

École nationale  
supérieure  
des beaux-arts  
de Lyon

The Classe  
préparatoire

2026

2027

The École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts of Lyon is a public establishment for cultural cooperation, certified by the Minister for Culture, whose activities are dedicated to higher art education and research in the visual and plastic arts. In addition to providing curricula in higher level art and design education the school also prepares students for entry to higher art schools.

Located in the centre of Lyon in the neighborhood of St Jean, and situated in the Annex of the Town Hall (Mairie annexe du 5e arrondissement), the Classe Préparatoire of the École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts of Lyon provides a general curriculum with the aim of preparing students for admission into higher education art establishments.

Located near to Les Subsistances, students have access to a number of the facilities of the Ensba.

Students also have access to the library in the Ensba for the purposes of carrying out research with the possibility of borrowing books, cds and dvds.

Students also attend the weekly conferences in the Ensba.

The Classe Préparatoire of the Ensba is a state-certified establishment, and receives support from the City of Lyon, the French Minister for Culture, and the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Regional council.

The Class Préparatoire is part of the national network of public preparatory schools through its membership of the APPEA association. The APPEA is an associated member of the ANDEA (National Association of Higher Schools of Art).

↳ [www.appea.fr](http://www.appea.fr)

#### Open Days

↳ *JPO of the Ensba Lyon*

January 30 and 31, 2026

On the site of the Ensba  
Lyon, Lyon 69001

↳ *JES*

January 28 and 29, 2026

On the site of the class  
prépa, Lyon 69005



Photography class – Natural Light 2025  
© Maité Marra



Open Days 2025  
© Maité Marra



Visit to the CAP St-Fons—2025  
© Maité Marra

Theoretical and practical courses provide approximately 30 hours of classes and studio sessions per week from September to May. This full time curriculum is entirely dedicated to monitored workshops and classes. Visits to exhibitions are also organized depending on the rich program in Lyon and the surrounding area.

## Teaching objectives

The teaching dynamic of this year of initiation and training in the plastic and visual arts favors a creative and individualized approach.

It is intended to allow students to efficiently prepare for different entrance exams into higher and advanced schools of art in France and abroad, and to refine their choices with regard to the different specialities that are proposed by each school.

The Classe Préparatoire is both a year of initiation and experimentation in plastic and visual practices, and a year of thinking and guidance, accompanied by a personalized and individual monitoring of each student's progress and development.

- ❶ Public: from 17 to 25 years old.
- ❶ Number of students: 75, divided into 3 classes

## Evaluation

The evaluation of students' work is based on a continuous monitoring, in addition to two semestrial assessments where each student presents the whole of their work to a jury in a realistic situation. This mimics the conditions of, and prepares students for, the oral section of the entrance exams in French higher schools of art.

## Teaching

- **History of classical, modern and contemporary art + General culture**
- **A.V.A Course, Analysis, Verbalization, Argumentation**
- **Painting / 2D Drawing**
- **Observational drawing, life-model and design**
- **Photography**
- **Volume-installation**
- **Digital Reality (class in English)**
- **Graphic Design**
- **Textile Design**
- **Space Design**

## Targeted learning

- familiarization with technical tools and equipment;
- multiple and varied approaches to modes of plastic and visual expression;
- development of student curiosity and personality;
- opening up to fields of contemporary art;
- learning to give meaning to, speak about, and shape one's work;
- acquisition of cultural and artistic knowledge leading to a deliberate and informed choice of each student's future specialization.

## Certificate

The certificate for completion of the preparatory year for the entrance examinations to higher schools of art and design is awarded to students who have met the expectations of the program. This certificate, issued by ENSBA Lyon, is recognized by the Ministry of Culture.

❗ The Classe Préparatoire does not appear on the Parcoursup platform.

## Registering for the entrance exam

The entrance examination is open to all candidates aged 17 to 25: holders of the French baccalaureate or an equivalent French or foreign diploma, students in their final year of secondary school, or those enrolled in post-secondary programs.

