

# St. John's Semester in Paris Spring 2025: French Student Visa Checklist, Details, & Tips

As a participant in St. John's Semester in Paris for Spring 2025, you are responsible for obtaining a French student visa by **December 15**th.

#### The French student visa process is divided in 3 parts:

# Part 1 Études en France

Application (EEF)

- Complete the Etudes en France application on the Campus France website
- Pay for the EEF application
- Wait approximately 3 weeks for Campus France to process your EEF application
- Receive confirmation from Campus France that your EEF application has been approved

Part 2
France-Visas
Application

- Create an account on the France-Visas website
- Complete the student visa application form on the France-Visas website

Part 3 VFS Global

- Create an account with VFS Global and schedule a visa appointment
- Wait 3-4 weeks for the Visa Service of the French Consulate to process your visa
- You will receive your visa via pre-paid express envelope, or, if you live close to the center where
  you had your appointment, you can pick it up in person

# Note:

You **CANNOT** complete your France-Visas application nor schedule your visa appointment 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:**

- \$270 (or \$430 expedited) Études en France application
- 26€ VFS Global fee (to schedule appt, charged in USD at current exchange rate)
- \$35 VFS Global Express mailer for return of visa/passport (Optional) or you can pick it up in person
- 50€ Visa fee (charged in-person at VFS Global center in USD at current exchange rate NO expedited process)

The total cost for the French visa is expected to be between \$390 and \$550, depending on services selected and if you expedite the EEF application.

#### Visa Document Review (VDR):

If at any point throughout the French visa process you would like to schedule a meeting with an OIE advisor for assistance, you can do so <u>here</u>.

## PART 1 – ÉTUDES EN FRANCE APPLICATION



Step 1: Please review the Campus France step-by-step guide to familiarize yourself with the process before getting started: <u>Etudes en France Application Guide | Campus France USA</u>

# Step 2: Create and activate your account to start the Etudes en France application here: Études en France (diplomatie.gouv.fr)





#### When to start:

- You can submit the EEF application as soon as you confirm your spot for St. John's Semester in Paris
- For Spring 2025, your EEF application must be submitted no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>

#### Important:

Make sure you are in the "Students Already Accepted" tab of the EEF application



# Step 3: Complete the Études en France application

- 1) Under" Select my current establishment"
  - Select "St. John's University New York"
- 2) Under "Select the French establishment that will host me"
  - Select "Search for a French establishment"
  - Enter the host institution name manually: St. John's University Paris Campus
- 3) Under "Check the name of your exchange program, and complete its characteristics if applicable"
  - For exchange program, select "other"
  - For the program description, please specify your program name, the program semester, and which courses you will be taking

### 4) Under "I write down my motivations"

• Write a short paragraph explaining why you want to study abroad. This should include how your time in France will benefit your professional and academic goals.

#### 5) Under "I attach proof off my exchange confirmation"

 Please attach your Enrollment Letter provided by OIE, which can be found in the documents section of your study abroad portal. If you do not have it yet, please email <u>oievisa@stjohns.edu</u>

### \*\*Passport\*\*

- Your passport must be valid until August 8, 2025
- If your passport is expired or your passport will expire before August 2025, please start your renewal process as soon as possible, as passport renewals can take up to several weeks

### Step 4: Pay the Études en France processing fee through this link:

Pay the Études en France Application Fee | Campus France USA

#### **Details:**

- You need your EEF number (USXX-XXXXX ID)
- You must pay with a debit/credit card
- \$270 for regular processing (3 weeks)
- \$430 for expedited processing (3 days)
- Do not pay the fee until you have submitted your EEF application
- Campus France will not start processing the registration until the fee is paid

# Step 5: You must receive confirmation from Campus France that the EEF application has been approved to be eligible for your visa appointment

Two documents are required to bring to the visa appointment:

#### 1) Campus France USA Confirmation Email

• This item may not appear on the general global France-Visas or VFS checklist but is mandatory. This email confirms that Campus France USA has processed the Etudes en France application and that it is ready for review by the Visa Service of the French Consulate. The confirmation email will be sent to the email address used to create the Etudes en France 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)

# 2) EEF Pre-Registration Certificate

- This PDF is generated when Campus France has processed the Etudes en France application. Depending on the application type, it will be entitled 'Confirmation d'acceptation' or 'Accord préalable d'inscription'.
- To find this document, log in to the Etudes en France account. From the Welcome page, click on the
  application tab and click on 1 Finalize the procedure. The PDF icon will be under the « Select a Program »
  section.

## **PART 2 - FRANCE-VISAS APPLICATION**



Create an account and complete the online visa application on the France-Visas website here: Créer un compte | France Visas (france-visas.gouv.fr)

#### You will need to:

- Create and activate account. Here is a tutorial:
   France Visas: Create your account on France-Visas (youtube.com)
- Complete the form. Here is a tutorial: France Visas: Complete your online application on France-Visas (youtube.com)
- Generate, save, and print PDF
- Upload supporting documents online. PAPER printed copies are required for the visa appointment.

List of supporting documentation to bring to visa appointment:	
☐ Visa application form	☐ Campus France USA confirmation email
☐ France-Visas receipt	<ul> <li>Pre-registration certificate generated by EEF- Pastel</li> </ul>
☐ ID photograph	☐ Proof of enrollment in a study program in France
☐ Travel document (passport)	☐ Proof of accommodation in France
☐ For non-US citizens, proof of legal status in the U.S.	<ul> <li>□ Proof of sufficient funds for program period in France (equivalent of 615€/month, which is approximately \$2,800 USD for a total of 4 months)</li> </ul>

Please refer to this guide with details and visuals of all supporting documents:

Student Visa Guidelines 2024-2025 (3).pdf (campusfrance.org)



#### What is VFS Global?

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

#### You will need to:

- Create and activate account
- Pay the VFS Global fee of 26.50€ (approximately \$30 USD)
- Schedule appointment at the visa center of choice (the Visa Registration number is required to schedule a visa appointment)
- For appointment type you must first select "Student Visa" and then "long stay"

You may make an appointment to submit your visa application and documents to any of the following VFS Global Center locations:

- New York City
- Washington D.C.
- Atlanta
- Boston
- Chicago
- Houston
- Los Angeles
- Miami
- San Francisco
- Seattle (limited appointments)
- Philadelphia (limited appointments)

#### Note:

- Appointment must be no earlier than 90 days prior to the start of your Paris semester
- This means the earliest day you can have your appointment is October 17<sup>th</sup>

Lastly, once you receive your visa, please upload a copy to your study abroad portal.