

# **The Higher Education system in Tunisia**



## **National Report**

June 2019

## The Higher Education system in Tunisia

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## 1. Introduction

Tunisia is one of the pioneering nations in promoting learning and education. Indeed, the University of Zitouna was the first of its kind in the Arab world and one of the most important universities in the world where great scholars like Ibn Khaldoun, Ibn Arafa and many others had taught.

Since gaining its independence in 1956, Tunisia has considered education as a priority. The Tunisian government has sought to satisfy the needs of the newly-independent nation and improve its human assets. A modern primary and secondary education was set up. It was organized and made official by the promulgation of the law of education on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 1958. In the same year, schooling became compulsory and free of charge.

The edification of the Tunisian university structure in 1960 crowned a whole set of reforms organizing the different training cycles. The foundation of the first institution of higher education in independent Tunisia “Ecole Normale Supérieure” in 1956 was a forecast and preparation for this stage.

In 1969, a Higher Education Law<sup>1</sup> was passed, incorporating all the existing government recognized institutions of higher education and scientific research into the “University of Tunis”, an institute that was established in 1960. And starting from 1970, all school subjects were taught in Arabic, except for technical and vocational educational tracks.

In 1990-1991, a New Education Act was put forward, stretching schooling years in basic and secondary schools from 12 to 13 years. Education was also made compulsory for all pupils aged 6 to 16. In 2000, a competency-based approach was adopted.

The 2008 Higher Education Act (Law n°2008-19) reformed university administration by offering institutions the option of moving from a centralized form of management system to a more flexible and decentralized one in key areas such as the academic, administrative and financial aspects.

In 2011, the Ministry committed itself to reform higher education leading to the development of a strategy in October 2014 that was validated by the Universities Council in January 2015 paving the way to setting up reform commissions. In 2017, national debate workshops (Assises Nationales) were held, generating 25 actions to be taken to face the challenges of internationalization of university.

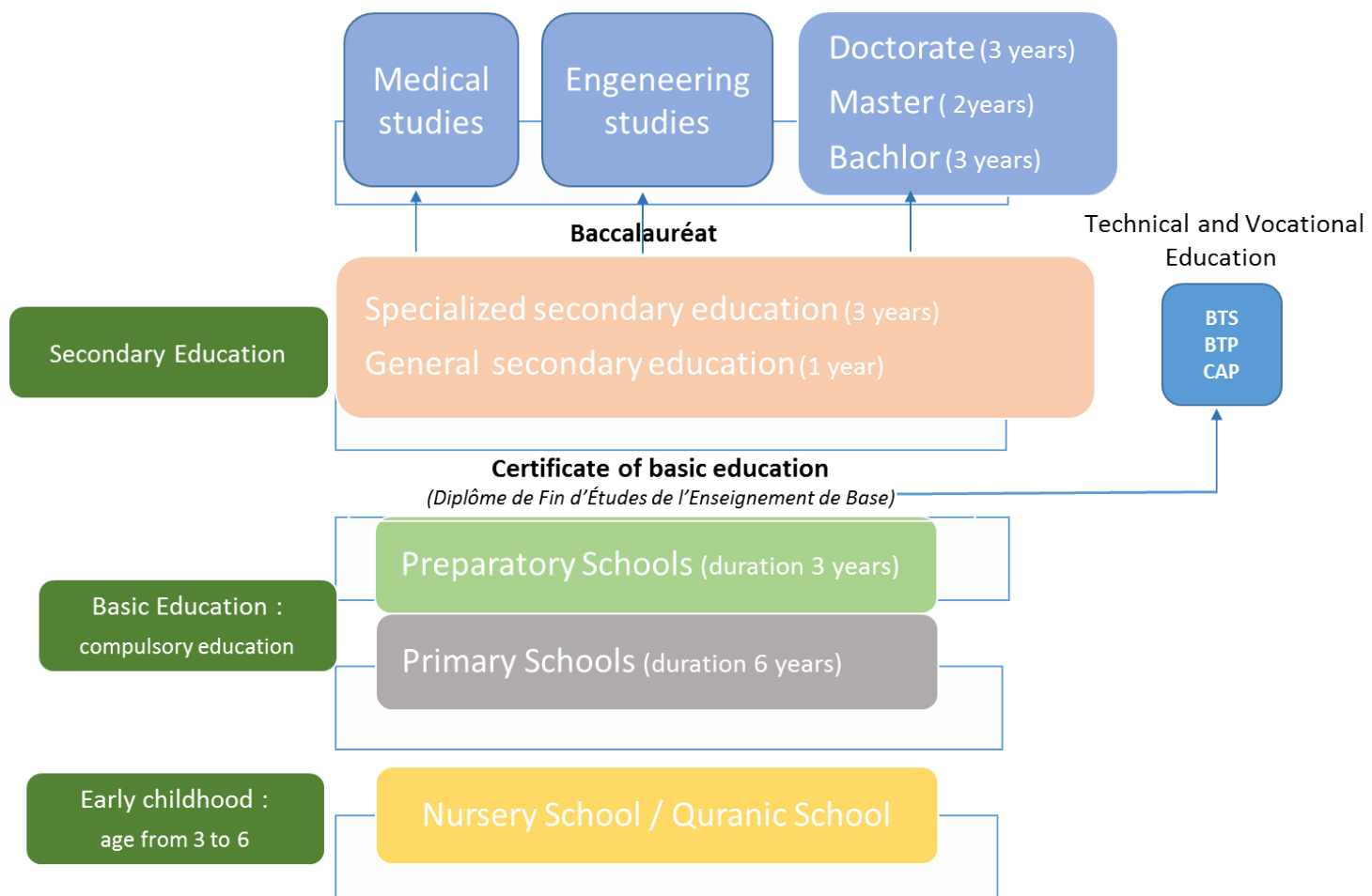
### Overview of the Education System

- The Tunisian educational system is based upon the “Napoleonic model” developed by the French colonizer during the protectorate;
- Education is free in all its stages and compulsory for children aged 6 to 15 (primary education and lower secondary education);
- Language of instruction: Arabic and French (primary education and secondary education) Arabic, French and English (higher education);
- Academic year: from early September to late June.

