachelor/master or equivalent), translated into English, and correspondent grade point average.
- Copy of passport (or, for EU citizens, equivalent ID document)
- Contact details of at least two references (no recommendation letters to be included)

All applications will have to be written in English and will be checked for eligibility. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications must be submitted by email to jobs@scicross.com before May 15th 2026 at 17:00

Central European time.

All data provided by the applicants are processed according to GDPR regulations and will be used solely for the purpose of the selection of the doctoral candidates.

Selection process:

LipidBRIGHT will adopt the Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct promoting an inclusive, merit-based, transparent and unbiased recruitment and attractive working and employment conditions.

A two-step procedure for applicants' selection will be followed:

After an eligibility check, an initial selection will be made based on the submitted documents and the following selection criteria:

- Motivation to join the network
- Acquired research skills and research experience
- Fit between the education / research experience and the research project
- Communication skills and English proficiency
- Team work attitude
- Career ambitions and potential for excellence
- Potential impact of the offered training on the DC's career

Afterwards, promising candidates will be contacted by email after the deadline for application has been closed. It is the intention that the selected DC starts in September 2026 or earlier if agreed.