

What's next after online application?

The selection procedure is three-stepped:

- 1) online application + submission of hard-copies of documents → 1st shortlist,
- 2) subject test (in Tübingen, in Germany or world-wide) → 2nd shortlist
- 3) interviews (in Tübingen or via Skype) → final-selection and admission

First, after students have submitted a complete application (deadline January 15), a pre-selection step takes place (e.g., sorting out of applicants with inappropriate background, insufficient academic records or poor grades). In order to do so, all applications will be reviewed by the Graduate School's *Selection Board*, which finally compiles a 1st shortlist.

Second, the shortlisted applicants will be invited to take a subject test either in Tübingen or elsewhere in Germany or at selected locations in their home countries (e.g., DAAD Offices, Goethe Institutes, with colleagues at universities, etc.). The subject test allows for selecting students with appropriate training that matches best the specific course requirements of the different masters programs. The subject test runs for exactly 2 hours and consists of 60 multiple-choice questions covering various topics, depending on the masters program of choice.

- **Neural & Behavioural Sciences:** physics / chemistry, maths / statistics, psychology / cognitive science / brain imaging, cell biology / neurobiology.
- **Cellular & Molecular Neuroscience:** chemistry, biochemistry, molecular biology, cell biology, and neurobiology.
- **Neural Information Processing:** maths (linear algebra / analysis), statistics, elementary probability theory, physics, and programming skills in at least one language.

Third, based on the results of the subject tests, a 2nd shortlist of approximately 25 students will be compiled and these applicants will then be invited for interviews to Tübingen. The Graduate Training Centre will cover travel and housing expenses. During their 2-4 days stay, students will be interviewed by faculty members (researchers and lecturers) of the Graduate Training Centre. Every applicant will have to interview with two groups of faculty members, for 30 minutes each. In addition, applicants will get the opportunity to visit local research laboratories and to talk to graduate students already enrolled at the GTC. Applicants unable to undertake the trip to Tübingen will be interviewed via Skype. The interviews finally decide whether applicants (1) will get an offer for a place on a course or (2) will be placed on the waiting list or (3) will not be further considered.