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<sup>1</sup> Law No. 69-3 of 24 January 1969 on the Organization of Education: Journal Officiel de la Republique Tunisienne 4 de 1969.

## 2. Education System: Diagram



## 2.1. Primary and secondary Education

Basic education (*Enseignement de base*) lasts a total of 9 years and it is divided into two levels:

- *Primary education*: comes after nursery schools and covers the first six years of schooling (from 6 up to 12 years old) in primary schools.
- *Lower secondary education* includes the following three years of compulsory basic education (from 12 up to 15 years old) in preparatory or prep schools “*collèges*”. At the end of this phase, students get the Final Basic Education Certificate Examination “*Diplôme de Fin d’Études de l’Enseignement de Base*”;

Secondary education (*Enseignement Secondaire*): covers the final four years of pre-university schooling in secondary schools “*lycées*”. All students follow a common core curriculum in their first year in secondary schools “*lycées*”, then each student selects one particular pathway: science, arts, economics and management, computer science or sports. The science pathway is later subdivided into three pathways: science, math or technical studies.

## 2.2. Vocational Training

The Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment “*Ministère de la Formation Professionnelle et de l’Emploi*” is responsible for the vocational training.

- After finishing the lower secondary education, pupils may choose a two-year vocational training. At the end of it, they get the professional certificate of aptitude “*Certificat d’Aptitude Professionnel (CAP)*”;
- Once they pass the CAP, students can further their studies to obtain the Diploma of Vocational Technician “*Brevet de Technicien Professionnel (BTP)*” in the same field;
- After obtaining a BTP, students can continue their studies in the same field to gain the advanced Technician's Certificate “*Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS)*”.

Until now there is no possible transition from vocational training to higher education.

## 2.3. Tertiary Education

Access to post-secondary education is guaranteed to all baccalaureate holders the “*Diplôme de Baccalauréat*”, with some slight differences with the previous system and the new one, implemented in 2008.

### A- Before the 2008 reform:

- The first cycle used to last two years, and lead to “*Diplôme d’Études Universitaires du Premier Cycle*”;
- The second cycle used to lead to a bachelor’s degree, “*Maitrise*”, which allowed the graduate to work or continue studying in the third cycle courses;
- The third cycle of higher education led to terminal degrees at doctoral levels: the professional Diploma of Specialized Higher Studies “*Diplôme d’Études Supérieures Spécialisées, or DESS*” or the academic Diploma of In-Depth Studies “*Diplôme d’Études Approfondies, or DEA*”.

## **B- The present educational system:**

In accordance with the Bologna process standards, the actual higher education system in Tunisia issues the following diplomas:

- Bachelor's degree (*Licence*): 3 years of study;
- Master's degree (*Mastère*): 2 years study;
- Doctoral degree (*Doctorat*): from 3 up to 5 years.

However, there are specific fields of studies that have different schooling years such as:

- **Engineering and architectural studies:**
  - ✓ 5 years of studies (2 years of preparatory cycle + 3 years of specialized studies) to get a diploma in engineering, "*Diplôme National d'Ingénieur*".
  - ✓ 6 years of studies (2 years of preparatory cycle + 4 years of specialized studies) to become an architect and obtain the diploma of "*Diplôme National d'Architecte*".
- **Medical studies:**
  - ✓ 6 years of general studies as a common core (2 years as a first cycle + 4 years as a second cycle),
  - ✓ 2 years of internship for a Family Doctor or 4 up to 5 years of internship for a Specialist Doctor.
- **Dentistry and pharmaceutical studies:** each of them lasts only 6 years.
- **Veterinary medicine studies:** last at least 6 years.

### 3. Higher Education System

#### 3.1. General features

The Tunisian Higher Education System aims to provide quality in teaching and learning and to ensure the internationalization of Tunisian higher education<sup>2</sup>.

Generally speaking, tertiary or higher education system in Tunisia is unitary: one institution offers different courses. Most of the institutions in both public and private sector can issue one or all diplomas, from Bachelor to PhD (postgraduate and undergraduate instructions). So far, none of the private higher education institutions has the right to deliver the Doctorate.

In Tunisia, higher education is organized in the framework of multidisciplinary universities (13 universities including 203 public faculties, schools or higher institutes), a network of 24 Higher Institutes of Technological Studies (HITS) and 76 private institutions.

Main courses offered by those institutions are: basic science and technological studies; engineering; economics and management sciences; languages; humanities and social sciences; law; arts; education; tourism; journalism; sports; agricultural sciences; biotechnology; environmental studies; medical and paramedical studies.

#### 3.2. Governing bodies in Higher Education sectors

*“Le Ministère de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique: MESRS”* (Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research) is in charge of all the aspects that concern higher education in Tunisia. This sector is regulated by the higher education law, N°.2008-19, of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

The MESRS bears the overall responsibility for developing and implementing higher education policies while decisions are taken after consulting the Universities Council, chaired by the Minister of higher education, the universities chairmen and the general directors of the central administration in the Ministry of higher education.

#### 3.3. Access to Higher Education

Access to higher education is guaranteed to any student who has completed secondary education successfully and holding a baccalaureate degree “Baccalauréat” or an equivalent foreign diploma.

