Campus France will guide you through your first steps in Guyana and exploring Cayenne, your new home.
Making you feel at home is a major concern for all French higher education institutions! The Welcome to France label is awarded to institutions that fulfill exacting criteria in the way they take care of their international students.

Finding somewhere to live is not always easy. Rents are often high, and landlords require financial guarantees (such as a deposit). Nevertheless, there is a wide range of accommodation on offer: halls of residence that are exclusively reserved for students and managed by the CROUS, student halls and private lodgings, rooms in private homes, flatshares...

The main thing is to start preparing for this as early as possible, before leaving your home country.

- Guyana’s Departmental Accommodation Information Agency (ADIL) - Agence Départementale d’Information Logement provides advice on accommodation for young people: https://www.adil973.org > Votre question > Mon logement, profil Locataire > (colonne de droite): Jeunes - trouvez votre logement.
- The Centre Régional d’Information Jeunesse de Guyane-Cayenne, the regional youth information centre, and its website YANA-J, Guyana’s top information website for young people, can also help you find accommodation. Website: https://www.yana-j.fr/ Contact: contact@yana-j.fr
- If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging, Visale is a new and free guarantor system: https://www.visale.fr
- If you want to file an application for APL funds (Aide Personnalisée au Logement, or personalized housing aid), CAF (Caisse des Allocations Familiales) can check your eligibility: 32 30 or www.caf.fr

The CROUS, at your service everywhere
Do you need any help and/or advice, somewhere to eat or to live, a job - or do you just want to find out all there is to know about student life? Then the CROUS is what you need!

The CROUS (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires - Regional Centre of University and School Services) has branches in all major French university towns. It manages university halls of residence and canteens, allows you to meet social workers, and offers cultural activities and job opportunities.

- If you need housing adapted to your special needs
Contact the CROUS Service Social which will take action with your institution. Some establishments have specialized services for students with disabilities (assistance for housing, and also transportation and tuition).
The Relais Handicap at Université de Guyane, welcomes and supports disabled students. Contact: 05 94 29 50 59 or relais handicap@univ-guyane.fr
ENROLLMENT IN YOUR INSTITUTION

- CVEC
  Before you can enroll in your institution, you must download proof of payment of the Contribution Vie Étudiante et de Campus (CVEC) – the student and campus life contribution fee.
  - Log in at: https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/
  - For additional information and special cases: https://www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > CVEC

- Confirm Registration
  Take note! Even if you have a pre-registration letter, you are not officially enrolled. You must confirm your enrollment with the institution's Service de la Scolarité (Admissions) as soon as you arrive.

RESIDENCE PERMITS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
- If you have just arrived in France on a long-term VLS-TS student visa: you must validate it online as soon as you arrive in France, on the ANEF (Administration numérique pour les Etrangers en France - Digital Administration for Foreigners in France) website. This validation must be carried out within the three months following your arrival: https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#
  - If you have Algerian citizenship or you are a student holding a "concours" visa or a visa bearing the mention "carte à solliciter dans les deux mois" ("card to be requested within two months"): your request for a residence permit must be carried out at the Préfecture.
  - If you hold a "mineur scolaire" ("minor in education") visa and you have since attained your majority, your request for a residence permit must be carried out at the Préfecture.

- You must therefore be registered with the national health insurance programme.

Please note: if you wish to renew your residence permit or VLS-TS, you must make your request during the third month preceding the date of end of validity of your current residence permit, on the following website: https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#

Please refer to the following tutorial for help with this procedure: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iGha_yqNB4

• Your institution's student support services can assist you in case of any difficulties.
  To find out more about your rights and obligations: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N110

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT
If you stay in France for more than 3 months, it will be much easier day-to-day if you open a bank account, online or in one of the bank agencies located in Cayenne.
In France, opening a bank account is a right: www.service-public.fr > Argent > Comptes bancaires > Droit au compte.

ACCESSING HEALTHCARE
Accessing healthcare in France is almost free, but you must be insured. You must therefore be registered with the national health insurance programme.

Please go to the https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr website to register, understand your rights and to carry out the requisite procedures.

As a student, you can also take advantage of the university medical services. In these health centers where consultations are free, you'll be greeted by a team of doctors, nurses, and social workers who can give personalized advice in terms of health and prevention.

This is case at the Université de Guyane which has a Service de médecine préventive (SUMPPS) at the Trubiran campus: https://www.univ-guyane.fr > Campus > Santé.
Contact: 05 94 29 50 75.

