

# Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Institut Polytechnique de Paris

A practical student guide

ip-paris.fr

# Editorial



Nicolas Glady Vice-président Innovation et Entrepreneuriat

### **Editorial**

I am very happy to present you with the first edition of the Institut Polytechnique de Paris student entrepreneur guide in which you will discover all the services offered by the institute's schools to help you develop your entrepreneurial project.

Since its creation in 2019, the Institut Polytechnique de Paris has relied on the scientific and technological excellence of its schools to meet the major challenges of our time and design and develop the solutions of tomorrow. We have an ambitious innovation policy to enable the emergence and support of entrepreneurial initiatives and their scaling up to build a society and an economy serving the common good.

As you read through this guide, which has been drawn up exclusively for you, you will be able to understand the many mechanisms, places, resources and contacts that are essential to the advancement of your entrepreneurial career, regardless of your school or training. For the Institut Polytechnique de Paris, entrepreneurship is an essential and inclusive element of training that will enhance and strengthen your business endeavors.

Success starts here!

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### Introduction

Each of the member schools of Institut Polytechnique de Paris has taken initiatives to foster entrepreneurship, which reflect their strong desire to help students who have an innovative project during their education.

Students therefore have access to a large number of resources available on request.

### This guide aims to:

- make students aware of the range and variety of the available resources to help them in their entrepreneurial initiatives,
- introduce development and support programs for student projects.

After reading this guide, two key characteristics will stand out:

- Inter-institutional support: resources available in one school are available to all IP Paris and engineering schools students and PhD students. This is key a condition for bolstering the synergies between our establishments.
- Personalized support: the methods and structures to support student entrepreneurs can significantly differ from one school to another. These varied and complementary resources that enables an optimal response to each project.

This guide has been designed to explain the specificities of each location without necessarily being exhaustive. We hope this inspires you to explore these spaces and meet those who are driving student entrepreneurship forward.







Do you want to use your studies or your PhD experience to test out an innovative idea? Personalized resources and support are available to guide you through these very first steps.

### A "student entrepreneurship" officer as a guide

Do you want to test out idea, design a product or develop a prototype? Do you feel that your ideas need to be weighed up against the market? Are you looking for funding or to promote your idea and gather skills around it? Do you have a great idea but don't know where to start? Institut Polytechnique de Paris the resources to take your entrepreneurial project as far as possible during your studies and beyond.

Each institution has a "student entrepreneurship" officer who acts as a one-stop shop with the following missions:

- to advise and direct you to information resources, seminars, events and courses – these can even be incorporated into school lessons,
- redirect users to the student entrepreneurship officer of another school if your project requires cross-cutting technical skills or facilities,
- offer support and advice throughout the life of your project.

### SN2E: a status that drives innovation

This program was launched by the French Government in 2014 and is made up of around thirty student innovation, transfer and entrepreneurship networks, called PEPITE, which cover the whole of France.

The young Paris-Saclay entrepreneur PEPITE is called <u>PEIPS</u>. It aims at raising awareness of entrepreneurship, training and supporting doctoral and other students, as well as recent graduates with entrepreneurship project. With (<u>SN2E</u>) (national student entrepreneur) status, this project can be incorporated into your curriculum.

This status can be obtained with the agreement of the establishment's entrepreneurship officer. It is open to all levels of study and can be renewed each year.



### The student entrepreneurship officers

### • Télécom Paris



Marie-Anne Lebrec
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Projects Director
marie-anne.lebrec@telecom-paris.fr

### • Télécom SudParis



Director of the IMT Starter incubator sebastien.cauwet@telecom-sudparis.eu

### • ENSAE Paris



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### • Institut Polytechnique de Paris



Delphine Marcillac
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Projects Manager
delphine.marcillac@ip-paris.fr





# Additional resources for progress

Each school offers educational learning-by-doing paths that focus on innovative projects. Sometimes these projects can lead to a startup. This guides our approach and the additional resources offered to students with projects.

### I. Learning by doing

Projects are sometimes seen as the final step in a sequence in which learning in lectures comes before the practice of learning by doing.

At IP Paris, we believe that taking action and immersing yourself in projects is a key way to develop skills and that innovative projects are essential in order to:

- teach students a large number of original skills that can only be acquired through practice and that are particularly useful,
- train students to be able to carry out a project in all circumstances.

The educational resources made available at IP Paris schools support this dynamic and positive learning environment.