Upper secondary education consists of seven pathways that lead to:

- Baccalauréat in Science;
- Baccalauréat in Arts;
- Baccalauréat in Math;
- Baccalauréat in Economics and Management;
- Baccalauréat in Sports;
- Baccalauréat in Technological Studies;
- Baccalauréat in Computing Science.

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<sup>2</sup> Law N°. 2008-19 of 25 February 2008 on Higher Education.



Each one allows access to specific branches of higher education studies.

### 3.4. Admission requirements

The admission process to higher education is mainly controlled by a National University Orientation System (*Systeme national d'orientation universitaire*), which allows the holder of a “Baccalauréat” to choose his university course, depending on the type of baccalaureate obtained, scores and preferences.

Entry requirements vary from an institution to another. Some use admission tests as part of their entry requirements (usually held in June and July).

- For entry into the first level university degree, students must have completed secondary education and hold a “*Diplôme du Baccalauréat*”, after the success result of the “*Examen National du Baccalaureat*”<sup>3</sup>;
- For admission into the second level degree (master's), a bachelor's degree is required;
- For admission into the third level degree (doctoral), either a master's degree or the national engineering diploma “*Diplôme National d'Ingénieur*” is needed.

### 3.5. Organisation of the academic year

An academic year lasts 10 months, from September to June. It is subdivided into two semesters. Each semester is followed by an examination period. Exams are retaken in a second exam period for students who are adjourned. The registration as well as the transition from one level to another are annual.

### 3.6. Finance, Fees, Scholarships

In Tunisia, public educational institutions are primarily funded by the state, while private educational institutions do not receive any direct or indirect public funding.

The financial resources of universities and institutions consist of state subsidies, income from contracts for training and research, studies, expertise and other services, tuition fees, bequests through endowment, wills and donations.

In the public sector, the tuition fees per year vary depending on cycles and courses (from 10 to 200 TND). Students enrolled in private Higher Education Institutions are expected to pay tuition fees that are far higher.

The government awards grants to nearly the third of the students, particularly those who are underprivileged. It also subsidizes the price of student accommodation and meals served in university restaurants.

Another form of financial support for students consists in loans allocated by the social security funds. Students have to repay these loans after graduating.

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<sup>3</sup> For more information about the Examination, you can find more references at the link below:  
<https://www.tunisiaeducation.info/tests/tunisian-baccalaureate-examination.html>

The Tunisian government provides scholarships for overseas studies to the most outstanding students in particular courses, such as some engineering courses.

### **3.7. Teacher recruitment and training**

The body of higher education teachers-researchers includes the following grades<sup>4</sup>:

- 1- Professor of Higher Education;
- 2- Senior Lecturer;
- 3 - Assistant professor;
- 4 - Assistant.

A doctoral degree and at least eight years of college education<sup>5</sup> are required to be recruited by The Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education. Holders of a research master's degree can be recruited as "Assistants" meanwhile they have to finish the Doctorate. A Doctorate is required to recruit an "Associate professor", and a doctorate and university qualifications (UH equivalent to HDR) for "Senior lecturers" and "Professors".

Permanent higher education teachers-researchers are recruited through open competitions held by the MESRS. The candidate's accomplishments and curriculum vitae are evaluated in addition to an admission interview with a national recruitment jury. The admission tests differ according to the grade.

The admitted candidates are assigned to different universities according to their choices and in accordance with their rankings.

Annually, each university organizes a series of pedagogic training of 2 up to 4 days addressed to the newly employed teachers, provided by a specialist. The pedagogic training is funded and managed by the university itself.

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<sup>4</sup> Decree n°93-1825 of September 6, 1993, fixing the special status to the body of university professors.

<sup>5</sup> Three years for a bachelor's degree program + two years for a master's degree program, or engineering degree (2+3 years) + three to four years for a PhD degree program.

## 4. Structure of Higher Education System

Years								Credits		
11	Third cycle	Third cycle (graduate studies)				Doctorate				
10										
9										
8										
7										
6	Second cycle	Second cycle	Architecture	Engineering school	Professional Master's	Research Master's		480		
5										
4				First cycle	First cycle	Pre-ingeneering	Applied License	Fundamental License		300
3										240
2							180			
1							120			
								60		
Area	Medical studies	Dentistry Pharmacology Veterinary and medical schools	Engineering		LMD		ISET			
Passing the BACCALAUREAT is the main prerequisite for admission to higher education All students who pass the baccalaureate are oriented through a centralized procedure; based on her/his score, each student is oriented to a specific public institution and a specific field.										

### 4.1. The LMD system

Tunisia started reforming its higher education system and implementing the Bologna Process in 2006, which led to the adoption of a new Law on Higher Education in 2008. This reform was gradually implemented with the introduction of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), the three-cycle system of study and the diploma supplement.

In accordance with the Bologna process, the 2008 act introduced the LMD system: *Licence* (Bachelor), *Mastère* (Master) and *Doctorate* (Doctorat) degrees. Under this system, universities offer both academically and professionally oriented programs.

Higher education is divided into three levels, each leading to a degree as follows:

1. **Bachelor's degree:** Holders of the "*Baccalauréat*" get a bachelor's degree after the successful completion of three years of study. This training is equivalent to 180 ECTS (over six semesters). The semester includes at least 14 weeks of study and from 5 up to 6 teaching units representing 30 ECTS. Under this level, courses lead to a fundamental or applied national diploma.
  - ***Licence Fondamentale* (fundamental or Academic Bachelor):**  
The "*Licence Fondamentale*" allows students to join the labour market, either directly or after receiving a training. It also allows the best graduates to register in a master's degree or a professional master's degree (limited number).  
The curriculum includes theoretical courses, tutorials, practical or fieldwork. It can also include internships in companies whenever possible.
  - ***Licence Appliquée* (Applied or Professional Bachelor):**

The applied degree is essentially aimed at empowering those who hold it to join the labor market. It also allows the best graduates who apply to pursue their higher studies in professional masters.

