

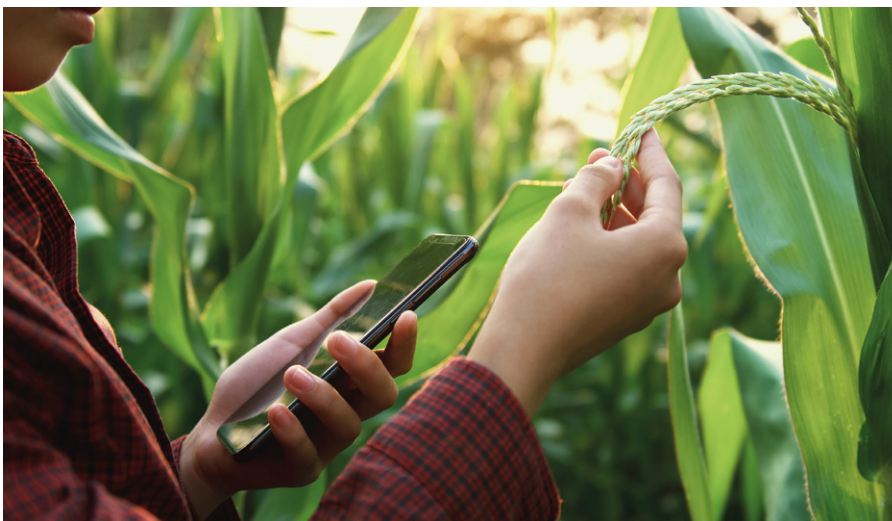
DEGREES

THE BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPÉRIEUR AGRICOLE (BTSA)



More than 20,000 students are enrolled in programs leading to Postsecondary training centers and the technical sections of many secondary schools offer the higher technical certificate known as the *Brevet de Technicien Supérieur Agricole* (BTSA), in a 2-year French national diploma in 16 agricultural and agri-food specialty areas.

BTSA training focuses on the environment, the animal and plant realms, sustainable development, organic farming, new technologies, commercialization of agricultural and agri-food products, and the growth and development of rural areas. Regional economic development, along with rural land use planning and the preservation of natural areas, are central parts of the framework of skills and competencies imparted in BTSA programs. Admission to BTSA programs is selective.



In 2 years of postsecondary study, BTSA programs prepare students for a wide variety of occupations involving production, transformation, commercialization, planning, and development in the sectors of agriculture, livestock raising, fisheries and aquaculture, food processing, landscape architecture, and the environment. The curriculum fosters career development by placing students in real employment situations and offering them practical training in farming, operational, or technical settings in numerous sectors—among them agriculture, foodprocessing,

forestry, landscape and horticulture, commercialization, and services in rural settings.

The BTSA curriculum is distinguished by **the fact that it introduces students to farming or business by means of 12–16 week internships, support and attention** from accessible multidisciplinary faculty members (practical training, guidance in achieving personal and professional goals), and **rapid entry** into the workforce: 90% of BTSA graduates find employment soon after receiving their degree.

**“BTSA
programs
prepare
students in
2 years”**

BTSA Specializations

PRODUCTION-RELATED SECTORS

- Agriculture in hot regions (development)
- Agricultural business (analysis and operations)
- Agronomy and sustainable crops
- Aquaculture
- Animal production
- Plant specializations: food supply, flowers and shrubs, environmental
- Viticulture-enology

AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT SECTOR

- Agricultural machinery engineering

TRANSFORMATIONAL (PROCESSING) SECTORS

- Biological, biotechnological, agricultural, and environmental analysis
- Quality control, food production, innovation, and food safety, options:
 - > Dairy products
 - > Foods and technical processes
 - > Grain products
 - > Meat and fish products

LAND-USE PLANNING SECTOR

- Forest management
- Land-use planning
- Management and protection of natural spaces
- Water control and management

COMMERCIAL SECTORS

- Technical-commercial fields:
 - > Goods and services for the agricultural sector
 - > Beer, wine, and spirits
 - > Food and beverages
 - > Wood and forest products
 - > Garden products and companion animals

SERVICE SECTOR

- Development and management of rural areas

Graduates can go on to pursue a *Licence Professionnelle* or enroll in a course to prepare for the entrance examinations for schools of engineering and landscape architecture, as well as preparatory courses for the *grandes écoles*.



Useful links

- Association of Managers, Engineers, and Technicians in Agriculture and the Food Industry (APECITA): www.apecita.com
- European GLEN GeCo program: <http://glen-europe.org>
- Long postsecondary degree and diploma programs: <https://chlorofil.fr/diplomes-et-ressources-pour-lenseignement/superieur>
- Ministry of Agriculture: <http://agriculture.gouv.fr/Enseignementagricole>
- Ministry of Higher Education and Research: www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr
- National Association for Agricultural Employment and Training (ANEFA): www.anefa.org
- Postsecondary technical certificate (BTS) programs: www.cidj.com/etudes-formations-alternance/les-diplomes/type/bts
- Postsecondary technical certificates in agriculture (BTSA): <https://chlorofil.fr/diplomes/secondaire/btsa>
- Postsecondary technical certificate (BTS) specializations and frames of reference: <https://enqdip.sup.adc.education.fr/bts/index.htm>
- Professional degree programs in agriculture, forestry, nature conservancy, and land management: <https://laventureduvivant.fr>
- Public educational institutions and degrees in agriculture: <https://educagri.fr>
- Young farmers: www.jeunes-agriculteurs.fr

GOOD TO KNOW



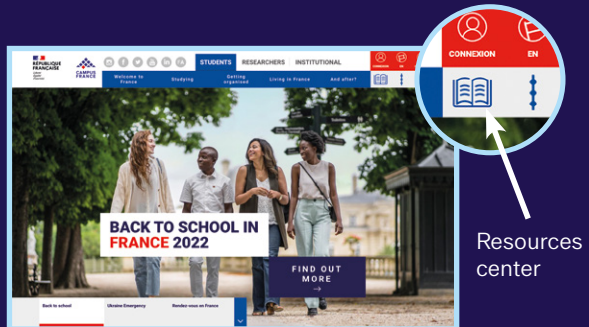
The **Brevet de Technicien Supérieur Agricole (BTSA)** is a French national postsecondary diploma that has been harmonized with the European LMD degree ladder. Over the 2 years of the program, students earn a total of 120 credits under the European Credit Transfer System.

To be admitted to a BTSA program, students must hold a French *Baccalauréat* (technological, vocational, or general tracks) or an equivalent secondary-school credential that entitles the holder to enter higher education in his or her home country. Students already holding a 2-year undergraduate diploma or who can demonstrate that they possess knowledge at that level may be admitted directly into the second year of a BTSA program.

The BTSA is earned in special sections of some secondary schools and in private technical schools. Some BTSA programs are available from institutions offering distance education. Admission decisions are made by individual institutions, which convene committees of faculty members for this purpose. The admissions process uses the *Parcoursup* procedure (www.parcoursup.fr).

Tuition and fees vary by type of institution: public secondary schools (free); private secondary schools under contract to the government and other institutions not under government contract (tuition and fees apply as described on *Parcoursup* www.parcoursup.fr).

LEARN MORE ABOUT FRENCH DEGREES IN THE RESOURCES CENTER.



www.campusfrance.org

- > Resources center > Panorama of Higher Education and Research in France > Degrees
- > THE BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPÉRIEUR AGRICOLE - BTSA