

# Institute of French Studies for Foreign Students (IEFE)

In 2016, the [Institute of French Studies for Foreign Students](#) (IEFE), which is part of UPPA, was awarded the "Quality Label FLE" (French as a foreign language) by the Interministerial Commission for labelization. This joint commission includes the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research, the Ministry of Culture and Communication and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.

The label was created in 2007 with the aim of recognizing and promoting "French as a foreign language" centers that meet criteria in terms of the quality of linguistic training offered as well as the quality of student services. The IEFE obtained the label in 2008. Today, in France, there are around one hundred centers, both public and private, that have received the label. *Campus France*, as well as the CGE (*Conférence des grandes écoles*) and the CTI (*Commission des titres d'ingénieur*), direct international students towards the centers.

The label is awarded for four years after a two-day audit conducted by auditors from the International Center for Educational Studies (CIEP). Five primary areas of excellence are considered: Welcome, Facilities, Management, Instructors and Course offerings. The IEFE obtained three stars, the highest rating, in all five areas.

To prepare for the audit, the IEFE was helped by the UPPA's Quality team. These fruitful exchanges lead to a thorough analysis and helped to highlight the IEFE's strengths:

- \* evaluating foreign students' needs in relation with their goals;
- \* fostering the students' autonomy;
- \* individualized assistance.

A key criteria was the IEFE's dedication to offering a linguistic preparation for students who wish integrate the French university curriculum as undergraduate or graduate students, especially through the Integration Diplomas (at the undergraduate level in the sciences, and the master level in FLE, art, sciences and tourism).

With this official recognition, the IEFE continues its work helping foreign students prepare for their studies in France.