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The Guide-Book To Study In France

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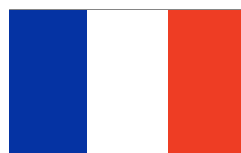
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The Guide-Book To Study In France

France is one of the most popular countries in the world, for tourism of course, but also for foreigners to complete a curriculum abroad. In fact, the country offers many benefits that make the foreign students' arrival in France very much easier.

The country offers high-leveled curriculum, many of which are recognised all around the world. Most of the foreigners that have completed a part of their studies in France are very satisfied of their choice, and of the benefits it has had on their personal and professional life. It is mostly due to the level of the studies, the quality of life and the friendly environment they encounter.

In order to study in France, the foreign students will have to meet some administrative requirements. All the schools members of Icônes will make sure to make this process as smooth as possible. This guide-book was also intended for this purpose : helping foreign students clearly understand the requirements to study in France, and guiding them through the many steps it takes.



1. Student visa

DO YOU ACTUALLY NEED A VISA ?

A visa is not always required. In fact, if you are a citizen of an European Union country, or of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey or Macedonia, you DO NOT NEED a visa

On the contrary, if you are a resident of any other country, you need to complete a visa demand procedure.

Find out all the information the [French Diplomacy website](#).

THE PROCESS TO GET A VISA

All the students willing to join a curriculum in a French school / university, need to have completed a visa application before their arrival in France. The process also requires for foreign students to have finalized their school / university registration before their visa demand.

According to the length of your stay in France, you will have to apply either for a short-stay / «Schengen» visa (up to 90 days), or for a long-stay study visa (over 90 days).

[Access to both visa application forms](#)



2. Choose your curriculum

FRENCH-SPEAKING CURRICULUM

The school members of the Icônes label offer many french-speaking curriculum :

- ESMA : Graphic Design, Space Design & CG Animation
- ETPA : Photography & Game Design
- IPESAA : Graphic Design, Space Design, Game Art & Illustration
- CineCreatis : Cinema

If you want to join one of these curriculum, it is necessary for you to complete a French language certification.

Many diplomas, certifications and tests are offered to this purpose :

- DILF (Initial French Language Diploma), which addresses to beginners, and validates the basic French language skills
- DELF (French Language Studies Diploma), which validates French language skills, and includes 4 levels
- DALF (Advanced French Language Diploma), dedicated to people actually living in France and having a very good level in French
- TCF (French Knowledge Test), that addresses to non-French speaking students
- TEF (French Evaluation Test) for studies in France

! Please see with the school you want to apply to which diploma is more suitable for your project

ENGLISH-SPEAKING CURRICULUM

ESMA offers an english-speaking curriculum on Lyon Campus. The «Graphic Design, Space Design & CG Animation» training taught in English, therefore no French language certification will be required for foreign students to join this curriculum.



3. Accommodation

It is preferable for foreign students to have found their accommodation before they actually leave their country, for obvious practical reasons. You will find below their many options.

ARTEMISIA STUDENT RESIDENCES

In order to help the foreign students willing to join a curriculum offered by one of the school members of Icônes, the campuses were also thought for them. In fact, **each school is always twinned with an Artemisia student residence**, which accommodations are specifically dedicated to the students of the Icônes certification school members.

These residences offer from 90 to 224 apartments, furnished with all the required equipment, for the students' comfort.

For further information, [please contact the Artemisia residence you'd like to apply to \(www.residencesartemisiam.com\)](http://www.residencesartemisiam.com).



THE OTHER OPTIONS

Foreign students might also apply for accommodations on university campuses, through the CROUS organization, which is also an accommodation grants program.

Other students accommodations located on such campuses can also be found on Lokaviz.

Finally, foreign students might look for private accommodations, and many websites can help them to this purpose :

www.mapiaule.com

www.immojeune.com

www.swapnfly.fr

www.studyenjoy.com

www.leboncoin.fr

Airbnb can sometimes be an option, especially for short stay accommodations

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

In order to access an accommodation, many documents and certain conditions are usually required. Here's a list of the elements you will probably be requested.

