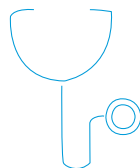


Medicine



With 13 Nobel Prizes in Physiology and Medicine (Jules Hoffman, winner of the 2011 Nobel Prize in Medicine with American Bruce Beutler) and almost 80 medical breakthroughs from 1950 to 2011, French medicine remains globally renowned, with the discovery of Down's syndrome (1958), the first kidney transplantation with a related donor (1959), hepatitis B vaccine (1981), insulin pump transplantation in a diabetes patient (1981), HIV (1983), the discovery of umbilical cord blood stem cell transplantation (1993), face allotransplantation (2005), first human autotransfusion of red blood cells from stem cells (2011).

Medical activities cover several sciences dedicated to human health and the fight against diseases. Better knowledge and techniques have led to the development of 11 specializations from general medicine, among which students in the third cycle choose their specialization. Besides Doctor of Medicine, Pharmacy or Dental Surgery degrees, national diplomas such as *Licence*, Master and other university diplomas, medicine and pharmacy colleges offer specific health training programs that include fields such as computing, law, social and health sciences, bio and nanotechnologies.

After high school, Medicine studies last nine years for general practitioners and up to ten or eleven years for specialists. Selection is extremely strict: there is an entrance exam and the number of students accepted in the second year is limited for each region. There are two main ways and several programs to follow curricula in Medicine, Midwifery, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Physical Therapy (MMOPK):

- the specific program "accès santé" (PASS) including another subject;
- a *Licence* with the option "accès santé" (L.AS) for majors in Law, Management and Economics, Literature, Life and Health Sciences, etc. within programs offering the "accès santé" option.

The number of students for each medical, pharmacy, dentistry, and midwifery program cannot exceed 50% of the total number of students.

.232,891 doctors registered with the *Ordre des Médecins* (2021)
.50.5% of doctors are women (2021)

.8,700 new students (2021)
.1,200 graduates abroad just started working (2021)

.10% of doctors graduated abroad

Sources: www.insee.fr - www.conseil-national.medecin.fr

International



ADMISSION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

> Regardless of their level of training in medicine, foreign students must pass the admission exam at the end of the first year of the specific accès santé program (PASS) or after a Licence in another subject with the "accès santé" option (L.AS).

> To move on to the third cycle, students must pass the *Internat en médecine à titre étranger* (foreign medical internship) exam. The registration documents must be submitted by the end of March. The eligibility exams are held in September at the Embassy of France (Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle) or at the Consulate, and the admission exams take place in December.

> General practitioners or specialists who are graduates in their home country and who wish to directly enter a specialized medical training program (DFMS or DFMSA) have to get the registration process from the Service de Coopération et d'Action culturelle of French embassy.

The number of places available is limited for each subject, specialization and inter-region.

11 SPECIALIZATIONS

- Anesthesia and Intensive Care
 - Medical Biology • Medical Gynecology • Gynecology and Obstetrics • General Medicine
 - Occupational Medicine
 - Pediatrics • Psychiatry
 - Public Health

SURGICAL SPECIALIZATIONS

- General Surgery • Neurosurgery
 - Ophthalmology
 - Otorhinolaryngology and Cervicofacial Surgery
 - Stomatology

SPÉCIALITÉS MÉDICALES

- Pathological anatomy and cytology
- Cardiology and vascular illnesses
 - Dermatology and venereology
 - Gastroenterology and hepatology
 - Medical genetics • Hematology
- Internal medicine • Nuclear medicine
- Physical and rehabilitation medicine
- Nephrology • Neurology • Oncology
 - Pneumology
 - Medical imaging and radiology
 - Rhumatology

Useful links

- National Academy of Medicine: www.academie-medecine.fr/?lang=en
- French School of Public Health (EHESP): www.ehesp.fr/en/
- National student's association in Medecine (*association nationale des étudiants en médecine de France - ANEFMF*): www.anemf.org
- National centre for the management of hospital practitioners (*Centre national de gestion des praticiens hospitaliers*): www.cng.sante.fr
- Independent medical and allied medical professionals' community (*Communauté médicale et paramédicale indépendante*): www.remede.org
- Paris Chamber of Commerce diploma in French as a specialized language (medical) (*Diplôme de français de la santé de la Chambre de commerce de Paris Ile-de-France (CCIP)*): www.lefrancaisdesaffaires.fr/tests-diplomes/diplomesfrancais-professionnel-dfp/sante
- *École des hautes études en santé publique* (EHESP): www.ehesp.fr
- *Épreuves Classantes Nationales* (ECN): www.cng.sante.fr/candidats/internats/concoursmedicaux/etudiants/epreuves-classantes-nationales-ecn
- Nationwide network of hospitals (*Hôpitaux de France*): www.hopital.fr
- French ministry of health and prevention (*Ministère de la santé et de la prévention*): www.solidarites-sante.gouv.fr
- National order of medical practitioners (*Ordre national des médecins*): www.conseil-national.medecin.fr
- Regional and university hospital network (*Réseau CHRU - Centres hospitaliers régionaux et universitaires*): www.reseau-chu.org
- *Université de Strasbourg, Faculté de médecine* (DFMS-DFMSA competitive exam): www.med.unistra.fr/fre/Formation/3eme-cycle
- *Université numérique en santé et sport*: www.uness.fr

1st cycle

DIPLOMA OF GENERAL TRAINING IN MEDICAL SCIENCES (DFGSM)

LICENCE LEVEL – 3 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – L3

Integrated to the European L-M-D system, medical studies in France are divided into three cycles. Each university is affiliated with one of the 32 Regional University Hospital Centers in France (CHRU). The first year comprises a specific program called “accès santé” (PASS) and an option in another subject, or a Licence with the option “accès santé” (L.AS) for majors in Law, Management and Economics, Literature, Life and Health sciences, etc. (all programs are able to offer the “accès santé” option). The only requirement to access PASS, the first year, is to have a (scientific) high school diploma. It is possible to follow an additional preparation course in a school in order to pass the admission exam in second year.

Please note: Medical studies are only taught in French (required French level is CEFRL B2).

FIRST YEAR OF LICENCE IN MEDICINE, MIDWIFERY, DENTISTRY, PHARMACY, AND PHYSICAL THERAPY (MMOPK) PATHWAY “ACCÈS SANTÉ” (PASS) WITH ANOTHER SUBJECT AS OPTION – L1

Prepared in universities, in a College or an *Unité de Formation et de Recherche* (UFR), the first year of *Licence* is the same for the four programs – Medicine, Dental Surgery, Pharmacy, Midwifery and Physical Therapy – and gives access to four different admission exams for the second year. Students can be candidates for two of them. The first year also enables them to follow other training programs that award diplomas in the field of medical aid.

FIRST YEAR OF LICENCE

WITH THE “ACCÈS SANTÉ” (L.AS) OPTION IN ALL SUBJECTS – L2

The first year of Licence is done in a University, in subjects with “accès santé” courses. Students need at least 60 or 120 ECTS (10 of which in health courses) to apply to the second or third year of the first cycle of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Midwifery and Physical therapy training.

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE STATE DEGREE

NATIONAL DIPLOMA – 3 TO 5 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION – Third cycle

Students are selected can the second year based on their results and their PASS or L.AS training pathway and, in some cases, additional oral tests. Grades obtained during the training and the skills necessary to continue health studies are scrutinized. The additional oral tests allow taking into account other useful skills. Students that have higher grades than the determined threshold can enter directly the second year without having to take the additional exams. Each University states the terms and conditions of exams to best support students in their preparation.

Please note: Students can apply twice during their health studies after one, two or three years of the first cycle (L1, L2, L3) without repeating a year.

2nd cycle

SECOND YEAR OF MEDICAL LICENCE – L2

Second year of DFGSM2 - First cycle

This year and the next are devoted to increasing knowledge in biological disciplines and learning semiology and medical practice.

THIRD YEAR OF MEDICAL LICENCE – L3

Second year of DFGSM3 - First cycle

Students have to do six internships of four weeks in the mornings, combined with courses in the afternoon in internal medicine, emergency, outpatient, orthopedics, geriatrics/mother and child departments and laboratory. Courses and internships must be validated in order to obtain the DFGSM.

DIPLOME DE FORMATION APPROFONDIE EN SCIENCES MÉDICALES (DFASM) FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH YEARS

DFASM 1,2 and 3 - Clerkship - Second cycle

The three years of clerkship are dedicated to practice learning in hospitals, with 36 months of internship (four per year in different specializations). Hospital interns also undergo alternating training and take an exam at the end of each year, where their internships and shifts are taken into account. They are paid as employees of the *Assistance publique* (€128 to €280 per month) by the hospital group to which the University is affiliated, such as a University Hospital Center (CHU), Regional University Hospital Center (CHRU), or University Hospital Institute (IHU). They learn to recognize the various signs of a disease. They are employed under a fixed-term contract and are under the responsibility of a senior intern/hospital doctor.

The Épreuves Classantes Nationales (ECN) (until 2024)

From 2023 onwards, the ECN will comprise four 3-hour tests for students in the second cycle of their medical studies (instead of five tests the previous years). ECN are crucial for these students as they determine, based on their ranking, their access to the third cycle of medical studies and the CHU and specialization of their choice for their internships.

During their **internships**, students remain under the responsibility of a senior intern, but are considered professionals with prescribing authority. Their gross salary varies from €1,539 to €2,256 per month depending on the year, to which compensation for shifts is added (€149 to €163 per shift). Internships provide an initial professional experience in the chosen specialization thanks to practical training. It lasts from three years for general medicine to four to five years for certain specializations. The intern must successfully complete the six months internships required for the *Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées* (DES), attend theoretical and practical courses, and prepare a dissertation. Students in general medicine must, during the last year of the third cycle, complete an internship in outpatient departments during at least one semester.

At the end of the curriculum, interns are awarded the **Doctor of Medicine State Degree** after having completed their internships and written a dissertation for the *Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées* (DES), which grants them the ability to practice their specialization. Certain specializations require four to five years of studies (three years in general medicine). The *Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées Complémentaires de Médecine* (DESC) can be obtained during the third cycle and makes them specialists. The DESC can be done in four to six semesters, depending on the specialization.

3rd cycle

DIPLOME DE FORMATION MÉDICALE SPÉCIALISÉE (DFMS) ET APPROFONDIE (DFMSA)

Foreign doctors and pharmacists outside the EU can enroll in a DFMS or DFMSA if they either hold a diploma granting them the right to practice in their country of origin, or if they are currently undergoing specialized training. Courses are chosen from those of the *Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées* (DES) or the *Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées Complémentaires* (DESC), depending on the desired specialized training.

Please note: The duration of training for the DFMS or DFMSA cannot be less than one semester, nor exceed two semesters. The DFMS and DFMSA do not grant authorization to practice medicine in France.

Information on the DFMS/DFMSA exams: Strasbourg University, medical college:

<http://med.unistra.fr/fre/Formations/3eme-cycle/DFMS-DFMSA>

OTHER TRAININGS AND DIPLOMAS

The *diplômes d'établissement* are, in general, short specialized training programs that are not always open to foreign doctors and students in the third cycle outside the EU.

The DU and DIU programs are available under special programs and agreements, and are open to students of the EU.

The **Capacité de Médecine** (CAPME) is an additional training, awarding a state or national diploma. Universities offer different *Capacités* available to foreign doctors: *Capacité* of assessment and treatment of pain, gerontology, hydrology and medical climatology, etc. They generally last two years (about 800 hours of training and 800 hours of internships).

The **Diplôme Universitaire** (DU) is aimed at doctors and students enrolled in a DES or DESC to gain technical knowledge in a specific field: ultrasound examination in obstetrics and gynecology, emergency management in the workplace, neurointensive care, obstetrics and perinatal care in emergency medicine, etc.

The **Diplôme Inter-Universitaire** (DIU) is generally for doctors who hold a French or European Doctor of Medicine Degree or interns in specialized fields. DIUs are specialized diplomas: anatomy applied to clinical examination and imaging, child and adult spinal devices and deformities, arthroscopy, digestive oncology, surgical dermatology, etc.

Some DU and DIU cover alternative medical fields, different or complementary therapies, such as osteopathy, which is recognized in maternity wards.