

**Agreement between the Doctoral Candidate
and the Consortium Partners
for the IDEALAB programme**

**THIS AGREEMENT IS INTENDED FOR
DOCTORAL CANDIDATES ENROLLED IN THE INTERNATIONAL DOCTORATE IN
EXPERIMENTAL APPROACHES TO LANGUAGE AND BRAIN
(IDEALAB)**

The candidate in the IDEALAB programme, in consultation with the local director, is responsible for completing and signing this form (including the appendices). See points 2, 3 and 4. The two parties involved (candidate, and the IDEALAB Board of Directors) must sign the Doctoral Candidate agreement.

After making copies for individual use (Examination Board and local coordinator), the original along with the appendices should be filed in the candidate's dossier. The doctoral candidate and his/her supervisors will be sent a certified copy by the local coordinator of IDEALAB.

Surname and first names of doctoral candidate

Date of birth

Address

E-mail address

Department

Graduate School room

Title of the research project

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Starting date of programme

Expected finishing date of programme

1. Aim of the doctoral programme

The aim of the IDEALAB programme is to further the candidate's academic education, culminating in a thesis which demonstrates that the candidate has become an independent young researcher. The Doctoral candidate undertakes to follow the obligatory parts of the programme and to comply with the ensuing obligations.

In accordance with the IDEALAB curriculum as outlined in the Rules and Regulations, the programme comprises 5 modules of training and research. These are M1: Publication and presentation, M2: Employment, M3: Technology and experimental methods, M4: Research methods, and M5: Dissertation. Candidates are awarded a minimum of 180 ECTS (1 ECTS=30 hours work load). There are built-in evaluation procedures: every six months, the candidate will submit a progress report to his/her supervisors. These will be the basis of the evaluation. If yearly evaluation results are positive, the doctoral candidate will be allowed to progress and the contract will be renewed.

2. Specifications of the doctoral programme

The doctoral programme features two core activities: research and training. In line with the requirements set for the doctorate as laid down in the IDEALAB rules and regulations, the training part of the programme entails a minimum of 900 hours of modules and 4,500 hours of dissertation work. This includes a mandatory internship in the health or private sector.

a. Research

Dissertation work is laboratory-based and experimental in nature. Candidates are assigned two supervisors (see Supervision Agreement), the first supervisor at the home institution and a second supervisor at a partner institution, where dissertation work takes place during the mobility period(s) totalling at least 6 months. Dissertation work including a mandatory internship of at least 3 months, a mock thesis defence and thesis writing is awarded a total of 150 ECTS.

A full description of the project must be attached as **appendix I**. This project description should contain details of the phasing of the research plan, stating the submission dates for the texts to be produced during the first two years of the programme.

An accurate projection of the budget demands for the first year must be given. In the following years, a provisional estimate of the required budget will suffice (**appendix II**).

N.B. Prior notification of all expenditure during the doctoral programme (including expenditure falling within the budget) is compulsory. Funds may only be spent after approval from the local Director of IDEALAB (or his/her coordinator).

b. Training

The modular part of the programme is arranged according to the stipulations contained in the IDEALAB programme regulations. The training part of the programme accounts for a minimum of 30 ECTS credits, and is organized as follows:

- 20 ECTS credits for skills, discipline-related and interdisciplinary classes, offered to all candidates in the joint summer and winter schools.
- 5 ECTS credits for skills, discipline-related and interdisciplinary classes, organized locally at the home institution.
- 5 ECTS credits for attendance of two international conferences.

Participation in doctoral training is compulsory and forms a substantial part of the evaluations held at the end of the first and subsequent years. In principle, it is possible to substitute one component of a module by attending similar components offered outside the programme at the home or mobility institution, as long as the candidate can prove that he/she has sufficient knowledge and skills in the module offering being substituted.

3. Supervision

Name of 1st (home institution) supervisor:

Name of 2nd (mobility institution) supervisor:

4. Obligations on the part of the doctoral candidate

The candidate undertakes to commit him/herself to the prescribed parts of the programme for the duration of the programme period. The candidate must submit documents at the stipulated times in the first and second years. (See the specifications in the rules and regulations of IDEALAB). Aspects to be evaluated by the Examination Board will include:

- Compliance with the project planning as laid down in the project description, including progress in the modules.
- The potential for progress
- the standard of the work submitted (including written research reports)
- the academic potential of the candidate

IDEALAB is a full-time programme lasting three years. Doctoral candidates are not permitted to hold other employment at the same time. A full-time programme assumes that a candidate will on average invest a minimum of 40 hours per week in his/her programme. He/she is expected to live in the

vicinity of the home institution for the duration of the programme except for the mandatory periods of mobility, where they will then live close to that institution.

5. Adjusting the research project, supervision and mobility plan

The topic of the research proposal can only be changed once and within the first two months of the programme after consultation with the supervisors and it should be submitted to the local coordinator for consultation by the Examination Board. It should be accompanied by a new time schedule and new suggestions for supervisors and a mobility plan. The supervision plan may also need to be adjusted to avoid the doctoral period being delayed by circumstances beyond the candidate's control. All adjustments must be recorded in the appendices attached to this form and approved by the Examination Board. Copies of the appendices should then be sent to the local coordinator of IDEALAB.

6. European Charter for Researchers

The Consortium Partners certify that the IDEALAB programme will operate according to the European Charter for Researchers and its Code of Conduct. The candidate certifies that he/she has read the Charter and agrees to act according to these guidelines.

7. Signatures

Date

For the Consortium Partners

Chair of Board of Directors

Doctoral candidate

Chair of Examination Board

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Appendices:

I. Project description, including time schedule and planning for evaluation procedures

II. Budget