The content is a combination of a professional and theoretical education with mandatory work placements.

It includes theoretical courses, practical work, individual or collective projects, and traineeships in the workplace. The internship makes up at least thirty credits.

**2. Master's degree:** Holders of a bachelor's degree get a master's degree after the successful completion of two years of Master studies. The two years are equivalent to 120 ECTS.

- **Research Master training:** The last semester may be devoted to laboratories research. This master channels students towards research and the preparation of the doctorate.
- **Professional Master training:** The last semester may be devoted to internship. This degree prepares the students to jobs requiring conception, supervision of projects and enterprise management.

**3. Doctorate:** Holders of a Research master's degree receive their PhD when successfully finishing three years of research (equivalent to 180 ECTS) and defending their thesis.

#### 4.2. Engineering Studies

The engineer's study regime is unified on the basis of 5 years study for all the categories. There are different ways to access engineering schools:

1. Engineering students attend two years of preparatory courses, in the preparatory institutes of scientific and technical studies, culminating in a national competitive examination. According to the scores achieved in the national exam, students are oriented to the various engineering schools. They have to receive three years of schooling. It is worth mentioning that at the end of the second year of the preparatory cycle, they are awarded the Diploma of Undergraduate University Studies (*DEUPC: Diplôme des Etudes Universitaires de Premier Cycle*). This diploma allows students to join other scientific and technical institutions.
2. National Institute of Applied Science and Technology (INSAT) offers an integrated preparatory cycle (*Cycle préparatoire intégré*) that lasts 2 years, during which only one repetition is allowed. This cycle is followed by a training cycle to obtain a National Diploma of Engineers (DNI) in applied sciences. It lasts 3 years and admission is done through open competition for students enrolled in the integrated preparatory cycles. No intermediate degree is awarded during this course.

3. Students holding a bachelor's degree or a master's degree, wishing to enter engineering schools can take part in the specific entry exams for engineering schools. It is a file competition which allows holders of a bachelor's degree to apply to enroll in the first year of engineering studies and students having accomplished a first year of master's degree with success to apply to enroll in the second year of engineering studies.

#### 4.3. Medical Studies (medicine, dentistry and pharmacy medicine)

The studies of medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary medicine are organized in accordance with international standards and with the specific characteristics of these courses:

**1. Medicine studies:** The studies in medicine comprise three cycles as follow:

- A common core with two cycles of 6 years (general studies).
- A third cycle as a specific training in Family Medicine (2 years) or in one of the Medical Specialties (4 to 5 years depending on the specialty).

FIRST CYCLE (PCEM): it lasts 2 years and aims to acquire the prerequisites in Basic Sciences and Semiology;

SECOND CYCLE (DCEM): it lasts 4 years and consists in a common core to acquire undifferentiated medical skills useful to any doctor. The 4<sup>th</sup> year of the DCEM is the last year of the common core; it is a year of full-time internship;

THIRD CYCLE: offers 2 years of specific training in Family Medicine (MF) or 4 to 5 years of training in a Specialty (depending on the specialty).

- Specialization in medicine is highly competitive. At the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year, an ambitious examination (*Concours Résidanat*) is required to access specialty training pathways different from the Family Medicine specialization.
- To obtain a Doctor of Medicine, a student must:
  - Complete successfully the exams of the DCEM (exams and internship).
  - Complete successfully clinical exams.
  - Complete successfully the family medicine or the residency cycle.
  - Defend a thesis.
- In Tunisia, there are four public institutions of Medicine: Tunis Faculty of Medicine, Sousse Faculty of Medicine, Monastir Faculty of Medicine and Sfax Faculty of Medicine.

**2. Dental Medicine studies:** The studies to obtain the title of Doctor of Dental Medicine "*Diplôme National de Docteur Medecine Dentaire*" last six years and comprise a first cycle and a second one.

FIRST CYCLE: It lasts two years and includes at least 1500 hours of teachings and training periods. The aim is to permit the student to acquire an adequate knowledge about dental and oral anatomy as well as the materials,

technologies and instruments necessary for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of the illnesses related;

SECOND CYCLE: In the second cycle (4 years), students continue theoretical knowledge and undertake advanced clinical skills courses related to dental surgery, curative and preventive dental care, dental diseases, etc...The fourth year of the second cycle is an internship year. At the end of which the student sits for a practical examination known as “Pluridisciplinary Clinic Examination” and defends a doctorate thesis in dental medicine.

- A competitive examination “*Résidanat*” is required to study a speciality in dental medicine. There are ten specialities allowing the graduate person to practise essentially in hospitals and university institutions or in the private dental sector. The studies last four years.
- In Tunisia, the Monastir Faculty of Dental Medicine is the only institution that provides this type of training.

**3. Pharmacy studies:** The studies to obtain a Doctor of Pharmacy diploma “*Diplôme National de Docteur en Pharmacie*” last six years.

FIRST CYCLE: the 2 years first cycle allows the students to acquire the basic knowledge in the pharmaceutical field (chemistry, botanic, vegetal physiology...). The knowledge should include also Human anatomy and physiology.

SECOND CYCLE: It lasts four years and allows the student to master the biologic, pharmacologic, clinic, juridical and managerial competences necessary for the practice of the pharmacist's profession.

