









The degrees
conferred
in French
universities and
other institutions
of higher
education are
certified by
the French
government

## Degrees

The degrees awarded in French higher education reflect a common European architecture. The LMD system—for *Licence* (bachelor), Master, and Doctorate—is based on the number of semesters completed after leaving secondary school and their equivalent in European credits under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)\*:

■ Licence = 6 semesters = 180 ECTS

(Baccalauréat or equivalent + 3 years)

■ Master = 10 semesters = 300 ECTS (L + M)

(Baccalauréat or equivalent + 5 years)

■ Doctorate = 16 semesters = 480 ECTS (L + M + D)

(Baccalauréat or equivalent + 8 years)

- The universities confer "national diplomas," which have the same weight regardless of the institution that confers them.
- The *Titre d'ingénieur* is a national diploma. The schools that award it are accredited by CTI, the French national commission on engineering degrees.
- A similar accreditation procedure exists for government-recognized schools of business and management, the diplomas of which are approved by the French

state and, in many cases, have received international recognition or accreditation.

• France's schools of art and specialized schools also undergo national certification.

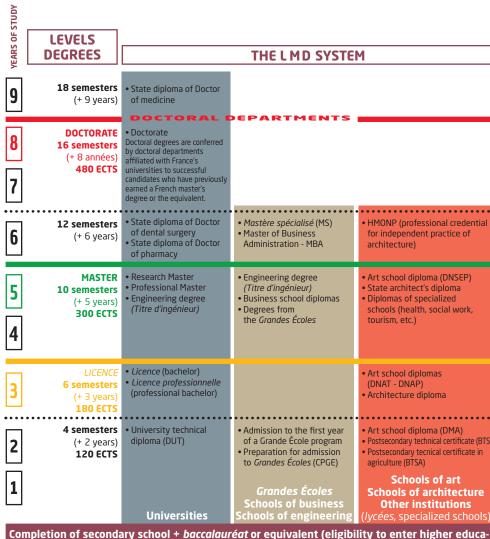


#### Note

From ENIC-NARIC centers, students who have already earned a degree in their home country can obtain a certificate of comparability that enables admissions officers in French institutions to evaluate the degree for equivalence in the French system.

ENIC-NARIC network: www.enic-naric.net

in France: www.ciep.fr/enic-naricfr/comparabilite.php



ompletion of Secondary School + *baccalaureat* or equivalent (eligibility to enter nigher education tion in home country) = access to French higher education

\*Crédits ECTS: Credits earned under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System are recognized throughout Europe. A full year of academic work represents 60 ECTS credits. http://www.europe-educationformation.fr/page/ects

#### Did you know?

Any student presently enrolled in higher education in his or her home country may apply for admission to a French university or other institution of higher education, provided he or she meets certain criteria.











Undergraduate programs that combine theory and practice and use professional tools in real-world settings

# Vocational education:

## professionally oriented national diplomas at the L2 and L3 levels

The evolution of the global economy has placed a high premium on skills, advanced technical knowledge, and operational knowhow as the keys to career advancement. To meet these demands, France's system of higher education has created undergraduate programs that combine theory and practice, enabling students to gain up-to-date skills, learn the latest methods, and use professional tools in real-world settings.

#### Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS, postsecondary technical certificate)

The BTS is a national vocational/professional qualification representing 120 ECTS credits (2 years of postsecondary study). It is offered in 136 different areas spanning manufacturing, production, services, and fine arts. Most BTS programs are offered in the postsecondary technical sections of secondary schools, public or private. Graduates are equipped to perform specialized technical functions in a professional environment. List of BTS specialties:

www.sup.adc.education.fr/btslst/

19 available agriculture and agrifood specializations lead to a **BTSA** (*Brevet de Technicien Supérieur Agricole*). List of BTSA specialties:

http://www.chlorofil.fr/diplomes-etreferentiels/formations-et-diplomes/ btsa.html

#### DUT vs. BTS: What are the differences?

	DUT BTS			
Where offered	University	Secondary ans postsecondary schools		
Size of graduating class	Up to 250	30		
Type of	65% general	37,5% general		
baccalaureat	29% technical	34% technical		
held by students	3% professional/vocational	27,5% professional/vocationall		
Specializations	24	136		
Assessment	Continuous	Continuous plus final exam		
Percentage of graduates who go on for further study	82%	53%		





The DUT is a national vocational/professional qualification representing 120 ECTS credits (2 years of study). It is conferred by France's university-based institutes of technology, or IUTs. DUT programs are offered in 24 specialty areas. Programs prepare graduates to begin a career immediately after graduation. Most require an internship. Graduates may also elect to continue their education by applying for admission to a school of engineering or management or a professional Licence.

The 113 IUTs located throughout France offer 685 different DUT degrees: www.iut-fr.net



#### Licence Professionnelle (professional bachelor)

After successfully completing 2 years of postsecondary study, students may apply to enter a 1-year program that allows them to earn a *Licence Professionnelle*, a national professional diploma signifying the accumulation of 180 ECTS credits. Programs are offered in universities and IUTs.

Opportunities for professional internships and the participation of practicing professionals in the delivery of instruction make the *Licence Professionnelle* a very effective way to start a career. Across France, more than 40,000 students are enrolled in programs.

More than 1800 programs offered in 8 different fields:

http://www.iut-fr.net/formations-et-diplomes/la-licence-professionnelle.html

The online catalog of postsecondary vocational/ professional programs in France

www.campusfrance.org/en >Find your program >Catalogs > Licence

Listings of all BTS, DUT, and professional licence programs, with Web sites and contact information.

#### **Degree descriptions**

www.campusfrance.org/en
> Resource Center
> Educational and research

programs
>Degree descriptions

The BTS, DUT, Licence
Professionnelle, and Mastère
Spécialisé are presented in
detail, including information
on prerequisites and the
possibilities for further study.















42% of
doctoral
candidates
are from
outside
France - the
highest
proportion in
the world

# Doctoral programs

Any student holding a European Master or the equivalent may apply for admission to a doctoral program in France. Programs generally last 3 years. Candidates who prepare and successfully defend a thesis or dissertation receive the Doctorate.

## Scientific research is a top priority in France

France devotes 2.23% of its GDP to research and development. That effort has put France in fourth place among all nations in the European patent system and in the sixth place in international patent applications;

The CNRS is world's leading research body in terms of publications (all fields combined). Top institution in number of articles in index of 68 leading journals (source: Nature Index, 2015).

Several initiatives demonstrate the vitality and future-oriented stance of the French research enterprise:

- A national research agency (ANR) manages financing for research projects.
- Investissements d'Avenir (investments in the future): €35 billion, including €22 billion for higher education and research.
- Initiatives d'Excellence (IDEX, excellence initiatives): €7.7 billion in financing for scientific projects undertaken in close partnership with universities, grandes écoles, and research bodies.
- Facilities of Excellence (Equipex): Investing in advanced infrastructure to stimulate French research and accelerate discoveries
- Public support for corporate research and development has been increased.

#### **Doctoral programs**

Doctoral training takes place within research teams or units affiliated with a Doctoral department. Candidates work under the supervision of a dissertation adviser. Most doctoral programs are found in the universities. More than 250 university Doctoral departments organize research teams around scientific and scholarly themes. They coordinate doctoral programs and ensure the coherence and efficiency of scientific and scholarly projects.

Prospective doctoral candidates must apply directly to a specific doctoral program.

## A new research resource on the website campusfrance.org, www.researchinfrance.fr, coming in 2016

Absorbing the Campus France catalog of doctoral departments, the new portal offers all of the information one needs to engage in research in France: lists of postdoctoral fellowships, online doctorates, abd research grants, and a directory of major research organizations with their priorities and affiliated laboratories. Searches can be conducted by keyword (20,000), discipline (80), and region, making the catalog an invaluable resource for planning a research project in France.



#### Financing doctoral study

Demonstrating the ability to pay for doctoral study is very often a prerequisite for admission to a doctoral program.

• Doctoral contracts are a public mechanism for financing doctoral education that emphasizes professional research experience, an essential part of doctoral education. Anyone holding a master's degree or equivalent, regardless of age, may apply. Contracts are for 3 years and offer all of the benefits of a formal employment agreement. Contract terms are identical at all French institutions of higher education and research. The minimum guaranteed gross monthly compensation ranges of € 1680 /month. Doctoral departments are responsible for recruiting candidates.

www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr>Enseignement supérieur>Doctorat >le financement doctoral>Contrat doctoral

#### • Research training agreements with industry

CIFREs (conventions industrielles de formation par la recherche) enable young researchers to complete their dissertation while working for a firm. Participants agree on a research and development program that is pursued in cooperation with a research team based outside the firm. CIFRE-funded candidates must hold a master or an engineering degree. www.anrt.asso.fr

#### International joint doctoral programs

Governed by an agreement between a French institution of higher education and a partner institution outside France, joint doctoral programs allow candidates to work on their dissertation in two countries according to defined conditions (time spent in each country, dissertation defense, financing, etc.). Most joint degree programs are accompanied by dedicated financial aid, the main purpose of which is to defray the candidate's travel costs.

#### **Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorates - EMJDS**

Full-time grants are offered to students who have been selected to participate in a doctoral program that has been granted the Erasmus Mundus label. The amount of the doctoral grants varies from program to program and includes tuition, travel expenses, living expenses, and certain other costs.

To be considered for an Erasmus Mundus grant, candidates must:

- identify an Erasmus Mundus program appropriate for their intended research.
- submit an application for admission to the university that coordinates the consortium. Applications are generally due between October and December. Applicants are allowed to submit applications to no more than 3 different consortia in a given year.

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu>Erasmus Mundus>Selected projects>Joint doctorates Agence Erasmus+: www.agence-erasmus.fr/page/erasmus-mundus

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#### Note

#### 2014-2020 : Erasmus+

The new €14.7 billion EU program for education, training, youth, and sports (77.5% for education) replaces the Erasmus. Designed to be more effective and innovative, it will be open to students at the doctoral level.

www.agence-erasmus.fr/en/index.php

International joint dissertation supervision programs





www.campusfrance.org/en > Finance your program

Find financial assistance online using the CampusBourses grant search engine!











4 French
universities
are in
the Top 100
of the
Shanghai
and Times
Higher
Education
rankings

## **Universities**

Unlike in the major English-speaking countries, private institutions account for a relatively small share of postsecondary enrollments in France (less than 17%). In France, 73 publicly financed universities are evenly distributed around the nation. They award national diplomas, which provide the assurance of a uniformly high level of educational quality regardless of where they are earned—from the famous Sorbonne to the alpine campuses of the universities of Grenoble and Chambéry and the island campus of the University of Corsica.

## The universities offer programs in all disciplines,

including the sciences (mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology), technology (computer science, engineering, electrotechnics, materials), literature, languages, the arts, the social sciences, law, economics, business, health and medicine, and physical education. All of the nation's universities are public.

The universities offer programs at every level; their graduates receive nationally regulated degrees known as national diplomas: the *licence* (3 years), master (5 years), and doctorate (8 years).

French universities list:

http://www.enseignementsuprecherche.gouv.fr/cid20269/liste-desuniversites-françaises.html

#### Note

#### Diplômes d'Université (DU, university diplomas)

Known as Diplôme d'Université (DU) or Diplôme Inter-Universitaire (DIU), these institution-specific degrees reflect the strengths of individual universities or the economic requirements of specific regions. **DUs are not national diplomas**, but they offer international students opportunities to gain specialized training and university-level education in specific fields.

Universities are an attractive option—out of more than 2.5 million French students, 59% choose a university over other postsecondary options.

