



STUDENT IMMIGRATION

Policy Number: SS006EN
Last Review July 2024
Date: _____

1. PURPOSE

Students who wish to study and live in France are required to comply with French immigration laws. From the very first day they enter France and until they graduate from AUP, students must obtain and retain LEGAL RESIDENCY in the country. They must also update their residency records online with SIS at all times

2. WHO IS AFFECTED BY THIS POLICY

This policy applies to all students of the University

3. POLICY STATEMENT

1) **NON-EU students** (including British students)

In order to legally enter France to study full-time at AUP, the students must hold a **passport valid for more than 6 months after their date of arrival/ the official semester starting date.**

and either a **long-term student visa** (VLS-TS)

The visa is issued by the local French Consulate of the student's country of residence.

NB. The NON-EU students coming on Campus for one semester "Visiting students" or one year are granted a long-term student visa.

Although some NON-EU citizens are authorized to enter France under a tourist status, this does not allow them to study in France. Switching from a tourist status to a student status while in France is strictly forbidden.

NON-EU students who hold an **EU country residency card** are **NOT exempted from applying for a student visa** to legally enter France to study

2) **Dual citizenships (NON-EU+ EU)**

In order to legally enter France to study at AUP, NON-EU students who have a dual citizenship (NON-EU+ EU) must **make sure their EU passport / national ID is valid at all times while studying at AUP.**

NB. Any NON-EU student whose EU residency expires while being in France will be required to apply for a student visa+ residency permit until their EU passport/ ID is renewed

3) **EU and French Students**

In order to legally to study at AUP, EU and French students must **hold a passport or a national ID valid for more than 6 months after their date of arrival/ the official semester starting date**

4) **NON-EU Minors**

In order to legally enter France to study at AUP (full-time), under 18 students are required **to hold a passport valid for more than 6 months after their date of arrival/ the official semester starting date** and either a “**Visa Mineur scolarisé**” or **a long-term student visa** delivered by their local French Consulate.

The Immigration Office of AUP hereby declines any responsibility for any consequences which could result from a NON-EU student (illegally) entering into France with NO valid documents (valid student visa, valid passport, valid residency card).

Any student whose legal status in France is invalid (or no longer valid) will be immediately required to return to their residence country to regularize their situation. Students trying to enter/ re-enter France under an illegal status will jeopardize their chance to study at AUP with the risk of being blocked and deported back to their country.

The Student Immigration Office of AUP is a “liaison” office: we are here to help the students to legalize their stay in France. However, we have no control on the residency process and its requirements.

The Student Immigration Office of AUP cannot guarantee how long the residency extension request takes and is not authorized to ask the French Authorities (in France and abroad) to speed up a residency extension request or a visa application.

5) **Travelling policy- Private trips and AUP study trips:**

Once in France, the NON-EU students must not travel outside of France if they do not hold a valid residency (VLS-TS, ATTESTATION DE DÉCISION FAVORABLE SUR UNE DEMANDE DE RENOUVELLEMENT DE TITRE DE SÉJOUR, TITRE DE SEJOUR ETUDIANT) which allows them to leave France and to legally re-enter the French Territory from abroad.

The students need to check their residency expiry date and should not book a trip if their card has expired (or will expire while they are abroad).

RE-ENTERING FRANCE UNDER AN EXPIRED RESIDENCY CARD IS NOT ALLOWED. IN DOING SO, ONE IS AT RISK OF BEING BLOCKED FROM RE-ENTERING FRANCE AND BEING SENT BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

Note that the French Authorities will not speed up the residency procedure because a study trip through the school or personal trip has been planned.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Office of Student Immigration Services (SIS) is:

1. to inform students on the current legislation and the different administrative rules they must follow
2. to help students file in their first residency request (visa validation process which must be done immediately upon arrival)
3. to help students submit their renewal of their residency card “Titre de Séjour Etudiant” (through the French Authorities website)
4. to provide the NON-EU Students with the necessary documents if they must re-apply for a new student visa (Campus France, VSF, French Consulates abroad).
5. to control the students have a legal right to study at AUP

5. DEFINITIONS

SIS: Office of Student Immigration Services

EU: European Union

VLS-TS: Visa Long Séjour valant Titre de Séjour

VSF: Visa Facilitation Services

6. APPROVALS & HISTORY

This longstanding policy was reviewed on November 16, 2020 (definitions updated). Next review will take place in July 2027

7. ISSUING OFFICE AND CONTACT

The Office of Student Immigration Services (SIS) issues this policy.

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The Student Immigration Coordinator, with the support of the Dean of Student Development, is responsible for this policy.