

STUDY
IN
FRANCE

LES LICENCES PROFESSIONNELLES

Since 2000, the professional Licence has enabled students who have completed 2 years of postsecondary education to earn a career-oriented bachelor's-level degree after 1 year of intensive additional study. Programs are based on partnerships involving universities and other institutions of higher learning, businesses, and professional groups. The defining features of the degree are professional internships and the prominent instructional role of practicing professionals. Because they are widely recognized in the job market as one of the best ways for students to prepare for a career, (93% job placement rate for graduates), more than 52,000 students enrolled in Licence professionnelle programs.



Designed to prepare students to enter the workforce directly after graduation, the Licence professionnelle responds to the demand for qualifications between the higher technical level and the engineer-executive level. Since 2015, Licence professionnelle degrees in 173 different areas have been created for occupations in every field, including agricultural and industrial production, service sector commerce and administration, transportation, and personal and corporate services. Teaching—provided partly by university faculty but principally by

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practicing professionals—is complemented by hands-on learning through internships. The most popular programs are in business and retailing, followed by communication and industrial production. Research indicates that graduation and placement rates in professional Licence programs are very high: 85% of students earn their degree within a year of their enrollment and quickly find a job. Even better rates are recorded for students who earned their secondary diploma (baccalauréat) in a scientific or technical field.

PROFESSIONAL LICENCE PROGRAMS ARE IDEALLY SUITED FOR STUDENTS WHO...

- ...seek a professional degree at the bachelor's level (3 years of postsecondary study)

Professional Licence programs are open to students who have successfully completed 2 years of university study. Programs require 1 year of study and carry 60 credits under the European Credit Transfer System.

- ...want to focus on a specific field

Instruction in professional Licence programs combines academic and professional perspectives, insights, and knowledge. What students learn in the classroom they quickly apply in their internships.

- ...wish to be supported in their efforts

Students in professional Licence programs participate in guided projects. A faculty tutor guides small groups (3–4 students) in their project work.

- ...are looking for immediate exposure to the business world

Every student completes an internship of 12–16 weeks inside a firm or organization. During the internship, students carry out a project with the support of a faculty tutor.

- ...want to jump-start their career

Professional Licence programs are designed for quick entry into professional life. Few students enter another academic program after earning their professional Licence. (An intervening period of professional employment is generally required).



THE LICENCES PROFESSIONNELLES

(ALL REQUIRE 3 YEARS OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY)

Professional *Licence* programs can be classified into two groups. Highly specialized programs that focus on a particular career tend to attract students who hold a technical or technological diploma, whereas less-specialized programs prepare students for a range of careers within a given field.

SECTORS OF ACTIVITY AND PRINCIPAL MAJORS OF THE LICENCE PROFESSIONNELLE A FRENCH NATIONAL DIPLOMA

■ LAW

- > Crime analysis, civil research, security of property and persons
- > Law (environment, corporate, transportation, real estate, contracts, public, social), notary practice
- > Public markets, litigation, and recovery

■ MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTING

- > Purchasing and supply, audit and taxation
- > Associations, administration (property, local and regional authorities), organizations (social and welfare, health), agricultural entities, real estate
- > Insurance, banking, finance, client case management in accounting
- > Human resources

■ ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

- > Entrepreneurship, real estate (property development, trading and commercialization of assets)
- > Logistics, cash flow management, quality, technical maintenance
- > Automotive, transportation, and distribution services

■ BUSINESS

- > Commercial functions (management)
- > Commercialization (distribution, products and services, international sales development, e-commerce, digital marketing)

■ SOCIAL FIELDS

- > Events and activities (socio-educational and sociocultural)
- > Social integration and professional retraining, specific audiences (support)

■ AGRICULTURE AND AGRONOMY

- > Organic agriculture (production, consulting, certification, commercialization)
- > Agronomy, exploitation of agricultural resources, animal and plant production
- > Sea-based occupations

■ FOOD PRODUCTS

- > Agri-food industries (management, production, promotion, commercialization)
- > Agricultural and agri-food organizations (management)

■ ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY

- > Wood, furniture, and furnishings; natural and forest resources
- > Environmental protection and management

■ URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

- > Land-use planning (planning, management, maintenance); open spaces, parks, and gardens; regional development
- > Geographic information systems (cartography, topography)

