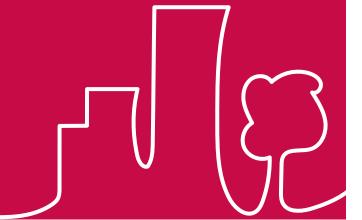# Accommodation

The campuses of Université Paris-Saclay are mainly located south of Paris. Depending on your university department, component institution or associate institution your course may take place at Kremlin-Bicêtre, Sceaux, Orsay, Bures, Cachan, Évry, Versailles, Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines or Vélizy-Villacoublay.

All these locations are on RER lines B, C or D, and about 30 to 50 minutes from Paris. Find out in advance where your course will take place and/or the location of your laboratory, as well as nearby transport options. See the 'Transportation' section.

Planning your departure

IMPORTANT

Before you arrive in France, make sure you look for accommodation, even if it is just temporary.

Contact the appropriate department of your institution (**see Université Paris-Saclay accommodation page)** or check with your laboratory to see what accommodation is available.)

Check out **the Student accommodation map and the Université Paris-Saclay student accommodation map.**

LOOK OUT

Fake advertisements, exorbitant rents, listing agencies, fees to be paid in advance, etc. Housing scams are a reality.

Be wary of low rents in Paris, you should expect to pay 400 euros for a room in a CROUS student residence and at least 800 euros for a studio in a private residence.

Never send money online without signing a rental agreement and dealing directly with an organisation.

Upon arrival

HAVING A GUARANTOR & PLANNING FOR A SECURITY DEPOSIT

It is compulsory to have a guarantor to rent a flat in France. A guarantor is a person who will provide a financial guarantee for you, i.e. who undertakes to pay your rent if you can no longer afford to do so. If you do not have a guarantor, there are other options available:

• **Visale**, **the 'Caution Locative Étudiante'** (Student Rental Deposit) is a free state guarantee which allows students between 18 and 30 years of age without personal guarantors to access housing more easily.

Some landlords may ask you to pay a security deposit when you sign the lease. This sum corresponds to at least one month's rent excluding charges. It allows the landlord to cover any abnormal damage found during the inventory of fixtures on departure. The security deposit should be refunded to you in full or in part within 2 months of your departure.

• The **LOCA-PASS advance payment**, is a loan of up to €1,200 at 0% interest to finance the security deposit. It must be repaid within a maximum of 25 months. (Please note: a loan commits you. Check your ability to repay before committing yourself)

• **If you are not eligible for VISALE** or the owner of your accommodation does not recognise it, you can make use of **Garant Me**.

AVAILABLE ACCOMMODATION

Find out what is available to students at Université Paris-Saclay on the CASA platform: https://casa.universite-paris-saclay.fr/fr/

For accommodation in university halls of residence, contact your institution to find out about your eligibility and the procedure to follow.

Several options are available in the private sector:
• **Renting via an estate agent.** You can look at the Se Loger websites, or Lodgis for Paris.
• **Rent via dedicated student accommodation platforms:** Studapart, Lokaviz

For cheaper rents, you could consider:
• **Shared accommodation** – look at the *appartager*, *roomlala*, *immojeune* or *La carte des colocs* sites.
• **Accommodation in exchange for a service or intergenerational accommodation: ensemble2générations, cohomly and le Pari Solidaire**

Contact one the following partner associations to get help in finding accommodation:

• **Science Accueil** – Centre Euraxess specialises in welcoming scientists to Paris-Saclay.
• **Héberjeunes** - Student accommodation association

> In order to move in to your accommodation, you will need to present a certificate of housing insurance. See the 'Insurance' section

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ACCOMMODATION

Depending on your situation, you may be able to benefit from financial support for your accommodation:

• **The APL, 'Aide Personnalisée au Logement' (Personal Housing Assistance)** is based on family income and the amount of your rent. Contact the Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (Family Allowance Office) in your *département* of residence for more information: http://www.caf.fr
• **The ALS, 'Allocation Logement à caractère Social' (Social Housing Allowance),** based on your income.
• **The ALF, 'Allocation de logement familiale' (Family Housing Allowance),** based on your family situation.

RESIDENCE TAX

If you are resident in France on 1 January, you are taxable at the address you live at on that date and may be subject to residence tax. See the **'Tax' section**

At the end of your stay

LEAVING YOUR ACCOMMODATION

You must warn your landlord of your departure within the defined period of notice. The period of notice is of one month for furnished rented accommodation and three months for unfurnished rented accommodation. A lot of accommodation in the Paris region is located **in areas of high demand**, in which case the notice period is one month.
Before leaving your accommodation, you will have to carry out an inventory of fixtures. If this corresponds to the inventory of fixtures made when you moved in, the landlord will pay you back your security deposit within a maximum of two months.
For further information on the steps to follow, **look at the public service website**

Terminology

'Bailleur': A 'bailleur' (landlord) is a natural or legal person, usually the owner of a property, who rents it out.

'Dépôt de garantie': A security deposit, called 'caution' in French, is intended to pay for any future breaches by the tenant (unpaid rent or charges, unfinished repairs, etc.).

'Studio': a single room with a kitchenette

'T2 or F2': an apartment with two rooms (one bedroom, one living room)

'SdB': a bathroom (with a bath)

'Salle d'eau': a shower room (no bath)

'Appt.' : apartment

'RdC': Ground floor

CC: charges included. Charges are the costs to be added to the rent for the upkeep of the building and the services used by all its inhabitants (water, electricity, heating, cleaning of common areas, collection of rubbish, etc.)