

INDEPENDENT, HDAP ALLÉGÉ, DOCTORAL STUDENTS PRE-CONSULAR GUIDE

All student visa applicants from the U.S. must submit a pre-consular Etudes en France application prior to applying for a visa.

Your EEF application will be reviewed by a Campus France USA advisor in either 3 days (Expedited Service) or 3 weeks (Regular Service)

Your Visa application will be reviewed by the Visa Service of the French Consulate in Washington DC . Review takes 3 weeks from the VFS appointment date.

Prepare for your studies in France.

10-12 WEEKS

BEFORE DEPARTURE

Complete an Etudes en France Pre-Consular application and pay the application fee by following the instructions in this Guide. The earlier the better.

7 WEEKS

BEFORE DEPARTURE

Receive your Campus France Confirmation Email, complete a visa application on France-Visas, and go to your in-person visa appointment at a VFS Center.

4 WEEKS

BEFORE DEPARTURE

Typically you will receive your visa around 3 weeks after your VFS appointment date. The processing may take longer if your application is incomplete. Do not leave your visa application to the last minute, we suggest planning to receive your visa at least several weeks before your program start date.

DEPARTURE DATE

INDEPENDENT, HDAP ALLÉGÉ, DOCTORAL

Application Overview

1

GATHER DOCUMENTS

- Scan of passport or other official photo ID (ensure file size is under 300kb)
- Headshot
- A statement of motivation (English or French)
- Official acceptance letter for your study abroad program (ensure file size is under 300kb)
- Résumé/CV
- Copy of most recent diploma earned

2

COMPLETE ETUDES EN FRANCE APPLICATION

This guide will help you complete the simple, pre-consular application required for all international students going to France.

3

PAY CAMPUS FRANCE FEE

To begin the review of your application, you will pay the application fee of \$250 for regular 3-week processing, or \$390 for expedited 3-day processing. Paying the fee allows the Campus France USA team to begin to review your application. You will pay the application fee on this link: www.usa.campusfrance.org/paying-the-etudes-en-france-application-fee

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REVIEW + CONFIRMATION

Once your Etudes en France pre-consular application is reviewed (either in 3 days for the expedited service, or 3 weeks for the regular service) you will receive a confirmation email from our team. Print this confirmation email and bring it to your visa appointment. Also, you will print an electronic acceptance letter PDF generated by the application.



Gather Documents



Passport or ID	You may provide a scan of a valid passport or other government-issued photo ID. Please note that you will need a valid passport to apply for a visa. If you are a citizen of a country other than the US, please also provide a proof of legal status in the US (permanent residence card, student visa, etc.) as well as your passport. Prepare a clear digital copy of your passport or ID in color as a JPEG under 300kb.
Headshot	Find or take a headshot, the file should be 50kb max. It can be a passport-style photo or simply a cropped photo of your face.
Statement of Motivation	This is a very brief statement of your motivation for your program in France, written in English or French. It should be a maximum of 1,500 characters.
Acceptance Letter	Needs to be on institutional letterhead, include a signature and/or stamp of an administrator, and include the exact dates of your program in France.
Resume	An updated resume that includes your most recent academic and professional achievements. Prepare this document and then save it as a JPEG under 300kb.
Transcripts and/or Diploma	You will be required to scan and upload your most recent official transcripts and/or a copy of the most recent Degree or diploma you have earned. Only one is required, but you may submit both if you wish.



Gather and prepare documents in advance

Have documents ready before you begin the application. Also, ensure all documents are correctly sized before uploading. Your headshot needs to be under 50kb. All other documents you upload need to be under 300kb each. You should upload documents as legible JPGs, do not upload PDFs. To transform a PDF, you can take a screen shot of the document and upload it as a JPG under 300kb.

Prepare your headshot

It is best to have someone take a clear photo of you against a light background. It can also be a clear cropped photo of your face. The photo does not have to be perfect or meet any strict dimensions, but this is a photo that the visa service and the Campus France USA team sees and so it should present you well. As a reminder, as part of the visa application later you will be required to submit a passport-style photo.

Follow instructions

The EEF platform is designed for all types of students, many of whom apply to degree programs through the platform. You may see the opportunity to upload a CV, transcripts, test scores, and more. These are NOT required for study abroad and exchange students, so please skip those steps and only include the documents listed in this Guide.

Check your passport

Student visa applicants must have a passport that will be valid for at least 90 days after the end date of your program in France. If you don't have a passport, or if your passport will expire before then, apply for a new passport right away. Your passport must also have two consecutive blank visa pages that are side by side (like looking at an open book) plus a third blank page for an immigration sticker. Endorsement pages are not considered visa pages. If your passport is full, you will need to renew it. If you are a citizen of a country other than the US, upload a copy of your proof of legal status in the US (permanent resident card, etc.) as well as your passport.

Ensure your Acceptance Letter meets requirements

Your Acceptance Letter must include the following:

- Your full name
- Exact start and end dates (day, month, and year) of the academic program in France. Approximate dates are not accepted.
- Full contact information for the individual administrator, faculty member, or program director issuing the letter
- Signature or stamp of the institution
- Full address of the institution that will host or manage the program in France
- If there are multiple institutions involved in facilitating your study program in France, every institution and its role needs to be clearly indicated on your Acceptance letter.
- The letter needs to be on institutional letterhead

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Complete Application

Tips

- The Etudes en France application platform is optimized for Firefox. If you have trouble accessing the application or have any technical issues, use Firefox after clearing the cache of your browser.
- Use the Etudes en France messaging system to contact Campus France USA with questions during your application process.



