

THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT'S **GUIDE TO FRANCE**

(BRING SNACKS)





Dear student of the world, welcome to your quick start guide for studying in France!

At BSB, we understand that moving to a new country can feel both exciting and overwhelming. That's why we're here to make your transition to France as smooth as possible and help you get the most out of your studying abroad experience.

As the benchmark school for student support providing our students with the guidance they need to succeed, both academically and personally, we've got you covered every step of the way.

In this guide, you'll find practical tips and key information to help you prepare for your adventure in France, from navigating visas and healthcare to finding accommodation and managing your budget.

We're looking forward to welcoming you to our community and are here to assist you every step of the way.

VISAS AND OTHER MAGICAL PORTALS: GETTING INTO FRANCE

Before travelling to France and starting your adventure with us at BSB, it's important to obtain the correct documentation. Below are a few tips to help you apply for a student visa and enable you to travel stress-free.

OBTAINING A STUDENT VISA FOR FRANCE

EUROPEAN STUDENTS

If you are from the European Union, European Economic Area, or Switzerland, you do not need to apply for a visa; your national identity card or passport is sufficient.

However, students from Ukraine, Serbia, Belarus, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, or the United Kingdom must apply for a long-stay visa.

NON-EUROPEAN STUDENTS

If your stay in France exceeds 3 months, you must obtain a long-stay visa, known as the VLS-TS (long-stay visa equivalent to a residence permit), before your arrival. Ensure your passport is valid for the duration of your stay in France. It is recommended to apply for your visa at least 3 months before departure via the Campus France website or at the nearest French consulate or embassy.

SPECIFIC COUNTRIES

If you are from one of the following 46 countries, you must follow the "Etudes en France" visa procedure: Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Republic of the Congo, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United States, and Vietnam.

THE RESIDENCE PERMIT: YOUR KEY TO STAYING IN THE LAND OF BAGUETTES

You must validate your student long-stay visa within 3 months of arrival in France. Once validated, your visa will act as a French residence permit with a maximum validity of one year.

For a longer stay, you must renew your residence card before the end of your first year of studies. This procedure can be completed online through the French Ministry's website. The BSB Student Services team is available to help you with the process, and it's advised to start the renewal as early as possible.

TIPS
& RESOURCES

See the official website for visas in France



BUDGETING IN FRANCE: HOW TO LIVE ON A STUDENT'S DIME

A student's monthly budget can vary significantly depending on the city, with average costs ranging from €900 in Dijon, €1,150 in Lyon, to €1,500 in Paris. Here are some details about costs you should expect in France.

ACCOMMODATION

DIJON

€270–€600/month (Crous/private accommodation)

LYON

€400–€800/month (Crous/private accommodation)

PARIS

€600–€1,200/month (Crous/private accommodation)

ADDITIONAL MONTHLY EXPENSES

Multi-risk home insurance (mandatory): €5–€10

ELECTRICITY/GAS/WATER

€50–€150

INTERNET

€25

FOOD

GROCERIES

€150–€200/month

FULL MEAL AT UNIVERSITY CANTEEN

€3.30 (€1 for scholarship students).

All BSB students have access to the national CROUS system (Centres Régionaux des Oeuvres Universitaires et Scolaires), allowing you to have low priced, balanced meals at almost any university in France.



TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC TRANSPORT SUBSCRIPTION

€20–€35/month

ANNUAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PASS

€250

CITY BIKE RENTAL

€10/month

SNCF YOUTH CARD (FOR 12-27 YEAR-OLDS)

€49/year

HOBBIES AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

MOVIE TICKET FOR STUDENTS

Around €7

MUSEUM ADMISSION

Many national and state museums are free - as are libraries for BSB students - and you'll benefit from discounts when you show your student card at many venues across the whole of France and even in wider Europe.

On specific occasions, consider an average price of €8.

CARTE CULTURE (DIJON)

€5/year

CARTE CULTURE (LYON)

€15/year



NAVIGATING YOUR STUDENT FINANCES LIKE A PRO

TUITION FEES

THEY ARE SPECIFIC TO EACH PROGRAMME BUT THEY ALL INCLUDE:

- Courses and conferences
- All course work, books, and access to online learning
- Access to Pathfinder™ support
- Access to One Health Center
- Access to campus facilities, the Learning Center (open six days a week from 8:30 to 22:00) and the digital learning center
- Language tests and preparation for IELTS, TOEIC or CEFR

If applicable:

- Field trip costs
- One or two semesters of academic exchange in one of our partner institutions (excluding transport and accommodation)
- Remedial courses and refresher exams

IMPORTANT

Once you are admitted, a deposit is required to confirm your application and guarantee your place in class. The amount of the deposit varies according to the program chosen and is deducted from the total amount of tuition fees.



CVEC: THE ONE FEE TO RULE THEM ALL

In France, any student undergoing initial training in a higher education institution must obtain, prior to enrollment, a certificate of payment or exemption from the student and campus life contribution (CVEC).

