



STUDENT GUIDE



GET READY FOR THE FUTURE AT EURECOM

Congratulations!

You will soon be arriving at EURECOM to start your studies and life here.

This *Welcome Guide* has been designed especially for YOU. It contains essential information that you will need before and upon your arrival in France and during your stay at EURECOM. Please take a moment to read this guide as it will be useful.

It is full of practical information about EURECOM, life on the French Riviera and your life in general before and during your stay with us. Thank you for choosing EURECOM for your study period abroad. We look forward to welcoming you in person!

NB: French vocabulary is sometimes used here (shown **in red in the text**) to give you a better understanding of some local requirements.

If you have any further questions after reading this document, please do not hesitate to contact us by:

E-mail: admission@eurecom.fr

Skype: admission.eurecom

Phone: + 33 493008100

Nice to know some useful French words:

Hello	Bonjour
How are you?	Comment allez-vous?
I'm fine	Je vais bien
Good bye	Au Revoir
Thank you	Merci
My name is...	Je m'appelle ...
What's your name?	Comment vous appelez-vous ?

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5 THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

1. CONTACTS & INFORMATION

Our admissions team will always be here to assist you and answer your questions.

A FACEBOOK group (“EURECOM incoming students”) is available for you to contact current and newly admitted EURECOM students: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EURECOM.incoming/>

You can also have a look at these special websites on the subject of France: <https://uk.france.fr/en>; our region: <https://provence-alpes-cotedazur.com/en/get-inspired/>; Nice, the closest big city: <http://ee.france.fr/en/discover/nice-cote-azur> <http://ee.france.fr/en/discover/nice-cote-azur>; and Sophia Antipolis Techno-Park: <https://www.sophia-antipolis.fr/>

2. YOUR VISA OR RESIDENT PERMIT

Here is some French vocabulary relating to resident permits:

Visa long séjour (VLS-TS): Long-stay student visa.

OFl: The agency that officially validates your long-term stay following your arrival in France.

Récépissé: If you stay in France for more than 1 year, you will need to renew your resident permit. The French authorities will send you a **récépissé** (a receipt of acknowledgement valid for 3 months), covering the period until your resident permit arrives.

Titre de séjour: Residence permit.

If you are a non-EU citizen, you will need to have a visa or a resident permit to study and live in France.

3 ways of obtaining a visa or resident permit:

1/ If you come to EURECOM from another French education centre, you will already have a resident permit. Just send a copy of your current resident permit to admission@eurecom.fr.

We will process the renewal through EURECOM's relevant department (+ or - 3 months to obtain the renewal)

2/ If you are a national of a non-EU country, you will need to apply for a long-stay student visa (VLS-TS) at the French consulate of your country of residence.

In some countries, a preliminary procedure must be fulfilled known as **études en France** at your local Campus France agency.

Please see <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/application-etudes-en-france-procedure>

3/ If you are a national of a non-EU country with a residence permit in another EU country, you will still need to apply for a long-stay study visa through the French authorities.

You are responsible for this procedure

Please see the links below for information about studying in France.

This is an **official website for French visa applications**: <https://france-visas.gouv.fr/>. It contains all the information you need to prepare for your stay in France.

1/ Do you need a visa?

<https://www.campusfrance.org/en/the-different-types-of-visas>

2/ Information regarding your future stay as a student in France:

<https://www.campusfrance.org/en/studying-in-France>

Please remember that we are here to help you and to provide the documents requested by the French authorities so that you can obtain your visa.

Please note, if you are an EU citizen, you do not need a visa to study and live in France.

On arrival in France, citizens of European Union countries and Switzerland, Liechtenstein and San Marino need an **official identity card or passport** (a passport is recommended since it may be requested). In this case, **a visa is not needed to study in France.**

All other foreigners travelling from outside EU/EEA countries (the European Economic Area) will need a valid passport.

3. ACCOMMODATION

- Searching for accommodation
- What you need for a housing contract
 - A financial guarantee
 - A compulsory housing insurance
 - A deposit

a- Searching for accommodation

In the beautiful Riviera, searching for accommodation can be complicated. We strongly advise you to begin searching at the beginning of June if you are due to start in September.

EURECOM's admissions team will help you to find accommodation by providing the contact details of student halls of residence, private landlords and other accommodation.

EURECOM has an online housing service where students can login and find possible accommodation: <http://housing.eurecom.fr>

You can either register using your Facebook account or with your personal e-mail address and the following password: HOUSINGEURECOM

Please note that 70% of our incoming students find accommodation through this online housing service.

Be aware that we also have special contacts with the CIV (High school in Valbonne) who proposes rentals at a very competitive rate:

<http://www.civfrance.com/centre/hebergement/chambres-etudiantes>

We also work with some private halls of residence and accommodation services, such as:

https://www.zenitude-hotel-residences.com/fr_FR/espace-etudiant

https://www.zenitude-hotel-residences.com/fr_FR/residence/117

<https://www.appartcity.com/fr/destinations/provence-alpes-cote-d-azur/antibes/antibes.html>

<http://www.nemea-residence-etudiante.com/france/provence-alpes-cote-d-azur/alpes-maritimes/biot/le-magister/residence-57.html>

<https://www.goelia.com/fr/residence-vacances/biot-sophia-antipolis/residence-appartea-golf-side.253.4.php>

<http://www.habitat-pluriel.fr/etudiants/detail/7085/residence-etudiante-les-calades-de-sophia>
<http://www.grand-sud-accueil.com/2,saint-exupery,sophia-antipolis.php>
<https://www.neoresid.com/residence/residence-etudiante-sophia-antipolis/>
<http://www.civfrance.com/centre/hebergement/chambres-etudiantes>
<http://www.odalys-city.com>
<http://relais-sud.fr/>
<https://www.adele.org/residence/2218/studea-sophia-2218/valbonne-06/dispos-08-2019>
www.studiosperlantibes.com
<http://maisonblancheresort.com/fr/>

You can also look for accommodation through these well-known national websites (mainly in French):

<https://www.adele.org/en/>
<https://www.appartager.com/>
https://www.leboncoin.fr/locations_gites/offres/provence_alpes_cote_d_azur/
<http://www.okroommate.com/>
<https://www.seloger.com/>
<https://www.adele.org/en/>

b- What you need for a housing rental contract

Property owners and halls of residence usually ask you to provide 3 documents:

- a financial guarantee
- housing insurance
- a deposit

- **A financial guarantee (cautionnement)**

This guarantee can be obtained in 4 ways:

1/ By nominating a French guarantor (this means someone who lives and works in France with a French bank account). This is the option generally preferred by landlords and halls of residence.

2/ By having a **VISALE** (a financial guarantee from the French state). Because not all foreign students have a French guarantor, you can apply for a VISALE guarantee:

<https://www.visale.fr/#/>

3/ By asking a bank to be your guarantor. Some banks will agree to be your guarantor. In this case, you will need to provide the bank with a certain amount of funds (for example, the equivalent of 2 or 3 months' rent, as decided by the bank) in exchange for them to act as your guarantor.

4/ Through a relative abroad who will be accepted as a guarantor by a landlord. (This solution is not often accepted by landlords).

- **Housing insurance (assurance logement)**

Under French law, tenants must provide a housing insurance certificate (**attestation d'assurance logement**) in exchange for the keys of the apartment

(See: <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F31300>)

As this insurance is compulsory, it will be requested by your landlord or hall of residence. Sometimes it can be included in your contract, mainly in the case of private accommodation.

This housing insurance includes civil liability (**responsabilité civile**).

All banks and insurance companies offer this kind of insurance.

If you break anything or cause any damage to your accommodation, remember that you can ask your housing insurance company to pay the penalty for damage.

Your housing insurance is specific to your chosen accommodation. If you move, the size of your new accommodation and the furniture could be different, so the cost of insurance could vary.

- **Deposit:**

Landlords and halls of residence will also ask you to pay a deposit (usually one month's rent).

This deposit is usually reimbursed 1 or 2 months after your departure (depending on the stipulations in the contract).

4. HEALTH INSURANCE

If you are an EU citizen

If you are from an EU country (plus students from Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), you are exempt from registering with the French public health system. You will remain affiliated to the health insurance scheme in your home country. However, you should bring your [European Health Insurance Card](#) (EHIC card) which will give you access to medical treatment under the French health system. This card has to be requested from your local health service in your home country before coming to France.



It must be valid for the whole of your stay in France. Make sure it covers enough costs abroad.

See this link for full information about how to use your card:

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1021&langId=en&intPageId=1737>

Please be aware that this card will also be required to apply for public housing benefit (CAF).

If you are a non-EU citizen

If you are a non-EU student, you will need to purchase a private insurance cover for your trip before coming to France (covering at least the trip and your first weeks in France). On your arrival at EURECOM, you will need to register with the French public health system (see the procedure further below).

5. CROUS SCHOLARSHIP (FOR FRENCH STUDENTS)

If you are a CROUS Scholarship Holder (*Boursier CROUS* in French), don't forget to renew your Student Social File (*DSE / Dossier Social Etudiant*) between January and May on the following website:

<https://www.messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr>.

To indicate EURECOM as place of study, on the step 4 of the registration process, please select « autres diplômes », then « première année », and finally « Sophia Antipolis EURECOM télécom » in the “ministère de l'économie” menu.

If you need assistance, please contact admission@eurecom.fr

6. HOW TO GET TO EURECOM

BY CAR

If you are travelling by car from Antibes-Juan-les-Pins, you should take the D35 road to Sophia Antipolis. Follow the signs to Sophia Antipolis.

If you are travelling by car from Nice or Cannes, you should take the A8 motorway and leave it at exit no. 44 (Antibes - Sophia Antipolis). Follow the signs to Sophia Antipolis.

<https://www.eurecom.fr/en/access>

You can park your car / bicycle on PARKING LOT NUMBER P3

Google maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/gfm6LcXXC2krX8Ak6>



BY PLANE

From Nice Airport, take bus no. 230 (Nice-Sophia Xpress line, €1.50 for a one-way ticket).

<https://www.lignesdazur.com/en/departement-bus-lines/108>

The closest bus stop to EURECOM is TEMPLIERS.

Then cross the roundabout and climb the steps in front of you. Follow the path to the last building.

BY TRAIN

High-speed and express trains from the Riviera link the coast to all regions of France and to all major European cities. The TGV Mediterranean high-speed train takes you from Paris to Nice in 5 hours 25 minutes. Trains run frequently between Nice and Antibes. The journey takes around 20 minutes.

<https://www.sncf.com/en>

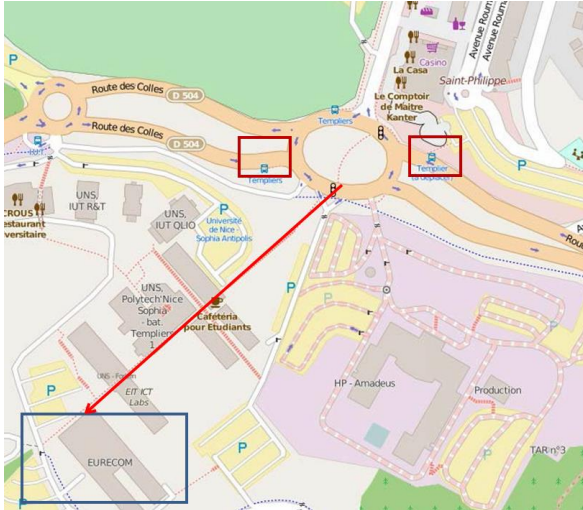
BY BUS

You can take a bus (the 100 Express line or line 1) from Antibes (from downtown or the railway station). See

<http://www.envibus.fr/en.html>

A single ticket can be purchased from ENVIBUS' automatic machines or on the bus.

If you come by bus, you will have to climb some steps from TEMPLIERS bus stop to reach EURECOM!



EURECOM is the very last building after climbing the steps.



8 THINGS TO DO ON ARRIVAL IN FRANCE

1. YOUR VISA OR RESIDENT PERMIT

If you are a non-EU student, you will need to have a visa or a resident permit to study and live in France.

4 possibilities:

- You already have a resident permit.

Just send a copy of your permit to admission@eurecom.fr as promptly as possible, preferably in June, and we will help you with the renewal procedure (period to obtain a renewal document is more or less 3 months in Nice Préfecture).

- You hold a VLS-TS visa (obtained in your home country before departure).

As soon as you arrive in France, you will have to validate your VLS-TS long-stay visa online:

<https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers#/vls-ts/demarches/etape/numero-visa>

With this online procedure, the expiry date of your visa will be validated.

Should you need any help with this procedure, please do not hesitate to ask Gwenaëlle LE STIR in office 001.

- You need to renew your resident permit.

Our visa department at EURECOM (studentsvisa@eurecom.fr) will contact you 3 months before the expiry date of your current resident permit to help you renew it.

Each time you have to renew your resident permit, you will need to have:

- Proof that you hold a minimum of €615 (per month for at least 3 months) in your bank account to live on in France.
- An address in the area.

- You leave Sophia Antipolis for some reason (an internship, master's degree thesis, study abroad, etc.).

You will need to renew your resident permit in the relevant place, depending on your address, either at a prefecture (local government authority) in France, or a consulate in another country.

2. FRENCH BANK ACCOUNT

In France, you will need a French bank account to apply for public housing benefit (CAF or "aide au logement") and to be reimbursed by the [French health system](#) (Sécurité Sociale).

So we encourage you to open a French bank account as promptly as possible.

See: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/getting-a-bank-account>

In order to smooth certain administrative procedures for you on your arrival, we have negotiated the possibility of a bank account with a bank called CIC. Please be aware this is an external service, independent from EURECOM, and you are completely free to decide whether to take up the services offered by CIC.

Most of the time, a bank can offer:

- a bank account
- housing insurance (compulsory if you rent accommodation in France)
- a mobile phone/Internet connection, etc.

3. ACCOMMODATION

- Getting your keys
- CAF (public housing benefit)
- French housing tax
- **Getting your keys**

When you get the keys to your rented room or flat, you will have to sign a check list with an inventory of the contents of the property (**état des lieux**).

When you leave your accommodation, you will have to go through the same process.

Those 2 lists (on arrival and departure) will allow you to recover your deposit 1 or 2 months after your departure, if there is no damage. If you fail to return the room/flat in the same condition as it was on your arrival, you will probably not get your deposit back.

You must therefore pay close attention to the check list on arrival and take photos of everything before you get the keys. You have 10 days after signing this check list to inform the property owner or hall of residence of any unnoticed damage.

- **CAF (public housing benefit)** (**Caisse d'Allocations Familiales**)
<https://www.caf.fr/>

To apply for CAF, you will need:

- an accommodation rental contract
- a French bank account
- a birth certificate in your native language and officially translated into French

You can get an official translation of your birth certificate in your country.

You can also use this French link:

<https://www.directory-sworn-translator.com/>

Useful information about public housing benefit:

To register, you need to write your exact name as it is on your birth certificate and you should always use the same name for all administrative procedures.

The amount of public housing benefit is individually assessed, based on the cost of the rent and the student's financial means. This benefit is not automatically granted.

You might be eligible for public housing benefit if:

- You are renting alone or flat sharing
- You are living in an apartment, a university hall of residence, a furnished flat, a hotel, a room in a private home
- Your accommodation has a minimum size of 9 m² (single) or 16 m² (double)

Please note that you will be asked whether you are a **boursier** (i.e. whether you have a scholarship from the French government through the **CROUS**). This is not your case. A CAF scholarship is a French state grant based on social criteria (for people in a disadvantaged financial situation).

Please note that **no public housing benefit is paid** in September. Note too that CAF always pays one month in arrears (i.e. the October allowance is paid in November).