■ ARTS, CULTURE, DESIGN, AND FASHION

- > Artistic and cultural approaches (interpretation and presentation), artistic and cultural structures
- > Culinary arts
- > Artistic creation (communication and promotion)
- > Design, video games, fashion, digital arts (design, editing, and web delivery), sound and image techniques
- > Historic preservation and cultural heritage (protection and promotion), conference coordination

■ INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION, LIBRARY SCIENCE

- > Archives (presentation and curation)
- > Book trade (publishing and merchandising), library science and documentation
- > Journalism and media, advertising, event management
- > Science and technology (popularization and presentation)



■ INDUSTRY

- > Aeronautics
- > Process engineering (environment, industrial bioprocesses)
- > Control, logistics, management (design and industrialization, production, technological risks)
- > Naval and maritime
- > Production and energy systems (maintenance)

■ BUILDING AND PUBLIC WORKS

- > Layout and construction (civil engineering, energy and environmental performance)

■ ENGINEERING

- > Design (process improvement, process control, industrial products and processes, material forming processes)
- > Home automation, acoustics and vibrations, packaging
- > Energy (electricity, climatic and environmental engineering, sustainable development, propulsion, facility management and maintenances)
- > Oilfield exploitation (exploration), cooling and air conditioning equipment
- > Mechanics, mechatronics, robotics, metallurgy (materials and welding)
- > Radiation protection and nuclear safety
- > Surfaces (functions and processing), blended technical systems (maintenance of medical and biomedical technology)
- > International transport (logistics)

■ COMPUTER SCIENCE

- > Decision-making and statistics, development (applications, Internet and intranet)
- > Computer networks (industry, telecommunications), system security (administration)
- > Automated and embedded systems (communication), information systems (database management, logistics), software testing and quality

■ ELECTRICITY, ELECTRONICS, PHOTONICS

- > Energy and electricity, instrumentation (maintenance), electronic cards and subassemblies (manufacturing)
- > Microelectronics, optronics, professional optics

■ BIOLOGY

- > Bio-industries and biotechnologies
- > Analytical and experimental biology

■ CHEMISTRY

- > Chemistry (analysis, control, environment, formulation, industry, physics of materials, quality, synthesis)
- > Materials (production, quality, and control)

■ PHYSICS

- > Instrumentation (measurement and quality control), materials (vacuum technologies)

■ HEALTH

- > Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and healthcare (management, production, and valuation), technologies, products (promotion)
- > Fitness, nutrition, and diet careers
- > Quality, hygiene, safety, environment
- > Personal services, aging (adapted physical activity)

■ SPORTS

- > Physical and athletic activity (promotion, management, organization), athletic training, socialization through sports
- > Athletic and recreational organizations and services (management and development)

■ TOURISM, HOTEL AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT

- > Hotels and restaurants (organization and management)
- > Recreation (sports), boating and water sports, tourism products and packages (commercialization), local and regional tourism development (communication and promotion)



USEFUL LINKS

- The *Licence professionnelle*, a French national diploma:
www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid20181/licence-professionnelle.html
- Majors of *Licences Professionnelles*:
www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000029039732&categorieLien=id
- More than 2,000 professional *Licence* programs in the CampusFrance catalog:
www.campusfrance.org
 >What program are you looking for?
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- 2 000 professional Licence programs included in the national directory of professional certifications:
www.rncp.cncp.gouv.fr/grand-public/rechercheExperte

GOOD

TO KNOW



■ Students seeking admission to a professional Licence program must hold a 2-year postsecondary degree in a field related to that of the professional Licence program they wish to enter. Students who hold a technical diploma equivalent to a BTS (*brevet de technicien supérieur*) or DUT (*diplôme universitaire de technologie*) are also eligible for admission.

■ Professional Licence programs (level L3 in the European system) require 1 year of study and carry 60 credits under the European Credit Transfer System. Instruction is delivered over 2 semesters, with 15 to 20 hours of small classes each week. Attendance at classes is mandatory. Examinations, attendance, and participation all play a role in determining semester grades. Satisfactory performance in all three areas is a condition for award of the professional Licence degree.

■ The curriculum is designed to impart to students the knowledge and methods required for successful practice in a given field. Internships and other career-oriented components of the curriculum enable students to acquire the practical knowledge and skills they will need to succeed.

■ Among the major sectors that hire graduates of professional Licence programs are insurance, banking, and finance; civil engineering; carpentry and woodworking; and mechanics, electricity, and electronics.

■ The *Licence professionnelle* prepares graduates to move directly into the labor market. Further study is possible but not common.

LEARN MORE ABOUT FRENCH DEGREES IN THE RESOURCES CENTER.



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