### II. Practicing whatever your professional goals

Analytical skills are no longer enough in the world we live in. We can no longer settle for simply formalizing problems; they must be solved by applying skills that might seem atypical at first sight, such as resourcefulness, cleverness, mischievousness, tinkering, or creativity. These skills are acquired by doing more than by thinking. One of our convictions is that educational resources on leading innovative projects should not be reserved for students with an entrepreneurship project but rather be open to all students so they can develop their aptitude to solve unexpected problems, regardless of their career choice.



Here are a few examples of educational materials:

### Courses on innovation and entrepreneurship:

- "Entrepreneurship" at École Polytechnique
- "Entrepreneurship and Digital Innovation" à Télécom Paris.

### MOOCs to learn about how to lead innovative projects:

- "l'ADN de l'innovateur" (The DNA of an Innovator)
- "<u>Développez votre projet innovant</u>" (Developing your innovative project)
- "Lancez votre projet innovant" (Launching your innovative project), also available as a SPOC on http://xit-master.com/challenge/
- "Digital Business Understand the digital world"
- "Manager dans l'incertain" (Managing in uncertainty).
- ...Learn how to pitch your idea to investors and the general public with "Promote your Scientific Results"

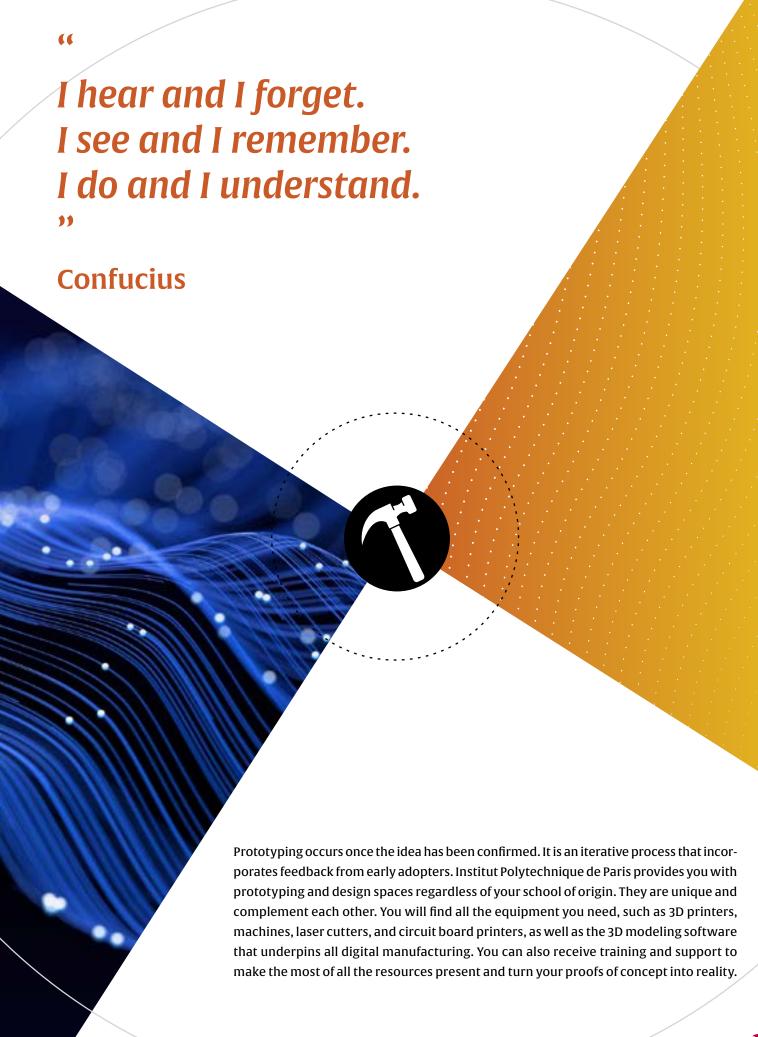
### Dedicated Master's, options or certificates

- MSc X-HEC Entrepreneurs, École Polytechnique
- Entrepreneurship Certificate, École Polytechnique
- Entrepreneurship Major at Telecom SudParis
- Business Creation course at ENSTA Paris.

### $\underline{Entrepreneurship\ Projects}\ challenge\ at\ Telecom\ SudParis$

The educational resources provided are always being refreshed. For more information about their content and how to access them, you may contact anyone named in this guide. They will be able to guide you towards the most appropriate materials for your needs.