- During the two cycles, trainings are foreseen in pharmacy, hospital pharmacy or in laboratories of clinic biology.
- There are two specific specialities: biological analysis, hospital pharmacy and pharmaceutical industry. Entry requirements (competitive examinations) and the duration of the studies are similar to those of medicine and dental medicine.
- In Tunisia, the Monastir Faculty of Pharmacy is the only institution that provides this type of course.

## 5. Higher Education Institutions

### 5.1. Types of institutions

- The public sector of higher education includes 13 Universities (including 203 institutions) and a network of 24 Higher Technological Studies Institutes under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education (General Direction of Technological Studies DGET). Each university is organised in:
  - Faculties;
  - Higher institutes;
  - Schools.
- For the academic year 2018-2019, the private higher education includes 76 institutions.
- Public and private institutions are divided by specialties as follows:
  - Economics, management sciences and Law: 29 institutes of Economics and Business Administration, and 5 Colleges of Law and Policy;
  - Architecture and Art: 1 Public and 10 private Architecture Institutes, 10 art institutes;
  - Engineering Sciences: 26 public and 28 private institutions for engineering;
  - Medical and paramedical studies: 4 medicine colleges, 1 dental medicine college and 1 pharmacy college, 9 public and 9 private high schools specialized in the paramedical field.

### 5.2. Official Higher Education institutions

- Higher Education institutions are either under the supervision of the MESRS or under the co-supervision of the MESRS and other Ministries (Health; Communication Technologies; Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources; Social Affairs, Solidarity and Tunisians Abroad ...).
- The lists of recognised public and private higher education institutions is fixed, following an order by the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the co-supervision Ministers.
- [Lists of the public institutions in French](#) are provided on the website of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Lists of public higher education institutions in English are available through the following links:

Ez-Zitouna University (3)	Tunis University (16)	Tunis El Manar University (15)
Carthage University (33)	Manouba University (14)	Jendouba University (13)
Sousse University (17)	Monastir University (16)	Kairouan University (11)
Sfax University (20)	Gafsa University (9)	Gabes University (15)

Virtual University (1)	Higher Institutes of Technological Studies (24)
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- For [Private Institutions](#), the list is updated and published each academic year on the ministry website.



## 6. Accreditation and Quality Assurance

### 6.1. Accredited courses/programmes

- The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research is responsible for the accreditation of public and private higher education institutions.
- The accreditation at the institutional level includes a review of the programs proposed, the academic and scientific methods applied and their compliance with the quality of the delivered diplomas, as well as the skills and the attributes expected from the graduates.
- The accreditation is granted for a maximal period of four years, either for the institution, the programmes or the courses.
- Information on the accredited of bachelor degrees programs in Public Higher education institutions is available on the official website: [www.parcours-lmd.salima.tn](http://www.parcours-lmd.salima.tn)

### 6.2. Quality Assurance

- According to the law n°2008-19 of February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 on higher education, the National Evaluation, Quality Assurance and Accreditation Authority (*Instance Nationale de l'Évaluation, de l'Assurance Qualité et de l'Accréditation* - [INEAQA](http://ineaqqa.tn)) is the body responsible for quality improvement in higher education.
- This organisation is in charge of reviewing higher education institutions and accrediting degree programmes.
- The INEAQA is in charge of the external evaluation and focuses on the external quality assurance procedures on teaching, internal quality assurance and management systems, research, support services to students, library and IT resources, space and equipment, non-teaching staff, management and transparency, lifelong learning provisions and employability of graduates.

## 7. Qualification Framework

Tunisia has chosen to develop a National Qualification Framework, called (*Classification Nationale des Qualifications "CNQ"*), in order to promote the quality, transparency and coherence of the human resource development system and to contribute to lifelong learning.

On 8 July 2009 the Decree n°2009-2139 was signed upon a proposal from both the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Higher Education, and officially created the "*Classification Nationale des Qualifications*".

This decree provides a detailed description of the organisation of the CNQ by levels and descriptors, and their related certificates and diplomas, and states the need for training providers to comply with the framework.

The Tunisian CNQ has an overarching character and is based on learning outcomes. It comprises seven levels of qualifications and six descriptors formulated in terms of learning outcomes, specified as follows:

Level	Descriptors formulated in terms of learning outcomes						Diploma
	Complexity	Autonomy	Responsibility	Adaptability	Learning	Knowhow and behaviour	
Level 1							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificat de compétence (CC)</li> <li>• Diplôme de Fin de l'enseignement de Base Technique (DFEBT)</li> <li>• Diplôme de fin de l'enseignement de base (DFEB)</li> </ul>
Level 2							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificat d'Aptitude Professionnelle (CAP)</li> </ul>
Level 3							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brevet de Technicien Professionnel (BTP)</li> <li>• Baccalauréat Professionnel</li> <li>• Baccalauréat</li> </ul>
Level 4							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS)</li> </ul>
Level 5							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licence</li> <li>• Licence appliquée</li> </ul>
Level 6							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master</li> <li>• Master professionnel</li> </ul>
Level 7							<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctorat</li> </ul>

The Tunisian CNQ has several objectives:

- to contribute to a better readability of competences;
- to bridge the gap between the economy and training;

- to provide common references to foster geographical, sectoral and professional mobility;
- to take into account all modes of learning in a lifelong learning perspective;
- to limit dead ends in learning routes.

## **8. Enterprise University Relation**

To improve employability, the Tunisian university is called to undertake major restructuring at all levels, in terms of both training, research, governance and management structures and student life. The Ministry of Higher Education and the employers' union (Tunisian Union of Industry, Trade and Crafts) signed an agreement in early 2005, updated in 2014, to boost University - Business productive partnership.

The main measures undertaken to strengthen students 'employability throughout enterprise-university relation are:

- The co-construction of applied bachelor programmes and professional masters (curricula designed and implemented in a full partnership between professors and professionals);
- Compulsory internships and graduation projects (at least 30 credits) in all applied bachelor programmes and professional masters;
- Establishing a university-observatories network to improve the actions and measures taken to maintain the University's status as a leading institution for graduate level employability and prospecting for employability niches;
- The implementation of an action plan to develop entrepreneurial culture.

## **9. Research and Higher Education**

Scientific research within higher education and research institutions is closely linked to higher education. They enrich each other to provide training through scientific research and for scientific research.

Scientific research is organized within research laboratories or research units established in accordance with the regulations into force and within the framework of national priorities. They are created at the request of the institution, upon the proposal of the president of the university and after consulting the University Council.

Research structures contribute to the carrying of research and development activities in order to support economic and developmental activities within national priorities, under contracts concluded for this purpose.

In Tunisia there are:

- 39 scientific research centres
- 281 research laboratories
- 309 research unities
- 37 doctoral schools.

The main research fields in Tunisian research centres are: Computing and ICT; Agriculture and Biotechnology; Social Sciences and Economics and Medical Sciences.

## 10. Internationalization of Higher Education

### 10.1. International projects and agreements

International cooperation is one of the main priorities of higher education policy in Tunisia. Starting from the year 2002, Tunisia has officially joined the Tempus program and participated in 31 capacity-building projects. All the Tunisian Higher Education Institutions have been involved in the former Tempus, Erasmus Mundus programs as well as Erasmus+ program.

Besides the projects financed by the EU within the framework of Erasmus+ program, H2020 program, the Tunisian-European bilateral agreements, etc. Tunisia has several bilateral agreements with Asia, the US and the neighbouring countries. The General Directorate of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research is the body designated to enter and sign any of these agreements.

The main tenets of these agreements are higher education, research, innovation and technology, and students' mobility. In addition to higher education, some of these agreements relate to culture, languages, secondary and primary education.

Regionally, Tunisia has a solid cooperation with neighbouring Maghreb countries, in higher education and scientific research. Tunisia has a well-established students' exchange programme with Morocco. A similar mobility programme with Algeria is underway.

Furthermore, Tunisia is building new cooperation opportunities with some African and South African countries in higher education and scientific research. The Tunisian Ministry is encouraging African students to study at Tunisian HEIs.

In addition, Tunisia is involved in a number of international programmes such as the Tunisian-American programmes, which offer degree and non-degree scholarships for master 's and doctoral students, researchers and the academic staff. These programmes include "Partnership for the Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER)", "Fulbright, Tech+" and "Thomas Jefferson".

### 10.2. Student Mobility

The national reform project developed after the revolution considers students at the centre of higher education system and prioritises accreditation and internationalisation. Thus, students' mobility is considered as one of the primary objectives.

Mobility concerns all three levels of studies: bachelor, master and doctorate. There are different types of mobility:

- **Simple study mobility:** concerns bachelor and master students who spend one semester or one year in a European university. These scholarships are granted within the framework of a mutual agreement between the institution of origin and the host institution on issues such as the recognition of the applicant's level, the transfer credits for courses and examinations completed externally (outside the degree awarding institution). In addition to that, the Ministry of Higher Education and

Scientific Research offers each year a certain number of master's degree scholarships (for one or two years) for the benefit of selected students. These scholarships concern some European countries and Canada;

- **Going on an engineering student mobility for a final graduation project (*Projet de fin d'études: PFE*):** concerns only the realization of the End of Studies Project "PFE" in the final year. The evaluation of the project occurs at the degree awarding institution. Most of these scholarships are funded by national specific program managed and run by the Ministry of Higher Education;
- **Training mobility scholarships:** targets mostly doctoral students who are conducting research in research institutions and laboratories in Europe and elsewhere. National and international institutions, with a low involvement of European scholarship programs, fund these scholarships;
- **Co-tutorship for doctoral studies:** some doctoral students benefits of a co-tutorship agreement between their home universities and a hosting university. The students spend in an alternative way one semester in each of the two universities during the three years of doctoral studies. At the end of their studies, students obtain a double doctoral degree or a joint doctoral degree depending on the terms of the prior agreement. The mobility in this context commits doctorate supervisors to look for funding from different resources. Funding for mobility comes from resources provided by home research institute, and bilateral agreements' support or national programs funded by HERSM (*bourse en alternance*).

### 10.3. International student admission

- There are many bilateral agreements with other countries for the admission of international students in Tunisian higher education institutions. The General Directorate of international cooperation, a central department in the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Researches, deals with these agreements and is the relevant body in charge of requests from foreign students to study in Tunisian public institutions, in collaboration with the student's country relevant authorities, on one hand, and Tunisian universities, on the other one;
- A foreign student can directly enrol into a private university degree;
- For what concerns the public sector of higher education, there are no Tunisian institutions operating abroad. However, some experiences have emerged after the promulgation of the law organizing the private sector. In fact, a few establishments have transferred their expertise by creating subsidiaries abroad especially in African countries (Mali, Gabon, Niger...).

