Choose France - CNRS AI Rising Talents

As part of the French Strategy in Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Choose France - CNRS AI Rising Talents Programme gives to exceptionally talented early-career AI researchers the opportunity to showcase their potential to be leading scientists by setting-up a research program and an associated team for a period of 5 years. The programme is open to postdocs and junior professors working outside France who are at an early stage of their careers (preferably PhD + 4 or 5 years).

In 2022, the programme will be open for up to three positions. The candidates must demonstrate outstanding track-records in Machine Learning (ML) and related fields (computer vision, natural language processing, etc.). Candidates with strong contributions in ML associated to other sciences (neurosciences, biology, physics, chemistry, humanities, etc.) are also welcome.

The selected candidates will be recruited by the CNRS in one of its laboratories spread across France ¹. They are expected to participate to the French Strategy in AI and applications that integrate with initiatives such as the Interdisciplinary Institutes in AI ² or related local initiatives are encouraged.

The programme offers competitive salaries as well as an environment for research in the form of a package that, depending on experience, may go up to 1 M€ for the period (including gross employer costs for the awarded candidate and other expenses for building the team).

Information about the programme:

Purpose:

- Attracting rising talents in Machine Learning to France
- Giving the chance to promising early-career scientists to show their full potential and to become leading researchers
- Preparing young researchers to fulfil prerequisites for full professor and research director positions

Eligibility and Proposal Requirements:

- The programme is intended for young researchers, with 2 to 7 years of experience since completion of PhD with an experience as a postdoc or junior professor, however the targeted candidates are those with 4 to 5 years’ experience after the PhD,
- The research areas are Machine learning and related fields, computer vision, natural language processing, robotics, signal processing, etc, and applications to other sciences (neurosciences, biology, physics, chemistry, humanities, etc)
- Candidates must demonstrate exceptional scientific track-record with publications in top-tier venues

¹ https://www.cnrs.fr/en/research
² PRAIRIE in Paris, ANITI in Toulouse, MIAI in Grenoble, 3IA Côte d'Azur in Nice

www.ins2i.cnrs.fr
Application Requirements:

- A Curriculum vitae
- A report describing previous work (3 to 5 pages maximum)
- A comprehensive list of publications, as well as the full text of the most meaningful publications (attach up to three publications)
- The report from the thesis examining board, as well as the thesis itself (optional but recommended)

And

- A report describing the proposed research programme, including a description of the programme’s insertion within the selected CNRS laboratory (3 to 5 pages maximum)
- A support letter from the director of the laboratory
- Three references’ contacts

The application must be sent to Al.ChooseFrance@cnrs.fr

Duration and grant:

Up to 1 M€ for 5 years, depending on the experience. The grant includes gross employer costs for the awarded candidate and other expenses for building the team.

Timeline:

The deadline for application is November 30, 2021. Depending on the results of the first call, the call may be opened again in 2022.

Evaluation:

The applications are evaluated by a selection committee, composed of leading scientists in the domain, who evaluate proposals on the basis of excellence. Candidate that are short-listed, will be invited to an interview by videoconference.

About the CNRS

The French National Centre for Scientific Research is among the world's leading research institutions. Its scientists explore the living world, matter, the Universe, and the functioning of human societies in order to meet the major challenges of today and tomorrow. Internationally recognised for the excellence of its scientific research, the CNRS is a reference in the world of research and development, as well as for the general public.

Learn more.