FRENCH VISA for FALL 2009

LONG STAY STUDENT VISA: more than 90 days and less than 6 months

Academic stays greater than 3 months (Fall and Spring) follow the instructions below:

a) Campus France: Students must first apply through Campus France at www.usa.campusfrance.org first before applying for French Visa at the French consulate

b) Once you are cleared through that process, you can go to the French Consulate for the Visa. Download the application at http://www.consulfrance-newyork.org/spip.php?article370#LONG-STAY-STUDENT-VISAmore-than-90

This last process is 2-3 days, but BE AWARE, the NY French Consulate is very particular, so make certain that you have all necessary documents. No missing documents can be mailed. Application

c) Visa Application: Download the detailed information regarding French Visa from www.rider.edu/studyabroad. It has all information necessary, the Visa application and the documents needed for your Visa.

French Visa Timetable

a. Normally CF approval is about 3-4 weeks. After around November 10, delays accrue and the process could take around 4 weeks, and THEN students have to apply for the VISA.

WARNING: ATTENTION - As from June 1st 2009, processing of long stay visas takes a minimum delay of one week.

This Consulate will only accept applications from residents of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Bermuda.

You must obtain your Student Visa while in the USA at the appropriate consulate. The visa cannot be issued once the applicant is in France.

All incomplete applications will be kept on file at the consulate until the missing documents are presented, the processing will begin only once the application is complete.

The consular administration has full authority to evaluate and request more documents than those submitted by the applicant. Submitting the following documents, while required, does not guarantee issuance of a visa.

You may not apply more than 90 days prior to your departure.
Requirements:

- 1 application form for a Long Stay and 1 photo. The form must be completely and legibly filled out in black or blue ink, signed and dated. The photo must be recent, identical, passport size - 2" x 2" (4,5cm x 4,5cm) and showing face front the forehead hairline and ears on a white background.

- Passport or travel document valid for at least three months following the last day of your stay in France (+ 1 copy of identity page). Be sure the passport has blank "visa" pages left to affix the visa.

- A USA residency card (Green Card) or I-551 stamp, or a valid USA visa or I-20 with F1 valid visa, were applicable or an Advanced Parole, which must be valid for at least 30 days beyond the last day in France.

- Proof of your student status - Student Identification card or attestation from your School or University in the USA. (+ 1 copy of identity page)

If the applicant is under 18 years old, please follow the instructions for Minor Student Visa, however the visa may be issued the same day.

Please submit the following documents in original and 1 copy per applicant:

ATTENTION The Visa Section does not make any copies, you must bring your documents and the required copies when you enter or you will have to re-join the lines.

Flight reservation:

- Complete itinerary or round trip ticket with confirmed dates. No open tickets accepted. Do not purchase tickets until the visa has been approved.

Letter of inscription in a School / University in France, specifying exact dates of attendance.

Proof of accommodation

- If you will be staying with a family or friend, they should provide you with a letter stating on the honour that you will be living with them. Additionally are required photocopies of : State issued ID, the lease or property deed and a telephon or electric bill in France.

or

- a letter from the school stating that you will be staying on campus or in student housing provided by the school, with an adress.
Financial guarantee

- A notarized letter, with the provider’s exact name and relation to student, personal address and telephone number, certifying that the applicant will be granted a monthly allowance of at least 600 USD for the duration of his/her stay in France. A copy of the personal bank statement of the provider, this provider cannot be the school, must be attached, or the Financial Guarantee Form, or

- A letter from the school stating that room, board and tuition are fully paid and a notarized letter as per above guaranteeing a monthly allowance of at least 200 USD, or

- A proof of personal income of at least 600 USD per month for the duration of the stay in France.

**WARNING**: Failure to provide this document will delay the granting of the visa.

**SUMMER VISA**: ACADEMIC STAYS LESS THAN 3 MONTHS (**SUMMER ONLY**): Students apply directly to the French Consulate at: