

le cnam
**Dare to learn
differently,
in France.
At the heart
of a region
in motion.**

INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAM GUIDE





S U M M A R Y

WHO WE ARE.....	4
OUR REGION	8
OUR PROGRAMMES.....	10
CNAM & THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD	12
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS.....	16
INSIGHTS & TESTIMONIALS	20



WHO WE ARE

Cnam: Higher Education, Differently.

Shaping professional futures
since 1794.

More than an institution. A public mission dedicated to connecting higher education with the real world.

The Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (Cnam) is one of Europe's most distinctive public higher education institutions. Founded in 1794, it has always been driven by a simple ambition: to connect knowledge with practice. More than two centuries later, this founding principle continues to define who we are.

Recognised by the French State, Cnam welcomes **more than 80,000 learners** every year. Unlike traditional higher education institutions, our community brings together working professionals, career changers, apprentices and lifelong learners—people who have chosen education as a way to grow professionally, adapt to change and build the next stage of their careers.

Through a nationwide network of regional centres and an expanding international presence, Cnam combines nationally recognised qualifications with strong regional partnerships and close links to industry.

Cnam in figures



1794

Year of foundation



19

Regional centres



56,000

Learners every year



9,125

Degrees and professional certifications



Our mission

To enable everyone—regardless of their background, age or circumstances—to acquire the skills needed to thrive in a constantly changing professional world. A public service mission. An uncompromising ambition.



What Makes Us Different

A different way to learn. A different way to succeed.

In most higher education systems, studying and working are two separate stages. At Cnam, they reinforce one another—from day one.

Work-study programmes: a genuine competitive advantage

Work-study learning lies at the heart of our educational model. This approach—still uncommon in many countries—allows learners to divide their time between the university and a company.

The result: graduates who master both theory and practice, ready to contribute from their very first day on the job.



FOR LEARNERS

- Academic knowledge combined with real professional experience
- Earn a salary while studying
- Build a professional network throughout their studies
- Excellent graduate employment outcomes



FOR COMPANIES

- Talent trained to meet real business needs
- Progressive integration into the workplace
- A long-term partnership with Cnam

Flexibility designed for real life

As careers are no longer linear, Cnam offers several learning formats—without ever compromising academic quality.



WORK-STUDY PROGRAMMES

Regular professional immersion alongside academic courses.



PART-TIME CONTINUING EDUCATION

Evening and weekend classes for working professionals.



MICRO-CERTIFICATIONS

Short, targeted modules designed to develop specific skills quickly.



DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Long-term programmes leading to qualifications officially recognised by the French State (EQF Levels 5 to 7).

A diversity of profiles that drives innovation

Young students, experienced professionals, entrepreneurs and career changers learn together. This diversity creates unique exchanges that cannot be found elsewhere and helps develop the intercultural and interpersonal skills that are essential in today's international professional environment.

Studying at Cnam means preparing women and men who are ready to understand the transformations shaping our world—and to contribute to them.

