Sample PhD report (fictional student)

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Neuroscience, MSc Neuroscience | Targets: Germany, Netherlands, Australia

Best research topic for you

Nanoformulated J147 and CNB001 for neonatal hypoxic-ischaemic encephalopathy: regional microglial and astrocytic response

Funding high | Competition medium

56/100	6	6	3
Readiness score	Professors matched	Verified emails	Taking PhD students

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This report is guidance based on your documents and public information. It does not guarantee admission or funding. Funding and competition ratings are estimates; verify every opening on official pages.

1 Where you stand

You hold an MSc in Neuroscience with a thesis on nanoparticle-delivered curcumin derivatives (J147, CNB001) in a P9 Rice–Vannucci neonatal hypoxia–ischaemia mouse model (n=74), scoring GFAP and integrin-αM (IBA-1) immunohistochemistry across six brain regions. Your BSc project on paraquat-induced neurodegeneration won a poster prize. Recent roles are in industry (cell culture, ELISA, GMP), which reads as drift unless you frame it as skills.

Area	Score	What it means
Academics	**17/25**	Strong BSc (CGPA 9.45/10); MSc Merit is below the bar of some cohort schools.
Research experience	**16/25**	Real hands-on thesis work; data partly inconclusive.
Publications/outputs	**5/15**	Two papers outside neuroscience; no preprint.
Methods & technical skills	**10/15**	Broad wet-lab and Python skills; no confocal or qPCR.
Proposal/topic clarity	**4/10**	No proposal yet.
Tests & documents	**4/10**	IELTS expired; transcripts missing.

2 Red flags to fix first

1. Your thesis says the data were inconclusive; present it as a pilot.
2. About 9 months after the MSc are unexplained.
3. IELTS from 2022 has expired.

3 Professors to contact

Emails come only from official pages. Check each professor's page for current openings before you write.

100% fit

Lab head, neonatal neuroscience

Research university, Germany, DE

Recent paper: Paper title, journal and year shown in your report

Verified email shown in your report

Taking PhD students

Faculty page Publications

92% fit

Professor, perinatal brain injury

Research university, Netherlands, NL

Recent paper: Paper title, journal and year shown in your report

Verified email shown in your report

Taking PhD students

Faculty page Publications

88% fit

Group leader, glial biology

Medical university, Sweden, SE

Recent paper: Paper title, journal and year shown in your report

Verified email shown in your report

Faculty page Publications

85% fit

Associate professor, neuroinflammation

Research university, Australia, AU

Recent paper: Paper title, journal and year shown in your report

Verified email shown in your report

Taking PhD students

Faculty page Publications

81% fit

Professor, developmental neurophysiology

Research university, Finland, FI

Recent paper: Paper title, journal and year shown in your report

Verified email shown in your report

Faculty page Publications

77% fit

Lab head, nanomedicine for the brain

Technical university, Switzerland, CH

Recent paper: Paper title, journal and year shown in your report

Verified email shown in your report

Faculty page Publications

4 Research topics for you

Best fit · Funding high · Competition medium

Nanoformulated J147 and CNB001 for neonatal hypoxic-ischaemic encephalopathy: regional microglial and astrocytic response

Direct continuation of your thesis that fixes its stated limitations.

Funding high · Competition low

Sex-specific microglial states in neonatal hypoxic-ischaemic injury

Untested limitation in your thesis; under-competed.

Funding medium · Competition low

Deep-learning quantification of glial morphology in brain-injury histology

Combines your histology and Python skills.

5 Funding by country

Our estimate. Verify each route before applying.

Australia

Strong fit

- Research Training Program (RTP)
- Hudson Institute top-ups

Needs a confirmed supervisor first. Stipend about A$37k (estimate).

Netherlands

Strong fit

- Salaried PhD vacancies
- MSCA Doctoral Networks

Employee contracts with a salary.

United Kingdom

Weak fit

- UKRI DTP

International places are capped.

6 Your application checklist

Missing	**Research proposal** PI-first routes expect one.	Write a 3–4 page proposal on your best topic.
In progress	**Academic CV** Industry roles lead the page.	Put research first; keep it to 2 pages.
Ready	**GRE** Valid until 2027.	Send only where required.

Want Admivo to handle the rest?

Our PhD team writes your proposal and SOP, rebuilds your CV and runs professor outreach from your inbox until you get interviews.

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