

BACHELOR PROGRAM
GUIDE TO
ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE





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September 1, 2017

Dear Bachelor Student,

The entire École Polytechnique community is excited to welcome you in your new school. We designed this brochure to help facilitate your transition to campus and to provide you with some handy information. You might want to hold on to this booklet for a while so that you can use it as a reference tool.

École Polytechnique provides students with a world-renowned education complemented by vibrant student life on campus. The institution's 220+ year history means that our students have long-standing traditions, which you will soon better understand and in which you will participate.

If you need information at any time, please do not hesitate to ask your colleagues, staff or professors. We're all here to help you!

*Best wishes for your first year,
The Bachelor Program*





PRACTICAL INFORMATION

FOOD OPTIONS

The Magnan

This is the main cafeteria. Its opening hours are as follows:

Monday-Friday	
Breakfast	7:30am to 8:30am
Lunch	11:30am to 2:00pm
Dinner	5:30pm to 7:15pm
Saturday	
Breakfast	8:30am to 9:00am
Lunch	12:00pm to 1:30pm
Dinner	6:30pm to 8:00pm
Sunday	
Breakfast	8:00am to 9:00am
Lunch	12:00am to 1:30pm
Dinner	6:30pm to 8:00pm

Over the summer, you should have had the opportunity to load your badge/student ID with money to pay for your meals at the Magnan. If you haven't done so, you can load your card by visiting the cashier's office located by the entrance immediately before entering the cafeteria and pay cash.

Subsequently, you may reload your ID card either with your debit card at the yellow machines located by the entrance to the Magnan, or online.

The Safran

This is a cafe where you can grab a cup of coffee, tea, or enjoy a sandwich, croissant, or a salad. It's the perfect stop for a quick snack or lunch! The inviting space is ideal for meeting up with your friends or colleagues. It's located in the Grand Hall in the upper floor, over the post office.

Note: Your student ID won't be accepted for payment here; you'll have to use cash or debit.

Food Trucks

Food trucks are located in front of the Petit Boncourt/Graduate School (building number 19).

- Monday to Friday: *Chick and Run* which serves chicken kebabs over the lunch hour.
- Monday: American sandwich truck
- Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday: *Au Camion Magique* pizza truck from 7:00-9:30pm. It's best to order your pizzas in advance from the *Au Camion Magique* Facebook page.
- Weekends: *Le Comptoir Gourmand* BBQ truck



BimBimGo

This food delivery service offers quick, homemade meals you can order online or from their app. Fresh and relatively inexpensive, this is a great way to have a delicious meal on the go.

Check out their website here:
<https://www.bimbimgo.com/>

Groceries

There are several small supermarkets near the Lozère train station (300 steps down from campus). When you cross the railroad tracks, turn left, and you'll see a few small grocery shops.

Otherwise, this is a list of large grocery shops near École Polytechnique

► Simply

Supermarket located at Massy-Palaiseau train station open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 9pm, and Sunday from 9:00am to 1:00pm. To get here, take the 91.10 or 91.06 bus to Massy-Palaiseau.

► Cora

Large supermarket open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 9:30pm. There are two ways to get there:

- Take bus 91.10 and get off at “Avenue de l'Europe, centre commercial”.
- Take bus 91.06 and get off at Massy-Palaiseau train station. From there, take bus 399 and get off at “Avenue de l'Europe, centre commercial”.

➤ Auchan

This is a big supermarket in a large mall (<http://villebon2.fr/plan>) open Monday to Saturday from 8:30am to 9:30pm. There are two options to get there:

- Take bus 91.06 or 91.10 and get off at Massy-Palaiseau train station. Take bus DM153 and get off at “La Bre-tèche – Centre Commercial Villebon 2”.
- Take bus 18 from Lozère train station to go directly there (FYI: check the bus schedule because this bus passes infrequently).

On campus grocery shopping is also an option.

There are two student clubs (Binets) that sell food:

➤ ELSE (Épicerie Locale, Solitaire et Éthique).

- This club sells fresh, local products or as well as fair trade goods. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays make sure to take advantage of fresh bread sold in the morning as of 7:30am! You can also find fruits,

vegetables, dairy products (*e.g.* milk, cheese, yogurts), juice, coffee, tea, etc.

