

## F.A.Q. VISA

The F.A.Q. VISA is intended for international researchers wishing to stay at EHESS and international students who have been admitted and/or already enrolled as part of a supervised mobility, study programme or research stay. It answers to the most frequently asked questions concerning the application or renewal of a visa or a residence permit.

### **Covid-19 Information**

#### **If you need to apply for a visa at the French embassy or consulate:**

Visa applications for students are treated as a priority. Consular activities are maintained, but the flow of file processing may be slowed down. Please, contact the competent services in your country for more details.

The [France-visas website](#) is still open.

#### **You are currently in France, your residence permit expired during the first lockdown, and you wish to renew it?**

Following the first confinement, the residence permits having expired between 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 have been automatically extended for a period of 6 months. This concerns long-stay visas, residence permits, receipts and provisional residence permits. If your extended permit is now expiring, you must go through the regular procedure renewal (online or by appointment).

The [Paris Police Prefecture](#) details the steps to be taken in its FAQ.

During the November confinement period, the Prefecture's services remain open and reception is by appointment only. There is no provision for automatic renewal.

#### **Would you like to apply for a visa for France when you are not in your home country?**

Important, if you are in France but your current visa does not authorise a change of status or a renewal of your residence permit, you cannot apply for a visa from France. You will need to leave the Schengen area when your visa expires and re-apply.

## **Covid-19 Information - suite**

### **Does your residence permit expire and are you unable to obtain an appointment at the Prefecture, or is the proposed date later than the expiry date of your permit?**

Please note that the procedures for renewing a student residence permit have changed since September 2020: [the application is an online procedure](#).

If your application is not eligible for the dematerialised system, then you must make an appointment with the Préfecture de police attached to your place of residence. Given the current situation, making an appointment online at the Prefecture is sometimes inaccessible. You must return to the site regularly to make an appointment. If you are still unable to obtain an appointment date when your residence permit expires, do not hesitate to keep the proof of your steps (screenshots with date) for prove your good faith.

### **You have obtained your Visa and are preparing your arrival in France, but you do not know what measures related to the Covid-19 crisis you must take to be able to enter the territory?**

International students and visiting researchers from countries classified as Covid-19 active traffic zones are exempted from the entry ban. However, certain procedures will have to be carried out to ensure their safe and sound arrival. You will find all the details on the [Campus France website](#).

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➔ For more details, you can consult the information given by the [Ministère de l'Intérieur](#). The information is also available [in several languages](#).

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## You are an international student accepted for a study period under the ERASMUS + programme or under a bilateral agreement

### 1. How do I know if I need a visa to come and study in France?

*(a) I am a student from a country of the European Economic Area (countries of the European Union and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or from Switzerland*

If you are a citizen of a European Economic Area country (European Union countries and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you do not need a student visa. You can freely enter French territory whatever the length of your study stay. In case of any doubt, you can carry out a simulation on the [official website of visas for France](#).

*(b) I am not a student from a country of the European Economic Area (countries of the European Union and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or from Switzerland*

It is important that you are well informed about your situation in order to, if necessary, submit the correct visa application. To do so, we invite you to consult the [official website of visas for France](#). This website contains all the information you need to prepare and submit your visa application. During this process, you will be asked for a letter of admission from the School. This letter will be sent to you by the coordinator as soon as the school accepts your application. Depending on your country of origin, please note that you will have to go through the procedure "Études en France." (see question 2).

**Please note:** Each student has his/her own specificities (country/profile/course), so procedures may be different from one student to another.

### 2. I have been invited to create an account on the "Études en France" platform. What is the purpose of this platform?

If you have received a request to create an account on the "Études en France" platform, it means that you reside in one of the 43 countries covered by the "Studies in France" procedure. This step is mandatory and will be used to prepare your visa application for your studies. Please prepare your supporting documents (diplomas, transcripts, French language certification if you have any), and the admission letter that EHESS will have sent you. Your visa application will be automatically transmitted to the French consular authorities of your country of residence via this platform.

The countries concerned by this procedure are : Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Russia, Senegal, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United States and Vietnam.

### 3. Is there a service dedicated to supporting students in managed mobility for the EHESS visa process?

Students in managed mobility must take the necessary steps themselves at the consulate or the French Embassy in their country of origin or through the "Études en France" platform. However, our international mobility coordinator is at your disposal to help you if you encounter any difficulties.

