France Visa & Travel Information
Summer Only* Students 2011-12

*If you are interested in extending to the UC Paris Fall program, you MUST do the following, or you will not have the option of extending once in France:

1. Submit an approved Departmental Preapproval to Extend (DPA) form to your Campus EAP Office
2. Follow the CampusFrance Registration Instructions and the Student Visa Instructions found in the Predeparture Checklist

The following instructions apply to students only participating in the UC Center Paris Summer program (no extension to fall)

All Students

Round-trip tickets: You must purchase a round-trip ticket, even if you plan to travel in Europe after the end of the program. This is very important, especially in light of recently increased airport security measures. The French immigration authorities can require non-European Union citizens to hold a ticket for a return flight as proof that he or she will leave France by a certain date. As a result, non-European Union travelers only possessing a one-way ticket for an international flight to France can be denied the right to board their flight in the United States. Travelers are then required to purchase a very expensive on-the-spot return ticket if they still want to complete their travel to France.

Beyond these regulations, it is often wise to buy a round-trip ticket instead of a one-way ticket because it is usually less expensive to change the itinerary for a return ticket than to buy a new one-way ticket.

We recommend you purchase a ticket that allows you to change your return flight for a small fee, in the event that you need to change it once you are in France. Some airlines allow this but others do not, so check with your airline or online travel agency (i.e. Travelocity, Expedia, etc.) on this issue.

U.S. Citizens

U.S. citizens are NOT required to obtain a visa for studies in France under 90 days. You must have a U.S. passport, however, which must be valid for the entire length of your stay in France.

Non-U.S. Citizens

Non-U.S. citizens MUST contact a French Consulate as soon as possible to learn their individual visa requirements. The requirements will differ according to the country in which you hold citizenship. The visa application process can take months and may involve a personal interview or a health exam, so you should begin this process IMMEDIATELY.

San Francisco French Consulate
540 Bush Street,
San Francisco, CA 94108, USA

Tel: (415) 397-4330
Fax: (415) 591-4810
E-mail: visa@consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org
Website: www.consulfrance-sanfrancisco.org/

Los Angeles French Consulate
10390 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 115
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Tel: (310) 235-3257
Fax: (310) 235-3204
E-mail: accueil.visas@consulfrance-losangeles.org
Website: http://www.consulfrance-losangeles.org/

Updated 2/23/2011