



Study Abroad in France



Higher Education in France

- In France, there are more than 3,500 public and private institutes of higher education. This number includes Universities, Grandes Ecoles and Schools of Art and Architecture.
- French state universities are open to all "bacheliers", that is students who have passed their baccalauréat (or equivalent such as A levels.).
- A first (Bachelor's) degree takes 3 years and is called a Licence. The elite Grandes Ecoles educate about 4% of the French population. Entry requirements to these schools are higher.

Entry Requirements & Application Process

- If you want to start in the first year of a program and you hold a French baccalaureate, you must use the online application system used by French students (APB – admission post-baccalauréat). If you have a different high-school qualification, you should get in touch with the institutions you want to apply to. They may request that you apply directly to them, rather than through the centralized system.
- Grandes écoles and grands établissements have their own application procedures, so it's advisable to get in touch directly to find out what it is required. You can apply to preparatory classes and to some establishments through APB if you want to enter in the first year.
- For applicants from outside the EU, the application procedure will vary depending on whether you are from one of the countries (listed on the website) in which CampusFrance runs the CEF procedure. If you are then you are obliged to use the CEF online application system. Other students should contact the universities to ascertain how to apply.
- Some universities might require you to take an entrance exam; check online prospectuses.
- For courses taught in French, you are required to take a Test de Connaissance de Français

Highest World Rankings

Paris Sciences et Lettres Research University (PSL)(44)

Institut Polytechnique de Paris (49)

Sorbonne University (72)

<https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2022>

Fees

- For Non EU students the cost varies depending on the university (public/private) and course. Expect to pay in the range of €3,000 to €10,000 p.a. plus an administrative charge, though top management schools can charge up to €30,000 p.a.
- EU/EEA and Swiss students will pay € 170 tuition fee per year for an undergraduate degree plus an administrative charge which will bring the cost up by a considerable amount.
- You will pay more to study in France's highly selective grandes écoles and grands établissements.

Visa

European students don't need a visa.

Students from outside the EU, including those from the UK will need to apply for a student visa VLS-TS "étudiant". Students can create a private electronic file on the "[Etudes en France](#)" Platform and follow the instructions.

Working

French law authorises foreign students to an auxiliary work of 964 hours during the year, the equivalent of 60% of the legal work year. It can only be auxiliary income.

Further Information

A comprehensive guide <https://www.campusfrance.org/en>

Test de Connaissance de Français <https://www.ciep.fr/en/tcf>

QS Study guide for France <https://www.topuniversities.com/where-to-study/europe/france/guide#tab=2>