Campus France will guide you through your first steps in France and exploring Limoges, your new home.
YOUR ARRIVAL IN LIMOGES /

◆ A personalized welcome at the Bureau d’Accueil International for Université de Limoges students

The International Welcome Desk or BAI (Bureau d’Accueil International) at Université de Limoges provides several services for international students, researchers and professors:
- guidance for administrative procedures.
- accommodation assistance for students.
- comprehensive orientation services.

We provide an enhanced multilingual service at the start of the academic year through international tutors within the Bureau d’Accueil International.


Contact: accueil.international@unilim.fr or 05 55 43 56 53.

Hours: from 28 August 2023, Monday to Friday from 9 am to 12 pm and from 2 pm to 5 pm.

For more information, see the Université de Limoges international portal: https://www.unilim.fr > international > venir à l’université > BAI

◆ Welcome and orientation for researchers and doctoral students

Researchers and doctoral students receive special assistance from the BAI which is an affiliated member of the EURAXESS European network and the EURAXESS France association. They provide assistance to mobile researchers from the European Union and other countries: https://www.unilim.fr > international > venir à l’université > Enseignants, Chercheurs et Staff internationaux

◆ Welcome and orientation in other institutions

If you are registered 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 in France: 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.

Each campus at Université de Limoges has an international service with special advisers for the duration of your stay: https://www.unilim.fr > international > Présentation > Mon contact international

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

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 fulfil exacting criteria in the way they take care of their international students.

ACCOMMODATION

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.

- Université de Limoges international information portal provides advice about finding accommodations: https://www.unilim.fr > international > venir à l’université > Étudiants et Doctorants internationaux > Avant l’arrivée > Trouver un logement

Students arriving within the scope of an exchange program have the advantage of pre-registration for housing in the university residences of the Bureau d’Accueil International, the international welcome desk.

- The “Jeunes à Limoges” site (Centre Régional d’Information Jeunesse, or regional youth information center) posts classified ads online: http://www.jeunealimoges.fr/annonces-logements
A FEW TIPS

◆ Short-term housing:
  • Limoges does not have a youth hostel but you can contact the Résidence Habitat Jeunes (former Foyer des Jeunes Travailleurs).
  Address and phone number: Résidence Varlin Pont Neuf, 32 rue de Fontbonne, 87000 Limoges, 05 55 06 45 90.
  Site: https://varlinpontneuf.fr > logement jeunes
  • For other types of temporary accommodations, see the list of accommodations on the Limoges Tourist Office site: http://www.limoges-tourisme.com > où dormir

◆ Long-term housing
  • The Limoges CROUS (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires - Regional Center for University Services) for student housing.
  Address: Service administratif, 39 G rue Camille Guérin 87000 Limoges.
  Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 12pm and 1:30pm to 5pm.
  Contact: 04 73 34 64 15 or contact@crous-limoges.fr
  Limoges CROUS site: https://www.crous-limoges.fr > le crous
  The website Trouver un logement: https://trouverunlogement.lescrous.fr/

On campus, the CROUS is also responsible for all low-cost food services (university restaurants, cafeterias, food-trucks, etc.)

◆ Private Housing Platforms
  Université de Limoges is a member of Studapart, a private housing platform:
  https://www.studapart.com/fr/logement-etudiant-limoges

Other offers for student lodging, managed by private organisms, are also available in Limoges. Try these sites:
  - https://www.adele.org
  - https://www.immojeune.com
  - https://housinganywhere.com

◆ There is also Lokaviz, a site managed by CROUS, which includes a listing of student accommodations in private homes: https://www.lokaviz.fr/

◆ Shared Leases: consult La Carte des Colocs, a national site for shared leases that’s free and simple to use: https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/

◆ Other solutions available on the Campus France site: www.campusfrance.org > s’organiser > Getting organized > Accommodation

◆ Visale provides a free service for students who need a co-signer (guarantor) to secure housing: 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

◆ For accommodation adapted to your special needs,
  Contact the CROUS Service Social which will work with your host institution.
  Some establishments have specialized services for students with disabilities (assistance for housing, and also transportation and tuition).

