



ASSOCIATION
DES PROGRAMMES
UNIVERSITAIRES
AMÉRICAINS
EN FRANCE

COVID-19 Info Sheet France

Compiled by:
APUAF COVID-19 Committee
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INTRODUCTION

The COVID Info Committee continues to update this compilation of COVID-19 protocols and guidelines as established by the French authorities to keep APUAF members, their partners and their students informed of openings and restrictions across the country as they evolve.

The committee in charge of the research, translation and scope of this document seeks simply to provide a short-cut summary of information (relevant to the field of International Education in France) that is widely accessible, yet often only published in French, on various different official government websites and through communiqués provided by the French government and the ensemble of its Ministries, the French Consular offices, the *Préfectures*, local government resources & announcements, and protocols established by French Federations.

We encourage readers to access the links to the original sources provided in each category of information in this report. **The APUAF COVID-19 Committee will update this compilation periodically, at least once a month, for the coming months.**

The situation evolves quickly and continually, and as such, APUAF recommends that all readers verify the information provided below before making definitive decisions. This Info Sheet does not intend to interpret information provided by the French authorities, nor does it seek to advise readers. Its purpose is to simply compile information from official sources to provide a convenient resource in English for APUAF members and their partners.

Much of the information in this report concerns the general state of affairs in France. Local websites (*préfecture*, *mairie*, etc) give more detailed information on a regional or municipal level.



SECTION 1: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

Who is authorized to travel from the U.S. to France?

France's borders with all non-EU countries outside of the European Area have been restricted since January 31, 2021. (The "European Area" is defined as all EU member states, Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and Vatican City.) On Feb 4th, 2021, temporary modifications were made to the criteria concerning the list of "compelling reasons", reducing the authorized reasons for entry to France from outside the European Area in order to combat the spread of new COVID strains.

Borders are open for all travel for any reason and any length of stay for travelers to and from Australia, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea or the United Kingdom. Two websites detail this situation: (<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr>) and (<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr>). The same websites list 5 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, India and South Africa) where travel is severely restricted and special conditions apply upon entry.

For all other countries, the [French government certificate of travel website](#) details the different scenarios based on nationality and where travelers are coming from (documents available in English and French). The full lists of "compelling reasons" for each category of passengers in each case scenario are found on the documents themselves in French and English. Here below are the current "compelling reasons" accepted for students and faculty coming from the U.S.:

- Third country national with a “*Passeport Talent*” long-term visa (VLS)
- Student moving to France for the second semester of the current academic year as part of a higher education institution program
- Researcher moving to France at the invitation of a research laboratory, for research activities imperatively requiring their physical presence.

The government announced on April 29 that the proposed plan is for borders to open up on June 9 to visitors coming to France for under 90 days who meet certain sanitary requirements (Pass Sanitaire - see page 7).

<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14859>

What is required to travel from the U.S. to France?

Travelers who have one of these aforementioned “compelling reasons” to come to France must comply with the following requirements:

- **Complete the 2 forms** listed under **case scenario #2** at this website: <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel>
 1. **2.1** : Under heading : « Certificate to enter Metropolitan France for citizens from a country outside the European Area ». (This form exists for European Area citizens and for non-European Area citizens, and in French and English).
 2. **2.2** : Under heading : « Statement for travelers aged 11 years and over ». (This form exists for travelers under 11 years old, and in French and English)

Certificate to enter Metropolitan France for citizens from a country outside the European Area :



Statement for travellers aged 11 years and over :



- Travelers aged 11 or older from the United States **must provide the results of a PCR test taken less than 72 hours before departure** indicating a negative result for COVID-19.
 - In the case of multiple flights in the same travel itinerary, the test must be taken 72h before the first flight departs.
 - If you are not able to provide evidence of this test or a certificate of exemption, boarding will be denied.
- **Provide a “contact” sheet** with proof of housing and your residence address in France
- Upon entering France, **you are required to self-isolate** (at home, not in quarantine housing) upon arrival **for 7 days and take a second test at the end of that period.** [Advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france](#)

Student Visas

International students are authorized to enter France at this time, as long as they fall into the category of **students moving to France for the second semester of the current academic year as part of a higher education institution program**. Further information can be found on Campus France’s USA website here: [Campus France Student Visa FAQ](#)

All VFS Centers in the U.S. are open and accepting student visa appointments for students authorized to enter France. French Consulates continue their service of delivering visas to international students authorized to travel. https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/welcome-page

Leaving France & entering the United States

Both the French government and the CDC in the U.S. have issued orders outlining requirements for all air passengers leaving France and arriving in the U.S. These orders affect students and faculty traveling from France to the U.S.

