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FRANCE
EXCELLENCE
EIFFEL

REGULATIONS GOVERNING
THE FRANCE EXCELLENCE EIFFEL
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

(For scholarship recipients and institutions regardless of year of selection)

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I. PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRAM

The Eiffel Scholarship Program has two components:

- **The master's component offers 12, 24, or 36 months of funding to enable scholarship recipients to earn a master's-level degree.**
- **The doctoral component supports mobility periods of 12, 18, or 36 months, as explained in section 4 below (Length of Scholarship Period).**

1. Program objectives

The Eiffel Scholarship Program was established by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to help French institutions of higher education attract top international students to their master's and doctoral programs. Its purpose is to train future leaders from outside France in priority areas of study.

2. Fields of study for master's and doctorate

Seven thematic areas are eligible, in the field of technical and exact sciences:

- ✓ Biology and Health
- ✓ Ecological Transition
- ✓ Mathematics and Digital Technology
- ✓ Engineering Sciences

As well as in the field of humanities and social sciences:

- ✓ French History, Language, and Civilization
- ✓ Law and Political Science
- ✓ Economics and Management

3. Level of study

French institutions of higher education and national research organizations that nominate candidates for the Eiffel program agree to enroll them in :

- A program awarding a master's degree (or the equivalent) accredited by the French government
- A nationally accredited engineering program
- A doctoral program (dual degree or joint supervision of dissertation), with a partner institution abroad.

4. Length of scholarship period

For both components of the program, the scholarship is awarded for the academic year corresponding to the call for applications.

The funded study period must begin **between September 1 and November 30** of the year in which the scholarship is awarded.

The start date cannot be postponed.

Only those parts of the study program taking place in France are funded by the scholarship, except for certain internship or exchange periods as set forth herein.

Master level

The scholarship is awarded for:

- A maximum of 12 months for recipients entering the second year of a master's program (M2)
- A maximum of 24 months for recipients entering the first year of a master's program (M1)
- A maximum of 36 months for recipients entering an engineering program.

Doctoral level

Eiffel scholarships are awarded for a period of 12, 18, or 36 months extending from September 1 of the award year.

The duration of the scholarship is determined in accordance with the following terms:

- **A 36-month scholarship is open only to new candidates enrolling in the first year of a doctoral program. The candidate's program may not be converted to a dual-degree program.** "New candidates" are those not already studying in France and not enrolled in a French institution of higher education. The purpose of these restrictions is to attract new students by offering them support from the French government for the entire period of their doctoral study.

- A scholarship of 12 or 18 months (depending on the year of enrollment) is open to all candidates, notably those already enrolled in a doctoral program **(joint supervision of dissertation or dual degree)**:

    - **A maximum of 12 months for recipients entering the second or third year of a doctorate program**
    - **A maximum of 18 months for recipients entering the first or second year of a doctorate program**

5. <u>Covered services</u>

Master level

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €1,200 (effective January 1 2026) in addition to certain direct services, notably international airfare, domestic travel support, insurance, assistance in locating housing, and cultural activities.

Doctoral level

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €2,000 (effective January 1 2026) in addition to certain direct services as specified in the previous paragraph.

Tuition and fees are not paid by the Eiffel program at either the master's or the doctoral level.

II. PROGRAM REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO RECIPIENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

Selected from among many candidates as part of the France Excellence Eiffel scholarship program, you will receive an excellence scholarship from the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

This prestigious program funds international students nominated by a French institution.

Eiffel scholarships are competitive. Recipients can be proud of being recognized for excellence by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

Campus France—the agency responsible for promoting French higher education, research, and international academic mobility—is responsible for managing and tracking recipients' program of study in France. Recipients are requested to become familiar with their rights and obligations as a scholarship recipient by reading this document carefully and contacting Campus France for further information, if necessary. **When contacting Campus France, recipients should include the file number assigned to them.**

An Eiffel scholarship may not be combined with another French government scholarship, an Erasmus+ scholarship, or a scholarship from the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie. Awardees finding themselves holding two scholarships must decline one of them. **If they give up the Eiffel scholarship, they must notify Campus France, in its capacity as agent for the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, by email**.

1. Enrollment at a French institution of higher education

Each recipient of the France Excellence Eiffel Scholarship must be officially enrolled at the French institution of higher education that submitted the application.

2. Duration of the Eiffel scholarship

For both components of the Eiffel program, scholarships are awarded for the academic year corresponding to the year of the scholarship application. The study period must begin between September 1 and November 30 of the year the scholarship is awarded.

