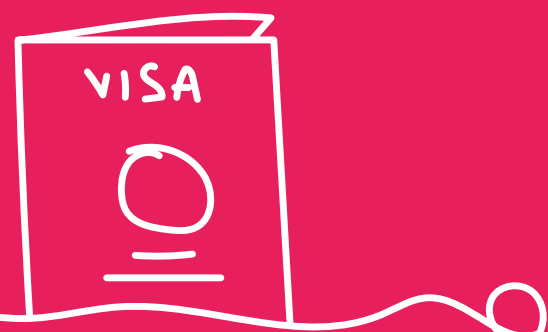


# Visa and residence permits

Except for Algerian nationals



## Planning your departure

**Come to France to study or complete scientific research, it is generally necessary to obtain a visa, unless exempted. The type of visa required will depend on:**

1. Your nationality
2. The length of your stay (less than 3 months, between 3 and 12 months, more than 12 months)
3. The reason for your stay (studies, research, teaching, researcher, family of a researcher, etc.)
4. How your stay will be financed (employment contract in France, travel grant, etc.)

### PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION:

To find out which procedure applies to you, log on to the Université Paris-Saclay **e-International Welcome Office** app to get a personalised roadmap and prepare your stay in France.  
<https://internationalsupport.universite-paris-saclay.fr/>

- **Official website for your visa application to France:**  
<https://france-visas.gouv.fr>
- **Main requirements for you and your family:**  
<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/N19804>

### SPECIFIC VISAS

- **You are a student enrolled in a PhD programme in France:** If you are receiving funding from a foreign government grant or an international joint programme: you retain 'Student' status OR receive the 'Researcher' status for your visa. Get in touch with the relevant contact within your host institution in order to discuss the best option for you.
- **You are a researcher and you have an employment contract in France OR you are a visiting researcher but remain employed by your home university OR you hold a grant:** Your host institution (or your employer in France, if it is accredited) will issue you with an 'AGREEMENT TO HOST A FOREIGN RESEARCHER OR TEACHER'. This document must be presented when applying for a 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' visa (Researcher-Talent passport) and be signed by consular authorities.
- **You are staying in a country of the European Union with a residence permit ('Student-mobility programme' or 'Researcher') and are coming to France as part of an intra-European mobility programme.** To check whether you can be exempt from a visa, contact your host institution in France as early as possible before your arrival.  
**See the 'Your contacts' section**

TOURIST and INTERNSHIP visas cannot be extended or changed to another status. If you wish to extend your stay in France or start a PhD, you will have to return to your country of origin/residence to apply for a new visa

## Upon arrival

- **If you have a short-stay visa (less than 3 months):** you do not have to take any further action
- **If you have a Long Stay Visa (VLS) with a 'Student' status:** you must apply online for a 'Student' residence permit on the ANEF\* website <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/> See the **Campus France tutorial** for help with online application.
- **If you have a Long Stay Visa (VLS) serving as a Residence Permit under the 'Student' status (VLS-TS):** within three months of your arrival in France, you must validate your visa on the **ANEF** website.

Keep your access codes to the platform somewhere safe. You will need them for any follow-up to your application and to renew your residence permit.

- **If you hold a 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur VLS' visa (Researcher-Talent Passport long stay visa):** you must apply online for a 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' residence permit within two months of your arrival on the **ANEF** website.
- **If you hold a Long Stay Visa (VLS) serving as a Residence Permit under the 'Researcher' status (VLS-TS):** within three months of your arrival in France, you must validate your visa on the **ANEF** website.

### PLEASE NOTE

With some exceptions, a fee is charged when applying for a residence permit. Before your final appointment at the Prefecture to collect your residence permit, you will have to buy a fiscal stamp\* and present proof of payment. A French mobile phone number is required by the prefecture for any residence permit application.

## During your stay

### RENEWING YOUR RESIDENCE PERMIT

If you wish to remain in France after your residence permit runs out, you must apply for a renewal **2 to 3 months before your current permit expires**. Get in touch with the contact person of your host institution to prepare your application.

For further details on the different procedures and documents required: <https://www.universite-paris-saclay.fr/vie-de-campus/accueil-des-publics-internationaux/demarches-administratives/visa-et-titres-de-sejour>

• **You have a 'Student' Residence Permit which is about to expire, and your situation has not changed:** you can renew your 'Student' Residence Permit application on the **ANEF** platform. For information on the application procedure online, please see the **Campus France tutorial**

• **You have a 'Student' Residence Permit and wish to change your status (employment contract in France with hosting agreement):** apply for an initial 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' residence permit on the **ANEF** platform.