- France requires all passengers leaving the EU to comply with the restrictions for international travel: Persons wishing to leave France to travel to a country outside the EU must have a compelling health, family or economic-related reason for their journey, and fill out the corresponding Certificate of Travel. **Case scenario #1** at this website: <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Attestation-de-deplacement-et-de-voyage>

- “Returning to the country of residence or origin” is among the “compelling reasons”
- The CDC requires that all air passengers arriving to the U.S. from a foreign country to provide proof of a negative test result (less than 3 days prior to travel) or proof of recovery from COVID-19 before boarding the flight. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html>
 - This order applies to all air passengers, 2 years of age or older, travelling into the U.S., including U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.
 - Test must be a viral test (NAAT or antigen test)

Upon entry in the U.S., the CDC recommends, but does not currently require:

For **Vaccinated** Travelers

- Getting a new COVID test 3-5 days after travel & self-monitoring for COVID symptoms

For **Un-vaccinated** Travelers

- Getting a new COVID test 3-5 days after travel, and a self-quarantine period of 7 days or 10-day quarantine if you do not get tested upon return.
- Self-monitoring for COVID symptoms & avoiding people at increased risk of illness for 14 days.

Travelers should look into local and state recommendations or requirements in the U.S. by accessing this travel planner: [CDC COVID Travel Planner](#)



SECTION 2: HEALTH SERVICE ACCESS & CAPACITY

Access to protective equipment (masks, gloves, gel)

All pharmacies and most grocery chains in France currently have low priced equipment available.

- **Disposable surgical masks** are available at approximately 20 to 30 cents each.
- Certified ‘Grand Public’ **re-usable masks** cost about 2 euros each and come in 2 different categories: Category 1 masks filter approximately 90% of particles and Category 2 masks filter 70%. Annex 3 of the National Protocol for Staying Healthy & Safe at Work states that only official PPE, surgical masks or Category 1 masks should be worn in public. [National Workplace Protocol](#)
- **Disinfectant gel** costs about 10-12 euros per liter. There are also public gel dispensers (free) in some cities in France, and almost all places of business have gel dispensers available for customer use.
- France currently has sufficient **protective gloves** available for the general public.

7 Day self-isolation period

As of January 18, 2021, there is an obligatory self-isolation period of 7 (10 days for those coming from Argentina, Brazil, Chili, India and South Africa) upon entry to France from outside the Schengen Area. The state health insurance website, [Ameli.fr](#) gives detailed advice (in French) for limiting contact with others and keeping living conditions clean during self-isolation. Campus France describes the conditions of the 7-day quarantine: [Campus France Recommendations including description of Quarantine](#) (in French) and [Campus France Recommendations including description of Quarantine](#) (in English).

- Stay at home as much as possible and limit your time outside to essential needs
- Respect the curfew in place from 7pm to 6am
- Always wear a mask in the presence of another person, and avoid contact with other people in your residence/at home
- Follow the official information from the French Government
- Contact your school for distance learning support for your courses
- If your accommodation is a university residence, inform the administration that you are quarantining so that cleaning and disinfection measures can be implemented
- Download the TousAntiCovid app on your phone (see page 6, section titled “Tools”)
- In case of symptoms, contact a doctor immediately

Access to health care & hospitalization

- The government has created a platform mesconseilscovid.sante.gouv.fr which allows anyone with symptoms to obtain within 3 minutes personalized advice as to how to proceed (for treatment, testing, etc) and how to protect oneself and others.

