HIGHER EDUCATION IN FRANCE

www.singapore.campusfrance.org
France is the destination for more than 320,000 international students making up 12% of total postsecondary enrollments. France ranks the fourth most popular destination in the world for internationally mobile students after the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia.
ADVANCED RESEARCH & INNOVATION

France owes its economic success to its involvement in research and to its achievements in various fields such as aeronautics, space, transportation, electronics, telecommunications, chemistry, biotechnologies, health and mathematics. France’s high ranking for academic awards speaks for itself:
• Fields Medal: 2nd most awards for a country
• Nobel Prize: 4th most awards for a country
• 4th country in the world with patent applications

France has businesses all over the world and our firms are deep rooted in Singapore. Innovation is one of the key to France’s success. France is the world’s sixth-largest economy. It is home to 31 of the world’s 500 leading companies (Airbus, Veolia, CNRS, L’Oreal, Essilor, Total, Danone, Thales, Bouyges...).

HIGH QUALITY OF EDUCATION

With a long tradition of public investment in both research and higher education, the French government assumes a very large share of the actual cost of every student’s education. Tuitions levels at France’s public institutions are among the lowest in the world making their high-quality degrees remarkable value. International students receive exactly the same benefits as French students.

French higher Education have a worldwide reputation for excellence; a reputation that is becoming increasingly anchored in international circles as channels of success and pave the way for good employment opportunities later.

DISTINCTIVELY FRENCH

Outside of France’s vibrant cities, a wide variety of landscapes offer an intriguing palette of recreational possibilities. France has unrivaled cultural dynamism. Throughout the year, the nation celebrates its own culture and those of other nations in a parade of local and international events. Bordered by 9 countries, France is the ideal place from which to discover Europe!
PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

France is the first non-English speaking country for recruiting foreign students, and the country provides a wide offer of trainings taught in English. It is thus no longer needed to be fluent in French to study in France. You can find on the online search engine for each program: a description, the admission requirements, the detailed objectives.

MORE THAN 1,200 PROGRAMS,
in a variety of fields are now offered in English all over France. This network of programs is one of the strong points of French higher education, with high quality courses available in every region of the country. English is increasingly becoming present while French is not needed anymore to study in France, even though it will be an additional asset in an international career.

FRENCH HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

With a network of 3600 schools, both public and private, France benefits from internationally renowned research centers which deliver top-ranked educational programs.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

MORE THAN 1,200 PROGRAMS, in a variety of fields are now offered in English all over France. This network of programs is one of the strong points of French higher education, with high quality courses available in every region of the country. English is increasingly becoming present while French is not needed anymore to study in France, even though it will be an additional asset in an international career.
French higher education is characterized by the coexistence of two systems: the Universities and the Grandes Ecoles.

**Universities**
- Doctorate
- Master
- Bachelor with Honours
- Licence

**Grandes Écoles**
- Doctorate
- Integrated Prépa
- Degree from Grande École
- Preparation Class
- Degree from Grande École

**Let's compare Singaporean and French systems**

Universities
- Bachelor with Honours
- Master
- Licence

Grandes Écoles
- Integrated Prépa
- Degree from Grande École
- Preparation Class
France’s public universities are well distributed around the nation. From the Sorbonne in Paris (founded in 1257) to the high-tech campus of the University of Nice-Sophia-Antipolis, they award national degrees, which provide the assurance of a uniformly high level of educational quality.

Universities offer programs in all disciplines, including:

- Sciences: mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology
- Technology: computer science, engineering, electrotechnics, materials
- Literature, languages and arts
- Social sciences
- Law, economics and Business
- Health and medicine

National degrees are offered at all levels:

- Licence (3 years after A-Level)
- Master (5 years after A-Level)
- Doctorate (8 years after A-Level)

In parallel, universities have created programs to meet new demands:

- Career-oriented degrees in 3 years known as “Licence Professionnelle”
- Technical programs in “Instituts Universitaires de Technologie” iut-fr.net
- Management programs in “Instituts d’Administration des Entreprises” iae-france.fr
- Journalism and Communication in specialized institutes

More information:
singapour.campusfrance.org
RESEARCH IS A TOP PRIORITY IN FRANCE

France’s doctoral departments have always been open to international exchanges. 42% of doctoral candidates are international students. It is the highest proportion in the world.