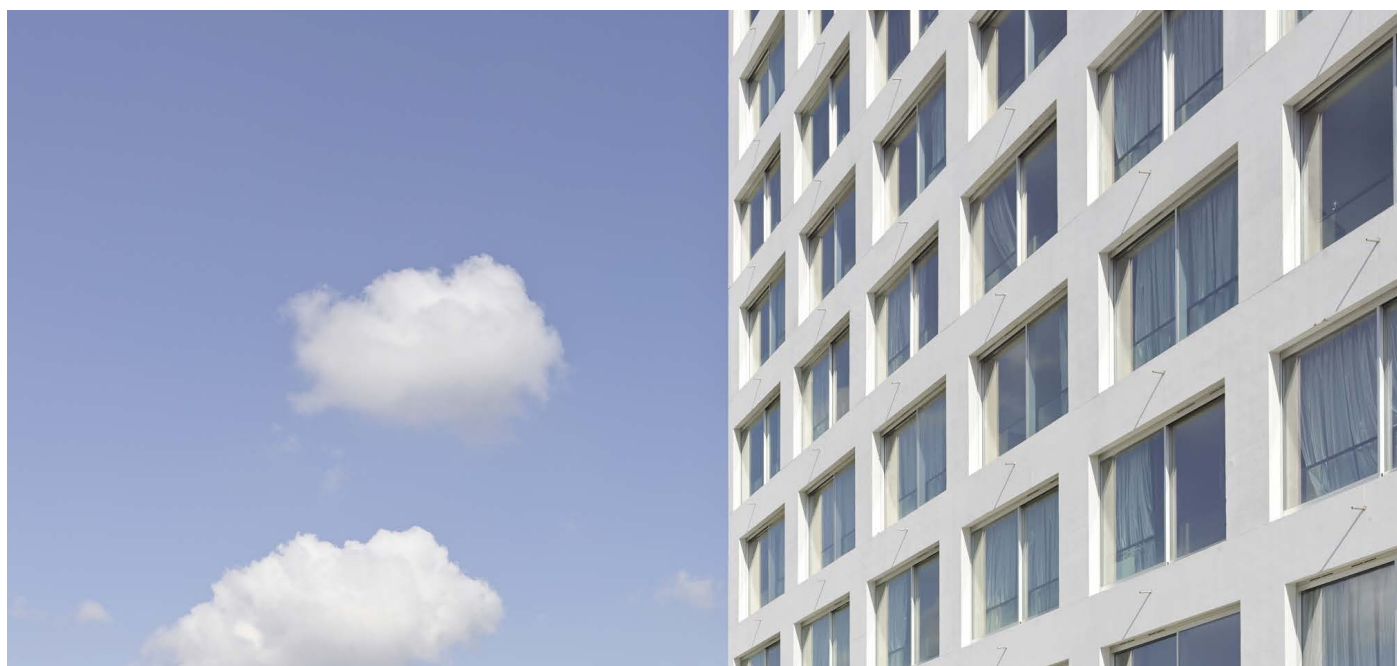
A French bank account in your own name. The schools members of Icônes have entered into a banking partnership in order to make the process easier for you.

A deposit : this amount of money will be required whether by your landlord or the real estate agency that manages your accommodation, and aims at compensating the possible damages that would occur during your stay. If no damage is observed at the end of your rental period, this deposit should be returned to you.

Agency fees (only in the case of a rental through a real-estate agency);

A copy of your ID.

Proof of earnings (study grant, parental income...).



4. Financial support

French government offers many financial support programs, and foreign students might also benefit from some.