- Web-based platforms and apps such as “Doctolib” allow students to book medical appointments, PCR tests and Vaccination appointments across the country with ease. <https://www.doctolib.fr/>
- Virtual consultations and in-person appointments with general practitioners are readily available as early as same day.
- Same day house-calls are also available in most French cities (through services such as *SOS Médecins* or UMP). <https://www.sosmedecins.fr/> and <https://www.ump.fr/>
- Students have access to all French public hospitals where there is a dedicated space for COVID patients.
- French Hospitals are currently at 110.3% capacity for intensive care/*reanimation* beds. This statistic compares number of COVID patients hospitalized currently compared to number of intensive care beds available BEFORE the pandemic, and thus does not count the additional beds and services put in place in 2020 and 2021. Statistics can be tracked here: [France COVID Dashboard](#).

Access to testing

Three kinds of diagnostic COVID tests are currently available in France to test patients for COVID.

1. **The (RT-PCR) test** to determine if the patient has COVID at the time of the test.
 - Results are available within 24 – 36 hours.
 - France currently is performing 1.3-1.4 million tests per week.
 - 100% covered by Social Security and do not require prescription. Otherwise, out of pocket costs are approximately 70-80 euros per test. <https://fr.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>
 - They are administered in testing centers, medical facilities and labs but also by nurses, medical students, paramedics, firemen, etc. There are currently over 12 000 testing centers across France. [COVID Testing Sites in France](#)
 - **Who can be tested (RT-PCR)?** Anyone can benefit from a test. There is no need to show symptoms.
2. **The Antigen Test** to determine if the patient has COVID at the time of the test. <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14435>
 - Results within 15-30 minutes
 - Available especially in pharmacies and at airports.
 - 100% covered by Social Security and do not require a prescription. Patients who don't have French Social Security currently may have to pay out of pocket (34 euros).
 - **Who can be tested (Antigen)?**
Patients with symptoms can opt for this test if they fulfill the following criteria:
 - ✓ Within 4 days of first symptoms
 - ✓ No underlying conditions, meaning not susceptible to developing a serious form of Covid.
 Patients without symptoms who:
 - ✓ Have been asked to be tested as part of an institutional testing program (at schools and universities, work places, etc.)
 - ✓ Need to be tested as a requirement before a medical appointment
 - ✓ Wish to be screened at any time
 - **Auto-test Antigen Tests** are available in pharmacies starting April 12, 2021. Results within 15-20 minutes and price capped at 6 euros.
 - Patients who test positive in an Antigen test are asked to confirm result with a PCR test
3. **Saliva Test:** The French government has approved the use of COVID-19 saliva tests in primary and secondary schools and universities : <https://www.education.gouv.fr/covid19-un-acces-prioritaire-aux-tests-pour-les-personnels-de-l-education-nationale-et-pour-les-307814>

An Immunity Test (blood test) is available in France to determine if the patient has developed immunity to COVID. These tests are administered mostly in labs and sometimes might require a prescription. They are 100% covered by Social Security and otherwise out of pocket costs are approximately 20 euros per test.

Steps to take for testing

Precise procedures have been put in place for different case scenarios. Details can be found and downloaded here for anyone in these groups: [Steps to Take to be Tested](#)

- I don't present any symptoms and I would like to be tested: Free test, no prescription needed, PCR results within approximately 24h, or Antigen test results in 15-30 min.

- I have symptoms: specific protocol for testing to avoid contact with others during testing and until results are in. Free test, no prescription needed, PCR results within approximately 24h, Antigen results in 15-30 min
- I have been in contact with a person who has tested positive: Antigen or PCR test
- A specific function is available through the website & application **Doctolib** to locate the testing center or lab closest to you with the earliest available appointments for a test.
- Students who don't have French Social Security have total access to testing but may need to front the cost of the test and submit to their personal health insurance after if COVID testing is covered by their insurance policy.

Tracking

All COVID patients must provide a local doctor with the list of people with whom they have been in touch within 48 hours of the first symptoms. Medical authorities will contact every person on that list and require testing (see above).