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

Doctoral training takes place within research teams or units affiliated with a doctoral department. Candidates work under the supervision of a dissertation adviser. 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.

Demonstrating the ability to pay for doctoral study is very often a prerequisite for admission to a doctoral program. There are 4 common ways to finance a doctoral program:

- Doctoral contract: enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr
- Research agreement with industry: anrt.asso.fr
- International joint doctoral programs
- Erasmus programs: agence-erasmus.fr

1 200 research laboratories

12 000 doctorates each year

100 000 scholars and researchers

250 doctoral departments
Programs in "Instituts d'Études Politiques" (IEP)

Sciences Po or IEPs are highly regarded all over the world. The ten IEPs constitute the leading institutions for the study of international relations and political sciences in France. They aim to train future leaders in the fields of business, public administration, research, international institutions, NGOs, journalism and legal affairs.

An international admissions process exists for all undergraduate, masters, doctorate, and dual degree programs. The most prestigious one is Sciences Po Paris and is internationally recognised for the excellence of its curriculum, teaching methods and research. Numerous International Colleges also offer programs taught in English. Students can get a Master Degree in 5 years.

FRENCH GRANDES ÉCOLES ARE UNIQUE TO FRANCE

They are extremely highly regarded and specialized schools and contains a very selective entry program. There are a number of ways to enter a Grande École. The traditional one is to enroll in a “Preparatory class” after A-Levels and before entering one of the schools recognized by the French State.

200 BUSINESS SCHOOLS

In 2016, The Financial Times released the latest edition of its world ranking for Masters in Management, France has 17 institutions in the top 50. This success is founded on a rigorous selection process combined with a long history of excellence in the teaching faculties.

With A-Level, students can enroll and study:

- For 3 or 4 years to obtain a Bachelor degree.
- In a preparatory class before joining the Grande Écoles Master’s program.

Placed 2nd and 3rd respectively in 2016, HEC and ESSEC are considered among the best Business School in the world. Regarding MBAs, INSEAD is the best in the world.

ESCP Europe, Grenoble Graduate School of Business, Edhec, EMLYON and IÉSEG are also among the most selective.

4 top French Business Schools have facilities in Singapore: Edhec, Grenoble Graduate School of Business, ESSEC and INSEAD.

SCIENCES PO

Programs in "Instituts d'Études Politiques" (IEP)

Sciences Po or IEPs are highly regarded all over the world. The ten IEPs constitute the leading institutions for the study of international relations and political sciences in France. They aim to train future leaders in the fields of business, public administration, research, international institutions, NGOs, journalism and legal affairs.

An international admissions process exists for all undergraduate, masters, doctorate, and dual degree programs. The most prestigious one is Sciences Po Paris and is internationally recognised for the excellence of its curriculum, teaching methods and research. Numerous International Colleges also offer programs taught in English. Students can get a Master Degree in 5 years.
In Singapore, the French Double Degree Program offers top students from NUS the opportunity to study in the best schools in France and to be awarded 2 Master’s degree, one from NUS and one from French Engineering School. Find more about Grandes Écoles on: cge.asso.fr/en and fddp.nus.edu.sg

200 ENGINEERING SCHOOLS

Achieving the professional title of graduate engineer guarantees to have a multidisciplinary and innovative scientific training at Masters level with an integration into the professional world.

Only 0.15% of French students enroll in the 7 best engineer schools after a preparatory class: Polytechnique (X), Centrale Supélec, Les Mines, Ecole des Ponts, Telecom and ENSTA. Admission is effective on a competition base.

Some schools propose integrated preparatory cycle like INSA, INP, UTC & UTT ... Students reach those schools after A-Level and prepare their Master in 5 years. Among them, The SCAN section (INSA Lyon) is in English.

