France

Theoretical starting age:

- Bachelor's: Year 1 (60 ECTS), Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 3 (60 ECTS)
- Master's: Year 1 (60 ECTS), Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 3 (60 ECTS)
- Doctorate: Year 3, Year 2, Year 1

University programmes:

- Technical diplomas (DUT, BTS):
  - Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 1 (60 ECTS)
- University Institute of Technology (IUT); Higher Technical Section (STS):
  - Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 1 (60 ECTS)
- Baccalauréat

Specialized Higher Education:

- Specialized Higher Education: short-cycle:
  - Year 4 (60 ECTS), Year 3 (60 ECTS), Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 1 (60 ECTS)
- Social work and paramedical degrees
  - Year 1 (60 ECTS), Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 3 (60 ECTS), Year 4 (60 ECTS)
- Various professional degrees: arts, journalism, architecture, business...
  - Year 6 (60 ECTS), Year 5 (60 ECTS), Year 4 (60 ECTS), Year 3 (60 ECTS), Year 2 (60 ECTS), Year 1 (60 ECTS)

General and technological upper secondary school:

- 12th, 11th, 10th

Vocational upper secondary school:

- 12th, 11th, 10th

Lower secondary school:

- 9th, 8th, 7th, 6th

Primary school:

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th

Pre-primary school

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Typical student flow

Recognized exit point of the education system

Starting/ending age of compulsory education

Transfer from a programme to another

Programme designed for part-time attendance

Vocational/Professional orientation (according to national definition at the tertiary level)

Single structure education (integrated ISCED levels)

May be provided within one school structure

Transfer at crossing lines is not possible

Name of diploma, degree or certificate

ECTS European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

2020 Reference year (school year 2019/2020 in the northern hemisphere)

*Theoretical starting ages* refer to the ages as established by law and regulation for the entry to a programme, actual starting ages may vary depending on the programme.