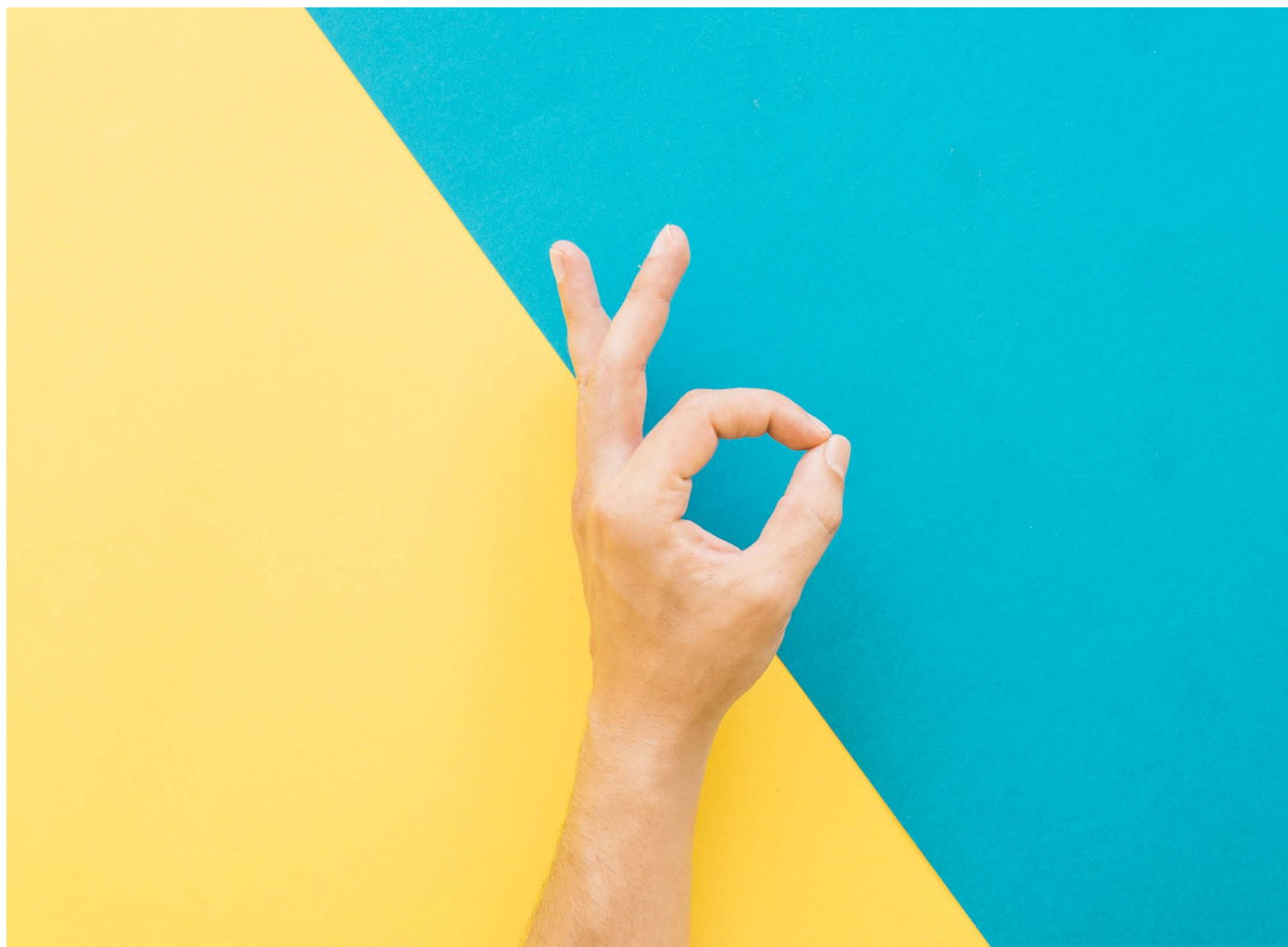
HOUSING GRANTS

In France, the students can benefit from a program called APL, a financial assistance which vocation is to reduce the rent amount. To apply for this grant, and find out if you are eligible for it, it is necessary to contact directly your local Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF).

STUDY GRANTS

The most common study grant students can benefit from is the Erasmus program. Dedicated to European students who are willing to study abroad, it aims at financially support them so they can go through this great experience.

To benefit from an Erasmus scholarship, you must get in touch with your school / university.



5. Health Insurance

French healthcare system is one of the most accessible healthcare systems worldwide. And every single student entering a curriculum in a French school or university **needs to own a personal health insurance**, which will cover for approximately 60-70% of the cost of your medical care / medications. To that purpose, the process can be different according to the student's citizenship.

CITIZENS OF EUROPEAN UNION

Citizens of European Union must put a request to obtain their European Health Insurance Card. Such a request must be made before the student arrival in France.

CITIZENS OF OTHER COUNTRIES

The citizens of countries outside of the European Union, who are under the age of 28, **must purchase a Student Health Insurance policy (about 220€ per year)**. Two organizations offer this service : either LMDE or one of the student health care facilities member of the Emevia network.

