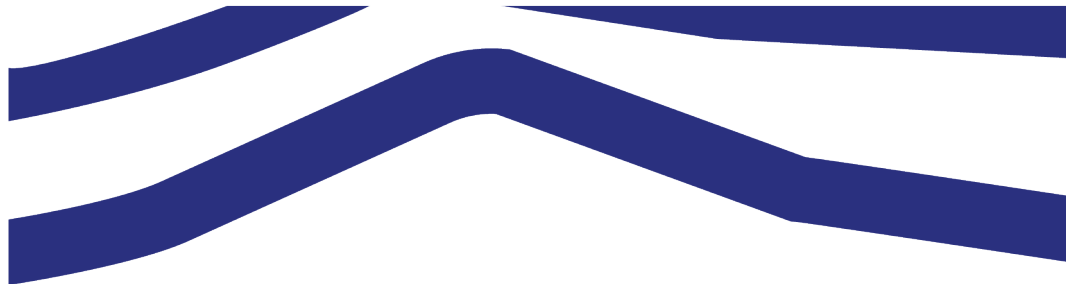


WELCOME GUIDE



Géodata
Paris
l'école des ingénieurs géographes

International Students



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Before you arrival in France

Applying for you Visa (for students who require a visa)

A visa is required for students who are not nationals of a European Union Member State and who do not already hold a valid Schengen visa. Your visa must cover the entire duration of your planned studies in France.

Types of Student Visa

Before submitting your application for the French consular authorities, you should determine which type of visa applies to your situation. The main categories are : short-stay (less than 90 days), examination visa, long-stay student visa (VLS-TS - Visa Long Séjour valant Titre de Séjour), long-stay «Researcher/Scientist» visa.

For detailed information about visas and application procedures, etc...

Please consult the Campus France website :

<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/visas-et-cartes-desejour>

Your online visa application must be completed here :

<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/R50559>

Visa processing can take several weeks. We strongly recommend applying as soon as you receive your Letter of Acceptance from Géodata Paris.



Finding Accomodation

Several accomodation options are available. You may apply for a room in a **CROUS student residence**, and a list of private accomodation close to the campus is also available.

Security Deposit

You will generally be required to pay a security deposit¹ equivalent to one month's rent. Your guarantor must be based within the European Union, or you must apply for the **Visale Guarantee**.

The Visale Guarantee

The Visale Guarantee, provided by Action Logement, is a free rental guarantee scheme that acts as your guarantor for the entire duration of your tenancy. It replaces the need for a private guarantor. Depending on your profile, the scheme covers rent up to a specific maximum amount.

Further information is available in the [Visale Guarantee Guide](#).

CROUS Student Residences

CROUS residences are public student accomodations managed by the Regional Centres for Student Services (CROUS). They are located either on university campuses or nearby. Accomodation is allocated to strict social criteria and is generally the most affordable housing option. Rental prices typically range from 120 to 450€ per month for a studio or shared accomodation. A dedicated guide explaining procedure is available in the « [accomodation](#) » section.

For information or to apply for a CROUS room, please contact: logement@ensg.eu

Please note that the number of rooms is limited. Therefore, Géodata Paris cannot guarantee accomodation for every applicant. Room allocation generally takes place during August. Please note : Electricity costs are not included in CROUS accomodation.

Shared Accomodation

- [Application : La carte des colocs](#)
- www.apartager.com
- www.okroommate.com

Host Family Accomodation

You may also choose to stay with a carefully selected French host family. Host families in Paris
Telephone : +33 (0)6 71 64 78 93

Hotel near Géodata Paris

Ibis Marne-la-Vallée Champs
(approximately 5 minutes walk from the campus)
Boulevard Newton, Cité Descartes
77420 Champs-sur-Marne
Telephone : +33 (0)1 64 68 00 83
Website : <http://www.accorhotels.com/fr/hotel-1414-ibis-marne-la-vallee-champs/index.shtml>

¹ If you do not have a guarantor, the landlord may require a third party to guarantee payment of your rent if you experience financial difficulties.

Private Student Residences

Private student residences offer an alternative between public student housing and hotels.

They provide fully furnished studios together with a range of services such as : cafeteria, laundry facilities, TV lounge, fitness room, ...

Advantages : comfortable, convenient, ideal if you do not have time to search for accommodation yourself.

Disadvantage : generally more expensive than public student housing.

Géodata Paris also works with several private student housing providers (ARPEJ, www.ResidenceEtudiante.fr), to offer a limited number of reserved rooms and preferential rates.

