Decree No. _____ Prot. No. _____

LENS Internship Scholarships – 2026 Edition

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE ALLOCATION OF 10 SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO INTEND TO CONDUCT MASTER'S THESIS INTERNSHIPS AT THE EUROPEAN LABORATORY FOR NONLINEAR SPECTROSCOPY
ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

The European Laboratory for Non-Linear Spectroscopy (LENS) announces the availability of 10 scholarships, each worth € 3,000, for students enrolled in the 2025/2026 academic year. These scholarships are intended for students of Master's degree programs in STEM disciplines at European Universities who conduct or plan to conduct thesis research activities of at least 6 months at LENS laboratories and/or offices, starting between March 1st, 2026 and December 30th, 2026 under the supervision of a LENS Associate.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled for the 2025/2026 academic year of a Master's degree program in one of the following disciplines: biology, biotechnology, physics, engineering, mathematics, chemistry, and related disciplines.
- Have achieved a Bachelor's degree in non-integrated (3 years) programs. For integrated (5-year) degree programs in the aforementioned disciplines, this requirement is not mandatory.
- Plan to pursue a thesis in one of LENS research areas. Please refer to the attached ‘‘Appendix 1’ for a detailed list of available internship titles.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Candidates must submit their application by **March 2nd, 2026, at 5:00 PM CET** by compiling the attached online form. Upon registration, candidates will receive confirmation via email from **borsedistudio@lens.unifi.it**.
Submission of the application implies acceptance of the terms outlined in this call. Incomplete applications will result in exclusion from the evaluation process.

SELECTION PROCESS

The evaluation committee, composed of LENS-affiliated experts, will rank candidates based on the following criteria for a total score of 100 :

- Relevance of the proposed thesis: clarity, pertinence, quality, and applicability. (max 20/100)
- Candidate's academic transcript of records and number of ECTS/CFU obtained. (max 50/100)
- Motivation letter. (max 30/100)

To be considered for the award, the score shall be more than 60.

The results will be communicated to all candidates via email by the 14th of March, 2026. If the number of applications is particularly high, the evaluation phase may be extended to ensure fair and thorough review.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Successful candidates must confirm their acceptance within **5 days** of notification by email. If a winner declines the scholarship, it will be awarded to the next candidate on the ranking list. The winners' names will be published on the LENS website:
https://lens.unifi.it/amministrazione/albo-online/.

After acceptance, the scholarship winners must send a letter from their home University to **borsedistudio@lens.unifi.it**. The letter should state that the University agrees to send the candidate to LENS to carry out their master's thesis and that this internship period will be recognized by the home institution as an official part or the whole thesis work. This letter must be sent **within two weeks** after acceptance.

The scholarship will be disbursed by LENS – European Laboratory for Nonlinear Spectroscopy under terms agreed in two tranches, at the end of the first two months and at the end of the sixth month of attendance upon written requests of the supervisor. An acknowledgement of the scholarship must be mentioned in the final thesis.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- In the event that candidates are awarded equal scores, priority will be given to the underrepresented gender, in order to help reduce gender disparities in STEM disciplines.
- Preference will be given to students from other universities or countries to promote mobility.
- In the case of tied scores, priority will be given to younger candidates or those with dependent children.
- Applications and related documentation are preferred in English.

TAX REGULATIONS

The scholarship amount is subject to taxation, insurance, and other contributions as required by law. The scholarship is considered income comparable to employment. It cannot be combined with other scholarships for study rights or those provided by other universities.

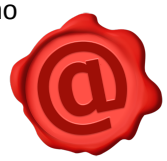
DATA PROTECTION

In compliance with EU Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR) and related national laws, LENS guarantees the confidentiality and protection of personal data collected during the application process. For more information, visit: **https://lens.unifi.it/amministrazione/data-protection/**.

For additional information, contact LENS administration at **borsedistudio@lens.it** or consult the FAQ page for LENS Scholarships 2025-2026.