It is a mandatory single right created to improve student services and support.

Among other things, it allows students to have better access to health care, social support through the national CROUS system (offering affordable housing and cafeterias dedicated to students), leisure opportunities, and artistic and cultural events.



FINANCIAL AIDS: HOW TO EARN WHILE YOU LEARN



MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

BSB offers up to 100 merit-based scholarships covering up to 50% of the tuition fees of the first year of studies for talented international students with an international degree.

ELIGIBILITY

All students with an international degree admitted to one of the BSB programs are eligible for a scholarship.

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT TO SELECT THE BEST STUDENTS

GPA and transcripts, quality of the application file, cover letter and CV, results of the admission interview.

ACCEPTANCE

Students who are awarded the grants must accept within 3 weeks by paying the deposit. If the deposit is not paid within this timeframe, the scholarship will be withdrawn. The merit-based grant will be deducted from the tuition fee instalments and do not affect the deposit amount.

PART-TIME WORK RIGHTS

Foreign students are allowed to work up to 20 hours per week while studying in France. If this aligns with your program, finding part-time work can help fund your studies.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FROM THE BSB FOUNDATION

"HELPING HAND" SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships assist students facing daily financial difficulties or significant life events that impact their living conditions, ensuring they can continue their studies at BSB under favorable conditions. The amount awarded varies depending on the recipient's individual circumstances.

EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Help finance scholarships awarded to the highest ranking students in their first year of studies.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Help finance part of the expenses linked to BSB students positive impact projects abroad (humanitarian, artistic, professional, etc.).

MATERIAL HELP

BSB Foundation can also provide computer donations and housing assistance to support students in need, ensuring they can focus on their studies and prepare for independent living.



HEALTHY AND COVERED: MAKING FRENCH HEALTHCARE SIMPLE



In France, registration for social security is free and mandatory for all students except those who have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

You must register on the French Health insurance website. In order to increase the amount of reimbursement of your health expenses, you can sign up for a supplementary health or mutual insurance policy ("mutuelle"). We also strongly advise you to subscribe to private insurance covering you for repatriation during your whole stay in France.

IMPORTANT!

You need to register for free health care after your student visa is validated and after your physical arrival in France. For this reason, BSB strongly advises you to take private insurance for at least your first two months in France.



BONUS PERKS: THE BSB STUDENT ADVANTAGE



You will be able to find a place to live before you arrive via our accommodation platform Studapart. There's plenty of options to choose from such as apartments, studios, single rooms, shared flats, or a student residence. You can even choose to live with a local family or elderly person who will offer you a discounted rate in exchange for helping them with household chores or food shopping.

In France, you need to have a guarantor residing in France to book your accommodation. A guarantor adds a layer of financial security and vouches for your credibility. If you don't have one, Studapart can act as your guarantor thanks to the BSB Studapart Guarantee.

Alternatively, you can use **VISALE**, a free deposit guarantee designed specifically for international students 18-30 years old, or **GarantMe** can act as your guarantor.

When you're ready to start looking for your accommodation, you can search and book through the Studapart platform. Keep in mind that you can only finalise your booking once we have received your letter of acceptance.

VISIT
THE WEBSITE

Click on "Tenant space" and sign up using your school's login credentials or your personal email address.

YOUR CHEAT CODE TO HOUSING

Many international students also receive financial support to pay their rent. The *CAF (Caisse d'Allocations Familiales)* can pay you housing assistance in the form of an *Aide Personnalisée au Logement (APL)* or an *Allocation de Logement à caractère Social (ALS)*. If you came to France on a visa, you must have a VLS-TS to benefit from the CAF housing aid.

BSB PROGRAMMES

Degree programmes

- ▮ Bachelor in Management
- ▮ Master in Management / Grande Ecole Programme

School of Wine and Spirits Business

- ▮ MSc Wine Management
- ▮ Mastère spécialisé CIVS (Commerce International des Vins et Spiritueux)
- ▮ MBA Wine & Spirits Business
- ▮ Wine Tourism specialisation (Bachelor in Management)

School of Media, Culture & Communication

- ▮ MSc Arts & Cultural Management
- ▮ Mastère Spécialisé MECIC - Paris (Management des Entreprises Culturelles et Industries Créatives)

Tech & Data

- ▮ MSc Artificial Intelligence & Digital Strategy Management
- ▮ MSc Sustainable Strategic Management & Environmental Change
- ▮ MSc Data Science & Organisational Behaviour

Luxury

- ▮ MSc Luxury Management & Innovation

Finance

- ▮ MSc Corporate Finance & Investment Banking

Business Development & Strategy

- ▮ MSc International Business Development

GETTING IN TOUCH

info-international@bsb-education.com

BOOK A CALL



DIJON CAMPUS



29 rue Sambin
21000 Dijon

LYON CAMPUS



131 rue du Professeur Beauvisage
69008 Lyon

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BSB-EDUCATION.COM

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