

## FINANCING

### YOUR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Last updated: September 9, 2025



IRCAM has been QUALIOPI certified in the "training actions" category since 2021.

As a result, for people living and/or working in France, it is possible to apply for funding for our professional training courses, depending on your status, from your OPCO (Opérateur de Compétence for example Afdas), your employer, or France Travail, to name but a few. The IRCAM team will help you with your application!

Our courses are not eligible for the CPF (personal training account).

If you live outside of France, information is given at the end of the document.

#### HOW DO I APPLY FOR FUNDING?

Depending on your status, contact the appropriate organization (see below "Who Do I Contact?") to understand your rights and to start compiling your application.

##### **It is important to:**

Take the time to check with your contacts to see which funding schemes you are eligible for and whether you meet the requirements.

Be attentive to the time required to submit an application. For example, some organizations do not accept applications less than one month before the start of the training.

On the IRCAM website, answer the assessment questionnaire for each training course you are considering. You can access the questionnaire directly on the training program page by clicking on the "RESERVE" button. IRCAM will then send you an estimate and the necessary elements to complete your application for financing. Once all the elements have been gathered, you can send your request for financing to the competent organization.

##### **Important:**

To validate your registration, IRCAM must receive the financing agreement before the beginning of the training.

Submitting a request for financing does not guarantee that it will be granted.

For any information, please contact IRCAM at [info-pedagogie@ircam.fr](mailto:info-pedagogie@ircam.fr).

#### WHO DO I CONTACT?

Depending on your status, the financial institution that funds your training will be different.

##### **You live in France**

- **You are a free-lance worker in the entertainment industry** (temporary show business worker)

For example, we are used to working with Afdas (OPCO for culture, creative industries, media, communication, telecommunications, sports, tourism, leisure, and entertainment sectors) but other sources are possible.

The conditions for accessing and applying for training funding are available here.

If you are in the period during which you are not eligible for funding or if part of the amount of the training remains at your expense, contact AUDIENS which offers assistance for professional training.

- **You are an artist or an author**

Your OPCO is Afdas. The conditions for accessing and applying for training funding are available [here](#).

For authors in the visual arts, [ADAGP](#) supports artists in their projects (video recording of an artistic performance, research).

- **You are an employee**

Your employer can cover the cost of certain training programs as a part of their professional skills development program. Contact your human resources department to learn more.

- **You are a job seeker enrolled at the France Travail**

France Travail offers various forms of assistance, subject to certain conditions, for training projects that have been approved by your France Travail advisor:

- **Individual training assistance (AIF)** to cover all or part of the educational costs.

The application must be submitted at least 15 days before the start of the training course, signed by the training organization and by you. The signature by France Travail must be done before the first day of the training.

- **Mobility assistance** to finance your travels, your meals, your accommodation during your training.

**The Regional Councils** can also offer funding, do not hesitate to ask your France Travail adviser about this.

- **You are self-employed**

In order to pay for the professional training contribution via the French CFP program, you can, under certain conditions, benefit from the financing of your training actions:

To do so, you must submit a request for reimbursement to the [FAF](#) (training insurance fund) to which you belong, at least one month before the beginning of the planned training. Only the educational costs are reimbursed (meals, accommodation, and transport costs are excluded).

- **You hold a disability card**

You can apply to [Agefiph](#), which offers support and assistance for training.

- **Other**

**The Regional Councils** can offer funding for certain target groups.

Information for the [Ile-de-France region](#).

**Young people under 25 years of age** can be assisted by the [Missions Locales](#).

If you wish to review your professional and training projects, whether you are working or looking for a job, you can benefit from the [professional development council](#) (CEP). This is a free and tailored support system.

## **You live outside France**

For those residing outside France, find out about the professional training funding opportunities available in your country. These grants may support your project. Funding opportunities vary depending on your professional situation, status, and country of residence. It is therefore essential that you consult the official websites of training institutions and local government agencies regularly to obtain up-to-date and accurate information. We also recommend that you ask your employer or university about all the options available to you. Finally, keep in mind that the conditions for accessing funding are specific to each organization and may change over time.

Students residing outside France may be eligible for specific programs:

- National grants and aid: depending on the country of residence, via the ministries of education or culture;
- European programs (Erasmus+);

- Certain regions or institutions offer grants or aid for continuing education or international mobility;
- International partnerships: cooperation programs between countries or with European organizations to support mobility and artistic training.

**Examples of programs by country (non-exhaustive list):**

Austria - Belgium - [Brazil](#) - [Canada](#) - [Denmark](#) - [Germany](#) - [Ireland](#) - [Italy](#) - [Japan](#) - [Netherlands](#) - [Poland](#) - [Portugal](#) - [Spain](#) - [Switzerland](#) - [Taiwan](#) - [United Kingdom](#) - [United States](#)

If you are aware of any changes or other funding programs in your country, please send this information to info-pedagogie[at]ircam.fr. It will be included in this document.

- **Austria**

Various Austrian organizations and foundations offer scholarships for training in the arts. Austria participates in European funds to support training in the cultural sector.