GETTING AROUND LIMOGES

Getting to Limoges: Take the train from Paris to Limoges-Bénédictins station (3 hours): https://www.oui.sncf/

Fly from Paris-Orly to Limoges Bellegarde international airport. Take a taxi from the airport to Limoges (about 15 km).

For more information about getting to Université de Limoges: https://www.unilim.fr > international > venir à l’université > Etudiants et Doctorants internationaux > Avant l’arrivée > Arriver à Limoges

For getting around the city and suburbs, use the public transportation (bus and tramway) network managed by STCL for transportation in Limoges: http://www.stcl.fr/

There are regional trains for getting around the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region: https://www.ter.sncf.com/nouvelle-aquitaine et pensez aussi aux bus pour voyager à petit prix: https://fr.ouibus.com/ or https://www.flixbus.fr/

For ride-sharing, refer to the collaborative websites, for example:
  - national site: https://www.blablacar.fr
  - the Haute Vienne department site: http://www.haute-vienne.fr/conseil-departemental > Routes - Info Trafic - Covoiturage

For greater independence, rent a V’Lim, the bicycle rental service for Limoges Métropole: http://www.agglo-limoges.fr > Mobilité > Vélo-VLIM
ENROLLMENT IN YOUR 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.

- Connect to: [https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/](https://cvec.etudiant.gouv.fr/)
- For additional information and special cases: [https://www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > CVEC](https://www.campusfrance.org)

**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/#/](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 scolarisé” (“minor in education”) visa and you have since attained your majority, you must request a residence permit directly on the ANEF website or at the préfecture of your place of residence within the two months following your attaining the age of legal majority: [https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/](https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/)

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/#/](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_yqN04](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-iGha_yqN04)

- 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](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 Limoges.
In France, opening a bank account is a right: www.service-public.fr > Argent > Comptes bancaires > Droit au compte (> Finances > Bank Accounts > Right to Open an Account)

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.

Learn more: https://www.campusfrance.org > Getting Organized > Health
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, nurses, and social workers who can give personalized advice in terms of health and prevention.
This is the case for Université de Limoges which has a health and prevention service: Service Universitaire de Médecine Préventive et de Promotion de la Santé (SUMPPS) on campus.
Address: SUMPPS, Campus Vanteaux, 39 J rue Camille Guérin, 87000 Limoges (take the no. 10 bus).
Hours: Monday to Friday, 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm.
Contact: 05 55 43 57 70 or sumpps@unilim.fr
Site: https://www.unilim.fr > vie pratique > vie à l’université > santé et prévention

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.

HOUSING INSURANCE
In France, housing insurance is mandatory. You can sign up for housing insurance called “garantie risques locatifs” - rental risk guarantee - at your bank or a private insurance company. Online subscription is often possible.

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 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.

FINDING A JOB OR AN INTERNSHIP
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, 2 addresses:

• The Jeunes à Limoges, the Centre Régional d’Information Jeunesse, the regional youth information center has a site of classified ads: http://www.jeunealimoges.fr/annonces-jobs
• 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 LIMOGES /

TAKE UP A SPORT

In your institution, contact the Service des Sports for free access to sports facilities.
At Université de Limoges, the Universitaire des Activités Physiques et Sportives (SUAPS) department offers free sports activities for all levels of proficiency: https://www.unilim.fr > vie pratique > vie à l’université > sport

In Limoges, you can also find a sports activity among the sports disciplines offered by the city: http://www.ville-limoges.fr > 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

The Jeunes à Limoges site also presents projects for participation in local and community life: http://www.jeunealimoges.fr/projet-engagement

At Université de Limoges there are numerous student associations and clubs (artistic, cultural, sports) as well as nationality-specific associations: https://www.unilim.fr > vie pratique > vie à l’université > les associations étudiantes

CULTURE AND NIGHTLIFE

Limoges offers many ways to cultivate yourself or party. Movie theaters, concerts, theaters, operas, museums, exhibitions, and festivals are on the program and most of the time, at reduced cost for students.