OUR REGION

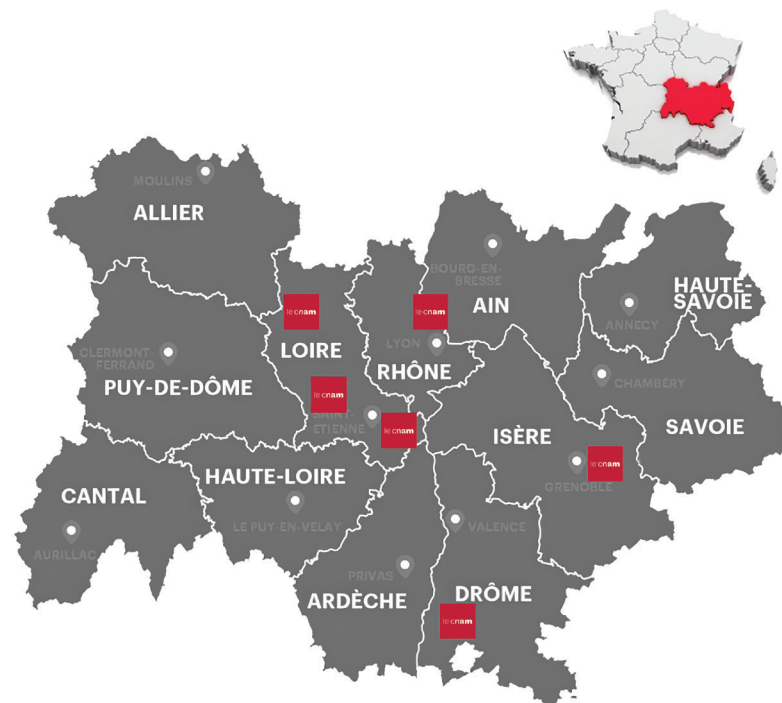
Le Cnam AuRA

National expertise. Regional proximity.

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is unlike any other French region. As France's leading industrial region, it brings together a unique ecosystem of multinational companies, innovative SMEs, competitiveness clusters, research centres and leading higher education institutions—all working in close interaction.

At the heart of this ecosystem, Cnam AuRA plays a strategic role as a bridge between academic education and the real needs of organisations. With campuses across the region, Cnam continuously adapts its programmes to evolving labour market demands.

Located on the borders of Switzerland and Italy, it also provides a strategic gateway to Europe.



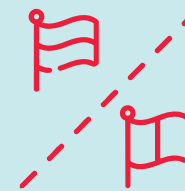
An exceptional region

#1

Industrial region in France

8M+

Residents



2

International borders
(Switzerland & Italy)

3

Major metropolitan areas

Key sectors

- Energy & Ecological Transition
- Digital Technologies & Artificial Intelligence
- Health & Biotechnology
- Industry & Maintenance
- Sustainable Construction
- Management & Finance



Cnam AuRA in figures

- **4,139** Number of learners per year
- **3,076** Number of partner companies
- **6** Number of campuses
- **976** Number of degrees and professional certifications

When education meets industry

Our model is built on close collaboration between academia and industry. Companies help identify emerging skills, host our learners through internships and work-study programmes, and contribute to shaping and enriching our curricula.

Many industry professionals also share their expertise by teaching within our programmes as lecturers or guest speakers.

This collaborative approach creates value for everyone involved. Companies gain access to motivated, talented learners who are already familiar with professional environments, while learners develop practical experience, deepen their understanding of their future careers, and build strong professional networks throughout their studies.

OUR PROGRAMMES

Programmes Designed for Tomorrow's Skills

From **EQF Level 5 to EQF Level 7**, Cnam AuRA offers programmes in the fields shaping tomorrow's economy. Every programme is developed in close collaboration with industry professionals to prepare graduates who are ready to contribute from day one.

Our Areas of Expertise



Qualifications Recognised Across Europe



All our programmes are aligned with the **European Qualifications Framework (EQF)** and award **European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)** credits.

Qualification levels available:

EQF Level 5 > EQF Level 6 > EQF Level 7

Lifelong Learning. Designed for Every Stage of Your Career.

Learning does not stop once a degree has been awarded.

In a world where professions are constantly evolving, Cnam has developed an educational model designed to support every stage of a professional career—not just its beginning.



WORK-STUDY PROGRAMMES — THE FRENCH APPRENTICESHIP MODEL

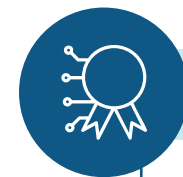
Alternate between academic study and paid professional experience with a partner company. A distinctive feature of the French higher education system, work-study programmes enable learners to develop practical expertise while earning a recognised qualification and a salary throughout their studies.



PART-TIME CONTINUING EDUCATION

Evening and weekend classes for working professionals.

