



WELCOME GUIDE 2026
INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL STUDENTS
HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES | UNIVERSITY OF LILLE

École Doctorale Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société | University of Lille

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PREPARING FOR MY ARRIVAL

To ensure that your stay with us goes as smoothly as possible, the University of Lille provides you with a number of **practical tools**:

- The [Online Welcome Desk](#) guides you step by step through the administrative formalities prior to your arrival in France (visa application, etc.) and once you're here (health insurance, etc.).
- The [ULilleBox](#) application helps you to answer specific questions about your arrival at the University of Lille.

Check-list of **documents to bring** to France:

- Valid passport.
- Birth certificate with filiation translated into French.
- Last diploma and transcripts of grades obtained in the country of origin.
- For married people or those with children: family record book and birth certificate for each child, translated into French.
- Health record and/or vaccination record in French (depending on country of origin).
- For Algerian students arriving in France for the first time: a currency withdrawal slip, in the name of the student, for a minimum amount of €6150.

(We advise you to scan each document and create an online copy so that they are always available.)

VISA APPLICATION



The application must be made at least 90 days before your departure for France to the French consular authorities in your country of origin.

Supporting documents required:

Passport valid for the entire duration of the stay, certificate of acceptance from the University of Lille...

(complete list on the France Visas website: <https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en/web/france-visas>).

Please note! Processing times are often long.

A few helpful resources:

- <https://www.nord.gouv.fr/Demarches-administratives/Etrangers-en-France/Etudiants-etrangers>
- <https://international.univ-lille.fr/en/maison-internationale/procedures-and-practical-information/entry-and-residency-formalities/>
- titredesejour@univ-lille.fr

Please note: Since 1 January 2026, you must have an A2 level in French to receive a multi-year residence permit and a B1 level for a residence card. In both cases, you must also pass your civic exam: <https://formation-civique.interieur.gouv.fr>

OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

To facilitate your day-to-day purchases and money transactions, we advise you to open a bank account. For example, to benefit from “Aides Personnalisées au Logement” (housing financial help) or to receive reimbursements for healthcare expenses, you need to have a French bank account.

Opening a bank account is free, but services such as bank cards and international transfers are not free.

Examples of in-branch banks:

- Banque Postale
- Banque Populaire
- LCL
- Société Générale
- Crédit Mutuel
- Caisse d'Épargne
- Banque CIC

...



Examples of online banks:

- Fortuneo
- Orange Bank
- HelloBank
- Boursorama
- MonaBanq
- N26

...



HOUSING

→ *Anticipation!*

Lille and its metropolis are an area of rental tension: this means that there is more demand for housing than supply. It is therefore important to look for and reserve your accommodation well in advance.

Student Residence

You can apply for accommodation in a CROUS university room (Centre Régional des Œuvres Universitaires et Scolaires). Online application: <https://www.crous-lille.fr/international/demande-de-logement>. Get started as soon as possible!

Please note: the chances of being accepted are very limited, so it's advisable to plan an alternative solution just in case.

Contact: service.international@crous-lille.fr

CROUS also offers private accommodation via the **Lokaviz platform**.

Information: <https://www.lokaviz.fr/home>

Application: <https://www.messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr>

Help from ULille to find accommodation

➤ The Maison Internationale

Dedicated to international students of the University of Lille, the Maison Internationale is located on the Cité Scientifique Campus, building A4 (Metro: Line 1, stop 4 Cantons Stade Pierre Mauroy). It is open to the public from Monday to Friday, 8.45 am to 4.30 pm.

Contact: (+33) 320 43 44 07 | maison-internationale@univ-lille.fr

Information: <https://international.univ-lille.fr/en/maison-internationale/procedures-and-practical-information/accommodation-in-lille>

➤ Euraxess

The Euraxess Center helps doctoral students and researchers to settle in and adapt - before and after their arrival in France. Open Monday to Friday at the Maison Internationale.

Contact: (+33) 320 798 725 | euraxess@univ-lille.fr

Information: <https://international.univ-lille.fr/en/euraxess-welcome-services-for-international-phd-students-researchers-professors-in-mobility>

➤ Studapart platform

This is the University's housing platform: a multitude of offers, a multilingual team, no need for a guarantor.

If you have an @univ-lille.fr address, you need to use your login and password. Otherwise, you can access the offers using the code HOUSINGULILLE.