- Located in the “Bâtiment des langues” (see map below).
- Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday from 7:30-8:30am and from 6:00-6:45pm.
- Visit their website for more information or to place an order (French-only): <http://else.polytechnique.org/>

➤ Superette

- Superette is a student-run supermarket located in the FOCH building.
- The prices there are slightly higher than in other supermarkets, but it will save you some time!
- You must create an account to make purchases here. To do so, bring a check of 2 euros for the membership fee during your first visit. Subsequently, you can add funds to your account.
- Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 12:30-1:30pm and 5:30 to 6:15pm.

An alternative to traditional grocery shopping is to have your groceries delivered to campus.

➤ Auchandirect.fr:

- Minimum order: 60 euros. For orders under 140 euros, delivery is 9.99 euros; for orders of 180 euros, delivery is 4 euros; and over 180 euros the delivery is free; free delivery for first-time orders.



- Ooshop.com/courses-en-ligne/
 - Order your groceries from Carrefour with this website, and have it delivered. Minimum order: 50 euros. For orders less than 100 euros, delivery is 8 euros; for orders under 150 euros, delivery is 5 euros; and for orders exceeding 150 euros the delivery is free.
- Livraison.simplymarket.fr:
 - Minimum order: 30 euros. For orders under 80 euros, delivery is 14.90 euros; for orders under 130 euros, delivery is 9.90 euros; for orders under 180 euros delivery is 4.90 euros; and over 180 euros the delivery is free; free delivery for first-time orders.
- Houra.fr:
 - Minimum order: 60 euros. For orders under 150 euros delivery is 9.90 euros; for orders under 180 euros delivery is 3.95 euros; and for orders over 180 euros delivery is free.
- Fast food delivery on campus
 - App Allo Resto: This app allows you to place an order online and pick the hour at which you would like it delivered, which can come in handy especially for the non-French speakers. It also provides a wide choice of cuisines, such as Indian, Moroccan, Japanese and Chinese.
 - <https://www.alloresto.fr/>

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS/ITEMS

Cellphones

Once you receive your debit card from your bank, you can get a cellphone plan. There are a few main cellphone plan providers including:

- Free:
 - <http://mobile.free.fr/>
- SFR:
 - <http://www.sfr.fr/>
- Bouygues:
 - <https://www.bouyguetelecom.fr/forfaits-mobiles/forfaits-sans-engagement>
- Orange:
 - <http://www.orange.fr/>

Check out the websites above to see which company's plan suits your needs.

Pharmacies

The nearest pharmacy there is at the bottom of the steps, near the Lozère train station. However there are a lot of other pharmacies in Palaiseau. Google Maps is your best bet to locate them.

FYI: If you're sick it's better to visit a doctor at first. S/he will give you a prescription to buy the most suitable medicine. When purchasing your prescription, the pharmacy provides you with

a document for your insurance. If you send this document, together with the doctor's prescription to your insurance company, you will have part of your expense reimbursed. Please see Appendix A for a list of doctors closest to campus.

Post Office

There is a post office on campus in the middle of the Grand Hall where you can purchase stamps and send your mail.

When packages are sent to you on campus, a paper can be put in your mailbox indicating your package has been sent to the post office in Palaiseau. If there is no sign of either a paper or the package, you should check the storage lockers/package pick-up area just out the Welcome Centre.

Hairdresser

There is a hairdresser located in the Grand Hall. Prices are about 15-17 euros for students (10 euros if you want to shave your head). Opening hours are Monday to Friday from 10 am to 6 pm.

THE LIBRARY

École Polytechnique has a big library where you can find various print materials from comics and novels to scientific papers.

It is located on the first floor (the second floor if you're not used to counting floors as is done in Europe) in the Grand Hall. Your student ID card allows you to check out books; you can check out a maximum of 12 books at the same time. Remember that you have one month to return these books. Otherwise, you can use the Library's website to extend this period to a maximum of 3 months.

The Library's website is <http://www.bibliotheque.polytechnique.edu/>



PUBLIC

Transportation

In Ile-de-France (Paris and suburbs)

Before doing anything, we strongly recommend downloading the RATP app on your phone to search for transit routes, timetables, etc.

École Polytechnique is in a southern suburb of Paris. To get to Paris you have two options:

- Go down the steps from campus to the Lozère train station and take the RER B train.
- Take any of the following buses: 91.10, 91.06B or 91.06C to Massy-Palaiseau train station. From there you can catch the RER B to Paris. FYI: On weekends buses pass infrequently, so check the timetable.

Traveling at night in Ile-de-France:

- The RER stops running around 12:30am; if you are still in Paris then, you have a few options to get back home.
 - Get on the night bus (N122) which departs from the Denfert-Rochereau railway station in Paris. Get off at the “Les Suisses-Lozère RER” bus stop and walk back to campus.
 - Take an Uber, Heetch, or Chauffeur Privé (ride-sharing apps) back to campus.

