Campus France will guide you through your first steps in France and exploring Chambéry and Annecy, your new homes.

WELCOME TO
CHAMBÉRY AND ANNECY
YOUR ARRIVAL IN CHAMBERY AND ANNECY /

- Student Welcome services at Université Savoie Mont Blanc

Université Savoie Mont Blanc has set up a Service Vie Étudiante et de Campus (SVEC), or student and campus life service at each of its 3 campuses (Chambéry, Annecy and Le Bourget-du-Lac) which welcome all students arriving at the University, whether French or foreign:

service.vie-etudiante@univ-smb.fr

Each site has a Service des Relations Internationales (international relations) and a Service de Scolarité (admissions) available for international students.

Your dedicated contact is the International Relations Department (International Welcome Center) which is located at the Jacob-Bellecombette Campus (Chambéry).

Address: Direction des Relations Internationales / International Relations Office / ACCENTS - Bâtiment 14 - Campus de Jacob - 18 rue Jean-Baptiste Richard - BP 1104 - 73000 JACOB-BELLECOMBETTE - France

Hours: Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm and from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Contact: international@univ-smb.fr or 04 79 75 91 15.

Please check the contact list on the University website to contact your host institution's Bureau des Relations Internationales:

https://www.univ-smb.fr > International > Contacts

Learn more:
- the “Venir à l’Université” web pages offer specific advice for international students: https://www.univ-smb.fr > International > Venir à l’université.
- download the “Osez le Monde” brochure (Broaden Your Horizons in English), which presents Université Savoie Mont Blanc (in French, English and 7 other languages).
- download the Survival kit for international students (in French or English).
- watch the film presenting USMB (French/English).

These resources can all be found on the “Venir à l’Université” page: https://www.univ-smb.fr > International > Venir à l’université.

- Welcome and orientation for doctoral students and researchers

Foreign researchers and doctoral students can contact the Direction du Développement, de la Recherche et de la Valorisation (DDRV) which manages hosting agreements for foreign researchers at Université Savoie Mont Blanc:
- https://www.univ-smb.fr/recherche/decouvrir/contacts/
- international@univ-smb.fr

- Welcome and orientation in other institutions

If you are enrolled in another institution, please consult the Campus France website for orientation. The site presents a series of Information Sheets covering the different higher learning institutions https://www.campusfrance.org > Students > Documentary resources > Practical information for students and researchers > Reception arrangements in institutions

If you cannot find your school in this list, then go directly to their website.

- Buddy System

You can be assisted by a local student in Chambéry/Annecy!

For information concerning the buddy system and cultural outings at USMB, please contact: integration.events@univ-smb.fr or the different RI (international relations).

- National Services

- students: www.etudiant.gouv.fr
- doctoral students, researchers: http://www.euraxess.fr/fr

HOUSING IN CHAMBERY AND ANNECY /

There are solutions for housing in Chambéry or Annecy: Student-only accommodations managed by CROUS, student housing and private residences, and rooms in private homes.

What’s most important is to take care of this as early as possible, before your arrival.

- A FEW TIPS

- Check out the list of accommodation recommended by USMB’s Welcome Center for international students: https://www.univ-smb.fr > International > International at the USMB > Coming to the University Savoir Mont Blanc > Preparing your arrival > Practical information > Housing.
Université Savoie Mont Blanc set up the Kestudi website in partnership with the city of Chambéry. It brings together accommodation listings relevant to young people. The site offers students free-of-charge access to ads for reasonably-priced furnished apartments, as well as public and private halls of residence, residences for young workers and intergenerational home-sharing.

Address and phone: Savoie Information Jeunesse, 79 place de la gare, 73000 Chambéry, 04 79 28 68 62. Facebook @kestudichambery


Short-term housing

In Chambéry:

• FJT La Clairière (open to students).
  Contact: 04 79 60 55 22 or contactfjt@fol73.fr
  Website: http://www.fol73.fr/structures-d-accueil/foyer-jeunes-travailleurs/

In Annecy:

• Annecy youth hostel
  Contact: +33 (0)4 50 45 33 19.
  Website: https://www.hifrance.org/auberge-de-jeunesse/annecy.html

For other options, the search engine on the Chambéry and Annecy Tourist Office websites:
- https://www.chambery-tourisme.com
- https://www.lac-annecy.com/

