

Students

Companies

Laboratories

Scientific thinking, Business thinking

Cifre

Conventions

Industrial contracts for training through research

The CIFRE process, initiated by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research and run by the ANRT, has grown continually since it was established in 1981. The number of agreements signed annually has doubled over the last ten years.

CIFREs have already succeeded in bringing together over 6,000 companies and 4,000 academic research laboratories, involving 12,000 PhDs.

Each year, 50% of companies register for the first time, most of them are SMEs. This partnership renewal shows how relevant the measure is in supporting research through partnership in all sectors for companies of any size.

The system is suitable for all types of company. Medium-sized, small, and even very small companies, are increasingly making use of this close-at-hand and easy-to-use tool in line with their contribution to national R&D.

This type of support for PhD studies, with its particular emphasis on supervision quality, has proved largely successful in terms of thesis defence and job access.

A study of doctors who took part in CIFRE revealed that they considered that the training system had responded to their ambitions.

At the start of their career, CIFRE doctors find scientific employment in both large groups and small- and medium-sized companies, as well as academic laboratories. Early participants in the system have been shown to have significant internal and external mobility.



The vocation of the highly popular CIFRE process is to contribute to the competitiveness and innovation of French business. It encourages exchanges between public research laboratories and socio-economic environments and contributes to helping doctors find work in companies of all sizes.

CIFRE's offers are regularly posted on the ANRT website (www.anrt.asso.fr), so that students can apply to companies, and laboratories can initiate new partnerships.

Students

Boost your future with a diploma-based first job

Armed with a recent M-level diploma, you can make a concrete contribution to the development and promotion of scientific knowledge. You can acquire an excellent level of training and recognized research experience, and become part of a network of experts.

Your company and your academic laboratory count on your creative ability when they put you in charge of one of their partnership research projects. You learn how to deal with the real-life situations your company faces, and acquire behavioural and interpersonal skills in the process. You get a chance to progress in the best environment.

Recruited **on either a permanent or a 3-year contract***, and with a **minimum gross annual salary of € 23,484 ****, you study for your PhD while carrying out research work within the company and academic laboratory. This means you participate in bringing the academic milieu closer to what your company is really looking for. You learn how to evolve instinctively within these two distinct worlds.

In line with the decree of 7 August 2006 on French doctoral studies, **you must be a PhD student in a doctoral school attached to your academic laboratory** with access to all available courses there.

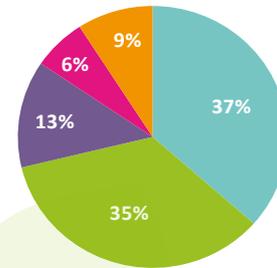
You will become a **doctor once** you have defended your thesis, proving that you are capable of undertaking a substantial R&D project. You will be recognized for your participation in research and innovation, your keen capacity for tackling the problems facing a company, and your interaction with partners from different cultures.

Fully supervised PhD training

In the 27 years since CIFRE process was established, there has been an 88% level of thesis defences across all disciplines.

Joint supervision from the company's scientific head and the PhD supervisor, coupled with the annual progress reports required by the ANRT, contribute to this remarkable success rate.

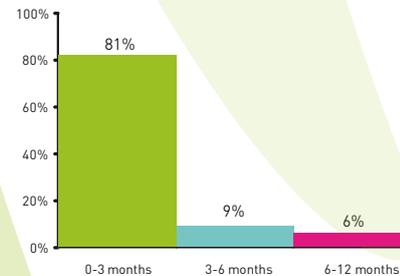
How doctors are employed after completing a CIFRE



- Remain in the compagny
- Join another compagny
- Join a public research or teaching body
- Pursue post-doctoral studies
- Seek employment

Results for 11,808 CIFREs since 1981

Short job-seeking period ***



The vast majority of doctors find employment within 6 months following their CIFRE.

The ease with which the researchers change company shows their high employability and the extent to which their experience is appreciated.

To apply for a CIFRE, you must

- Hold a Master's degree or equivalent diploma from an engineering or business school.
- Not have been enrolled in a doctoral school for more than a year.
- Not have been employed in the company for more than a year.
- Be of any nationality.
- Specialize in any field.

