

*Dear students,
Congratulations on your admission!*

/!\ BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL IN FRANCE

- Make sure your passport is valid for the whole period of your stay in France.
- Take your original birth certificate with you (+ wedding certificate if you're married)
- You will also need a translation in French of your birth certificate made by a sworn translator (you can do this in your country or once you arrived in France).

APPLY FOR A LONG STAY STUDENT VISA

- If you are a national of a European Economic Area country (European Union countries (EU), Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you don't need any visa.
- If you are not a national of a European Economic Area country (European Union countries, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you must request a student long stay visa counting as a French residence permit (**VLS-TS** - Visa Etudiant Long Séjour Valant Titre de Séjour).

This visa allows you to remain in France for one year without needing to request a residence permit. Your visa will need to be approved by the OFII (=the French Immigration and Integration Office) within the first 3 months after your arrival in France →I will explain you the process at your arrival.

/!\ a VLS T (temporary) is different from a VLS TS and don't give you the same rights (residence permit renewal, student job, housing benefit,...)

Visa application:

• Case 1: There is a Campus France space in your country of residence:
Find it on Campus France's website: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/geolocalisation/type/espace> and contact them.

If your country of residence is one of the [42 affected by the study in France procedure](#), register on "[Etudes en France](#)" and upload your documents, then Campus France will check your visa application file before submitting it to the French consulate.

• Case 2: There is no Campus France space in your country of residence:
You will make your visa application directly with the French embassy or consulate in your country of residence. Find all information about visa application on https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/welcome-page and your consulate's contact on: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/le-ministere-et-son-reseau/annuaires-et-adresses-du-ministere-de-l-europe-et-des-affaires-etrangeres-meae/ambassades-et-consulats-francais-a-l-etranger/>

You should start the process at the latest 2 months before departure. Please tell me as soon as you start your visa application.

If you have any doubt concerning the visa application, feel free to contact ariane.lherm@polytechnique.edu

RESIDENCE PERMIT RENEWAL

If you are already in France and you need to renew your student residence permit you can do it through Ecole Polytechnique as soon as you get your admission letter.

You will be given the list of required documents and an appointment for your resident permit renewal will be scheduled at sous-prefecture of Palaiseau by your referent (Ms Ariane LHERM).

HEALTH INSURANCE

Social security = French public health insurance that refunds you between 30 and 80% of your medical fees in France. It can be completed by an extra/complementary health insurance called “mutuelle”.

- If you're European Union citizen, you should apply in your country for a European health insurance card valid for the whole period of your stay in France (apply at the latest one month before departure) so you don't need to affiliate you to the French social security.
- If you're not European Union citizen you must affiliate you to the French social security (for free).

You will have an information session about French social security, “mutuelles” and insurances in September.

FRENCH BANK ACCOUNT: If you want you can open your French bank account on the campus with one of our partner banks. You'll need passport + accommodation proof + student card.

FRENCH PHONE NUMBER: As soon as you have your French permanent address you can order a French phone number online and get your sim card by post.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATIONS

You should download the RATP app on your phone to search for transit routes, timetables, etc.

From the airports to the Campus

From CDG airport (Paris Roissy Charles De Gaulle)

- Take **RER B** in direction of Saint Rémy les chevreuse or Massy Palaiseau or Orsay ville (not Robinson)

Get off at Massy Palaiseau and take bus **91.10** or **91.06** and get off at the bus stop Polytechnique-Lozère. -> It takes a bit more than an hour.

Or get off at Lozère but you'll have to climb a lot of steps.

From Orly airport

- Take bus **91.10** (terminal west or south level 0) and get off at the bus stop Polytechnique-Lozère. -> It takes around 40 minutes. (There are few buses, like 1 per hour)
- or take the **orlyval** to Antony and then **RER B** in direction of Saint Rémy les chevreuses or Massy Palaiseau or Orsay ville (not Robinson)

Get off at Massy Palaiseau and take bus **91.10** or **91.06** and get off at the bus stop Polytechnique-Lozère. -> It takes around 40 minutes.

Or get off at Lozère but you'll have to climb a lot of steps

FYI: Despite the attractive prices, landing at Beauvais airport (BVA) is not a very good idea, as it is 70km north of Paris, and the main way to get to the campus would be a 1 hour shuttle to Porte Maillot (17 euros ticket for one way), then take the metro and RER B (and finally you will have to climb the Lozère steps or take the bus at Massy Palaiseau).

I look forward to meeting you all at ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE!