



# École Polytechnique Paris

## PROFILE

Founded during the French Revolution in 1794, Napoleon gave the Ecole Polytechnique its flag and its motto.

The Ecole Polytechnique became a public institution in 1974 and receives government support. French students hold a commission as students and officers during their educational tenure and receive a stipend; Foreign students at the Polytechnique have regular French student status and most receive financial aid.

**Each year of the "Polytechnicien" Engineering cycle is composed of 500 students (including 100 foreigners).** Women have been admitted since 1972 through a competitive examination and represent about 15 percent of the students in a class.

The purpose of the Ecole Polytechnique **is to develop top-level, future leaders** with a strong background in science. Graduates are educated to play an important role in improving society through careers in public or military service, government, and research, as well as in the country's public and corporate sectors as a whole.

The academic program lasts four years. After a seven-month training course in human relations, students in year one and two pursue an interdisciplinary scientific course of study. On completion, they present a group research project. In the third year, students specialize in two of the eight core courses. In the fourth year, students pursue scientific and professional specialization. Throughout their educational experience, students do a total of **15 months of internships in France and abroad.**

The school also has 260 students in the Masters program and 500 in the Doctoral program.

The polytechnique education is based **on a high-level, interdisciplinary, scientific curriculum** with exposure to the liberal arts, foreign languages and athletics. **The teaching staff includes 400 professors; 12 percent of the faculty is from abroad.**



Photograph provided by the institution

### Research

The Ecole Polytechnique's research center is multidisciplinary and consists of **21 laboratories, with some of the latest equipment available for high-level research projects. This is particularly true in the fields of optics, information sciences and biology.** The research center does important contract work for public and private institutions.

### Strengths

The school is located at Palaiseau, about 15 kilometers from Paris. With its 186 hectares, accommodations for 1,500 students, 50 classrooms, 15 amphitheatres, and playing fields and facilities for 16 sports, the Ecole Polytechnique is a unique and privileged campus.

The school maintains a significant network of public and private partnerships. An on site 'high-tech park' facilitates the transfer of technologies to the business world. The school also has academic chairs, which partner departments and participating companies, such as EDF (Electricité de France) and Thales, in cross-disciplinary themes. Finally, the Ecole Polytechnique is a member of Paris Tech, the principal network of Parisian engineering grandes écoles and is a center of **excellence equal to the best universities in the world.**

## IDENTITY FORM

Precise name of the institution →	École Polytechnique
Type of institution →	Public
City where the main campus is located →	Palaiseau (Essonne – 91)
Number of students →	2,000 students in the "Polytechnicien" cycle, 260 in the Masters program and 500 in the Doctoral program
Percentage or number of international students →	• 20% foreign students in the engineering program • 50% in Master programs • 33% in Doctorates
Type and level of qualifications awarded →	École Polytechnique diploma ("Polytechnicien" cycle), Masters, Doctorate
French language courses →	Yes
Programs for international students →	Yes
Programs in English →	Yes
Postal address →	Direction des Relations Extérieures - Route de Saclay - 91128 Palaiseau cedex



[www.polytechnique.fr](http://www.polytechnique.fr)  
[www.polytechnique.edu](http://www.polytechnique.edu)