

THE V.I.E

FRENCH INTERNATIONAL POSTGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



What is the V.I.E programme?

The V.I.E enables French companies to send a young person between 18 and 28 years of age on a working assignment abroad for a flexible period of 6 to 24 months, which can be renewed once within a 2-year period.

It is open to young French candidates, of all educational backgrounds, who have fulfilled their national service obligations, as well as to young people from the European Economic Area meeting the same conditions.

It appeals to strongly motivated young people: recent graduates, often with some work experience or wishing to take a year out from college.

What is the V.I.E status?

The V.I.E has a public status. He / She comes under the protection of the French Embassy in the country of assignment and has no contractual agreement with the French company benefiting from the assignment.

He / She receives a fixed living allowance (paid into a bank account in France) which varies according to the country where the assignment is carried out and is generally not subject to payment of contributions or taxes in France (except for specific host countries which have certain conditions).

The V.I.E benefits from comprehensive welfare protection contracted for the company by Business France and is pensionable contribution-free during the assignment period under the French basic national pension system.

For which kind of assignment?

Job assignments offered are varied and include: market research, technical support to local teams, carrying out a contract...

More and more companies are now turning to computer engineers, pharmacists, financial controllers, technicians, cost accountants, sales representative, administrative personnel... for such assignments.

How much will a V.I.E cost you?

You will be asked to bear the following costs:

- the intern's monthly allowance,
- a monthly fee covering management and welfare protection of the V.I.E. ranging from 234 to 460€ per month depending on your turnover and the number of interns assigned to your company at a given time,
- return international travelling expenses and luggage transport.

You can obtain an estimate on our website www.businessfrance.fr/vie.

THE V.I.E

A profitable programme for your international development

- A programme designed to create a pool of talent for your growing international HR needs,
- A wide range of talent suited to your activities and your new international challenges,
- A flexible assignment period of 6 to 24 months, which can be renewed once, to match your specific needs*,
- The possibility of a regional V.I.E assignment for a more global approach,
- No contractual agreement between you and the V.I.E, all the advantages offered by a French public status and a protective framework,
- Business France is appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and handle all the administrative aspects of the V.I.E assignment thus you can focus merely on the operational activity and be as hassle-free as possible,
- A very attractive cost compared to expatriate personnel.

** Subject to certain conditions in specific host countries.*

How does the V.I.E programme actually work?

Length of assignment anywhere from 6 to 24 months according to your needs (ie. 6, 7, 8, 9 months... up to 24 months, the length is completely flexible). The assignment must be continuous and is not transferable to a different company. Young people who have already been residing in the country of the assignment for over 2 months can be assigned locally and may be exempted from the information session in France (this measure does not apply to assignments within the EU countries).

Paid leave 2.5 working days per month worked, to be taken either broken up or at the end of the assignment, for assignment periods not exceeding 12 months.

Missions outside the country of assignment 10 days authorized per month worked according to your company's needs, without exceeding 20 days at a time.

Missions in France the V.I.E can spend up to 183 days per 12 month assignment in France, while benefiting from the same fiscal and social benefit conditions as for the time spent abroad.

This time can be used to:

- learn about company products and services,
- learn the organizational culture before joining the structure abroad,
- liaise with the headquarters in France on a regular basis,
- carry out reporting missions (such as financial control and checking).

Regional V.I.E should you require your V.I.E to work across several countries in a given geographical area (maximum 8), you will need to specify this when applying for the V.I.E. In this case, the time spent in each of these countries during the assignment will not be restricted.

V.I.E assigned to a country included in the European Economic Area is automatically considered as regional V.I.E in this area.

Where can you find the right candidate to match your needs?

Business France promotes the V.I.E. through schools of higher education and youth career orientation centres, and registers applicants. More than 40,000 applicants with high level profiles are currently registered and ready to satisfy specific demands. Just log on to our V.I.E site: www.businessfrance.fr to find your ideal candidate or to place job offers via Business France. Upon request, Business France can also assist you in finding specific profiles.

How do you apply for a V.I.E?

In France The company completes an approval request as well as a volunteer assignment application form on www.businessfrance.fr. This approval entitles your company to apply for an unlimited number of V.I.Es. Companies already approved can download their applications on-line on their V.I.E customer space.

Abroad Your application for a V.I.E. must be sent to your headquarters or counterpart based in France, which is the only office authorized to contract with Business France.

Which companies can benefit from the V.I.E programme?

Companies under French law:

- wishing to expand their activities abroad,
- with a host structure in the country in question, able to supervise the intern (subsidiary, branch, commercial agency, representative office, partnership agreement...).

If you do not have the required local structure, Business France is able to provide you with:

- placement under the guidance and supervision of a French group,
- office facilities abroad, in our offices, within French Chamber of Commerce or by a French External Trade Counsellor. Private export consulting companies also offer this service.

A shared-time programme whereby 2 or more companies can cost-share a V.I.E assignment.

The legal framework



The V.I.E scheme was established by the french law of 14th March 2000 and the decrees for its implementation on 30 November 2000. This programme aims to reinforce the international development of French companies while offering dynamic young graduates an opportunity to benefit from a formative experience abroad.

To find more, just go to www.BusinessFrance.fr or contact Business France:

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Business France V.I.E



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