Designed to help learners develop new skills and advance their careers without interrupting their professional lives. Maximum flexibility. The same academic excellence. .



MICRO-CERTIFICATIONS

Short, focused and certified learning modules. Ideal for rapidly developing expertise in a specific field such as Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity or Change Management.



DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Comprehensive programmes leading to qualifications officially recognised by the French State and aligned with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).

Our learners don't choose between working and studying. They do both—and that's exactly the point.



CNAM & THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD

Cnam AuRA at the Heart of the Regional Economy

Why host a Cnam learner?

Hosting a Cnam learner means welcoming a future professional who is curious, autonomous and already familiar with the expectations of the workplace. It also means contributing to the development of a new generation of professionals capable of collaborating, innovating and responding to the challenges of an ever-changing world.

A RELIABLE PARTNER EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

Cnam provides academic, administrative and intercultural support throughout the student's or apprentice's placement.

A CATALYST FOR INNOVATION

Cnam learners bring more than knowledge—they bring fresh perspectives, practical experience and a solution-oriented mindset. Educated at the intersection of academic excellence and professional practice, they are equipped to contribute from day one, making them an asset for organisations that innovate, adapt and grow.



AN EXCEPTIONAL PROFILE

Our learners already possess meaningful professional experience. Independent, responsible and adaptable, they bring qualities that are particularly valued in international environments.

BUILDING LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIPS

We believe the strongest partnerships are built over time. By working together, we create meaningful opportunities, strengthen professional networks and generate lasting value for learners, partner companies and institutions alike.



Talent Ready for an International Career

Our learners do not only prepare for the professional world—they are already building it.

Before they graduate, they have already managed projects, collaborated with professionals and tackled real-world challenges. By combining academic excellence with hands-on experience, they develop the confidence, adaptability and professional maturity needed to succeed in an international environment.

International mobility builds on these strengths. More than discovering a new country, it enables learners to broaden their perspectives, engage with different professional cultures and apply their knowledge in an international context—preparing them to contribute confidently in organisations across the world.

Support Every Step of the Way

Before departure, Cnam AuRA students benefit from dedicated preparation covering intercultural awareness, differences in professional practices and the specific expectations of their host environment. Throughout their mobility experience, Cnam teams remain available to ensure that everything runs smoothly.



Summer Institute, Slovakia, 2026.

Students words

SLOVAKIA 2026

"This experience gave me greater confidence and reminded me that international exchanges are an incredible opportunity to learn from others."

J.L. – International Mobility, Slovakia, 2026

X-FACTOR SUMMER SCHOOL 2026

"The X-Factor Summer School gave me the opportunity to apply my research to a real European case study while exchanging ideas with internationally renowned researchers."

L.D.L.R. – X-Factor Summer School, Slovakia, 2026

● [Discover the full interview on our website.](#)

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

An International Experience at the Heart of Auvergne- Rhône-Alpes

Choosing Cnam AuRA means
choosing much more than an
institution.

A study destination is also a region to discover, a culture to experience and a professional network to build. Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes offers all of this—in an exceptional living environment at the crossroads of Europe.

A UNIQUE ECOSYSTEM

Human-sized cities, campuses closely connected to industry, and immediate access to the Alps and the volcanic landscapes of Auvergne. The region attracts talented people from around the world—and gives them every reason to stay.

- **Lyon:** France's third-largest city and a major European hub
- **Grenoble Alpes:** European Green Capital
- **Saint-Étienne:** UNESCO Creative City of Design
- **Roanne, Montbrison and Montélimar:** outstanding quality of life

A PERSONALISED WELCOME

Moving to a new country always comes with challenges. Cnam AuRA supports every international partner and student before, during and after their stay.

- Administrative and logistical support
- Integration into the academic community
- Cultural activities programme
- Personalised academic guidance
- Dedicated intercultural support

Partner Testimonial



YECLA ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE (SPAIN)

"The team guided us through the different educational institutions across the region, giving our teachers and learners a rich and comprehensive understanding of the French vocational education system. We were welcomed not simply as visitors, but as genuine members of the educational community."