* Art. D 1242 - 3 & 6 of the French work code

** 2009 figure

*** Statistics based on the experience of 2,000 doctors

Companies

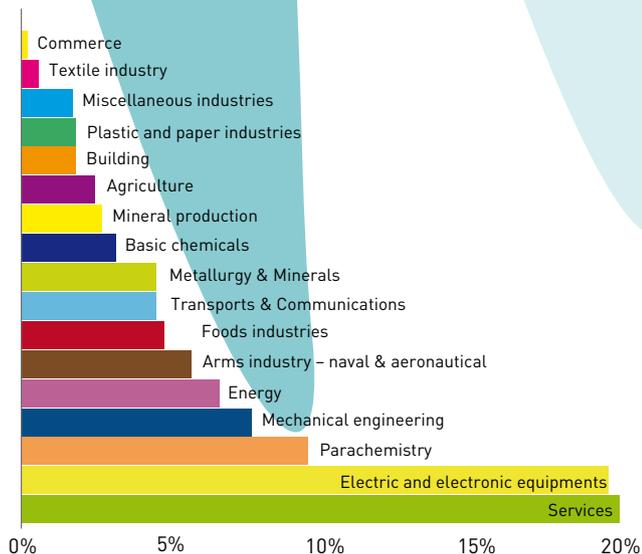
Boost your performance by recruiting a PhD student

Your projects involve anticipation, development and transfer; you need to access a critical mass of scientific capabilities using test means at top technological level, to overcome technological challenges.

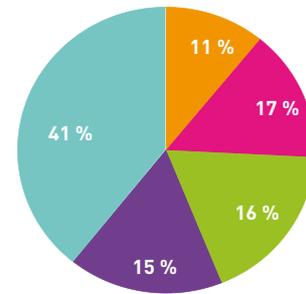
Hand over an R&D problem to an M*-level graduate, and he or she will provide you with concrete solutions backed by his or her laboratory. This means you can benefit from a skilled research team along with the appropriate scientific equipment. Once an M-level graduate becomes part of your company, he or she can help guide you to the right solutions, bringing an academic approach in line with your professional and time constraints.

You create a pool of talented young staff perfectly acquainted with how your company works and the features of your particular sector.

Business sectors



Breakdown of results identified by companies



- Finalization of prototypes
 - Filing of at least one patent
 - Improvement or creation of process
 - Development of new products
 - Acquisition of know-how
- Results for 11,808 CIFREs since 1981

To be eligible for a CIFRE :

- You must be a socio-economic outfit (company, association, territorial authority, etc.) under French law.
- There is no size limit.
- There is no quota per structure.

The ANRT, on behalf of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research, will provide you with an annual subsidy of € 14,000** for an annual gross salary of at least € 23,484, on a permanent or 3-year*** contract.

Expenses remaining at your charge are eligible for a Research Tax Credit and entitle you to a tax credit of at least € 14 294****.

You sign a collaboration contract with the academic partner laboratory, which sets out the conditions for research and for sharing the rights of the results.

- Requests can be filed at any time.
- Response to applications within 2 months.
- To recruit your PhD student or find a laboratory, post your CIFRE offer on the ANRT's website, www.anrt.asso.fr

* Master's degree or equivalent from an engineering or business school.

** 2009 figures, quarterly payment in arrears

*** Art. D 1242 - 3 & 6 of French work code, without obligation to hire at the end of a temporary contract

**** More information on the ANRT website

Laboratories

Boost your research with a CIFRE

CIFREs enable you to **position your PhD students in prime scientific and financial environments** for carrying out their studies. You can prepare your students for working in research and innovation, while offering them a **genuine professional career path**.

You focus your research activities on the challenges of company strategy **and needs, and acquire the potential to transfer and develop your research**. You gain access to a field of experience or increased technological potential. You create **long-lasting relationships with a company**.