Useful websites :

- www.adele.org
- www.estudines.com
- www.fac-habitat.com (4 residences located within the city of Paris and 1 in Noisy-le-Grand and Lognes)
- www.suitedudes.com (1 residence in Champs-sur-Marne : <http://www.suitedudes.com/residence-etudiante-internationale-champs-sur-marne>)

The Université Gustave Eiffel also partners with **Studapart**, which can assist you in finding accommodation (service fees apply).

For further information : logement@univ-eiffel.fr / + 33 (0)1 71 40 81 98.

Renting an Apartment

You can rent accommodation either **through a real estate agency** or **directly from a private landlord**. When applying for accommodation, you will generally need to provide : a **security deposit**, a **rental deposit**², an application file including **proof of income** (or financial resources), a **guarantor**.

Many landlords also offer **shared accommodation (flatshared)**.

Useful websites to help you find accommodation :

- www.seloger.com
- <http://www.cosyhome-paris.com>
- <http://www.erafrance.com>
- <http://www.orpi.com/louer/>

Hostels

Paris youth hostels :

www.fuaj.org



² A sum paid to the landlord at the beginning of the tenancy to cover any damage to the property. It is usually equivalent to one month's rent and will be refunded at the end of your tenancy, provided that no damage is identified during the final inspection (check-out inventory).

Joining the French Health Insurance System

Are you a resident of a country in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland ? When enrolling at Géodata Paris, we strongly recommend obtaining a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) before your departure. The EHIC will cover your healthcare expenses during your stay in France. If you hold a valid EHIC, you do not need to register with the French Health Insurance System. **The card must be issued in your country of residence and remain valid until at least the end of the academic year.**

Are you coming from a country outside the European Union or Switzerland ?

If you are a non-EU student, you must register with the French Health Insurance System through the dedicated online platform : <http://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/> Once your registration has been completed, the French Health Insurance Fund (Assurance Maladie) will assign you a French Social Security number and issue your Carte Vitale (French health insurance card). You will also gain access to your personal Ameli online account. Once your registration has been validated, you will need to choose a primary care physician (médecin traitant).

Supplementary Health Insurance



Supplementary health insurance (mutuelle complémentaire) covers healthcare costs that are not reimbursed by the French Health Insurance System. Although optional, it is strongly recommended, as it helps reduce or eliminate your out-of-pocket medical expenses.

You may also be eligible for Protection Universelle Maladie (PUMA). Students who are not employed must complete and submit an application form. Students who are employed will generally be registered by their employer.

For example, if you purchase medication costing 25€ and the French health insurance System reimburses 30%, you will receive 7.50€. If you have supplementary health insurance, it may reimburse the remaining 17.50€, meaning you will not have to pay this amount yourself.

For more information :

<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/sante-securite-sociale-etudiants>

Enrolling at Géodata Paris (Université Gustave Eiffel)

Enrolment at Géodata Paris is mandatory for all international students.

At the beginning of July, you will receive an email from Géodata Paris explaining the enrolment procedure for Université Gustave Eiffel/Géodata Paris.

To help you complete your enrolment, please refer to :

<https://geodata-paris.fr/fr/procedure-inscription>

Tuition fees : for the 2026-2027 academic year, international students benefit from a partial tuition fee exemption. As a result, tuition fees are the same for French and international students.

Students participating in non-degree exchange programs (such as Erasmus+ or BRAFITEC) are fully exempted from tuition fees.

If you experience any difficulties during the enrolment process, please contact : inscription@geodata-paris.fr

Before completing your enrolment, you must first pay your Student and Campus Life Contribution (CVEC), see below.

STUDENT AND CAMPUS LIFE CONTRIBUTION (CVEC)

Students participating in an international exchange program in France (such as Erasmus+) are exempt from paying the CVEC.

The CVEC is a mandatory fee for students enrolling in a degree program at a French higher education institution. Proof of payment of the CVEC is required to finalise your enrolment at Université Gustave Eiffel.

For the 2026-2027 academic year, the CVEC fee is 105€. Payment can be made online. The entire procedure is available at : www.messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr

To log in, you will need your INE (National Student Identification Number), if you do not have an INE, please contact : inscription@geodata-paris.fr

Once you arrive in France...

Home Insurance and Personal Liability Insurance

Home insurance and Personal liability insurance are mandatory when renting accommodation in France. These insurance policies automatically include liability coverage to protect you against damage you may cause to others.

They cover damage :

- to your landlord's property in the event of fire, explosion, or water damage
- to neighbouring properties if they are also affected by the same incident

If you already have an insurance policy in your home country covering these risks, you should check whether your policy remains valid during your stay in France.

If it does, ask your insurance provider for an official certificate (translated into French if necessary) specifying the coverage provided and the address of your accommodation in France.