In Singapore, the French Double Degree Program offers top students from NUS the opportunity to study in the best schools in France and to be awarded 2 Master’s degree, one from NUS and one from French Engineering School. Find more about Grandes Écoles on: cge.asso.fr/en and fddp.nus.edu.sg

DID YOU KNOW?

Being fluent in French is no longer a requirement to study in Engineering Sciences in France. The vast majority of French Engineering Schools have developed numerous Masters and MSc programmes taught in English and in fields of excellence such as aeronautics in Toulouse, maritime studies in Nantes and Brest, entrepreneurship and data science in Paris or physics and electronics in Grenoble.

Our engineering schools are linked with regional industries which gives added diversity and strength to the curriculum.
Other Schools

SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE

The nation’s 20 schools of architecture nicknamed **ENSA** (Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture) are overseen by the French Ministry of Culture and confer national diplomas. archi.fr/ecoles

Two other schools deliver degrees that are considered equivalent to those awarded by the schools of architecture:

- The public Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (**INSA**) in Strasbourg. insa-strasbourg.fr
- The private École spéciale d’architecture (**ESA**). esa-paris.fr

120 COLLEGES OF ARTS

Fine arts, applied arts and crafts are the focus of France’s many schools of arts.

The **Écoles Supérieures d’art** and **Écoles Supérieures d’arts appliqués** are highly rated public institutions that confer national diplomas in recognition of two to five years of study. Most are selective, some highly so. Students apply by taking an entrance exam and submitting a portfolio. campusart.org

Specialized Schools

More than 3000 schools and institutes, public and private, are categorized as specialized schools. They offer degree programs in very specialized areas such as tourism, social work, paramedical fields, tourism, culinary arts and hotel management.

Hospitality & Hotel Management Schools

Remaining the world’s top tourist destination, France’s hospitality and hotel schools are among the most prestigious. With A-Level students can enroll and study:

- for 2 years to obtain a BTS in hospitality in some 70 french cities
- for 3 years to obtain Bachelor (**Ecole Hoteliere d’Avignon**) or a Licence
- for 4 or 5 years to earn a Master (**Institut Paul Bocuse, EMC, ESG**)
- Some schools propose MBAs (like **EMC** or **ESG**) or MSCs (like **TBS**) in tourism management and hospitality
Culinary Arts & Gastronomy Schools

Many entry-level degrees in the food service industry are earned at secondary hospitality schools open to international students.

Secondary degrees are also offered by specialized institutes such as the Cordon Bleu, Ferrandi, the Institut Paul Bocuse or Alain Ducasse Education. Those same schools also propose to reach the license or master level, as well as the ESAD Reims or the Ecole Superieur International de Savignac.

Fashion Schools

French fashion sense and the label «made in France» have been internationally renowned since the mid-nineteenth century. Students can study art modeling, design marketing, textiles and apparel or fashion industry and luxury goods at the licence level, the master level and also the post-master level. Some of the schools offering formations are : IMF (Institut Français de la Mode), ENSAD, Mod’Art Paris, LI-SAA, Ecole Conte or ENSAIT, ESMOD.

These institutions offer government accredited degrees as well as other credentials. Programs demand from 2 to 5 years of study. Admission is by exam.
The French government subsidizes public higher education for every student. Tuition fees are among the lowest in the world and the government ensures the high quality of degrees.

Tuition fees in public institutions

French tuition fees are low as the State pays most of the cost of education provided in public institution. This represents an average annual investment of 9,660 Euros per student.

Tuition fees for all public institutions are relatively low, from 380 Euros (SGD 582) to 3,700 Euros (SGD 5872).

It represents less than a third of the actual cost of the course.

Tuition fees in private French institutions

Tuition fees in private institutions, especially in business schools, are more than in public ones. In general, it costs 3,000 to 13,000€ ($5000- $22000) per year. Visit the site of each institute to find out exactly how much tuition is for your programme.
COSTS OF LIVING

Taking into account the many discounts for which students are eligible, the average monthly budget is different in Paris and elsewhere.

Monthly average in Paris €1000 / S$1593
Monthly average in others cities €800 / S$1274

1. HOUSING
   - If you live in a student hall, you will pay between 150 and 350€ depending on the surface and on the localization.
   - If you live in a furnished studio flat, you will pay from 300€ to more than 800 € in Paris.

2. FOOD & GROCERIES
   - Be prepared to spend between €200 and €300 per month for your meals.
   - In France, the world capital of gourmet dining, you can’t do better than the 450 university restaurants. You get a complete meal for €3.15.

3. TRANSPORTATION
   - The transportation costs can significantly change from one city to another. They may also depend on the distance you have to travel. Transportation companies generally offer attractive prices for students.
   - Be prepared to pay between €15 and €50 per month.

4. HEALTH INSURANCE
   - French health-care coverage, provided under the social security system («Sécurité sociale»), is of very high quality. Covered individuals are reimbursed for a portion of their medical expenses in return for a low basic payment. For students, that mandatory payment reaches €217 each year.

5. COMMUNICATIONS
   - There are four major phone companies: SFR, Free, Bouygues Telecom and Orange offering prepaid phone cards or cell phone plans.
   - They also provide Internet service. Having an Internet access will help you to keep in touch with your family but it will also be essential for your studies!

6. SOCIAL LIFE
   - It is also important to include costs of your social life in your budget.
   - 1 load of wash in a laundromat: $6
   - Baguette: $1.40
   - Cinema ticket: $12
   - Restaurant lunch: $16 - $35
   - Coffee: $1.60

SCOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AIDS

There are several ways to finance a period of study or research in France: grants and scholarships, aid and travel stipends. Full information is available on singapour.campusfrance.org ➔ Finance your program.
The richness and diversity offered by the French system make it easy to find an educational program that matches your background and goals... Registration is the next step.

**HOW TO ENROLL IN A FRENCH INSTITUTION?**
The process is different depending on whether you enroll in a private or a public school, at undergraduate or postgraduate level.

**GENERAL: 3 STEPS TO ENROLL**

1. Identify your situation whether if you are «already accepted» (if you have already your acceptance letter from the host institution) or if you are «candidate» (all other students who wish to apply for a French cursus programme).

2. Create your profile on «Etudes en France» platform according your situation.

3. Follow the instruction guide depending on your situation on Campus France website.

If you are applying as «candidate» for:

- 1st year in a French university [DAP BLANCHE] or Architecture (all levels) [DAP JAUNE]
  Students are required to complete an application for preliminary admission. Known as DAP (Demande d'admission préalable), the process ends in January of each year and follows a strict timeline. For more information, contact Campus France Singapore as soon as possible: study@ambafrance-sg.org

- 2nd year, 3rd year of Licence, or Master in a French University [HORS DAP]
  Students are required to apply through Etudes en France platform from 20 November to 20 March.
APPLICATION PROCESS FOR STUDENTS IN SINGAPORE

Students can apply up to 3 months prior to the departure. During the peak period (from April to August), students are invited to apply as soon as they can, to avoid any delays, since it can take up to 2 weeks to get an appointment.

1 - First, students must obtain the Etudes en France certificate from Campus France.

2 - Then, students have to create an account on France-Visas.

3 - Finally, students must take an appointment with the Visa Section. This appointment will be scheduled online, following the instruction on France-Visas.

Find the complete list of requirement documents on Campus France Singapore website.

Visas: fees 50€ to be paid in SGD only (around 80 to 90 SGD according to the exchange rate). Address: Embassy of France in Singapore (Consulate) 101-103 Cluny Park road- Singapore 259 595.
LIVING IN FRANCE

Studying in France also means living in France and discovering the distinctive French way of life!

HOUSING

Before looking for a place to live in France, students must decide what sort of housing arrangement is the best for them. There are few options on the housing market:

- University residence halls
- Privately operated student housing
- Private-sector rentals
- Rooms in private house
- Intergenerational housing

If needed, International students can enjoy the benefit of social housing assistance.