In the case of non-EU students, CAF will only start paying once they receive a copy of your OFII sticker, proving that your visa has been validated. Nonetheless, even if CAF starts paying in December, the previous October and November will also be taken into account and paid.

In some cases, it may take CAF several months to process your application.

On average, students receive €150/month if they rent a studio flat and €70 if they share a room.
If you apply late, your application will not be backdated.

If your situation changes, you will need to inform CAF (i.e. if you move to a different place, you will need to change your address and ask for a new allowance for the new accommodation).

- **French housing tax (taxe d'habitation)**

- If you live in an apartment from 1st January, you will be the person responsible for paying housing tax on it for the whole year.

- If you live in an apartment from the 2nd January, you won't pay anything. The person who was in the apartment on 1st January is the only one who will pay.

Do not hesitate to ask your landlord or hall of residence for further information.

See: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/student-housing-france>

4. ELECTRICITY AND WATER

EDF (the French electricity company)

(<https://www.edf.fr/en/meta-home>)

EDF's helpline for English speakers: 05 62 16 49 08

EDF's helpline for French speakers: 09 69 36 63 83

If you rent an apartment on the private real-estate market, you will be responsible for opening an account with electricity and gas suppliers. There are many energy suppliers in France.

To open your electricity supply account, you will need to provide the company with:

- Flat number
- Address
- Name of previous tenant
- IBAN (Bank details)
- The meter reading (provided by the landlord)
- The meter number (provided by the landlord)

If you have any doubts about the meter reading or meter number, take a photo and we will help you.

The admissions team is also there to help you open a [WATER](#) or [GAS](#) supply account.

5. HEALTH INSURANCE/ SOCIAL SECURITY

See: <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/registering-to-social-security>

Here is a French term you will hear. The French Social Security or public health system is called **Sécurité sociale** (or **La Sécu**).

The website is **AMELI** (<https://assure.ameli.fr/>)

When you register, you will receive an **Attestation de droit** (legal certificate entitling you to benefit from the system). It is the first document that is given to certify that you are registered.



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Assurance Maladie
HAUT-RHIN

Numéro de l'assuré
Nom de l'assuré

Attestation de droits à l'assurance maladie

Valable du 01/03/2015 au 03/03/2016 sous réserve de changement dans la situation de l'assuré

organisme de rattachement sécurité sociale	code gestion	n° de sécurité sociale de l'assuré (à utiliser pour tous les bénéficiaires résidents)	modalité de ticket maladie
01 002 0101	70		R, L, FRONTALIER
(bénéficiaire) nom de famille sans fin d'usage		n° de sécurité sociale du bénéficiaire (pour résidents)	date d'émission
<p>Si aucun message spécifique pour le bénéficiaire, sans application pour tous RÉGIME LOCAL FRONTALIER. TOUTES PRESTATIONS À 100% DU RETENUE AU DÉPART SAUF PHARMACIE À 100% (PMSI) TRANSPORTS ET HOSPITALISATION À 100% Hospitalisation et soins externes hors budget global à solliciter via médecin traitant</p>			

Toute attestation de droits antérieure est à détruire.

Once you have completed all the registration procedures, you will receive a **CARTE VITALE** (social security card) a few days later. You will need to show it at all medical appointments to be reimbursed afterwards.



When you show your **carte vitale** to the doctor, the whole process is automated and you will receive the reimbursed medical fees from **CPAM**, the Social Security's financial department, a few days after the consultation.

In addition to this compulsory **free** public health insurance, you can take out complementary private health insurance known as a **mutuelle** to get an additional refund on top of the Social Security reimbursement. This is not compulsory.

How to register with the **Sécurité Sociale**

If you are an EU citizen (plus students from Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), you are exempt from registering with the French public health system, but you need to bring your **European Health Insurance Card** (EHIC card).

Registration with the French public health system is free of charge so you can register if you wish. (See the procedure below).

If you are a non-EU citizen, registration with the French public health system is compulsory and free of charge. It will cover part of your medical expenses (medical appointments, prescribed medicines, hospital stays etc.), usually with the reimbursement of up to 70% of the cost. Some costs, such as dental or optician's charges, may not be covered.