If you are not already covered, you must take out an insurance policy upon your arrival in France. You may do so through :

- an insurance company
- a bank
- or any insurance provider of your choice

Please note : some insurers offer combined Home Insurance and Personal Liability Insurance policies



Opening a Bank Account (optional)

Depending on the type of mobility program you are participating in (for example, a short-term Erasmus+ exchange), opening a French bank account may not be necessary

Good to know : If your bank is part of an international banking network with a partner in France, opening a French bank account may be easier. We recommend checking with your bank before leaving your home country.

Géodata Paris has established a partnership with **Société Générale** to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for international students (29 Avenue Ampère, 77420 Champs-sur-Marne, tuesday-wednesday-friday. 8.45 am-1 pm / 2 pm-5.50 pm ; thursday 8.45 am-1 pm / 2 pm-5.05 pm ; saturday 8.45 am-1 pm). **Please note that many French banks are closed on Mondays.**

Many French banks offer student bank accounts with preferential rates for customers under the age of 25. Before choosing a bank, compare the service offered, account fees, the location of the branch in relation to your accomodation or campus, opening days and hours. Most importantly, make sure that you will be able to **close your bank account before leaving France**, as some banks may charge additional fees if your account remains open after your departure.

Documents required to open a bank account (all documents must be valid) :

- Passport or national Identity card
- Proof of address (proof of accomodation or accomodation certificate)
- Proof of financial resources (such as APL housing benefit, if applicable)
- Proof of student status (student card or certificate of enrolment)



Finding a Student Job

Many part-time jobs are available to students in France and can easily fit around a university timetable. Depending on your nationality and your residence permit, you may be authorised to work within the limits set by French regulations. **Before starting your job research, make sure you are aware of the rules that apply to your situation.**

Here are a few tips for finding a student job :

- **Private tutoring** : if you are proficient in one or more subjects (mathematics, languages, computer science, ...), you can offer private lessons through platforms such as **Superprof, Acadomia, Complétude ou Anacours**.
- **On-campus jobs** : Universities regularly recruit students for a variety of positions, including : reception and welcome services, peer tutoring, library assistance, event support, IT support and student mentoring.
- **Hospitality and retail** : restaurants, cafés, supermarkets and shops frequently hire students to work evenings, weekend or during university holidays.
- **Temporary and short-term jobs** : temporary employment agencies (such as Adecco, Manpower, Randstad and Crit) and platforms like **Side** or **StaffMe** regularly offer short-term assignments in events, logistics, retail, stocktaking and reception services.
- **Childcare** : if you enjoy working with children, organisations such as **Kinougarde, Yoopala or Kangourou Kids** regularly recruit students for after-school or wednesday childcare.
- **Seasonal Work** : during university holidays, many employers recruit seasonal staff in tourism, hospitality, catering, agriculture, leisure and youth activities.

Pour consulter des offres d'emploi, pensez également à utiliser les plateformes **Jobaviz** (emplois étudiants du CROUS), **France Travail, Indeed, LinkedIn Jobs, Welcome to the Jungle** ou encore **Leboncoin**.



Before accepting a job, always make sure that your employment contract is officially declared, your salary complies with the French minimum wage, your working hours remain compatible with your studies.

We strongly recommend that students do not work excessive hours. Your academic success should remain your top priority.

Getting to Géodata Paris

Géodata Paris is located on the Université Gustave Eiffel campus, approximately 25 minutes from central Paris by public transport. The easiest way to reach the campus is by taking the RER A, Paris's regional express train network.

How to get here by public transport ?

From central Paris : take the RER A, towards Marne-la-Vallée – Chessy and get off at Noisy- Champs station

Walking directions from Noisy-Champs station (Géodata Paris is located approximately 500 meters from « Noisy-Champs » RER A station)

Take Exit 3 « Boulevard Newton, Cité Descartes » eastbound), turn left onto Boulevard Newton, turn right onto Avenue Ampère, turn left onto Mail Descartes. Continue to the intersection with Boulevard Copernic, you will arrive at the School's main plaza, and the entrance to Géodata Paris will be on your right.

For detailed directions and maps, please visit : <https://geodata-paris.fr/fr/plan-dacces>



Public Transport

Public transport in the Île-de-France region is operated through an extensive network of metro, RER trains, trams and buses by RATP.

Several ticket and travel pass options are available.

The Métro-Train-RER Ticket has a flat fare regardless of the distance travelled. It is valid for journeys on the Paris Metro, RER network, suburban train, the Montmartre funicular and Tram Express lines (T11, T12, T13 and T14). The ticket is valid for journeys of up to 2 hours, provided you do not leave the rail network.