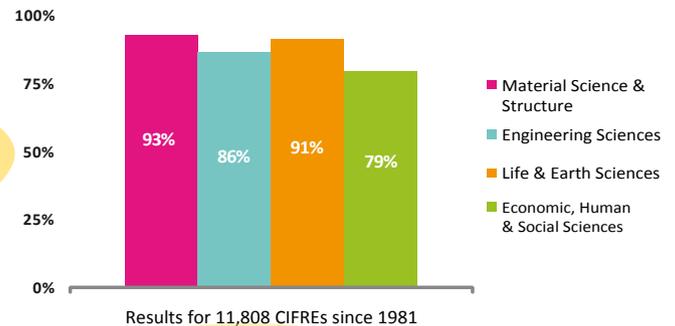
You give your researchers the chance to suggest new concepts, combining fundamental approaches with the development of concrete solutions in response to companies' needs.

Recruited on either a permanent or a 3-year* contract by the company, the PhD student is enrolled in the doctoral school attached to your team and has access to all available courses. The particularly high rates of thesis defence and doctors' employability prove the success of this type of research-based training.

You sign a collaboration contract with the company, which sets out the conditions for research and for sharing the rights of the results.

We come and present the CIFRE process to your M-level students upon request, throughout the year.

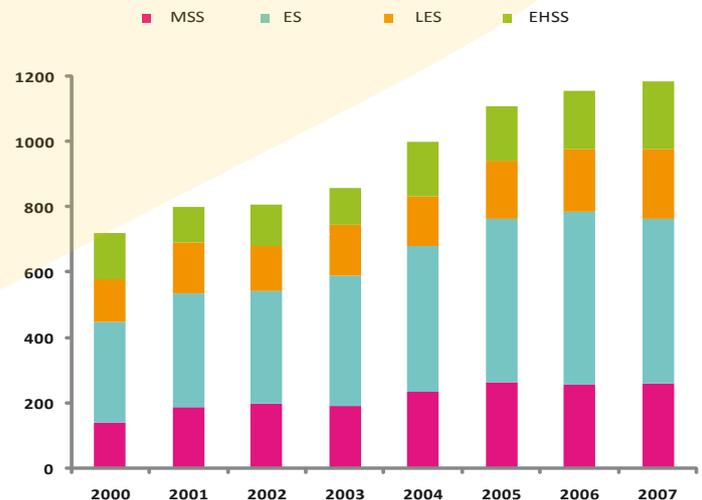
Thesis defence rates by scientific field



To host a CIFRE PhD student:

- You must be a research laboratory that is part of a university, school or public research body.
- Be a recognized research team attached to a doctoral school.
- Foreign laboratories are eligible when they are joint supervisors with a French body.

Yearly progress in CIFRE figures



Application forms & support



Requests can be filed all year

Response to applications within 2 months.
No annual limit to applications per organization.
Specialization in any field.

Criteria for awarding a CIFRE

Meet with the company's overall strategy: the subject proposed must fit in with the company's research development projects.

Immerse the PhD student in working life: at the end of his or her studies, the post-graduate must be able to justify a professional research-linked experience.

Propose a subject open to the world of business: the PhD student must acquire methodological and scientific knowledge in the process.

Information and requests for application forms

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CIFREs (conventions industrielles de formation par la recherche) are funded by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

Selecting applications

The follow-up and evaluation committee draws on expert conclusions as follows:

Technico-economic expertise achieved by the delegate for research and technology in the company's region, and taking into account the company's financial solidity, involvement in the research project and its capacity to support the candidate's scientific training.

Scientific subject evaluated by a specialist in the research domain, who assesses the subject's quality and how appropriate it is to the doctoral training and the proposed professional sector.

If necessary, the expert's conclusions are transmitted to the company, helping it to finalize its project and the conditions for collaboration with the academic laboratory.

Support for success

Each year, on the date of the convention, a progress report is written by the PhD student, approved by the company's scientific manager and supervisor of studies, and transmitted to the ANRT.

Training sessions on technological intelligence, confidentiality and intellectual property are available to PhD students for free. They are organized on a regular basis throughout the country with an inter-disciplinary focus.

