

École nationale
supérieure
des beaux-arts
de Lyon



- Art
- Space Design
- Graphic Design
- Textile Design

2026

2027

10,000 m³

300 students

7 degrees

DNA 1st cycle: Art, Space Design,
Graphic Design, Textile Design
DNSEP 2nd cycle: Art, Praxis (Design),
Graphic Design

1 Preparatory Class

1 Post-graduate program

2 research units

A staff of 100

Teaching, administrative and technical

5 technical departments

2 exhibition galleries

50 partnerships

with foreign schools

1 library

26,000 documents

This year:

4 prizes awarded to graduates

A minimum of 15 conferences

A minimum of 10 off-site exhibitions
and projects

At least 5 on-site exhibitions
in the Réfectoire des Nonnes

20 workshops

70 guest lecturers

The École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Lyon (Ensba Lyon) is a higher art education establishment, certified by the Minister for Culture, hosting around 300 students. It proposes an Art option along with a Design option that has three specializations: Space Design, Graphic Design and Textile Design.



View of the Ensba from the banks of the Saône © Ensba Lyon

Initially envisaged as an academy in 1676, the Lyon Free School of Drawing was founded in 1756, later becoming the Royal Academy of Drawing and Geometry in 1769, and was one of the first French art schools to be established outside of Paris. First Royal, then Imperial, throughout its rich history the Ensba Lyon has continued to train numerous talents, and today participates actively in the education and training of artists, designers and authors on both the French and international scene.

Operating since 2007 on the historic site of the Subsistances on the banks of the Saône, a 15-minute walk from Place des Terreaux, the Ensba enjoys an exceptional setting. A former 17th-century convent, later used as a military building until 1995, the school shares the site with the Subs, a structure dedicated to new forms of performing arts.

Imagined as a laboratory for research and experimentation, all of the teaching is done by a team of professionals from the art world (artists, designers, graphic designers, theorists, publishers...).

In touch with the current forms and challenges of creation, the Ensba Lyon aims to bring out singular talents and produce the conditions for high-level professionalization in the fields of art, design, and creation.

In addition to the higher education courses in art and design, the Ensba has a preparatory class, which offers a general basic training for admission to higher art education institutions.

The Ensba issues state backed qualifications, a Bachelor degree and a Master degree. In addition to these, it continues to develop a third cycle with the Higher Diploma of Research in Art (DSRA) and each year welcomes postgraduate students in the field of contemporary art and creation.



FONDATION
CULTURE &
DIVERSITÉ

The Ensba Lyon is a partner of the "Égalité des Chances" program set up by the Fondation Culture & Diversité, which helps high-school students from disadvantaged backgrounds to prepare for entrance exams to art and design schools.

Curricula outline

1st Cycle : Program Phase



2nd Cycle : Projet Phase



3^e Cycle : Research



* DNA: National Bachelor's Degree in Art

* DNSEP: National Advanced Master's Degree in Visual Expression

* DSRA: Higher Diploma of Research in Art

The Ensba Lyon proposes a number of study programs in the form of options: one Art option and three specialized programs within the Design option. Options and specialized programs are chosen after a generalist first year.

In art

- **The first cycle**, or program phase, corresponds to the first three years of the curriculum, certified and validated by a DNA (National Diploma in Arts) which is equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree.
- **The second cycle**, or project phase, corresponds to the following two years and is certified and validated by a DNSEP (National Higher Degree in Visual Expression) which is equivalent to a Master's Degree.

In design

- The first cycle or program phase corresponds to the first three years of the curriculum, leading to the National Diploma in Art (DNA), equivalent to a bachelor's degree, with a specialization in space design, graphic design, or textile design.
- The first cycle in design features three options: space design, graphic design, and textile design.
- The second cycle or project phase corresponds to the following two years, culminating in the DNSEP design (Diplôme National Supérieur d'Expression Plastique), which is equivalent to a Master's degree. There are two specializations for this second cycle in design: praxis design and graphic design.

The second cycle of art and design options is open to all Ensba Lyon students who have obtained the DNA and been accepted by the second cycle project phase admission committee for either option, as well as to students who have applied for admission to Ensba via the equivalency and mid-program admission committees. Courses are structured in semesters, in accordance with the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System), but students are enrolled for the entire academic year, which lasts 34 weeks, from October to June.

Complementary training for professional development

This professional training is specific to the Ensba Lyon and does not provide access to Crous grants. It is reserved exclusively for students from the Ensba Lyon.

In both art and design, this possibility is offered after the DNA and after the DNSEP to continue with a year of complementary training for professional development: long internships during which the student is accompanied by the establishment.



Exhibition—*Doors Where None Exist*—UR ACTH Réfectoire des Nonnes, 2024 © Ensba Lyon

Postgraduate programs (Post-DNSEP)

In addition to the undergraduate and graduate degree programs, the Ensba Lyon offers several programs for young graduate students.

3rd cycle Research:

This corresponds to a research phase of at least 3 years open to young artist-researchers who hold a DNSEP or equivalent Master degree.

It leads to the Diplôme Supérieur de Recherche en Art (DSRA) at the Bac+8 level.

The 3rd cycle is supported by the two research units active at Ensba Lyon:

- **Contemporary Art and Historical Temporalities (ACTH);**
- **The Art and Design Digital Research Unit.**

Post-graduated program in Art

This consists of a year of high-level education that includes a residency, a study grant and training for five artist-researchers, holders of at least a DNSEP or equivalent 2nd cycle University Degree.

Teaching at the Ensba Lyon is done by a team of over sixty teachers, mainly artists, authors, designers, theorists, researchers, and working professionals of national and international renown.

An annual program of guest participants in the form of conferences, workshops, and various meetings with students enriches and enhances the teaching on a weekly basis.

The team is mobilized around a pedagogical project where the teaching is both individual and collegial, and oriented according to 3 objectives:

- training as a high-level artist, designer and author, based on the student's personal project;
- a personal project fully geared towards a research dynamic;
- the acquisition of the theory-based and practical knowledge and skills required to carry out a personal project along with research work.

Evaluation

The Ensba Lyon's evaluation structure is designed to meet the requirements of the Bologna process and thus clearly highlights the institution's higher education dimension, its requirements, and the qualities of its high-level training.

Allocation of ECTS credits

The evaluation of the student's work is the result of two complementary modes of operation:

- on one hand, a continuous assessment specific to each teacher during the courses, the tests and the reports;
 - on the other hand, a collective evaluation of the student's work and progress, carried out by the college of teachers during the semester assessments. These evaluations are organized according to the criteria of the teaching units.
- A certain number of ECTS credits correspond to each teaching unit.

Year 1

The first year offers practical and theory-based studies in a general artistic orientation, centered around the school's options: Art, Space Design, Graphic Design and Textile Design.

These studies aim to give students the broadest possible exposure to the various fields of creation and the foundations of a solid and autonomous cultural training, accompanied by a familiarization with the necessary tools. The aim is to cultivate creative work and the training of the individual, without prejudging the student's choice of orientation in year 2.

The objectives of this first year are :

- the development of a capacity for personal work and research;
- the formulation of a capacity for analysis;
- imagining a relationship with the world;
- the acquisition of the technical basis and conceptual tools essential for further study.



Offset press – Print
Department © Ensba Lyon

Art

The art option at the Ensba Lyon offers a program that allows students to acquire a level of artistic skills, intellectual means, and technical and technological skills aimed at the construction of an autonomous and singular path in the fields of contemporary art, research and creation.

The Art option offers a generalist, professional and personalized training.

It is the complementary alliance of these three orientations that makes the specificity of a teaching which raises questions such as:

- the relation of art to practice and to technologies;
- the theory-based dimension of art and its relationship to knowledge;
- project management and a research work approach;
- the visual, formal and technical experimentation of processes and means;
- the ontology of the work of art, its critical dimension, its conditions of possibility and deployment;
- the function, the issues of art and the status of the artist.

At the end of the third year, an admissions committee gives the student the possibility of continuing his or her studies in the second cycle subject to obtaining the DNA.

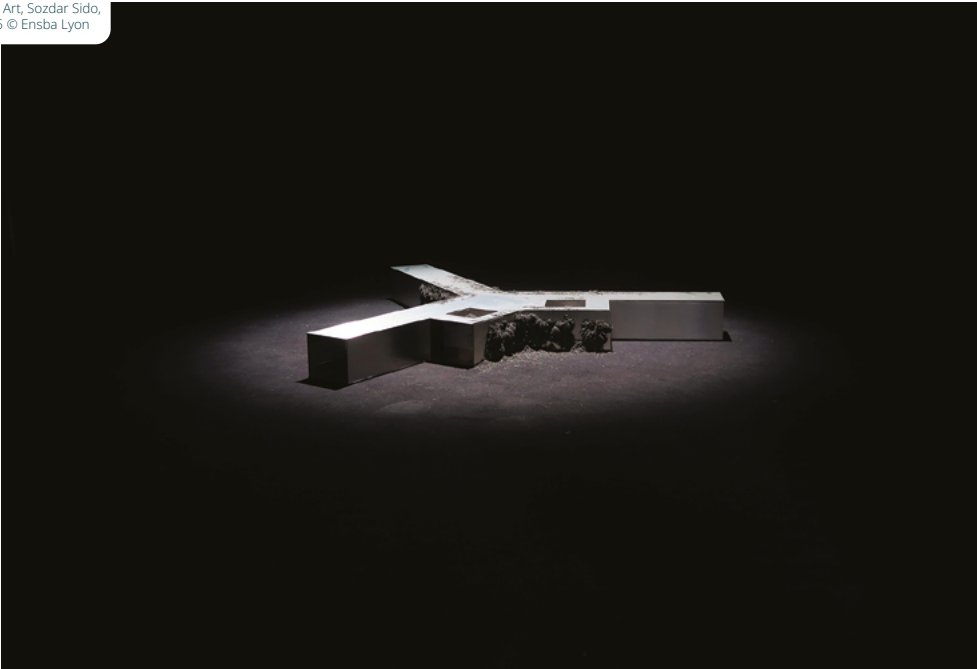
The teaching method consists precisely in preparing the student to acquire a specific work methodology that will enable them to embark upon a singular path.

The pedagogy is plural in nature, mixing collegial workshops, visual studios, practice in workshops, theory classes, steadily contributing to the development of a personal approach.

Theory classes are given in the form of lectures, seminars, conferences, symposiums, visits to exhibitions and study trips, to which is added an individualized monitoring of writing methodology and an examination of the cultural perspectives of the visual work.

Technical internships and meetings with guest artists and art professionals enrich the professional aspect of the student's academic career.

DNA Art, Sozdar Sido,
2025 © Ensba Lyon



DNA Art, Perrine Dusséaux, 2025
© Ensba Lyon

Design (1st cycle)

The Ensba Lyon offers a design program with three specializations: Space Design, Graphic Design, and Textile Design, aimed at building an autonomous and unique career in the fields of contemporary design, research, and topical creation.

Space Design

The Space Design option of the Ensba Lyon develops a vision of design and scenography concerned with notions of context and situations. This brings into play multidisciplinary knowledge capable of acting on the complexity of contemporary issues, where the vision of the author's design affirms itself as forward-looking, carrying within it a narrative of the habitability of the world. Through its event-based nature, Space Design is able to intervene on various scales and temporalities, with emerging practices shifting frames of reference and with projects that notably integrate participation, mediation and an immersive dimension. Numerous collective or individual projects are thus carried out, sometimes in real-life situations, engaging in collaborative dialogue with actors in the field, protagonists of the projects.

These 1:1 scale creations are a major element of a teaching where contextualization and direct experiences are valued and articulated with the methodology of the design project, fueled by research and experimentation, along with a development of technical, constructive and theory-based knowledge.

Increasingly autonomous, with the aim of establishing a singular professional position, students build their field of practice and their personal project culture. They are led to develop their own professional networks, particularly during internships and, at the end of the program, by finding partners to develop their work in the areas of urban action, ephemeral architecture, social design, and set design for live shows or exhibitions.

Design graphique

The teaching provided by the Ensba Lyon in the first cycle aims to help students to grasp the range and scope of possibilities of the practice of Graphic Design in order to develop their own conceptual and formal positions as authors. To this end, a constellation of interrelated courses allows students to work on a complementary and open network of knowledge and culture (writing, publishing, image, language, digital, theory, typography, etc.), which they are encouraged to seize for themselves by incorporating their own experiences, universes and sensitivities.

