



APPLYING FOR YOUR FRENCH VISA: PART 1 - CAMPUS FRANCE



Global Programs
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AGENDA

- Timeline and length of the French visa application process
- How to submit your Etudes en France (Campus France) application
- Overview of two-part process and expectations for next steps after Campus France application



CITIZENS WHO ARE EXEMPT FROM APPLYING FOR FRENCH VISA:



Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, and Switzerland

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS:

CAMPUS FRANCE USA



Campus France USA is the French government agency that works with students in the US going to France for an academic program of 90 days or more. The Campus France procedure is the mandatory first step for all student visa applicants. Campus France USA ensures all academic criteria are met before the applicant submits a student visa application. Students participating in a program in France of under 90 days do not need to complete the Campus France procedure. Depending on their nationalities, they might need to request a short stay visa.

VFS GLOBAL



VFS Global is an external agency responsible for managing all visa appointments and visa application submissions across the US in 9 cities in the consular jurisdictions. After completing an online student visa application on the France-Visas platform, you will visit in person a VFS Global Center to submit your visa application.

VISA SERVICE OF THE FRENCH CONSULATE IN DC



Once you have submitted your visa application at VFS Global, the application is sent to the Visa Service of the French Consulate in Washington D.C. for processing. The Visa Service reserves the right to contact you if they require further documents not listed on the France-Visas checklist.





You've been accepted to a study abroad/exchange program, degree-granting program, French language program, or specialized school in France:

1



Complete an *Etudes en France (EeF)* application

pastel.diplomatie.gouv.fr/etudesenfrance

2



Submit your Campus France payment and paperwork on DocBox

docboxcfusa.org

3



The Campus France team will review your *EeF* application after you submit the DocBox.

4



Receive your confirmation email when your *EeF* application is processed by Campus France USA.

5



Complete a student visa application on the France-Visas platform

france-visas.gouv.fr

6



Schedule a visa appointment at a VFS Global Center

france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/us/a-qui-sadresser

7



Attend in-person appointment at a VFS Global Center

8



Receive your visa in the mail or pick it up at a VFS Global Center after processing time of a minimum of 3 weeks.

9



Travel to France to begin your program!
Learn more about preparation at usa.campusfrance.org

10



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Steps involved in Full Visa Process



Complete the Etudes en France application on the [Campus France USA website](#)



Pay EEF Application Fee [using group mailing link](#)



Wait 1-2 weeks for Campus France to process EEF application



Receive confirmation from Campus France that EEF application has been approved – save this email



Create account on the [France-Visas website](#)



Complete the student visa application form on the France-Visas website



Create an [account with VFS Global](#) and schedule an in-person visa appointment



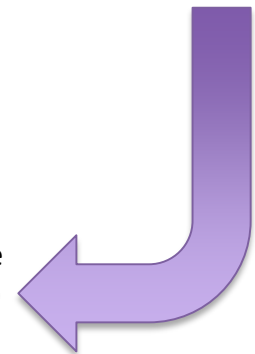
Wait 3-4 weeks for the Visa Service of the French Consulate to process visa and send back to VFS Global



VFS Global will send visa (in passport) via pre-paid express envelope, or, if student lives near appointment center they can pick up in person.

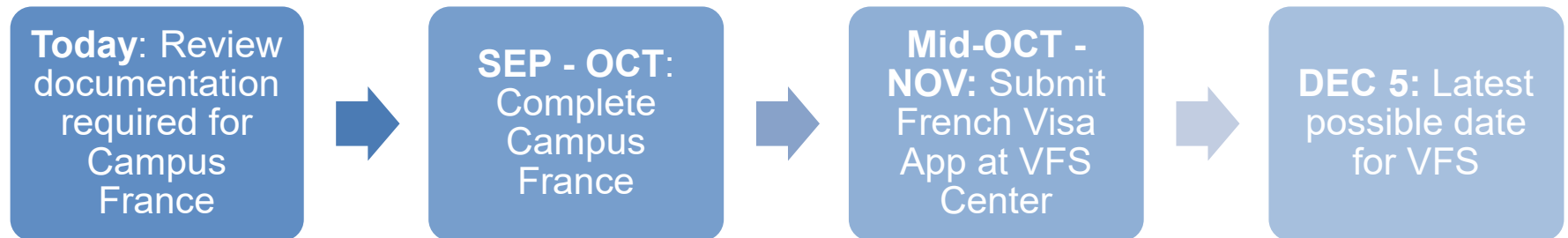
After Arrival in France

Validate visa within 3 months of arrival with the Ministry of the Interior (50€ fee payable online) <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>



BU STUDY ABROAD FRENCH VISA APPLICATION TIMELINE

The French visa application takes about 2-3 months from start to finish



- VFS Appointments should be scheduled **3-4 weeks** out from when you hope to submit your visa application
- Campus France Dossiers/Applications are reviewed within 5-7 days of submission and payment
- Typically you will receive your visa 3-4 weeks after your VFS appointment date. The processing may take longer if your application is incomplete, so leave plenty of time for this!