The whole registration procedure must be done online through the **AMELI** website:

1/ Register at <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/#/>

2/ Upload the following documents:

- ID card, or passport,
- Current resident permit (visa, OFII etc.)
- Education centre certificate
- IBAN (bank details)
- Your birth certificate in the original language plus an official translation into French

3/ You will later receive the **attestation de droit** with a provisional number starting with 7 for men and 8 for women.

Your official final registration number will be sent later.

How to obtain your **carte vitale**

When you receive your final registration number, you should apply for your **carte vitale**. This card must be shown each time you visit a doctor, go to hospital, or have a medical test. It facilitates the reimbursement of all medical costs.

You can get a card by creating an account on **AMELI** (<https://assure.ameli.fr/>)

NB: On each screen, press the button indicated by the BLUE ARROW

1-

J'accède à mon compte ameli

Mon numéro de sécurité sociale
Où trouver mon numéro de sécurité sociale ?

Mon code (4 à 13 chiffres)
Code oublié ?

ME CONNECTER

Ou

S'identifier avec FranceConnect

Première visite ? Créer un compte ←

2-

If you cannot access the website, call **0811 70 97 24** (a hotline in English is available)

For your information, you will have music + one speech in French + music again and you will have to tell : “je ne parle pas français”

You will have to designate a G.P. in France. If needed, EURECOM can provide a list of nearby doctors that are used by our students. The doctor will fill in a document to be mailed to the following address:
 Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie des Alpes-Maritimes
 06180 NICE Cedex 2

How to be reimbursed for public health costs

When you are registered with the **Sécurité Sociale**, you will be entitled to a partial reimbursement each time you visit a doctor, go to hospital, buy medicines, etc.

The money will be automatically reimbursed if you have and you present your **carte vitale**. (A reimbursement of up to 70% will be paid directly into your bank account).

If you do not have a **carte vitale** yet, you will have to show the doctor your **attestation de droit** and he/she will give you a document called a **feuille de soin** (healthcare form) in order to claim for the reimbursement. (Shown below is an example of a **feuille de soin**).

This form should be filled in, signed and sent to:
 Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie des Alpes-Maritimes
 06180 NICE Cedex 2

Always keep a copy.

How to receive a bigger refund

To receive a bigger refund, you can take out supplementary private insurance (a **mutuelle**). It costs from 8 to 60 euros a month, depending on your needs (and the coverage).

This is not compulsory but it is strongly recommended as it can ensure coverage of up to 100% of the medical costs (as opposed to up to 70% if you only have public health insurance).

You can take out this supplementary medical insurance cover in your home country or in France.

For further information, see <https://www.campusfrance.org/en/healthcare-student-social-security>

If you are ill

You must see a G.P. (family doctor) first. He/she can then refer you to the appropriate specialist. EURECOM can provide a list of English speaking doctors.

If you need psychological support:

You can make an appointment with your G.P. (family doctor) and he/she will then refer you to the appropriate specialist. Alternatively, you can ask for an appointment at a **CENTRE MEDICO PSYCHOLOGIQUE** (psychologists' group).

The address depends on where you live. (See Gwenaëlle to get an appointment at one).

If you are ill and you cannot attend your course or internship, you will ONLY be excused if you get a certificate from a French doctor and send it to the STUDENT AFFAIRS TEAM (study@eurecom.fr) during the 48 hour-period following the appointment.

How to pay a doctor

In France, things are sometimes complex. For this simple matter, there are 4 options:

1/ If your doctor charges public healthcare prices, and he/she has an agreement with the **Sécurité Sociale**:

- you show your **carte vitale**,
- you don't pay anything,
- and the doctor will be paid directly by the **Sécurité Sociale**.

2/ If your doctor charges public healthcare prices, but he/she does not have an agreement with the **Sécurité Sociale**:

- you show your **carte vitale**,
- you pay the set amount,
- and you will be reimbursed by the **Sécurité Sociale** to your bank account.

3/ If your doctor does not charge public healthcare prices, but higher ones (most doctors), and he/she has an agreement with the **Sécurité Sociale**:

- you show your **carte vitale**,
- you pay part of the **mutuelle**,
- and the doctor will be paid the public amount directly by the **Sécurité Sociale**.
- For your part to be reimbursed to you, you will need to send the invoice to your **mutuelle** if you have one.

4/ If your doctor does not charge public healthcare prices, but higher ones (most doctors), and he/she does not have an agreement with the **Sécurité Sociale**:

- you show your **carte vitale**,
- you pay the whole invoice,
- and you will be partly reimbursed by the **Sécurité Sociale** to your bank account,
- and you will have to send the invoice to your **mutuelle** to be reimbursed for the remaining part.

Simple, right 😊 ???

6. CVEC

Once every twelve months, at the beginning of the academic year, **all students in France pay CVEC** (the student and campus life contribution).

How to register and pay CVEC

1/ Click on the link:

<https://www.messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr/envole/>

2/ You will be directed to this page.



3/ Identify yourself:

- Choose CONNEXION if you already have an account (a CROUS account)
- If you do not have a CROUS account => choose INSCRIPTION (see red arrow below)



Fill in your personal data by following the instructions on the photographed screens above (Parcours Crous). Choose the option "je n'ai pas d'INE" if you do not have an INE (an identification number given to all students who have graduated from a French education centre). In such an event, you will be given a provisional one.

4/ When you are connected to your account on the portal:

Click on this orange box:



5/ Please note your study city: BIOT

6/ Pay €91 (the rate in 2019)

7/ Get your CVEC registration certificate

8/ Give it to the admissions team

All (French and non-French) students must register to pay CVEC (except for ERASMUS students because they are not registered at a French education centre).

If you have a scholarship from CROUS (social funding), you will need to register but you will pay and be reimbursed later.

7. TRANSPORT

Travel in the region on public transport:

The region has a fast well-connected transport service with advantageous rates for students (under the age of 26).

Here is a link to help choose the best means of transport: <https://www.sudmobilite.fr/>

Buses and trains

LIGNE D'AZUR: <https://www.lignesdazur.com/en>

This is the urban transport system in Nice, covering the whole city, with a special student pass:

Special rates for students	If you are aged between 19 and 25
Yearly: €228.50	Yearly: €153
Monthly: €28.60	Monthly: €20.40
10 trips: €8.50	10 trips: €8.50
Initial opening fee: €8	Initial opening fee: €8

Mandatory documents when applying for a pass:

- ID card (original + copy)
- ID photo
- Student card (original + copy)

PASS ZOU! ETUDES:

If you live in one of the closest cities, like Nice, Cannes or Grasse, and you are under the age of 26, you can buy a PASS ZOU card, valid from 1st September to 31st August, for buses and trains between these cities and Sophia Antipolis

Just register by clicking on this link: <https://www.maregionsud.fr/transports/pass-zou-etudes>
Or visit their office at 17 Avenue Thiers in Nice (<https://goo.gl/maps/vYc6Cz332xthTPDH7>)

This card will allow you to take the express bus from Nice to Sophia Antipolis (**230 Xpress line**).
You can also purchase single tickets (€1.50); 10 tickets (€10); or a one year card (€110).

ENVIBUS (<http://www.envibus.fr/en.html>)

A public bus company operating all around Sophia Antipolis Techno Park to cities such as Antibes, Valbonne, Cannes, etc.

Click on this link for information about different fares and payment systems:

<http://www.envibus.fr/en/the-best-pass/type-of-traveller/all-audiences.html>

If you are under the age of 26, you can pay for an annual pass (€100) or monthly pass (€12).