Standard fee : 2,55€

Other fares and travel passes are available depending on how frequently you travel and whether you travel during the week or at weekends. Please note : Paper tickets are gradually being phased out. We recommend purchasing a rechargeable Navigo Easy card.

Imagine R Student Travel Pass

The **Imagine R Student Travel Pass** is available to students under the age of 26. Valid for one year, it provides unlimited travel on buses, the metro, the RER and trams throughout the Île-de-France region :

The annual fee is 401,30€. [Forfait imagine R / RATP](#)

Once you have received your certificate of enrolment, you can apply for the pass online : [Forfait imagine R / RATP](#)

Where can I buy transport tickets ?

- At metro stations, ticket offices, tram stops and selected bus terminals
- Online via the [IDF Mobilités](#) and [Bonjour RATP](#) mobile applications



The campus and its activities

French as a Foreign Language (FLE) Courses

French courses (known as « French as a Foreign Language » or « FLE ») are offered by Université Gustave Eiffel, which is located on the same campus as Géodata Paris (approximately a 5-minute walk away).

Students are responsible for completing their own registration. You must therefore complete an online registration form available on the university website. First, you will need to register, which will give you access to the online form. You will then need to complete an online placement test to determine your French level (A1, A2, B2, etc.). Afterwards, you will receive an email informing you of your level and the schedule of the course you have been assigned to.

Please send Géodata Paris(mobilites@geodata-paris.fr) proof that you have completed the online registration form and placement test (a screenshot confirming that both have been submitted) and provide the details of the course you will attend.

FLE courses consist of 3 hours per week : 2 hours of face-to-face classes with a teacher, 1 hour of independent work during the week on an online learning platform. At Géodata Paris, classes usually finish at 5 pm, and there are no classes on thursday afternoons. Most FLE courses take place on thursday afternoons or in the evening from 5 pm onwards.

For more information : [Cours de Français Langue Etrangère \(FLE\) / Français Langue Seconde \(FLS\)](#)

If you have any questions about FLE courses, you can contact the university directly : fle.international@univ-eiffel.fr while keeping mobilites@geodata-paris.fr in copy of your emails !



The Student Card

Your student card is very useful in France !

- You can use it to benefit from student discounts in restaurants, cinemas, shops, and many other places. Make sure to carry it with you when you go out !
- It includes a payment system called « **Izly** » which allows you to pay for services on campus (CROUS restaurants and cafeterias, laundry facilities, printers, etc.)

To activate your Izly account, log in to [site www.izly.fr](http://www.izly.fr) using the temporary password you received by email.

You can then easily add funds to your account by bank transfer. You can also download the « Izly » smartphone application.

Sports and Student Clubs

Géodata Paris has its own student clubs.

These clubs regularly organise events and activities open to all students at the School. Feel free to follow them on social media and contact them if you would like to join.

The university also offers a wide range of sport activities through its SUAPS (University Sports and Physical Activities Service).

Students can register for many activities free of charge, including : fitness, yoga, dance, boxing, tennis, and many others.

For more information : Sport



During your stay in France

I need to see a doctor, dentist, ... How can I make an appointment ?

The Doctolib application makes it easy to book appointments with healthcare professionals. When attending your appointment, please bring your French health insurance registration document, your supplementary health insurance certificate if you have one. To limit additional fees (out-of-pocket expenses), we recommend choosing healthcare professionals who are registered as « conventionné secteur 1 » or « conventionné secteur 2 ». These doctors follow the French healthcare reimbursement system and help avoid unexpected additional charges.

The university also has its own University Health Service (SSU - Service de Santé Universitaire) on campus. Medical Centre. Copernic Building, 5 boulevard Descartes - Champs-sur-Marne ; ssu@univ-eiffel.fr ; +33 (0)1 60 95 74 43.

I have a problem with my residence permit/visa. What should I do ?

Having a valid residence permit is mandatory for studying in France. The procedure must be completed online, at least 3 months before your arrival in France :

[https:// administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur. gouv.fr](https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr)

You will need to pay a 60€ tax stamp (timbre fiscal).

If you experience any visa or residence permit difficulties during your stay in France, please contact : mobilites@geodata-paris.fr

Where can I eat and buy groceries ?

Géodata Paris students have access to several university restaurants on campus, as well as a cafeteria located in the School's main hall.

Several supermarkets are located within walking distance of the School, including : Aldi, Carrefour, etc.

What are the emergency numbers in France ?

15 : SAMU (emergency medical assistance)

112 : European emergency number

17 : Police

18 : Fire and Rescue Services



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