If you anticipate using public transit frequently, the best option is to purchase an Imagin’R card, which costs 341.90€ (including 8€ of administrative fees) and lets you travel in Ile-de-France for the whole year (so you would be paying roughly 27€/month, which is half the price of the usual transport card called Navigo). This program is only available to students, and the easiest way to get one is to go to the RATP information counter at the Massy-Palaiseau train station.

If you plan to use public transit more occasionally, you should purchase a booklet of 10 “Tickets T+”, which can be purchased at any train or metro station. Beware of buying these on the bus will cost twice as much as in a metro/train station. These tickets are only valid in Paris.

On the weekend, you can purchase a “Ticket Jaune” which is available in different zones, so if you’re coming from campus, you’ll want to purchase one for zones 1-5. This ticket can be used for multiple trips taken during the day it was purchased. For more information, visit the RATP website: <https://www.ratp.fr/en/titres-et-tarifs/t-tickets>.



Traveling Outside of Ile-de-France

There are several options to travel beyond Ile-de-France; one of the cheapest is the bus. Several companies in Europe offer alternatives to the train; some popular ones are:

- <http://fr.ouibus.com/fr>
- www.isilines.fr
- www.flixbus.fr

Traveling by bus can take more time than you would expect; a quicker option might be the train. More information is available here: <https://www.voyages-sncf.com/>

Flying is another option. The easiest airport to reach from campus is Orly Airport. It is accessible on campus via the 91.10 bus that brings you directly to Orly. Avoid taking the shuttle from Anthony train station unless there are no more buses.

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/from 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).

SIGHTSEEING



The Paris Passes (Tourism)

There are several types of Paris passes; here is a description of the most commonly purchased ones:

- The full Paris pass includes all the advantages of the Paris museum pass and the Paris attraction pass, as well as the metro pass that grants unlimited access to the metro, RER and all other types of public transport, and a free tourist guide explaining the points of interest in Paris. The pass costs 129€ for 2 days, 159€ for 3 days, and 229€ for 6 days.
- The Carte Paris Musées grants access to the museums for 1 full year for 43 euros. The main advantage of the pass is that it lets you cut the line to enter the museums. To purchase it, please visit the following website: <http://www.fnacspectacles.com/place-spectacle/Musees---Expositions/Pass-visites---musees-p2095389364080935872.htm>
For more information on these passes, visit <https://www.parispass.fr/>

is the opportunity to meet students from different universities/backgrounds. To take part in these events at a reduced price, you have to buy a YEP member card (10 euros/ per year, see the website for details), but if you want to join only occasionally you can join their events by paying a regular-priced ticket. <https://www.facebook.com/YouthEventsInParis/> and <http://www.youtheventsinparis.com/>

Paris on a Budget

There are several websites offering free or cheap invites to events, some of which are listed below:

- <http://www.meetmeout.fr/>
- <https://www.timeout.fr/paris>
- <http://www.parisinfo.com/decouvrir-paris/guides-thematiques/paris-a-petits-prix>
- <http://www.paris-friendly.fr/soiree-paris/pas-cher>
- <http://guideduparisien.fr/guide/consommer/paris-gratuit-bons-plans/>
- <http://en.parisinfo.com/discovering-paris/themed-guides/paris-for-free>

YEP: Youth Events in Paris

This is a special organization that plans events and weekend trips to different places in France at a very low price, and

Cinemas also provide a great entertainment option. The cheapest cinemas in Paris are the mK2 cinemas (*e.g.* Beaubourg, Gobelins and Bibliothèque); each ticket costs 4.90 euros for student less



than 26 years of age. If you want to know if the movie you want to watch is available in English, look for the VOSTFR or VO movies (Original Version).

Massy & Palaiseau

There are some fun activities located around campus in Massy and Palaiseau. For tourist information, check out these sites:

- <http://www.tourisme-massy.com/en>
- <http://www.tourisme-massy.com/en/living-in-massy/shops-businesses.php>

Information on concerts and cultural events in the area can be located here:

- <http://paul-b.fr/>
- <http://www.culture-palaiseau.fr/>

There is also the La Vague Aquatic Center located minutes from campus which offers a variety of indoor pools and water activities including aquagym and aquabiking. To get here, take the 91.06 or 91.10 bus from campus towards Palaiseau and get off at Camille Claudel stop (only 2 stops from École Polytechnique!).
<http://www.lavague-caps.com/>

STUDENT

Services

There are numerous student services offered all over campus. This is a list of the most common ones.