Emeline GRONDIN, International Mobility Officer  
Mail: [emeline.grondin@ehess.fr](mailto:emeline.grondin@ehess.fr)  
Phone : +33 1 49 54 23 03  
Address: Office 9-06, 54 boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris

### 4. How much does a visa application or a residence permit cost?

The amount to be paid for the processing of a visa application is different in each country. You can inquire about the price of a student visa at the French consulate or embassy in your home country. Please note that the amount is not refunded even if the visa is refused. In addition, you will have to pay a visitor's tax which is added to the visa fee when your student visa is validated upon your arrival in France. The amount is 60 euros to be paid in the form of a tax stamp.

### 5. Do I have to do any renewal procedures?

The maximum duration of a mobility within the framework of a bilateral agreement and Erasmus + at EHESS is 1 year. You will not, consequently, have to carry out any renewal procedure throughout the duration of your mobility.

### 6. Does my visa allow me to work during my study period at EHESS?

If you have a residence permit mentioning "student" or if you are a national of a country that does not require a visa, then you can freely exercise a part-time professional activity

(corresponding to 60% of the normal working time) for the duration of your stay without any additional steps. Please note that the authorized working time is proportional to the duration of your studies. For a study stay of 6 months, you are authorized to work a maximum of 482 hours. For a one-year study period, you are authorized to work 964 hours. Please note that a derogation is necessary if you wish to work more than the authorized hours.

Please note that working as a student does not entitle you to unemployment benefit.

**Please note:** Algerian students are only allowed to work 50% of the normal working hours.

## You are an international student accepted for a course of study at EHESS (EHESS Diploma, Master, PhD) or in open doctoral research

### 1. How do I know if I need a visa to come and study in France?

*(a) I am a student from a country of the European Economic Area (European Union countries and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or Switzerland.*

If you are a citizen of a European Economic Area country (European Union countries and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you do not need a student visa. You can freely enter French territory whatever the length of your study stay. In case of any doubt, you can carry out a simulation on the [official website of visas for France](#).

*(b) I am not a student from a country of the European Economic Area (European Union countries and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or Switzerland*

It is important to be well informed about your situation and then submit the right visa application. To do so, we invite you to consult the [official website of visas for France](#). This website contains all the information you need to prepare and submit your student visa application. During this process, you will be asked for a letter of admission from the School. This letter will be sent to you by the school's admissions department as soon as the school accepts your application.

Several types of visa allow you to study in France. However, we would like to inform you that **the long-stay visa with a "student" status, or VLS-TS, is the most common visa to study in France.**

**Please note:** Each student has his/her own specificities (country/profile/course), so procedures may be different from one student to another.

## 2. Is there a service dedicated to assisting students with visa procedures and the renewals of residence permits at EHESS?

The school does not have a department dedicated to assisting students in obtaining a visa or renewing their residence permit. The visa application must be made by yourself. Furthermore, the School will never ask you to provide proof of a visa or residence permit at the time of your administrative or pedagogical registration. **It is your full responsibility to be in compliance with French regulation throughout the duration of your studies.**

## 3. I have been invited to create an account on the "Études en France" platform. What is the purpose of this platform?

If you have received a request to create an account on the "Études en France" platform, it means that you reside in one of the 43 countries covered by the "Studies in France" procedure. This step is mandatory and will be used to prepare your visa application for your studies. Please prepare your supporting documents (diplomas, transcripts, French language certification if you have any), and the proof of enrolment that EHESS will have sent you. Your visa application will be automatically transmitted to the French consular authorities of your country of residence via this platform.

The countries concerned by this procedure are : Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Russia, Senegal, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United States and Vietnam.

## 4. How much does a visa application or a residence permit cost?

The amount to be paid for the processing of a visa application is different in each country. You can inquire about the price of a student visa at the French consulate or embassy in your home country. Please note that the amount is not refunded even if the visa is refused. In addition, you will have to pay a visitor's tax which is added to the visa fee when your student visa is validated upon your arrival in France. The amount is 79 euros to be paid in the form of a tax stamp.

## 5. What procedures do I need to complete upon arrival in France?

The long-stay visa (VLS-TS) with the mention "student" must be validated as soon as you arrive and **no later than 3 months after your arrival in France**. It is a procedure that is carried out entirely online. Please note that it is during this step that you will have to pay the tourist tax.

**Please note:** You can freely enter and leave French territory during the 3 months following your arrival, without needing a visa. Beyond these 3 months, if you have not validated your VLS-TS, you will have to apply for a new visa to return to France.