Mandatory documents when applying for a pass:

- ID card (copy of both sides)
- ID photo
- Student card (copy)

Other means of transportation

Apps like Uber or Blablacar (car sharing) are very common in the region:

<https://www.uber.com/global/fr/cities/cannes/>

<https://www.blablacar.fr/ride-sharing/nice/>

How to travel to the rest of France or worldwide:

If you want to visit France or Europe, you can get special fares if you are a student or under the age of 26 with rail systems like:

INTERRAIL

<https://www.sncf.com/en/passenger-offer/interrail-pass-europe>

Youth fares:

<https://www.sncf.com/en/passenger-offer/mainline-cards-fares/avantage-jeune-card>

Nice airport serves many destinations worldwide, and many low-cost companies (Easyjet, Ryanair, IberiaExpress, Vueling, etc) have routes from it to appealing destinations in Spain, Italy, the UK, the Netherlands, etc. for very reasonable fares.

8. MOBILE PHONES

The main operators in France are [Orange](#), [FREE](#), [SFR](#) and [Bouygues Telecom](#).

There are many different plans available, depending on what you need, and they all offer low-cost options such as: [Red By SFR](#); [B&You](#); [Sosh](#).

You can find a comparison of different options and prices on <https://www.lecomparatifdesforfaitsmobile.com>

Banks also offer mobile phone contracts when you open a bank account.

If you stay for just a short time in France, you can buy prepaid SIM cards in tobacco shops.

9. REFERENT STAFF FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

EURECOM has appointed a Referent for students with disabilities. His main role is to support students with disabilities

As a EURECOM student, do not hesitate to contact the Handicap Advisor, in complete confidentiality: referenthandicap@eurecom.fr.

4 THINGS TO DO WHEN YOU LEAVE EURECOM

1. RESIDENT PERMIT

If you want to stay in France after your graduation, you can apply for a resident permit to look for employment or start a business.

See: <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F17319>

2. ACCOMMODATION

When you leave France, you will need to terminate the housing contract you signed on your arrival. Under French law, the tenant must send a **lettre de résiliation** (letter of cancellation) to their landlord by **lettre recommandée avec avis de réception** (registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt).

This letter should usually be sent a month and a half before the tenant's departure.

Do not forget to cancel your housing insurance contract by sending another **lettre recommandée avec avis de réception**.

NB: You will have access to EURECOM's Intranet system (My Eurecom) where you can find many model letters.

3. ELECTRICITY AND WATER

To shut down your accounts, you must provide the electricity and water supply companies with the following information:

- **nom** = name
- **n° de contrat** = contract number
- **date de départ** = departure date
- **L'index du compteur au moment du départ** = the meter reading on the water/electricity meter on your departure day.
- **adresse autre que celle du contrat afin d'envoyer sa facture de fin de contrat** = your NEW address to receive the final bill.

FOR CROUS RESIDENTS ONLY: your check-out list (**état des lieux de départ**) signed by staff at your Isaac Newton or Les Dolines hall of residence

4. HEALTH INSURANCE

If you find a job, just call **3646** to update your personal information:

1/ Your status: from student to employee

2/ Your personal address if you move

MISCELLANEOUS

SENDING AN OFFICIAL LETTER IN FRANCE

Whenever you are required to send official notice by post, such as:

- A letter informing your landlord you are leaving his/her flat
- A letter cancelling contracts etc. (an electricity or water supply contract, phone contract, complementary health insurance)

You will have to send a LRAR or **lettre recommandée avec avis de réception** (registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt), like this one:

This means that the addressee must acknowledge receipt of your letter and you will be given official proof of this. You need to go to a post office and request this document. It is a yellow sticker to affix to the envelope. The staff there will help you to fill it in.

You can also do it online: <https://www.laposte.fr/lettre-recommandee-en-ligne>

SOME BASIC ADVICE

For any administrative procedure in France, never hand in the original version of a document (your passport, etc). You can provide a photocopy.

Use the same first name and surname as the ones on your passport and birth certificate. This will make administrative procedures much smoother and easier.

Avoid uploading or giving your IBAN bank details if you need to pay regularly for a service for a short period (less than 6 months).

PICKPOCKETING: Unfortunately, this is a tourist region, so be on the lookout for pickpockets ☺. Please be careful when you visit tourist cities like Nice or Cannes and when you take public transportation. (Take special care with your backpack).

**AND REMEMBER:
THE ADMISSIONS TEAM IS ALWAYS HERE TO HELP!**