



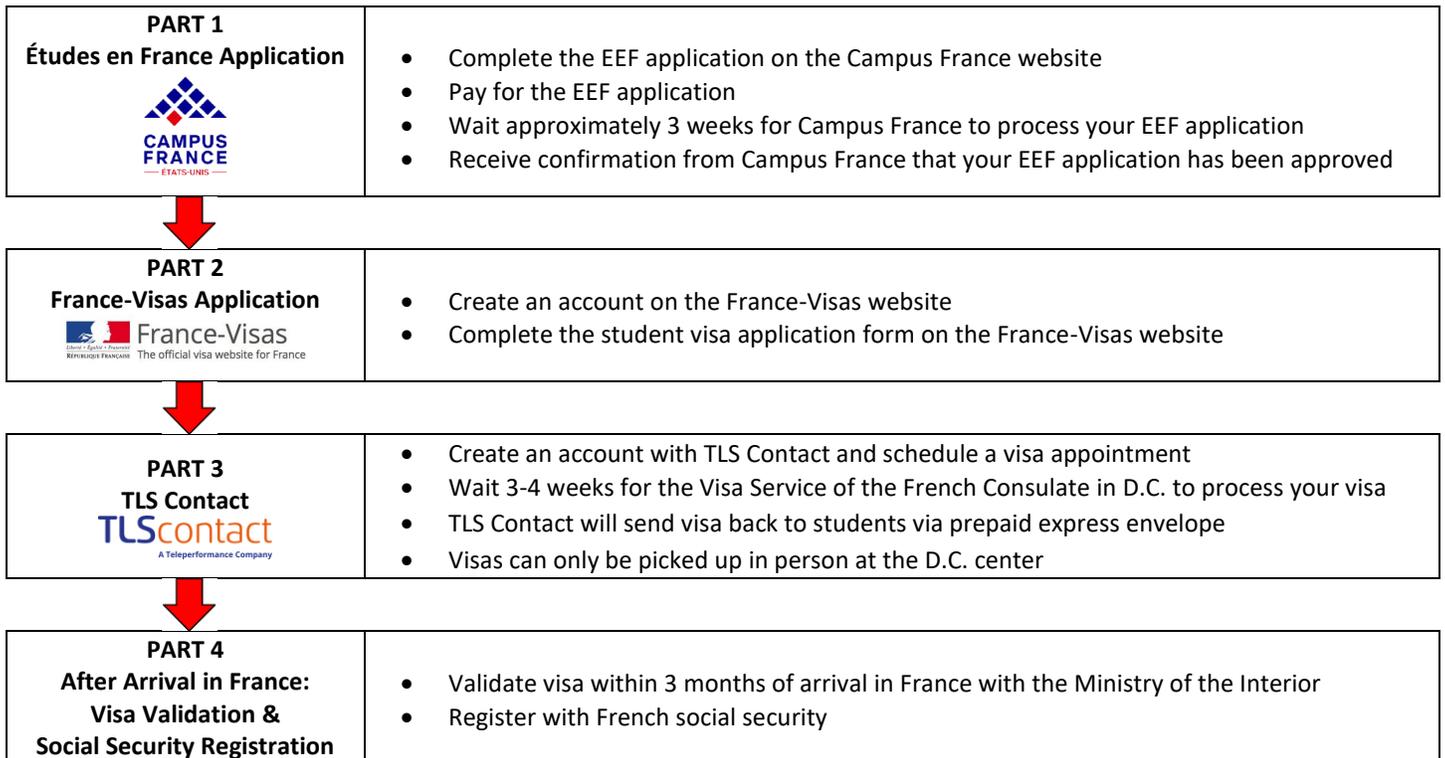
St. John's Semester in Paris

Fall 2026: French Student Visa Checklist, Details, & Tips

As a participant in St. John's Semester in Paris for Fall 2026, you must obtain a French student visa by **July 15th**.

Throughout the French visa process, you are required to work 1:1 with Natalie Artiles, Coordinator of Outbound Student Services, to help you complete all visa steps correctly. **As soon as you confirm your spot in the program, please reach out to Natalie Artiles at (718) 990-8071 or artilesn@stjohns.edu to schedule an appointment to get started.**

The French student visa process is divided in 4 parts:



IMPORTANT:

You **CANNOT** complete your France-Visas application nor schedule your visa appointment through TLS Contact until you submit your EEF application and receive your EEF (USXX-XXXXX) ID, which typically takes 3 weeks. Please plan enough time to complete EEF, schedule your visa appointment, and receive your passport in the mail with your affixed visa. **The entire French visa process will take 8-10 weeks.**

Visa Fees:

Pre-Departure:

- \$270 (or \$460 expedited) - Études en France application
- 220€ - TLS Contact fee (to schedule appt, charged in USD at current exchange rate)
- \$40 - TLS Contact Express mailer for return of visa/passport (unless picking up in D.C.)
- 50€ - Visa fee (charged in USD at current exchange rate - NO expedited process)

After Arrival:

- 50€ - Visa validation fee (after arrival)

The total cost of the French visa process is between \$690 USD and \$880 USD, depending on services selected. Please note that the total cost range does NOT include travel to/from the TLS Contact center.

PART 1 – ÉTUDES EN FRANCE APPLICATION



Études en France (EEF) is the Campus France online application.

Campus France step-by-step guide: [Etudes en France Application Guide | Campus France USA](#)

Create and activate account here: [Études en France \(diplomatie.gouv.fr\)](#)



When to start:

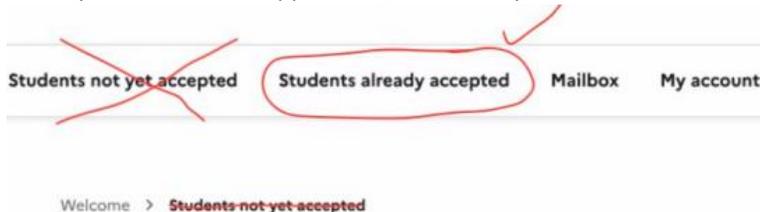
- You should start the EEF application as soon as you confirm your spot for St. John's Semester in Paris
- For Fall 2026, your EEF application should be submitted no later than June 1st

Creating the account:

- You must select "Espace Campus France – États-Unis" as your Campus France location.
- DO NOT use an iCloud email address since Campus France typically has issues with iCloud email addresses.
- For your date of birth, enter it in European format: Day/Month/Year
- For Type of ID, select "passport" and enter the expiration date in European format: Day/Month/Year
- Once you create the account, you will receive an email within 1-2 minutes to activate it.

IMPORTANT:

When you start the EEF application, make sure you are in the "Students Already Accepted" tab.



Pay the Études en France Processing Fee:

- Do not pay the fee until you have submitted your EEF application
- The fee is paid by credit card through this link: <https://www.usa.campusfrance.org/pay-the-etudes-en-france-application-fee>
- Scroll down to "Study Abroad" and click on your service of choice:
 - Regular service (\$270) – 3 weeks
 - Expedited service (\$460) – 3 business days
- You will need to enter your EEF number (USXX-XXXXX ID)
- Your application will not be processed until the fee is paid

Receive Campus France USA Confirmation Email (3 weeks or 3 business days later):

- This email confirms that Campus France USA has processed your EEF application
- The confirmation email will be sent to the email address used to create the EEF account and will either have the subject line: **USXX- XXXXX / Your Campus France file has been processed OR USXX-XXXXX or USXX- XXXXX / Etudes en France: l'instruction de votre dossier est terminée** (not to be confused with the confirmation of payment email).
- You CANNOT complete the France-Visas application until you receive the Campus France USA confirmation email.

PART 2 – FRANCE-VISAS APPLICATION



France-Visas is the official visa website for France. This is where the visa application form is created.

<https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en-US/web/france-visas/>

You will need to:

- Create and activate an account as soon as the CF/EEF step (including payment) has been submitted.
 - France-Visas Account Creation Tutorial:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1idAK3UdtI>
- Complete the form.
 - France-Visas Application Creation Tutorial:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmJ7pxgONy8>
- Generate, save, and print PDF.
- There is NO need to upload supporting documents online even though the opportunity is presented at the end. PAPER printed copies are required at the visa appointment anyway, so uploading them electronically does not necessarily save time.

List of required supporting documentation to bring to visa appointment at TLS Contact center:

- Visa application form
- France-Visas receipt
- ID photograph
- Passport
- Copy of passport
- For non-U.S. citizens, proof of legal status in the U.S.
- Campus France USA Confirmation email
- Pre-registration certificate generated by EEF-Pastel
- Proof of enrollment in a study program in France
- Proof of accommodation in France
- Proof of sufficient funds for program period in France (equivalent of 615€/month, which is approximately \$2,500 USD for a total of 4 months)

Please refer to this guide (pages 5-15) for details and visuals of all supporting documents:

[Student Visa Guidelines.pdf \(campusfrance.org\)](#)

Visa Document Review (VDR) Session:

Before attending your visa appointment at the TLS Contact Center, please schedule a Visa Document Review (VDR) session with Natalie Artiles to review your documents. You can schedule it [here](#).

PART 3 – TLS CONTACT



After completing the online student visa application on the France-Visas platform, you will schedule an in-person appointment at a TLS Contact Center to submit your visa application and all supporting documentation.

TLS Contact is a third-party service that collects the visa dossier and sends it to the embassy for review. The visa appointment is with TLS Contact (not directly with the consulate) – and is in-person. There are only 10 TLS Contact centers, so travel may need to be planned for. Take this into account when budgeting for the visa.

TLS Contact Centers:

- Atlanta
- Boston
- Chicago
- Houston
- Los Angeles
- Miami
- New York
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- Washington D.C.

You will need to:

- Create and activate account as soon as the France-Visas Application with the Registration Receipt have been completed: <https://www.tlscontact.com/en/>
- Pay the TLS Contact fee of 220€.
- Pay the express mailer fee of \$40.
- Schedule your visa appointment at the visa center of your choice (the Visa Registration number is required to schedule a visa appointment).
- Pay the visa application fee of 50€ (payable by card) for your long-stay visa at your appointment.

IMPORTANT:

- Visa appointment CANNOT be scheduled for more than 180 days before departure.
- Visa appointment should be scheduled NO LATER than 4 weeks before departure (no expedited option for this).

After your visa appointment:

- You must wait 3-4 weeks for the Visa Service of the French Consulate in D.C. to process your visa.
- TLS Contact will send visa back to students via prepaid express envelope (\$40 fee).
- Visas can only be picked up in person at the Washington D.C. center.
- Once you receive your visa, please upload a copy to the “Copy of Visa” questionnaire in your St. John’s study abroad portal.

PART 4 – AFTER ARRIVAL IN FRANCE: VISA VALIDATION & SOCIAL SECURITY REGISTRATION

Visa Validation:

- You must validate your visa within 3 months of arrival in France with the Ministry of the Interior (50€ fee, payable online): <https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>
- This will ensure that you are registered as a legal resident in France to complete your relocation.
- If you fail to validate your visa within the first three months following your arrival, you will no longer be considered a legal resident in France and will be unable to re-enter the Schengen Area.

Social Security Registration:

- You must also register with French social security: <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/>