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A VALID PASSPORT!

- If you currently do not have a passport or if your passport has expired, [please apply for a new passport ASAP](#), and expedite the application
- If you do have a passport, **check the expiration date!**
 - It must be valid for at least **3 months after the end of the program** (U.S. State Department recommends 6 months)



CAMPUS FRANCE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Gather documents
2. Complete Campus France/Etudes en France Application
3. Pay Campus France Fee
4. Print confirmation messages from campus France for visa appointment later in the semester



CAMPUS FRANCE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Scan of passport or other official photo ID
(ensure file size is under 300kb)
2. Official Acceptance Letter
 - Rachel will be sending you this!
3. Headshot – File should be 50kb max
 - Can be a passport-style photo or simply a cropped photo of your face
4. Statement of motivation for your program
in France, written in English or French
(minimum of 150 words)





Document Tips



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.

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.

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.



CREATING ETUDES EN FRANCE APPLICATION



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DirAHWYsQ28&list=PLYjty41Gn1np_wk4XvweAOZgpX3R0Sh_7&index=1



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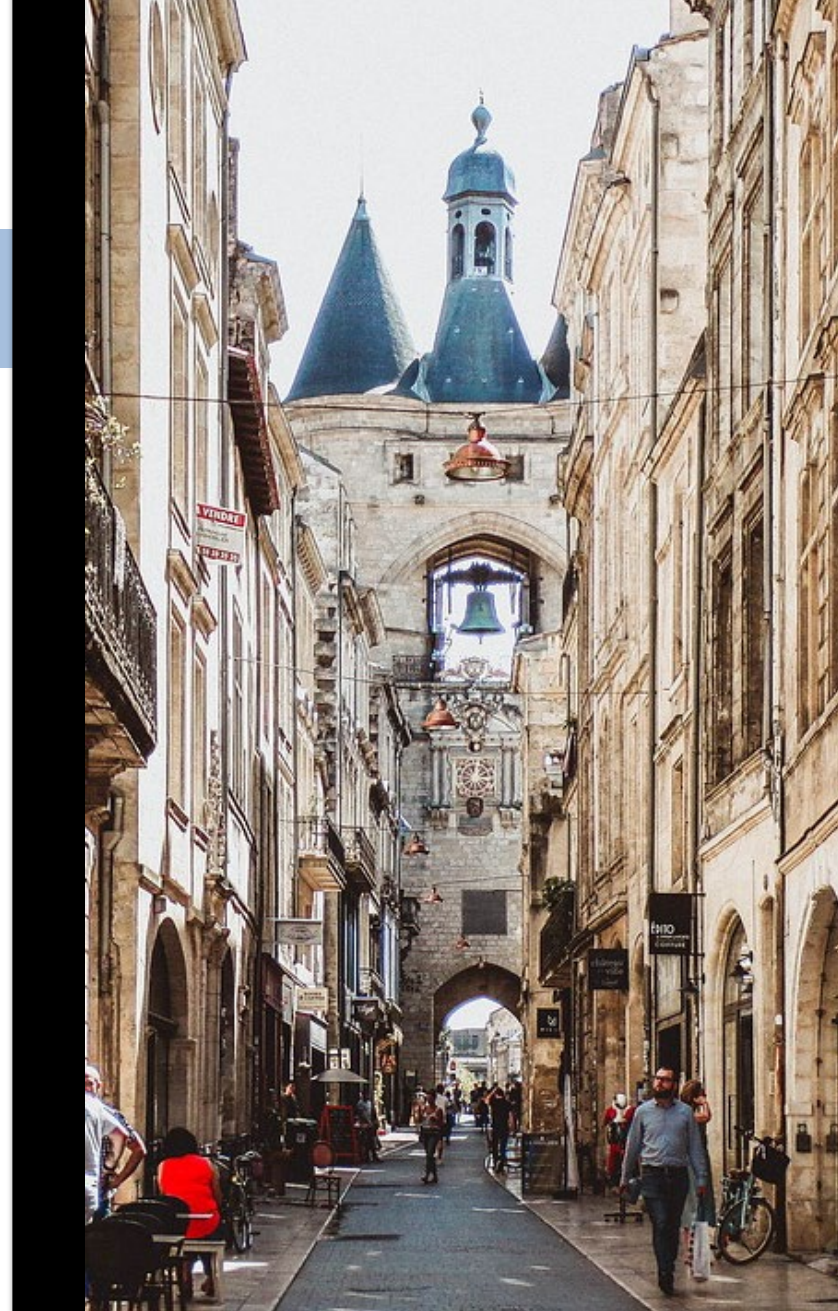
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KEEP IN MIND!

- Complete the application in English!
- For “Mon Espace Campus France,” it will either say Campus France USA OR Campus France Etats-Unis
- If you do not currently have a valid passport, you can use another form of ID
- Click to receive notifications!
- **Activation link expires within 24 hours!**



HOW TO COMPLETE YOUR CAMPUS FRANCE APPLICATION



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vn5d6SK6s3g&list=PLYjty41Gn1np_wk4XvweAOZgpX3R0Sh_7&index=7&t=18s

HOST INSTITUTION IN FRANCE: PARIS BUSINESS INTERNSHIP

- **Institution:** Université Paris-Dauphine
- **Campus:** Departement LSO
- **Program Description:** The Paris Business Internship Program, offered in conjunction with the University of Paris IX-Dauphine, consists of a weeklong Intensive French Language Seminar, three courses taken at Dauphine, plus an academic internship (which will most likely fulfill a liberal arts level B requirement). Placement in one of the two academic tracks offered depends on the amount of college-level French classes the student has already taken.
- **Level:** Junior Year/Senior Year
- **Program Dates:** January 5 – April 26, 2025

HOST INSTITUTION IN FRANCE: SCIENCES PO EXCHANGE PROGRAM

- **Institution:** Sciences Po
- **Campus:** Paris
- **Program Description:** The Sciences Po Exchange, offered either fall or spring semester or for the full academic year, makes it possible for well-qualified Boston University students to study typically in their junior year at Sciences Po, an institution renowned for its strong programs in political science, international relations, economics, and history. Students take classes in English and/or French.
- **Level:** Junior Year/Senior Year
- **Program Dates:** January 19 – May 14, 2025

HOST INSTITUTION IN FRANCE: PARIS INTERNSHIP

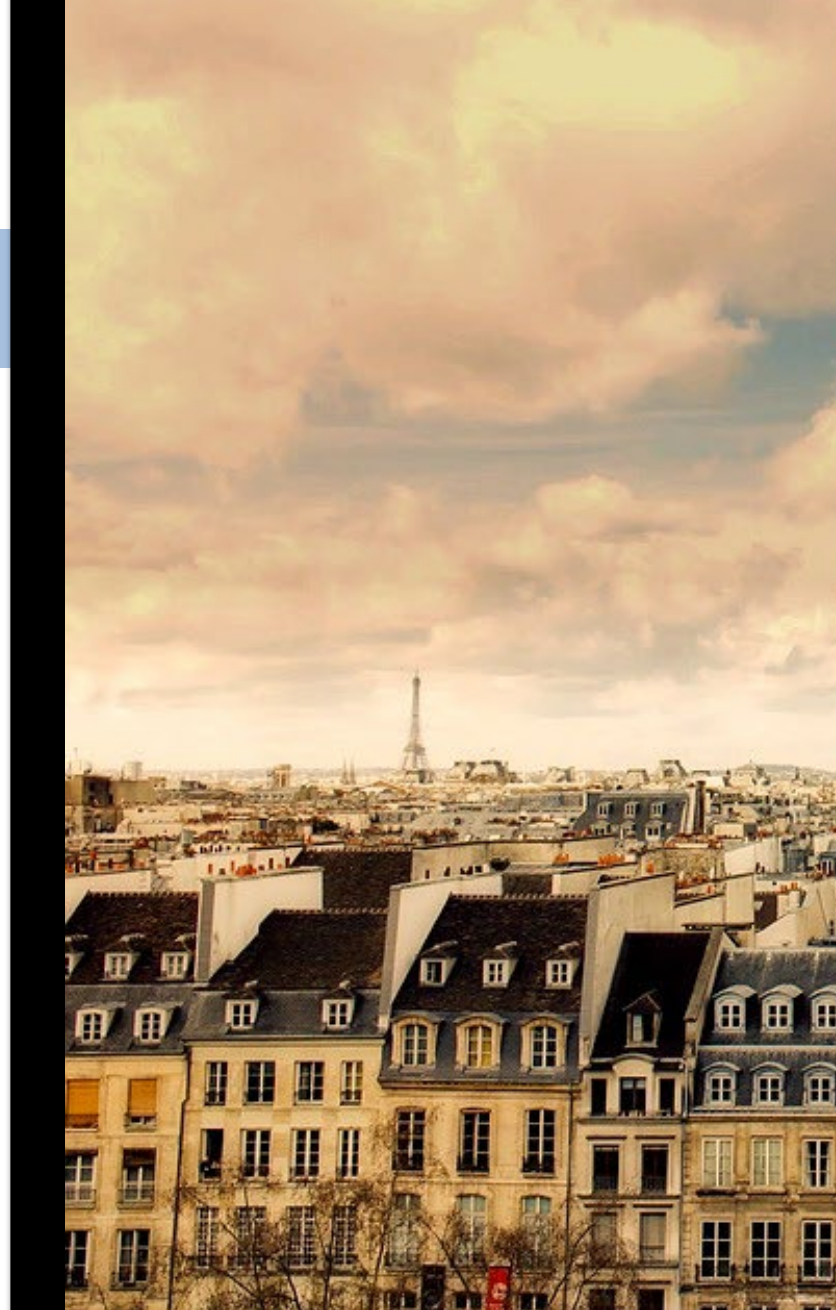
- Select “**Find Your French Institution**”
- Type “Boston University in Paris”
- There will be no search results, so scroll down and type again:
 - **Institution:** Boston University in Paris
 - **City:** Paris
- **Field of Study:** Language & Literature
- **Level:** Junior Year/Senior Year
- **Program Dates:** January 5 – April 26, 2025
- **Program Description:** The Paris Internship Program, offered fall and spring semesters, provides eight weeks of intensive French-language study and liberal arts courses, followed by eight weeks of un-paid academic full-time internships with organizations in the greater Paris area. Placement in one of the two internship tracks offered depends on the amount of college-level French classes the student has already taken. French faculty from local universities teach courses on contemporary France specifically designed for students in the BU program.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

- Minimum of 150 words and no more than 1,500 characters
- “I have been accepted to the Spring 2024 Boston University [Paris Internship Program/Paris Business Internship Program/Sciences Po Exchange Program]. Upon completion of the program, the credits I have earned will appear on my Boston University transcript.”
- Then, you’re welcome to add whatever you would like about why you are interested in studying abroad in France 😊
 - Why you chose the program? How have you prepared? What connections do you see between this program and your academic and professional future?

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Upload a photo per the size requirements
- You do not need to upload a resume, CV, or transcript!
- You'll need to “add a year of higher Education” under “Educational & Professional Experience
- You do not need to complete the Language Skills section
 - If you'd like to complete Level of French, you can do so; otherwise, can say no experience in French



Welcome > Students already accepted > Finalize the procedure > I verify that my file is complete and I confirm my choice

Confirm the information and submit the application

Make sure you have entered the information requested or complete your file.

Personal information

Personal information
Education and professional experience
Language skills

Complete
Complete
Complete

[Access the section](#)
[Access the section](#)
[Access the section](#)



Attention il faut prendre connaissance des prérequis relatifs à votre projet d'étude

Main study-program

Boston University - Université Paris-Dauphine /
Université Paris-Dauphine Département LSO (licence sciences des organisations)
Site de Paris
Complete

[Access the section](#)

Review and submit the file to Campus France USA



Please ensure you submit a complete application.

☒ I hereby certify that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

☒ Je certifie avoir pris connaissance des prérequis relatifs à mon projet d'étude

[I confirm my final choice to Campus France USA](#)



The information we collect are subject to computer processing to help students willing to apply for higher education in France. If you accept, the information that Campus France collects will be retained and maintained during the length of your studies in France and after your studies are completed.



Payment & Group Mailing

- There is a processing fee that all students must pay in order to submit their Campus France application, which is **\$270**
- Use [this Group Mailing payment link](#) to pay the Campus France application fee
 - **Please ignore the DocBox link that will ask you to pay in the application portal**
- After paying the application fee, please email Rachel (rsparola@bu.edu) a copy of your receipt as a PDF and your Campus France ID Number



Payment & Group Mailing

- If you would like a visa loan to cover the Campus France application fee please let me know! rsparola@bu.edu
 - I will schedule a time to meet with you over zoom (or in person) once you have fully completed your Campus France application to pay the fee.
 - The charge will be added to your student account.
- The visa loan option is only available for the Campus France application fee.