For more information, we invite you to consult the section [“How to validate your long-stay visa upon your arrival in France?”](#) section of the Campus France website.

## 6. Where do I have to do the procedures to renew my VLS-TS permit?

Since September 2020, an experimental system has been in place to carry out [renewal procedures online](#).

If your application is not eligible for the dematerialised system, then you must make an appointment with the Préfecture de police attached to your place of residence. Given the current situation, online appointment scheduling at the Prefecture is sometimes inaccessible. You must return to the site regularly to make an appointment. If you are still unable to obtain an appointment date when your residence permit expires, do not hesitate to keep proof of your application (screenshots with date) to prove your good faith.

You can find out which Prefecture you depend on [here](#).

## 7. My residence permit is expiring, I would like to renew it but I can't get an appointment, or the date proposed by the Prefecture is several weeks later than the end date of my residence permit.

Since September 2020, the procedures for the renewal of the student residence permit are online. It is recommended that you start the process two months before your current residence permit expires. This is now the easiest way to renew your residence permit. When you submit your application, you will be offered an appointment. The date on which you submit your application is the start of the renewal procedure, which ensures that you are legally resident in France even after your residence permit has expired.

If you are not eligible for the dematerialised procedure, then you need to make an appointment at the Préfecture de Police in your place of residence. This appointment

with the Prefecture is the start of the renewal procedure, which ensures that you are legally present on French territory even after your residence permit has expired.

**Please note:** We advise you to apply for renewal at least two months before your residence permit expires.

#### 8. Can I leave the country while I am applying for renewal of my residence permit?

**You can only travel if you are in possession of your residence permit renewal receipt.** When you travel, make sure you have a valid passport and the permit to be renewed (this must be presented with the receipt in case of an inspection). In addition, you must return to French territory before your receipt expires.

#### 9. Does my visa allow me to work during my study period at EHESS?

If you have a residence permit mentioning "student" or if you are a national of a country that does not require a visa, then you can freely exercise a part-time professional activity (corresponding to 60% of the normal working time) for the duration of your stay without any additional steps. Please note that the authorized working time is proportional to the duration of your studies. For a study stay of 6 months, you are authorized to work a maximum of 482 hours. For a one-year study period, you are authorized to work 964 hours.

Please note that a derogation is necessary if you wish to work more than the authorized hours. This derogation is only possible in certain circumstances. For more information, please consult the dedicated website [here](#).

Please note that working as a student does not entitle you to unemployment benefit.

**Please note:** Algerian students are only allowed to work 50% of the normal working hours.

#### 10. I have to do a compulsory internship as part of my university course at EHESS, do I need to carry out an additional procedure or change my residence permit during my internship?

Since a traineeship is compulsory as part of your university course, your 'student' residence permit allows you to complete your traineeship legally and without carrying out any additional procedures or changing your status.

Please note that traineeships are subject to a compulsory legal allowance beyond 2 months. Moreover, the hours of the traineeship, even if gratified, are not considered as a professional activity and therefore you can continue to work part-time for the duration of your traineeship.

The School's Service d'aide à l'insertion professionnelle (SAIP) is at your disposal for any further questions concerning the terms of the traineeship.

Service d'aide à l'insertion professionnelle (SAIP)

Web page: <https://www.ehess.fr/fr/effectuer-stage-durant-%C3%A9tudes>

E-mail address: [saip@ehess.fr](mailto:saip@ehess.fr) Telephone: 01 49 54 24 70.

11. I have completed my studies and obtained a diploma from EHESS. I now wish to work in France, which visa allows me to stay?

You have signed an employment contract within 2 months before the expiry date of your student residence permit. You can then apply for a residence permit for employees or temporary workers. If you have not found a job within this period, you can apply for a temporary residence permit (APS) or a "Job seeker / New business creator" residence permit (RECE) to continue your search. This will be valid for a maximum of 12 months and is not renewable.

For more information, we invite you to consult the section "[L'autorisation provisoire de séjour, or APS](#)" and [RECE](#) sections on the Campus France website.

12. I would like to enrol in APD (Preparatory Year for PhD) and I need to renew my residence permit.

Given the unique conditions of APD, the renewal of the residence permit is not guaranteed for students enrolling in this course of study. However, the APD is increasingly recognised by the Prefecture and applications are increasingly validated. It is therefore encouraged to apply for the renewal of your student residence permit while you are enrolled in APD.

## You are a foreign student, doctoral student or researcher wishing to carry out a research stay at EHESS

1. How do I know if I need a visa to come and study in France?

It is important to be well informed about your situation and then submit the right visa application. To do so, we invite you to consult [the official website for visas for France](#). This site gathers all the information that the student needs to prepare and submit his visa application.

Attention: Please note that each student has his or her own specificities (country/profile/course), the procedures may therefore be different from one student, researcher to another.

1bis. *Am I eligible for the "passeport talent" residence permit?*

You are eligible if:

- You are a doctoral student registered only in France or you are preparing a thesis in cotutelle (registration in France + in a foreign country), **and** you have a French work contract (doctoral contract, CIFRE contract, PAUSE funding contract ...).
- You are a doctoral student and you come to do a part of your doctoral research in a French university or institution of higher education, without being registered in France as a doctoral student. In this case, you must benefit from funding or a grant from your government or the French government.
- You are a post-doctoral scholar with a grant from your government or a young researcher at EHESS.
- You are a visiting researcher or teacher-researcher and have funding for your research or your own financial resources.

For more information, we invite you to consult our [dedicated page](#).

## 2. [Is there a service dedicated in assisting students and researchers with visa procedures and the renewal of residence permits at EHESS?](#)

If you are in your country of origin, you must complete the procedures yourself at the French consulate or embassy in your country of origin. However, our international mobility officers are at your disposal to assist you if you encounter difficulties and will provide you with the hosting agreement, a document required to apply for a visa.

The International Department of the School is your primary contact at the Paris Prefecture of Police. It is in charge of preparing, sending and following up your application for the renewal of a "passeport talent" residence permit.

To apply, please contact the international department at the contact details below:

Camille AMAT, International Mobility Officer  
Emeline GRONDIN, International Mobility Officer

Mail: [convention-titresdesejour@ehess.fr](mailto:convention-titresdesejour@ehess.fr)

### 3. How much does a visa application or a residence permit cost?

The amount to be paid for the processing of a visa application is different in each country. You can find out about the price of the visa requested from the French consulate or embassy in your home country. Please note that the amount is not refunded even if the visa is refused. In addition, you will have to pay a tourist tax when your "passeport talent" visa is validated upon your arrival in France. You will have to pay a residence tax of 269 euros in the form of a tax stamp for a stay of more than 3 months.

### 4. Where do I have to complete the procedures of renewal?

The International Department of the School is your primary contact at the Paris Police Prefecture. It is in charge of preparing, sending and following up your application for the renewal of your "passeport talent" residence permit.

To make a request, please contact the international department at the contact details below.

Camille AMAT, International Mobility Officer  
Emeline GRONDIN, International Mobility Officer

Mail : [convention-titresdesejour@ehess.fr](mailto:convention-titresdesejour@ehess.fr)

### 5. My residence permit is expiring, I would like to renew it but I can't get an appointment, or the date proposed by the Prefecture is several weeks later than the end date of my residence permit.

The most important step is to start the process before your residence permit expires. Simply making an appointment with the prefecture is the first step in the renewal process. This will ensure that you are in a legal status on French territory even after the expiry of your residence permit.

**Please note:** We advise you to apply for renewal at least two months before your residence permit expires.

### 6. Can I leave the country while I am applying for renewal of my residence permit?

**You can only travel if you are in possession of your residence permit renewal receipt.** When you travel, make sure you have a valid passport and the permit to be renewed (this must be presented with the receipt in case of an inspection). In addition, you must return to French territory before your receipt expires.

7. I completed my research stay and graduated from EHESS. I now wish to work in France, which visa allows me to stay?

You have signed an employment contract within 2 months before the expiry date of your student residence permit. You can then apply for a residence permit for employees or temporary workers. If you have not found a job within this period, you can apply for a temporary residence permit (APS) or a "Job seeker / New business creator" residence permit (RECE) to continue your search. This will be valid for a maximum of 12 months and is not renewable.

For more information, we invite you to consult the section "[L'autorisation provisoire de séjour, or APS](#)" and [RECE](#) sections on the Campus France website.

## To go further

If you have any doubts about your rights or eligibility for a visa, we invite you to consult the trusted websites below:

Campus France : <https://www.campusfrance.org/en>

Acc&s Paris Centre : <https://access.ciup.fr/access-paris-centre/>

France-Visas : [https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en\\_US/web/france-visas/](https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/)

French Administration : <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2231>