

International Training Program

Local Training Initiative

The training program is financed both by the European award program, Erasmus +, and the Nouvelle-Aquitaine regional council. Such an initiative enables young students and trainees to experience a 6-month work placement abroad, complemented by a learning process in the language of the host country.

The interests are multiple, both for the company and the trainee:

- The company benefits from an additional work force, with the motivation and will to learn new skills and integrate the work team. In addition, the presence of the trainee is voluntary and non-remunerated. A 6-month work placement enables the trainee to specialize and represent added value for the company.
- The trainee benefits from the work environment and the multicultural environment by learning the language as well as professional skills. Such a learning process contributes to the trainee's personal development.

The program creates or reinforces partnerships between companies and vocational training institutions across Europe, to be in line with the labour market in the following years.

THE LOCAL TRAINING INITIATIVE IN 4 STEPS:

- A language and cultural training program carried out by the sending institution,
- An online language and cultural training course on the lycée Gustave Eiffel website,
- A 6 month work placement (24 – 26 weeks),
- Feedback from the trainee's experience abroad and the defence of their dissertation.

Overall, the duration of the training program is a complete school year (36 weeks):

- 6 to 8 weeks language and cultural training course,
- 24 to 26 weeks work placement (starting from 1st September and ending on 31st May);
- 2 to 4 weeks for the trainees to draft their dissertation and prepare to present their work placement.

I. The International Training Program

1. Diploma / certificate

When completing the program, the trainee will receive an International Training Program Certificate, signed by the rector of the academy and the president of the Nouvelle Aquitaine Regional Council.

The EUROPASS Mobility, in addition to the diploma, will certify the knowledge and skills acquired in another European country.

The certificate shall be signed by the supervisor of the traineeship and countersigned by the principal of lycée Gustave Eiffel.

A language certificate maybe introduced at the end of the work placement. Such an initiative will be carried out by the lycée Gustave Eiffel.

2. Eligibility requirements

The training program is intended primarily to vocational baccalaureate graduates (Baccalauréat Professionnel) or vocational training certificate graduates (Brevet de Technicien Supérieur, BTS) motivated by taking a work placement abroad and affiliated to an institution member of the Consortium.

II. Language and Cultural Training Course

1. Seminars

The aim of these seminars is to retain the interest of the trainees in this program. The seminars are planned over a period of 8 weeks. At the start of the school year, the first seminary will regroup all the selected candidates divided in groups of 15-20 trainees. Different groups will be made based on the situation of each trainee regarding their work placement and the language spoken in their host country.

During the first seminary, an update will be made on the situation of each trainee relative to the work placement (guidelines, advanced CV and cover letter writing courses, etc.).

After finding a work placement, trainees will be supervised to find accommodation and live according to budget when living in the host country.

The seminars will be dedicated to improve the trainees' language skills. The trainees will follow this course during 6 hours every day during a 5 day period, adding up to 30 hours. A meeting will be organized every 4 weeks, made up of a week seminary and three weeks in the institution of origin. These are necessary to keep the trainees motivated by the program and maintain their language level.

Over a period of 8 weeks, two or three meetings will be set up for each trainee.

2. Online courses

In the context of the International Training Program, we provide online language and cultural courses through its software platform hosted on Moodle. These courses prepare the trainees to their work environment in the host country. The online courses are made up of three training modules, a necessary complement for the successful completion of the work placement.

Each training module is complemented by audio and visual support materials, with the objective of overcoming the fear of the language barrier. These modules follow a specific learning process organized in five different workshops (understand, read, take part in a conversation, orally express their views and write) to improve both the oral and written skills of the participants. The training program is structured in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, for levels A2 to B1.

Participants will be asked to follow compulsory courses and submit assignments at the end of each module. All the courses will take place on the software platform, as well as the work submissions.

The deadlines for each module will be published on the platform including the correction of the previous work. Participants will receive the support of a lecturer in each language (English, Spanish, German and Italian) through the language platform with specific mentoring and correction of their work.

3. Preparing the defence of the dissertation

Each trainee will defend a dissertation in front of a mixed panel consisting of members of the CONSORTIUM, a representative of the sending institution, a representative of the Local Education Authority and a representative of the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Regional Council.

The training course will take part for a period of two to four weeks. The dissertation will be presented with a slide show in French and in the language of the host country. By validating the training program each trainee will receive the EUROPASS certificate and the International Training Program certificate delivered by the Regional Council and the Local Education Authority of Bordeaux.

III. Objectives of the International Training Program

1. Objectives of the training modules

First of all, we believe that to successfully prepare the participants, the program needs to cover subjects related to daily life in order to guarantee their integration in a new environment. The aim is to make sure that each student is able to handle ordinary situations of daily life in the spoken language of the host country. The oral skills combined with general knowledge of the country are important assets.

Secondly, language skills and vocabulary relative to the company's activity sector are important to be able to integrate a work team and improve during the work placement. Such skills will be developed during the second module. In the third module, the students will learn about the culture of their host country to better understand the traditions and the historical context today. Such steps are necessary for the participants to integrate a different cultural environment. With a better knowledge of the country, the participants will learn beyond the simple « cliché » and be introduced to the real culture of the country which they will experience first hand during the work placement.

2. Assets of the training program on the labour market

The subjects studied and the skills learnt in each training module are necessary for the successful completion of a work placement abroad.

Such a work experience represents an asset on the labour market. The trainees will have developed important skills such as the capacity to adapt to a work environment, language and written skills, as well as open-mindedness relative to our society.