

CIFRE — France's 44-Year Industrial PhD Convention Linking Firms and Labs

City Innovation Library · Good practice · France

Quality score: 81/100

Evidence strength: Quasi-experimental

Summary

Since 1981, France's CIFRE scheme has subsidised firms to employ PhD candidates split between the company and a public lab. A Céreq study found CIFRE graduates get stable jobs faster and earn more — though access still skews toward engineering and chemistry.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	3/3
Sustainability / continuity	3/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-21

[ANRT \(Association Nationale de la Recherche et de la Technologie\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-21

[CIFRE — la convention industrielle de formation par la recherche \(Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-21

[The impact of CIFRE programme into early careers of PhD graduates in France \(Céreq\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-21

[Le dispositif Cifre \(ANRT\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-21

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