



FRANCE

I Situation of the Profession

History and Development

The word psychomotricity has been used since the early 1900s, but it was only in 1947 that the practice of psychomotor re-education really started at Henri Rousselle Hospital in Professor De Ajuriaguerra's [department](#).

The first teaching of psychomotor re-education appeared in 1962 thanks to Mrs Soubiran's impulse.

In the early stages, it was mainly professionals from other medical fields who trained and were certificated in psychomotor re-education. Thanks to professional Unions and mainly the FFP (since 1973), the training programme as well as the professional practise became official.

In 1974, a national training curriculum was defined [that all French schools have to follow](#).

Therefore, from then on, a State Diploma recognized the training of the psycho-re-educator.

The [1988](#) decree of law determines the competence field of psychomotricians as well as the protection of the profession. Only people who have graduated can practise it. [This text is now repealed and integrated into the Public Health Code in Article R 4332. 1 and followings.](#)

In February 1995, the profession of psychomotrician has been written down in Book IV of the Public Health Code— psychomotricians have become assistants in the medical field.

In the same year, psychomotricians have been entitled to become managers in the health field.

In the context of the paramedics, training reform, the new official national training curriculum came into force in 1998.

[By the end of 2001, psychomotricians have been entitled the right to become head of treatment in the field of rehabilitation. This was possible thanks to the creation of the rehabilitation field in hospitals and thanks to the incorporation of psychomotricians to this field.](#)

Professional/Psychomotor Organizations

FFP (French Federation of Psychomotricians) (<http://www.psychomotricite.com/ffp>). The

FFP has been a representative body of the psychomotrician profession since 1973. It

gathers a large majority of psychomotricians, employed or running their own practice.

Its main goal is to establish solidarity among Psychomotricians. This solidarity creates a representation and pressure power which allows professionals to resolve the problems arising in the profession and to defend their interests into one common action.

[The FFP represents the psychomotricians in the High Council of Paramedics Professions.](#)

II. Education

[Ten](#) training institutes for psychomotricity are authorized by the French Ministries of Education and Health, [in which four opened in the two last years](#). They teach the same national training curriculum:

- **Institut Supérieur de Rééducation Psychomotrice, (ISRP)** Paris, (<http://www.isrp.fr>)
- **Institut Supérieur de Rééducation Psychomotrice (ISRP PACA), Marseille** (<http://www.isrp.fr>)
- **Groupe Hospitalier Pitié Salpêtrière** (Paris)



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- (<http://www.chups.jussieu.fr/programmes/psychomot/psychomot.html>)
- **Université Claude Bernard. Lyon I. U.S.P "Techniques de Réadaptation"** (<http://istr.univ-lyon1.fr>)
- **Institut de Formation au D.E. de Psychomotricien de la Région Nord-Pas-de-Calais.** (<http://www.institutpsychomot-nord.com>)
- **Centre de Formation au D.E. de Psychomotricien** (Bordeaux). (<http://www.univ-bordeauxsegalen.fr>)
- **U.F.R de Technique de Réadaptation de L'Université P.Sabatier Toulouse III** (<http://www.psychomot.ups-tlse.fr>)
- **IFP Du Centre Hospitalier Intercommunal de Meulan-Les-Mureaux** (<http://www.chimm.fr/ifp>)
- **Institut de Formation Public Varois des Professions de Santé (IFPVPS, Hyères)** (www.ifpvps.fr)
- **Institut de formation en psychomotricité du Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse**
- **Institut Régional de Formation en Psychomotricité EMAP, La Réunion** (<http://www.emap.re/>)

Study courses last three years. Students need to have passed the French [Bachelor](#) ("[Baccalauréat](#)") to access to the [Institutes](#). They need to [pass](#) an [entrance examination](#) to get in the first year. Each year corresponds to 60 ECTS, 180 ECTS total. The French curriculum for the training of psychomotricians is in accordance with the training initially defined by the European Forum of Psychomotricity.

At the end of their studies, students get a National degree of psychomotrician ("[Diplôme d'Etat de Psychomotricien](#)") [issued](#) by the Ministry of Health. The degree is compulsory to have the right to practise.

In [2012/2013](#), the national [quota](#) (i.e. the number of students allowed to get the training) defined by the ministry was [844](#) students. Each school is imposed a quota of students.

III. Practice

Psychomotricians play a part in many different fields: [education](#), [health with prevention](#), [health education](#), [rehabilitation](#), [therapy and terminal care](#). They [intervene in therapeutic education programmes](#).

They oversee [all stages of life](#) from: [premature babies](#), babies, toddlers, children, teenagers to adults and elderly people. They also deal with [pregnant women](#).

They can play a part in public or private organisations within education, medical or social systems such as: neonatology, [nursery](#), Day care centre, Kindergarten, Primary schools or Child Care, Medical –educational institutes ([IME](#)), General and Psychiatric Hospitals, within the hospital or in consultation, Day care Facilities for Young Disabled People, Retirement Homes etc. They are also entitled to run private clinics. [Private practice](#) has developed too, mainly with children at school, but also with a growing number of adults, particularly for [relaxation](#), [and elderly](#).

Psychomotricians do a paramedic job.

The training and practise of the psychomotricians' profession are regulated by official [texts](#). This enables them to have national recognition (official national curriculum, state hospital status, collective agreement, etc.)

Salaried psychomotricians are paid according to official [salary scales](#).

As Medical assistants, they practise under doctors' supervision.



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Treatments delivered within institutes are free of charge. For self-employed practitioners, there are no automatic refunds for health insurance but a case-by-case examination basis at the request of the patient or some Mutual health insurances.

France has implemented the “Plan Alzheimer 2008-2012”. One measure is to encourage home support for people with dementia. Since 2011, health insurance supports 15 psychomotor rehabilitation sessions, renewable annually. These sessions must be conducted by professionals working in specialized teams for home care with these patients.

IV. Legislation

- Creation of State Degree of Psycho-re educator and of an official training curriculum (*décret n°74-112 du 15 février 1974 portant création du diplôme d'Etat de psycho-rééducateur*)
- Hospital public status (*Arrêté du 3 avril 1980 classement et échelonnement indiciaires de certains agents des services médicaux des établissements d'hospitalisation publics et de certains établissements à caractère social. Application du décret 80-253 du 03/04/1980 relatif au statut particulier de certains agents des services médicaux des établissements d'hospitalisation publics et de certains établissements à caractère social*)
- The word « psychomotrician » replaces the term psycho-re educator (*Décret n°85-188 du 7 février 1985 modifiant les décrets du 15 février 1974 et du 17 août 1976 portant création du diplôme d'Etat de psychorééducateur*)
- Decree of laws abiding the competence field of psychomotricians (*Décret n° 88-659 du 6 mai 1988 Décret relatif à l'accomplissement de certains actes de rééducation psychomotrice*, <http://www.psychomotricite.com/ffp/info/decret-loi.html>)
- Registration of the profession of psychomotrician in Book IV of the Public health Code, psychomotricians become medical assistants (*Loi no 95-116 du 4 février 1995 portant diverses dispositions d'ordre social*)
- Possibility to hold a position in health management (*Décret no 95-926 du 18 août 1995 portant création d'un diplôme de cadre de santé*)
- New national official training Curriculum (*Arrêté du 7 avril 1998 relatif aux études préparatoires au diplôme d'Etat de psychomotricien*)
-)
- Creation within hospitals of a re-education course, with opportunities of promotion to the position of Head of Care in this field/specialty (publication in the Official Bulletin 31/12/2001)

In order to find further information as well as texts concerning psychomotricians you can visit the FFP website <http://www.psychomotricite.com/ffp> or the government website <http://www.sante.gouv.fr>