A one-of-a-kind institution of higher education and research

Founded in 1794, École Polytechnique is a world-class academic and research institution which provides students with a well-rounded physical, cultural, and ethical education, equipping them with critical interpersonal skills for their future careers. The prestige of École Polytechnique rests upon the quality of its students, faculty and researchers, and on its unique multidisciplinary education that meets the most ambitious academic and scientific standards.

Top-level academics

École Polytechnique faculty is one of the most distinguished in the world. Many professors work in École Polytechnique Research Center, while others are leading figures in the business and socio-economic worlds.
Innovating: a cutting-edge Research Center

The school’s ambitious research strategy is implemented by École Polytechnique Research Center; its 22 laboratories are joint research units with the CNRS (National Center for Scientific Research) or other research institutions, such as the CEA, INRIA, INSERM, Université Paris-Sud, ENSTA ParisTech and UPMC. The mission of the Research Center is to explore the frontiers of knowledge to provide major interdisciplinary contributions to science, technology and society. It holds 500 patents (including extensions) and registers an average of 20 new patents per year.

Technology transfer

École Polytechnique assists laboratories with developing their industrial relations and marketing their skills and scientific expertise to business partners. In commercializing their patents, software, and techniques, École Polytechnique plays an important role in stimulating the economy, while generating new resources and funding for the Research Center laboratories.

Supporting academics and research

École Polytechnique actively promotes the skills and expertise of its laboratories towards industrial firms. The school also integrates research into its academic programs, most notably through the creation of Academic and Research Chairs. The 18 active chairs enable scientists to explore new areas of cutting-edge research while expanding the educational opportunities for young graduates via the creation of Master’s programs and additional specializations. Various areas of concentration are available: energy, biomedical engineering, materials, modeling and digital sciences, sustainable development, management, innovation, economics and finance.

8 MAJOR AREAS OF RESEARCH

• Bioengineering, Biology and Health
• Concepts and Methods for the Digital Society
• Energy, Transport and Environment
• Modeling and Optimization of Complex Systems
• Light and Matter Under Extreme Conditions
• Markets, Innovation and Science-Society Relations
• Nanoscience, Innovative Materials and Efficient Processes
• Universal Laws and Structures
ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE COLLABORATES WITH BUSINESSES IN VARIOUS SECTORS AND INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY, AERONAUTICS, ELECTRONICS, CHEMISTRY, PHARMACEUTICAL, ENERGY, AUTOMOTIVE, OPTICS, SERVICES AND FINANCE.

STRONG CORPORATE RELATIONSHIPS

Hands-on professional experience

Ingénieur Polytechnicien students complete 3 professional internships during their enrollment: one business internship, one research internship, and one final project internship. Students are required to spend a minimum of 21 months in internships. Many doctoral students complete their thesis under a CIFRE contract with industrial funding.

Promoting startup creation

École Polytechnique trains entrepreneurs and innovators by instilling a culture of entrepreneurship in its students and researchers. It is active in business creation, and offers three Master’s programs in entrepreneurship: Project – Innovation – Design, Network Industries and Digital Economy, and Engineering and Innovation Technologies. Several structures on campus are aimed at supporting the creation of businesses and startups, such as a business incubator, an accelerator, a prototyping space, various associations and startup grants, thus maximizing exchanges and networking opportunities among its students, Alumni and research teams.

THE 1ST CAMPAIGN

€35.2m received in gifts and pledges
3,425 donors
123 Major Donors
10 class gifts

ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FOUNDATION

Created in 1987 by twenty leading French companies at the request of Bernard Esambert (Class of 1954), the Chairman of École Polytechnique Board of Directors at the time, and with the support of the Alumni Association, the École Polytechnique Foundation builds bridges between the business world and École Polytechnique, including its students and research professors. The Foundation is a recognized public-benefit organization that works to promote École Polytechnique. This status entitles it to receive donations, bequests and other gifts from both individuals and companies. The funds raised are directed to École Polytechnique facilities, students, and research professors.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The École Polytechnique Alumni Association, known as AX, is dedicated to creating and reinforcing the bonds of solidarity among over 25,000 Alumni. AX awards merit scholarships and prizes, provides financial aid for various activities, supports equal opportunity programs and helps welcome international students on campus.
Strategic partnerships to promote student and faculty mobility

Developing international relations has long been a core strategy of École Polytechnique: international students started attending classes as early as 1798. With over 200 agreements with foreign institutions, École Polytechnique enjoys a large network of partners worldwide, both for academic and research collaboration, which facilitate exceptional ingoing and outgoing mobility. Its Research Center is also very active in conducting international collaborations, with 61% of their publications co-signed with foreign institutions. More specifically, l’X cultivates strategic partnerships, involving cooperation with the industrial sphere or promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, with about twenty top-level universities worldwide.

A unique environment for international students

With an exceptional ratio of students per professor – about 4 to 1 – École Polytechnique guarantees an outstanding experience to its international students, from their admission to their careers’ follow-up. L’X provides them with very dedicated services, such as individual academic coaching, administrative as well as financial support and counseling, or alumni mentoring. This unique environment, combined with the high-level of the students who go through a very selective process to access École Polytechnique, attracts some of the most distinguished faculty in the world.
An exceptional campus environment

Located just 10 miles south of Paris, École Polytechnique campus spans 400 acres. A large variety of student associations organize cultural, artistic, athletic, and social activities.

Campus life is vibrant, offering a wide range of events, including scientific seminars, guest lectures, exhibitions, concerts and performances. Many of these events are open to the general public, such as the annual Science Fair, Heritage Days, and conferences.