WORKING IN FRANCE

International students and Singaporean must also hold a valid residency permit.

The law allows students to work 20h per week. France has the national minimum wage, known as the SMIC. The minimum gross hourly wage is 9.53 euros (around 15.2 SCG).

At the end of your studies and after obtaining a Master degree of French higher education, you can request a temporary residency permit (APS) to look for work or start a company. To do so, you must send a request to the Prefecture.

More details to be found singapour.campusfrance.org

CULTURAL LIFE

France's vibrant cultural life offers students access to culture on a daily basis. All of France's cultural sites and attractions offer student discounts and advantageous subscription rates.

Student’s ID card makes it easy to stay in shape by giving students access to athletic facilities. Active athletic clubs are found at all French universities and nearly every school.

More information: Culture.fr
Learning French will definitely be useful for student’s future.

It is spoken by 274 million people around the world. It is the official language of 32 countries, over 5 continents. The three capitals of the European Union-Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg—are French-speaking cities. French is the world’s third-most-used language for business and second for news.
From international students
A wonderful experience for both personal and career development!

Junzhe Wang, Investment Manager at ARDIAN
Alumni of Ecole Polytechnique (nicknamed X)

Ecole Polytechnique has its reputation as the best and the most prestigious Engineering School among the French population, and it is renowned for its «Ingénieur Polytechnicien» degree in science and engineering. Among its alumni, there are three Nobel Prize winners and three President of France. During the four years studies, it offers a very diversified program at the students’ choice. I studied in «Quantitative Economics and Finance», which is a co-program organized by both Ecole Polytechnique and HEC. Through the courses, I learned not only solid mathematics skills, but also creative and entrepreneurial business thinking, which are both critical for my future career developments.

Shivani Ratra
Alumni of Sciences Po Paris

I studied at Sciences Po, Paris for a Master in Public Affairs. It has been ten years now (I graduated in 2008 with a dual degree with LKYSPP Singapore) and I have since worked for OECD Paris, PwC Singapore and UNESCAP Bangkok. I currently work at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore as a researcher. My experience in Paris was amazing- I speak some French (having learned in school) and was very happy to finally be studying in Paris. The course at Sciences Po was stimulating. We had professors flying in from all over the place to teach us. Sciences Po opened doors for me at OECD Paris. My world view changed as I was exposed to people from different continents. We were encouraged to think for ourselves. Classes were lively with a lot of interaction.

Suresh Naidu
Alumni from ISAE SUPAERO

I studied in France for about 1.5 years 18 months and I studied Maths and Aeronautical Engineering at SUPAERO in Toulouse France. Professionally, this experience gave me deep insights to the European Aeronautics Designing Developments culture, practices and integration of the companies involved to produce some of the best high tech products in the world. Personally, this has been a wonderful experience to learn in the French education system the merits of being in Europe and witnessing the different facets of culture language... people and ideas all in one experience is unforgettable!

More testimonials on singapour.campusfrance.org and www.francealumni.fr/en/position/singapore/
France Alumni Singapore is a network for former students and graduates of French Higher education, who are back in Singapore. It enables Alumni to connect to other alumni groups in Singapore and abroad, and to key French entities such as the French Embassy, Alliance Française, French Chamber of Commerce, and many French companies operating in Singapore.

To make the France Alumni network more interactive and to keep you updated about upcoming events and job offers, we encourage you to join our new France-Alumni LinkedIn page!

Join the France Alumni Singapore plateform now!

Linkedin Group: France Alumni Singapore
www.singapore.francealumni.fr
Contact: study@ambafrance-sg.org
State agency working for the Embassy of France in Singapore, Campus France Singapore welcomes Singaporean students and professionals and informs them about the French higher education system.

There are many ways to get in touch: Make an appointment to meet us in our office, email or call us, take a look at our website or our Facebook page, etc.

Adress: Embassy of France in Singapore, 101-103 Cluny Park Road, 259595

Website: www.singapour.campusfrance.org

Contact: study@ambafrance-sg.org

Facebook: Campus France Singapore