The subscription to one of these Student Health Insurance organizations is made along with your school / university registration. Once all the process completed, the student will be given a Carte Vitale, which will have to be presented to any medical establishment.

This procedure also concerns citizens of European Union that DO NOT HAVE their European Health Insurance Card.

According to an agreement between the Canadian and the French governments, Canadian students do not need to subscribe for a Student Health Insurance policy. To benefit from this right, they must have a SE 401-Q-102 bis form.

COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH INSURANCE

Since the French healthcare system covers 60-70% of the medical care, it is duly recommended to purchase a complementary health insurance. Optional and charged to the policyholder, it pays for the uncovered costs.

Also, for the sake of their peace of mind during their year of study in France, it is greatly suggested to the students to sign up for a full protection in civil liability and an out-of-school insurance (ask for more information to your school's staff).



6. Practical information

Before you leave your country to settle in France for your studies, there are a few things you need to know, in order to be well prepared. You will find below complementary information, that might be very useful.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The administrative and practical procedures foreign students will have to go through will probably always require the **presentation of the documents** below :

- An ID
- A student card (delivered by the school, once the registration fully completed)
- A proof of address (it can be a gas or an electricity bill, a rental receipt, or even a written statement if the student is hosted for free...)

It is in fact the case for the **opening of a bank account** (not recommended for a short stay), but also for the purchase of a phone line, an internet service...

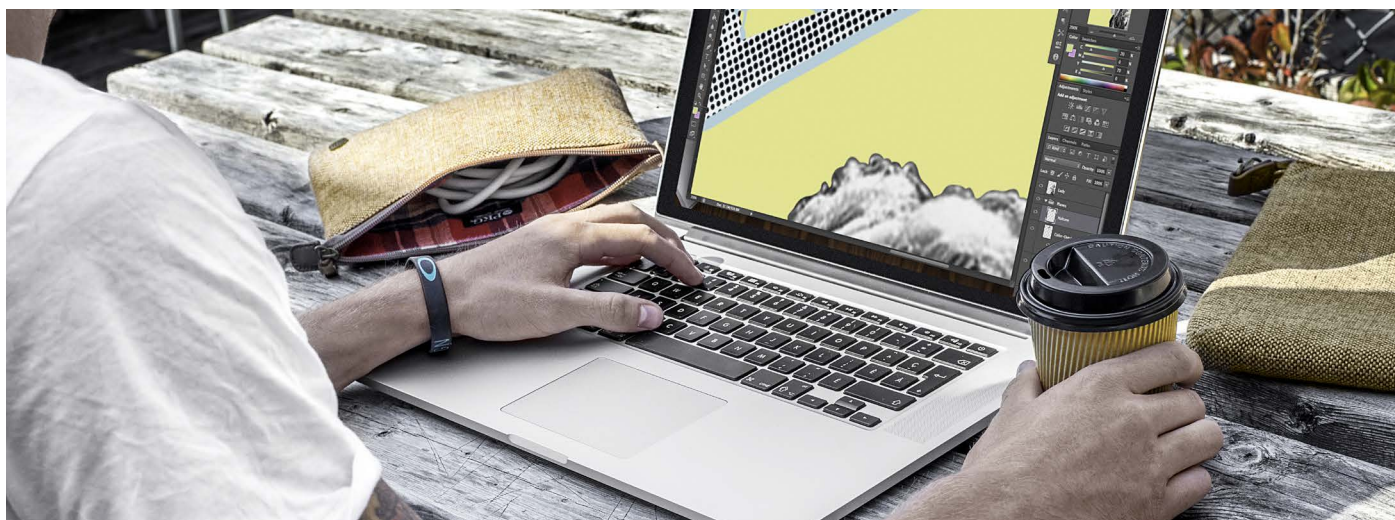
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION

If you are the holder of a driver's license, you are allowed to drive a car in France. [Find here some road rules](#) that might help you to adjust to French habits.

If you don't have a driving license, be aware that the French transportation system is very effective and well positioned to meet the customers' expectations.

ELECTRICAL PLUGS & OUTLETS

Contrary to many countries in the world, in France, plugs and outlets are « hermaphroditic ». Basically, it means that most foreigners **will need power or plug adaptors** in order to use their electronic devices.





www.ecolescreatives.com

www.esma-artistique.com

www.etpa.com

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