

Study in France

DXB → PAR • Paris, France

France combines respected universities and Grandes Écoles with a strong tradition of research, innovation, culture and international education. Students can choose from programmes taught in French or English across business, engineering, science, technology, arts, hospitality and the social sciences.

AT A GLANCE

Quick Facts

PUBLIC TUITION (2026-27)

€178 / year (bachelor's), €255 / year (master's)

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

€877.50 / month (from 1 August 2026)

TEACHING LANGUAGE

French, English

WORKING WHILE STUDYING

Up to 964 hours per year (60% of standard annual working time)

WHY FRANCE

Why Study in France?

- ✓ Public universities, specialist institutes, engineering schools, business schools and highly selective Grandes Écoles
- ✓ Qualifications following the European bachelor's–master's–doctorate structure, widely recognised internationally
- ✓ An important centre for aerospace, engineering, mathematics, AI, luxury and fashion, business, hospitality, life sciences, energy and the creative industries
- ✓ Research laboratories, industry partnerships and professionally focused programmes
- ✓ A growing selection of programmes taught fully or partly in English, especially at master's level
- ✓ Experience within the European higher-education and employment environment, with limited Schengen travel under a long-stay visa
- ✓ Historic cities, regional diversity, art, architecture, food, sport and modern student life
- ✓ Major centres such as Paris, Lyon, Toulouse and Marseille, or smaller cities with lower living costs

COSTS

Tuition & Living Cost

Public higher education in France is subsidised, but the amount paid depends on nationality, study level, institution and whether the student receives an exemption. Campus France lists the standard public-university registration fees for 2026–2027 as:

PROGRAMME	STANDARD FEE
Licence (bachelor's-level) programme at a public university	€178 per year
Master's programme at a public university	€255 per year
Doctoral and other programmes	Rates published separately
Private universities, business schools and Grandes Écoles	Several thousand euros to more than €10,000 per year

Differentiated fees may apply to some non-EU students, while universities can grant partial or full exemptions. Some programmes cost considerably more than the ranges above, so every applicant should check the exact fee and exemption policy on the institution's programme page.

Students may also need to pay the annual Student and Campus Life Contribution (CVEC), unless exempt.

WHAT YOU NEED

Entry Requirements

| Bachelor's programmes

Applicants normally need:

- ✓ A completed secondary-school qualification giving access to higher education
- ✓ Suitable grades and required subjects for the chosen programme
- ✓ French-language evidence for French-taught programmes
- ✓ English-language evidence for English-taught programmes, where required
- ✓ Official transcripts, graduation documents and identification
- ✓ Programme-specific items such as a motivation letter, portfolio or entrance examination

| Master's programmes

Applicants normally need:

- ✓ A recognised bachelor's degree in a relevant subject
- ✓ Official degree certificate and transcripts
- ✓ Evidence of French or English proficiency according to the programme
- ✓ CV and motivation letter or statement of purpose
- ✓ References, portfolio, interview, GMAT/GRE or other evidence where requested

LANGUAGE

Language Requirement

French-taught programmes commonly request a recognised French-language qualification, often at B2 level, but requirements vary. English-taught programmes set their own IELTS, TOEFL or alternative requirements.

Student Visa Process

| Which visa is required?

- ✓ Study or training of up to three months normally requires a short-stay visa when the applicant's nationality requires one
- ✓ Study lasting more than three months normally requires a long-stay student visa, commonly a VLS-TS serving as a residence permit after validation

| Main stages

- 1 Obtain admission from a recognised French higher-education institution.
- 2 Complete the Études en France/Campus France procedure if it applies to the country of residence.
- 3 Use the official France-Visas wizard to identify the correct visa and document list.
- 4 Complete the online visa form and upload supporting documents where available.
- 5 Book an appointment with the responsible consulate or authorised visa centre.
- 6 Submit the passport, photographs, enrolment certificate, financial evidence, accommodation evidence and other required documents.
- 7 Provide biometrics and attend an interview if required.
- 8 Wait for the decision and collect the passport according to local instructions.
- 9 After arrival, validate the VLS-TS online within three months and complete any other required residence formalities.

Indicative student-visa fees are currently €50 for applicants in countries using the EEF procedure and €99 for other countries, although exceptions and service-centre charges may apply.

| Common supporting evidence

- ✓ Valid passport
- ✓ Admission or enrolment certificate
- ✓ Academic documents
- ✓ Campus France/EEF confirmation where applicable
- ✓ Evidence of sufficient financial resources
- ✓ Evidence of accommodation or an initial address in France
- ✓ Visa application form and compliant photographs
- ✓ Additional documents generated by the France-Visas wizard

A visa is never guaranteed. Applicants must provide genuine, consistent and complete evidence and demonstrate a credible study plan.

Popular Courses

Popular areas for international students include:

Business Administration, Management and Entrepreneurship

Finance, Economics, Marketing and International Business

Mechanical, Civil, Electrical and Industrial Engineering

Aerospace, Automotive and Transport Engineering

Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science and Cybersecurity

Luxury Brand Management, Fashion and Design

Hospitality, Tourism, Culinary Arts and Event Management

Political Science, International Relations and European Studies

Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Materials Science

Biotechnology, Biomedical Sciences, Public Health and Life Sciences

Architecture, Urban Planning, Fine Arts and Film

Renewable Energy, Environmental Science and Sustainable Development

Programme choice should be based on academic suitability, teaching language, accreditation, career objectives, internship opportunities, tuition and location.

WHERE TO STUDY

Popular Universities

The following institutions are widely considered by international applicants. This is not a definitive ranking.

- Université Paris-Saclay: science, mathematics, engineering, computer science and research
- PSL University: sciences, engineering, humanities, arts and interdisciplinary research
- Sorbonne University: humanities, science, engineering and medicine-related fields
- Institut Polytechnique de Paris: engineering, technology, mathematics, AI and economics
- Université Grenoble Alpes: engineering, science, technology, environment and social sciences
- University of Strasbourg: science, health, law, humanities and European studies
- Aix-Marseille University: science, health, law, economics and humanities
- University of Bordeaux: science, health, technology, law and social sciences
- University of Montpellier: science, environment, health, agriculture and law
- University of Lille: science, engineering, business, health and humanities
- Sciences Po: political science, international relations, public policy and social sciences
- HEC Paris: business, management, finance and entrepreneurship
- ESSEC Business School: business, management, finance and marketing
- emlyon business school: management, entrepreneurship, innovation and international business

Specialist engineering, business, art and culinary schools may use separate admissions procedures and charge substantially higher fees than public universities. Applicants should confirm that the institution and qualification are officially recognised and appropriate for their career goals.

Ready to study in France?

From Études en France and Campus France procedures to scholarships and your France-Visas file, our counsellors keep every stage of your French application on schedule.

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