

CALL FOR APPLICATION

INSERM CHAIR Recruitment

Sensory regulation of behavior and energy homeostasis

The Inserm chair recruitments opened to Inserm are intended for researchers with strong potential to manage and lead research teams and participate in national, European or international projects.

This recruitment, based on research and teaching projects, is aimed at researchers with a doctorate or equivalent and a first post-doctoral experience. The position is offered on a fixed-term contract (CDD) with a view to tenure in the Inserm Research Directors personnel at the end of the contract.

How apply: <https://pro.inserm.fr>



Supporting institution:	Inserm : Institut national de la Santé et de la recherche médicale
Name of the head of the institution:	Pr. Didier Samuel
Academic region:	HAUTS-DE-FRANCE
Location/ Site concerned:	Inserm U1172 - Lille Neuroscience et Cognition - Lille
Partner institution:	Université de Lille
Research contact:	Luc BUEE: luc.buee@inserm.fr / luc.buee2@univ-lille.fr lilncog.lille@inserm.fr chaires-professeur-junior@inserm.fr
Administrative contact:	
Research fields EURAXESS:	(Medical sciences)
Keywords:	hypothalamus, feeding, energy homeostasis, system-neuroscience, sensory, olfaction

Job title to be filled:	Chaire - Sensory regulation of behavior and energy homeostasis
Body after tenure:	Research Director
Anticipated duration of the contract:	5 years
Scientific domains/fields:	Neurosciences and neural disorders
Corresponding specialized scientific commissions (CSS):	CSS 4 - Neurosciences

Project name:	Sensory regulation of behavior and energy homeostasis
Remuneration package Quota	3 500€ - 5 000€ according to research experience Full Time

Strategy of the host institution:

The Lille Neuroscience & Cognition Research Center (LiNCog; Inserm UMR_S1172), located on the Lille University Hospital campus and headed by Dr. Luc Buée, is an internationally recognized research center dedicated to the understanding of neurological diseases, mental health, and neuroendocrinology. LiNCog comprises five research teams carrying basic and applied research projects in close collaboration with clinicians from the Lille University Hospital. The center is equipped with several internal facilities, including L2 and L3 culture rooms, electrophysiology, and benefits from the infrastructure of the Lille Platforms in Biology & Health (UAR2014-US41) including cutting-edge technological platforms from molecular analyses, cell and human brain imaging (including a 7T MRI dedicated to research). The Chair holder will have free access to these facilities and equipment. The center is designed to support researchers by streamlining administrative, budgetary, and logistical processes through a joint management team, providing an optimal working environment. The Junior Professor Chair position at LiNCog is designed to attract a high-level scientist aspiring to become a research team leader (Research Director), with the expectation that the chair holder will develop an innovative research axis aligned with LiNCog's existing research interests, thereby enriching an expanding the center's scientific portfolio.

Strategy of the host laboratory:

The host laboratory of "Development and Plasticity of the Neuroendocrine Brain", directed by Dr. Vincent Prevo, assembles unique technical skills and knowledge in the field of energy homeostasis and the biology of reproduction in a single laboratory setting. Internationally renowned for its pioneering work, the laboratory has made significant contributions to understanding the brain circuits that regulate reproduction and metabolism, the influence of the perinatal environment on hypothalamic development as well as the importance of non-neuronal cells in these processes. The team is currently composed of 44 staff members, including 13 tenured researchers, Associate Professors, clinicians and 6 tenured technicians. Strong collaborations with clinical departments at CHU Lille offer exceptional access to human fetal and brain specimens. Additionally, the clusters of excellence at the University of Lille, including EGID and DISTALZ, create a unique intellectual environment for research. The objective of this recruitment is to strengthen and expand the team's research by establishing a dedicated research axis focused on the sensory regulation of brain circuits, metabolism, and behavior. The chair holder will be allocated dedicated offices, laboratory and mouse facility space to facilitate his/her integration. The successful candidate will also benefit from the involvement of permanent technical staff in his/her project and administrative support.

