

Understand the Professional Photographer Certification RNCP Level 7 (formerly level I)

What is professional certification?

Professional certification allows its holder to certify skills and knowledge necessary to exercise an activity corresponding to a professional field. It guarantees its holder to be operational immediately within the professional world.

The level of training is recognized both by the French state and at European level

All professional certifications are listed in the National Directory of Professional Certifications (RNCP —*Répertoire National des Certifications Professionnelles*) and are subject to validation, registration and modifications by France Compétences, who are equally in charge of renewing certifications.

- The **National Directory of Professional Certifications (RNCP)** aims at making available to individuals and businesses regularly updated information on diplomas and professional titles. It contains the reference sheets of each certification with national value, whether accessible through initial or continuing training. This recognition demonstrates that the skills taught correspond to the expectations of the professional world. Since January 2019, the RNCP title is officially issued by France Compétences (a public institution, whose mission it is to ensure the financing, regulation and improvement of the vocational training and apprenticeship system), under the supervision of the Ministry in charge of vocational training.
- **Direct link to the reference sheet of Spéos on France Compétences:**
<https://www.francecompetences.fr/recherche/rncp/6087/>

The different levels of certification

The professional certifications listed in the RNCP are classified by levels of qualification.

The level associated with each certification is based on criteria for grading of the skills required to perform various professional activities.

A new nomenclature was introduced by decree nr 2019-14 of 8 January 2019 regarding the national framework for professional certifications, as well as by the order of 8 January 2019, which sets the criteria associated with the levels of qualification for the national framework.

The scale of the classification was inverted, in order to facilitate accordance with the qualifications of the other EU states (and thereby aligned with the EQF —the European Qualifications Framework):

NEW LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION		FORMER LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION
LEVEL 1	Basic skills mastered.	–
LEVEL 2	Demonstrates the ability to perform simple activities and solve common problems using rules and tools based on professional know-how in a structured context.	–
LEVEL 3	CAP (certificate of vocational training of adults)	LEVEL V
LEVEL 4	HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA	LEVEL IV
NIVEAU 5	ASSOCIATE DEGREE (“BAC + 2”)	LEVEL III
NIVEAU 6	BACHELOR’S	LEVEL II
NIVEAU 7	MASTER’S	LEVEL I
LEVEL 8	PHD	LEVEL I

Spéos delivers a RNCP title level 7 (formerly level I)

Since 2008, Spéos is accredited by the French government with the **Title of Photographer RNCP level 7 (formerly I)**— code NSF 323 t:

- The highest level of professional training qualification for photographers.
- Certifications registered in the directory are **recognized throughout the French national and the European territory**.

The Spéos programs delivering a **Title of Photographer RNCP level 7** are registered in the RNCP by successive decrees of 7 August 2008, 17 November 2011, 22 December 2014, as well as 25 February 2016 — published in the *Journal Officiel* of 17 March 2016.

The most recent registration covers 5 years and is valid until March 17, 2021.

According to decree number 2019-14 of 8 January 2019, level 7 "attests the ability to develop and implement alternative strategies for the development of professional activity in complex professional contexts, as well as to evaluate the risks and consequences of one's activity. Diplomas conferring Master's degrees are classified at this level of the national framework".