For more information:
At Université de Limoges, the cultural department programs events all year round and offers the Pass Vie Universitaire for student discounts: https://www.unilim.fr > vie pratique > vie à l’université > culture

For entertainment or to pick up some culture, you can choose from:
- 3 multiplex movie theaters (student rates, rewards card) including an arthouse theater, Le Lido.
- 10 major museums including the Cité des Métiers et des Arts with masterpieces by France’s best craftsmen: https://www.cma-limoges.com/
- about 10 venues including the very active Opéra de Limoges.
- a dozen bookshops including the Page et Plume bookshop in the historical city center.
- a local network of 6 libraries headed by the Bibliothèque Francophone Multimédia in the city center which offers free access to a vast collection, for all ages and all media: http://bfm.limoges.fr/

In Limoges, for going out or staying abreast of events, read the leading regional daily paper, le Populaire du Centre, available in newsstands or on the Internet: https://www.lepopulaire.fr/
You can also check out the cultural agenda of the Limoges Tourist Office http://www.limoges-tourisme.com > Agenda
In 2008, Limoges, the capital of porcelain, was recognized for its art and history with the Ville d’Art et d’Histoire label.

- The Cité district, the oldest neighborhood in Limoges.
- The Château district (la Ville Haute), a lively neighborhood with lots of shopping.
- The national museum Adrien-Dubouché - Cité de la Céramique dedicated to ceramics with over 60,000 pieces
- Cathedral Saint-Etienne which took six centuries to build.
- Musée des Beaux-Arts in the former episcopal palace, one of the region’s most beautiful museums.
- Gare des Bénédictins, the world-renowned train station built in the 20th century.
- Jardins de l’Evêché, tiered gardens with a view over the Vienne and the city.

Learn (and see) more:
- the Tourist Office site: http://www.limoges-tourisme.com > Decouvrir > visiter Limoges
- See the Ville de Limoges website: https://www.limoges.fr > Ville créative

JANUARY
- Danse Emoi, a biennial contemporary dance festival with young choreographers and original creations.

FEBRUARY
- International Students and Doctoral Students Annual Party at the Université de Limoges.

MARCH
- Meet authors at Nouvelles Zébrures, a literary event and part of the Semaine de la langue française et de la francophonie: http://www.lesfrancophonies.fr > Nouvelles-zebrures-9

MAY
- The Nuit Européenne des Musées (European Museum Night), an occasion to visit museums differently (and for free).
- Cavalcade de printemps - the spring carnival in the city streets.
- Tous at l’Opéra, open-house at the opera with free entertainment, activities and shows.

JUNE
- Fête de la Musique: Music everywhere in town (free concerts).
- Fête des Ponts, the traditional festival in the Limoges bridge district with activities and entertainment on the land and water.
- Urbaka, free street art festival catering to all audiences.

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.
LIMOGES, CAPITAL OF THE HAUTE-VIENNE DEPARTMENT, one of the 12 departments in the Nouvelle Aquitaine region

LIMOGES METROPOLITAN AREA:
208,000 residents

CITY OF LIMOGES:
135,000 residents
4th largest city in the region
40% of the population is under 30 years of age

NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE REGION, 6th FRENCH REGION in terms of hosting foreign students (25,000 international students)

Université de Limoges:
16,500 students
Including 2,200 international students, 5 training and research units, 1 national higher education engineering school, 8 thematic doctoral schools, 4 research institutes

LIMOGES, RANKED 24th OUT OF 46 FRENCH WHERE IT’S GOOD TO LIVE AND STUDY (awarded by L’Étudiant magazine)

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/nouvelle-aquitaine-554

CAMPUS FRANCE
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