## Research, a key function of the universities

As the primary locus of research and training in the basic sciences, the universities ensure that their degree programs stay abreast of progress in basic knowledge and technology.

The international recognition as Fields Medals and Nobel Prizes, accorded French researchers attests to the universities' devotion to knowledge.

More than 250 Doctoral departments staffed by 100,000 scholars and researchers provide research training in close cooperation with more than 1,200 research laboratories. The departments confer more than 12,000 doctorates each year.

French Doctoral departments have always been open to the world. 42% of doctoral candidates are from outside France.

#### Deeply committed to their corporate, academic, and research partners in France and abroad, the nation's universities daily demonstrate their dynamism and their ability to respond to change.

In parallel with the traditional academic degree ladder, the universities have accommodated new educational needs:

- University-based engineering programs now confer 30% of the engineering degrees (Titre d'ingénieur) awarded in France each year;
- More than 1,800 career-oriented licence degrees, known as licences professionnelles, are available.
- **Technical programs** are offered in 24 specialty areas in university-based institutes of technology (*IUTs*, instituts universitaires de technologie).
- Management programs are available in university-based institutes of business administration (IAE, instituts d'administration des entreprises).
- Programs in political science and economics are found in university-based institutes of politics (*IEP, instituts d'études politiques*) including Sciences Po Paris.
- Journalism and communication are taught in specialized institutes in several universities.
   Examples include CELSA at the University of Paris-Sorbonne and the Centre Universitaire d'Enseignement du Journalisme at the University of Strasbourg, the CFL...

#### Note

France's universities have put in place a new system to help students in *licence* programs succeed. The plan offers students a variety of services (orientation, a faculty adviser, a student tutor), the option to change their program, and career guidance services, all of which can help them make the most of their first years of postsecondary education.

For more information about the plan, visit: www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid55536/plan-pluriannuel-pour-la-reussite-en-licence.html

#### www.campusfrance.org/en

>Resource Center

>Practical and institutional guides

>Institutional profiles >Universities

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Legislation passed in July 2013 redrew France's academic and scientific map, creating groupings of postsecondary institutions to increase synergy and international visibility.

#### Communautés d'universités et établissements (COMUE, communities of universities and other educational institutions)

The purpose of the new institutional groupings is to coordinate the program offerings and research and knowledge-dissemination strategies of the public postsecondary institutions in a given area. This is to be accomplished by pooling the resources of universities, schools, and research bodies to form centers of higher education, research, and innovation. The new COMUEs grant diplomas in their own name.

## Map of Research in France and COMUE



#### **Medical studies**

Within the European LMD system, medical studies in France are divided into 3 stages of 3 years or more. The universities deliver medical education in cooperation with France's 32 CHRUs, or university hospital centers. The first year of medical education is the same for all four basic medical tracks: (i) medicine (including physical therapy), (ii) dental surgery, (iii) pharmacy, and (iv) midwifery. Those who complete that year are eligible to sit for one of four examinations that determine the student's rank for purposes of obtaining one the places available, for that year. Students' ability to continue their medical education depends on the rank they obtain on the exam.

Unless they have already obtained a medical degree in their home country, international students must enroll in the first year of the first cycle of medical education and must pass the end-of-year examination. Students who pass that examination may then jump to the level they had reached in their home country, subject to an assessment by the program's administrators of the equivalence of their prior preparation.

International students and medical education in France

- To begin the third stage of medical education, foreign students must undergo a special medical residency competition organized by the culture and cooperation service of France's embassies and consulates. In 2012, 13 places were offered in 17 medical specialties.
- The Diplôme de formation médicale spécialisée (DFMS, diploma in specialized medical training, 1-2 years) and the Diplôme de formation médicale spécialisée approfondie (DFMSA, advanced diploma in specialized medical training, 6 months to 1 year) are specialized programs open to general (primary care) and specialized physicians who have earned their medical degree abroad.

http://www.medecine.parisdescartes.fr/?page\_id=588 Information on admission to both types of programs may be obtained from France's embassies.