Contact: (+33) 1 80 92 64 01 | booking@studapart.com

Information: <https://univ-lille.studapart.com/en>

➤ Complete accommodation guide:

[https://international.univ-lille.fr/fileadmin/user_upload/site-international/Maison_internationale/Guide_du_logement_2024-2025 - FR.pdf](https://international.univ-lille.fr/fileadmin/user_upload/site-international/Maison_internationale/Guide_du_logement_2024-2025_FR.pdf)

Private housing platforms and support

➤ Private university residences

- Next to Lille: [Nexity](#), [AppartCity](#), [Estudines](#), [les Belles Années](#), [Fac-Habitat](#), [Nemea Résidence](#), [UXCO](#)
- Next to Valenciennes: [Logifac](#) and [UXCO](#)

➤ Rental advertising platforms (some are in French only)

[le Bon Coin](#), [Paru Vendu](#), [Particulier à Particulier](#), [HousingAnywhere \(en\)](#), [Bienlci](#), [CRIJ](#)

➤ Temporary accommodation

For emergency accommodation until you find a permanent solution, you can use temporary accommodation:

- [Airbnb](#)
- [Booking.com](#)
- Youth hostels: [Gastama hostel](#) or [Stéphane Hessel hostel](#).

➤ Help finding accommodation

[LivinFrance](#) is a free platform for all our students, the team will help you with all your administrative formalities before and after your arrival in Lille (housing, insurance, banks, telephone, etc.), all you have to do is create an account!

House sharing: a cost-cutting solution

➤ Roommate websites

(For sharing accommodation with other people)

<https://www.colocataire.com/en>

<https://www.lacartedescolocs.fr/>

<https://www.appartager.com/>

➤ Green Campus – “Campus Vert”

This is a platform offering students accommodation on farms near Lille. They offer furnished single or double studios, equipped with a kitchenette and bathroom, all in green surroundings and at a competitive price.

<https://campusvert.com/>

➤ intergenerational housing

Finding accommodation with a senior has two virtues: your rent is cheaper, and you're taking an elderly out of isolation.

- <https://solidarites.lille.fr/acteur/378/3-ensemble2generations.htm>
- <https://lille.ensemble2generations.fr/page/1777026-notre-agence>



Guarantor

Finding a guarantor is essential for renting accommodation in France.



The [Studapart platform](#) offers a housing guarantee service. More services: [VISALE](#), [Cautioneo](#), [Garantme](#).

Insuring your place

In France, it's compulsory to insure your home. It's one of the requirements demanded by landlords. The minimum insurance you can take out is called "Assurance habitation", which covers fire and water damage (i.e. flooding).

You can also insure your home against theft and glass breakage (i.e., if someone breaks a window) - this is called "multi-risque-habitation" insurance.

The price of this insurance varies according to the surface area of your home and the coverage you choose.

Examples: [ADH](#), [StudyAssur](#), [SMENO](#), [LMDE](#)... Fees ≈ 50€/year. Compare offers and ask your bank about preferential rates.

Housing financial help

Once you've found a place to live and are in France, you can receive government assistance to pay your rent (APL). To do this, run a simulation on the CAF website (<https://www.caf.fr>). You can also get help with your application on LivinFrance (<https://livin-france.com/school/UnivLille>).

Online Internet and telephone suppliers

[La Poste Mobile](#), [NRJ Mobile](#), [Sosh](#), [Bouygues](#), [Lyca](#), [Auchan Télécom](#) and [Free](#) are such companies.

Would you like to compare offers?

<https://www.quechoisir.org/comparateur-forfait-mobile-n43896/>

Electricity

The main suppliers are: [EDF](#), [Engie](#), [Sowee](#), [TotalEnergie](#), etc.





HEALTH

Social security (CPAM)

= French public system of health insurance

In preparation for your studies in France, you must apply for the French social security system. This application is free but compulsory. You must register on the website dedicated to welcoming students, so that your healthcare costs are covered when you arrive in France.

Registration on this website: [etudiant-etranger.ameli](https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr)

Check out the page on [the Ameli website](#) for details depending on your country of origin.

A residence permit will be required. To find out whether you have the definitive residence permit or to learn about the formalities, contact the French consulate in your country or consult the information available on Campus France.

Attention: Keep the provisional social security number automatically allocated to you by the site and print out your entitlement certificate.

If you are a national of an EU/EEA country or Switzerland, you can apply to your home country's social security organisation for a European Health Insurance Card. As long as it is valid

until at least the end of the academic year, this organisation will continue to pay your reimbursements. In the event of illness, you will only have to pay the co-payment on presentation of this card or the provisional certificate of issue to health professionals and establishments. You do not need to register on the etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr website.

Reimbursement

A consultation with a general practitioner costs €30 per agreement (except for 'dépassement d'honoraire'). Social Security ('La Sécu') reimburses you €19.60 after the act, so you in the end you pay €10.40.

Examples of Social Security reimbursement rates:

- Midwife: 70%
- Hospitalisation: 80%
- Pharmacy (on medical prescription): between 30% and 65%
- Dentists, orthoptists, orthopaedists, speech therapists: 60%
- Nurses, physiotherapists: 60%

MEDICINES



Where and how to buy your medicines?

You can find your medicines in pharmacies. A duty pharmacy is always open in Lille; its address is usually indicated on the doors of closed pharmacies, in the local press or on this website:

www.servigardes.fr

Some medicines can only be bought on prescription, which means you need to consult a doctor first. Only prescription drugs are (partially) reimbursed by the social security system.

Pharmacy open every day and every hour:
99 rue Masséna 59000 Lille | (+33) 3 20 54 02 74
(Opposite the Match supermarket, on the corner of rue Solferino and rue Masséna in Lille)

EMERGENCY

Emergency numbers — everywhere in France:



Breakdown services

- Plumbers
- Electricians
- Locksmiths
- Computer repair
- Car garages
- Gaz stations ...

Search the French directory:

<https://www.pagesjaunes.fr> (=Yellow Pages)



PagesJaunes

REGISTERING AT UNI

1) Paying the Student and Campus Life Contribution (CVEC)

The CVEC is compulsory and helps to improve conditions for students. Payment (€105) can be made online by credit card, or in cash at the Banque Postale (EFICASH system – extra €5).

2) Registering at the University of Lille

Registering at the university is compulsory. Please note that the pre-registration letter is not a registration! Go to the address on your acceptance form to pay the tuition fees and confirm your enrolment with the registrar's office.

Supporting documents:

- CVEC certificate
- Enrolment authorisation
- Copy of the certificate of successful completion of the current year or of the last diploma obtained (with a certified translation if the document is not in French)
- 1 passport-sized photograph
- Copy of identity card or civil status page of passport
- If you are a scholarship holder: original of your scholarship notice



3) Activating your Digital Working Environment (ENT)

Once you have registered, you will receive an email to activate your ENT (Environnement Numérique de Travail). This will enable you to activate your IZLY account (for payment at the university restaurant) and a long list of other applications.

Presentation of the university in several languages

(to be downloaded here: <https://international.univ-lille.fr/en/come-to-the-university-of-lille>)

- [FR - Télécharger la fiche de présentation de l'université](#)
- [EN - Download the university presentation sheet](#)
- [CH - 下载大学介绍表](#)
- [ES - Descarga la ficha de presentación de la universidad](#)
- [VT - Tải xuống trang trình bày của trường đại học](#)
- [NL - Download het universitaire presentatieblad](#)
- [JA - 大学のプレゼンテーションシートをダウンロードする](#)
- [PO - Baixe a folha de apresentação da universidade](#)
- [RUS - Скачать презентационный лист университета](#)



FAITES VOTRE ITINÉRAIRE FACILEMENT SUR

ilévia LES TRANSPORTS
DE LA MEL



TRANSPORTS

How to get to the University of Lille

<https://international.univ-lille.fr/en/maison-internationale/procedures-and-practical-information/how-to-get-to-lille/>

The urban network comprises:

- 2 automatic metro lines,
- 2 tramway lines
- 140 bus lines



This entire network is accessible via the Ilévia card!

Getting around the city by self-service bike:

<https://www.lillemetropole.fr/en/your-daily>



Travelling outside mainland France

Train

TER (Regional Express Train): neighbouring areas

TGV (High-Speed Train): more distant cities

Lille-Paris journey: 1 hour, often between €12 and €40.

<https://www.sncf-connect.com>

<https://www.ouigo.com>

<https://www.eurostar.com>



Car (bus long trajet)

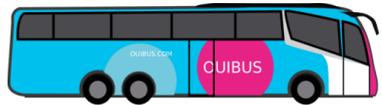
Lille-Paris journey: 3 hours, often between €8 and €13.

