

Student Immigration Policy

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:**

In order to legally enter France to study at AUP, they are required to hold a **passport valid for more than 6 months after their date of arrival** and either a **long term student visa** (VLS-TS) or a **short term visa** (for one semester/one year visiting students only) issued by their local French Consulate.

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) are required to **make sure their EU passport / national ID is valid at all times while studying at AUP.**

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

3) **EU and French Students**

In order to legally enter France and or to study at AUP, EU and French students are required to **hold a passport or a national I D valid for more than 6 months after their date of arrival/the official semester starting date.**

4) **The NON EU Minor students**

In order to legally enter France to study at AUP, they are required to **hold a passport valid for more than 6 months after their date of arrival** and either a “**Visa Mineur scolarisé**” or a **long term student visa** delivered by their local French Consulate.

Any student whose legal status in France is invalid (or no longer valid) will be immediately required to return to their residence country to regularize their situation and legally re-enter France. 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.

Please note that SIS has no visibility on the French Authorities agenda and that students are required to wait until they are contacted by the French Authorities (for the appointments with the OFII, or with the French Consulates abroad or for the convocations at the Préfecture de Police).

Please note that SIS has no control regarding how much time the visa/ residency card application takes, and is not authorized to ask the French Authorities to speed up a residency procedure or a visa application.

Travelling policy- Private trips and AUP study trips:

*Once in France, **NON EU students** must not travel outside of France without **a valid residency card (VLS-TS, Récépissé, Titre de Séjour).***

Before traveling, they must check their residency card expiry date and should NOT book any trip until it is confirmed by SIS (and the Cultural Program Office) that they can travel 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 personal or school trip has been planned!

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Office of Student Immigration Services is to

1. Inform students on the current legislation and the different administrative rules they must follow
2. help students file in their first residency request (with the OFII)
3. help students apply for the renewal of their residency card "Titre de Séjour" (with the Préfecture de Police)
4. provide the NON EU Students with the necessary documents if they must re-apply for a new student visa (Campus France, French Consulates abroad).
5. Control that all our students have a legal right to study at AUP

5. DEFINITIONS- /

6. APPROVALS & HISTORY- /

7. ISSUING OFFICE AND CONTACT

The Office of Student Immigration Services issues this policy.

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The Student Immigration Coordinator, with the support of the Vice President for Security, Operations and Student Services, is responsible for this policy.