• All of these programs require proficiency in French at level B2 or above in the CEFRL scheme.

Choose France Choose France











The Financial
Times ranked
6 French
schools among
the world's top
15 master in
management
programs
(2013).

# The Grandes Écoles and the Écoles supérieures

Unique to France, the system of *Grandes Écoles* was set up in parallel with the university system at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The *Grandes Écoles* offer top-quality education oriented toward practical problems. The system includes schools of engineering and business, the *Écoles Normales Supérieures* (ENS), and the national schools of veterinary medicine. The *Grandes Écoles* are highly selective; their degrees signify the completion of a a rigorous program.

#### All *Grandes Écoles* offer fiveyear diplomas recognized by the government to be equivalent to the European master

They may also offer intermediate degrees and specialized diplomas, among them the bachelor (in 3 or 4 years), the master of business administration (MBA), and the mastère spécialisé (MS, 1 year after the master).

The traditional path into the *Grandes Écoles* was by examination following 2 years of preparation. Students then earned their degree in 3 more years of increasingly specialized study. However many schools now offer admission to a 5-year curriculum directly from secondary school.

To accommodate international students, many Grandes Écoles offer admission on the strength of the applicant's academic record. The degree may be earned in 2 to 5 years, depending on the amount of credit the applicant receives for his or her prior academic work.

Conférence des Grandes Écoles (CGE): www.cge.asso.fr

#### **Engineering**

More than 200 schools of engineering, public and private, run the gamut of engineering sciences. But they also have some common characteristics, emblematic of the solid quality of the *Titre d'ingénieur*, a venerable French degree that is fully equivalent to the European master.

## The *Titre d'ingénieur* is a national diploma that entitles its holder to apply to a doctoral program.

Depending on the school in which it is offered, the degree may indicate general expertise in engineering or more specialized study—in agronomy, chemistry, biology, or information science, for example. Public schools of engineering charge tuition of approximately €610 per year.

Conférence des Directeurs des Écoles Françaises d'Ingénieur : www.cdefi.fr

Commission des Titres d'ingénieur - CTI : www.cti-commission.fr (liste des formations habilitées)

Le Titre d'ingénieur







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#### **Management**

The *Grandes Écoles* of business and management enjoy special forms of official recognition:

- certification by the French State, indicated by a stamp on the graduate's diploma
- listing in the registry of *Grandes Écoles* published by the *Conférence des Grandes Ecoles*, which regulates all of France's *Grandes Écoles*
- official recognition of certain diplomas as equivalent to a master.

Operating at a variety of levels, France's many schools of business and management offer programs geared to economic requirements and new management practices. Internships and international exchanges play a large role in many programs. The great majority of schools have come together to offer common entrance exams. About 190 schools admit students directly from secondary school.

Most of France's business schools are private; many are affiliated with local chambers of commerce and industry.

The annual tuition varies widely but is generally between €5,000 and €13.000.

#### Note

Many of France's business schools have attained international recognition by meeting the standards of various accrediting bodies, among them CGE, EQUIS, AACSB, and AMBA. Some forms of recognition apply to the school itself, others to the degree conferred. All signify international recognition.

#### www.campusfrance.org/en

>Resource center>Practical and institutional guides>Institutional profiles

Engineering and management dominate the offerings of the *Grandes Écoles*, but one also finds programs in public administration (the specialty of the prestigious *École Nationale d'Administration* - ENA), military sciences, higher education and research, agronomy, and veterinary sciences.

## The Écoles Normales Supérieures

The Brittany satellite campus of the ENS Cachan has become a full-fledged *École Normale Supérieure*, bringing the number of ENSs to four: Cachan, Lyon, Paris, and now Rennes.

Each ENS has its own procedure for international admissions.

#### Schools of veterinary medicine

France has four national schools of veterinary medicine-in Paris (Maisons-Alfort), Lyon, Nantes, and Toulouse, They admit students at various levels using a common examination administered independently by each of the four schools. Admission decisions are made on the basis of examination results or academic records. plus application and interview. Programs in the 4 veterinary schools lead to the degree of Doctor of veterinary medicine. a government-sanctioned diploma required for practice as a veterinarian.