### PLEASE NOTE

it is not possible to return to STUDENT status subsequently, unless you return to your country of residence and apply for a full visa

• **You have a 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' or a VLS-TS 'Passeport-Talent' (Long Stay Visa, valid as a residence permit) and your employment contract or stay (visiting researcher) is extended:** a new hosting agreement will have to be issued by your host laboratory or institution. You can then apply to renew your 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' residence permit on the **ANEF** platform. **See the dedicated tutorial**

### STUDENT STATUS AND WORKING TIME

With the student status, you can work a maximum of 60 % of the annual working time in the branch or profession concerned. If you want to undertake additional work, you must apply for a temporary work permit (APT) before starting your activity. Contact your employer to find out how to proceed.

## At the end of your stay

• **You are writing up your thesis and have a new employment contract** (extension of your previous contract or new employer): you can reapply for a 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' residence permit upon presentation of your new hosting contract.

• **You are completing your PhD and no longer have an employment contract and wish to claim unemployment:** please contact your Human Resources department to obtain your *Attestation pôle emploi* (employment certificate) on the last day of your contract and receive guidance on what to do next. You can either apply for an extension of your residence permit upon presentation of your declaration of registration with the Employment Centre, or apply for a RECE (job search/business creation) residence permit (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F17319>) or an APS (Temporary Residence Permit) if you come from a country that has an agreement on migration flows with France (<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/l-autorisation-provisoire-de-sejour-ou-aps>).

## PLEASE NOTE

RECE and APS cards are valid for one year and cannot be renewed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the main contact person in your laboratory or host institution. **Please see the 'Your contacts' section.**

You can also contact the **Science Accueil association** to be guided through the process.

## Useful information

- **How do I find out which prefecture I belong to?**

It depends on where you are living. To find out, you can look on your *département's* website

<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Le-ministere/Prefectures>

- **To renew your receipt (15 days before it expires), report a change of address or marital status,** follow the process online:

<http://invite.contacts-demarches.interieur.gouv.fr/Etrangers>

- **To pay tax on residence permits with a fiscal stamp**

With some exceptions, every application for a visa or residence permit is subject to a fiscal stamp.

You can buy fiscal stamps at the tobacconist's (ask for an electronic fiscal stamp online for residence permits for foreigners/timbre fiscal électronique 'titre pour étrangers') or on the ANEF website or the French tax authority website.

**Check the current rates.**

- **You are coming with your family**

See the dedicated page on the Université Paris-Saclay website:

<https://www.universite-paris-saclay.fr/vie-de-campus/accueil-des-publics-internationaux/demarches-administratives/visa-et-titres-de-sejour/venir-avec-sa-famille>

## Terminology

**ANEF:** Administration Numérique pour les Étrangers en France (Online Administration for Foreigners in France) (<https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>). Platform dedicated to the online application for residence permits. To date, this process only concerns student visas and residence permits.

**'Attestation de décision favorable':** temporary residence document issued after processing your application for a residence permit on the ANEF platform, which may take several weeks. This document allows you to stay regularly in France, to travel and, depending on your situation, to work.

**APS:** Autorisation Provisoire de Séjour (temporary residence permit)

**'Attestation pôle emploi':** a document issued by the Human Resources department of your employer, proving your status as an employee and stating the dates of your employment contract. It enables you to register on the list of jobseekers in France and to claim existing rights to unemployment benefits

**'Convention d'accueil':** official document issued by your host or employing institution. This document confirms your status as an academic, the purpose of your research and the dates of your stay in France. The agreement is equivalent to an authorisation to work in the region within the framework of your research. The 'convention d'accueil' (hosting agreement) is required to apply for a visa or 'Passeport-Talent Chercheur' residence permit. The original document must be kept by the researcher for the duration of their stay.

**RECE** = a 'Recherche d'emploi/création d'entreprise' (job search/business creation) residence permit

**'Récepissé'** = temporary residence document issued when you apply for a residence permit at the sous-prefecture. This allows you to stay regularly in France and, depending on your situation, to work.

**'Titre de séjour'** = official document confirming your right to reside in and, depending on your situation, to work in France. This plastified card is issued by the prefecture or sous-prefecture of your place of residence in France.

**VISA** = right of entry into France, issued by the French Embassy in your country of residence before you come to France.

**VLS** = 'Visa Long Séjour' (Long Stay Visa)

**VLS-TS** = 'Visa Long Séjour valant Titre de Séjour' (Long Stay Visa serving as Residence Permit)