## 11. Equivalence and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications and Diplomas

- The equivalence is the recognition and comparison of diplomas and titles delivered by a foreign country education system to the diplomas and titles delivered by the Tunisian education system, based on a certain number of conditions such as the registration, the schooling years, the content of the programs and the assessment procedures.
- It is important to underline that the different official documents and legal texts organizing higher education in terms of aims and structures or in terms of studies and examinations procedures, recognize the necessity of providing equivalence for foreign degrees, which represents the necessary legal framework for equivalence requests.
- Two structures are empowered to issue equivalence in Tunisia:
  - ✓ A national commission for the equivalence of diplomas and titles;
  - ✓ Sectorial committees for equivalence of diplomas and titles.
- Sectorial committees are composed according to the major groups of disciplines as follows:
  - ✓ Economic sciences
  - ✓ Legal sciences
  - ✓ Letters and civilization
  - ✓ Human, social and religious sciences
  - ✓ Basic sciences
  - ✓ Engineering Sciences
  - ✓ Medical and paramedical sciences
  - ✓ Architecture, urbanism and arts
  - ✓ Secondary education (basic education, baccalaureate)
- The web site of the ministry [www.mes.tn](http://www.mes.tn) provides detailed standardized information in Arabic and French on the Equivalence procedures and criteria used in assessing foreign qualifications or those gotten from private Tunisian universities. These procedures and criteria are transparent, consistent, coherent, reliable and periodically reviewed.
- Despite signing a number of mutual recognition agreements and being currently involved in implementing other conventions at the global level, Tunisia does not have an automatic recognition framework.

## **12. Sources of information and national regulations**

- Law No. 2008-19 of 25 February 2008 on higher education, as amended by Decree-Law No. 2011-31 of April 26, 2011.
- Law No. 2009-21 of 28 April 2009 laying down the general framework for the practical training of students in higher education within administrations, companies or public or private institutions.
- Law No. 2000-73 of 25 July 2000 on private higher education, as amended by law No. 2008-59 of August 4, 2008.
- Decree No.2009-2139 of 8 July 2009 laying down the national classification of qualifications.
- National Bachelor's degree: Decree No. 2008-3123 of 22 September 2008, establishing a general framework for the system of education and the conditions for obtaining national diploma License in the various fields of training, referees, background and specialties of the system "LMD".
- National master's degree: Decree No. 2012-1227 of 1 August 2012 laying down the general framework of the system of education and the conditions for obtaining national Master's degree in the system "LMD".
- National doctoral Degree: Decree No. 2013-47 of 4 January 2013 laying down the general framework of the system of education and the conditions for obtaining national diploma doctorate in the system "LMD".
- Overview of the Higher Education System: Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Tunisian National Erasmus+ Office, February 2017.



### 13. Samples of University qualifications

University of Tunis El Manar

الجمهورية التونسية  
وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي  
جامعة تونس المنار  
المعهد العالي للعلوم التمريضية بتونس

وزارة الصحة

شهادة بجا فعية بكيمالية في تمثيل رصدا في علوم التمريض  
\* تخصص ما بعد الإجازة العامة في التمريض \*

بعد الأخلاق على القانون عدد 19 لسنة 2008 المؤرخ في 25 فيفري 2008 والتعلق بالتعليم العالي. كما تم لتلعبه  
بقرسوم عدد 31 لسنة 2011 المؤرخ في 26 أبريل 2011 وعامة الفصل الثالث منه  
وعلى الأمر عدد 1932 لسنة 1992 المؤرخ في 2 نوفمبر 1992 والتعلق بتحديد الجهة المختصة بإصدار الشهادات  
العلمية الوطنية  
وعلى الأمر عدد 1227 لسنة 2012 المؤرخ في 1 أوت 2012 والتعلق بتحديد الإطار العام لنظام الترسا وشروط  
التحصل على الشهادة الوطنية للماجستير في نظام أمد  
وعلى الأمر عدد 2120 لسنة 2006 المؤرخ في 31 جويلية 2006 والتعلق بإحداث معاهد عليا للعلوم التمريضية  
تستند الشهادة الجامعية التكميلية للتدريج الأربعة في التخصص علوم التمريض

التخصص: Clinical management and intensive care unit nursing rules  
إلى السيدة(ة)/الآنسة: [REDACTED]  
المولود(ة) في: 1991/11/04 بـ تونس  
صاحب(ة) (\*) بطاقة التعريف الوطنية رقم: [REDACTED]

الوحدة التعليمية	المعدل المتوسط عليه / 20	الرصيد
العلوم الأساسية	17,50	30/ 30
التدريب (600 ساعة)	14,50	20/ 20
موضوع البحث السريري	14,00	10/ 10
المعدل العام/مجموع الأربعة	15,92	60/ 60

موضوع البحث: Nurses rule and conduct in the management of polytrauma patient with an aortic aneurysm and fracture - pre and post operative  
المؤرخ في: 2015/05/28  
تونس 30 جوان 2016  
الامضاء والتفئة  
رئيس اللجنة

شهادة هذه المؤادة مرة واحدة  
يملك حسب بطاقة التعريف الوطنية أو بغير ان الترسا والتسبة إلى الأجل

République Tunisienne  
Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur  
et de la Recherche Scientifique.



Université Tunis El Manar  
Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tunis

## DIPLOME

Vu la loi N°41-68 du 31 Décembre 1968;  
Vu le décret n°92-1932 du 02 Novembre 1992 fixant l'autorité compétente pour signer les diplômes scientifiques nationaux;  
Vu le décret n°2005-1557 du 16 Mai 2005, fixant le cadre général du régime des études et les conditions d'obtention des diplômes nationaux de maîtrise professionnelle ;  
Vu le décret n°2001-2429 du 16 octobre 2001, fixant l'appellation des diplômes nationaux décernés par les établissements d'enseignement supérieur et de recherches en études d'ingénieurs, en art et métiers, en maîtrise spécialisée et en études doctorales.  
Vu la décision du Ministre de l'Enseignement Supérieur, de la Recherche Scientifique et de la Technologie en date du 04/10/2002, fixant la liste des établissements d'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche scientifique relevant de l'Université Tunis El Manar et habilités à délivrer le maîtrise professionnelle,  
Vu le procès-verbal du jury de soutenance du mémoire de stage du 03 Novembre 2010;  
Est décerné le



### MASTERE PROFESSIONNEL

Spécialité : **GEOMATIQUE**

Avec la mention: **BIEN**

A Mme/Melle/Mr .....  
Né(e) le **05 SEPTEMBRE 1983**, à **TUNIS**;  
Titulaire de la carte d'Identité Nationale / du Passeport (pour les étrangers ) N° .....