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**Choose France** 











France sets the international standard in the fields of art and culture

# The higher schools of art

Fine arts, applied arts, and crafts are the focus of France's schools of art offer postsecondary degree programs at the 2- to 5-year levels. Most are selective, some highly so. Students apply by taking an entrance examination and submitting a portfolio. Public or private, they are distinguished by their reputation among professionals.

Nearly 50 public postsecondary schools of art grant national diplomas recognized by the French government. Private schools and schools affiliated with chambers of commerce and industry (known historically as écoles consulaires) confer certificates or occupational titles, some of which appear in the national directory of occupational certifications (www.rncp.cncp.gouv.fr).

All have competitive admissions policies that require applicants to pass an entrance exam and present a portfolio of their work. With respect to schools and degrees, a fundamental distinction is made between applied arts and fine arts.

#### Public postsecondary schools of art and design: national diplomas

45 public postsecondary schools of art and design (*écoles supérieures d'art et de design*) fall under the joint oversight of the ministries of culture and communication and of education. Applicants are admitted directly from secondary school according to their performance on an entrance examination. The schools offer 3-year (DNA) and 5-year (DNSEP) programs. Students may also be admitted by transfer into the second or third year.

List of public postsecondary schools of art: www.andea.fr

### National higher schools of art: institutional credentials

France's highly selective écoles nationales supérieures d'art award masterlevel diplomas in applied arts, plastic arts, visual arts, design and creation, textile design, industrial design, and photography.

- l'École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs (ENSAD, decorative arts) www.ensad.fr
- l'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts (ENSBA, fine arts) www.ensba.fr
- l'École Nationale Supérieure de la Création Industrielle (ENSCI - Les Ateliers, industrial design) www.ensci.fr
- l'École Nationale Supérieure de la Photographie (ENSP, photography) www.enp-arles.com
- le Fresnoy Studio National des arts contemporains (contemporary art) www.lefresnov.net

Two schools offer a 2-4 year program in film and theater that is open to applicants who have completed 2 years of postsecondary study.

- l'École Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Techniques du Théâtre (ENSATT, theater arts) - www.ensatt.fr
- la Fémis École Nationale Supérieure des Métiers de l'Image et du Son (ENSMIS, sound and lighting) www.lafemis.fr

## Public postsecondary schools of applied arts

France's ecoles supérieures d'arts appliaués publiaues confer national diplomas in very specific fields upon the successful completion of a 2- or 5-vear program. Two-vear programs lead to a BTS (brevet de technicien supérieur) or DMA (diplôme des métiers d'art); 5-year programs to a DSAA (diplôme supérieur d'arts appliqués). All prepare graduates for careers in design-related fields: graphics (media and multimedia); spatial design (interior architecture, lifestyle, set design); fashion, textiles, and environmental design; design of products and services; and crafts (textiles, jewelry, books, glass, ceramics, etc.):

http://designetartsappliques.fr

#### **Private schools of art**

Many private schools offer 3-5 year postsecondary programs and confer diplomas specific to the school. Such

programs are often costly. Some are listed in the RNCP, the national registry of professional certifications: www.rncp.cncp.gouv.fr

#### Schools of for the preservation and promotion of historic and cultural heritage

Three public schools of historic and cultural heritage offer advanced programs. Some curricula prepare students for careers requiring knowledge of historic and cultural heritage (art historians, guides and presenters), others for careers involving its preservation (conservators, restorers, architects of historic monuments and properties).

