



# INSTITUTS RÉGIONAUX D'ADMINISTRATION



BASTIA, LILLE, LYON, METZ ET NANTES

The first Regional Institute of Administration (in French: Institut Régional d'Administration, or IRA) was founded in 1971. There are now five IRAs (in Bastia, Lille, Lyon, Metz and Nantes), all training higher executive officers (attachés d'administration), the middle-management grade that forms the backbone of the civil service.

In 2012, the IRAs introduced an international course – known as the Cycle international des IRA (CiIRA) – to give foreign students an opportunity to study alongside their French counterparts.

The CiIRA is specially designed for promising executives who already hold positions of responsibility in their country of origin.

## ◆ MAIN PROGRAMMES OF STUDY

The IRAs run an initial training course for higher executive officers, the middle-management grade of the French civil service. The core curriculum covers the knowledge and skills students will need to build rewarding careers, preparing them for diverse roles in different settings across government.

The curriculum spans a broad range of subjects, from HR, finance, budget, government procurement and real-estate management, to digital technologies, communication, legal affairs, public management and accounting.

The course has a strong vocational and competency-based emphasis. The content is tailored to individual students' career goals and most teaching is led by practising civil servants. The CiIRA is an eight-month course where foreign students join a group of trainee higher executive officers, learning the core knowledge and hard and soft skills that will equip them for roles in government. The course is designed to help foreign students internalise the culture of public service, learn how government operates in practice, and gain the managerial skills that management-grade civil servants are expected to possess.

After completing the course, students spend two months immersed in a government department or agency, where they have a chance to put what

they have learned into practice and to contribute to public service delivery.

## ◆ STRENGTHS

- Foreign students study alongside their French counterparts and get personal support to help ease the transition.
- The CiIRA is an advanced vocational course. Most teaching is led by practising civil servants, and students spend two months immersed in a French government department or agency.
- Course credits can count towards the second year of a two-year Master's degree.
- Students have specialised continuing professional development opportunities.
- The course delivers a recognised qualification that equips students for senior positions in the civil service.
- The IRAs are members of France's Network of Public Service Schools (RESP).

## ◆ LOCATION

Bastia, Lille, Lyon, Metz and Nantes  
Each of the five IRAs is located in a city known for its thriving economy and busy cultural scene. All of the cities are within easy reach of Paris (between 1 hour and 2 hours 30 minutes). CiIRA students who opt for the two-month immersion can choose between Paris or another town or city close to the IRA at which they studied.



## IDENTITY FORM

- ◆ **Precise name of the institution**  
Institut Régional d'Administration (IRA)
- ◆ **Type of institution**  
Public
- ◆ **City where the main campus is located**  
Bastia, Lille, Lyon, Metz et Nantes
- ◆ **Number of students**  
Environ 800 par an répartis sur 5 sites (Bastia, Lille, Lyon, Metz et Nantes)
- ◆ **Percentage or number of international students**  
Jusqu'à 30 par an représentant une quinzaine de nationalités différentes
- ◆ **French language courses**  
No
- ◆ **Programs for international students**  
No
- ◆ **Programs in English**  
No
- ◆ **Postal address**  
Direction Générale de l'Administration et de la Fonction Publique (DGAFP)/IRA  
139 rue de Bercy  
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