The Studio Design is an open, modular co-working space where all students can invent and create things and roll out projects. This easy-to-organize space fosters creativity, digital DIY, collaboration and professional work.

The Studio Design is divided into two sub-spaces: the workshop and the residence. The workshop is open to all students, while the residence is a professional space where residents are selected according to their commitment to carry out their project.

### Available equipment

**Prototyping tools**: service carts offer access to various mechanical and electronic prototyping tools. Studio Design allows you to create a digital design of a proof of concept or a specific element to be integrated into a proof of concept. A direct connection to the FabLab allows the piece to be produced and finalized within the FabLab with 3D printing, laser cutting, etc.

**Video and photo documents**: everything is set up to make it easy to document your project professionally, with video and photo cameras available on loan.

A photo studio kit is available with documentation to produce video demonstrations.

**Crash test systems**: devices such as computers, tablets, and smartphones (Mac OS and Android) are available to test your software on various instruments and versions.

**Entrepreneurship & Design Library**: inspiring books on entrepreneurship and design are available at Studio Design. Help yourself and read them at your leisure!

**Online reservation**: You can book an area to work on a project together

https://studio.telecom-paristech.fr/

### Support offered

- Personalized coaching in usability design and in design conception more generally.
- Personalized training for users



### Studio Design's advantages

Think about design and the user experience during product and services conception.

### Open to

students and researchers

Open for holding workshops after manager approval:

Book a time online: https://studio.telecom-paristech.fr/

### More info at

https://studio.telecom-paristech.fr/

### Contact for more info

• Samuel Huron Lecturer, Télécom Paris samuel.huron@telecom-paris.fr



The aim of FabLab/E-Lab is to help students and researchers to discover and gain experience with modern digital manufacturing methods. It is a co-creation space where users can meet, exchange ideas and share their experiences. It is a place to develop creativity, to imagine, design and experiment. This space is equipped with 3D manufacturing as well as electronic system measurement tools.

It is the perfect place to prototype digital, analog, RF and microwave objects. You can make, test and program electronic boards. A vast number of electronic prototyping platforms are available to test the embedded software for your project. You will also have access to prototyping boards and many passive or active components to validate your project before manufacturing the final prototype.

### Available equipment

- Digital manufacturing machines
  - 3D printers (FDM and SLA)
  - 3D scanners
  - Laser cutter (CO2)
  - Tools for making silicon molds
  - 3-axis digital controls
  - Vinyl cutting
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  - IT workstations
  - 2D/3D and electronic CAD software
- Electronic prototyping
  - Microcontroller boards: Arduino, Raspberry Pi, STM32, etc
  - Quick prototyping wafers
  - Display, sensor and actuator kits
  - Passive and active components
- Electronic board design
  - Mechanical, chemical and laser PCG engraving machine
  - Screen printing machine

- Automatic and semi-automatic surface component placement machines
- Remelting furnace
- Manual welding, hot air and BGA welding stations
- Electronic board tests
  - Digital microscope for inspecting the PCBs
  - Laboratory power supplies
  - Oscilloscopes, voltmeters, and function generators
- Electromechanical tools
  - Conventional drilling, turning and milling machines
  - Metal folding and guillotine machine
  - Bandsaws, buzz saws and jigsaws
  - Drill press
  - Various tools
- Other
  - Photo studio
  - Projects bullpen
  - Storage space



### Support offered

- Support from 3D modeling experts to help design your prototypes.
- Training, help and support in using manufacturing tools such as 3D printing, laser cutting and CNC machines.
- Experts in analogue, digital, optical electronics, radio frequencies and digital communication.

### The advantages of FabLab/E-Lab

Three complementary spaces in close proximity: The FabLab for 3D design, E-lab for creation and digital design, and the Studio Design for the ideation process. These spaces allow you to join up the various design stages for a prototype, from the idea to modeling to approval to completion. Experts in the various fields of electronics (analog, digital, optics, radiofrequency, digital communication) can offer advice and guide you in choosing your technical solutions.

Open to students, researchers, incubators and teachers. You will receive an access badge after being trained in the safety rules and using the machines.

### Open to

The space is open every weekday from 8:30 AM to 8:30 PM and is closed on weekends.

### Contact for more info

• Mickaël Bouhier Fablab Manager mickaël.bouhier@telecom-paris.fr

• Karim Ben Kalaia Elab Manager Karim.benkalaia@telecom-paris.fr



FabLab ETOILE is the prototyping space at the heart of the ETOILE Center dedicated to innovation and entrepreneurship on the Telecom SudParis campus in Evry. The FabLab offers connected machines and tools to design and create objects. It is expanding and collaborates with several FabLabs (PlasciLab at Planète Sciences, C-19 at ENSIIE), and supports student engineers as well as everyone present on campus to carry out their projects.

### Available equipment

- Traditional tools: drills, soldering irons, etc.
- 3D scanner
- 3D printers
- Arduino Raspberry Pi electronics
- Laser cutter
- Milling machine

### Support offered

• Student associations to support the projects
Students with ideas or projects can come to the Fablab during opening hours on Thursdays at 6 PM. They will be guided by teams from INTECH, the robotics club at Telecom SudParis, which builds and improves the robots involved in the French robotics cups.

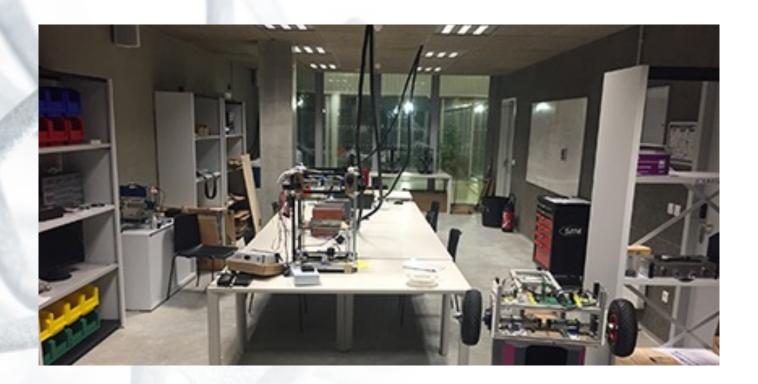
### • A place for creating projects

This space has helped many projects from students, researchers and startups. One example is Spectral, a startup that received support from the campus incubator, IMT Starter. It offers augmented reality software to industrial technicians. "Thanks to the Fablab, we were able to 3D print an adapter for a HoloLens virtual reality headset and a camera so we could film in augmented reality," said co-founder Maxence Boucas.

### • When students get to play professor

Students can also become teachers for a workshop. One example:

"An Introduction to Arduino", electronic boards with a simple architecture and available under an open license. The Fablab also hosts courses in digital art with **ENSILE**.



### The advantages of FabLab Étoile

FabLab ETOILE is co-led by Telecom SudParis and its students, especially the INTECH robotics club.

When you come to visit, you meet students working on their projects, for associations and startups. Everyone has a passion for electronics, DIY and prototyping.

### Open to

students, researchers and incubator startups.

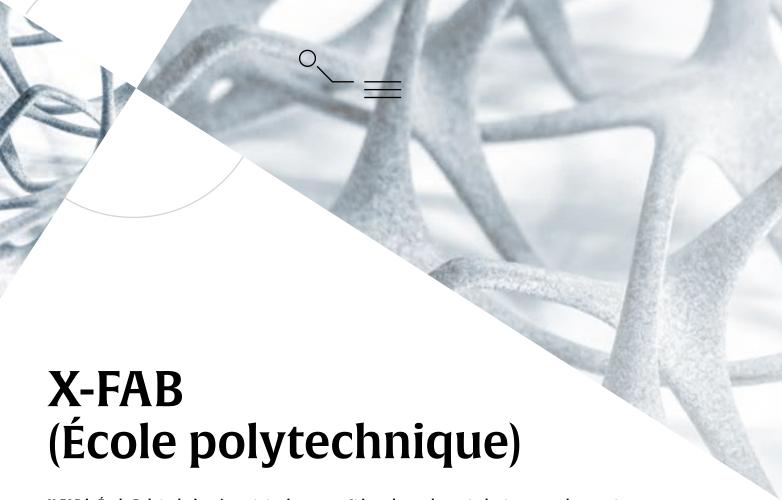
### Contact for more info

• Olivier Martinot

Director of innovation and corporate relations, Télécom SudParis Olivier.martinot@telecom-sudparis.eu

• Website: https://www.telecom-sudparis.eu/recherche/fablab/

The Telecom SudParis student robotics association: INTech - Homepage (facebook.com)



X-FAB is École Polytechnique's prototyping space. It is a place where students, researchers, entrepreneurs and employees of large companies who are working on various projects can come to work and meet. It has two main purposes. First, to offer themed spaces equipped with prototyping machines - that range from the most affordable and easiest to implement quickly to the most sophisticated allowing high-precision work on a varied range of materials. Second, mobilize a multidisciplinary team offering technical expertise as designers, engineers and researchers and supporting projects from launch to pre-industrialization.