Experimenting and imagining, learning and sharing, making and telling: the plural teaching, occasionally carried out in English, is articulated around the intention of “publishing”, of “making public” in a wide-spanning approach of mission and reception.



Design textile

The Textile Design option aims to train designers capable of looking at both the world of objects and the world of artistic productions, and of synthesizing them within the framework of a situated production. The training is strongly oriented towards pattern design. It leads students to question the message they wish to convey, to situate their production in the fields of fashion and decoration and to explore and implant the work in new territories.

The training aims to develop textile creativity by promoting innovation in all areas of textiles and by taking into account a broader social and cultural dimension.

It is also a question of mastering technology by placing theory-based and technical knowledge in the service of the creation and manufacturing processes of textiles. And to become familiar with the economic approach of the business, the industrial constraints and the particularities of the sector, the fields of application of textiles, the manufacturing and distribution sectors. The textile designer is able to define his or her projects and develop an argument around their proposals.

Reconciling seduction and intention, the student designs prints that question our behavior, our decor and our uses. Although the program offers a relatively short educational period (baccalaureate +3 years), the pedagogy has two objectives: to encourage a singular and autonomous authorial approach, and the acquisition of technical skills that are essential to existing professions.

→ Students wishing to continue their studies have the possibility of entering the Space Design or Graphic Design program in the second cycle, subject to admission by the year 4 entry commission.

Design (2^e cycle)

Design graphique

The second cycle in graphic design is situated at the intersection of two historical trajectories of ENSBA Lyon: the Master's program in Graphic Design and the Master's program in Exhibition Design. This new DNSEP/Master's program is grounded in contemporary practices, in which independent publishing extends its boundaries beyond the book (see Printed Matter, Now-Time, Inventory Press, etc.), and where contemporary art considers documents and printed matter as both visual and conceptual materials, but also as sources for a robust variant of the exhibition (see the work of Batia Suter, Justine Kurland, Arthur Jafa, etc.).

It also positions itself in a near future in which graphic design would be understood primarily as an expert practice of production of meaning, acquired through the practice of editing—that is, the reflective and distributable arrangement of “content.” This includes not only what is capable of producing meaning in itself within a text or an image (but also within an object, a gesture, or a material), but also (and perhaps primarily) what produces meaning insofar as it is edited.

The aim will therefore be to train students to understand and act on these transitions from book to object, from book to space, from book to time and back again, in a context of “publicization” and dissemination of new forms of scholarly and sensitive knowledge production (open science, situated research, creation-research, etc.).

Praxis – Design and Research

Laboratory

Open to a wide and diverse range of profiles, it is a crossroads where students can explore the complexity of contemporary contexts and question the ever-shifting boundaries of the discipline. The program involves ongoing interdisciplinary experimentation, bringing together the four departments of Ensba Lyon (Space Design, Graphic Design, Textile Design, and Art) along with its technical centers (Volume, Publishing, Moving Images, Photography, Labo NRV – digital laboratory).

The non-separation of theory and practice, a unique feature of teaching in higher education art and design schools, makes design a praxis here: what is produced is inseparable from the political act that produces it. It is a question of seeing the world as a project, of investing in its interstices and particular situations, of questioning, with the tools of design (from field research to functional prototypes), the power relations at play and, simultaneously, the acts of doing and making.

The students recruited (from design programs in the broadest sense: object, space, textile, crafts, etc.), already equipped with the tools and work ethic, aware of technological developments and their ecological implications, are encouraged to consolidate their approach and critical perspective around a clearly defined research project, which takes the form of writing a dissertation, a long internship (or international mobility in a partner school) and the development of a creative project.



DNA Textile Design,
Marguerite Soulier, 2024
© Ensba Lyon



DNSEP Space Design,
Valentine Jouault, 2025
© Ensba Lyon

The teaching methods are varied; developed to accompany students' projects. The technological equipment is largely equal to that of artists and image professionals and is partially renewed each year with a view to acquiring up-to-date skills. However, mastery of tools is not an end in itself; they are in the service of the student's project and research, where the relationship between form and content is constantly questioned.

Ateliers

The *atelier* is the historical work space in art schools. Depending on the nature and rhythm of the work, the spatial configuration of the *atelier*, equipped with mobile picture rails, is in constant evolution.

