



### BITS Pilani – CentraleSupélec Paris (CSP) Dual-Degree Programme queries/questions

#### Some of queries/questions asked on in the Webinar I

#### Is the degree from CentraleSupélec level 6 in EU or Level 7?

Level 6. You reach level 7 after one year of MSc, for instance the <u>MSc in Data</u> <u>Science and Business Analytics or MSC in Al</u>

#### Is there an option to do a research thesis instead of industry internship?

Though we do favor and provide industry internships, it can also be an internship in a research lab. Note that it is mandatory in France to give a stipend to intern of at least 500€/month.

What are the opportunities to pursue a master's degree at CSP after completing the Bachelors?

The <u>MSc in Data Science and Business Analytics</u> or <u>MSC in AI</u> are natural options among students who want to enroll in a Master at CentraleSupélec after the BITS-CS Paris bachelor.

#### Do we get a work visa after completing the degree?

According to French law, international students are allowed to work during their studies in France. The long-term student visa allows students to work for a maximum of 964 hours per year. This period starts when the visa (VLS-TS) is validated or when the student residence permit is delivered. For example, if the residence permit was issued on 20 August 2025, the student can work a maximum of 964 hours until 19 August 2026.

After completing a degree in France, students may be allowed to stay in France for one year after the completion of the degree to find a job. The student shall apply for a special residence permit (RECE - Recherche d'Emploi et Création d'Entreprise) that allows the stay in France for one year to look for a job. Once the student finds employment, a work residence permit can be requested.

It is the student's responsibility to ask for the visa, renew the student residence permit, and ask for other types of residence permits. CentraleSupélec will however provide all the necessary documents for these procedures, such as proof of enrollment, degree or certificate of completion of studies.

The cost of living can be partially covered by a part-time job; it depends on the remuneration and the time of work.

# Any part time jobs at the CentraleSupélec campus for the students to reduce the living expenses?

Some jobs may be offered to bachelor's students in this program (such as teaching assistant, program promotion, data analysis, programming, student ambassador, etc.) if they do not put the recruited students in an uncomfortable academic situation. Please note that it is recommended that the student does not engage in part-time work when the semester is going on. At the end of the semester, they may have internships which will allow them to earn a little and gain experience. Student's aim should be to maximize the knowledge and gain from campus facilities when studying as a student, as after 2 years on the campus in any case they could work full-time and make significant earnings. But during the academic session if their focus is not well aligned with courses, they risk the ability to achieve the primary goal they are there for, which is high quality education. This will further reflect adversely in their ability to secure an appropriate internship or job at a later stage if they compromise their academic performance.

An Indian student in France with a long-stay visa equivalent to a residence permit (VLS-TS) "student" may be allowed to work in France, within the legal limits.

**Regulations:** 

• All international students holding a student residence permit (including the VLS-TS) may be allowed to work in France, up to 964 hours per year (approximately 20 hours per week).

• It is no longer necessary to obtain a temporary work authorization as long as this limit is not exceeded.

• The employer must have to submit a nominative declaration to the prefecture at least 2 working days before the job begins.

Types of possible employment:

• Typical student jobs: food service, retail, services, etc.

• University jobs: tutoring, event assistance, etc. The rules are similar, although there is a specific distribution of working hours (from September to June, then in summer).

• Internships: if required by the academic program, any internship lasting more than 2 months must be paid (about €650/month) and does not count toward the 964-hour annual limit.

What is not allowed:

• Self-employment or micro-entrepreneur status: the student residence permit does not allow you to work as a freelancer or start your own business.

• Exceeding the hour limit: beyond 964 hours per year, the employer must apply for a special work authorization. Failure to do so may result in the loss or non-renewal of the residence permit.

Summary:

• Students can work up to 20 hours per week (964 hours per year), with pay at the French minimum wage (about €11 to €12 gross/hour, or about €9 net/hour).

• No additional work permit is required, but a declaration to the prefecture is mandatory.

• Internships required by the study program are not subject to the hourly limit and are generally paid if they last more than 2 months.

• You cannot be self-employed or register as a micro-entrepreneur.

## How much can we expect to earn? Can the living cost be covered by part time work?

The net minimum wage in France is  $\notin$  9.40 per hour. Student visa permits up to 20 working hours per week.

However, please be mindful that balancing academic responsibilities with a parttime job can be challenging. Managing both simultaneously requires strong time management skills, and the added workload may affect your academic performance if not approached carefully.

Will we be awarded a license from CentraleSupélec?

It is a 4-year bachelor's degree awarded by CentraleSupélec. This degree is recognized as a bachelor's degree in engineering by the French "Commission des Titres de l'Ingénieur" which is the accreditation board in France of the EUR-ACE.

Could we share the accommodation rent with roommates or would it be a single occupation?

You'll either have an individual studio, which includes a bed, desk, small kitchenette, and private bathroom, or you may be placed in a shared apartment.

Does placement happen in France or in India?

Placement is available in both countries, depending on students' choices.

Do we need to have the IELTS exam given prior to counselling/admission this year, or can it be taken later?

Deadline of submitting English language certificate is on 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026

The degree awarded by CSP is B. Tech. or BSc or BS?

The degree awarded by CSP will be a Bachelor's degree in engineering.

Are the hostels separate for girls?

You'll either have an individual studio (bed, desk, small kitchenette, and private bathroom) or be in a shared apartment where you can request to be placed with

girls only.

I hope the Credit Map Details with course list etc. will be posted on the BITSAT portal soon. It will be very helpful to get a complete list of courses, especially for the 3rd and 4th year. Al-related courses and projects/specializations are of special interest.

I would like to ask about the flexibility in curriculum at CentraleSupélec Paris regarding electives and interdisciplinary research in this program in fields such as electronics Can the course details for each year be published?

Yes

Can students participate in Practice School 1 and Practice School 2? Will they get Practice School 2 under this program?

Yes. **Practice School** (worth 5 units/credits) will be scheduled **after the second year**, during the summer term organized by BITS Pilani. **Practice School** (worth 20 units/credits) will be conducted by **CSP France** in the **second semester of the fourth year**, after students meet all the necessary eligibility requirements.

Can I participate in the admission process for both the regular 4-year BITS program and the 2+2 BITS-CSP France program during counselling/iteration?

Yes, you are allowed to participate in both options during the initial counselling/iteration rounds. However, around the **third iteration**, you will be required to make a final decision and choose **one** of the two programs.

What is the number of seats available for this program?

Approximately **25-30 seats** are available at the **Pilani campus** and **25-30 seats** at the **Goa campus**, making up a **total of 50-60 seats** across both campuses.

During the filling of choices of courses, I had initially selected "Not interested" in the course, can I change that?

You will get an opportunity to edit it during an edit window.

Will students in this program join the regular undergraduate program at BITS, or will a separate batch be formed for them?

Students in this program will join the regular undergraduate cohort at BITS during the first two years. Their classes, grading, and assessments will be conducted along with all other BITS students. There will be **no discrimination** or separate batch for this cohort at BITS.

What happens if a student fails to achieve the minimum CGPA of 5.5 at the end of the second year?

In such a case, the student will need to improve their CGPA to 5.5 or above in

order to be eligible to transition to CSP France. This may require them to continue at BITS for an extended period to meet the academic requirement, which could result in a delay in their graduation timeline.

Is 75% in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics (PCM) in 10+2 mandatory for admission? If a student has 60% in each individual subject (Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics), but the combined/aggregate percentage is less than 75%, are they still eligible for admission?

Yes, this is a requirement of BITS Pilani. Candidates must meet the eligibility criteria of both universities participating in the program. Meeting the 60% threshold in individual subjects is one of the criteria but not

sufficient unless the aggregate in PCM is also 75% or above.

What if a student is unable to pursue the 3rd and 4th year at CSP France due to reasons such as a medical emergency or financial hardship? Will they be allowed to continue at BITS based on their BITSAT score?

What happens if I am unable to transfer to the CSP France at the end of Year 2?

The BITS-CSP Dual Degree programme requires two years of study at BITS Pilani in India, followed by two years of study at CSP France for successful completion of the course. In the event, you have a compelling reason(s) for not pursuing the remaining two years of study at CSP France then BITS Pilani may in its sole discretion reassign you to a new program depending on your BITSAT-2025 score and its standing in the regular merit list prepared for students directly admitted to First Degree Admissions at Indian Campuses of BITS Pilani through BITSAT-2025 and not through BITS-CSP.

Alternatively, BITS Pilani may provide credits for two years of your course work, which may get credited in another recognized Institute to earn the degree of your choice.

However, in exceptional circumstances such as serious medical emergencies or verified financial hardship, the case may be reviewed on an individual basis.

Is the €12,000 scholarship offered annually for the Top 10 per cent of students, or does it cover both the 3rd and 4th years combined?

The  $\leq 12,000$  scholarship is offered annually, which means eligible students may receive  $\leq 12,000$  per year for both the 3rd and 4th years, subject to meeting the scholarship conditions.

Please refer to the details below:

For the final two years at CS Paris, tuition scholarships will be awarded to BITS-CS Paris students based on their Cumulative Grade Point Average for the first four semesters of the programme at BITS, according to the following:

Top 10 per cent: EURO 12,000 tuition scholarship per year for two years Next 15

per cent: EURO 6,000 tuition scholarship per year for two years Next 45 per cent: EURO 3,000 tuition scholarship per year for two years Overall, CS Paris will award tuition scholarships to the top 70 per cent of each BITS-CS Paris cohort. To remain eligible for their tuition scholarship, BITS-CS Paris students should maintain a 5.5 (on a 10-point scale) GPA while at BITS and CS Paris.

#### Please refer the similar question given in FAQs list.

#### Will I get one or two degrees from this course?

Students who successfully complete all four years of the BITS-CSP dual degree programs will be eligible to receive degrees from both BITS Pilani and CSP France. Both CSP France and BITS Pilani have worked carefully together to align our program offerings, and each will recognize the study completed at the other institution, enabling completion of requirements for each degree. The degrees will be the same as the standard degrees from each institution - students will receive two separate testamurs (Transcripts) and degree certificates, one from each university.