TAKING OUT COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH INSURANCE ("MUTUELLE")
We recommend you take out complementary health insurance in order to cover the totality of your healthcare costs, which are not all covered by the compulsory and free national health insurance programme.
Please note: options and levels of insurance vary from one insurer to another. In order to choose the complementary insurance that is best adapted to your situation and your budget, you can access more information on a student "mutuelles" price comparison website.

INSURE YOUR HOME
In France, housing insurance is mandatory. The "garantie risques locatifs" - rental risk guarantee - is housing insurance to which you can subscribe with your bank or a private insurance company. Online subscription is also often possible.

LEARNING FRENCH
Learning French is an opportunity that’s not to be missed! Find what works best for you:
  - by consulting the Campus France site or the Français Langue Etrangère (FLE) - French as a foreign language - centers and universities which offer courses at all levels year-round: http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org
  - by asking in your institution, at city hall, or in your host city’s Maison des Associations - community centers.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS
SAMU: Call 15 Emergency Medical Services
Police emergency: Call 17 in the event of violence, theft, robbery.
Fire Department: Call 18 in the event of fire, gas leak, water damage, natural catastrophe, or traffic accident.
Call 112: European emergency services number that’s accessible from anywhere in the European Union in addition to the French numbers above.

FINDING A JOB OR WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT
It is important that you have sufficient financial resources to come and study in France.

Working in France as a foreign student is possible within limits, namely for a maximum duration of 964 hours per year. This can therefore only be a way of earning supplementary funds.
Please note: to work in France, if you are not a citizen of the European Union, you must hold a valid student residence permit.

To help you find a job or work experience placement, useful websites:
  • The Direction de l’Orientation, des Stages et de l’Insertion professionnelle (DOSIP) at Université de Guyane offers:
    - help finding internships via the Bureau d’Aide à l’Insertion Professionnelle (BAIP) which also publishes classified ads.
    Address and phone number: BAIP, Building G (Service de la vie étudiante), Trubiran Campus, 05 94 29 50 57 or baip@univ-guyane.fr
  - job offers within university services and departments (student welcome services, promoting study program, assistance and support for disabled students, careers assistance).
  To apply: dosip@univ-guyane.fr
  • The Jobaviz website, run by the CROUS, can help you find a student job that’s compatible with your studies: https://www.jobaviz.fr/
**THINGS TO DO IN CAYENNE AND GUYANA /**

**TAKE UP A SPORT**

In your institution, contact the Service des Sports for free access to sports facilities.
The Service Universitaire d'Activités Physiques et Sportives (SUAPS) at the Université de Guyane offers
and oversees a range of sporting activities for all students: https://www.univ-guyane.fr > Campus > Sport.

The city of Cayenne offers various sports facilities and sporting events: http://www.ville-cayenne.fr > Cadre de vie > Sport.

**BE ACTIVE**

Attend cultural and sporting events, or join a social or community group, through one of the numerous
local or national student clubs and associations. To learn more, check with your school (Service de la vie étudiante, Student Services) or visit the following sites: www.animafac.net or www.letudiant.fr

At Université de Guyane, student associations ensure that campus life is never dull: https://www.univ-guyane.fr > Campus > Bureaux de la vie étudiante

**CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE**

Movie theaters, concerts, theaters, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students.
For more information, see the City of Cayenne website: http://www.ville-cayenne.fr or the website of the Guyana-Amazonie Tourism office: https://www.guyane-amazonie.fr/

The Pôle Culture at Université de Guyane contributes to artistic education and promoting culture among the student population, by organizing a variety of activities and events:

For entertainment or to pick up some culture, you can choose from:
- 4 major multi-screen movie theaters in Guyana, (student rates, rewards -card), and an arthouse theater, L'Eldorado: https://eldoradofiguyane.jimdofree.com/
- 6 museums including a science museum, Musée Territorial Alexandre-Franconie, one of the oldest cultural institutions in Cayenne (open to the general public, free admission):
  https://www.guyane-amazonie.fr > Activités de loisir
- there are around ten theater and concert venues in Guyana, including Les Trois Fleuves, a Public Institution for Cultural Cooperation in the performing arts (EPCC) in Guyana: https://www.troisfleuves.fr/
- around ten bookshops, including Lettres d'Amaz'one, a general-interest and specialized bookshop.
- various libraries, whether municipal (with informal lending libraries), departmental or regional, as well as the Library University at Université de Guyane: https://www.univ-guyane.fr > Campus > Bibliotheque.

In Guyane, for going out or staying abreast of current events, read France-Guyana, the regional
daily paper, available on the Internet:  https://www.franceguyane.fr/

The "Diary" section on the Tourist Office website is a good way of finding out what's going on locally: https://www.guyane-amazonie.fr > Votre séjour > A voir, à faire > Agenda.

The town of St-Laurent du Maroni in Guyana was recognized as a, "Town of Art and History" in 2005.
- Cayenne's historic town center with Fort Cépérou and Place des Palmistes, a lovely spot for a stroll.
- Maison Félix Éboué in Cayenne, traditional Creole architecture, the museum commemorates Governor Félix Éboué who was a major resistance figure in France's overseas territories during the Second World War.
- The Quartier Officiel in St-Laurent du Maroni, along the banks of the river, with the remains of the famous penal colony, the Camp de la Transportation.
- The Îles du Salut (Salvation Islands) off Kourou, where the former penal colony is open to the public.
- Guyana Space Center in Kourou, to visit the Space Museum and watch a rocket launch. Free registration to watch a launch:
- Guyana Amazonian Park, in the Southern region, a French National Park in the heart of the Amazonian forest, the largest protected area in the European Union:
- Guyana Zoo in Macouria, species that are unique to French Guyana and the world, with over 450 animals and over 75 different species:
  https://www.zoodeguyane.com/

- Remire-Montjoly beaches with their palm trees and fine sand!
- To learn and see more: check out the Guyana-Amazonie Tourist Office website: https://www.guyane-amazonie.fr/

**IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /**

**JANUARY - FEBRUARY**
- The Carnival in Cayenne, the world's longest carnival, a must-see event, takes place every weekend for two months with music, processions, evening parades and masked balls.

**MARCH**
- The Space Marathon, between the town of Kourou and the Ariane launch base, is open to all competitors.

**APRIL**
- Rambutan Festival in Cacao, market and traditional festival to celebrate the rambutan (a red fruit in the lychee family).

**MAY**
- La Nuit européenne des Musées (European Museum Night) offers an opportunity to discover museums and other cultural sites all over French Guiana in a new light!

**JUNE**
- Fête de la Musique with music everywhere in town (free concerts).
- Abolition of Slavery Day (June 10), festive and commemorative events throughout Guyana including theater, dance, music, conferences, etc.

**JULY - AUGUST**
- Nuit du Sanpula in Awala-Yalimapo (July), singing and dancing to the rhythm of the Kal'ina Amerindians’ sanpula drum.
- Indigenous People's Day (August), three days to promote the culture of the indigenous population (Amerindians) of Guyana.
- Camp La Nuit Tombe, evening visits (all summer) by candle and torchlight, to the Camp de la Transportation (former penal colony) in St-Laurent du Maroni.

**SEPTEMBER**
- Journées Européennes du Patrimoine, (European Heritage Days), free admission to cultural sites throughout Guyana.

**OCTOBER**
- Village Étudiant, organised at the beginning of October, where you can discover the university's various services and spaces for students.
- Fête de Cayenne, numerous events throughout October: concerts, local folklore and Kayenn Jazz Festival, an important cultural and musical event.

**NOVEMBER**
- Science Festival, a major event in Guyana, bringing together a number of local institutions: university, research organizations, associations, innovative companies, cultural institutions, etc.

**DECEMBER**
- The Kal'ina Games on the beach at Awala Yalimapo, celebrations and competitive sports.

To stay informed and attuned to others and the world, to share and dialogue with students, follow social media where Campus France has an especially strong presence!

Don't forget to join the France Alumni network. Take part in discussion groups on various subjects, take advantage of cultural outings, and consult job and internship opportunities.
GUYANA IS A Territorial Collectivity of the French Republic, one of the outermost regions (ORs) of the European Union and France’s largest overseas territory.

GUYANA: 300,000 residents
FRANCE’S YOUNGEST REGION

CAYENNE: 58,000 residents
CAPITAL OF FRENCH GUYANA

UNIVERSITÉ DE GUYANE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY UNIVERSITY:
- 4,200 students including 20% international students,
- 1 doctoral school,
- 6 research centers,
- 1 “Laboratory of Excellence”

Most of the information presented in the Campus France City Information Sheets concerns all international students regardless of their institution.

In France, in each of the host cities, most foreign students study at universities. Accordingly, the City Information Sheets attach great importance to them without overlooking the other higher education institutions even if it is not possible to list them all here with their specific information.

CAMPUS FRANCE
28 rue de la Grange aux Belles 75010 PARIS - 01 40 40 58 58 - www.campusfrance.org