Moving to Paris Guide

Postgraduate
As we approach the summer, you might be wondering what the next steps are?

We’ve created this guide to help you figure out what you need to do before your arrival. These are suggestions based on our students’ experiences. You do not have to do everything today, but to ensure a smooth and stress-free transition a bit of planning can go a long way! We hope this document will allow you to have an overview of the steps ahead as well as practical information. While the document lists each steps in order of priority, some might be done simultaneously. These are mere suggestions, it’s really up to you to manage these steps as you feel fit and depending on your situation.

We’ve included ‘Accommodation’ in the visual below as this guide should be read in conjunction with the accommodation guide. If you would like further information and assistance on this particular area, please email us at contact@ulip.lon.ac.uk.

As always, our student services team is here to help, so if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us either via phone, by email or in person!
Unless you have a passport from one of the countries of the European Economic Area (EEA), you will normally be required to have a visa to study in France. Your visa application should be submitted early and well before the start of term. It is usually recommended to start the process at least 2 months before your departure. The visa application process will vary depending on which country you are applying from. Follow the steps below to start the process.

An offer letter/pre-enrolment certificate will generally need to be submitted as part of the visa application. Please contact ULIP’s Student and Academic Services (contact@ulip.lon.ac.uk) if you need supporting documentation for a visa application, indicating which programme you will be joining.

RESOURCES

Do I need a Visa?
Use the visa wizard on the French visa information website: france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas

What is the visa application procedure in my country?
Check if your country has a Campus France office: campusfrance.org/en/espaces. If so, the local Campus France website will indicate the procedure to follow for a student visa application. 43 countries follow the EEF Etudes en France procedure, but other procedures are in place depending on the country. If you cannot find a Campus France office in your country, please contact your local French Consulate for details of the visa application process.

Will I need proof of acceptance from ULIP?
Yes, and normally visa application services will require proof of acceptance on ULIP headed paper so please email contact@ulip.lon.ac.uk as soon as possible if you need to apply for a student visa.
Managing your budget is an important part of student life. Planning ahead means you are less likely to experience financial problems which could seriously affect your studies. You can find useful advice from the QMUL Advice and Counselling Service on planning a budget [here](#).

Some of the costs involved as well as financial support opportunities are detailed below:

**Tuition Fee Payment**

Students are required to pay at least 50% of their tuition fees upon enrolment. Fees are collected by QMUL. Acceptable methods of payment are cheque in pounds sterling made out to “Queen Mary University of London”, card payment via [QMUL e-pay](#), and bank transfers to the QMUL bank account.

**Housing benefit**

Provided their name is on the lease, all students are likely to be eligible for housing benefit from the CAF (Caisse d’Allocations Familiales). Students will be encouraged to submit their CAF application as soon as they complete registration in September as late applicants will not receive back payments. Detailed instructions will be sent to students in September, but one of the documents required as part of the CAF application is a full-length birth certificate, so make sure you have a copy when you come to Paris. Order a multilingual birth certificate if you can, otherwise it will need to be translated and certified.

**Student Loans**

UK Postgraduate Student Loans are only available to students who study in the UK for at least 50% of the programme.

Students in Paris are not eligible for US Federal Loans but can apply for a private loan from Sallie Mae. Email [contact@ulip.lon.ac.uk](mailto:contact@ulip.lon.ac.uk) if you are applying for a private loan as we will need information from you in order to be able to send the required confirmation to Sallie Mae.
Medical Insurance

Since September 2018, there is a new procedure for international students to access French Social Security. They must register on a dedicated website (etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr) when they begin their studies. Temporary registration will require you to upload an enrolment certificate, passport and student visa (if applicable). Permanent registration will require you to provide your full-length birth certificate (in French), a resident permit and French bank details.

Students can consult the doctor or specialist of their choice while in France but you will need to pay expenses upfront and then apply for reimbursement from social security. Depending on circumstances, social security only reimburses from 20 to 70% of approved rates so students are advised to consider an additional health cover as well.

**European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) - EU students Only**

UK and other EEA students should obtain an EHIC card before leaving their home country. This will entitle you to any medical treatment that becomes necessary during your time in Paris, at reduced cost or sometimes free. **Applying for the card is free, and it can be valid for up to 5 years.**

Non-EEA nationals residing in the UK are also eligible for an EHIC card, but can only apply by post since further documentation is required in support of their application.

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- You must have adequate health insurance during your studies
- Make sure to have a copy of your full-length birth certificate
- If you are a UK/EU student, apply for the free EHIC
- International students will need to register on etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr when they begin their studies

**More information and applying for an EHIC card**

Further information for UK residents is available on [www.nhs.uk/ehic](http://www.nhs.uk/ehic). Residents from other EEA countries can find the relevant contact details for their country on [www.ehic.europa.eu](http://www.ehic.europa.eu)
Looking forward to seeing you in Paris!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

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