

FRANCE & THE EIFFEL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME



Aimed at supporting efforts of French higher education institutions to recruit internationally amid increasing competition between developed countries, the Eiffel Scholarship Programme was launched in January 1999 by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Initially built up with a **Master's scholarship**, a **PhD component** was added to this competitive programme in 2005.

GROWING SUCCESS

The programme celebrated its ten-year anniversary with the French Minister of Foreign Affairs in December 2009.

As of 31 December 2011

- **4 664** candidates were awarded an Eiffel Master's scholarship out of 15,591 applications;
- **480** candidates out of the 1,674 applications were awarded **PhD** scholarships.

This means nearly **5,200 foreign students** have been awarded Eiffel scholarships since the programme began.

CLEAR OBJECTIVES, PRIORITY FIELDS AND COUNTRIES

■ Objectives

The first objective is to train future private and public foreign executives within French higher education institutions in three priority fields of study: sciences, business management and economics, law and political science.

The second objective is to encourage students from emerging countries to apply, with a focus on Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and the new Member States of the European Union, but also industrialised countries at PhD level.

■ Fields of study

Master's-level engineering sciences, PhD-level sciences in general (engineering sciences; exact sciences: mathematics, physics, chemistry and life sciences; nanotechnologies and biotechnologies; earth, space and environmental sciences; information and communication technologies and sciences), economy and management, law and political science.

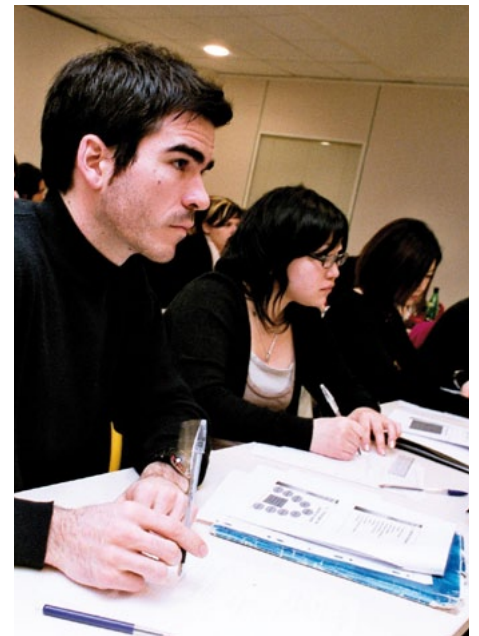
■ Application and selection procedures

The Eiffel Scholarship Programme helps French higher education institutions attract top international students. **Only French higher education institutions are allowed to submit applications.** Therefore, they commit to enrolling the candidates in the courses they requested if they are awarded an Eiffel scholarship.

French higher education institutions shortlist, among the top foreign students, the ones they wish to enrol, i.e. the candidates that they plan to present for Eiffel scholarships. They then complete their applications following the instructions and recommendations of the French Ministry

of Foreign Affairs and are careful to ensure that applications comply with programme objectives. The jury made up of representatives from three academic groups (one per field of study) evaluates the applications on the basis of three criteria:

- the student's outstanding qualifications;
- the outreach policy of the higher education institution concerned;
- the geographic priorities of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including emerging countries and countries in transition.



SCHOLARSHIPS IN LINE WITH GEOGRAPHIC PRIORITIES

49% of Eiffel scholars are Asian, 23% are from Latin America and 12.5% are from Central and Eastern Europe.

AN IMPORTANT PART OF FRANCE'S INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OUTREACH POLICY

The Eiffel Scholarship Programme is part of France's international student outreach policy (French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, French Ministry of National Education, and French Ministry for Higher Education and Research). The main aims of the programme underline the priority given to education and training of top international students in France:

- showcasing French degrees as part of efforts to create a European higher education area, develop student exchanges in Europe and raise the awareness abroad about French education system among all students who are interested in studying in France;
- promoting French higher education and international student services abroad;
- in addition, French government scholarship holders can benefit from simplified procedures in countries where Campus France offices have introduced the CEF (Study-in-France Centres) procedure.

A SUBSTANTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Eiffel scholarship students receive a monthly allowance of €1,181 at Master's level and €1,400 at PhD level (figures from 1 January 2012), in addition to direct coverage of one or more services: a return ticket, medical coverage and cultural activities. Scholarship holders may likewise receive an additional housing allowance.

Tuition fees are not covered by the Eiffel Scholarship Programme except for possibly language courses prior to studying in France. Institutions which enrol Eiffel scholarship students are invited to provide with the best possible conditions according to the provisions of the French government's quality charter for scholarship holders.

AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SYMBOL

Gustave Eiffel, an engineering school graduate, was also a scientist, entrepreneur and internationally minded man.

The Eiffel scholarship programme contributes to ensure the international reputation of the French higher education system. It also grants dedicated services to the selected students.

The far-reaching and diverse ties they forge during their time in France enable them to build a Francophone and Francophile network for future partnerships.

PRATICAL INFORMATION

■ **Master's level:** Eiffel scholarships are awarded to students who meet all the academic requirements for each year of study for a maximum of 12 months for enrolment in M2 (second year of a Master's degree), a maximum of 24 months for enrolment in M1 (first year of a Master's degree) and a maximum of 36 months for higher engineering qualifications and degrees.

■ **PhD level:** Eiffel scholarships are awarded for a maximum of 10 months (preferably for the second or third year of their PhD studies), as part of co-supervised or co-directed theses. No language courses are offered for scientific and economic subjects.

French embassies may help French higher education institutions in their efforts to recruit international students who are eligible for the programme.

A COMPETITIVE EDGE FOR FRENCH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Over 130 French institutions submit applications for Master's scholarships and nearly 80 higher education institutions, laboratories, universities and institutes, for PhD scholarships.



CAMPUS FRANCE, PROGRAMME MANAGER

Campus France administrates the programme and addresses all practical questions institutions and students may have with regard to Eiffel scholarships.

Financial details, schedules, applications and selection results can be found on the Campus France website:

www.campusfrance.org/fr/eiffel

CONTACT

Campus France
Programme Eiffel
28, rue de la Grange-aux-Belles
75010 Paris
01 40 40 59 30
eiffel@campusfrance.org

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Directorate-General of Global Affairs, Development and Partnerships/Mobility and Attractiveness Policy Directorate

Design and production: Communication and Press Directorate

Contacts: mobilite-etudiante.dgm-att@diplomatie.gouv.fr

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