- **Housing Office:** This is the unit that oversees your on-campus accommodation. They can also help you with managing your CAF allowance, which is the monthly housing allowance you may be eligible to receive from the French government. They should also be informed if you have any issues with your residence (e.g. heating, electricity, water, etc.).
- **Bureau des Badges:** This office is responsible for your badge/student ID. Your student ID provides you access to a variety of locations on campus, so don't lose it! If you do, you can get a new one by visiting this office and paying 15 euros.
- **Caisse Centrale:** You can load your student ID (or badge) with money to use at the Magnan. If you forget your badge, you can also purchase a ticket for 6 euros for lunch.
- **Direction des Systèmes d'Informations (IT):** The IT department, better known by its acronym, DSI, can help you resolve issues with the email address you receive from École Polytechnique, wifi connection, etc.

STUDENT DISCOUNTS

ISIC Card

The ISIC card on the back of your student ID provides you with additional discounts, both in France and abroad. In order to have access to it, please make sure that your student ID number is printed on your card.

More information is available here: <http://www.isic.fr/reductions-en-france/>

HELPFUL

Links

All students receive an email address from École Polytechnique (@polytechnique.edu) upon arrival. You will use it to log into various websites operated by École Polytechnique. As soon as you receive your email address, test it out by visiting this link: <https://webmail.polytechnique.fr/>

You can use this account for:

- X App
 - Download the X app on your phone. It's a great resource that you can use to locate where you are on campus (and how to get elsewhere), check public transit timetables, determine what's being served at the Magnan, etc.
- The Info Kès, or IK (<https://ik.frankiz.net>)
 - The IK is the students' newspaper which is published on Wednesdays. The newspaper keeps you up-to-date on current events at École Polytechnique. Any student can write in the IK, even in English, so do not hesitate to write about your impressions since you've arrived or any other topic that inspires you. Please send your submissions to ik@eleves.polytechnique.fr on Mondays before 11:00pm.
- Enex (<https://enex.polytechnique.fr>)
 - This is the online timetable of your classes and exams. You can login to see your course schedule, course locations, etc.
- Online course component (<https://moodle.polytechnique.fr>)
 - Moodle is an online platform in which you can find information about your classes. Professors often post presentations, reading and other course materials that are covered in class on this platform.
- Interactive Campus Map (http://softs.polytechnique.fr/cpm/avant_projets/plans/plan_pc_amphis.html)
 - This is a helpful tool to find your way around.
- Facebook Group
 - If you haven't already joined, you'll want to check out your cohort's Facebook group entitled "École Polytechnique Bachelor Program 2017".

SPORTS



École Polytechnique offers a variety of sport options on campus. A convenient way to take advantage of the options is to join the Sports Club (CSX). The club welcomes anyone!

