France is a great nation for organizing sporting events. The final phase of the European soccer championships was hosted by France for the third time (a record) in June-July 2016. France hosted world championships in 2016 (rock climbing; women’s squash), 2017 (ocean rowing; canoe-kayak slalom, men’s handball, wrestling, men’s squash), and 2018 (women’s soccer), as well as European championships in 2016 (badminton, cycling, disabled olympics, archery, triathlon) and 2017 (track and field; mountain biking). Each year, other world-class competitions are organized—among them the Tour de France (cycling since 1903, the French Open (tennis) since 1925, the Grand Prix of Formula 1 racing since 1950, the Olympic games in Paris in 1900 and 1924, and the World Cup (soccer) in 1938 and again in 1998, when France took the cup.

Among many French champions enjoying worldwide reputations are cyclist Bernard Hinault, five-time winner of the Tour de France (as well as three in Italy and two in Spain); skier Jean-Claude Killy, winner of four Olympic medals; auto racer Sébastien Loeb, 11-time world champion; Jeannie Longo, Italy and two in Spain); skier Jean-Claude Killy, winner of four Olympic medals; auto racer Sébastien Loeb, 11-time world champion; Jeannie Longo, six-time Olympic gold medalist (2012 Havas Sports & Entertainment ranking). At the Olympic Games in London, France earned 34 medals.

More than 35 million people in France (that is, two-thirds of those 15 or older) engage in a physical or athletic activity at least once a week: walking, swimming, cycling, skiing, football, hiking, running, tennis, etc.).

The growth in athletic activity in France over the past 30 years has been accompanied by increased consumption of sporting goods and athletic services. The number of licenses issued by sports federations has also increased for all sports.

INSEP, France’s national institute of athletic assessment and performance, oversees the training of high-level athletes in cooperation with sports federations and with the goal of ensuring the academic and professional success of athletes.

Three national postsecondary schools have specialized missions in horseback riding, water sports, and mountain sports. They are, respectively, the Institut Français du Cheval et de l’Équitation, the École Nationale de Voile et des Sports Nautiques, and the École Nationale des Sports de Montagne.

Degrees and certificates at the secondary and postsecondary levels prepare young athletes for careers in sports and athletics.
**SPORTS AND ATHLETICS**

**DIPLOMÉ D’ÉTAT SUPÉRIEUR DE LA JEUNESSE, DE L’ÉDUCATION POPULAIRE ET DU SPORT (DEJEPS)** (BACALÆRAT + 2 YEAR OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY) – L2

The DEJEPS, a state diploma in physical education for youth and the community, is offered with a specialization in the training of athletic technicians and trainers focusing on a particular sport: track and field, rowing, boxing, canoeing-kayaking, canyoning, land sailing, horseback riding, cycling, hang-gliding, rock climbing, fencing, soccer, golf, weightlifting, handball, sports for the disabled, judo, motorcycle racing, swimming, parachuting, parasailing, ice skating, petanque, scuba diving, high diving, polo, rugby, caving, automobile racing, squash, surfing, tennis, ping-pong, archery, triathlon, mountain biking, sailing, volleyball, and more.

**DIPLOMÉ D’ÉTUDES UNIVERSITAIRES SCIENTIFIQUES ET TECHNIQUES (DEUST)** (BACALÆRAT + 2 YEAR OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY) – L2

A DEUST is offered in physical education (known in France as STAPS, for sciences and techniques of physical and athletic activity) in a dozen universities, with specializations in coordination and management; exercise and fitness; and adaptive sports.

**DIPLOMÉ D’ÉTAT SUPÉRIEUR DE LA JEUNESSE, DE L’ÉDUCATION POPULAIRE ET DU SPORT (DEJEPS)** (BACALÆRAT + 3 YEAR OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY) – L3

The DEJEPS is a state diploma for prospective facilities directors or athletic directors, with specializations similar to those offered for the DEJEPS above. The degree requires at least 1,200 hours of work, 700 of which must be spent in a training center (vocational training, apprenticeship, league, etc.) approved by one of the regional offices for youth sports and community cohesion (DRJSCS).

**LICENCE – L3** (BACALÆRAT + 3 YEAR OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY) – L3

A licence can be earned in STAPS (physical education) with one of five majors: adaptive physical activities and health; education and motor function; athletic training; ergonomics and motor performance; sports management.

**LICENCE PROFESSIONNELLE (L2 + 1)**

- In the faculty of law, economics, and management: majors in business and in organizational and service development.
- In the faculty of humanities and social sciences: majors in regional development and in sports tourism and recreation.
- In the faculty of science, technology, and health: major in physical education (STAPS), and specializations in commercialization; sports management; adaptive activities; and more.

**MASTER – M2**

- In the faculty of law, economics, and management: Ten different concentrations are offered, among them organizational administration, business law, management, and marketing.
- In the faculty of humanities and social sciences, students have a choice of several concentrations: planning of athletic activity, psychology, and physical education with many different specializations.
- In the faculty of science, technology, and health, the master is offered with six concentrations: sports careers and consulting; sports sciences; athletics, health, and society; and physical education with some 30 specializations, including sports and health; sports and social sciences; and sports, preventive medicine, and well-being.

**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)** (BACALÆRAT + 5 YEARS OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY) – M2

> Sports management at the Centre Régional d’Éducation Populaire et de Sport of the Antilles and Guiana and at ESG Paris.
  www.mba-esg.com/domaine-sport
> Marketing and sports management at the Institut Supérieur du Commerce (ISC PARIS).
  www.iscparis.com

**MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSC)** (BACALÆRAT + 5 YEARS OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY) – M2

The MSc is awarded within the framework of a program accredited and delivered by a member of the CGE (the accrediting agency for France's Grandes Écoles).

> Sports Industry Management is a 16-month program taught in English at the EM Lyon Business School.
> Sports Industry Management is a 16-month program taught in English at the EM Lyon Business School.
  List of MSc programs:
  www.cge.asso.fr/nos-labels/msc

**INSTITUT NATIONAL DU SPORT, DE L’EXPERTISE ET DE LA PERFORMANCE (INSEP)**

INSEP, the national institute of athletic assessment and performance, supports the domestic and international work of France’s Olympic and Paralympic federations. It helps shape national policy related to the development of physical and athletic activities and trains high-level athletes and technical personnel, ensuring complementarity between intensive athletic training and academic pursuits (e.g., in management of athletic organizations and in sports- and health-related occupations).

INSEP offers various credentials: Certificate (for trainers), diploma (training assistant), master in training and optimization of athletic performance, and executive master in sports management.

INSEP: www.insep.fr/fr/notre-organisation/formations

**POST-MASTER LEVEL**

**MASTÈRE Spécialisé (MS)** (M2 + 1 YEAR OF POSTSECONDARY STUDY)

The master specialized is an institution-specific credential regulated by CGE, the accrediting agency for France’s Grandes Écoles. It attests to the acquisition of competence in two related specializations connected with sports and athletics. Programs are taught in French, English, or a blend of both languages.

- Management of institutions and athletic activities, Toulouse Business School (ESC TOULOUSE).
  www.tbs-education.fr
  www.kedgebs.com/fr
- Management of athletic organizations; AUDENCIA Business School.
  www.audencia.com/programmes/formations-mastere-specialise-r-management-organisations-sport/
- Resources center>Degree profiles>MS
List of master specialized programs: www.cge.asso.fr/nos-labels/msc