

Accreditation in France is programmatic. An institution may have *Reconnaissance par l'État*, but that does not mean the program is approved.

Public institutions & *diplôme national/diplôme d'état*: Confirm that the student received a national diploma upon completion of program.

- Check *CampusFrance* info to see if the school is public
https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/recherche/categorie/descriptions-des-etablissements-426?sort_by=title

NOTE that public institutions can and do offer their own “university diploma” programs (diplôme d'Université, diplôme universitaire) and continuing education options which do not end in a fully recognized national diploma. These programs may be considered the equivalent of Título Propios in Spain and should be treated accordingly.

Ways to determine if a program ends in a *diplôme national/diplôme d'état*:

- Look at the final diploma. If it is an official national diploma which is golden with the laurel in the background and signed by the regional académie it is de facto recognized
 - Additional information on these type of degrees are available at <https://www.onisep.fr/orientation/l-enseignement-superieur/quelle-reconnaissance-pour-les-diplomes-du-superieur/les-diplomes-nationaux>
- Check in ONISEP if this is a *diplôme national*: [onisep.fr](https://www.onisep.fr) (for current/recent programs)
 - Search for the institution first
 - Select the correct program offered by that institution
 - Under the “Characteristics” section there is a bullet for the nature of the diploma, this will have they type of diploma awarded at the end of the program
- Use Wayback to find your program's information from the time of study (older programs)
 - This is typically under the *formations* page on French institutional websites

Private institutions: These institutions must apply for academic recognition from the state/government for each individual program. You must go to ONISEP to determine if your program results in a recognized degree. If the program is recognized, it can be considered the equivalent of US regional accreditation.

Terminology seen on diplomas, ONISEP, and institution websites for recognized private degrees:

- ***diplôme revêtu d'un visa officiel*** (unknown timeframe terminology) = programmatic accreditation in France
- ***diplôme visé*** (current terminology) = programmatic accreditation in France
- ***diplôme d'état*** (older term for diplôme visé) = programmatic accreditation in France
- ***diplôme...au grade de ... [licence, master, doctorat]*** = programmatic accreditation in France
- ***habilitation CTI*** (*Commission des titres d'ingénieur*) = programmatic accreditation in France; special status for Engineering degrees, <https://www.cti-commission.fr/accreditation>
 - ***habilitation commission des titres*** (older term for habilitation CTI)
 - The specific program must be included on CTI listing, many institutions with CTI approved engineering programs also offer other unaccredited programs
- ***label CGE*** (*Commission de Grandes Écoles*) = programmatic accreditation, [list of schools \(current\)](https://www.scholaro.com/)

- The specific program must be included on CGE listing, many institutions with CGE approval for some programs also offer other unaccredited programs

Terminology seen on diplomas, ONISEP, and institution websites for UNRECOGNIZED programs:

- **diplôme d'établissement** = programmatically unaccredited
- **diplôme universitaire** = programmatically unaccredited
- **diplôme d'université** = usually non-credit program/programmatically unaccredited
- **qualification de branche** = usually non-credit continuing education program
- **titre/certificat d'établissement** = programmatically unaccredited
- **certificate/diplôme d'école** = programmatically unaccredited
- **diplôme de la FEDE** (*Fédération Européenne des Ecoles*) = programmatically unaccredited

Terminology which can be either recognized or unrecognized depending on institutional policies

- **titre de CCI** (*Chambre de Commerce et Industrie*) = programmatic accreditation **if also designated as a diplôme national, d'état, or visé**. Otherwise, such a title is not an academic qualification
- **titre inscrit au RNCP niveau x** = vocational/professional degrees registered under the Minister of Vocational Training; these programs exist in their respective vocational/professional pathways from secondary level to doctoral level. They do not grant automatic access to the next academic level of studies but alternate admissions pathways between academic and RNCP programs exist in France.
<https://www.francecompetences.fr/>
 - **Regionally accredited, if the title is also designated as a diplôme national, d'état, or visé**
 - Nationally accredited if title has no other recognized designations and is in a field which could be academic
 - Unaccredited if in a non-academic field
- **preparation conjointe** = dual degrees. Check status of both institutions for the program