



PRESS RELEASE
La Rochelle, 1 July 2020

La Rochelle Business School, Excelia Group is awarded AMBA accreditation and obtains the highly coveted 'Triple Crown'

La Rochelle Business School has been awarded AMBA accreditation for the first time, for a period of 3 years. It has therefore joined the elite of Business Schools worldwide boasting the three prestigious accreditations of EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA, three highly selective international certifications that are testimony to the School's strategy and the excellence of its performance. Only 1% of Business Schools in the world can boast this 'Triple Crown'. With the renewal of its AACSB accreditation, and having been awarded both EQUIS and AMBA accreditations in the space of a few months, La Rochelle Business School has consolidated its continued development, becoming the 15th French school, for post-preparatory class students, to be awarded these international labels.

Recognition of demanding international standards

AMBA international accreditation is a label of excellence, the awarding of which is based on demanding criteria. It is a guarantee of the quality of the programmes offered by Business Schools, and La Rochelle Business School received the accreditation on 1 July 2020 for its Master in Management programme.

AMBA accreditation was awarded to La Rochelle Business School following an extensive report and an in-depth audit of the entire organisation based on the following criteria: Excelia Group's strategy, the academic excellence of its programmes, the quality of its students and Faculty, its relations with the corporate world, and its international dimension. In addition, the relevance of the programmes in relation to the needs of companies, an important criterion for AMBA accreditation, was also assessed through interviews with employers.

Based on these elements, La Rochelle Business School obtained AMBA accreditation for a period of 3 years. The School therefore holds the three prestigious accreditations of EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA, something that only 1% of Business Schools worldwide can boast.

Areas of excellence including the School's proven expertise in the field of CSR/SD

In their accreditation report, the AMBA auditors encouraged the School to continue its strategy of differentiation and diversification. They also praised several other areas:

- **Its pioneering and leading position in the field of CSR and Sustainable Development**, which remains a significant draw for students. Humacité[®], a unique project in France, offering students the opportunity to carry out a humanitarian project as part of their academic studies (67% of these projects are carried out abroad), is in line with the School's values, which are evident in many of its actions and initiatives.

- **The flexible and personalised approach to the organisation of lessons**, which is highly valued by students.
- **Its strong presence within the local economy**, which contributes to the development of companies.
- **A fully committed Faculty**, who receive the necessary resources to carry out their academic work.

In addition, as the AMBA audit took place at a time when academic continuity was being maintained remotely, the experts noted *“the efficient way in which the School has adapted to the health crisis, demonstrating its **flexibility and resourcefulness**, which is characteristic of its relations with all its stakeholders”*.

Clear signs of proven quality and continued progress

Only a few weeks after having received EQUIS accreditation, this new international label confirms the pertinence of Excelia Group's strategic direction. It conveys a clear sign of proven quality in terms of its academic excellence and its international dimension.

In just under 10 years, La Rochelle Business School has become the 15th French school, for post-preparatory class students, to boast the Triple Crown.



“In the space of a few weeks, La Rochelle Business School, Excelia Group, has been awarded both EQUIS and AMBA accreditations. These international labels highlight the School's proven expertise in the fields of CSR and Sustainable Development, and consolidate the School's strategic approach and its objectives. They are also recognition of the commitment of all its teams and stakeholders.”

Bruno Neil, CEO and Dean, Excelia Group

About Excelia Group

Created in 1988, Excelia Group (formerly Sup de Co La Rochelle) is one of the leading French Higher Education Groups. With a strong presence in its local region and an international outlook, the Group comprises 5 Schools: La Rochelle Business School, La Rochelle Tourism & Hospitality School, La Rochelle Digital School, La Rochelle Academy, La Rochelle Executive Education. It currently educates some 3,800 students and boasts a global network of 17,500 graduates. The Group holds the following labels and accreditations: EESPIG, AACSB, EQUIS, AMBA and EPAS. In addition, in the field of tourism, it holds the United Nations UNWTO.TedQual certification.

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