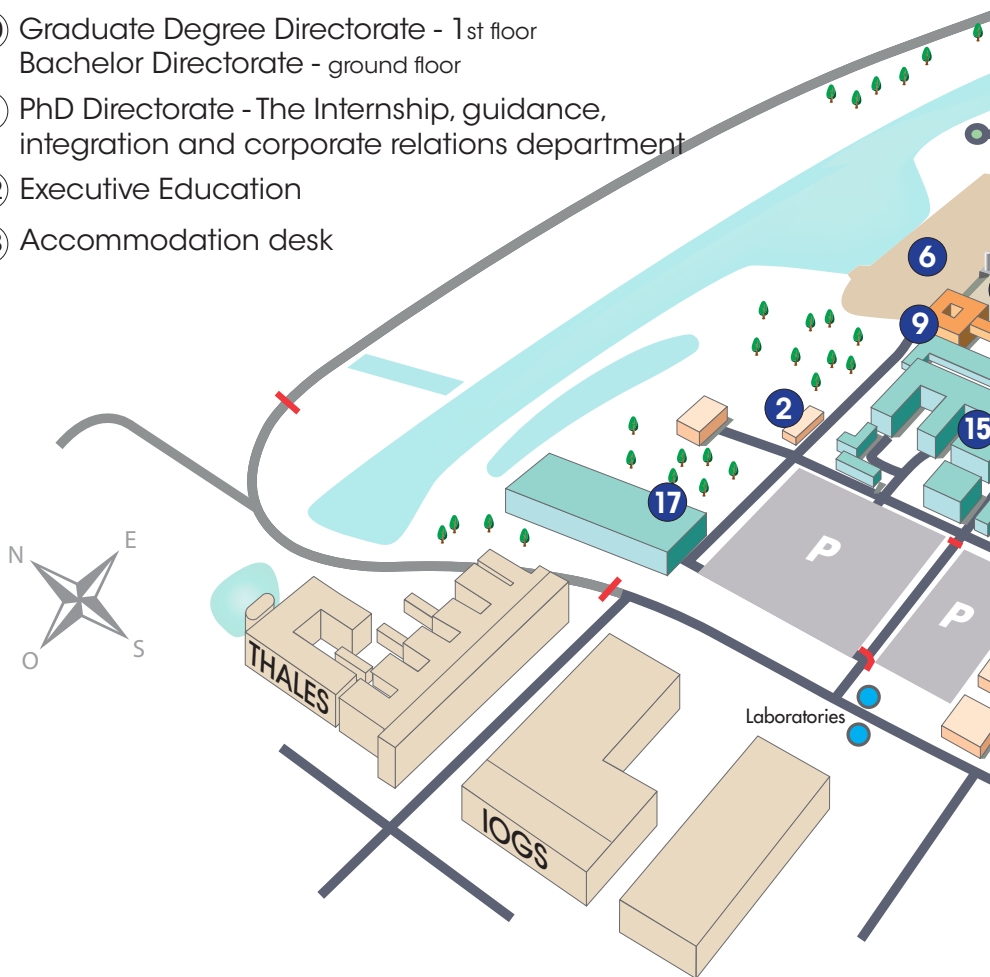
You'll find additional details here:
<http://csx.polytechnique.fr/>



Appendix A: General Doctors closest to Campus

LAST NAME First Name	Address	Telephone	English Speaking Y/ N
BROQUET Didier	84 rue Maurice Berthaux – 91120 Palaiseau	01 69 31 04 20	N
CHABRERIE Elise	7 avenue du 8 mai 1945 – 91120 Palaiseau	01 60 14 53 03	Y
CHAUMONT Patrick	4 rue Charles Péguy – 91120 Palaiseau	06 12 92 88 83	Y
CORTINOVIS Sébastien	7 avenue du 8 mai 1945 – 91120 Palaiseau	01 60 14 53 03	Y
DEKINDT Christophe	50 boulevard de Lozère – 91120 Palaiseau	01 69 79 22 81	N
DONGUY Elsa	7 avenue du 8 mai 1945 – 91120 Palaiseau	01 60 14 53 03	Y
DUMOND Frédéric	Cabinet médical 29 avenue de Stalingrad – 91120 Palaiseau	01 69 20 01 15	Y
EVRRARD-LAVERDURE Dominique	Cabinet médical 29 avenue de Stalingrad – 91120 Palaiseau	01 69 20 11 28	Y
GHASAROSSIAN Christian	7 rue Pasteur – 91120 Palaiseau	01 60 14 00 19	Y
HAYKAL Diala	49T rue de Paris 91120 PALAISEAU	01 60 10 64 55	N
KLEIN Stéphane	4A résidence du Val 91120 PALAISEAU	01 60 14 09 90	Y
LAM Stéphanie	49T rue de Paris 91120 PALAISEAU	01 60 10 64 55	Y
LESAGE Guillaume	1 rue Jean Caffant – 91120 Palaiseau	01 85 41 09 10	N
TESSIER Alain	Cabinet médical 29 avenue de Stalingrad – 91120 Palaiseau	01 69 20 01 15	Y

- ① **Reception**
- ② Reception Deliveries
- ③ Lecture halls
- ④ Academic library
- ⑤ Aquatic and sports center
- ⑥ Court of Ceremonies
- ⑦ Vaneau Court
- ⑧ Examination Directorate
- ⑨ Directorate-General - Boncourt
- ⑩ Graduate Degree Directorate - 1st floor
Bachelor Directorate - ground floor
- ⑪ PhD Directorate - The Internship, guidance,
integration and corporate relations department
- ⑫ Executive Education
- ⑬ Accommodation desk
- ⑭ Main Hall
- ⑮ Laboratories / Departments
- ⑯ LA FIBRE ENTREPRENEUR
Drahi - X Novation Center
- ⑰ LIX, Inria, MSR - Alain Turing Building
- ⑱ Applied Optics Laboratory
- ⑲ Rescue center
- ⑳ Restaurant
- ㉑ Guest House





Maquette-impression  **poly-media**

Photos:
thinkstock 2017
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