

Dear students,

Congratulations on your admission!

/!\ BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL IN FRANCE

- Make sure your passport is valid for the whole period of your stay in France.
- Take your original birth certificate with you (+ marriage certificate if you're married)
- You will also need an official translation in French of your birth certificate made by a sworn translator (you can do this at the French embassy in your country or once you arrived in France).

LONG STAY STUDENT VISA

- If you are a national of a European Economic Area country (European Union countries (EU), Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you don't need any visa.
- If you are not a national of a European Economic Area country (European Union countries, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you must request a student long stay visa valid as a French residence permit (**VLS-TS** - Visa étudiant Long Séjour valant Titre de Séjour).

This visa allows you to remain in France for one year without needing to request a residence permit. Your visa will need to be approved by the OFII (=the French Immigration and Integration Office) within the first 3 months after your arrival in France on <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>

Visa application:

- Case 1: There is a Campus France space in your country of residence:
Find it on Campus France's website:
<https://www.campusfrance.org/en/espacespusfrance.org/en/espaces> and contact them.
If your country of residence is one of the [44 affected by the study in France procedure](#), register on "[Etudes en France](#)" platform and upload your documents, then Campus France will check your visa application file before submitting it to the French consulate.
- Case 2: There is no Campus France space in your country of residence:
You will make your visa application directly with the French embassy/consulate in your country of residence. Find all information about visa application on https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/welcome-page and your consulate's contact on:
<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/le-ministere-et-son-reseau/annuaires-et-adresses-du-ministere-de-l-europe-et-des-affaires-etrangeres-mae/ambassades-et-consulats-francais-a-l-etranger/>

RESIDENCE PERMIT RENEWAL

If you are already in France and you need to renew your student residence permit, you can do it through Ecole Polytechnique as soon as you get your admission letter.

You will be given the list of required documents and an appointment for your residence permit renewal will be scheduled at sous-prefecture of Palaiseau by your BasiX referent => contact your BasiX referent two months before expiration of your residence permit/visa.

HEALTH INSURANCE

At your arrival in France you'll register with the French public health insurance = *social security* on <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/#/>. It's free and compulsory for all students registered in the French higher education. It's a partial coverage for your medical expenses in France (around 70%) and it can be completed with an extra health insurance = *mutuelle* for a better medical coverage (between 10€ and 40€ per month).

Exemption:

-Students coming from any of the 27 EU countries, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland who are already affiliated to a national health insurance provider, having the European health insurance card (EHIC). This card is free and will give you access to state-provided healthcare during your stay in France under the same conditions and at the same cost as nationals.

-Students from Quebec are exempted of affiliation to the social security upon presentation of Form #SE401Q106.

FRENCH BANK ACCOUNT: You have the possibility to open your French bank account on campus with one of the partner banks of Ecole Polytechnique. You'll need passport + accommodation proof + student card or enrollment certificate. The partner banks come on campus once a week.

FRENCH PHONE NUMBER: As soon as you have your French permanent address you can order a French phone number online and get your sim card by post.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

You should download the RATP, vianavigo or citymapper app on your phone to search for transit routes, timetables, etc.

From the airports to the Campus

From CDG airport (Paris Roissy Charles De Gaulle)

- Take **RER B** in direction of Saint Rémy les chevreuse or Massy Palaiseau or Orsay ville (not Robinson)

Get off at Massy Palaiseau and take bus **91.06** or **91.10** and get off at the bus stop Polytechnique-Lozère. -> It takes a bit more than an hour.

Or get off at Lozère RER B station but you'll have to climb a lot of steps.

From Orly airport

- Take bus **91.10** (terminal west or south level 0) and get off at the bus stop Polytechnique-Lozère. -> It takes around one hour. (There are few buses)
- or take the **orlyval** to Antony and then **RER B** in direction of Saint Rémy les chevreuses or Massy Palaiseau or Orsay ville (not Robinson)

Get off at Massy Palaiseau and take bus **91.06** or **91.10** and get off at the bus stop Polytechnique-Lozère. -> It takes around 40 minutes.

Or get off at Lozère RER B station but you'll have to climb a lot of steps.

FYI: Despite the attractive prices, landing at Beauvais airport (BVA) is not a very good idea, as it is 70km north of Paris, and the main way to get to the campus would be a 1 hour shuttle to Porte Maillot (17 euros ticket for one way), then take the metro and RER B (and finally you will have to climb the Lozère steps or take the bus at Massy Palaiseau).

We look forward to meeting you at Ecole Polytechnique!