Long-term housing

• Student accommodation run by the CROUS Grenoble Alpes (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires) is overseen by the local branch for Chambéry/Annecy (CLOUS).
  Grenoble CROUS website: http://www.crous-grenoble.fr/
  The website Trouver un logement: https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr/
  CLOUS student housing Savoie Mont Blanc
  Contact : 04 79 75 85 41
  logement.clous-smb@clous-grenoble.fr,
  Chambéry
  Contact: 04 79 69 57 45,
  logement.chambery@crous-grenoble.fr
  Annecy
  Contact: +33 (0)4 79 69 53 08,
  residence.annecy@crous-grenoble.fr
  Le Bourget-du-Lac
  Contact: +33 (0)4 79 69 23 83,
  residence.lebourget@crous-grenoble.fr

On campus, the CROUS also manages all low-cost food services (university restaurants, cafeterias, food-trucks, etc.) accessed using the “Izly” card, included in the Student Pass.

• Private Housing Platforms
  Other offers for student lodging, managed by private organisms, are also available in Chambéry/Annecy.

Try these sites:
- www.adele.org
- https://www.immojeune.com
- https://housinganywhere.com

• Shared Leases: Consult La Carte des Colocs, a national site for shared leases that’s free and simple to use (https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/) and the following Facebook account: Colocation Grand Annecy.

GETTING AROUND CHAMBÉRY/ANNECY

When travelling to Chambéry/Annecy, you can arrive:
- by plane, at one of the following international airports: Lyon–St-Exupéry or Geneva (Switzerland). You can then catch a regional bus service Blablabus to Chambéry directly from the airport in Lyon or Geneva: https://fr.ouibus.com
- by train, if you are coming from central Paris, catch the train at the Gare de Lyon (3 hours by TGV direct): https://www.oui.sncf/

Upon arriving in Chambéry or Annecy, you can use the interactive maps available on the website to find the university: https://www.univ-smb.fr > Vie étudiante > Liens et documents utiles > Plans des campus.

The Synchro-Bus public transport network can be used for travelling in and around Chambéry: https://www.synchro-bus.fr (travel-cards and reduced rates for the under 25s).

The SIBRA public transport network can be used for travelling in and around Annecy: https://www.sibra.fr/ (travel-cards and reduced rates for the under 25s).

There are Auvergne Rhône-Alpes regional trains for getting around the region: https://www.ter.sncf.com/auvergne-rhone-alpes

Buses are also an option for low-cost travel: https://fr.ouibus.com/ or https://www.flixbus.fr/

For ride-sharing, refer for example to:
- the national website https://www.blablacar.fr/
- regional website: https://movici.auvergnerhonealpes.fr/

For greater independence, you can rent a bike using the Synchro-Vélostation in Chambéry: https://www.velostation-chambery.fr/
Other solutions available on the Campus France site: www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > Accommodation.

- If you need a guarantor to secure your lodging
Visale is a new and free guarantor system: 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: +33 (0)8.10.29.29.29 or www.caf.fr

- If you need accommodation adapted to your special needs
Contact the CROUS Social Services which will take action with your institution.
Some establishments have specialized services for students with disabilities (assistance for housing, and also transportation and tuition).
Université Savoie Mont Blanc set up a Cellule d’Accueil et d’Accompagnement des Étudiants en Situation de Handicap to work with and support students with disabilities: https://www.univ-smb.fr > Formation > Aménagements spécifiques.
Contact: mission.handicap@univ-smb.fr

FIRST THINGS FIRST /

INSTITUTION

- CVEC
Before you can enroll in your institution, you must download proof of payment of the Contribution Vie Etudiante 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 PERMIT (TITRE DE SÉJOUR)

GOOD TO KNOW

- If you have arrived in France with a VLS-TS long-term student visa: you must validate it online upon your arrival and imperatively within the first three months of your stay (in France) on the ANEF (Administration numérique pour les étrangers en France) website: https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr

- If you are an Algerian national or a student with a “Concours” (tests) visa or a visa with the indication “Carte à solliciter dans les deux mois” (Residency permit is to be requested within 2 months of entry): your residency permit application has to be made at the Prefecture.

- If you hold a “mineur scolarisé” (enrolled minor) visa and you attained the age of majority, you have to request for a “Titre de séjour” online on the ANEF website or at the prefecture where you live within 2 months following your majority.
Take note: To renew your student residency permit “Titre de séjour” (VLS-TS), your request must be done during the 3rd month before the expiration date of your current “Titre de séjour” (permit) on the website: https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr
This tutorial will help you: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j_suMJ3fIiw&list=PLpm2evF1qaJe_oq0a-LMIKujAihwAtVEy&index=16

- To find out more about rights and obligations: The reception services of your establishment can guide you in the event of difficulties.
www.service-public.fr > Etranger > Titre de séjour et document de circulation (Foreigners > Resident Card and Travel Document)
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 100 bank agencies located in Chambéry and Annecy.