Claudia P.M. – French Teacher, Yecla Adult Education Centre, Murcia (Spain)

● [Read the full testimonial on our website.](#)

Let's Build Lasting International Partnerships

Together, let's shape tomorrow's professionals.

At Cnam AuRA, international partnerships are far more than agreements on paper. They are living collaborations, built over time around shared objectives and a common ambition: preparing professionals who are ready to thrive in a constantly changing world.

Whether you are a higher education institution, a training organisation, a company, a public authority or an innovation stakeholder, we are ready to explore with you meaningful collaborations that create value for everyone involved.

How do we get started?

1

INITIAL CONTACT

Contact us or scan the QR code. Our International Relations team will reply within 48 hours.

2

EXPLORE YOUR NEEDS

We discuss your objectives, constraints and expectations. No commitment required.

3

COLLABORATION PROPOSAL

Together, we develop a partnership tailored to your objectives, drawing on a wide range of collaborative opportunities—from international mobility and joint programmes to academic exchanges and beyond.

4

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT & IMPLEMENTATION

Together, we turn our shared ambitions into action through a formal partnership agreement, ongoing collaboration and regular review.

What we could build together

- Incoming and outgoing mobility programmes (Erasmus+ and bilateral partnerships)
- Double degree programmes
- Faculty and expert exchanges
- Shared teaching modules
- Placement or hosting of apprentices within partner companies
- Applied research projects
- Cooperation through European programmes
- International continuing education



INSIGHTS & TESTIMONIALS

Expert Insight

Opening Minds.
Expanding Horizons.

Why is international cooperation part of Cnam's mission?

Cnam was founded on a simple yet forward-looking conviction: that everyone should have access to the knowledge and skills needed to meet the challenges of their time. More than two centuries later, that conviction remains at the heart of our mission.

Today, those challenges extend far beyond national borders. Economic, technological and environmental transformations are reshaping the way we live, work and collaborate. Organisations operate internationally, innovation knows no boundaries, and intercultural competence has become a key professional asset.

In this context, international cooperation is not an addition to Cnam's mission—it is a natural extension of it. By building meaningful partnerships across borders, we create opportunities to share expertise, broaden perspectives and prepare learners to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

What makes a Cnam learner different?

Our learners often follow a different path from that of traditional higher education students. Many pursue their studies alongside a professional career, an entrepreneurial venture or a career transition. They choose Cnam with a clear purpose and a strong commitment to their personal and professional development. This journey fosters maturity, adaptability and a deep understanding of today's professional environment—qualities that are particularly valuable in an international context.

International mobility builds naturally on these strengths. More than an opportunity to discover a new country, it enables our learners to broaden their perspectives, engage with different professional cultures and connect academic knowledge with the real-world challenges faced by organisations across the globe.

Transforming Through Education — what does that mean?

Education is about far more than the transmission of knowledge. It is about giving people the confidence to grow, adapt and make a meaningful contribution to the world around them.

I believe international mobility for apprentices is one of the most exciting developments in higher education today. Every international experience has the power to broaden perspectives, strengthen confidence and transform a professional journey.

These opportunities should never be limited to a privileged few. They must be accessible to learners from all backgrounds and reflect the diversity of educational pathways, professional ambitions and life experiences. By developing more flexible, inclusive and sustainable mobility opportunities, we can enable more learners to thrive as skilled professionals, engaged citizens and active contributors to an increasingly interconnected world.

● *Discover the full interview with Élodie, our International Mobility Manager, on our website.*



Let's connect

Together, let's build bridges between skills, cultures and regions.

To start a partnership, explore collaboration opportunities or arrange an initial meeting:



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Cnam Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

ara_international@lecnam.net

LinkedIn Cnam AuRA 

le **cnam**
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes