# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS: HOUSING

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Finding housing will be high on your checklist as you prepare your arrival as a Université PSL international student or researcher. The PSL Welcome Desk has compiled this guide to help you understand your options, what to expect once you have secured a place, and practical information about the French system.

We encourage you to start your search early and contact us at welcomedesk@psl.eu if you have any questions.

# **BEFORE STARTING YOUR SEARCH**

- 1. Contact <u>your PSL school</u> to check if there is designated accommodation for you.
- 2. Check if you are eligible for the **PSL Housing Service**.

# **Our Tips**

- Know that demand for housing in Paris and the Île de France region may make it difficult for you to find a solution that 'ticks all your boxes' in terms of price, surface area, location, and amenities.
- Submit applications in parallel " il ne faut ne pas mettre tous ses œufs dans le même panier". Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
- If you're interested in a private apartment, enable notifications to learn about offers as soon as they become available.
- Beware of <u>scams</u>.

The PSL Housing Service has allotted the PSL Welcome Desk 35 rooms to attribute to eligible international students. In accordance with PSL Housing Service policy, priority is given to bachelor and master students. Please email the PSL Welcome Desk for more information. For the fall semester ("la rentrée") starting in September, applications are considered from January to May of the same year.

International researchers, including doctoral students with a hosting agreement ("convention d'accueil") and/or contract, postdoctoral research associates, visiting professors, lecturers, and accompanying family : please see **the Euraxess Housing Guide** for additional guidance.

**Important:** If you have obtained a scholarship from the French government through Campus France, you will benefit from their housing assistance service. Contact your Campus France office for more information.





# **1. TYPES OF ACCOMMODATION**

#### CROUS Residences

The CROUS ("Centre régional des œuvres universitaires et scolaires") is a public administration, generally organized by academic region, that provides housing, dining, financial aid, and other student services. CROUS residences are often located near university sites and are subsidized by the French state, allowing for a comparatively lower rent than private housing. **This accommodation is primarily intended for domestic students with needbased scholarships ("bourse sur critères sociaux")**, although a second cycle has been introduced each July to provide access to incoming international students who do not necessarily have need-based scholarships. There may be additional vacancies throughout the year.

If you do NOT have a student social file or "<u>Dossier Social Etudiant</u>" (DSE)\*, which is most likely the case for international students, then you can apply for CROUS housing in one of the following ways:

#### 1. Apply through the PSL Housing Service

If you are eligible for <u>PSL housing service</u>, you can request a room for the fall semester between April and June. Outside of this period, please email the PSL Housing Service for possible vacancies: <u>logement.housing@psl.eu</u>

#### 2. Apply directly to the CROUS

For more information on how to apply to a CROUS residence, please see the **French Public Service web page.** 

The CROUS residence <u>Champollion</u> is reserved for international researchers and faculty. The CROUS also offers short-term solutions:

https://www.lescrous.fr/nos-services/notre-offre-commerciale/ hebergement-courts-sejours-des-logements-a-tarif-crous-pour-une-courteduree/

\*If you think you are eligible for a "Dossier Social Etudiant", then you must prove that you have had a tax household in France for the past two years (i.e., your parents or legal guardian pays taxes in France).

# Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris (CIUP)

Before presenting other housing solutions, perhaps you have heard of <u>La cité</u> internationale de Paris ?

La cité internationale universitaire de Paris is a campus of residences for international students and researchers. It is originally a private foundation and is not linked to a specific university.

Each residence « maison » has its own history and is sometimes linked to a particular country. The PSL Welcome Desk does not have a partnership with the *Cité Internationale de Paris*, **but it is possible to apply individually** for a room. It is generally recommended to do so, as the campus is easily accessible and close to several PSL University schools.

#### About this document

• The information provided is indicative and not contractual with Université PSL. The information was collected from various sites and based on the experience of the PSL Welcome Desk. However, this information may change depending on the evolution of services or other situations.





# **Private University Residences**

This type of residence is managed by a company, association, or foundation.

[Note: The following lists are neither endorsements nor promises of availability.]

Managed by associations:

- Espacil Habitat: <u>espacil-habitat.fr</u>
- Fac Habitat: fac-habitat.com
- ARPEJ: arpej.fr
- Appart Study: appartstudy.com
- Logifac: logifac.fr

Managed by privated companies:

- Kley: kley.fr
- Nexity Studéa: nexity-studea.com
- Estudines: estudines.com
- Cardinal Campus: cardinalcampus.fr
- Student Factory: student-factory.com
- Studélites: studelites.com
- Youfirst: campus.youfirst.co
- Twenty-campus: <u>twenty-campus.com</u>
- StudyLease Platform: studylease.com

# **Private Researcher Residences**

- <u>Cité internationale universitaire de Paris (CIUP)</u>
- <u>Résidence internationale d'enseignants-chercheurs Champollion</u>
- <u>Résidence les Carmes</u>
- Maison Suger
- Bed & Crous
- Villa Pasteur
- <u>Centre international des Récollets</u>
- Espacil Habitat
  - o <u>Résidence Irène Joliot Curie-Paris 13e</u>
  - o <u>Résidence Simone Veil-Paris 14e</u>

#### **Young Worker Residences**

Young Worker Residences ("Foyers de jeunes travailleur (FJT)" or "Habitat jeunes") are residences that house 16 to 30-year-olds at affordable rents. Tenants often include young workers, students, researchers, and trainees.

- L'Etape : <u>etape.asso.fr</u>
- ALJT : aljt.com
- CLJT : cljt.com
- ARFJ : arfj.asso.fr
- UNHAJ (Union Nationale pour l'Habitat des Jeunes, « National Union for Youth Housing ») : habitatjeunes.org
- CLLAJ: <u>cllajparis.org</u> The Local Committee for the Autonomous Housing of Young People in Paris ("Comité Local pour le Logement Autonome des Jeunes de Paris (CLLAJ)") helps 18 to 29-year-olds find temporary housing.





#### **Private Accommodation**

Do not forget to beware of  $\underline{\mathbf{scams}}$ , especially when looking for a private acommodation.

• Lokaviz: lokaviz.fr Platform operated by the CROUS

#### Rental

- Studapart: <u>studapart.com</u> Université PSL has a partnership with Studapart.
  <u>You can benefit from special conditions here.</u>
- Spotahome: **spotahome.com**
- Jinka (application): jinka.fr
- Particulier à Particulier (PAP): pap.fr
- Le Bon Coin Rubrique location: leboncoin.fr/locations
- SeLoger: seloger.com
- Immojeune: immojeune.com
- Loc Service: locservice.fr
- Entre Particuliers: entreparticuliers.com
- Viva Street: <u>vivastreet.com</u>
- Paru Vendu Rubrique location: paruvendu.fr
- Flat Looker: <u>flatlooker.com</u>
- Studyrama Logement: logement.studyrama.com
- Location Etudiant: location-etudiant.fr

### Specialized for flat sharing ("Colocation")

Be sure to check with your future landlord how the shared rent will be managed. <u>More information here</u>.

- CoopColoc: <u>coopcoloc.fr</u>
- La Carte des Colocs: lacartedescolocs.fr
- A Partager: appartager.com
- Wellow House: wellowhouse.com

# Homestay

Bemynest: bemynest.com

Lingui Family: linguifamily.com

### Intergenerational cohabitation

Ensemble 2 générations: <u>ensemble2generations.fr</u> Cohabilis: <u>cohabilis.org</u> Le Pari Solidaire: <u>leparisolidaire.fr</u>





# 3. WHAT TO EXPECT AS A TENANT

#### Guarantor

**The guarantor** ("garant") is a financial term describing an individual or entity who promises to pay rent in the event that the tenant is unable to do so. A guarantor is often required before signing a lease.

- **<u>Visale</u>** free, if eligible
  - **Garantme**

Please see the guide on our web page for more details: <u>https://psl.eu/en/</u> <u>lifepsl/student-services/psl-welcome-desk</u>

#### **Rental File**

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If you are interested in an apartment, you will be asked to provide a file ("dossier") with supporting documents such as justification of your financial resources, legal status, and activity in France.

**DossierFacile** is a free public platform that can help you assemble this file. It allows you to upload and verify your documents. Once your documents have been verified by the platform agents, you will be able to download them in one secured file, which you can submit to your potential landlord.

For more information: dossierfacile.fr

#### Deposit

The <u>deposit</u> is a sum of money, normally one month of rent, to be paid to the landlord when you sign the lease. This sum should be returned to you when you leave if your apartment passes inspection. You may be eligible for <u>AVANCE</u>. LOCA-PASS, a loan to help you pay the security deposit.

#### Insurance

<u>Home insurance</u> – separate from <u>civil liability insurance</u> – is mandatory for tenants and depends on the characteristics of your accommodation, including area, number of rooms, number of occupants, etc.





# **3. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

## Vocabulary

- <u>"Charges" utilities:</u> Rental prices may be indicated without utilities (HC) or including utilities (CC or TCC). Utilities may include building maintenance, rental taxes, water, collective heating, and/or internet.
- <u>"Etat des lieux" check-in/out inventory:</u> Documents completed by the tenant and landlord together at the beginning and end of the lease in order to be given and return the keys. It details the general state of the apartment (cleanliness, electrical installation, heating, paint condition, floors, sanitary facilities, etc.). The comparison of the check-in and check-out inventories is used as reference for the return of your deposit.
- "Donner conger" and "délai de préavis" notice period: Required procedure for informing your landlord of your departure. This period is normally set at 1 month for rentals in Paris and its suburbs. The letter notifying your departure from the apartment must be sent by registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt ("Lettre recommandée avec accusé de reception").
- "Bail" lease: Rental contract between landlord and tenant.

# Housing subsidization and financial aid

- "Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF)": You may be eligible for financial housing assistance depending on your type of accommodation and financial situation. You can <u>submit your file directly online</u> and estimate the amount of your aid.
- "Aide à l'installation dans un logement pour les étudiants (AILE)": Moving grant (€500 - €900) for CROUS scholarship students who meet certain criteria.
- If you are experiencing financial difficulties and are unable to pay your rent, please contact your school's CROUS social worker.

# Change of Address

If you move, be sure to update your address with your school, employer, health insurance, prefecture, tax services, etc. Note that many French administrative processes are based on your address, and so it is important that your accounts are up-to-date to prevent delays in service. <u>This tool</u> allows you to manage address changes with the main French administrative services.

# Legal Aid

Should you need legal advice with regard to your living situation:

- **ADIL-ANIL:** association that provides legal guidance related to housing.
- **<u>APASO:</u>** free legal advice is offered to international students.
- Ville de Paris: <u>https://www.paris.fr/pages/les-aides-juridiques-gratuites-pres-de-chez-vous-2081</u>

Please note that legal processes can be long and time-consuming.

# For more information

Do you have questions about the entire housing search process and would like to speak with a PSL Welcome Desk staff member? Contact us!

welcomedesk@psl.eu +33 1 75 00 02 91 psl.eu/vie-de-campus/welcome-desk psl.eu