### Available equipment

- 3D printers (FDM, SLA)
- Laser and water jet cutters
- Digital (multi-tool 3/5 axis CNC) and manual machining (turning, milling)
- Finishing (sandblasting, tribofinishing)
- Thermoforming
- General mechanics workshop
- Electronic work surfaces

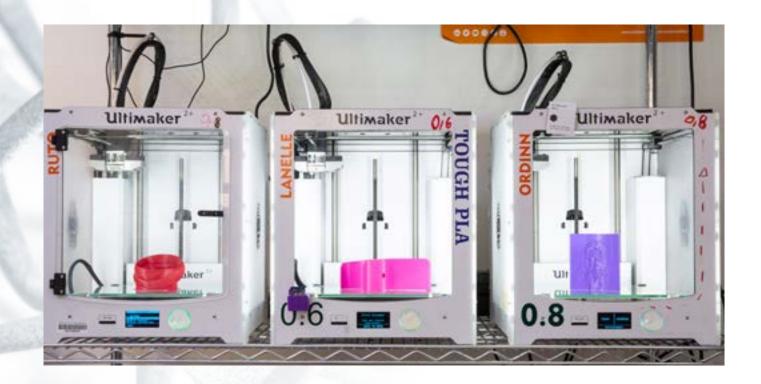
### Support offered

The X-FAB team provides support throughout the project's life. It starts with training to learn or deepen your knowledge of 3D modeling. This is essential because 3D

modeling is the basis for all digital manufacturing tools, including 3D printing, laser and water jet cutting, and CNC machining. It also allows you learn how to use prototyping machines and master the software that underlies them.

For those interested, the X-FAB team can offer personalized project support to accelerate the conception, design, modeling, technology choices and manufacturing of your project.

They can also offer pre-industrialization support. They offer guidance in adapting the design to the relevant production methods for the desired production volume. This support can take the form of local manufacturing capacity for small series or contacts with subcontractors for larger production volumes.



### X-FAB key figures

- 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> of workspace
- Five thematic clusters: 3D printing, lasers, general mechanics, machining, electronics
- Nearly 50 prototyping machines
- More than 60 projects supported each year
- More than 350 users trained each year

### The strengths of X-FAB

- Ability to perform high-precision machining on a wide range of materials.
- A large number of workspaces and benches.

### Open to

Open to students, researchers and incubator startups.

### Contact for more info

Cyril Hasson

Prototyping and Industrial Development Manager
cyril.hasson@polytechnique.edu
• Website: Prototyping - École Polytechnique, engineering school
https://www.polytechnique.edu/innovation/notre-espace-de-prototypage-x-fab







**Thomas Edison** 

Institut Polytechnique de Paris has three startup incubators: The Drahi X-Novation Center (École Polytechnique) in Palaiseau, Telecom Paris Novation Center in Paris and IMT Starter (Télécom SudParis) in Evry. These structures offer support at all stages of the startup's development once a proof of concept has been verified. Each year more than 60 innovative startups are born within the incubators of IP Paris schools. All areas of activity related to topics taught in the schools are eligible for support.

# Drahi X-Novation Center (École polytechnique)

The Drahi X-Novation Center is the Innovation & Entrepreneurship center of École Polytechnique. Since 2015, it has been open to everyone and supports budding technology entrepreneurs and startups at all stages of development. It also houses the École Polytechnique prototyping space of X-FAB.

### Support programs and offerings

- X-UP: an intensive eight-month incubation program for innovative technology startups at the creation stage. It aims at structuring and de-risking entrepreneurial projects: verify the value proposition, consolidate the team, develop the minimum viable product, boost visibility and communication capabilities, prepare the first round of fundraising, etc. X-UP requires significant investment from project leaders. Each startup is accompanied by a resident entrepreneurship coach and receives advice from many experts over several workshops.
- X-TECH: office space and workshops for more mature startups to continue to develop their activities on the IP Paris campus and benefit from the academic, scientific and industrial assets on the Saclay Plateau.

- A free **mentorship** for all entrepreneurs at Drahi-X Novation Center thanks to more than 200 volunteer alumni from the École Polytechnique graduate community.
- A **preincubation program**<sup>1</sup> for all IP Paris students with a business idea so they can be slightly supported in the various stages prior to creating their future startup and help them build their team.



 $Entrance\ of\ the\ Drahi\ X-Novation\ Center,\ the\ Innovation\ \&\ Entrepreneurship\ center\ of\ \'Ecole\ Polytechnique.$ 

### **Fields**

The Drahi X-Novation Center supports all entrepreneurship projects with a strong technological focus, with an emphasis on four themes in particular: Green Tech, Health Tech, Industry 4.0, and New Mobilities.

### The incubator's key figures

- 20 new startups supported each year
- More than 100 startups supported since 2015
- 70% survival rate at five years

### The incubator's advantages

- A multidisciplinary support suited to young startups
- The strength of the alumni network and the mentorship program
- Access to X-FAB and nearby labs
- An annual demo day in front of an audience of investors
- Support from the Fondation de Polytechnique and Polytechnique Ventures
- Access to the entrepreneurial ecosystem of the Saclay Plateau and beyond, including French Tech Paris-Saclay, BPI, and Essonne Développement.

### Open to

The pre-incubation program is open to all IP Paris students and researchers with an entrepreneurial project.

The X-UP and X-TECH programs are aimed at alumni and researchers who can devote themselves fully to the development of their startup.

### Contact for more info

Cyril Hasson

Prototyping and Industrial Development Manager cyril.hasson@polytechnique.edu

• Website:

 $www.polytechnique.edu/innovation/le-drahi-x-novation-center-notre-incubateur-de-startups\\ https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/x-novation$ 

## IMT Starter (Télécom SudParis)

IMT Starter is the incubator for Telecom SudParis, Institut Mines Telecom Business School and ENSIIE. It has supported digital tech startups in their launch phases since 1999. IMT Starter has helped launch more than 250 startups, representing more than 3,000 new jobs and hundreds of millions of euros in turnover and fundraising.

### Support programs and offerings

- 12 months of strategic support, including in the following areas:
- Product and service positioning,
- Sales, marketing and financial strategy,
- Team structuring,
- Business Model.
- Support and networking: regular meetings with the incubator team to go over the project's overall structure and help network with the IMT Starter ecosystem, including business angels, public investment banks, investment funds, lawyers, student engineers or managers from our schools, laboratories, and past startups from the incubator.
- A special offer for students:

Student entrepreneurs access our dedicated programs: a two-month entrepreneurship summer school course to boost their project, including group workshops, individual coaching, and a last-year internship on their project with hosting, supervision and coaching from the incubator.

- Strategic coaching: half a day every two months. The sessions are fully individualized. The startup's strategic committee is made up of several members of the IMT Starter team selected according to the startup's chosen field and business model. It brings together IMT Starter members as well as third-parties and experienced entrepreneurs.
- Two group workshops are offered each month on various topics related to the launch of the startup. The workshops are led by business experts and last one to two hours each. They can be accessed remotely.
- Access to IMT Numérique loans on trust to finance the startup at 0% interest.
- Invitations to Vivatech and the Las Vegas CES at the IMT and/or IP Paris stands.



### The incubator's key figures

- 15 startups incubated each year on average
- 40 student entrepreneurship projects supported
- 12 months of support from experienced entrepreneurs
- 600 m<sup>2</sup> incubation space
- IMT 0% interest loan on trust (up to €60,000)
- A partner of around 20 international incubators and accelerators.

### The incubator's advantages

- Digital Startup Awards: for nearly 15 years, IMT Starter has been awarding these prizes to emerging digital startups that will shape the world of tomorrow. How we work, obtain health care, consume, and live in our environments are being reinvented. Now is the time to give your ideas a chance!
- Open-plan and individual offices available. 100% remote support is an option.
- Special student formats, including a two-month entrepreneurship summer school, group workshops, individual coaching. An end-of-course internship can be replaced by an internship on their project with housing, supervision and coaching from the incubator.

### Open to

students, researchers and incubator startups to facilitate quick prototyping.

### Contact for more info

https://www.imt-starter.fr/ entreprendre@telecom-sudparis.eu

# Incubator (Télécom Paris) The Télécom Paris incubator has been a pioneer in supporting innovative projects of project leaders and creators of startups in digital technology since 1999. In complementarity with

The Télécom Paris incubator has been a pioneer in supporting innovative projects of project leaders and creators of startups in digital technology since 1999. In complementarity with the two other incubators of Institut Polytechnique de Paris, the Télécom Paris incubator is intended for more mature projects, those that have already been created, have found their market and are seeking to accelerate. However, our support program at Station F looks for diverse backgrounds and can help students who are motivated and fully committed to their project.

### Support programs and offerings

• 18 months of individual support: selected projects receive support from a dedicated business officer who follows the project leader throughout their entire incubation period.

They meet regularly to offer advice on training, networking with experts, and can suggest expert mentors in the field of the project. They help to setup applications for public subsidies (Paris Innovation Amorçage, subsidies from the Ile-de-France region, subsidies from Bpifrance) and offer support in the fundraising process with loans on trust and networking with business angel associations and investment funds.

• A complete à la carte collective offering: the incubator holds a wide range of morning get-togethers where key accounts and alumni can meet as well as topical workshops led by business experts to help businesses grow. Incubated startups can also take part in international trade fairs and enjoy benefits negotiated with our partners.

Third-year students at Telecom Paris as well as students at our partner schools can work on the projects.

• Two locations: Telecom Paris incubator offers support at two locations to provide projects with the most suitable environment.

Station F allows you to dive into the largest startup ecosystem in the world, and open-lab facilities in the south of Paris allow rapid testing and expansion.



### **Fields**

Data & IA, BlockChain, Green tech, IoT, robotics, e-health: Telecom Paris's incubator supports all types of projects in digital technology.

### The incubator's key figures

- Over 500 projects since 1999
- 30 startups supported each year
- more than 5,000 jobs created
- 86% survival rate at five years
- over €1,000,000 raised since 2015
- 180 workstations.

### The incubator's advantages

Broad experience in incubating projects, dedicated support that meets entrepreneurs' needs, deep knowledge of digital projects, geographic complementarity with the other incubators on the campuses.

### Open to

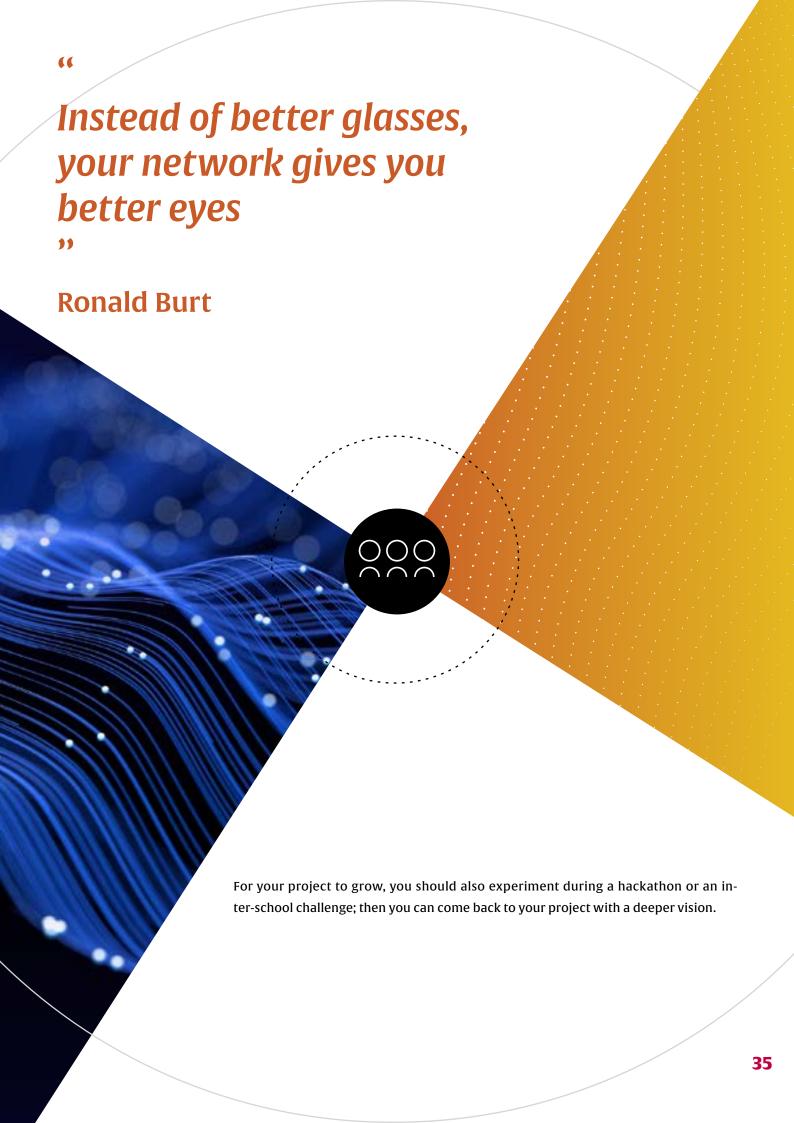
all student entrepreneurs with an entrepreneurship project, even if it is not very far along but they are fully invested in developing it

### Contact for more info

• Yann Aprile-Bouché Incubator Manager – Télécom Paris yann.bouche@telecom-paris.fr

• Télécom Paris Incubator- Digital Technologies (incubateur-telecomparis.fr)







Many events offer an immersive experience that can help bring depth to your project. Let yourself go with the flow: participation is the whole point!

### Events at Institut Polytechnique de Paris

To follow all the news about innovation and entrepreneurship at Institut Polytechnique de Paris, the Student Flash is IP Paris's bimonthly student newsletter that includes events and good deals for students.

No sign-up is required! It is automatically sent to registered students. IP Paris also invites you to join us during innovation and entrepreneurship trade shows such as Viva Technology and Paris-Saclay SPRING.

**Inform the community**: are you organizing an event around innovation and entrepreneurship at your school? Do you want to inform and invite other students? Here are some good contacts and reference points:

- Your school's student entrepreneurship officers will help you spread the word.
- Your schools student life departments and associations.
- Student Flash: you can submit a short piece of text four weeks in advance to appear in the newsletter.

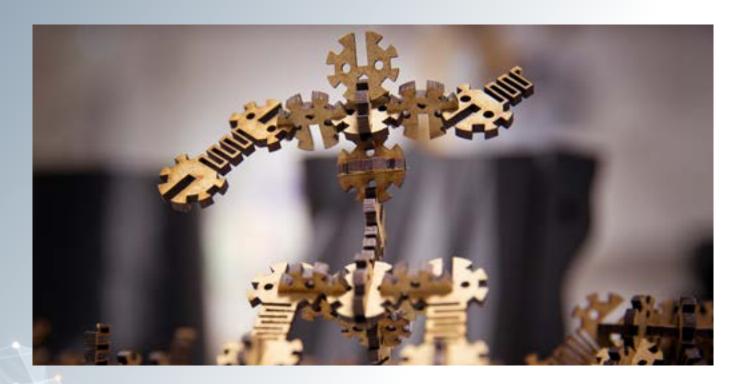
### Point of contact:

Delphine Duprat Student Life Manager & Student Flash Newsletter Contact Vie-étudiante@ip-paris.fr

### **Networking at IP Paris**

You can also find points of contact at the following associations:

École Polytechnique student association
Telecom Paris student association
ENSTA Paris student association
ENSAE Paris student association: STARTUP Ensae
École Polytechnique alumni associations
Telecom Paris alumni associations
ENSTA Paris alumni associations
ENSAE Paris alumni associations
Telecom SudParis alumni associations



### Innovation and entrepreneurship events on the the Paris-Saclay Plateau

Players of the IP Paris entrepreneurship ecosystem are located on multiple campuses (Paris, Palaiseau, Evry) and receive project leaders according to their skills, technologies and target markets. IP Paris is also a member of the PEIPS network alongside Paris-Saclay University and numerous socio-economic players. With SN2E, you can access all these structures!

IP Paris and the surrounding campuses hold a lot of events including hackathons, pitch competitions, trade shows and

masterclasses that are great opportunities to network and find associates with skills to complement your own. Many of the student associations are members of the Start in Saclay collective (startinsaclay.fr) and pool their events.

### Here are a few ideas:

**PEIPS** 

Start In Saclay

Paris Saclay SPRING

### The student entrepreneurship officers

### • Télécom Paris



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### • Télécom SudParis



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### • ENSTA Paris



Didier Lebert UEA Deputy Director didier.lebert@ensta-paris.fr

### • École polytechnique



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