The start date of the scholarship cannot be postponed.

Only those parts of the study program occurring in France are funded by the scholarship, except for certain internship or exchange periods as set forth further on.

If a recipient is compelled to repeat a year owing to failure to meet academic requirements, the scholarship is suspended.

Program and Host Institution

The Eiffel Scholarship is awarded for the specific program identified in the application and offered by the institution that submitted the application. These two elements constitute the framework for awarding the scholarship and may be modified only under the conditions strictly defined below.

A change in the program of study during the course of studies may be accepted only if both of the following conditions are met:

- the new program remains within the same field of study as the original program;
- the new program is offered at the original institution.

Failure to meet either of these two conditions will result in the immediate suspension of scholarship payments.

For the purposes of these regulations, the term “institution” refers to the scholarship recipient’s university of enrollment, that is, the institution that issues the official enrollment status and the degree.

Master level

Eiffel scholarships are granted for a number of months sufficient to complete the academic program specified in their application. Recipients must meet the academic requirements of each successive year of the curriculum if they are to continue to receive scholarship benefits.

The scholarship period (excluding language training) may not exceed 24 months for enrollments in a Master 1 program, 12 months for enrollments in a Master 2, and 36 months for enrollments in an engineering program.

In exceptional cases involving 24-month scholarships, the ministry may allow recipients to use their gap year to repeat an unsuccessfully completed year at their own expense. If the recipient is successful on the second attempt, the scholarship will be reinstated for the following year.

Students undergoing language training before commencing their academic program are eligible to receive scholarship benefits for a maximum of one month, from August. However, the language training must be mentioned in the application file; it cannot be requested after the fact. The cost of the language training is the student’s own responsibility and is not included in the scholarship.

3. Internships and exchanges

Internships or exchange programs abroad are permitted, but the scholarship will be suspended for the duration of the time spent outside the country. Any internship abroad must be part of the student’s academic program and must be reported to Campus France in advance.

Internship

“Internship” is defined as follows: *A temporary period spent in professional circumstances during which students acquire professional competence and put to use skills and knowledge gained from*

their academic training in order to obtain a degree or certification. Interns are given one or more assignments related to their study program (as defined by their academic institution) and approved by the host organization. Students wishing to complete an internship must request and obtain an internship agreement from their academic institution.

That agreement is made an integral part of the academic program and, as such, becomes a degree requirement. The criteria for judging successful completion of the internship for purposes of earning the degree must be specified in the description of the academic program. Scholarship recipients must obtain the agreement of the faculty adviser responsible for their degree before entering into an internship. The internship is governed by an agreement that must be submitted to Campus France **no later than one week before the internship begins.**

International Exchange or Study Abroad :

An academic exchange or study abroad program—including international programs—must be strictly required for graduation and must be included in the degree program outline. As part of the Eiffel Scholarship, the scholarship recipient must notify Campus France of the dates of their study abroad program.

In the case of a mandatory internship or exchange program abroad (the requirement for a mandatory internship abroad must be specified in the degree program outline), the scholarship will be maintained for a maximum of one year, provided that the time spent abroad does not exceed the total time spent in France.

An internship completed in the student's country of origin or in a country of which the scholarship recipient is a national will result in the termination of the scholarship (even if the internship abroad is mandatory).

Mandatory internship or exchange :

A scholarship recipient undertaking an internship retains their scholarship benefits only if it is a mandatory internship or exchange listed in the curriculum for which the scholarship was awarded, and within the limits of the maximum scholarship duration granted.

In all other cases, the scholarship is suspended for the duration of the internship or exchange.

Optional internship or exchange program :

This is initiated by the scholarship recipient who wishes to enhance their academic program, and scholarship payments are automatically suspended[1] for the duration of any internship or exchange program that is not considered mandatory under the program's curriculum. The rules applicable in this case are those governing a gap year (see 4.).

4. Gap year

A gap year is defined as follows: A supervised gap year allows students to suspend their study program for a year. For various reasons students may wish to spend a year away from their program with the option of returning to it later. They may wish to complete another course, intern at a company or civic organization, do volunteer service, work in a business, or start a project.

Gap years are allowed but entail suspension of the scholarship, with the possibility of subsequent reinstatement.

Payments of allowances and the student's status as a French government scholarship recipient are suspended during the gap period.[1]

Requests to take a gap year must be submitted to Campus France no later than **2 months before the beginning of the proposed period.** Requests must specify the period in question (starting and ending dates) and describe how the gap year fits in with the recipient's academic plans.