**You are an employee**

**Österreichischer Arbeitsmarktservice (AMS)**

Some Austrian regions offer grants for continuing education in the arts.

**You are a job seeker**

The **AMS** offers funded training courses for job seekers.

- **Belgium**

Covered by the Organizing Authority (PO). Municipalities, provinces, non-profit organizations, Erasmus+, etc. In the context of vocational training, an Organizing Authority can finance training courses for employees or students.

In Wallonia, **Forem** offers financial assistance for vocational training for job seekers and people undergoing retraining.

In Brussels, **Actiris** offers grants and assistance for training job seekers and employees.

In Flanders, **VDAB** (Vlaamse Dienst voor Arbeidsbemiddeling en Beroepsopleiding).

- **Brazil**

Scholarships and private grants. Brazilian foundations supporting arts education. International funds. Cultural cooperation programs between Brazil and Europe.

**You are an employee**

**SENAI and SENAC**

Some regions offer grants.

**You are a job seeker**

Retraining programs. Supported by the Brazilian government.

- **Canada**

Each province or territory has its own training support programs.

Canada participates in certain international programs or partnerships to support transnational projects in the cultural sector.

Various organizations, including the [Canada Council for the Arts](#) and private foundations, offer grants for continuing education in the arts and culture.

**You are an employee**

**Workforce Development Training Program** (WTP). This federal and provincial program offers grants for continuing education, including in the cultural and arts sectors, to support retraining and skills development.

Several provinces offer tax credits or grants for in-company training in the creative sector.

Some companies or sectors offer funded training programs for their employees.

**You are a job seeker**

**Local employment centers** (CLE) or employment agencies offer funded training programs.

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Program**

This program allows people who are retraining to have their skills recognized and access funded training to reposition themselves in the cultural sector.

- **Denmark**

Scholarships and Private Grants. Danish foundations and organizations support artistic training.

Participation in European programs for training and mobility in the cultural sector.

**You are an employee**

**Voksenuddannelsesstøtte (VEU)**

Some regions offer training assistance.

**You are a job seeker**

**Danish Jobcenter**

- **Germany**

**Bildungsurlaub**

Some regions in Germany allow employees to take paid leave to pursue professional training. Conditions vary depending on the state, so check with your employer or regional authorities.

**Bundesagentur für Arbeit**

For job seekers or people undergoing retraining.

**Bildungsprämie**

Intended for employees and job seekers, this bonus can finance up to 50% of training costs.

**You are an employee**

Support may be available through the **Bundesagentur für Arbeit** or through continuing education programs funded by the state or German trade unions.

**You are a job seeker**

The training fund managed by the **Agentur für Arbeit** or the **Jobcenter** can cover some or all of the training costs.

**Regional or European programs**

European funds, particularly through the European Social Fund (ESF).

- **Italy**

**Fondo Sociale Europeo (FSE)**

In addition to the ESF, **other European** programs can support training, particularly for transnational or innovative projects in the cultural and artistic sector.

**Some Italian regions** have specific funds for vocational training, which are accessible depending on the location and situation of the beneficiary.

**Corsi di Formazione Professionale Finanziati**

These training courses, supported by Italian public entities, offer low-cost or free training opportunities, specifically in sectors related to music, research, teaching, or the performing arts.

**You are an employee**

**Cassa di Previdenza and INPS**

Employees can benefit from specific funding through their pension fund or through training courses funded by INPS, the Italian national social security institution.

**You are a job seeker**

**ANPAL (Agenzia Nazionale per le Politiche Attive del Lavoro)  
Fondo Nuove Competenze**

- **Ireland**

As an Irish resident, you can benefit from European funds such as the ESF to finance your mobility and training. The Erasmus+ program offers grants for professional mobility.

**You are an employee or self-employed**

**SOLAS** and **Department of Education and Skills** may offer grants or credits for professional training. Some programs may cover training in France if it is recognized as relevant to your professional development.

**You are a job seeker**

**Intreo** and **SOLAS** offer training programs for job seekers, which may include training abroad if deemed relevant.

**You are self-employed or a performing artist**

Certain organizations or foundations in Ireland, such as **Arts Council Ireland**, may support mobility and training in the arts sector. It is also possible to apply for grants to participate in training courses in France, depending on your project and status.

- **Japan**

**Scholarships and private grants** through Japanese foundations and cultural organizations offer scholarships for training.

**International programs.**

**You are an employee**

**Hello Work (Hello Work)**

Some prefectures offer financial assistance for continuing education.

**You are a job seeker**

Retraining programs supported by the Japanese government with training in the cultural sector.

- **Netherlands**

**Dutch funds and foundations** support arts education.

**You are an employee**

**STAP-budget**

**Some provinces** offer training assistance.

**You are a job seeker**

**UWV**

- **Poland**

**Stypendia i dotacje od fundacji i organizacji artystycznych**

Many private foundations and arts organizations offer grants for continuing education in the arts and culture.

**Some regions in Poland** have their own programs to support vocational training.

Poland participates in various **European and international programs** to support transnational projects.

**You are an employee**

**Programy wsparcia dla kształcenia zawodowego**

**Dotacje i ulgi podatkowe na szkolenia**

Grants and tax credits are available for companies and employees who wish to undertake training.