Cachet Sec



Tunis Le **19 FEB 2011**  
Le Directeur

Chiheb BOUDEN

Remarque : Il n'est délivré qu'un seul exemplaire du présent diplôme

جامعة تونس المنار  
المعهد العالي للعلوم الانسانية بتونس

الممهورية التونسية  
وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي

## الشهادة الوطنية لماجستير البحث

بعد الاطلاع على القانون عدد 19 لسنة 2008 المؤرخ في 25 فيفري 2008 والمتعلق بالتعليم العالي وعلى جميع النصوص التي نلتها،  
وعلى الامر عدد 1932 لسنة 1992 المؤرخ في 02 نوفمبر 1992 والمتعلق بتحديد الجهة المختصة بإصدار الشهادات العلمية الوطنية،  
وعلى الامر عدد 1227 لسنة 2012 المؤرخ في 01 اوت 2012 المتعلق بصيغ الامتحان العام لنظام الدراسة وشروط التحصيل على الشهادة الوطنية لماجستير في نظام "سد"  
وعلى محاضر جلسات مداولة لجان الامتحانات لتسكين المراجعين ..... بتاريخ .....

تسند الشهادة الوطنية لماجستير البحث في:

التخصص/المسلك: فلسفة التنوير والحدالة

المجال: العلوم الانسانية والاجتماعية و الدينية

بملاحظة: .....

إلى السيدة(ة)/ الأئمة: .....

يس: .....

المولود (ة) في: .....  
صاحب(ة) (بطاقة التعريف الوطنية /جواز سفر بالنسبة إلى الأجانب) رقم: .....

السادسي الرابع

السادسي الثالث

السادسين الأول والثاني

المعقل المتحصل عليه:

تونس في

المدير

بدر الدين بن هدة

الختم الجاف

رقم شهادة:

ملاحظة: لا تسلم هذه الشهادة إلا مرة واحدة.

18-2.1.42.12





- بعد الاطلاع على القانون عدد 19 لسنة 2008 المؤرخ في 25 فيفري 2008 والمتعلق بالتعليم العالي وخاصة الفصل الثالث منه.

- وعلى الأمر عداد 1992 لسنة 1992 المؤرخ في 02 نوفمبر 1992 والمتعلق بتحديد الجهة المختصة بإضفاء الشهائد العلمية الوطنية.

- وعلى الأمر عدد 3123 لسنة 2008 المؤرخ في 22 سبتمبر 2008 والتعلق بضبط الإطار العام لنظام الدراسة وشروط التحصيل

والتخصصات في نظام "أمد".

- وعلى محاضر جلسات المداولات لجان الامتحانات للسنة الجامعية 2016-2017

تسند الشهادة الوطنية للإجازة الأممية في:

18-2.139.09

الرجال. العلوم والتكنولوجيا  
التخصص. بيولوجيا خلوية وعصبية وتقنية

بملاحظة: متوسط

إلى الصيد (ة) // الأوضة :-

الفولاد (ة) فني: 29 مارس 1990

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

العلمي والمختبر، في 5 جولية 2017

المدة

يَتَوَكَّلُونَ عَلَى الْإِنْسَانِ فَدَحِيَّةُ السَّخِرِيِّ

الحبيب الابن

3. 4

ملاحظة: لا تُسلم هذه الشهادة إلا مرة واحدة.

République Tunisienne Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique		Université de Sousse Institut Supérieur d'Informatique Et des Techniques de Communication
<b>DIPLOME NATIONAL DE MASTERE PROFESSIONNEL</b>		
<p>Vu la loi n°2008-19 du 25 février 2008, relative à l'enseignement supérieur telle que modifiée par le décret-loi n°2011-31 du 26 avril 2011, et notamment son article 3 Vu le décret n°92-1932 du 2 Novembre 1992, fixant l'autorité compétente pour signer les diplômes scientifiques nationaux, Vu le décret n°1227 du 1<sup>er</sup> Août 2012, fixant le cadre général du régime des études et les conditions d'obtention des diplômes nationaux de maîtrise du système « LMD » Vu le Procès-Verbal du jury de soutenance du mémoire intitulé Mastère en date du 19/10/2012.</p>		
Est décerné le diplôme national de maîtrise professionnel en :		
<b>Domaine: Sciences et Technologie Mention: Informatique Spécialité: Services Web et Multimédia</b>		
à Mme/Mlle/ M. : <b>MASSAOUD SAMAR</b>		avec la mention: <b>Passable</b>
né(e) le : <input type="text"/> à : <input type="text"/>		
titulaire (*) de Carte d'Identité Nationale n° <input type="text"/>		
<b>Moyenne obtenue : au 1<sup>er</sup> Semestre : 10,28/20 2<sup>ème</sup> Semestre : 10,50/20 3<sup>ème</sup> Semestre : 12,17/20 4<sup>ème</sup> Semestre : 14,50/20.</b>		
Cachet Sec		
Ce diplôme n'est délivré qu'une seule fois.		Sousse le 18 Janvier 2013 <b>Le Directeur</b> <b>Prof. Ouajdi KORBAA</b>
* Numéro du Passeport pour les étrangers.		