In addition, a large part of the *atelier* work takes place in the production spaces of the technical departments such as the film and photography set, the post-production departments, the volume and printing department, as well as the meeting space and spaces for nomadic electronic practices (dedicated computer rooms, but also corridors, cafeteria, etc.).

Studios

A Studio in the Art option at Ensba Lyon is a flexible teaching module designed to help students acquire and optimize a technical, theory-based and practical culture of visual tools and materials. Studios are usually held in the *ateliers*. A Studio is led by a teacher-visual artist from a particular option.

At the beginning of the semester, the student chooses from among all the proposals corresponding to the orientation of his or her work, the Studio or Studios essential to the successful completion of his or her project, required to obtain the corresponding credits for the semester.

Workshops

Workshops are an integral part of teaching. They are structured around one or more external interventions: artists, theorists, critics or designers and architects are regularly invited to participate.

Workshops can also be built on the basis of a partnership between a course given in the school and one (or more) external structures (universities or other schools, public or private institutions...) and can also be organized internally.

Exhibition spaces

- **Le Réfectoire des Nonnes**

Le Réfectoire is the exhibition gallery of the Ensba Lyon.

- **La Galerie d'essai**

The test gallery is primarily intended for internal hangings and presentations of student work.

- **Le Mur of the meeting space**

Le Mur, or "The Wall", is intended to host projects by 2nd cycle art students approximately three times a year.

Technical departments

These departments are places of training, experimentation and technical and technological creation.

Equipment (workshops and materials) is made available to the options on the basis of teaching projects and their use is coordinated by the teachers, teaching assistants and technicians.

These departments are also places of production and can welcome artists invited to create a work within the school.

The Ensba Lyon has 5 production centers:

- **Publishing** (printing, silkscreening, offset, lithography, binding...);

- **Photography** (film and digital, image processing, shooting, large format printing and pre-press...);

- **Images-movement** (video, cinema, sound, analog technologies...);

- **Volume** (sculpture, installation, working with wood, metal, resin, earth...);

- **Labo NRV**, an artistic laboratory dedicated to digital cultures. It is a platform where creation, research, training and production meet.

This platform is augmented by a Common's Lab geared towards low-cost prototyping using open-source technologies in collaboration with the volume department.

Lectures

History of contemporary art, aesthetics and philosophy of art, history of the arts and ideas: these lectures are essential to the theory-based, historical and conceptual thinking provided as a support to students' work.

Library

The library of Ensba Lyon carries out specific work resolutely turned towards contemporary artistic creation in its most diverse forms. Its ambition is to accompany students in their different creative experiments as well as in their intellectual questioning.

Lecture cycle

A weekly lecture series is scheduled in the main amphitheater on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

Its programming is multidisciplinary in nature, directly related to the courses, sometimes extending the time of a Studio or workshop. It is a structure based on "working with the speech": with artists, philosophers, designers, writers, filmmakers, and others coming to share their creative practices.

The conferences are open to all students and staff of the school, and to people from outside of the school, subject to reservation. Every conference is recorded and available at the library



Internships

The Ensba Lyon encourages and develops student internships in France and abroad in order to involve them in the professional world. Internships in companies allow students to confront their acquired skills to the reality of the artistic world. The Ensba offers personalized follow-up depending on the option, with an assessment and report carried out at the end of the internship.

Starting in the second year, students must complete internships in institutions or companies, depending on their educational projects. The compulsory internship is included in the university curriculum and is awarded ECTS credits. When the internship lasts more than two consecutive months, it becomes a paid internship.

International exchanges

The Ensba Lyon encourages study trips, stays and internships abroad as part of the curriculum.

To do so, it participates in various programs of the European Community (Erasmus+), the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region, and various organizations such as the Franco-German Youth Office (Ofaj) .

The Ensba Lyon has about fifty partner institutions abroad.

Fourth-year students can receive scholarships for a stay in partner schools and universities or for a long internship abroad (regional BRIME grants, Erasmus+ grants, Ofaj scholarships, and AMI grants for students receiving means-tested grants, or those receiving an annual grant (a specific assistance scheme).

Scholarships may also be awarded to undergraduate students for internships in a company abroad.

All students who go on an academic exchange abroad are required to have their entire semester validated by the host school.

Career and Professional opportunities

The École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon prepares students for professional activities of artistic creation. In addition to independent artists and creators, a large number of artistic and cultural professions have emerged in the visual arts, communication and design sectors, as well as in teaching and mediation. Pluriactivity is one of the dominant features of our students' integration.

In the creative sectors, having a DNA and then a DNSEP leads to positions characterized by autonomy and creativity whether the activity is in response to commissions or emerges from a personal initiative: visual artist, author, photographer, video artist, textile designer, designer, graphic designer, model maker, space designer, scenographer, art critic, curator, teacher and or assistant in an art school...

Artistic activities are carried out in various public sectors (local authorities, urban planning departments, cultural and audiovisual services, museums, educational establishments, etc.), as well as in the private sector (design and advertising agencies, publishing houses, art centers, foundations, etc.).

Our 2020 survey reveals that the majority of our graduates pursue an artistic activity on a long-term basis (over 85%), allowing them to develop a personal artistic approach (nearly 95%). They benefit from a strong presence in the regional, national or international artistic fields in terms of professional activities related to their studies (over 90%).

Support Schemes

The questions of professionalization, whatever the training and degree level, are already intrinsically linked to the professional activities of the teachers themselves: artists, designers, authors or exhibition curators along with the many guests who take part in workshops, conference cycles and courses.

The following are also offered during or after students' education thanks to a very dedicated staff:

- Studios where the spatialization of the works and the management of work is taught in specific places (*La Galerie d'essai, Le Réfectoire des Nonnes, Le Mur*, and in exhibitions outside of the school) the spatialization of work and the management of work;
- Masterclasses in Art and the setting up of an inter-cycle professionalization module in Art and Design;
- at least four distinct prizes (Prix de Paris, Prix de Madrid, Prix Hélène Linossier, Prix Dufraine) renewed and maintained each year to accompany students as they move into professional life;
- a relay and monitoring of calls for projects, residencies, and various online announcements on a specific web platform for alumni (DNA or DNSEP);
- targeted partnerships with LeGrandLarge, the Lyon Biennial, the Saint-Etienne Design Biennial, the Publishing Biennial, the Cité internationale des arts in Paris, the Galeries Nomades and the Institut d'Art Contemporain, Artagon, le CAP Saint-Fons, Kommet lieu d'art contemporain, la Fondation Renaud (Lyon 9e) for public exhibitions and publications;
- a network of companies from diversified sectors of activity, the organization of professional meetings with the most suitable protagonists and the organization of dedicated visits to printers, textile workshops, scenographic workshops, production sites - cabinet makers, metalworkers, agencies and publishing houses - enhance and complete the internship policy.

Entrance exam for first year

Admission to the first year of the DNA program (Bac+3 level, conferring a Bachelor's degree) is through an entrance exam.

This exam is open to all candidates: high school graduates or holders of an equivalent French or foreign diploma, students in their final year of high school, in "preparatory classes for art schools," or enrolled in post-secondary programs.

→ For candidates who are not high school graduates (those who have left the school system), requests for exemptions must be submitted to the academic office. They do not apply through Parcoursup.

Registering for the exam

- Registration for the entrance exam for the first year at Ensba Lyon is done through the Parcoursup platform.
- The submission of the materials reviewed by the juries in the 1st and 2nd phases is done on Taïga, as soon as you register for the exam.
- Registration Fees for the First Year Entrance Exam are 50€

1st phase: preselection

The jury will review:

- ↳ the letter of intention
- ↳ the artistic portfolio.

The criteria for the preselection file are as follows:

- ↳ the quality and organization of the artistic portfolio;
- ↳ the visual qualities of the work
- ↳ the singular visual approach
- ↳ the pertinence of the letter of intention

If you are selected for these tests, you will receive an invitation by email.

2nd phase: Admission (interview with the jury via videoconference)

During this interview, the jury will discuss the following:

- The portfolio
- The PDF with the three visuals
- Additional elements

The candidate will need to demonstrate that they are curious about creation, particularly contemporary creation.

Elements required for applications

The letter of intention

The letter of intention, or cover letter, which should not exceed a single, typed, A4 page, should clearly communicate the applicant's willingness to join the school, describing their future artistic project within the school. It should display their knowledge of how the school and its options operate, and should provide an overview of their knowledge in terms of the history of art and contemporary cultures.

↳ One page maximum

Artistic portfolio

The applicant's artistic portfolio should allow the committee to evaluate their visual qualities and their developing artistic personality. It should clearly and explicitly show their singularity and their ability to innovate; its content should be the least scholarly and academic possible.

All mediums are accepted: drawing, painting, text, photo, video, performance, etc. You can include URL links to videos or sound platforms.

↳ 15 pages maximum

↳ Maximum size: 50 Mo

PDF featuring three visual elements

A one-page A4 PDF presenting 3 visuals of your choice that express your interests that are **not** your own work. You are asked to explain your choice in a text of a total of 7 to 10 lines.

The visuals can be works by artists, designer objects, exhibition images, movie posters, book covers, comic book images, textiles, photography, painting, drawing, installation, etc. Each visual must be identified: author, title, date, dimensions, and the source of the image must be indicated (website, exhibitions, publication, etc.).

Additional elements

During the interview, candidates may present the jury with additional materials to complement the preselection artistic portfolio, including representative works of a different nature, in any medium.

Timetable

(Excluding students who do not hold a bachelor's degree)

From January 19 to March 12, 2026: Opening of the Parcoursup platform and the selection and expression of preferences

• **April 1, 2026:** deadline for completing your application and confirming your choices on Parcoursup and Taiga.

• **April 24–27, 2026:** Selected applicants will receive an invitation to the interview stage via e-mail.

• **May 6 and 7, 2026:** Interviews with preselected applicants (via videoconference).

• **June 2, 2026:** Launch of the main admission phase (responses from educational establishments) via Parcoursup.

↳ Candidates who have been admitted and have confirmed their wish to enroll at ENSBA Lyon on Parcoursup will be contacted directly by email with details about first-year registration.

For any questions regarding admissions please contact: candidature@ensba-lyon.fr

For more information and the FAQ on the school website:

↳ www.ensba-lyon.fr

Mid-Program Admissions and Equivalency

The **mid-program admission** classification applies to students who started their studies at other art schools in France accredited by the Ministry of Culture.

The **equivalence** classification concerns students who began their studies in other institutions in France accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education, holding a university degree or a diploma from a school of applied arts and foreign students who began their studies at an art school or in an artistic program at a higher education institution in their country of origin.

Registering for the entrance exam

- Registration with the equivalency committee and for the curriculum courses is done via Taïga (accessible from the ENSBA Lyon website).
- The examination application fee is €51.

1st phase: preselection based on application file

The preselection document is made up of an administrative file (letter of intention, CV...) and an artistic portfolio. The criteria for the preselection file are as follows:

- ↳ the quality and organization of the artistic portfolio;
- ↳ the visual and plastic qualities of the work
- ↳ the singular nature and solidity of the visual or plastic approach
- ↳ the pertinence of the letter of intention

Attention: the application file must be complete in order to be reviewed.

2nd phase: interview with the jury via videoconference

During the interview the applicant will be asked to present elements in addition to, and not present in, the preselection portfolio.

These supplementary pieces should be representative of the visual and creative qualities and artistic personality of the applicant.

Admission is granted on condition that the candidate obtains the required number of ECTS credits and/or degree of the current academic year.

The Ensba Lyon reserves the right to offer admission to candidates for the N-1 year of their chosen program, regardless of their previous academic background.

The elements of the application

The letter of intention

The letter of intention, or cover letter, which should not exceed a single, typed, A4 page, should clearly communicate the applicant's willingness to join the school, describing their future artistic project within the school.

It should demonstrate their understanding of how the school and the program they wish to join operate, as well as provide a brief description of their areas of work (mediums and processes) and research (themes, issues), along with an overview of their knowledge of art history and contemporary cultures.

Artistic portfolio

The applicant's artistic portfolio should allow the jury to evaluate their ability to join the desired option through its plastic and visual qualities and their developing artistic personality.

The content should be the least scholastic and the least academic possible. All mediums are acceptable: drawing, painting, text, photo, video, performance, etc.

Links to video and/or sound platforms can be included in the artistic portfolio.

↳ Maximum size: 50 Mb

Other documents

- ↳ The completed and signed registration form for the exam;
- ↳ A curriculum vitae;
- ↳ A certificate of enrollment for the current year;
- ↳ Photocopies of degrees and diplomas earned since the baccalaureate;
- ↳ Degrees and diplomas obtained abroad must be certified as valid copies by the embassy or consulate and translated by a certified translator;
- ↳ Photocopies of grade transcripts from the baccalaureate onward;
- ↳ A photocopy of your identity card or passport;
- ↳ For foreign students (non-French speakers), a French-language test (TCF) with a level of 4 or B2;

Timetable

From December 10, 2025, to March 4, 2026: Registration

• **March 20, 2026:** results of the preselection stage

• **From March 30 to April 3, 2026:** Interview (via Videoconference)

• **April 22, 2026:** publication of final results

For any questions regarding admissions::
candidature@ensba-lyon.fr

More information and FAQ on the school's website:

↳ www.ensba-lyon.fr



Bronze casting,
volume dept. - 2025
© Ensba Lyon



Workshop—Space design—Ceramics
with Julia Huteau—2025 © Ensba Lyon

Tuition and fees

The registration fees are:

- **775 €** (non-scholarship student);

Students receiving means-based grants do not have to pay tuition fees.

To these fees, must be added the CVEC (student life and campus contribution):

- **105 €** for non-scholarship holders (2025-2026). *Exemption from the CVEC for scholarship holders.*

Study Regime

Having the status of student allows you to benefit from University services: catering, housing. For more information, contact the **Crous**.

- ↳ 59 rue de la Madeleine, 69365 Lyon cedex 07
- ↳ www.crous-lyon.fr
- ↳ 09 72 59 65 65

Higher education grants based on social criteria

These grants are intended to allow their beneficiaries to undertake and pursue higher education.

They are delivered by the **Crous**.

- ↳ 25 rue Camille Roy, Lyon 7^e

Several conditions must be met:

- qualifications and results;
- nationality;
- age;
- and resources (family income, number of dependent children, distance from the place of study).

The terms and conditions of the grants and the rates are set each year by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

Registration and application form

- ↳ www.crous-lyon.fr



● Access

École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Lyon

Substances site
8 bis quai Saint-Vincent
69001 Lyon

Acces

Subway **A**

Stop: Hôtel de Ville
+ 15 min. walk

Subway **D**

Stop: Valmy
+ 15 min. walk

Bus C14, 19, 31, 40

Stop: Substances
or Homme de la
Roche: Cross the
footbridge
+ 5 min. walk

Nearby

Hôtel de Ville
Lyon 1°

5 min

13 min

15 min

Place Bellecour
Lyon 2°

9 min

16 min

25 min

Neighbouring organisations

Les SUBS
8 bis Quai Saint-Vincent
Lyon 1°

1 min

Conservatoire National Supérieur
Musique et Danse de Lyon
3 Quai Chauveau, Lyon 9°

8 min

Paris

Lyon-Paris : 2h



Scène



CNSMD



Les SUB



Ensba Lyon

8 bis quai Saint-Vincent
69001 Lyon

France

www.ensba-lyon.fr

☎ 04 72 00 11 71

🕒 The Ensba Lyon is open:
from 8 a.m to 8 p.m Monday to Thursday,
and from 8 a.m to 7 p.m on Friday

Admissions information:
Education and Student Affairs
Department

✉ candidature@ensba-lyon.fr



Geneva

Lyon-Geneva : 2h 🚆

Marseille

Lyon-Marseille : 1h50 🚆

Photo: view of Ensba from the banks of the Saône
© Blandine Soulage
Typefaces: Ensba Mono / Ensba © Alex Chavot, 2014
Graphic Design: © Lucie Comerro, 2022
Translation: © Derek Byrne, 2022



École nationale
supérieure
des beaux-arts
de Lyon

8 bis quai Saint-Vincent
69001 Lyon

04 72 00 11 71

www.ensba-lyon.fr



L'Ensba Lyon est un
établissement public
de coopération culturelle
financé par :



La Région
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes



**MINISTÈRE
DE LA CULTURE**
*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

établissement
associé