**Programy szkoleniowe sponsorowane przez pracodawców**

Some companies or sectors offer funded training programs for their employees.

**You are a job seeker**

**Powiatowe Urzędy Pracy**

**Programy aktywizacji zawodowej**

- **Portugal**

**Bolsas de Estudo e Apoios à Formação**

The Portuguese government and regions offer grants and financial aid for continuing education.

**Some regions of Portugal** have specific funds for vocational training, which are accessible depending on the location and situation of the beneficiary.

Portugal's participation in **European programs** makes it possible to receive funding for transnational or innovative projects in the cultural sector.

**You are an employee**

**Fundos de Apoio à Formação (FAF)**

Portugal has public and European funds that support continuing education for employees, particularly through subsidies or credits for training in various sectors.

**Sistema de Formação Profissional (FPRO)**

This system enables companies to finance training for their employees.

**Programas de Reconversão Profissional**

**National or regional programs** offer funded training for professional retraining, including in high-demand sectors such as culture, music, and the performing arts.

**You are a job seeker**

**Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional (IEFP)**

**Requalificação**

- **Spain**

**Becas y ayudas de formación**

The Spanish government and autonomous communities offer grants and subsidies to support continuing education, mainly in innovative sectors such as technology, ecological transition, and culture.

**Regional funds**

Some regions in Spain have specific funds for vocational training, which are accessible depending on the location and situation of the beneficiary.

In addition to the ESF, **other European programs** can support training, particularly for transnational or innovative projects in the cultural sector.

**You are an employee**

## **Fondo Social Europeo (FSE)**

### **Formación Programada**

Companies can finance training for their employees through Social Security credits.

### **Fundación Tripartita**

This scheme allows companies to finance training for their employees, particularly for short courses in sectors related to music, research, teaching, or the performing arts.

### **You are a job seeker**

#### **Plan de Formación para el Empleo**

Job seekers can access training funded by the state or autonomous communities, aimed at improving their employability in various sectors.

### **Recualificación**

Specific programs are offered to support professional retraining in sectors where there is high demand.

- **Switzerland**

#### **Cantonal and federal grants**

Switzerland offers various forms of assistance and grants for continuing education.

**Some cantons or regions** have specific funds for vocational training, which are available depending on the location and situation of the beneficiary.

As Switzerland is associated with **certain European programs**, it can benefit from funding for transnational or innovative projects in the cultural sector.

### **You are an employee**

#### **Fonds pour la Formation Professionnelle (FFP)**

Switzerland has funds and programs to support continuing education, particularly through subsidies or credits for employee training.

#### **Prévoyance professionnelle (LPP)**

Some pension funds may finance or co-finance professional training for employees, depending on their agreement and sector of activity.

**Several cantons offer assistance or subsidies** for continuing education, available to employees or people undergoing retraining.

### **You are a job seeker**

#### **Office régional de placement (ORP)**

Job seekers can benefit from training courses funded by the ORP or by cantonal programs aimed at improving their employability in various sectors.

#### **Requalifikation, requalification programs**

Specific initiatives enable job seekers to take advantage of funded training courses to retrain for sectors in demand, with financial support.

- **Taiwan**

#### **You are an employee**

##### **Taiwan Labor Bureau**

Offers funded retraining courses.

**Some regions or cities offer assistance** for continuing education.

### **You are a job seeker**

Retraining programs supported by the Taiwanese government with training in culture.

**Taiwanese foundations and institutions** support arts education through scholarships and private grants.

**Cultural cooperation programs** between Taiwan and Europe.

- **United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland)**

You are over 19 years of age and are in training or retraining

**Advanced Learner Loan**

This loan is intended for adults over 19 years of age to finance vocational training. The amount granted is based on the cost of the training and must be repaid once income exceeds a certain threshold.

**National Careers Service**

This service offers personalized advice to guide you towards funded vocational training and support programs for retraining or skills development in various sectors, including music, research, teaching, and the performing arts.

**You are young, a student**

**Skills Bootcamps**

These accelerated training programs are funded by the UK government. They offer intensive training in specific sectors such as technology or other innovative fields. Although focused on technology sectors, they can also support transferable skills in the cultural and artistic sector if corresponding modules are offered.

- **United States**

Many private foundations and arts organizations offer scholarships or financial aid for continuing education in the arts and culture.

Some states have regional programs for professional training in the cultural sector, which are accessible depending on location.

Although the United States does not participate directly in the European Union, it can benefit from certain international programs or partnerships for transnational projects.

**You are an employee, a job seeker**

**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)**

This federal program offers funded training for job seekers and people undergoing retraining, with options in various sectors.

**Grants and assistance from state departments of labor**

Several states offer financial assistance or grants for continuing education in specific sectors.

**Employer-sponsored training programs**

Some companies or industries offer funded training programs for their employees.

**You are a job seeker**

**American Job Centers (AJCs)**

These centers offer funded training, employment counseling, and career transition services for job seekers.

**Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)**

Federal program that supports the retraining of employees affected by relocations or restructuring, with training in various sectors.