

# Frequently asked questions

## Admission process

### **I have a passport from a European country / I have a second European nationality: does it change anything in the process?**

There is no specificity for the admission process regarding the nationality, except for Ecole Polytechnique that does not allow application of students with French nationality through this international admission program (dual citizenship included).

### **Where can I find previous admission exams?**

Previous entrance exams and syllabus are available on: <https://www.ip-paris.fr/en/ingenieur-programs/> and <https://dca-concours.polytechnique.fr/fui/welcome/cand.php>

### **Is the number of admission attempts restricted?**

Only Ecole Polytechnique has an admission attempt restriction where you can only present the admission exam once. There is no formal restriction for the other institutions.

### **Who was "not eligible" or "not admitted" at Ecole Polytechnique in previous years will be able to participate in this unified selection process?**

Yes. However, as only one attempt is possible for Ecole Polytechnique, your application will be valid for all schools except Ecole Polytechnique.

### **Are there any requirements about my grades in my home university?**

No. It is difficult to define universal criteria, as we know that scores may vary from one university to the other, from one course to the other. Nonetheless, remember that this is a highly selective worldwide admission program and that chances of admission are higher for students in the top of their class.

### **What are the most important criteria of the application file?**

All the elements of the application file are important. It is not possible to define a priority.

### **Is it necessary to prove fluency in French, like DELF or DALF?**

No minimum level in French is required to take the exams. If admitted, you will have a full year to learn French and satisfy the French proficiency requirement determined by your school of admission.

### **Are the written and oral exams in English or French?**

Both languages are possible. It is up to you: you will choose the day of the exam.

### **May Mathematics or Applied Mathematics students also apply?**

Sure. Mathematics is a long tradition in France and particularly in French engineering schools. It is important to point out that strong basics in mathematics are required whatever the course prepared.

More generally, students in science course (mathematics, statistics, applied mathematics, physics, computer science) may apply.

Students in Economics may also apply to ENSAE Paris.

### **If I can pass the admission exams, is it a problem to have studied less than 2 years of my bachelor's degree yet?**

- Applicants must have completed at least 2 years of undergraduate studies in Science.
- Applicants can apply to Ecole Polytechnique at the end of their 2nd or during their 3rd year of undergraduate studies in Science or Engineering in their universities.

### **Do you think it is better applying in the third year or in the fourth year of college?**

### **Is the *diplôme d'ingénieur* only for students that have already completed their bachelor degree?**

### **Do I need to exit my course in my current university to study in France?**

The best year to apply depends on several factors:

- Is there an agreement and especially a double-degree agreement between your course or your university and one or several schools of IP Paris? If the answer is yes, the agreement defines the minimum conditions to apply.
- If there is no agreement, except for Ecole Polytechnique, the bachelor's degree is required before starting to study in the IP Paris school. In this case, it is then better to be in the last year of your bachelor degree when you apply.
- For Ecole Polytechnique, it is possible to exit your current course (and therefore resign from your current course of study in your home university).

### **Are there fees associated with this admission program?**

There is no application fees in the international admission program.

## Fees and financial support

### **What are the fees of the IP Paris schools?**

Nationality	Ecole polytechnique (*)	ENSAE Paris	ENSTA Paris	Telecom Paris	Telecom SudParis
European	19,000€/3 years	1,850€/year	2,650€/year	2,650€/year	2,650€/year
Non European	38,000€/3 years	1,850€/year	4,650€/year	4,150€/year	4,150€/year

(\*) Information given for the total duration of studies at Ecole Polytechnique.

Fees are revised every year by each school and can be subject to modification. Please check fees with the school upon admission.

All students must pay also annually the "*Contribution à la Vie Etudiante et de Campus*" (CVEC) which currently amounts to 90 euros. The CVEC is valid for affiliation to the *Sécurité Sociale* (CPAM) general regime.

Fee reductions or exemptions are possible, in particular when a cooperation agreement is defined between the student's home university and the IP Paris school, like a double-degree agreement.

### **Are there opportunities of scholarships, financial support?**

Grants, scholarships or loans are also possible based on excellence or social criteria. Once admitted, the French school will provide you with all the information and help you will need to identify sources of funding.

### **How are student chosen to present the Eiffel scholarship?**

The presentation of student to the Eiffel program is a decision of the French school and the submission of the application is under the responsibility of the school. The Eiffel scholarship program is a very competitive program. All transcripts, awards, certificates, rankings that are proofs of the excellence of the students are useful. Students awarded the Eiffel scholarship are usually in the top 2% of their class.

IP Paris recruits the best students worldwide. Therefore, IP Paris success rate to the Eiffel program is among the top in France.

### **Is it possible to work during the studies at IP Paris?**

It is hard to work in parallel of the engineering studies at IP Paris because the curricula are very dense. We advise not to do it.

## *Diplôme d'ingénieur programs*

### **Studying in IP Paris, can I take subjects similar to those studied in the home university in order to get both degrees?**

In the frame of a double-degree agreement, a study plan has to be defined between the two institutions and yourself before the beginning of your studies in the French school. This study plan details the courses to be taken. The credits obtained are transferred to validate also the degree in your home university.

A double-degree is also an opportunity to choose courses that are complementary to those offered in your home university.

When no agreement exists, it is up to you to try to get a recognition from your home university.

### **In my home university, I study Chemical Engineering. With the French engineer degree, will I be recognized as “general engineer” or chemical engineer too? Similar questions with other domains of engineering.**

The general case is that a French engineering school confers only one *Diplôme d'Ingénieur* whatever the particular domain(s) studied by the student. A particular domain is then generally not specified on your diploma but the curriculum is described in an extra document associated with the diploma (*le supplément au diplôme*).

Of course, a school is well identified by the professional sectors according to its specialties. It means that if you have a *Diplôme d'Ingénieur* with a recognized specialty in chemistry, you will hardly be hired to design and build bridges!

An important value of the French engineer degree is the pluridisciplinarity. It means that if your main domain is chemistry, you will also have the opportunity to study disciplines in other engineering domains and of course in economics, management, soft skills and international skills.

### **Is it mandatory to come from a university/course having already a cooperation agreement with at least one school of IP Paris?**








You may apply even if there no relation and no agreement between your current course or your university and the IP Paris schools.

## Which school would you recommend for someone who is graduating in aeronautics / metallurgical and materials engineering /etc. engineering?

It is not possible to answer here to all possible cases. We kindly invite you to visit the websites of the different schools to verify which schools fit with your current course and your interest.

The table below presents an overview of the main scientific areas covered by the IP Paris schools.

Scientific areas

							
Biology and Health	●						
Chemistry	●						
Economics	●		●	●		●	●
Energy	●		●				
Nuclear engineering			●				
Computer science	●		●	●		●	●
Information and communication eng.	●		●			●	●
Mathematics, statistics and applications	●		●	●		●	●
Mechanics	●		●				
Physics	●		●			●	●
Transport, mobility			●				

And also: Design, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Sociology

## Would it be correct to say that training is impossible without the French language?

### Which programs are taught entirely in English?

The general case is that French language is necessary to study engineering at the IP Paris schools. The previous acquisition of a B1 level before the entrance is required.

At Telecom Paris it is however possible to take the *Diplôme d'ingénieur* curriculum entirely in English by choosing certain tracks (5 over 14 tracks are taught in English). Information are available on <https://www.telecom-paris.fr/en/engineering/your-engineering-training>. In this particular case, no minimum level is required in French before the entrance. Even though, all along the studies at Telecom Paris, French courses are mandatory and a minimum level of B1 is required to get the degree.

The other schools propose English taught courses but an entire curriculum in English is still not possible for the *Diplôme d'ingénieur*. A larger offer of English taught courses is under preparation in all schools, but the language of tuition is French. Remember that you will have a full year to learn French before arriving and you will still have mandatory French language courses included in your *Ingénieur* curriculum.

The language of the Ingénieur Polytechnicien program is French. However, some courses can be given in English, depending on the teacher and the context. However, there is no list of courses taught in English.

### Is it possible to follow the engineering program in an IP Paris school and during these studies to do a mobility in a partner institution abroad?

According to the French rules, it is necessary to study at least 3 semesters at the French engineering school and to do a 6-month internship under the control of the French school to get the French *Diplôme d'ingénieur*.

Except for Ecole Polytechnique, the normal duration of studies in the IP Paris school will be generally of 2 years. It is then not possible to do an international mobility in this context except eventually for an internship.

At Ecole Polytechnique, as the duration of studies is longer, several opportunities of international mobility are possible.

## Ph.D., Ph.D. track programs

### **What is the process for applying for a Ph.D.?**

Ph.D. application is a fully different process. Please, consult <https://www.ip-paris.fr/en/home-en/education/phd-programs/>

### **What is a Ph.D. track?**

The Ph.D. track is a 5-year program combining personalized master studies, early immersion in research labs and a progressive development of the thesis studies.

For students interested early-on by research and Ph.D. studies, it is possible to be selected to start a Ph.D. track while studying for the *Diplôme d'ingénieur*.

## Miscellaneous

### **Will the IP Paris PowerPoint presentation be available afterwards?**

Yes. The presentation will be available soon from <https://www.ip-paris.fr/ingenieur-programs/>.

## **Ecole Polytechnique**

### **Are the additional requirements mentioned for Ecole Polytechnique on the program page flexible?**

The additional requirements mentioned for Ecole Polytechnique Cycle Ingénieur Polytechnicien Program are not flexible.

### **Questions concerning a double degree existing between your institution and the Ecole Polytechnique:**

We invite you to contact the relevant office in your institution.

### **When do double-degree students start reimbursing their loan?**

They start reimbursing their loan, one year after their 5-year studies program.

### **More informations about the Cycle Ingénieur Polytechnicien:**

<https://programmes.polytechnique.edu/cycle-ingenieur-polytechnicien/cycle-ingenieur-polytechnicien>