- École du Louvre (EDL), Paris: www.ecoledulouvre.fr
- École Nationale des Chartes (ENC),
   Paris: www.enc.sorbonne.fr
- Institut National du Patrimoine (INP), Paris: www.inp.fr

#### **Conservatories**

Music, dance, dramatic arts...
Working in partnership
with universities, France's
conservatories offer programs
on the LMD model (licence,
master, doctorate).
List of conservatories:
http://mediatheque.citemusique.fr > Guide pratique

de la musique > Base de données > Conservatoires et écoles de musique

#### www.campusfrance.org/en

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- >Degrees in Art





#### **Art degrees within LMD system**

8 years					8 years
7 years			Specializations in 1, 2 or 3 years		7 years
6 years	2022				6 years
M 5 years	Master	DSAA	DNSEP	Level 1	5 years
(L)	Licence —		DNA	Level 2	
3 years	Licerice	DMA		RNCP	3 years
2 years		втѕ			2 years

Baccalauréat Universities Public postsecondary pos schools of applied art

Public Institutions

Private institutions and écoles consulaires Titles registred in the RNCP

Institution diplomas

BTS: Brevet de Technicien Supérieur DNA: Diplôme National d'Art DMA: Diplôme des Métiers d'Art

National degrees

DSAA: Diplôme Supérieur des Arts Appliqués DNSEP: Diplôme National Supérieur d'Expression Plastique www.campusart.org

**CampusArt** 



## Apply online to the 60 member institutions of the CampusArt network of French schools of art

The CampusArt network offers applicants a choice of some 200 different art programs at the *licence* and master levels. By completing a single online form, students who have completed 3 years of art education may apply for admission to the entire network of schools and track the progress of their application through to the offer of admission.

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**Choose France** 

#### **Choose France**













# Schools of architecture

Postsecondary programs in architecture in France follow the harmonized European system of degrees based on the *Licence*, Master, and Doctorate (LMD).

- The first cycle of study lasts 3 years and leads to a DEEA (diplôme d'études en architecture), the equivalent of a Licence.
- The second cycle lasts 2 years and leads to a DEA (diplôme d'état d'architecte), equivalent to a master's degree.
- The HMONP (Habilitation à la Maîtrise d'Oeuvre en Nom Propre), which entitles the holder to direct building projects without supervision, requires a sixth year of study and completion of an internship.
- A third cycle of study leads to the DSA (diplôme de spécialisation et approfondissement en architecture), a national diploma requiring 1-2 years of study depending on the field of specialization, or one of the various available DPEAs.

Upon completion of a minimum of 7 years of study, some schools offer a combined curriculum in architecture and engineering in partnership with a school of engineering. Students who complete such a program receive a degree in architecture as well as a second degree conferring the right to practice as an engineer.

Students who earn a research Master or the equivalent may elect to pursue a Doctorate in architecture.

The nation's 20 schools of architecture, all overseen by the French Ministry of Culture, confer national diplomas. www.archi.fr/ECOLES

**Two other schools** deliver degrees that are considered equivalent:

- the public Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (INSA) in Strasbourg: www.insa-strasbourg.fr
- the private École Spéciale d'Architecture (ESA): www.esa-paris.fr

## Architecture and landscape architecture

Programs leading to a master's-equivalent DPLG (diplôme de paysagiste) are offered by three national schools of architecture and landscape design that follow a common admission process. Applicants must hold a French baccalauréat or the equivalent and have completed 2 years of postsecondary study. The curriculum spans 4 years.

- BORDEAUX : École Nationale Supérieure d'architecture et de paysage: www.bordeaux.archi.fr
- VERSAILLES : École Nationale Supérieure du Paysage:

http://www.versailles.ecole-paysage.fr

 LILLE: École Nationale Supérieure d'architecture et de paysage: www.lille.archi.fr

#### www.campusfrance.org/en

>Resource center>educational and research program>Degree descriptions

# **Specialized** schools

More than 3,000 schools and institutes, public and private, are categorized as "specialized schools." They offer degree programs in very specific areas—among them social work, paramedical fields, tourism, culinary arts, and hotel management, among others.

These institutions offer government-accredited degrees as well as other credentials specific to the institution that confers them. Programs demand from 2 to 5 years of study. Admission is by examination or on the basis of the applicant's academic record.

www.rncp.cncp.gouv.fr

















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