Admissions run continuously; there are no deadlines. In short, you need to find a doctoral advisor who offers a place in his research group, after which the process of getting you to Erlangen starts. The procedure is likely to take several months, so you are advised to start the process nine to twelve months before you intend to come to Erlangen. Please expect at least two months for the processing of a visa. Most importantly, you must have a Diploma or Master Degree in any of the abovementioned disciplines – exceptions are possible but need to be confirmed. Proficiency in German is appreciated but not mandatory. As an institution with international collaborations the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg and its Graduate School welcomes all students fluent in English (written and spoken). Please have a look at the homepage of the GSMS for detailed information on the application procedure: http://www.gsms.uni-erlangen.de/
The Graduate School Molecular Science (GSMS) is part of the elite program “Bavaria excellent” of the Free State of Bavaria, Germany. It offers an interdisciplinary doctoral program within the Graduate Program of the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. The school is located at both the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering, with participation of the Departments of Chemistry & Pharmacy, Physics, Chemical & Bioengineering and Material Sciences.

Topics covered by the GSMS include Chemistry, Physics, Materials Science, Chemical Engineering, and Theory.

As part of a major research focus at the University of Erlangen the GSMS is closely associated with three research institutions, namely, the Interdisciplinary Center for Molecular Materials (ICMM), the Erlangen Catalysis Resource Center (ECRC), and the Computer Chemistry Center (CCC).

The GSMS has set up an exciting environment for young scientists that allows for personal and scientific development in highly interdisciplinary research. Led by worldwide recognized leaders in their field, GSMS graduate students learn how to address and solve present and future challenges. The Graduate School offers voluntary courses in various disciplines associated with their research fields but also in other areas such as language classes and business studies. Yearly summer and winter schools are held at pleasant locations for scientific and social exchanges as well as building up networks. A continuously held lecture program with well-established senior scientists, members, and students of the graduate school strengthens the external and internal scientific communication. The GSMS encourages and supports the participation at international conferences with grants which cover travel expenses and participation fees. Each year, the GSMS doctoral award price is given to the best student who finished his thesis. The maximum number of admitted graduate students is 45, roughly 15 per year.

Students finish their doctoral thesis typically within three years. Depending on the Faculty they obtain degrees as doctor of natural science (Dr. rer. nat.) or as doctor of engineering (Dr.-Ing.).