

You are coming to study at Bordeaux University

Welcome

Before leaving

Passport

You must have a passport issued in your home country. For students from the European Union, the European Economic Area and the Swiss Confederation, an identity card is enough.

Visa

If you are a citizen of the European Union, the European Economic Area or the Swiss Confederation, you do not need a visa. Otherwise, you must have a type D visa stamped « Student ». To obtain a visa, go to the French Consulate or French Embassy in your home country to find out which documents you must produce and how long it takes to obtain them or go to the Web site www.campusfrance.org

If you are starting or continuing a doctorate and if you hold a work contract (beneficiary), you come under the procedure for the welcome of scientists (www.univ-bordeaux.fr, heading « mobility centre »).

N.B.: the short stay visa, often called tourist visa, is neither renewable nor extendable in France. It does not enable you to register in a university nor to obtain a residence permit that is essential for the legality of your stay in France.
www.diplomatie.gouv.fr

Preparation and registration for language tests

For a bachelor's degree

For an initial application for registration in a French university for undergraduates, you must make a prior registration application.

Further information:

Host university

www.campusfrance.org / www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr, heading Higher Education: student mobility.

If you do not speak French, you must undergo a language test designed to assess your level of understanding of written and spoken French and your level of written fluency (60 €):

- in your home country, the test is organised by the cultural service of the French Embassy;
- in France, for foreign students already living in France, the test is organised by the first institution with which the registration application is made.

Further information on www.ciepf.fr

You are not required to pass this test if:

- you are a citizen of a State where French is the official language;
- you are a student from French bilingual departments included in a list drawn up each year in conjunction with the ministries in charge of national education, higher education and foreign affairs;
- you are the holder of the diploma of advanced studies of the French language (DALF).

For Master's degree and a PhD

Further information:

Host university

www.ciepf.fr

University registration

For a bachelor's degree

For an initial application for registration in a French university for a bachelor's degree, you must make a prior registration application

Further information:

Host university

www.campusfrance.org / www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr, heading Higher Education: student mobility.

Estimation of an average budget

Monthly budget

■ room in a hall of residence	126 €
or private 1-room flat in town	380 €
■ bus and tramway (monthly season ticket)	14.25 €
■ meals or university restaurant (2 meals/day, 5 days/week)	120 €
■ breakfasts and weekend meals	50 €
■ miscellaneous costs	300 €

During the first month, also make provision for:

■ tax of the National Agency for Welcoming Foreigners and Migrants (ANAEM)	55 €
■ tuition fees (exemption for grant holders)	160 to 320 €
■ moving-in costs (including 2 months guarantee for the flat)	1100 €
■ Social Security	190 €
■ additional insurance (voluntary mutual insurance)	170 €
■ pocket money	170 €

Financial aid

You can claim various types of grants, in particular from your government. Grants from the French Government are also sometimes given. Once you have arrived in France, you can no longer apply for any scholarship.

Further information on: www.diplomatie.gouv.fr / www.egide.asso.fr

Booking accommodation

If you want to obtain accommodation in a university hall of residence, you must apply by connecting on the Web site of the CROUS - Regional Centre of University and School Services - (www.crous-bordeaux.fr), before April 30 of the current year. Not all new arrivals can be accommodated, however, given the limited number of rooms. If your application is turned down, you must make your own arrangements to find accommodation outside of the halls of residence. In certain conditions, the CLE Aquitaine service of the Aquitaine Regional Council can help you for the guarantee payment to be made to your landlord. www.cle.aquitaine.fr

Information on accommodation:

www.crous-bordeaux.fr

www.bordeaux-tourisme.com

www.adele.org

www.logement.equipement.gouv.fr

www.bordeaux.fr

www.cidj.asso.fr

www.anil.org

www.cle.aquitaine.fr

Civil liability

Whether you are accommodated by a friend or in the private sector, personal insurance is compulsory. This must cover the risks of fire, water damage, civil liability and damage caused to neighbours. This insurance can be taken out with the accommodation service in town, with the CROUS or with a student mutual insurance company.

Social Security and mutual insurance companies

For their stay in France, students aged between 20 and 28 must be registered with the student social security system. When over 28 years old, they must provide proof of social coverage by insurance which, in the event of any health problems, provides entitlement to the partial or total reimbursement of the medical costs involved (doctor, dentist, medicine and hospitalisation).

Further information: www.ameli.fr

Before leaving, make sure you have:

- a valid passport (or an identity card for students from the European Union, the European Economic Area or the Swiss Confederation);
- a long stay, D type visa stamped « Student » except for students from the European Union, the European Economic Space or the Swiss Confederation);
- the originals of your diplomas and their translation by a sworn translator (cf. Consulate);
- the certificate of prior admission or of pre-registration issued by the host university;
- the proof in French of your resources (certificate of a grant, bank certificate, commitment of coverage by a private person);
- the originals of the documents produced in evidence at the Consulate.

Upon arrival

Transport

By air. Bordeaux-Mérignac airport is roughly 15 km, or 30 minutes, from the city centre. You can take the Jet'bus shuttle from the airport to the city centre or a taxi.

By car. If you intend using a car in France, you must have an international insurance card and a valid driving licence.

By train. The mainline station is near the city centre. Numerous buses, taxis and the tramway are available.

Settling in Bordeaux

Student Welcome Centre. A single centre is open at the start of the year by Bordeaux University in cooperation with the CROUS. Located in the city centre, it enables you to obtain full information of your settling in and daily life in Bordeaux, with help and information on accommodation, transport, cultural life, the university restaurants, university sport, preventive university medicine, etc.

www.univ-bordeaux.fr

Final registration with the University

Start of courses: September-October (ask for details according to your curriculum).

Final registration with the University includes two parts:

- administrative registration: you will be given the AQUIPASS student card and the registration certificates required to obtain your residence permit;
- teaching registration: you must choose your options and familiarise yourself with the relevant work groups and timetables.

« Student » resident card

From early September to early December, a « resident card » service is available in the city centre to process and check the application files.

During the rest of the year, consult the Web site of the local government offices of the Gironde: www.aquitaine.pref.gouv.fr, under the section « private persons » and the heading « foreigners » .

Further information on: www.univ-bordeaux.fr, heading « resident card ».

N.B.!

- Costs are involved in obtaining the resident card and you will be asked to prove your resources (refer to the list on the site of the documents to be produced);
- European students are not required to present a resident card but must have a valid identity card.