

France, the world's fourth-largest destination for international students



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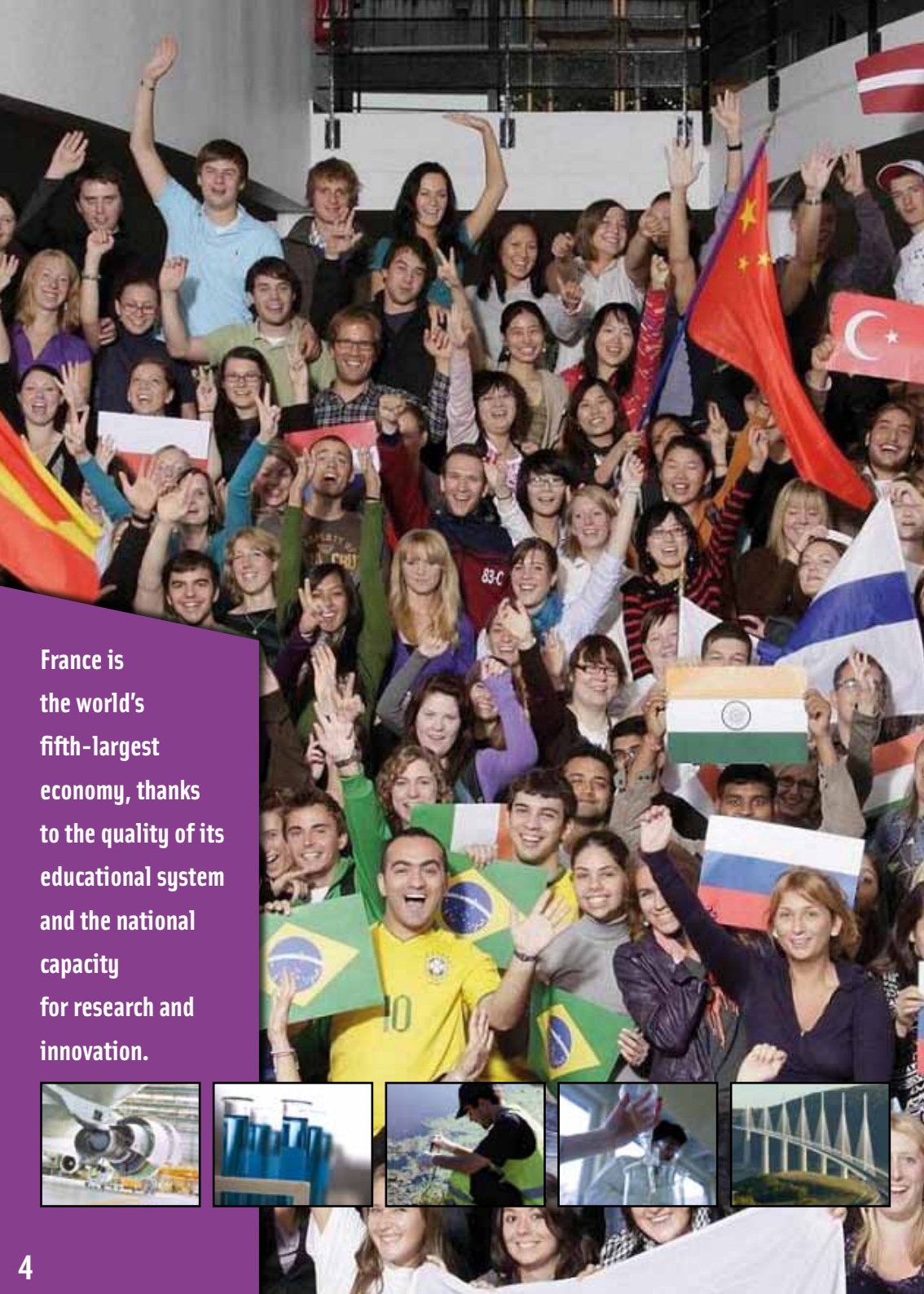
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ABOUT CAMPUSFRANCE

ON THE WEB





France is the world's fifth-largest economy, thanks to the quality of its educational system and the national capacity for research and innovation.



Choose France for your higher education

Millions have already made that choice. Right now, more than 280,000 international students—12% of the nation's postsecondary enrollment—attend universities and other institutions of higher education in France. In fact, France hosts more international students than any except the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

Reap the benefit of France's long tradition of scientific research and technological innovation

France owes its economic success to its research capacity and to its achievements in the fields of space, transportation, electronics, telecommunications, physics, biotechnology, health, and mathematics.

The establishment of a new network of research and higher education clusters reaffirms the country's determination to maintain its high profile as a knowledge economy. Known as PRES (for *pôles de recherche et d'enseignement supérieur*), the clusters represent a new way for France's academic and scientific communities to cooperate and share knowledge.

France has the fifth-largest economy in the world and welcomes foreign investment.

Be a part of one of the world's most effective educational systems

Imbued with the tradition of a thousand years of scholarship, France's diversified network of more than 3,500 institutions of higher learning, both public and private, and its internationally renowned research centers deliver top-notch educational programs. The network comprises 83 universities, more than 200 engineering schools, 200 schools of business and management, 120 public art schools, and 20 schools of architecture. In addition, more than 3,000 specialized schools and institutes provide instruction in specific sectors, such as social work, paramedical occupations, tourism, sports and

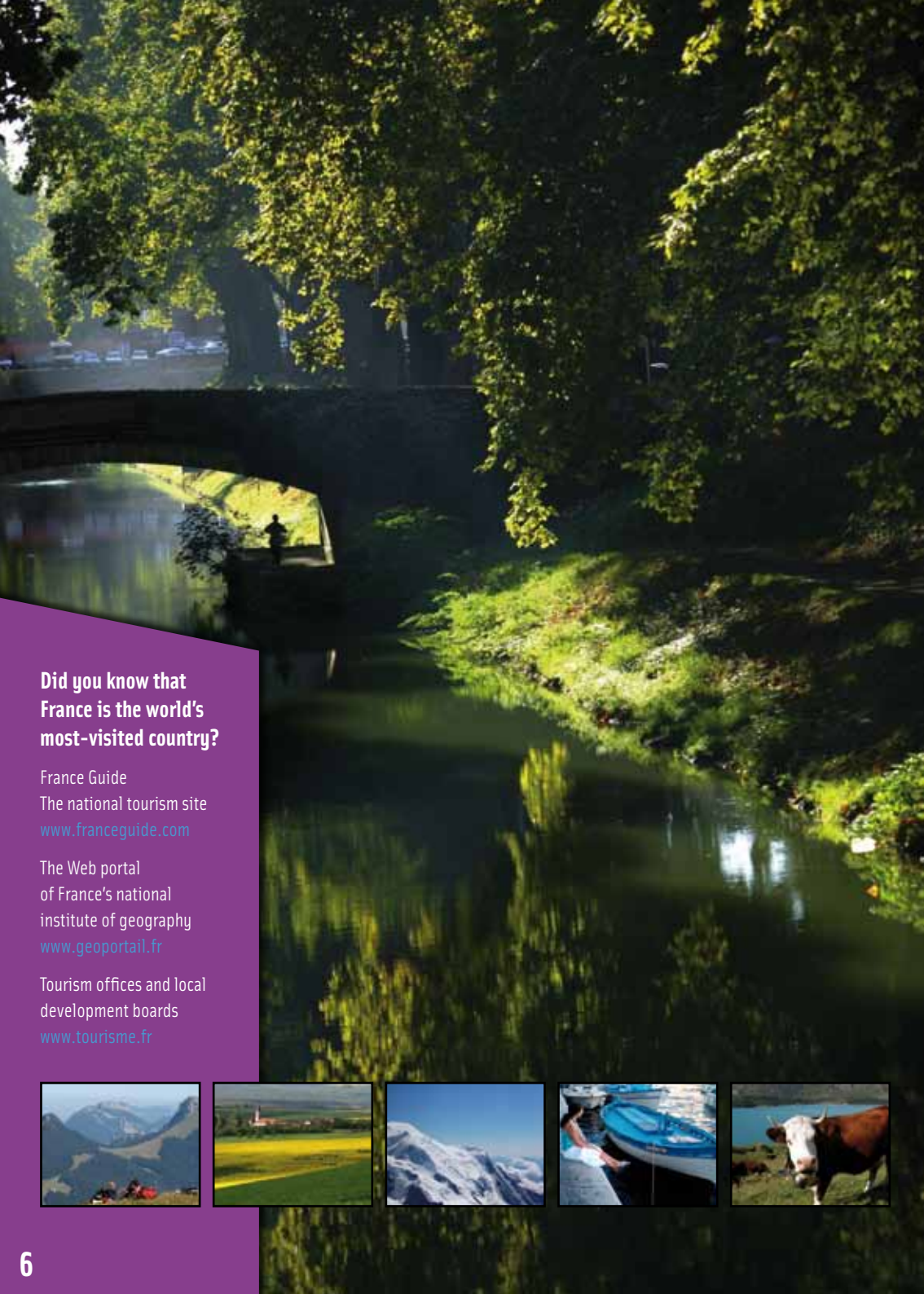


physical education, fashion, and design. Many secondary schools (*lycées*) offer postsecondary programs that prepare students for the entrance examinations for the *Grandes Écoles* (CPGE) or that lead to a BTS (*brevet de technicien spécialisé*), a 2-year technical certificate.

Count on a quality education

In 2010, 1.4% of France's GDP was devoted to higher education and research. The magnitude of the nation's commitment to sound education is your guarantee of the value and integrity of the degree you will earn. France's central government defrays a very large share of the true cost of education at public institutions—between €10,000 and €14,000 per student per year—thereby reducing the student's tuition burden. In fact, **tuition levels at France's public institutions are among the lowest in the world—making their high-quality degrees a remarkable value.**

France's universities and other educational institutions do not distinguish between international students and French students. Both groups face identical admission and tuition requirements; both receive the same degrees.



Did you know that France is the world's most-visited country?

France Guide
The national tourism site
www.franceguide.com

The Web portal of France's national institute of geography
www.geoportail.fr

Tourism offices and local development boards
www.tourisme.fr



Thoroughly European, distinctively French

Quality of life

Students enjoy lower prices and special assistance in many aspects of daily life—advantages that can markedly improve their quality of life. The national health-care system is modern and accessible; public transportation is efficient and affordable; rent subsidies are widely available. In addition to access to low-cost restaurants, students pay discounted prices at museums and athletic events. Outside France's vibrant cities, a wide variety of landscapes, from sparkling seacoasts to majestic mountain ranges, offer an intriguing palette of recreational possibilities.

Unrivaled cultural dynamism

Literature, films, museums, theaters, opera, cafés, and the national flair for food and fashion are a part of everyday life, evidence of the French emphasis on culture. Throughout the year, but especially in summer, the nation celebrates its own culture and those of other nations in a parade of local and international events.

www.francefestivals.com

At the crossroads of Europe

Bordered by nine different countries, France is the ideal place from which to discover Europe. The proximity of Amsterdam, London, Berlin, Brussels, Barcelona, Munich, Milan, and other great cities means many opportunities to explore Europe—on weekends or during longer breaks in the academic calendar.

Because France is an integral part of economic, social, and political Europe, many of the country's educational institutions have included a European perspective in their programs. A course on Europe or an internship with a European firm is a great way to broaden your French experience and embrace Europe.



Talk to the world

French is spoken by **220 million people** around the world. It is the official language of 32 countries on 5 continents. The three capitals of the European Union—Brussels, Luxembourg, and Strasbourg—are French-speaking cities.

In EU institutions, French, German, and English are the working languages.

French is also one of the six working languages of the United Nations, one of the two official languages of the International Olympic Committee, and one of the official languages of the African Union.

A national agency that helps international students achieve their educational goals in France

CampusFrance's emphasis on providing a quality experience for international students is found in every aspect of its work—from promotion and information to online admissions, travel planning, and orientation upon arrival.

The agency's Web site and its many local offices are the engines of its student-service mission.

• **campusfrance.org:** Get information, search programs from the *licence* to the doctoral level, apply for admission, look for financial aid, and prepare for your trip.

• **CampusFrance local offices:** More than 130 offices in more than 100 countries support students with information and guidance.

campusfrance.org
>CampusFrance offices around me

Degrees

The degrees awarded in French higher education reflect a common European architecture. The LMD system—for *licence* (bachelor), master, and doctorate—is based on the number of semesters completed after leaving secondary school and their equivalent in European credits under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)*:

- **Licence** = 6 semesters = 180 ECTS (*baccalauréat* or equivalent + 3 years)
- **Master** = 10 semesters = 300 ECTS (*baccalauréat* or equivalent + 5 years)
- **Doctorate** = 16 semesters (*baccalauréat* or equivalent + 8 years)

- The universities confer “national diplomas,” which have the same weight regardless of the institution that confers them.

- The *diplôme d’ingénieur* is a national diploma. The schools that award it are accredited by CTI, the French national commission on engineering degrees.

- A similar accreditation procedure exists for government-recognized schools of business and management, the diplomas of which are approved by the Ministry of National Education and, in many cases, have obtained international recognition or accreditation.

- France’s schools of art and specialized schools also undergo national certification.

The degrees conferred in French universities and other institutions of higher education are certified by the French government.

YEARS OF STUDY	LEVELS	THE LMD SYSTEM		
		Universities	Grandes Écoles Schools of business Schools of engineering	Schools of art Schools of architecture Other institutions (lycées, specialized schools)
9	18 semesters (+ 9 years)	• State diploma of doctor of medicine		
DOCTORAL DEPARTMENTS				
8	DOCTORATE 16 semesters (+ 8 years)	• Doctorate / PhD		
7				
6	12 semesters (+ 6 years)	• State diploma of doctor of dental surgery • State diploma of doctor of pharmacy	• <i>Mastère spécialisé</i> (MS) • Master of business administration (MBA)	• HMONP (professional credential for independent practice of architecture)
5	MASTER 10 semesters (+ 5 years) 300 ECTS	• Research master • Professional master • Engineering degree	• Engineering degree • Master of Science - MSc • Business school diplomas • Degrees of the <i>Grandes Ecoles</i>	• Art school diploma (DNSEP) • State architect’s diploma • Diplomas of specialized schools (health, social work, tourism, etc.)
4				
3	LICENCE 6 semesters (+ 3 years) 180 ECTS	• <i>Licence</i> (bachelor) • <i>Licence professionnelle</i> (professional bachelor)		• Art school diplomas (DNAT - DNAP) • Architecture diploma
2	4 semesters (+ 2 years)	• University technology diploma (DUT)	• Admission to the first year of a <i>Grande École</i> program • Preparation for admission to <i>Grandes Écoles</i> (CPGE)	• Art school diploma (DMA) • Postsecondary technical certificate (BTS)
1				

Completion of secondary school + *baccalauréat* or equivalent (eligibility to enter higher education in home country) = access to French higher education

*ECTS credits: Credits earned under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System are recognized throughout Europe. A full year of academic work represents 60 ECTS credits.
http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc48_fr.htm

Did you know?

- Any student presently enrolled in higher education in his or her home country may apply for admission to a French university or other institution of higher education, provided he or she meets certain criteria.



Vocational education: professionally oriented national diplomas at the L2 and L3 levels

The evolution of the global economy has placed a high premium on skills, advanced technical knowledge, and operational know-how as the keys to career advancement. To meet these demands, France's system of higher education has created undergraduate programs that combine theory and practice, enabling students to gain up-to-date skills, learn the latest methods, and use professional tools in real-world settings.



Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS, postsecondary technical certificate)

The BTS is a national vocational/professional qualification representing 120 ECTS credits (2 years of postsecondary study). It is offered in 87 different areas spanning manufacturing, production, services, and the plastic arts. Most BTS programs are offered in the postsecondary technical sections of secondary schools. Graduates are equipped to perform specialized technical functions in a professional environment.

List of BTS specialties:

www.sup.adc.education.fr/btstst/

Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie (DUT, university technical diploma)

The DUT is a national vocational/professional qualification representing 120 ECTS credits (2 years of study). It is conferred by France's university-based institutes of technology, or IUTs. DUT programs are offered in 24 specialty areas, 15 of which are related to production (materials science and engineering, mechanical engineering, computer-assisted manufacturing, etc.) and 9 to services (administration, communication, management, information, etc.). Programs prepare graduates to begin a career immediately after graduation. Most require an internship. Graduates may also elect to continue their education by applying for admission to a school of engineering or management.

The 115 IUTs located throughout France offer 658 different DUT degrees: www.iut-fr.net

Licence Professionnelle (professional licence)

After successfully completing 2 years of postsecondary study, students may apply to enter a 1-year program that allows them to earn a *licence professionnelle*, a national professional diploma signifying the accumulation of 180 ECTS credits. Programs are offered in universities and IUTs. More than 2,000 *licences professionnelles* are offered in 46 broad areas that include the agricultural and manufacturing sectors (agriculture, fisheries, forests and natural areas; civil engineering, construction, woodworking; mechanics, electricity, electronics; production and transformation) as well as services (management and trade; communication and information; local government services; personal services).

Opportunities for professional internships and the participation of practicing professionals in the delivery of instruction make the *licence professionnelle* a very effective way to start a career. Across France, more than 40,000 students are enrolled in *licence professionnelle* programs.

National registry of professional certifications (RNCP):

www.cncp.gouv.fr>Licence professionnelle

The online catalog of postsecondary vocational/professional programs in France

www.campusfrance.org

> Find your program

>Licence

Listings of all BTS, DUT, and professional licence programs, with Web sites and contact information.

Subject-area profiles

www.campusfrance.org

>Resource Center

>Educational and research programs

>Subject-area profiles

Each profile outlines degree programs and other aspects of a particular field, such as aeronautics, banking, retail, culinary arts and restaurant management, hotel management, nursing, nuclear engineering, water resource management, tourism, and many more.

Degree descriptions

www.campusfrance.org

>Resource Center

>Educational and research programs

>Degree descriptions

The BTS, DUT, *Licence professionnelle*, and *master spécialisé* are presented in detail, including information on prerequisites and the possibilities for further study.



41% of France's doctoral candidates come from outside France.

Doctoral programs

Any student holding a European master or the equivalent may apply for admission to a doctoral program in France. Programs generally last 3 years. Candidates who prepare and successfully defend a thesis or dissertation receive the doctorate.

Scientific research is a top priority in France

France devotes 2.11% of its GDP to research and development. **That effort has put France in fourth place** among all nations in the European patent system and eighth worldwide in the U.S. patent system. The CNRS (France's national center for scientific research) has once again been ranked **second in the world** in output of scientific publications (Scimago 2011 ranking).

Several initiatives to advance the dissemination, financing, and evaluation of research demonstrate the vitality and future-oriented outlook of the French research enterprise:

- A new national research agency (ANR) manages financing for research projects.
- New tools for cooperation in research include research and higher education clusters, known as PRES (for *pôles de recherche et d'enseignement supérieur*), thematic networks for advanced research (RTRA, *réseaux thématiques de*

recherche avancée), thematic centers for research and care (CTRS, *centres thématiques de recherche et de soins*), and competitiveness clusters.

- Public support for corporate research and development has been increased.

Doctoral programs

Doctoral training takes place within research teams or units affiliated with a doctoral department.

Candidates work under the supervision of a dissertation adviser. Most doctoral programs are found in the universities.

About 300 university doctoral departments organize **research** teams around scientific and scholarly themes. They coordinate doctoral programs and ensure the coherence and efficiency of scientific and scholarly projects.

Prospective doctoral candidates must apply directly to a specific doctoral program.

Financing doctoral study

Demonstrating the ability to pay for doctoral study is very often a prerequisite for admission to a doctoral program.

- **Doctoral contracts** are a public mechanism for financing doctoral education that emphasizes professional research experience, an essential part of doctoral education. Anyone holding a master's degree or equivalent, regardless of age, may apply. Contracts are for 3 years and offer all of the benefits of a formal employment agreement. Contract terms are identical at all French institutions of higher education and research. The minimum guaranteed gross monthly compensation ranges from about €1,300 to €1,700. Doctoral departments are responsible for recruiting candidates.

- **Research training agreements with industry**

CIFREs (*conventions industrielles de formation par la recherche*) enable young researchers to complete their dissertation while working for a firm. Participants agree on a research and development program that is pursued in cooperation with a research team based outside the firm. CIFRE-funded candidates must hold a master or an engineering degree. www.anrt.asso.fr

- **International joint doctoral programs**

Governed by an agreement between a French institution of higher education and a partner institution outside France, joint doctoral programs allow candidates to work on their dissertation in two countries according to defined conditions (time spent in each country, dissertation defense, financing, etc.). Most joint degree programs are accompanied by dedicated financial aid, the main purpose of which is to defray the candidate's travel costs.

Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorates – EMJDs

Full-time grants are offered to students who have been selected to participate in a doctoral program that has been granted the Erasmus Mundus label. The amount of the doctoral grants varies from program to program and includes tuition, travel expenses, living expenses, and certain other costs.

To be considered for an Erasmus Mundus grant, candidates must:

- Identify an Erasmus Mundus program appropriate for their intended research.
- Submit an application for admission to the university that coordinates the consortium. Applications are generally due between October and December. Applicants are allowed to submit applications to no more than 3 different consortia in a given year.

<http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/ErasmusMundus/Selectedprojects/Joindoctorates>

Contact in France :

Agence 2E2F :

www.europe-education-formation.fr/erasmus-mundus-cours-masters.php

www.campusfrance.org

> Find your course

> level Doctoral

CampusFrance's online catalog includes every French doctoral program and the research units with which it is affiliated. The database is accessible through a bilingual (French and English) search engine that employs 20,000 keywords in 80 disciplines.

A profile of each doctoral program is also provided.

www.campusfrance.org

>Resource center>educational and research programs>Degree descriptions

www.campusfrance.org

Finance your program

Find financial assistance online using the CampusBourse grant search engine!



Universities

Unlike in the major English-speaking countries, private institutions account for a relatively small share of postsecondary enrollments in France (less than 15%). France's 83 publicly financed universities are well distributed around the nation. They award national diplomas, which provide the assurance of a uniformly high level of educational quality regardless of where they are earned—from the famous Sorbonne to the alpine campuses of the universities of Grenoble and Chambéry and the island campus of the University of Corsica.

The universities offer programs in all disciplines, including the sciences (mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology), technology (computer science, engineering, electrotechnics, materials), literature, languages, the arts, the social sciences, law, economics, business, health and medicine, and physical education. All of the nation's universities are public. **The universities offer programs at every level; their graduates receive nationally regulated degrees known as national diplomas: the licence (3 years), master (5 years), and doctorate (8 years).**

Note: What is a *diplôme d'université* (DU)?

In parallel with the system of national diplomas, individual universities offer programs that reflect their academic orientations or respond to regional economic imperatives. Those diplomas have a variety of names, the most common of which is *diplôme d'université* (DU). Another is *diplôme inter-universitaire* (DIU). **They are not national diplomas**, but they offer international students opportunities to gain university-level knowledge and experience in very specific areas.

Research, a key function of the universities
As the primary locus of research and training in the basic sciences, the universities ensure that their degree programs stay abreast of progress in basic knowledge and technology.

The international recognition accorded French researchers attests to the universities' devotion to knowledge: Fields medals awarded to scholars at French universities include the 2010 medal to Cédric Villani, professor at Université Claude Bernard-Lyon 1 and the 2006 medal to Wendelin Werner, professor of mathematics at Université Paris-Sud 11.

285 doctoral departments staffed by 100,000 scholars and researchers provide research training in close cooperation with more than 2,500 research laboratories. The departments confer more than 11,000 doctorates each year.

French doctoral departments have always been open to the world. Of 70,000 doctoral candidates enrolled in 2011, 41% are from outside France.

France's system of higher education enrolls 2.4 million students, 60% of whom attend the country's 83 public universities.

Deeply committed to their corporate, academic, and research partners in France and abroad, the nation's universities daily demonstrate their dynamism and their ability to respond to change.

In parallel with the traditional academic degree ladder, the universities have accommodated new educational needs:

- **University-based engineering programs** now confer 30% of the engineering degrees awarded in France each year.
- **More than 2,000 career-oriented licence degrees**, known as *licences professionnelles*, are available.
- **Technical programs** are offered in 24 specialty areas in university-based institutes of technology (IUTs, *instituts universitaires de technologie*).
- **Management programs** are available in university-based institutes of business administration (IAE, *instituts d'administration des entreprises*).
- **Programs in political science and economics** are found in university-based institutes of politics (IEP, *instituts d'études politiques*) and Sciences Po Paris.
- **Journalism and communication** are taught in specialized institutes in several universities. Examples include CELSA at the University of Paris-Sorbonne and the Centre Universitaire d'Enseignement du Journalisme at the University of Strasbourg.

www.campusfrance.org>Resource Center>Educational and research programs>Degree descriptions
www.campusfrance.org>Resource Center>Practical and institutional guides
 >Institutions profiles>Universities

Medical education

Within the European LMD system, medical studies in France are divided into 3 stages of 3 years or more. The universities deliver medical education in cooperation with France's 32 CHUs, or university hospital centers.

The first year of medical education is the same for all four basic medical tracks: (i) medicine (including physical therapy), (ii) dental surgery, (iii) pharmacy, and (iv) midwifery. Those who complete that year are eligible to sit for one of four examinations that result in a ranking of places available, as determined each year. Students' ability to continue their medical education depends on the rank they obtain on the exam.

International students and medical education in France

Unless they have already obtained a medical degree in their home country, international students must enroll in the first year of the first cycle of medical education and must pass the end-of-year examination. Students who pass that examination may then jump to the level they had reached in their home country, subject to an assessment by the program's administrators of the equivalence of their prior preparation.

- To begin the third stage of medical education, foreign students must undergo a special medical residency competition organized by the culture and cooperation service of France's embassies and consulates. In 2010, 20 places were offered in 11 medical specialties.

- Two degree programs—the DFMS and the DFMSA—provide specialty education for foreign general practitioners and for foreign physicians. The DFMS (diploma of specialized medical training) requires 1 to 2 years, and the DFMSA (diploma of advanced specialized medical training) requires 6 months to 1 year. Information may be obtained from the culture and cooperation service of the French embassy.

All these programs require a good knowledge of French, evidence of which may be required (at least level B2 of CERL)

www.campusfrance.org >Resource Center>Educational and research programs>Subject area profiles>Medicine

Higher education and research clusters

The system of research and higher education clusters, known as PRES, was created to bring together the universities, *Grandes Écoles*, and research organizations in a given region in order to rally their intellectual and physical assets behind the goals of better education and greater international visibility. The PRES are:

- Thematic centers of excellence
 - A single point of contact for foreign researchers and doctoral candidates
 - A resource for doctoral departments
 - A one-stop shop for international student services
 - Responsible for the publication of academic and scientific work.
- The 21 PRES are located throughout France.

www.campusfrance.org/fr

>Resource center >Practical and institutional guides
 >Profiles of France's higher education and research clusters



The *Grandes Écoles* and the *Écoles supérieures*

Unique to France, the system of *Grandes Écoles* was set up in parallel with the university system at the beginning of the 19th century. The *Grandes Écoles* offer top-quality education oriented toward practical problems. The system includes schools of engineering and business, the *Écoles Normales Supérieures* (ENS), and the national schools of veterinary medicine. The *Grandes Écoles* are highly selective; their degrees signify the completion of a rigorous program.

All *Grandes Écoles* offer five-year diplomas recognized by the government to be equivalent to the European master

They may also offer intermediate degrees and specialized diplomas, among them the bachelor (in 3 or 4 years), the master of science (MSc) (in 4 or 5 years), the master of business administration (MBA), and the *mastère spécialisé* (MS) (1 year after the master).

The traditional path into the *Grandes Écoles* was by examination following 2 years of preparatory classes. Students then earned their degree in 3 more years of increasingly specialized study. However many schools offer admission to a 5-year curriculum directly from secondary school.

To accommodate international students, many *Grandes Écoles* offer admission on the strength of the applicant's academic record. The degree may be earned in 2 to 5 years, depending on the amount of credit the applicant receives for his or her prior academic work.

Engineering

More than 200 schools of engineering, public and private, run the gamut of engineering sciences. But they also have some common characteristics, emblematic of the solid quality of the *diplôme d'ingénieur*, a venerable French degree that is fully equivalent to the European master. The *diplôme d'ingénieur* is a national diploma that entitles its holder to apply to a doctoral program. Depending on the school in which it is offered, the degree may indicate general expertise in engineering or more specialized study—in agronomy, chemistry, biology, or information science, for example. Public schools of engineering charge tuition of approximately €584 per year.

www.campusfrance.org/en>Resource center
>Educational and research programs>Degree descriptions>Mastère spécialisé

The *Financial Times* ranked 6 French schools among the world's top 10 master in management programs (2011). *The Economist* included 6 French MBA programs among its top 100 (2011).



Business and management

The *Grandes Écoles* of business and management enjoy special forms of official recognition:

- certification by the Ministry of National Education, indicated by a stamp on the graduate's diploma
- listing in the registry of *Grandes Écoles* published by the *Conférence des Grandes Ecoles*, which regulates all of France's *Grandes Écoles*
- official recognition of certain diplomas as equivalent to a master.

Operating at a variety of levels, France's many schools of business and management offer programs geared to economic requirements and new management practices. Internships and international exchanges play a large role in many programs. The great majority of schools have come together to offer common entrance exams. About 190 schools admit students directly from secondary school.

Most of France's business schools are private; many are affiliated with local chambers of commerce and industry.

The annual tuition varies widely but is generally between €2,000 and €30,000.

Note

Many of France's business schools have attained international recognition by meeting the standards of various accrediting bodies, among them CGE, EQUIS, AACSB, and AMBA. Some forms of recognition apply to the school itself, others to the degree conferred. All signify international recognition.

Engineering and management dominate the offerings of the *Grandes Écoles*, but one also finds programs in public administration (the specialty of the prestigious *Ecole Nationale d'Administration - ENA*), military sciences, higher education and research, agronomy, and veterinary sciences.

The *Écoles Normales Supérieures*

France's three *Écoles Normales Supérieures*—located in central Paris, Cachan (a Paris suburb), and Lyon—prepare students for careers in university teaching and research in both the arts and sciences.

Each ENS has its own procedure for international admissions.

Schools of veterinary medicine

France has four national schools of veterinary medicine—in Paris (Maisons-Alfort), Lyon, Nantes, and Toulouse. They admit students at various levels using a common examination administered independently by each of the four schools. Admission decisions are made on the basis of examination results or academic records, plus application and interview. Programs in the 4 veterinary schools lead to the degree of doctor of veterinary medicine, a government-sanctioned diploma required for practice as a veterinarian.



Schools of architecture

Postsecondary programs in architecture in France follow the harmonized European system of degrees based on the bachelor (*licence* in France), master, and doctorate.

- The first cycle of postsecondary study lasts three years and is capped by the *diplôme d'études en architecture*, equivalent to a *licence*.
- The second cycle lasts two years and leads to the *diplôme d'état d'architecte*, equivalent to a *master*.
- The **HMONP** (*habilitation à la maîtrise d'oeuvre en nom propre*) is the sole professional credential that entitles an architect to apply for a building permit. It requires a sixth year of study and an internship.
- The third cycle offer a variety of specializations to award a master's degree, as well as doctoral programs in architecture in a number of university-affiliated research laboratories.

www.archi.fr/RECHERCHE/



The nation's 20 schools of architecture, all overseen by the French Ministry of Culture, confer national diplomas.

www.archi.fr/ECOLE/

Two other schools deliver degrees that are considered equivalent:

- The public Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (INSA) in Strasbourg.
- The private École Spéciale d'Architecture (ESA).

www.esa-paris.fr



Schools of art

Almost 60 *écoles supérieures* (higher schools) of art and 4 of applied arts are public institutions of high quality that grant national diplomas accredited by the French government: *diplôme national d'arts plastiques* (DNAP, 3 years, equivalent to a *licence*) and *diplôme national supérieur d'expression plastique* (DNSEP, 5 years, equivalent to a *master*). The four schools of applied art (Boulle, Duperré, Estienne, Olivier de Serres) grant the *diplôme des métiers d'art* (DMA, 2 years) and *diplôme supérieur d'arts appliqués* (DSAA, 4 years).

After an initial phase devoted to a core curriculum, the higher schools of art allow students to specialize in one of 3 areas: art, design, or visual communication.

Private schools of art and those affiliated with chambers of commerce and industry (the latter are known as *écoles consulaires*) confer certificates or professional titles. Those that have earned accreditation are listed in the *Répertoire National de Certification Professionnelle* (national registry of occupational certification, www.cncp.gouv.fr) and classified according to the level of employment for which they prepare their students.

All such institutions admit students selectively by exam or interview.



To learn more

www.campusfrance.org

> Resource Center

> Educational and research programs

> Subject area profiles

Directory of schools of art:

www.andea.fr

CampusArt

www.campusart.org

Apply online to the 60 member institutions of the CampusArt network of French schools of art

The CampusArt network offers applicants a choice of some 200 different art programs at the *licence* and master levels. By completing a single online form, students who have completed 3 years of art education may apply for admission to the entire network of schools and track the progress of their application through to the offer of admission.

Specialized schools

More than 3,000 schools and institutes, public and private, are categorized as "specialized schools." They offer degree programs in very specific areas—among them social work, paramedical fields, tourism, culinary arts, and hotel management, among others.

These institutions offer government-accredited degrees as well as other credentials specific to the institution that confers them. Programs demand from 2 to 5 years of study. Admission is by examination or on the basis of the applicant's academic record.

Studying in France

At any level—bachelor, master, or doctoral—it pays to have a well-defined educational plan and a clear goal before choosing an institution and program.

By identifying programs that dovetail with your prior experience and academic accomplishments, you can increase your chances of admission.



Within a given field of study, you will find a wide variety of curricula and programs. That variety is one of the strong points of the French educational system. Throughout France one finds educational institutions of very high quality in every field. These, too, exhibit variety—there are the universities, of course, but also the free-standing schools of engineering, business, and art. The resulting institutional diversity is one reason for the variety of curricula found within a given field.

Make an informed choice
www.campusfrance.org

The CampusFrance Web site is your best source for the information you need to plan a period of study in France.

We tailor information specifically to the needs of prospective students in more than 100 different countries!

www.campusfrance.org
 >CampusFrance offices around you

The richness and diversity offered by the French system make it easy to find an educational program that matches your background and goals.



Choosing a program

CampusFrance, for all the information you need

www.campusfrance.org

>Find your program

CampusFrance's online catalog of French higher education includes more than 36,000 programs at the *licence*, master, and doctoral levels offered by some 3,000 postsecondary institutions.

A powerful search engine allows users to perform custom searches by keyword, field of study, academic level (L, M, D), and geographic region. It also provides links to the Web sites of institutions of interest to the user and an overview of each institution. Profiles of dozens of academic and professional subjects taught in French institutions round out the database, along with information on student services, doctoral departments, and other topics.

All information profiles

www.campusfrance.org>Resource center

CHOOSE YOUR PROGRAM TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

Online Catalogue

www.campusfrance.org > Programs Taught in English

The catalog of programs taught in English—which includes more than 600 programs in all disciplines from the *licence* to the doctoral level (plus summer courses)—is now available online. The search engine allows users to:

- Search by combinations of criteria (degree level, discipline, percentage of instruction in English)
- View selected programs on a map of France
- Obtain a detailed description of each program (legal status of degree conferred, length of program, admission requirements, cost, etc.)

Updated throughout the year by the institutions offering the programs, this powerful tool makes it easier than ever to study in France ... in English!



www.campusfrance.org >Find your program>Short courses, learn French, cultural and academic programs

Catalog of short programs and cultural and linguistic stays

This new bilingual (French–English) catalog focuses on programs in French as a foreign language and summer and winter courses offered by CampusFrance member institutions. Students are awarded ECTS credits, either by passing a test or by earning a certificate or attestation.

Search criteria:

- An interactive map of France's regions
- Level of French proficiency and area of study
- More than 150 athletic, cultural, and food-related activities.

A strong local presence: CampusFrance maintains more than 130 offices in more than 100 countries to advise and support prospective students

CampusFrance's local offices, called *Espaces*, allow students to meet face to face with professionals who can help them carry out their plans to study in France.

The mission of the local offices is to answer students' questions about French higher education at the information-gathering stage and during the application process. By providing concrete services in a personal way, the staff help students put together an educational plan. They move that plan forward by helping students to identify appropriate programs and to put together persuasive applications for admission. They even follow up on applications.

www.campusfrance.org>CampusFrance offices around you

Do I have to be able to speak French to study in France?

- Applicants from outside the European Union seeking admission to the first or second year of postsecondary education (L1, L2) or to a school of architecture must follow a special admission procedure, known as DAP. As part of that procedure, applicants must demonstrate their proficiency in French, either by passing a language test (TCF–DAP or TEF) or by earning a degree in French as a foreign language (DELF/DALF).

> To enroll in the third year of a *licence* program (L3), in a master's or doctoral program, or in a *Grande École*, students must meet the French-proficiency standards set by individual educational institutions.

> Even for programs taught in English, institutions may require applicants to demonstrate a minimum level of French proficiency.

www.campusfrance.org

>Find your program

>Resource center>Degree descriptions>Tests of and degrees in French as a foreign language



Enrolling in a French institution of higher education

All international students, whether or not they receive additional financial aid, enjoy the same low tuition rates as French students at universities and other public institutions. The true cost of the education they receive is much higher (€10,000 to €14,000 per year), but the difference is paid by the French government. Every international student, like every French student, benefits from this national measure, which ensures the quality of French degrees.

Enrollment is a three-step process:

- **Obtaining an offer of admission** from a French institution. The offer of admission is a precondition for obtaining a visa to enter France.
- **Administrative registration.** Upon arriving in France, students must report to their new institution and pay tuition and fees for the coming year. The student receives proof of enrollment and a student ID card.
- **Academic registration.** Following administrative registration, the student is invited to visit his or her new academic department to register for specific classes at specific times and to be briefed on examination procedures. No additional charges are assessed for academic registration. This step **completes the admission process.**



Note:

There are no officially recognized equivalences between French degrees and foreign degrees. Institutions make independent determinations of equivalence. The institution may also give credit for the applicant's professional experience. **Each institution has full discretion to admit applicants and to determine the level at which they will be admitted—that is, the amount of credit to be granted for prior academic work.**

In France, students' tuition payments cover only a fraction of the true cost of public higher education. The French government provides the bulk of the system's financing.

Enrolling in the first or second year (L1 or L2) at a French university:

The request for preliminary admission (DAP)

Students holding a secondary-school diploma from outside France and wishing to enroll in the first or second year of undergraduate study at a French university are required to complete an application for preliminary admission, known as a DAP (*demande d'admission préalable*) at the cultural office of the French embassy in their country of residence. In 30 countries, the DAP process must be completed online. Whether online or on paper, the DAP process begins in January of each year and follows a very strict timeline.

Special case: "Admission Post-Bac" (APB)

The "Admission Post-Bac" system of preliminary online admission to the first year of postsecondary study is required of international students (including those holding a French *baccalauréat*) who seek admission to the first year of study in certain selective institutions, such as IUTs (university-based institutes of technology), STSs (postsecondary technical sections of secondary schools), CPGEs (programs that prepare students for the entrance examinations of the *Grandes Écoles*), and other institutions not covered by the DAP process. <http://www.admission-postbac.fr>

European Union

Students from the countries of the European Union wishing to enroll in the first year of postsecondary study must apply using the Admission Post-Bac online application process.

Paying tuition to a French institution of higher education

The tuition rates charged by public educational institutions in France are set by decree.

Annual tuition rates for degree programs in public institutions, 2011–12

- €177 for *licence* programs
- €245 for master's programs
- €372 for doctoral programs
- €584 for engineering programs

In addition to these basic charges, students may have to pay additional fees for specific services or special programs.

Private institutions, including schools of business, are more expensive.

A convenient online application process is in place for applicants from 31 countries. Nationals of those countries must use the online process (CEF procedure).

With Internet access, students can:

- Submit a single application to multiple institutions
- Track the progress of their application
- Apply for a visa, in cooperation with a CampusFrance local office
- Communicate with CampusFrance

The process also involves taking a test of French proficiency (if required by an institution to which the student has applied) and ends with a personal interview in which the student has the opportunity to present his or her educational plan.

Participating countries: Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Russia, Senegal, Syria, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, United States, Vietnam

www.campusfrance.org

>Prepare for your stay >Enroll

>From countries using the CEF procedure



Grants and financial aid

There are many ways to finance a period of study or research in France.

Try CampusFrance's bilingual grant search engine, CampusBourses, available at www.campusfrance.org

SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Each year the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs offers various types of grants that cover tuition and various services: health insurance, travel costs, and living expenses.

Scholarships awarded by France's embassies abroad

French government grants for academic programs, internships, and language study in France are administered by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. Most of the grants are awarded by the cultural offices of France's embassies and consulates general. Regardless of their country of residence or the type of scholarship for which they intend to apply, **candidates must contact, at least one year in advance, the culture and cooperation office of the French embassy in their country of residence.**

www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/>Studying in France>Find out how to finance your studies

- **Study grants** are intended for students enrolled in degree programs at French postsecondary institutions. Preference is given to graduate students (master's degree, doctorate).

- **Internship or training grants**, for 3 to 12 months on average, are designed to enable practicing professionals to obtain advanced, specialized, or refresher training. They may also be awarded for short-term teaching internships or language study.

- **Travel grants for scholars and scientists**, for 1 to 3 months, are offered to support participation in high-level programs of cultural, scientific, technical, and industrial research or exchange.

Specific programs

- **Eiffel excellence grants** enable awardees to earn a master's degree or, for doctoral candidates enrolled in dual-degree programs, to travel for up to 10 months. Candidates are nominated by French institutions. Self-nominations are not accepted.

• Major excellence grants

The Major program enables international students in French *lycées* abroad who score well on their baccalaureate exam to study in France up to the master's level.

<http://aefe.fr/tous-publics/bourses/dispositif-post-bac-excellence-major>



• The Quai d'Orsay-Entreprises grant program

is funded through partnerships with several large French firms, including Thalès, Orange, and Air Liquide. The grants are intended for master's-level students from emerging countries who are studying engineering, economics, or management.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

- Under a program of industrial agreements for training through research (CIFRE) doctoral candidates complete their dissertation while working in a firm in cooperation with an academic research laboratory. Grantees receive an annual salary of at least €23,484. CIFRE grants are administered by ANRT, the French national association for research and technology.

www.anrt.asso.fr/fr/espace_cifre/accueil.jsp

- Doctoral candidates enrolled in **dual-degree programs** may qualify for **mobility grants** to cover the additional expenses of working in two institutions. Candidates apply through their institution.

• Doctoral contracts

Doctoral contracts are for a fixed term of 3 years and carry all of the benefits of any formal employment agreement. The minimum gross monthly compensation ranges from €1,300 to €1,700, depending on whether the candidate works full-time on research or engages in other activities as well, such as teaching or consulting. Doctoral departments are responsible for recruiting candidates.

EUROPEAN PROGRAMS

- **The Erasmus program** offers study and internship grants of 3 to 12 months' duration to European students participating in the mobility programs of the European Union.

<http://ec.europa.eu>Education & Training>Lifelong Learning Programme>Erasmus for higher education>

- **Erasmus Mundus joint Master's and Doctoral programs (DEM)** are organized by academic institutions in at least three different European countries. Many programs include institutions from outside Europe as well. Grantees study in at least two participating institutions and receive a joint degree. Students at the bachelor's and master's levels are eligible, as are doctoral candidates and faculty members.

<http://ec.europa.eu>Education & Training>

>External Programmes and Policies>Erasmus Mundus

GRANTS FROM THE AGENCE UNIVERSITAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

The *Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)*, an association of French-speaking universities, offers grants to support mobility among its 779 member institutions in 94 countries. Emphasis is placed on South-South mobility.

<http://www.auf.org/actions/bourse-mobilite/accueil.html>

CampusBourses, a bilingual search engine and database, will speed your search for financial aid

Accessible from www.campusfrance.org, CampusBourses enables users to perform multiple-criteria searches in French or English of nearly every financial aid program open to international students and junior scholars wishing to study in France. Covered are more than 600 programs from national and local government agencies, corporations, foundations, academic institutions, France's embassies abroad, foreign governments and institutions, and multilateral organizations.

Users may search by keyword or by set search criteria (nationality, discipline, level of study, type of grant), thus allowing them to locate programs that match their background and plans. Full information is available for each program, along with links to the Web sites of the sponsoring entities.



Applying for a visa

Apply for your visa as soon as possible, and always at least 2 months before your program begins.

All prospective students intending to study in France for more than 3 months and who are not nationals of the European Economic Space, or of Andorra, Monaco, Switzerland, San Marino, or the Vatican, must obtain an extended-stay student visa. Apply at the French embassy or consulate in your country.

Extended-stay visa and residency permit (known as the VLS-TS), marked "student," for stays exceeding 3 months

The VLS-TS visa is granted to international students who intend to study in an institution of higher education for a period longer than 3 months. Holders of the VLS-TS need not make a separate application for a residency permit once they arrive in France. **This visa also serves as a residency permit for the duration of its validity, provided it is certified** by the OFII (Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration). To have your visa certified for this purpose, contact OFII at <http://www.ofii.fr> as soon as you arrive in France. You may apply for a visa once you have received a certificate of preliminary admission (*certificat de pré-inscription*).

Note

Minors must obtain a special visa (*visa pour mineur scolarisé en France*) but need not apply for a residency permit once they arrive in France.

Extended-stay scientific visa

This visa is designed for individuals holding at least a master (or equivalent) and wishing to come to France to conduct research or to teach at the postsecondary level. The category accommodates doctoral candidates, research scholars, and teaching and research faculty.

Holders of the visa may apply for a temporary residency permit stamped "scientific." Application for the permit must be made within 2 months of arriving in France. The permit entitles one to engage in research and teaching in France under the terms of a host agreement issued by a public or private research organization or by an institution of higher education.

The residency permit is valid for a year and may be renewed. A fee of €300 is due upon issuance of the permit.

It is possible to renew the permit for longer than 1 year but no more than 4 years. Holders of the permit may bring their family to live with them in France.

www.campusfrance.org>Prepare your stay>Obtaining a visa



Short-stay visas (< 3 months)

The short-stay Schengen visa

This nonrenewable short-stay visa permits stays of up to 3 months in the 25-country Schengen zone, as defined in European regulations. Holders of the visa are not required to obtain a French residency permit. The Schengen visa is ideal for students seeking language training or participating in other short-term educational programs.

Short-term visa for students attending interviews or sitting for examinations

This visa entitles the holder to enter France for the purpose of attending an interview or sitting for an entrance examination at an institution of higher education. Students who pass the interview or examination may apply for a 1-year renewable residency permit. They need not return to their country before doing so.

Note

- Under no circumstances may a tourist visa be converted into a student visa anywhere in the European Union.
- Students intending to complete two separate programs in succession (for example, a language course followed by an academic program) should gain admission to both programs before applying for their visa, so that the visa will cover the entire study period.

Countries participating in the online application system (CEF procedure)

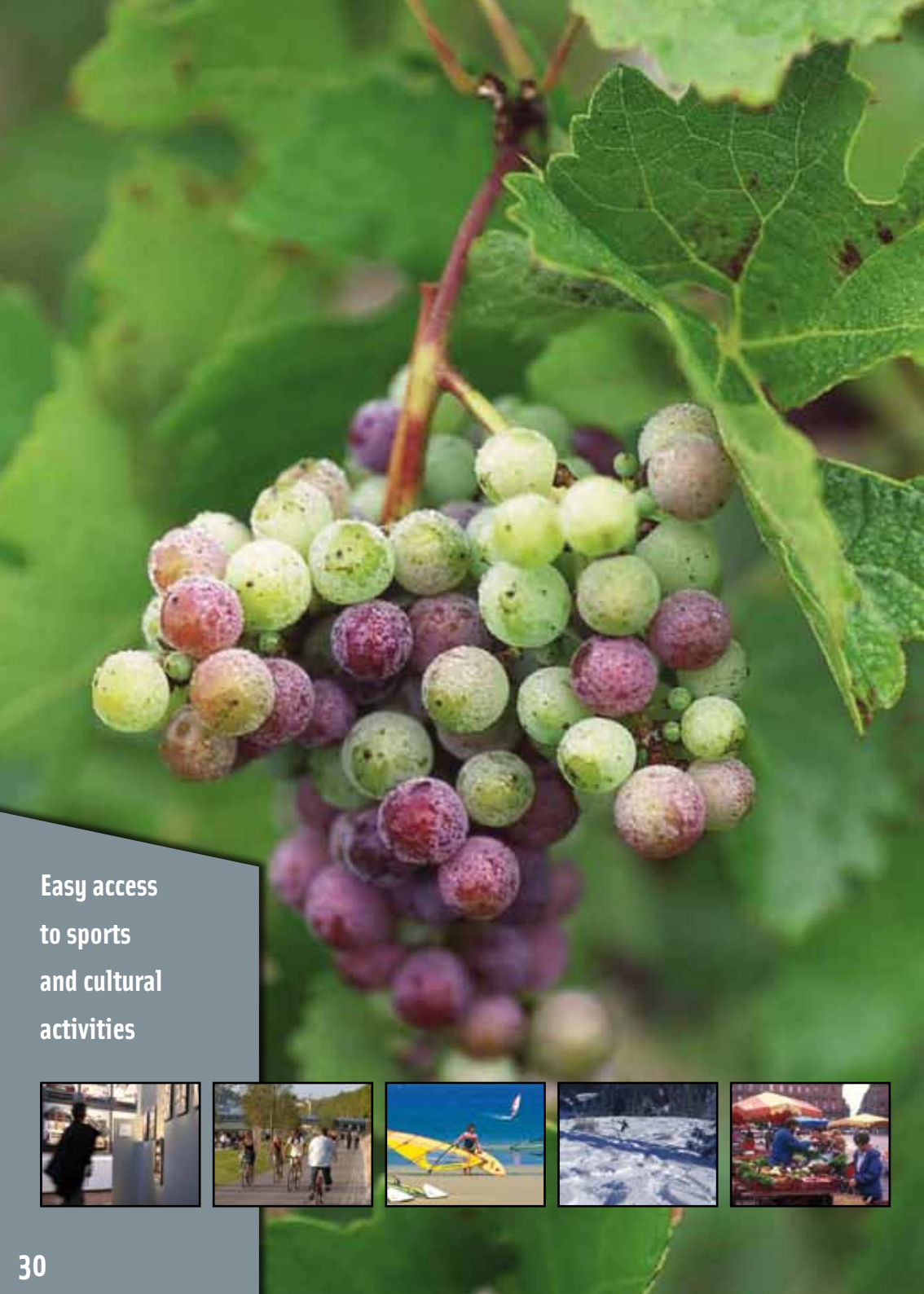
Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Russia, Senegal, Syria, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, United States, Vietnam

An online application and admission system has been implemented for the above-mentioned countries. **Its use is mandatory and is a necessary condition for obtaining a student visa.**

Following the admission interview and upon receipt of the preliminary admission letter, prospective students submit their visa applications, which are then tracked by the CampusFrance local office.

www.campusfrance.org
>Prepare for your stay >Enroll
>From countries using the CEF procedure





Easy access
to sports
and cultural
activities



Living in France

Studying in France also means living in France and discovering the distinctive French way of life.



Sports and cultural activities

With almost 200 million tickets sold by more than 2,000 movie theaters, 1,200 museums (free admission on the first Sunday of every month, more than 32,000 stage shows each year at national theaters and centers for dramatic arts, as well as private theaters, cultural activities are part of daily life in Paris and throughout France's regions. Festivals of music, song, and dance; athletic events; and celebrations of books, food, and science round out the cultural life for which France is rightly famous.

Students enjoy discounts and special subscription prices at all cultural events.

Student status also makes it easy to stay active in sports through discounted access to athletic facilities. Rare is the campus that does not host a wide range athletic clubs, associations, and leagues.

Many universities and schools are located in city centers, offering easy access to the rich social and cultural life of France's lively cities. Museums, bookstores, theaters, and cafés are never very far away.

Students enjoy special facilities in France that make life more enjoyable

An extensive system of discounts, assistance, and special facilities allows students to stretch a relatively modest budget to cover basic needs—and to enjoy life in France. Benefits include a network of student restaurants, university housing, rent subsidies, health insurance, student clubs and associations, and discounts on public transportation, movies, museums, libraries, and sporting events.

Useful links

Ministry of Culture: www.culture.gouv.fr

French federation of international music festivals: www.francefestivals.com

Center for national monuments: www.monuments-nationaux.fr/fr/monuments/carte-des-monuments/

France's national museums: www.rmn.fr/francais/musees/

Cité de la Musique: <http://mediatheque.cite-musique.fr> > Répertoire de sites > Diffusion

Ministry of Youth and Sports: www.jeunesse-sports.gouv.fr

TV5 Monde, international French-language television: www.tv5.org

France 24, the round-the-clock international news channel (in French, English, and Arabic): www.france24.com

Radio France, les chaînes radiophoniques du service public : www.radiofrance.fr

RFI (Radio France Internationale), 44 million listeners around the world: www.rfi.fr

Housing in France

Before looking for a place to live in France, students must decide, in light of their financial means and the length of their program, what sort of arrangement is best for them.

Housing is relatively expensive in France, but international students, like French students, enjoy the benefit of housing assistance.

University residence halls

Located on campus or in town, university residences are run by France's regional student service centers (CROUS, *Centres régionaux des œuvres universitaires et scolaires*). The residences feature furnished rooms and studios, generally well-equipped. The monthly rent is between €120* and €350*. Space in university residence halls remains in very short supply, however, especially in Paris, where priority is given to the recipients of French government scholarships and students participating in exchange programs.

www.cnous.fr (*Centre national des œuvres universitaires et scolaires*)

Note: In contrast to the situation at France's universities, most *Grandes Écoles* and private institutions have a good supply of on-campus housing. Rents range from €250* to €500* per month.

Privately operated student housing

Private buildings designed for students are found in most large cities. Most have been built in recent years to compensate for the shortage of university housing. Rents range from €600* to €700* per month in Paris and from €400* to €800* elsewhere.

Private-sector rentals

Renters are generally required to make a deposit to guarantee the payment of rent. Rents are high, especially in large cities, and above all in Paris. In general, renters must show proof that their monthly income is at least three times the rental amount.

Shared rentals

Property rentals to groups. Several individuals may enter into a lease with a property owner, with each having equal rights to the property. No special regulations apply to such rentals. All tenants have the same rights and obligations as does a single tenant who executes a lease. Anyone who wishes to apply for housing assistance must ensure that his or her name appears on the lease.

Note: Joint-responsibility clauses are often added to group-rental agreements and apply for the entire term of the lease. Such clauses mean that if one tenant does not pay his or her share of the rent, the property owner may try to collect it from the other tenants.

Housing-related links (information, laws and regulations, rental announcements, housing assistance, and so on) under the Web page

Subletting

In principle, tenants may not rent their accommodations to others. Before a tenant sublets all or part of the rented property to another individual, he or she must obtain the prior written consent of the property owner, who has the right to demand the immediate termination of the lease and the payment of an occupancy fee. The law states that the tenant may not collect from a subtenant a rent greater than that which he or she owes to the property owner.

French regulations on subletting: www.souslouer.com

Rooms in private houses

More suitable for short stays, renting a furnished room in a private home may cost €200* a week in Paris with breakfast included, or €300* with breakfast and dinner. Costs are lower outside Paris.

Intergenerational housing

Since 2004 in France, several organizations have matched older people who have a spare room to rent with students looking for a place to live. The older individual, who may be a property owner or a tenant, must offer a suitable room, which may be furnished or unfurnished, with free access to the common areas of the property (kitchen, bathroom, living room). The student agrees to be a "good neighbor," to exercise reasonable care and vigilance, to perform "small favors" to facilitate the daily life of the older person, and to pay a portion of the utility and maintenance charges (such as water and electricity).

To use the services of an organization providing intergenerational rentals, the student generally must pay a yearly fee to the organization (typically between €100 and €350 depending on the type of lodging found), in addition to application fees (around €15).

Housing assistance

International students, like French students, may be eligible for housing assistance.

There are two types of assistance, depending on the type of housing one occupies. The two forms of assistance, which cannot be combined, are **social housing assistance (ALS, allocation de logement à caractère social)** and **personal housing assistance (APL, aide personnalisée au logement)**. The amount of assistance varies with the rent to be paid and the student's circumstances.

If you are sharing an apartment, you and your roommate may both receive assistance, provided both your names appear on the lease.

Information and eligibility criteria can be obtained from the Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF, family assistance fund) serving the area in which you live. www.caf.fr

LOCA-PASS:

Advances of security deposits

<http://www.aidologement.com>

The Loca-Pass system advances the security deposit on rental property at no charge to the tenant. The system covers all types of housing, but the amount of the advance is limited to €2,300. The advance is an interest-free loan repayable over 36 months, beginning no later than the third month of the lease, with minimum monthly payments of €15. The assistance is typically paid out directly to the renter (or to the property owner upon request).



www.campusfrance.org

For more information and links related to housing assistance:
www.campusfrance.org>Living in France>Housing

Support services offered by universities and other institutions of higher education:

www.campusfrance.org>Resource center>Student service profiles

* These prices do not include any housing assistance for which the student may be eligible.

Working in France

French law permits international students to work.

While in school

Students from the member countries of the European Economic Space (plus Switzerland) may work freely and without restriction while studying in France. As long as they do not neglect their academic work, they may combine employment with scholarships or other financial assistance. Since July 1, 2007, French law has allowed **other international students** to work under the following conditions: A residency permit (VLS-TS, validated by OFII, or a residency permit in addition to a visa) marked "student" entitles the student to accept paid employment for up to 60% of the legally defined work year (or 964 hours per year), without prior administrative authorization.

Note: The time that students spend in internships connected with their academic program (and covered by a written internship agreement) are not counted toward the maximum allowable working hours, even if the student is compensated during the internship.

The minimum gross hourly wage, set by law, is €9,19. Withholding reduces the worker's net wage by about 20%.

Working at a public institution of higher education

International students are eligible for student jobs at universities and other public institutions of higher education. Students are hired to provide the following services: assisting incoming students; helping disabled students; providing tutoring; providing IT support and assistance; coordinating and staffing cultural, athletic, and social events; working in the career center; and supporting their institution's promotional efforts.

Student employment contracts are offered for a period not to exceed 12 months. They run from September 1 through August 31. Students may work up to 670 hours between September 1 and June 30, and up to 300 hours between July 1 and August 31.

After graduation

International students holding a degree equivalent to a master or above

International students who have earned a degree that is equivalent to a European master or above may seek authorization to reside in France for up to 6 months after the expiration of their student residency permit. This authorization, which is not renewable, allows the graduate to work for up to 60% of the legal work week.

If the employment contract is related to the subject of the graduate's degree program and if it provides compensation that is equal to or greater than 150% of the minimum wage, the prospective employee may apply to the local prefecture for change of status from student to employee. Once authorization is granted (it is not granted automatically), the individual may begin working full time.

Other students

Accepting an offer of employment from a French firm after graduation implies a change in status (from student to employee). Graduates apply for the change by submitting their employment contract or offer of employment.

www.campusfrance.org > Living in France > Working

Insurance

Medical insurance

• **Students from countries outside the European Economic Space** who are under 28 years of age on October 1 and enrolled in a recognized educational institution for a program of at least 3 months' duration are automatically enrolled in the student segment of the national health insurance plan, part of France's social protection system. Students join the plan when they register at their educational institution. For the 2008–09 academic year, the cost of participation was €200. Some students (notably scholarship recipients) are exempted from paying the fee.

After age 28, non-European students must join the social security system through the health insurance consortium closest to their residence. Addresses for those organizations, known as *caisses primaires d'assurance maladie* (or CPAMs), can be found on the Web site of the social security system: www.ameli.fr

• **Students from within the European Economic Space** (plus Switzerland) may take advantage of the French social security system without additional cost provided they obtain a European Health Insurance Card valid for the entire academic year.

• **All other students** (those staying for less than 3 months, and students enrolled in institutions that do not participate in the French social security system) must purchase an individual medical insurance policy from a private insurance company. In France, the annual cost of such policies runs from €150 to €550.



On average, **social security** covers about 70% of the expenses related to an illness. Students may obtain supplemental health insurance coverage. The three largest plans are:

- La Mutuelle des Étudiants, www.lmde.fr, active throughout France
- Smerep, La mutuelle étudiante: www.smerep.fr
- USEM, an association of 10 regional student health plans: www.usem.fr.

Multirisk renter's insurance

All dwellings must be insured against risks such as theft, fire, and water damage. Insurance can be purchased from private companies.

Multirisk home insurance **includes liability coverage**, meaning that the policy holder is insured against claims from third parties who may be injured in an accident on the premises.

Note: Other types of insurance are also available, such as automobile insurance, insurance for participation in a sport, and insurance for repatriation of remains in case of death.



How much does it cost?

Taking into account the many discounts for which students are eligible, the average monthly student budget is €1,000 in Paris and €800 elsewhere in the country.

Food, meals

- 1 *baguette*: €0.80
- 1 coffee: €1-2
- 1 Camembert cheese: €2
- 1 croissant: €1
- 1 kg of pasta: €1
- 1 kg of potatoes: €1.20
- 1 kg of rice: €1.90
- 1 liter of milk: €1.20
- 6 eggs: €1.50
- 1 meal at a university cafeteria: €3.05
- 1 fast-food meal: €7
- 1 meal at neighborhood restaurant: €10-20
- 1 sandwich : €3-5



Health

Medical visits

- **General practitioner:**
€23 and up (of which €14 is reimbursed)
- **Psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, neurology:**
€37 and up (€24 reimbursed)
- **Gynecology, ophthalmology:**
€28 and up (€19 reimbursed)
- **Specialist:**
€25 and up (€19 reimbursed)
- **Dentist:**
€30 and up depending on service rendered

Culture, leisure

- **1 month of Internet access:**
€20-50 depending on the plan or bundle (Internet, TV, telephone, unlimited calling to certain countries).
- **1 cell phone plan:**
starting at €30 per month depending on provider. Plan prices vary in the amount of calling time and data transmission they offer. Prepaid cards starting at €5 are sold in licensed tobacco shops.
- **1 student-rate movie ticket:**
about €7.50. Some national theater chains offer unlimited monthly admission cards for €30.
- **1 museum admission:** €5-10
- **1 student-rate swimming pool admission:** €1.70
- **1 newspaper:** €1.20
- **1 DVD player:** €50-150
- **1 MP3 player:** €20-150
- **1 paperback book:** about €6
- **1 night in budget hotel (**):** €60
- **1 theater ticket:** €10-30



Transportation

- **1 round-trip Paris-Barcelona air ticket:** €100-150
- **1 round-trip Paris-Brussels-Amsterdam Thalys rail ticket:** €100-120
- **1 round-trip Paris-London ticket Eurostar rail ticket:** €100-150
- **1 round-trip Paris-Nice TGV (high-speed train) ticket:** €140. If reserved far enough in advance, tickets can be as cheap as €50.
- **1 monthly public transportation pass in Paris:** from €60 (Paris proper) to €123 (outlying suburbs)
- **1 liter of gasoline:** €1.40
- **1 city bike:** €1 per day in Paris, but free for the first 30 minutes. Public bike rentals (through Vélib', Vélov, V3) are available in several large cities. Prices vary.



The cost of daily life may be twice as high in Paris as in other parts of France



A national agency for the promotion of French higher education abroad

Studying abroad is a journey of many steps. CampusFrance is there to help at every step of the way, offering guidance in selecting institutions and programs, information on financial aid, assistance with admissions and visa applications, and suggestions on preparing for a successful stay in France.

Detailed online support is always available at www.campusfrance.org –in 30 different countries!

The CampusFrance Web site is a one-stop shop for the information students need to prepare for a period of study in France.

> Find your program

CampusFrance's online catalog, with its powerful search engine, enables users to find suitable programs from among 36,000 offerings at the *licence*, master, and doctoral levels. Summaries are provided for each institution, academic level, and discipline.

2 special searches are offered: for programs taught in English and for cultural and linguistic stays.

>News and >Events

News about the agency's activities in your part of the world

> Finance your program: the CampusBourses search engine

CampusFrance has developed a search engine operating in French and English to help students locate financial assistance for their study plans. Users select one or more criteria to search more than 600 national and international grant and scholarship programs. Detailed descriptions of each program are also offered.

> Living in France

The Web site offers practical tips on planning your stay, with information on application and admission procedures, visas, life in France, learning French, finding housing, and more.

> Resource Center

Access by keyword search to all of the documents, profiles, data sheets, and thematic files available on the site, totaling more than 4,200 files on individual degree programs and institutions; available majors, concentrations, and specializations; and student services offered.

The CampusFrance Web site, tailored to audiences in 30 different countries, is a one-stop source of information needed to plan a period of study in France.



Under each heading, powerful functionality facilitates the user's access to personalized information:

- A search engine based on an index of 250,000 words covers the HTML pages of the site as well as the downloadable PDFs. Results are presented by type of document, date of creation, and theme.
- Free personal accounts allow users to subscribe to news and announcements relevant to their profile: field of study, academic level, nationality, and so on.

During the program search, users have the opportunity to download documents that complement the information provided in the online catalogs.

> Information about institutions

Institutional profiles: Summaries of individual institutions, including their fields of study, features, and degree of internationalization

Student-support profiles: Summaries of the support services offered to students

> Information on fields of study

Subject-areas profiles: Summaries of higher education in a given discipline or field of study (60 fields of study)

Degree profiles: Summaries of specific degrees, such as the BTS, DUT, and *licence professionnelle*

Research profiles: Summaries of current research in various disciplines, with information on the doctoral departments and laboratories concerned (e.g., agronomy, biology, mathematics, renewable energy, sociology).

These documents may be viewed and downloaded in the resource section of the site or through keyword searches.

Note:

Produced in collaboration with AEF, an agency devoted to the teaching of French abroad, «*Etudier en France après le baccalauréat*» (studying in France after the baccalauréat) is designed for students at French lycées abroad. The guide provides the information such students need to plan postsecondary education in France. (In French)

Personal assistance from CampusFrance's local offices

More than 130 CampusFrance offices in more than 100 countries provide expert and caring assistance to students engaged in the serious business of planning a period of study in France. Our staff will listen to your plans and help you investigate appropriate programs. They will even help you prepare and submit your applications for admission and track those applications through to the decision point.

In 31 countries where the CEF procedure is now available, prospective students are required to use it to submit their applications for admission and to request a visa.

CampusFrance's local offices:

www.campusfrance.org

>CampusFrance offices around you



On the Web

- ◆ CampusFrance (information and support for students planning to study in France): www.campusfrance.org
- ◆ Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (requirements for entering France, addresses of France's embassies and consulates, Alliance Française locations scholarships for international students): www.diplomatie.gouv.fr
- ◆ Ministry of Higher Education and Research: www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr
- ◆ CNOUS, the French national student-service agency (information on grants and scholarships, student housing, and university restaurants): www.cnous.fr
- ◆ Europa, Web portal of the European Union: <http://europa.eu>
- ◆ Recognition of academic and professional degrees and qualifications: www.ciep.fr/enic-naricfr
- ◆ Procedures for admission to the first year of university study for holders of the French *baccalauréat*: www.admission-postbac.fr
- ◆ Institut Français : www.institutfrancais.com

Programs of study

◆ Engineering

- CDEFI, the conference of directors of engineering schools: www.cdefi.fr
- CTI, the national commission on engineering degrees: www.cti-commission.fr
- FESIC, a network of 27 schools of engineering and management: www.fesic.org
- GEIPI-POLYTECH (entrance examination for 25 public schools of engineering): www.geipi-polytech.org
- n+i network of engineering schools: www.nplusi.com
- Réseau ParisTech, a consortium of *Grandes Écoles* specializing in science and technology: www.paristech.org
- Réseau Polytech: a national network of university-based engineering polytechnics: www.polytech-reseau.org
- EUR-ACE label (European accreditation of engineering programs): www.enae.eu

◆ Conférence des Grandes Écoles: www.cge.asso.fr

◆ Accreditation and recognition of business schools and programs

- EQUIS (schools recognized by the European Foundation for Management Development): www.efmd.org/equis
- AACSB (institutions accredited by the U.S.-based Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business): www.aacsb.edu/accreditation
- AMBA (programs accredited by the London-based Association of MBAs): www.mbaworld.com

◆ Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIP): www.ccip.fr

◆ Programs in art and culture

- CampusArt network (art schools): www.campusart.org
- Directory of schools of art: www.andea.fr
- CNC, the French national center for cinematography: www.cnc.fr

◆ Programs in architecture

- France's 20 schools of architecture: www.archi.fr/ECOLEES
- INSA de Strasbourg: www.insa-strasbourg.fr
- École Spéciale d'architecture : www.esa-paris.fr

◆ Programs in fashion on the site of the French textile industries confederation: www.textile.fr

◆ Programs in agriculture

- Public institutions providing education in agriculture: www.educagri.fr
- Agreenium, a national consortium for research and training in agriculture, food production, animal health, and the environment: www.agreenium.org
- Portal for French education in agriculture: www.portea.fr
- Learning community for French education in agriculture: www.chlorofil.fr

◆ Programs in health

- French national academy of medicine: www.academie-medecine.fr
- Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP): www.aphp.fr
- ANEFMF, national association of medical students in France): www.anemf.org
- CNCI, national center for medical residency competitions (medicine, pharmacy, dentistry): www.cnci.univ-paris5.fr
- Medical and independent paramedical community (students in medicine and paramedical fields): www.remede.org
- College of medicine of the hospitals of Paris: www.cmhp.asso.fr
- Diploma in medical French awarded by the Paris chamber of commerce: www.fda.ccip.fr/examens/dfp-medical-b2
- École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique : www.ehesp.fr
- Hôpitaux de France (hospitals of France): www.hopital.fr
- Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Health (office of health): www.sante.gouv.fr

- French national order of physicians: www.conseil-national.medecin.fr
- Network of 32 university teaching hospitals (CHU): www.reseau-chu.org
- DFMAS/DFMSA medical residency competition managed by University of Strasbourg Faculty of Medicine: www-ulpmed.u-strasbg.fr
- Francophone digital university of the health sciences and sport: www.unf3s.org

◆ Programs in sports and athletics

www.sports.gouv.fr

◆ Distance education

- www.campusfrance.org
>Find your program >Online distance learning
- CNED, national center for distance education: www.cned.fr
- FIED, interuniversity federation for distance education: www.fied-univ.fr
- FORMASUP, a distance-education portal operated by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research: www.formasup.education.fr
- ISPED, institute of public health, epidemiology, and development: www.isped.u-bordeaux2.fr
- Distance learning portal for 10 specialized schools offering 100 different programs: www.formations-distance.com
- PLOTEUS, a portal on European study opportunities: www.ec.europa.eu/ploteus
- Universités Numériques, a portal for virtual universities in various areas (law and legal careers, economics and management, environment and sustainable development, literature and languages, health and athletics, engineering and technology, humanities and social sciences): www.universites-numeriques.fr
- Universities and *Grandes Écoles* that offer free access to pedagogical resources: <http://icb.u-bourgogne.fr/universitysurf/annuairecampuses-fr.html>

Research...

- Agence Nationale de la Recherche (national research agency): www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr
- CampusFrance directory of doctoral programs: www.campusfrance.org>Find your program>Level doctoral



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...Research

- ABG L'intelli'agence (career assistance for young doctorates): www.intelligence.fr
- AERES, the French national agency for the evaluation of research and higher education: www.aeres-evaluation.fr
- ANDÈS, the national association of doctors of science: www.andes.asso.fr
- ANRT, the French national agency for research and technology: www.anrt.asso.fr
- CNRS, the French national center for scientific research: www.cnrs.fr
- EURAXES (mobility of scholars and researchers in Europe): <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/>
- Fondation KASTLER (support for foreign researchers in France): www.fnak.fr
- Oséo innovation: www.oseo.fr
- Oriente Express (libraries and documentation centers in the Paris region): http://www.bpi.fr/fr/recherche_documentaire/autres_bibliotheques/focus_oriente_express/oriente_express.html

Degrees in French; tests of French proficiency

- CampusFrance subject-area profile: www.campusfrance.org > Find your program > Learn French in France > Tests and degrees in French as a foreign language
- CIEP (center for international pedagogical research), information on TCF, DALF and DELF: www.ciep.fr
- CCIP (Paris chamber of commerce and industry), information on TEF and diplomas in French for business and the professions: www.fda.ccip.fr
- Fondation Alliance Française (network of Alliances Françaises): www.fondation-alliancefr.org
- Directory of centers in France for the study of French as a foreign language: www.qualitefle.fr

Discovering France

- AFII, The French agency for inbound international investment: www.invest-in-france.org
- National library of France (online catalog access): www.bnf.fr
- France Guide, the national tourism site: <http://fr.franceguide.com>
- Tourism offices and local development boards: www.tourisme.fr
- IGN, France's national institute of geography: www.geoportail.fr
- France's official national Web site: www.france.fr
- France's overseas territories: www.outre-mer.gouv.fr

Promotion of the French language

- International news, 24/7, in French, English, and Arabic: www.france24.com
- Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF): www.auf.org
- Latitude France, news about the global French network: www.latitudefrance.org
- Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF): www.francophonie.org
- Radio France Internationale: www.rfi.fr
- Radio France, public radio: www.radiofrance.fr
- TV5 Monde, international French-language television: www.tv5.org

Living in France

HOUSING

◆ Information

- ACTION LOGEMENT - Eligibility criteria for Loca-Pass program: www.actionlogement.fr
- ANIL (information on the right to housing in France and related contacts): www.anil.org
- CAF (the French family assistance fund): www.caf.fr
- CIDJ - Notices of lodgings offered by private parties: www.cidj.com
- CNOUS (the French national student-service agency) : www.cnous.fr
- DROIT EN LIGNE - Laws and regulations pertaining to housing in France: www.droitonline.com/matieres/logement.html

- INFOLOGEMENT - General information on student housing: www.infologement.org
- MA PIAULE - Public and private student residences, by region: www.mapiaule.com
- UNCLLAJ - National union of local committees for independent youth housing, notices of vacancies at regional level: www.uncllaj.org

◆ Student housing networks and associations

- ADELE, an association for the economic development of student housing—private student residences): www.adele.org
- CEP ENTRAIDE ETUDIANTS - for students 18–26, lodging in Paris and the Paris region—€20 annual membership: www.logements-etudiants.org
- UNME, national union of student residences): www.unme-asso.com

◆ Private student residences in Paris and the provinces

- Antaeus: www.antaeus.fr
- Cap'Etudes: www.cap-etudes.com
- Fac-Habitat: www.fac-habitat.com
- Groupe Résidence Etudes - Les Estudines: www.estudines.com
- ICADE Résidences Services: www.icafe-immobilier.com
- Lamy Résidences: www.lamyresidences.com
- Mgel logement: www.mgellogement.fr
- Résidences OSE: www.leclubetudiant.com
- Le Service Logement Etudiant: www.le-sle.com
- Stud'City (Clermont-Ferrand only): www.studcity-clermont.com
- Studelites: www.studelites.com

◆ The private sector

- Student housing in the Île-de-France: www.lokaviz.fr
- www.pap.fr
- www.entrepaticuliers.com
- www.fnaim.fr
- www.paruvendu.fr
- www.petites-annonces.fr
- www.seloger.com

◆ Shared rentals

- www.appartager.com
- www.colocation.fr
- www.colocation.vivastreet.fr
- www.leboncoin.fr
- www.pap.fr/annonce/colocation

- www.recherchecolocation.com
- www.colocationfrance.fr
- www.easycoloc.com
- www.ma-colocation.com
- www.okroommate.com (in english)
- www.koloc.org

◆ Sublets

- Intergenerational and family housing options: www.souslouer.com
- Séjours France Familles (rooms in family homes): www.sejoursfrancefamille.fr
- Réseau COSI : www.reseau-cosi.com

CULTURE

- French federation of international music festivals: www.francefestivals.com
- National monuments center: www.monuments-nationaux.fr/fr/monuments/carte-des-monuments/
- Centre Pompidou: www.centrepompidou.fr
- France's national museums: www.rmn.fr/francais/musees/
- Cité de la Musique: <http://mediatheque.cite-musique.fr> > Répertoire de sites > Diffusion
- Sciences, a science and technology portal (Cité des Sciences et d'Industrie, Palais de la Découverte): www.universcience.fr

WORKING IN FRANCE

- Official information on regulation of foreigners working in France: www.service-public.fr > Etranger - Europe > Etrangers en France

HEALTH INSURANCE

- Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie (CPAM): www.ameli.fr
- Cité de la Santé - Universciences: www.universcience.fr/fr/cite-de-la-sante
- La Mutuelle des Étudiants: www.lmde.fr
- Smerep, La mutuelle étudiante: www.smerep.fr
- USEM (national union of regional student health plans): www.usem.fr