The Director
Prof. Giovanni Modugno

Giovanni Modugno
04.02.2026
13:17:24
UTC



APPENDIX 1

LIST OF AVAILABLE TITLES FOR THESIS

Internship title
Ultrafast characterization of optical properties, charge separation and phase transitions of inorganic compounds
Biocompatibility and Functionality of Novel Nanomaterials in Living Cells
Atomtronics with ultracold fermions in box potentials
Two-qubit interferometry with diamond spins for quantum thermodynamics
Design of control and analysis tools with Phyton for diamond-based quantum sensors
Quantum microscopy with diamond spins for magnetic bioimaging
Quantum interfaces with single molecules
Exploring the supersolid phase of matter with ultracold dipolar atoms
All-optical unclonable neural networks with complex photonic systems
Abiotic formation of organic material from compressed mixed ices
New materials with unusual optical properties from high-pressure experiments
Encoding of an all optical qubit on a trapped Ba+ ion
High spatial resolution spectroscopy of light localization in ordered and correlated disordered
Design and characterization of innovative Metalenses for photovoltaic applications

Spectral unmixing for super-multiplexed imaging of biological tissues
Multifunctional nanocomposites for 3D light-based biofabrication of biomimetic cell-laden structures
Microfluidic devices integrating plasmonic nanosensors for liquid biopsy
Combining light-based micro and nanofabrication processes for advanced microfluidic devices
Optical studies of solid-state quantum emitters
Development and characterization of solar micro-lasers based on photosynthetic antenna complexes
Dynamics of molecular aggregation processes near transition phenomena
Study of the ultrafast dynamics of hydration phenomena in complex molecules
Next-generation optical systems for high-speed wireless and visible light communication
Innovative Optical antennas for advanced visible light communication
3D-Printed implantable optical antennas for next-generation intrabody communication
3D Fluorescence Microscopy Evaluation of Microplastic Neurotoxicity in Honeybee Brains
Region-specific imbalance of the excitatory-inhibitory balance in autistic brains
High-pressure structural properties and chemical reactivity of pnictogen based materials
High resolution microscopy in A.Thaliana root
Super-resolution microscopy of junctional proteins in breast cancer fluidification
Femtosecond laser processing for the realization of isolated single-photon emitters in diamond

Manipulation of ultrashort nonclassical states of light
From molecules to polymers, from microdevices to biomedical applications
Molecules and Polymers for new technologies and the environment
Bio-photonic structures for passive radiative cooling applications
Mid-IR QCL-based LIDAR for ranging and sensing
Self-mixing-based optomechanical platform for communication and sensing
Mid-IR light characterization at and below the standard quantum limit
3D nonlinear photonic nanostructures for light manipulation by light

TO THE DIRECTOR

of the European Laboratory for Nonlinear Spectroscopy

APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION

The undersigned _____
_____ LAST NAME* FIRST NAME*

_____ _____
FISCAL CODE (if available) UNIFI STUDENT ID (Matricola if available)

Born in _____ (_____) on
_____ PLACE OF BIRTH* PROVINCE* DATE OF BIRTH*

Residing at: _____ No.
_____ STREET/SQUARE* NUMBER*

_____ (_____) _____
TOWN* PROVINCE* POSTAL CODE*

Landline /_____ Mobile*

_____ Email

*_____

Contact address for the purposes of the competition:
(to be provided only if different from the residence address – foreign applicants are encouraged to provide an Italian contact address or designate their Embassy in Italy as their domicile)

Street/Square_____ No. _____

_____ _____ (_____)
POSTAL CODE TOWN PROVINCE

Landline /_____ Mobile

_____ Email

_____

REQUESTS

To participate in the call for applications for the allocation of 10 scholarships for conducting a Master's Thesis Internship at the European Laboratory of Nonlinear Spectroscopy, Academic Year 2024/2025.

DECLARES

Pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of D.P.R. No. 445/2000

- To be enrolled in the degree program (specify the class or equivalent based on the codes provided in the call for applications): _____

- To have passed the following exams, accompanied by respective ECTS credits:
  _____, ECTS _____
  _____, ECTS _____
  _____, ECTS _____
  _____, ECTS _____
  …..

- Estimated date of submission of the final thesis (month/year) ……..

- To have received a Bachelor's Degree with the following grades:_____

- To choose the following thesis title (refer to list in Appendix 1):

  _____

- To be willing to be enrolled in the internship within the following period:

  from_____ to _____

- I did not receive any other fellowship to pursue the internship.

To be aware of and accept all the regulations contained in the competition call.

Attachments (mandatory):

- A copy (front and back) of a valid personal identification document;
- Certificate of enrollment in the Master's degree program issued by the home university;
- Official Transcript of Records with ECTS, in either English or Italian
- One-page abstract of the proposed thesis
- One-page motivation letter by the candidate

- Applicants who have an alternative administrative career record at their institution (including records associated with name or gender changes) may attach the relevant documentation (optional).

_____ _____

PLACE DATE

_____

LEGIBLE SIGNATURE

* these fields are mandatory