Students must also notify Campus France **2 months prior to return** from the gap. In all cases, returns must be announced **no later than July 31 of the calendar year during which the return will take place**. Reinstatement of the scholarship cannot be guaranteed unless proper notice of return is provided.

No more than one gap year is permitted during the scholarship period. The gap may last no less and no more than one year.

5. Work-Study Apprenticeship Contract

If an Eiffel Scholar signs an apprenticeship or professional training contract, the scholarship is automatically terminated.

If the scholarship is terminated (see above), no benefits may be continued. Thus, if the scholarship recipient is residing in student housing provided by Campus France, the recipient must vacate the housing on the date the scholarship is terminated.

6. Splitting of doctoral scholarship

The scholarship holder's stay may be split into several periods (except in the case of 36-month scholarships). However, the stay funded by the scholarship cannot last less than 6 months and cannot exceed 3 years.

Examples: In the case of an 18-month-scholarship, it is possible to split the scholarship into three 6-month stays. In the case of a 12-month-scholarship, it is possible to split the scholarship into two 6-month stays.

A schedule of the stays in France must be worked out and submitted to Campus France during the first stay. **If the schedule is changed after the first stay, the new dates must be reported to Campus France at least 2 months before the start date of the next stay. Reinstatement of scholarship benefits cannot be guaranteed if these deadlines are not met.**

[1] When a scholarship is suspended, no services are delivered. For example, recipients occupying student housing supplied by Campus France must vacate said housing as of the date of suspension of the scholarship.

Please note: A doctoral contract that grants employee status is not compatible with Eiffel scholarship student status and will result in the immediate termination of the scholarship.

7. Covered services

a. Living allowance

To receive the first installment of their scholarship, scholarship recipients must begin their studies at their host institution in France.

Master level.

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €1,200 (effective January 1 2026) in addition to certain direct services, as explained previously.

Doctoral level.

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €2.000 (effective January 1 2026) in addition to certain direct services, as explained previously.

Method of disbursement.

As a general rule, payments are made by bank transfer to an account in France in the name of the recipient. The first payment is sent to the recipient via Western Union.

This benefit is conditioned on the presence of the recipient in his or her specified location.

The allowance is paid from the date of the recipient's arrival in France but no earlier than the previously agreed date of arrival.

In the event of a withdrawal, the students lose the scholarship and the related benefits, as well as their status of French government scholarship holders.

b. Tuition and fees

Recipients of a French government scholarship are exempt from tuition fees associated with pursuing a national degree or the title of "diplômé d'ingénieur" at public scientific, cultural, and vocational institutions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Higher Education, in accordance with Article R719-49 of the Education Code.

Except in these cases, **tuition fees** are not covered by the France Excellence Eiffel program.

As for course fees, these are not covered by the France Excellence Eiffel program.

c. Travel and transportation expenses

Arrival

Airfare in the least-expensive class available is covered by the scholarship.

The coverage includes the cost of travel between the international airports closest to recipients' home abroad and their academic location in France.

Upon submission of receipts, the cost of airfare incurred by recipients will be reimbursed in an amount not to exceed 50% of the maximum rate set by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs for travel from the country concerned.

Recipients may also claim reimbursement of the cost of domestic travel to reach their academic location in France. Reimbursement will be based on the cost of second class train or bus travel from the arrival airport to the academic location.

Departure at end of program

Recipients have 12 months from the end of their scholarship to request their return ticket. Coverage of the return flight is dependent on receipt of the recipient's academic results at the end of the final year of the scholarship. In the event that the return flight is not arranged at the end of the scholarship period, it is understood that the recipient no longer enjoys the status of a recipient of a French government scholarship, nor the guarantees linked to that status, during the period between the end of the scholarship and the recipient's departure from France.

The scholarship covers return air travel in the least expensive class from recipients' academic location to the international airport closest to their home abroad, including the cost of second-class train or bus travel to the airport from the recipient's city of residence in France.

The cost of airfare incurred by recipients will be reimbursed, upon presentation of receipts, in an amount up to 50% of the maximum rate set by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs for travel to the country concerned.

d. Health (medical) insurance

Eiffel scholarship recipients are enrolled by Campus France in a temporary health insurance plan until their coverage by the French national scheme (Sécurité Sociale) takes effect. The national scheme is mandatory and free of charge for all students enrolled in a French institution of higher education. Students can enroll at the following site: https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/#/.

Recipients must submit to Campus France proof of coverage under the national scheme **within two months of their arrival in France**. Upon receipt of proof of coverage, recipients will be enrolled in **a supplemental health insurance scheme** at no cost to the recipient (excluding accompanying family members), thus ensuring optimal coverage of medical expenses during their stay.

Scholarship recipients from member states of the European Union holding a **European Health Insurance Card** need take no action. They will have access to care in France and be reimbursed for a share of their medical expenses as if they were in their home country. All they need to do is to

send Campus France a copy of their EHIC so that Campus France can enroll them in a supplemental health insurance plan (at no cost to them).

Important: *Campus France is authorized to suspend payment of scholarship allowances and provision of related services if recipients do not provide proof of their enrollment in the French national health insurance scheme by the start of the third month of their scholarship.*

e. Housing

Campus France offers recipients a choice of housing **in student dormitories managed by CROUS** (the national student housing agency) **or in private homes**. Recipients may choose to decline Campus France's offer and to make their own housing arrangements instead.

The Eiffel program encourages host institutions to help scholarship recipients find suitable housing.

f. Recreation and leisure

Campus France offers weekend outings to allow recipients to relax for a few days and meet other Eiffel recipients.

Short getaways of 3–4 days allow scholarship recipients to make touristic or cultural discoveries in a friendly and relaxed fashion. Offerings include visits to French cities and regions and trips to European capitals. Shorter activities include sporting events, shows, exhibits, and recreational activities.

Calendars of offerings are updated every six months in recipients' personal space on Campus France's Eiffel program website.

All events are offered at attractive prices set with student budgets in mind. The student services and hospitality office welcomes inquiries: AccueilPoleCulturel@campusfrance.org

8. The Eiffel Alumni community

Your selection for an Eiffel scholarship makes you a part of the community of previous recipients. By registering on the France Alumni website you will receive news and invitations of special interest to alumni: https://www.francealumni.fr/fr

III. OBLIGATIONS OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

RECIPIENTS HAVE RIGHTS, BUT ALSO OBLIGATIONS

Eiffel scholarships are granted for a specific, predetermined program, both in subject matter and in duration.

The benefits of the scholarship come with the obligation to apply oneself to the academic program—in particular, to sit for all examinations and to follow the rules of the institution.

The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs reserves the right to cease scholarship payments to recipients who engage in activities inconsistent with the objectives of the program.

Eiffel scholarship recipients must submit to Campus France a certificate of academic enrollment for the current year as soon as their scholarship program begins, as well as a certificate of enrollment in the national health insurance scheme as set forth in section 5.4.

Eiffel scholarship recipients must communicate with Campus France about their academic status, in particular by submitting data on academic progress twice yearly as requested by Campus France (see section IV, below).

Eiffel scholarship recipients must inform Campus France in a timely manner (as set forth in sections II.2 and II.3) before beginning an internship, traveling abroad, or commencing a gap year.

Publications written as part of the fellowship must mention the support provided by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE).

o Standard sentence to use: “This project was supported by the France Excellence Eiffel fellowship and funded by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.”

Recipients who fail to observe the rules of the program may be required to refund their scholarship and pay the costs of services received.

IV. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO CAMPUS FRANCE

- Place of residence
- Email address and telephone number
- Certification of academic enrollment
- Certification of enrollment in the national health insurance scheme (Sécurité Sociale or CEAM)
- For the purpose of monitoring academic progress, Campus France will send the recipient two documents each year that must be filled out and signed by the recipient’s institution before being returned to Campus France. The documents are:

- an evaluation form at the end of the recipient's first semester and?
- a form reporting the recipient's performance at the end of the academic year—or, for doctoral candidates, a report from their doctoral committee.

V. PERSONAL ONLINE SERVICE

Mon Espace Boursier (My Scholarship Space) is a **personal online service available to international students, scholars, and interns who have received a scholarship managed by Campus France.** With a few clicks, it gives users access to everything they need to know about their stay, the status of their scholarship, and how to contact Campus France teams. *Mon Espace Boursier* is accessible in French and English from laptops, tablets, and smart phones.

Accessing *Mon Espace Boursier* is as simple as clicking this link https://beneficiaires.campusfrance.org/.

From their personal space, recipients can **upload required documents** and **update their contact information**. They can also **track in real time** the progress of transactions related to their scholarship.

* * *

Campus France is here to assist you during your stay. Do not hesitate to contact us.

We wish you success in your academic pursuits and a wonderful stay in France!