



International PhD Program ICA

The University of Salzburg invites applications for two fully funded PhD studentships. The ICA program comprises nine internationally renowned research groups and focuses on specific immunological aspects of cancer and allergy.

ICA aims to attract and select high-calibre graduate students from all over the world, provide an intellectually stimulating environment, excellent infrastructure and ambitious scientific projects. ICA will train young scientists to the highest international standards preparing them for a successful career in basic as well as translational and applied science.

Project I

Structure and Mechanism of TPP2 Activation

The project will focus on structural characterization (crystallization) of the molecule Tripeptidyl peptidase 2 (TPP2). TPP2 is a cytosolic subtilisin-like serine protease involved in a number of physiological processes, in particular in the downstream processing of proteasomal peptides. Its role in MHC class I antigen processing and its implications in the proliferation of tumor cells attracts increasing interest.

Project II

Peripheral generation of antigen-specific regulatory T cells

The project will explore T-cell responses to a tissue-restricted antigen using inducible transgene expression in the skin, with the aim to study mechanisms involved in the *in vivo* generation of T-effector cells and regulatory T-cells. Resulting modulations of the Teff:Treg ratio will be tested in disease models of autoimmunity and allergy.

ICA offers numerous benefits to its students: attractive salaries for a period of 3 years (including health, occupational and national insurance), cover of research consumables, ICA-specific technological training courses, soft skill courses, full funding of participation in congresses, workshops and international courses, including stays in foreign partner laboratories (up to 6 months).

For detailed information about application, selection procedure and admission, and about the scientific program and faculty of ICA visit

<http://www.uni-salzburg.at/phd-program-ica>