<https://www.sncf-connect.com/bus>

<https://www.blablacar.fr/bus>

<https://www.flixbus.fr/>

<https://eurolines.fr/isilines>



Avion

The city has air service via Lesquin Airport (LIL).

<https://www.airfrance.fr>

<https://www.opodo.fr>

<https://www.kayak.fr>

For the planet: avoid flying if you can!



Advice for all modes of transport:

- Book in advance to get the best prices!
- Allow extra time, as delays can happen!



COST OF LIVING IN LILLE

- **Housing:** CROUS room: 200-400€. Studio in Lille 20m²: 450€ and more. Room in a private residence: 450€ and more. Home insurance: 50€/year.
- **Food:** meal at the university restaurant: €3.30. Dish of the day in a brasserie: €15, 1 beer in a bar (50 cl) €6 to 8. Typical basket for 1 week: between €40 and €70 (includes 1 meal a day at the university restaurant).
- **Transport:** 1 bus/metro journey: €1.80, Ilévia 4-25 years-old 10-journeys ticket €12.75. All fees: <https://www.ilevia.fr/boutique/trajets-et-pass>.
- **Monthly subscriptions:** internet €40-45, mobile €13, electricity €45, streaming platform: €6-22, sport €30-45.
- **Average budget estimate for the first month (Housing + Food + Transport + Subscriptions):**
 - In CROUS residence: approximately €1,000.
 - Outside CROUS residence: approx. €1,200 to €2,000.Please note: for the first month, you will need to pay an additional deposit equivalent to 1 or 2 months' rent. This will be returned to you when you leave the accommodation if no damage is found.

GOING OUT IN LILLE

Visit the tourist office website for all the information you need on outings and events:

<https://en.lilletourism.com>



Tourism Office

The Tourism Office of Lille is located in the Palais Rihour (place Rihour) in Lille and open 7 days a week, from 10 am to 5.30 pm



Markets

Marché de Wazemmes

Place de Wazemmes (rue Gambetta)

Tuesday and Thursday
from 7 am to 1 pm;
Sunday from 7 am to 2 pm



Marché Sébastopol

Rue Solferino

Wednesday and Saturday from 7 am to 2 pm

Marché Saint-Sauveur

Rue Saint-Sauveur (between rue Gustave Delory & avenue Kennedy)

Tuesday from 7 am to 2 pm

Marché de Fives

Place Caullier

Sunday from 7 am to 2 pm

Marché du Vieux-Lille

Place du Concert

Wednesday, Friday and
Sunday from 7 am to 2 pm

Book market

Inner courtyard of the Old
Stock Exchange (La Vieille
Bourse)

Tuesday to Sunday, every
afternoon



Shopping centres in and around Lille



<https://uk.hotels.com/go/france/best-places-shopping-lille>



The « Braderie de Lille »

(every year, 1st weekend in September)

→ This year: September 5th and 6th 2026

The huge flea market of Lille is certainly one of the best-known events in France and beyond.



More than 10,000 "bradeux" (bargain-hunters) exhibit on 100 km of pavements where, for 33 hours non-stop (from Saturday 2 pm to Sunday 11 pm), everything can be bought and sold!

Throughout the weekend, numerous events are organised in the streets of the city before, during and after the Braderie de Lille.



History, map and practical information:
www.lille.fr/Braderie-de-Lille

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN 2026 IN FRANCE

2026

January	May	August
1 New Year's Day (Thursday)	1 Labor Day (Friday)	15 Assumption of Mary (Saturday)
April	8 Victory in Europe Day (Friday)	November
3 Good Friday (Friday) (only in the Alsace and Moselle regions)	14 Ascension Day (Thursday)	1 All Saints' Day (Sunday)
6 Easter Monday (April)	25 Whit Monday (Monday)	11 Armistice Day (Wednesday)
	July	December
	14 Bastille Day (Tuesday)	25 Christmas Day (Friday)



The university will be closed
on those days!





LOCATING US

Coming to the doctoral school

<https://edshs.univ-lille.fr/plan-et-contact>



Finding your way around the university

<https://ulillebox.univ-lille.fr/places>

<https://international.univ-lille.fr/en/come-to-the-university-of-lille>

Identifying libraries and learning centres

<https://www.univ-lille.fr/vie-des-campus/bibliotheques-et-learning-center>