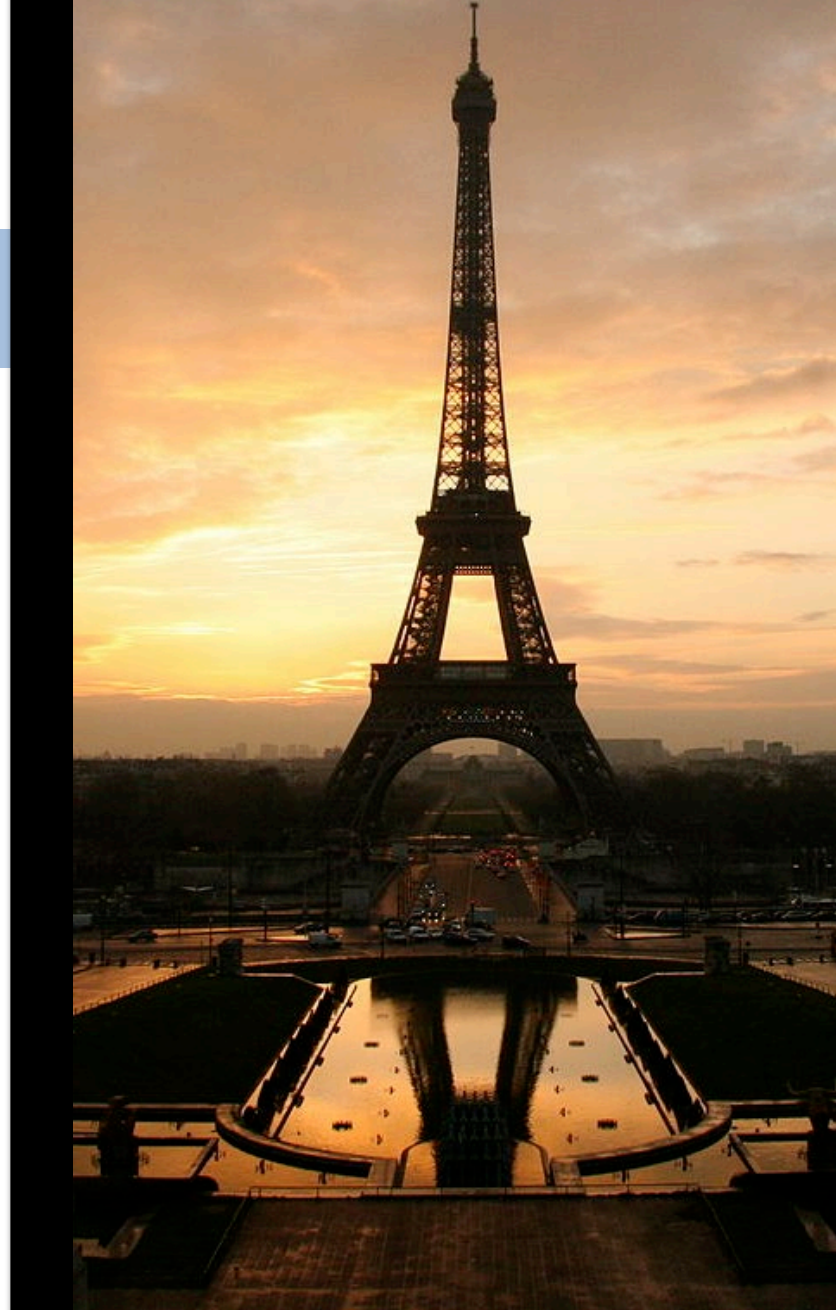
FRENCH VISA APPLICATION FEES

- Campus France Processing Fee = \$270
- VFS Global Fee (paid when you schedule your appointment online) = 26€ **charged in USD exchange rate*
- French Visa Fee (paid during your VFS Global Appointment) = 50€ **charged in USD exchange rate*
- Express mailing of passport fee (Optional) = \$35
- After arrival: Visa validation fee = 50€
- **Total: ≈ \$430**



ALL SET...FOR NOW!

- Once your Campus France application has been approved, you will need to then officially submit your French visa application at a VFS Global Center
 - Schedule this soon! (First possible day October 8 for PIP, October 22 for Sci Po)
- Student Long-stay Visa (VLS-TS)
- Keep this in mind as you think about your schedule this semester!
- Additional documentation & fees required



NEXT STEPS!

- Make sure you have a valid passport!
- Begin working on Campus France and try to complete by October 30th at the very latest!
- Let me know if you have any travel plans that might impact your French visa application timeline



Merci Beaucoup! 😊



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