Summary of the scientific project:

The "Development and Plasticity of the Neuroendocrine Brain" laboratory is seeking to expand its research focus to the sensory regulation of brain circuits governing behavior and metabolism. The proposed project should focus on deciphering the neuronal basis underlying the sensory regulation of energy homeostasis. More precisely, the appointed chair will establish and lead an independent research program investigating how organisms detect and process olfactory food cues to control whole-body metabolism and feeding behavior. Proposed projects must align with the laboratory's overarching interests, focusing on both the developmental period and adulthood. Applicants are expected to have a proven track record in leading research on the role of food sensory cues during both the perinatal period and adulthood. The research program should incorporate advanced tools and methodologies in systems neuroscience such as optogenetics and in vivo fiber photometry (already available). Priority will be given to applicants who have already demonstrated the ability to conduct outstanding, independent research within the proposed theme. Additionally, the successful candidate must have a proven track record in team leadership, securing competitive international funding, and achieving international recognition in the field. Experience in research management and/or the evaluation of research projects at the national level would also be highly valued.

Summary of the teaching project:

The recruited researcher will be involved in Master and PhD programs of the University of Lille as well as in the pedagogical activities developed by the host laboratory. The teaching assignments of the Chair holder will be in line with his/her research topics and methods. Teaching projects will also include mentorship and direction of Master and PhD students.

The candidate's profile is at the interface of two major themes in Biology-Health at the University of Lille: Metabolism and Neuroscience. The candidate will be able to contribute his/her skills to the various graduate programs being set up over the next five years with IOD (Institut Obésité-Diabète) and the Interdisciplinary Institute "Cerveau-Société & Technologies". All courses will be taught in English in order to facilitate the University of Lille's Erasmus+ and NeurotechEU Alliance training policy.

National Research Agency package:

200k€

Other package:

Co-funding*

Co-funding requested from the regional council (Région Hauts de France) and the European Metropolis of Lille (MEL). Target amount:

200 k€

*source et montant

Scientific dissemination/ Open Science:

Scientific Communication and Dissemination: The recruited researcher will be strongly encouraged to actively promote their findings by presenting them at international conferences. Additionally, he/she is expected to publish in high-impact international scientific journals.

Open Science: All published articles must be uploaded in full to the HAL open-access repository. Furthermore, the researcher is expected to make the data they generate available and reusable unless specific restrictions apply.

Science and Society: The recruited researcher is expected to engage with the general public to communicate their research and findings. Participation in public outreach events, such as the annual “Fête de la Science,” Brain Awareness Week, or collaborations with patient associations, is highly encouraged to promote scientific awareness and engagement.

Indicators:

The overall success of the Chair holder will be evaluated according to several criteria, such as:

1. Integration in the host laboratory and the LiNCog Research Center
2. Research outputs and publications
3. Communications at national and international conferences in the field
4. Supervision of master’s and PhD students
5. Funding application and success
6. Establishment of international partnerships and networks
7. Involvement in activities to promote scientific awareness (e.g., public seminars, outreach events)
8. Pedagogical capacity and transmission of knowledge through teaching activity and leadership

Selection of candidates:

It is expected the recruited researcher to become rapidly a group leader in the GAD team. So the candidate should demonstrate ability to supervise Ph.D students, post-doctoral fellow and technical support staff. She/he should have the capacity to obtain competitive funding to manage her/his group.

Successful candidates are chosen by a selection commission composed of six to ten members, the majority of whom are specialists in the fields of research concerned.

The commission carries out an initial examination of the applications, focused in particular on candidate experience and skills relative to the research and teaching project presented above. A shortlist of candidates is then selected for interview.

Only candidates selected by the selection committee on the basis of their applications will be invited to interview.

The interviews are followed by a deliberation during which selection commission will discuss the quality, originality and, where appropriate, the interdisciplinarity of the research and teaching projects presented by the candidates, their motivation and their scientific and teaching supervision capacity.

The candidates selected at the end of the selection process will be offered a researcher contract, following approval from the President and CEO of Inserm.

Required profile:

Education Level: **Phd**

Researcher Profile: R3/R4

R3 Established researcher A stage in a researcher's career describing those who have developed a level of independence and can be described as an established researcher

R4 Leading Research A stage in a researcher's career where they can be termed a 'leading researcher'. This would include the team leader of a research group or head of an industry R&D laboratory.

Your application will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Relevance and originality of the project related to the research field
- International exposure in research projects
- Your ability to raise funds
- Participation in editorial and reviewing activities
- Your teaching experience
- Your ability to lead a team...

Application instruction:

Applications can be submitted online at [EVA](#).

Deadline application: **September 2, 2025**

Please complete the scientific file in English.

It is imperative to contact the laboratory corresponding to the Chair you have applied for in order to build the project with them.

Position also open to 'Bénéficiaires de l'Obligation d'Emploi' (disabled persons), as defined in article 27 of law no. 84-16 of January 11, 1984 on statutory provisions for the civil service.