In France, opening a bank account is a right: https://www.service-public.fr > Argent > Comptes bancaires (droit au compte).

HEALTHCARE

In France, receiving medical treatment is practically free but you must be insured. Accordingly, signing up for medical insurance is mandatory.


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

This is the case at Université Savoie Mont Blanc, where a Student Health Service is available at each of the 3 university sites.

Addresses, opening hours and contact details can be found in the «Santé» pages on the university website: https://www.univ-smb.fr > Vie étudiante > Vie pratique

Students enrolled in other institutions should contact the Service de la Vie Étudiante in their host university.

ADDITIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

You can also sign up for top-up insurance which will cover all health expenses not covered by the free and compulsory health insurance.

Take note: The plans and coverage levels differ from one company to another. To choose a top-up insurance policy which meets your needs and your budget, you can compare student health insurance plans on a comparison site.

HOUSING INSURANCE

In France, housing insurance is mandatory. The "garantie risques locatifs" - rental risk guarantee - is housing insurance which you can subscribe with your bank or a private insurance company.

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.

LEARNING FRENCH

Learning French is an opportunity to be seized!

Find the formula that works the best for you by consulting Campus France website where French as a Foreign Language (FLE) centers and universities offer courses for all levels throughout the year: http://ecolesdete.campusfrance.org

The French Language Center at Savoie Mont Blanc University, ACCENTS, offers language courses to anyone wishing to develop their French skills: https://www.univ-smb.fr/accents/

FINDING A JOB OR AN INTERNSHIP

Useful websites:

• Kestudi, the Université Savoie Mont Blanc and city of Chambéry website has a page for jobs: www.kestudi.chambery.fr

• The Annecy Youth Information Office : https://infojeunes.annecy.fr/

• My job in Savoie : https://www.jobsavoie.com/

• The University's Club des Entreprises https://www.club-entreprises.univ-smb.fr/

• The Bureau d’Aide à l’Insertion Professionnelle (BAIP), the office for assistance with professional insertion: 04 79 75 94 90.

• The Centre Régional d'Information Jeunesse Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, the regional youth information center: https://www.info-jeunes.fr > Emploi/job > Trouver un emploi/job

The site also posts classified ads.

• the Jobaviz website, run by the CROUS, can help you find a student job that's compatible with your
THINGS TO DO IN CHAMBÉRY/ANNECY /

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

A variety of student associations ensure that campus life is never dull at Université Savoie Mont Blanc: https://www.univ-smb.fr > Vie étudiante > Vie associative.

- In Chambéry, with Kestudi, the platform for young people: https://kestudi.chambery.fr/
- In Annecy through its Bureau Information Jeunesse, its youth information office: https://infojeunes.annecy.fr and its Guide de l’Étudiant, the student handbook: https://urlz.fr/aCni

TAKE UP A SPORT

In your institution, contact the Service des Sports for free access to sports facilities.

At Université Savoie Mont Blanc, the Sports Service offers various mountain sports for example: https://www.univ-smb.fr > Vie étudiante > Vie pratique > Sport.

A variety of activities are provided locally by the cities of Chambéry and Annecy:
- https://kestudi.chambery.fr/ > Loisir culture et sport.

GAINING CULTURE AND PARTYING

Movies, concerts, theater, operas, museums, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students:
- in Chambéry: https://kestudi.chambery.fr/ > Loisir/culture/sports.

The Cultural office (Mission Culturelle) at Université Savoie Mont Blanc offers a variety of activities: https://www.univ-smb.fr > Vie étudiante > Vie culturelle.

Welcome Box: the cities of Chambéry and Annecy offer newcomer students a “welcome box” with cultural and leisure deals with a total value of 200 euros: https://kestudi.chambery.fr/> Study and training https://infojeunes.annecy.fr/welcome-box/

For entertainment or to pick up some culture, you can choose from:
- movie theaters (student rates, rewards card), including two arthouse theaters, the Forum Cinema in Chambéry and the Mikado in Annecy.
- major museums including two scientific institutions:
  - the Eurêka gallery in Chambéry: https://www.chambery.fr > Vie culturelle et sportive
  - Turbine Sciences, in Annecy: http://laturbinesciences.agglo-annecy.fr/
- several performance halls, including:
  - Espace Malraux, the nationally recognized theater in Chambéry-Savoie: https://www.malrauxchambery.fr/
  - La Base, a cultural third place (tiers lieu) in Chambéry: https://labasechambery.fr
  - the Bonlieu cultural center, Annecy’s nationally recognized theater: https://bonlieu-annecy.com/
- libraries & multimedia libraries:
  - in Annecy: http://bibliotheques.agglo-annecy.fr/

Le Dauphiné (local daily newspaper) is a good source of inspiration for going out in Chambéry or Annecy and keeping up with the latest news. Available from newsagents or online: https://www.ledauphine.com/

You can also check out the agenda on the Tourist Office websites:
- Chambéry: https://www.chambery-tourisme.com > Agenda.

TOP ATTRACTIONS /

In Chambéry, City of Art and History:
- Place des Éléphants is the city’s iconic meeting point.
- Chambéry’s old town and Place St-Léger.
- Maison des Charmettes, a house where the famous French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau used to stay.
- The Greater Chambéry ski resorts for learning to ski, both downhill or cross-country skiing.
To learn (and see) more, the Tourist Office website: https://www.chambery-tourisme.com/

Annecy, listed as a City of Art and History:
• Château d’Annecy and Palais de l’Île d’Annecy.
• The Basilique de la Visitation and the chapel at the Visitation monastery.
• The Regional Alpine Lakes Observatory.
• Animated Film Museum, for an insight into the art of animation.

To learn (and see) more check out the Tourist Office website: https://www.lac-annecy.com/

IMPORTANT ANNUAL EVENTS /

FEBRUARY
• Chambery and Annecy Carnivals.

MARCH
• Tour du Monde au Manège, organized by the city of Chambéry and higher education institutions: a 2-day event, during which foreign students present their home countries.

MAY
• European Museum Night offers an opportunity to discover museums and other cultural sites in Annecy and Chambéry in a new light!

JUNE
• Marché des Continents: Every two years in Chambery, international associations offer a multicultural world tour.
• Fête de la Musique with music everywhere in both towns (free concerts).

JULY
• Festival des Cultures du Monde, a World Culture Festival in Chambéry.
• Les Noctibules, festival of street performers in Annecy.

AUGUST
• Integration seminar organized by USMB for international exchange students.

SEPTEMBER
• Official opening of the university’s academic year.
• Campus Days where the University welcomes its students.
• Welcome Night, musical evening for students, organized by the city Chambéry.
• Journées Européennes du Patrimoine, European Heritage Days, free admission to cultural sites in Annecy and Chambéry.

OCTOBER
• International Eve, an international and festive evening of celebrations to welcome foreign students to the university.
• Fête de la Science in the University laboratories.
• International week at USMB with conferences on the theme of studying abroad.

DECEMBER
• Noël Partagé (Sharing Christmas), families play host to foreign students for Christmas celebrations “à la française”.
• Chalets du Monde, at Chambéry’s Christmas Market, artisan crafts from some 15 different countries.
• Noël des Alpes in Annecy, Christmas lights and entertainment.

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 offers.
### THINGS TO KNOW

#### AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES REGION, 2nd FRENCH REGION in terms of hosting foreign students (over 40,000 international students)

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<th>GREATER CHAMBÉRY</th>
<th>GREATER ANNECY</th>
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<td><strong>137,000</strong> residents</td>
<td><strong>207,000</strong> residents</td>
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**ANNECY IS THE CAPITAL (PRÉFECTURE) OF THE HAUTE SAVOIE département, one of 12 départements in the greater Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region**

**CHAMBÉRY IS THE CAPITAL (PRÉFECTURE) OF THE SAVOIE département, one of 12 départements in the greater Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region**

#### GREATER CHAMBÉRY

**City of Chambéry:** 60,000 residents, 3rd in a list of medium-sized cities where it's good to live and study for living and studying in (awarded by L'Etudiant magazine)

**Université Savoie Mont Blanc**

15,000 students including 1,500 foreign students of 120 different nationalities, 19 research laboratories, 300 doctoral students

**Greater Annecy**

**Annecy:** 130,000 residents

**Université Savoie Mont Blanc**

15,000 students including 1,500 foreign students of 120 different nationalities, 19 research laboratories, 300 doctoral students

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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.

For more information on the institutions’ welcomes and orientations:

https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/recherche/categorie/auvergne-rhone-alpes-553

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**CAMPUS FRANCE AUVERGNE RHÔNE-ALPES**

35 rue Raulin (Bureau 304), F-69007 Lyon

By appointment only, Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm and 2pm to 5pm

Contact: 04 81 88 00 40

**CAMPUS FRANCE**

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