



ESSCA

Press release

4 February 2026

From post-secondary to the Master cycle, ESSCA is updating its programmes from 2026 onwards

As part of its KAIROS 2030 strategic plan, ESSCA is updating the structure of its programmes in order to support the transformation of student pathways and strengthen its position as a multi-campus European school. From the start of the 2026 academic year, the School will open international access from the first year of its *Bachelor in International Management*, adjust admission procedures and the rollout of its Grande École Programme, welcome the first cohort of its *Master in Management and Business Engineering*, and announce the awarding of the Master's Degree accreditation (*Grade de Master*) for its *MSc Business Analytics*. These developments reflect the priorities of KAIROS 2030: pedagogical innovation, internationalisation of study paths, and enhanced academic recognition.

The Bachelor in International Management opens to international mobility from the first year

Supported by continuous growth on its French campuses in recent years (with enrolments doubling in four years to reach over 1,500 students in 2025), ESSCA's Bachelor in International Management (BIM) is now scaling up. From September 2026, the first year of the programme will be offered across all ESSCA's international campuses. After Budapest, students will be able to complete their first year of the Bachelor in Malaga, Luxembourg and Shanghai. **This development enables international mobility immediately after the baccalauréat via Parcoursup, while preparing a state-recognised "diplôme Bac+3 – grade de Licence" (equivalent to a bachelors degree).** Mobility takes place in a secure framework on ESSCA campuses staffed entirely by ESSCA administrative teams and faculty members. Students receive dedicated support, including assistance with housing and administrative procedures such as visas and banking.

"The opening of the first year of the Bachelor in International Management on our international campuses is part of a trajectory already underway. For several years, the programme has been structured around strong international pathways, such as the **'3 years, 3 countries' track, which enables students to complete each of their three study years in a different country:** on an ESSCA campus in France or abroad (Budapest, Luxembourg, Malaga or Shanghai), at a partner university on another continent, and/or in a company through international internships. This development now allows students to build a tailored international path from the very start of higher education, within a secure academic framework and with a degree recognised by the French state," explains Christine Sinapi, Director of Programmes at ESSCA.

In addition to existing specialisations such as marketing and entrepreneurship, the Bachelor in International Management is expanding from the 2026 academic year with **two new specialisations offered on its international campuses:** International Accounting & Finance and International Business Developer (including an AI, Data & Cybersecurity option available in Malaga).

The Grande École Programme strengthens its selectivity and continues its international expansion

In line with the KAIROS strategic plan, the Grande École Programme is updating its admission procedures. Post-secondary entry is becoming more selective, with a reduction in the number of places listed in the Bulletin officiel, from 1,000 in 2024 **to 950 in 2025**. At the same time, the programme is diversifying its recruitment channels through international admissions and admissions based on prior qualifications after a Bac+3.

The Master cycle of the Grande École Programme also continues to expand internationally. From the 2026 academic year, it will be offered on the Luxembourg campus with the launch of a new track, Investment Funds and Asset Management, within the Corporate Finance specialisation. This specialisation will address key topics relating to private equity, financial markets, compliance and relations with investment banks, in direct response to the needs of international financial institutions located on the Kirchberg plateau, near the campus.

In 2027, the Master cycle will also be launched on the Malaga campus, which will welcome its first cohort in the International Business & Strategy specialisation, in a context of increasing attractiveness among both French and international applicants. Furthermore, the new dual degree combining the Grande École Programme and the MSc Master in Management and Business Engineering will welcome its first cohort in 2026 on the Lyon campus. Designed for students with technological backgrounds or engineering school training, this Master offers an accelerated 18-month pathway to facilitate entry into the corporate world and the acquisition of core management skills. Supported by companies including Dassault Systèmes, IBM, Renault and, more recently, Vinci, this programme leads to a state-recognised Bac+5 degree.

“The developments we are presenting reflect a clear strategic choice: to adapt our programmes to the real pathways of students and to the transformations of economic environments. This involves a deliberate increase in selectivity, a progressive international rollout, and the strengthened academic recognition of our programmes,” notes Jean Charroin, Dean and CEO of ESSCA.

The MSc Business Analytics obtains the Master’s Degree accreditation

The MSc Business Analytics, delivered in English on ESSCA’s Paris campus, has been awarded the Master’s Degree accreditation (Grade de Master). The programme is structured around three tracks: Management of Artificial Intelligence, Finance and Data Analytics, and Sustainable Management and Social Impact.

With the awarding of the Master’s Degree accreditation, the programme will now be offered as a two-year course for French and international students holding a Bachelor’s degree or a Licence (Bac+3), and as a one-year programme for those holding a Bachelor/BBA or Master 1 (Bac+4). The programme is developed in partnership with ESSCA’s “AI for Sustainability” institute, dedicated to promoting interdisciplinary research on artificial intelligence and its potential to support a sustainable future for the planet.



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About ESSCA

Based on its rich 115-year history, ESSCA School of Management is a renowned and firmly established French and European institution. A pioneering school in terms of teaching innovation and social and economic inclusion, it has striven to evolve on a permanent basis to incorporate the demands and challenges of the modern world with a will to train responsible leaders and assist organisations undergoing change.

A private higher education institution of common interest built upon a not-for-profit associative structure and a member of the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles, ESSCA School of Management delivers an officially recognised 5-year post-secondary Master degree and also offers a fully accredited Bachelor in International Management degree programme, an MBA Business & Technology and Master of Science programmes. The school also offers a range of training programmes designed specifically for senior executives, managers, and operational teams, with degree-awarding training (including an Executive Master in Global Management) and custom programmes. ESSCA is also developing on-line designed by ESSCA online campus.

Thanks to its AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS triple crown accreditation, a status held by only 1% of business schools around the world, the School is an internationally renowned institution. It features in the top 100 Masters in Management programmes in the world in the 2023 Financial Times ranking.

Strengthened by a multicampus structure that helps consolidate its appeal to local regions and the showcasing of French expertise in the areas of higher education and research, ESSCA can call upon a network of almost 21,500 alumni working all across the world and currently welcomes over 500 faculty and staff and 7,000 students on its campuses in France (Aix-en-Provence, Angers, Bordeaux, Lyon, Paris and Strasbourg), Hungary, China and most recently in Spain and Luxemburg.

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