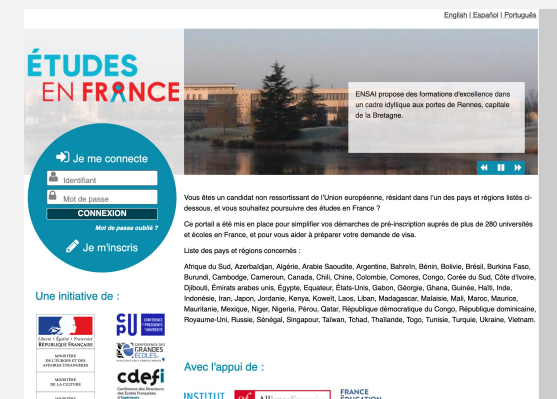
Video Tutorial

Creating an account on
Etudes en France



Video Tutorial

Completing an Etudes en
France Application
(Independent, HDAP Allégé,
Doctoral Pre-Consular
Students)



Access Application

[Etudes en France Application](#)
[Log-In](#)

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Pay Fee

Visit usa.campusfrance.org/pay-the-etudes-en-france-application-fee and pay the application fee of either \$250 USD for regular review or \$390 for expedited review.

Regular review ensures your application, if complete, will be reviewed within three weeks of payment submission. Expedited review ensures your application, if complete, will be reviewed within three days of payment submission. All incomplete application or applications with errors in any documents submitted may require a longer review period. Paying the application fee after submitted your completed Etudes en France application allows Campus France USA to begin the review of your application.

Expedited review is NOT available for Independent and Doctoral Students.

Expedited review is only available as an option for HDAP Allégé Students (those who have been accepted into a full undergraduate or graduate degree program in France).

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Review & Confirmation

Campus France USA will review your application within the stated period.

Independent and Doctoral students will be contacted for a brief phone interview within the review period. Please be available by phone during the review period of your application.

When your application has been reviewed and validated, you will receive a confirmation email (in French or in English, depending on the language in which you completed the application).

You will need to print this email and bring it with you to your visa appointment, it is required in order to apply for a student visa.

In addition to the Confirmation Email, you will also need an Etudes en France Electronic Acceptance letter to complete your student visa application.

Once you receive your Confirmation email, you may log back into your Etudes en France account. From the Welcome page, click on your application tab: 'Already Accepted' (Pre-Consular Applicants). Click on Step 1 – Finalize the procedure. The PDF icon for the Acceptance Letter will be under the Main Study Program section. This PDF is generated when Campus France USA has completed the review of the Etudes en France application. Depending on your application type, the document will be entitled 'Confirmation d'acceptation' or 'Accord préalable d'inscription'.

FAQs

Independent, HDAP Allégé & Doctoral

How do I know if my application is being processed?

When we receive the application fee, we will validate that payment within 1-2 business days. When we validate the payment, you will receive an Email message via the *Etudes en France* platform that reads: "Your Payment of \$250/\$390 has been processed." This message will also include a PDF of your payment receipt. If you receive this message, this means that your application is in the pipeline and will be processed within the 3-day or 3-week review timeline.

How can I check the status of my application?

Due to the volume of students with whom we work and the capacities of the *Etudes en France* platform, real time updates on application processing are not possible. If your application was not reviewed within the 3-day or 3-week processing timeline, or if you have another question about your application, please contact us via the *Etudes en France* messaging tool.

I'm having trouble creating my Eef Account. What should I do?

We suggest using an email address NOT ending in .edu, as university email servers sometimes have security issues with the *Etudes en France* platform. An email with a link to create a password and activate your account is automatically sent to your email address. Note that the email may be in your spam folder/s and that the activation link expires within 24 hours. If you believe that you have not received the activation email, you will need to wait 24 hours before registering again with the same email address.

I would like to pursue multiple consecutive programs in France, how should I indicate this on Etudes en France? For example, a FLE program of 2 months followed by a certificate program of 2 months.

Many students decide to pursue multiple consecutive programs in France. You may combine more than one program in France. (FLE + FLE, FLE + Masters), but you may **not** combine more than one *degree* program in France in one application (Master 1 + Master 2). When completing the *Etudes en France* application, you can Add an additional program on the *Etudes en France* platform in *Section 1: Finalize the procedure* in your student account. Scroll to *I am NOT a study abroad student...* and click the blue Add button to add your second program. You will be required to provide a complete official Acceptance letter for all programs to which you have been accepted. Please note that the combined length of *instructional periods* of your multiple programs in France, not including any breaks in between programs, needs to be 90 days or more in order to be considered eligible for a student visa.

Where can I find more resources for study abroad students?

More information for study abroad students may be found on our website at: <https://www.usa.campusfrance.org/study-abroad-in-france>

VISA

Student Visa Application



Please refer to the Student Visa Guidelines

Once your Etudes en France application has been reviewed, and you have received your Confirmation Email, you may move forward to apply for a student visa. Campus France USA does not make decisions on visa issuance, these decisions are the sole responsibility of the Visa Service of the French Consulate. More information about the visa application and required documents can be found in our Student Visa Guidelines at www.usa.campusfrance.org/student-visa-guidelines

CONTACTS

Useful Contacts

ETUDES EN FRANCE QUESTIONS

Use the Etudes en France messaging system on the application platform if you have an EEF account and have already started an application

Contact Campus France USA at washington@campusfrance.org only if you do not already have an EEF account.

GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT STUDYING IN FRANCE

Visit usa.campusfrance.org

Contact Campus France USA at washington@campusfrance.org

APPLICATION FEE AND PAYMENT QUESTIONS

Contact Campus France USA at washington@campusfrance.org

VISA QUESTIONS

[visas@consulfrance-
washington.org](mailto:visas@consulfrance-washington.org)

[VFS application tracking here](#)