Applicants may register for the exam even if they are in their final year of high school, however final admission will be subject to successfully passing the baccalaureate (or equivalent exam).

Depending on the availability of places, the preparatory class reserves the right to open a second round of admissions.

Registration form to be completed online from **January 26, 2026 at 2 p.m.** on the website of the Classe Préparatoire.

Registration deadline: **April 20, 2026.**

Entrance exam fee: 53 euros.

## Registration fees

For the academic year 2020–2021, registration fees are as follows:

- **1,750 euros** for non-scholarship students to be paid in three installments (June, September, November).
- **1,300 euros** for higher education scholarship holders.

❗ Attention: In addition to these fees applicants must pay a fee that covers their contribution to student life:

↳ CVEC: 105 euros in 2025 – 2026. *Scholarship holders are exempt from paying the CVEC.*

In addition to these school fees, supplies and materials are all paid for by students.

## The entrance exam

- Stage 1 : Admissibility

**May 11, 2026**

Pre-selection on the basis of an artistic file and a letter of motivation.

If the candidate is pre-selected, he/she will be invited to the admission test.

- Stage 2 : Admission

**From May 19 to 20, 2026**

A jury evaluates the candidate's knowledge, curiosity and motivation during an interview that takes place remotely with the student presenting their work.

❗ The jury's decision is final.

## Status of students

Since September 2017, students in the Classe Préparatoire of the Ensba Lyon all benefit from the full status of student (grants, student social security and access to the CROUS). Applications for student grants and accommodation can be made to the Crous.

↳ [www.crous.fr](http://www.crous.fr)

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



FONDATION  
CULTURE &  
DIVERSITÉ

# Contacts

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# Équipes

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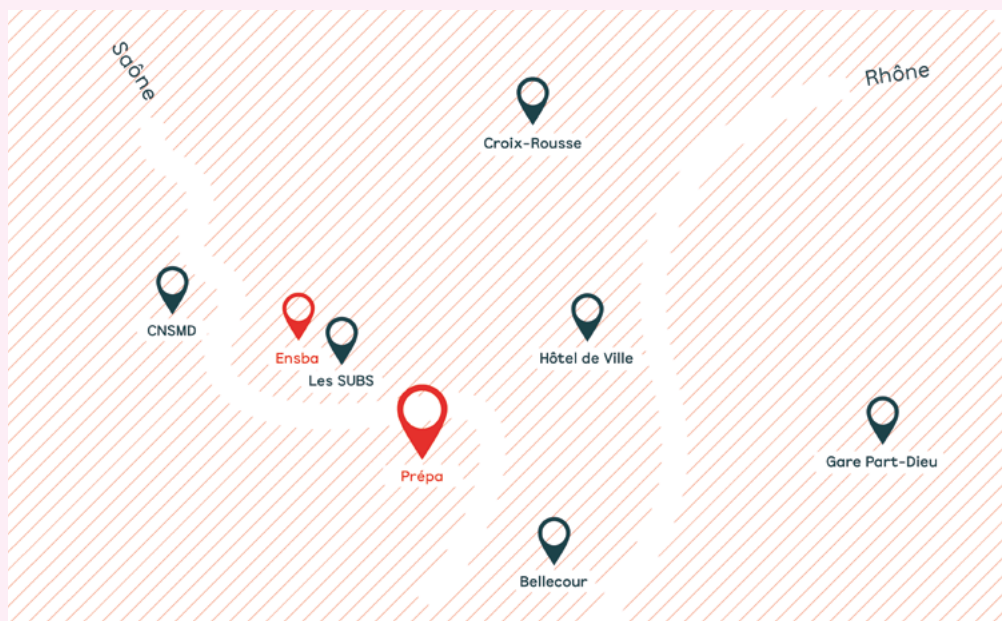
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The Ensba Lyon is a  
public establishment of  
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financed by:

