

## General information for doctoral candidates of the RTG-NCA

### Preparatory phase at RTG-NCA

time	1 week	1 week	1. Rotation 2 weeks	2. Rotation 2 weeks	3. Rotation 2 weeks
duty	Welcome; Administrative issues	Training module	Oral presentation	Oral presentation	Oral presentation

### Structured doctorate at RTG-NCA

Prerequisites: Choose your TAC  
Register at the GSfBS  
Supervision agreement

time	in 6 months	in 12 months	in 24 months	in $\geq$ 36 months
duty	TAC meeting Project proposal	TAC meeting Oral report Written 1 <sup>st</sup> year report	TAC meeting Oral report Written 2 <sup>nd</sup> year report	TAC meeting Oral report

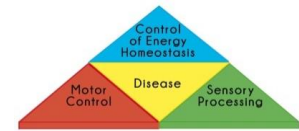
Submit all signed forms plus a PDF of your report to the RTG-NCA coordinator

- All doctoral candidates (DCs) of the RTG-NCA need to enrol in the **GSfBS** (Graduate School for Biological Sciences)  
link: <http://www.gs-biosciences.uni-koeln.de/14727.html>
- Each DC chooses a **Thesis Advisory Committee (TAC)** consisting of the **two supervisors of the collaborative research project**.  
The **3<sup>rd</sup> member of the TAC, the tutor**, is a group leader or experienced PostDoc from a research group independent of the two supervisors.  
The two supervisors and the DC will sign **statements of agreement that define their duties and rights**. A copy should be sent to the RTG-NCA coordinator.

### PLEASE NOTE:

All of your proposals and reports are approved by the supervisor in advance to the TAC meetings!  
A form needs to be filled in all meetings and a scan of the signed document and a PDF of the respective report will be archived by the RTG-NCA coordinator.

All signed documents and reports will be archived by the RTG-NCA coordinator and therefore should be sent to the coordinator as soon as they are signed.



rtg-nca.uni-koeln.de

### Study Program of the RTG

List of courses specific to the RTG-NCA (duration of event) – **Courses obligatory for all DCs**

element	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
lab meetings (within your lab)	weekly (1.5h)	weekly (1.5h)	weekly (1.5h)
lecture series*, literature seminar (JC)	En block Nov-Dec 2018 monthly (1.5h)	monthly (1.5h)	monthly (1.5h)
progress reports	twice (2h)	once (2h)	twice (2h)
guest lecture series	four talks a year (1.5h)	four talks a year (1.5h)	four talks a year (1.5h)
bi-annual symposium	Every other year (2 days)		
annual retreat	once (2 days)	once (2 days)	once (2 days)
additional skills	variable	variable	variable

List of professional skills courses provided by the GSfBS DCs from the RTG-NCA can choose from  
<http://www.gs-biosciences.uni-koeln.de/14734.html>

Course	Duration	preferred timing
Good Scientific Conduct (mandatory)	Several lectures scheduled	at the beginning of the thesis
Bioinformatics	5 days	any time
Career orientation	1 day	at the beginning of the thesis
Career mentoring and management	3,5 days	3 <sup>rd</sup> year
Data visualization	2 days	any time
Designing and presenting scientific posters	2 days	1 <sup>st</sup> or early 2 <sup>nd</sup> year
Getting funded	3,5 days	3 <sup>rd</sup> year
Patenting	weekly appointments for six weeks	any time
Presenting professionally	2 days	1 <sup>st</sup> or early 2 <sup>nd</sup> year
Scientific Writing	2,5 days	late 2 <sup>nd</sup> year
Effective communication	2 days	any time
Skills for project managers	2,5 days	Later stage of doctorate
Conflict Management	3 days	any time

Further courses offered by the university's professional center, all of which will be open for RTG students, can be found here <http://amgc.uni-koeln.de/9541.html?&L=1>.

For detailed information on the course plan, please check the website: <http://rtg-nca.uni-koeln.de/>

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