Anyone who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive must follow a specific protocol [Steps to Take to be Tested](#):

- Wear a certified mask at all times when in contact with others, isolate immediately.
- Take an antigen test immediately. If negative, stay isolated 7 days after the last contact with the COVID patient.
- After 7 days, take a PCR or antigen test
- Stay in quarantine for until the test results are in
- **Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 10 days** after signs of first symptoms, or if asymptomatic, after test date. <https://www.ameli.fr>

Vaccinations

France's vaccination strategy has been established by the HAS (*Haute Autorité de Santé*) who has published the order of priority populations to be vaccinated. [Vaccination Strategy & FAQ](#)

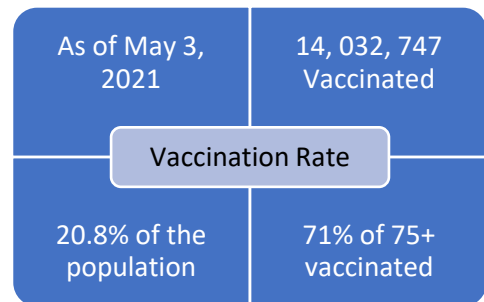
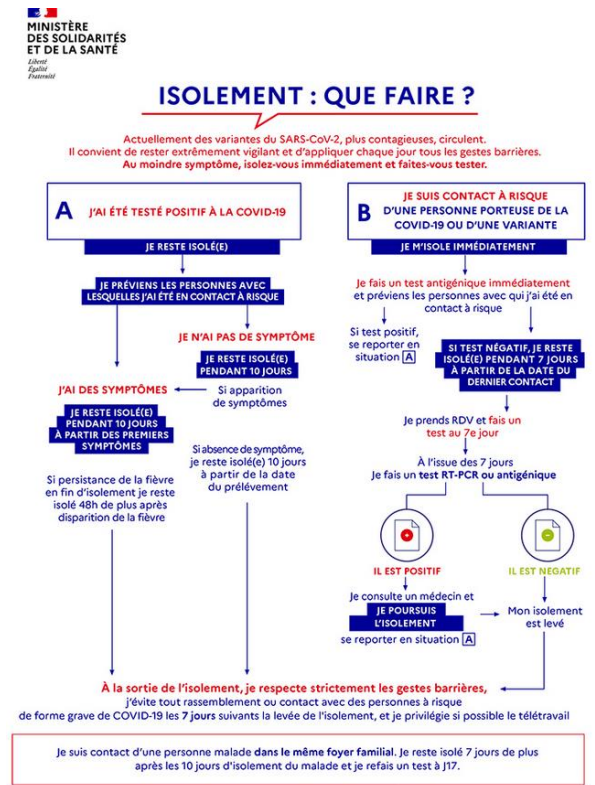
France's vaccination strategy follows 3 main principles:

- Freedom of choice: the vaccination is not obligatory
- Free of charge: the vaccination is available for free in France (for those with French Social Security)
- Security: the vaccination follows all strict guidelines that frame the use of medical products in France

Order of priority for vaccination: [Vaccination calendar](#), [Website dedicated to vaccinations in France](#)

A revised calendar was announced on March 31: <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2021/03/31/adresse-aux-francais-31-mars-2021>

	Category eligible for vaccination
CURRENTLY	Anyone over 55 yrs old Anyone with a very high risk for serious COVID-19 case (all ages) Anyone over 18 yrs old with at least one risk factor Pregnant women starting in 2 nd trimester Medical professionals and other front-line workers over 18 yrs old
Starting May 15	Anyone over 50 yrs old
Starting June 15	Anyone over 18 yrs old



[Vaccination Dashboard](#)

People who have been vaccinated are still required to follow all COVID-19 protocols in private and public spaces, in workplaces and in schools.

SECTION 3: RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO COVID-19

4-Step Re-opening plan: May 3 – June 30, 2021

On April 30, 2021, the government announced a 4-step plan for re-opening starting May 3. Re-opening could be temporarily paused or delayed for any region where certain sanitary conditions are not met. Re-opening is conditional upon compliance with defined capacity limits and protocols. [les-quatre-etapes-du-deconfinement](#)

Step 1 : May 3

- The daily curfew remains in place from 7pm to 6am for all of France. An authorization form is needed after curfew.
- Free movement throughout France is permitted
- Only essential stores are open.
- Bars and restaurants are closed for dining in. Only take-out and delivery are open.
- All day-care facilities, primary schools and secondary schools re-open with heightened Covid protocol. In 15 *départements* where COVID rates are still high, middle schools and high schools move to hybrid model.
- Onsite classes at universities continue according to strict conditions and with limited occupancy.
- Outdoor individual sports are authorized, and outdoor sports complexes are open.



Step 2: May 19

- Daily curfew pushed back to 9pm
- Re-opening of all retail and businesses
- Re-opening of museums, monuments, cinemas & theatres
- Re-opening of open-air and indoor sporting activities as well as indoor and outdoor sporting events with spectators
- Re-opening of bar and restaurant for outdoor dining only (6 people maximum per table)
- Gatherings of more than 10 people prohibited.

Step 3: June 9

- Daily curfew pushed back to 11pm
- Re-opening of all cafés & restaurants for indoor dining (6 people maximum per table)
- Limited return to workspace for offices still on telework
- Sports, cultural venues, international trade fairs & exhibitions open up to 5,000 people
- Re-opening of gyms, sports halls, to include open-air contact sports and inside non-contact sports
- Lifting of travel restrictions for foreign visitors coming into France (with a Pass Sanitaire)

Step 4: June 30

- End of daily curfew
- Events of up to 1,000 people indoor or outdoor permitted
- Nightclubs remain closed

Une réouverture en 4 étapes



Mai 2021						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

Juin 2021						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

ÉTAPE 1 3 mai

- Couvre-feu maintenu
- Réouverture des collèges (demi-jauge pour les 4^e et 3^e)
- Levée des restrictions pour les déplacements inter-régionaux
- Statu quo pour les commerces
- Télétravail maintenu
- Réouverture des lycées (en demi-jauge)
- Fin de l'attestation de déplacement en journée

ÉTAPE 2 19 mai

- Couvre-feu décalé à 21 heures
- Réouverture* des commerces
- Réouverture* des musées, monuments, cinémas, théâtres, salles avec public assis**
- Réouverture des activités sportives de plein air et dans les lieux couverts (avec protocole)
- Télétravail maintenu
- Réouverture des terrasses (tables de 6 personnes maxi.)
- Rassemblements de plus de 10 personnes interdits
- Réouverture* des élab. sportifs de plein air et couverts pour les spectateurs**

ÉTAPE 3 9 juin

- Couvre-feu décalé à 23 heures
- Réouverture* des cafés et restos (tables de 6 personnes maxi.)
- Possibilité d'accueillir jusqu'à 5 000 pers. dans les lieux de culture et les élab. sportifs***
- Accueil des touristes étrangers avec pass sanitaire
- Assouplissement du télétravail
- Réouverture* des salons et foires (jusqu'à 5 000 pers.)***
- Réouverture* des salles de sport, élargissement aux sports de contact en plein air et sans contact en intérieur

ÉTAPE 4 30 juin

- Fin du couvre-feu
- Maintien des gestes barrières et de la distanciation sociale
- Possibilité de participer aux événements de plus de 1 000 pers. en extérieur et en intérieur***
- Fin des limites de jauge selon la situation sanitaire locale dans les élab. recevant du public
- Limite maxi. de public selon l'événement et la situation sanitaire locale

* RÉOUVERTURES CONDITIONNÉES AU RESPECT DE JAUGES ET PROTOCOLES ADAPTÉS À CHAQUE LIEU ET ACTIVITÉ. LP/INFGRAPIE. 29/4/2021.

** 800 EN INTÉRIEUR, 1 000 EN EXTÉRIEUR. *** AVEC PASS SANITAIRE.

Tools

In addition to consulting the general government websites that communicate all essential information concerning the virus, restrictions, and the re-opening period, everyone is asked to download the app **TousAntiCovid**, which serves several functions:

- **Tracking:** the app alerts users if they are in close contact with a Covid patient
- **Information:** the app publishes the daily stats concerning the virus
- **Testing:** the app can be used to locate the nearest testing center
- **Documentation:** the app can generate a digital authorization form needed to be outside after curfew.
- **Pass Sanitaire:** the app has a function that stores COVID test results and vaccination certificates which will help facilitate travel and access to certain events. (This can also be accomplished through the paper version of the Pass Sanitaire). The Pass Sanitaire functionality will be put in place at the beginning of June.

<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14852>



This app which uses Bluetooth technology for tracking and does not share personal identification information. Use of the app for everyone, including COVID patients, is voluntary. [TOUS ANTI COVID Tracking App](#)

The French government has put in place a **24/7 hotline** (in French only) to respond to any questions concerning COVID-19 (health, regulations, workplace, social services, legal, civil, childcare and education, travel and leisure activities, etc.). A WhatsApp group managed by the government provides an additional Q&A source for anyone who wishes to join: [WhatsApp with Government](#)



ViteMaDose
par CovidTracker

Vaccinations: Vite Ma Dose is a service that centralizes several online portals where people can sign up for a vaccination appointment.
<https://vitemadose.covidtracker.fr/>

Daily Curfew

At this time, there is a nation-wide stay-at-home curfew from 7pm to 6am. Any outing made during **curfew** hours (7pm to 6am) must fall into the below categories:

- Going to and from work or school
- Medical care and medical appointments that cannot be done remotely
- Essential family duties including helping a vulnerable family member or caring for children
- All outings necessary for disabled people and those who accompany them
- For administrative or judicial appointments
- Transit to take a train, plane or bus for travel
- Walking a pet (maximum 1km from residence for a brief period of time)

For any justifiable outing after curfew, it is mandatory to have an authorization form found here:

- [Online \(printable\) authorization forms](#) in English and in French
- [Online \(digital\) authorization form in French](#) (also available via the TousAntiCovid app)



Wearing Masks

It is required to wear a mask at all times when outside of one's residence. [How to Wear a Mask](#). Only those jogging/running or riding a mechanical bicycle are exempt from wearing masks. [Information concerning masks](#)

Schools

All pre-schools and primary schools re-opened in person the week of April 26th. Middle schools re-open May 3rd for in person education in all but 15 *départements* where Covid rates are high (listed here: <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/education>). In these areas, 3^e and 4^e (equivalent of 8th and 9th)

grades) classes resume in a hybrid learning model, at half capacity. High schools re-open May 3, with a hybrid learning model, at half capacity.

The government has implemented a massive Covid testing program to reduce contamination risks in schools. Saliva tests are given to primary and middle school students; rapid self-tests are distributed to teachers, staff and high school students over 15 yrs old. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/reouverture-des-ecoles-la-continuite-pedagogique-sans-risque-sanitaire>

Higher Education

Several official government websites give detail concerning academic and campus life during the COVID crisis.

- [Ministry of Higher Education general Covid info](#)
- [Official Student Life website confinement info](#)
- [Ministry of Higher Education campus confinement details](#)

International Students: International students continue to be welcomed into France provided they satisfy the French government's current conditions of coming to France for participation in a semester program (over 90 days) with an institution of higher education. The French government has announced that international students currently in France can apply for and/or renew residency permits, online, thus avoiding the previously obligatory in person appointment at the *prefecture*. ([Campus France Stay Permit Renewal info](#)).

Classes: Since the end of January, in-person classes have resumed ([January 22nd French Ministry of Higher Education circular](#)) as long as the campus is at maximum 20% total capacity and each class at maximum 50% capacity, strictly following all sanitary protocols. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/education>. The government confirmed on March 31st that institutions can continue with in-person classes according to these conditions.

Studio courses & Labs: Courses in fields such as science (biology, chemistry, physics, etc.), medical/health sciences, sports sciences, fine arts (graphic arts and design, studio art, etc.) that cannot be delivered virtually are authorized to continue in-person instruction (at 50% the total occupancy of the classroom space).

Exams and entry exams: Any exam or *concours* that could not take place remotely in April because of lockdown was rescheduled for the month of May. The government has announced that in-person end of term exams can take place in May-June (<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/education>); however, many universities are finally opting for remote or hybrid models of final assessment.

Internships: Students currently enrolled in for-credit internships can continue their work remotely or in-person depending on the host company/organization's protocol.

Libraries, computer labs and cafeterias: university libraries and computer labs can open, and cafeterias began re-opening for in-person dining on February 8. Take-away service is still offered. See the CROUS' interactive map for facilities by region, their services and hours. Student meals are being offered by CROUS cafeterias for 1 euro. <https://www.etudiant.gouv.fr/fr/le-repas-au-crous-passe-1-euro-pour-tous-les-etudiants-2314>

Administrative, Health & Social Services: university health & social services remain fully accessible (including mental health support services), with some non-essential administrative services accessible by appointment only.

Residence Halls: University housing is open but students who can easily move home are encouraged to do so. International students or those far away from home are authorized to remain in student housing.

Workplaces

While offices can stay open, the government reinforced the guidelines applicable to the specific work environment on [April 8th](#). Employers are called to reduce to a strict minimum the amount of time employees spend in the office, if they can work remotely. Should they have to go to the office, employees must continue to apply the national guidelines in order to limit the circulation of the highly contagious strains of COVID-19. Situation permitting, the work from home rule may be lifted as of June 9 according to the government's 4-step re-opening plan.



The guidelines currently state:

- Working remotely is strongly advised but not required. Those who can should work from home 4 days a week, and come to the office one day a week at most. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/mesures-renforcees-declaration-du-premier-ministre-devant-l-assemblee-nationale>
- Physical distancing (at least 1 meter between individuals and/or workstations, and **2 meters during coffee breaks and/or meals**)
- Where possible, employees should bring their lunch and eat at their desks
- Those who dine in canteens or lunch rooms should eat alone, or sit at least 2 meters from others
- Obligatory mask wearing and the responsibility of the employer to provide masks. **Only Category 1 cloth/fabric masks or disposable medical/surgical masks are authorized.**
- The promotion of regular, thorough handwashing
- Regular mechanical or manual ventilation of the premises
- Routine disinfecting at least once a day of all surfaces and objects
- Management of the flow of people to avoid excessive crowding and crossing of individuals

Employees are instructed to stay at home should they develop Covid symptoms or if they have recently been in contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus. **Obligatory temperature checks or PCR tests** at the workplace are not authorized.

Gatherings & Socializing

The government currently recommends limiting private gatherings to 6 adults (and the children of those adults) for inside and outside gatherings. Group gatherings in public spaces are also limited to 6 people. Starting May 19, the maximum number of people who can gather will increase to 10, conditions permitting. In some large cities (ex: Paris, Lyon, Bordeaux...) consuming alcohol in public is restricted to certain places and times until May 2.

Associated fines for not adhering to protocols

A **fine of 135 euros** may be applied in the event of non-compliance with COVID protocols, including wearing masks and respecting curfew. Repeat offenders can be fined up to **3,750 euros** and could risk 6 months of prison, community service, drivers' license suspension of up to 3 years maximum. [Fines for not complying with curfew](#)

Local travel restrictions

Everyone **residing in France** must adhere to French regulations concerning mobility. The current situation allows and requires the following:

In France

- Anyone travelling during curfew hours on trains, flights, or intercity buses must fill out a Curfew Authorization Form [Authorization form required](#).
- For travelers to Corsica, a declaration of honor must be completed by passengers which must be printed and signed, will be required upon boarding by the transport company. Passengers must have completed an RT-PCR or antigenic test 72 hours before departure.

In Europe

- European borders are open, but travelers must follow all requirements and restrictions to enter other EU countries from France.
- **All travelers coming into France from the European Area must produce a negative COVID test from less than 72h before their travel. See case scenario #2.2** on the [French government certificate of travel website](#). Travelers must fill out and carry with them the forms available on this website.
- Travelers arriving from a country of the European Area but who within **the past 30 days have stayed in a country outside the European Area** must follow the procedure applicable to travelers arriving from a country outside the European Area.

Pass Sanitaire: The current plan is for an electronic or paper-based "Pass Sanitaire" to be put in place early June to facilitate travel and access to certain events. <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14859>

Details concerning mobility in and out of France can be found at this French government site: [International Mobility Information](#) in French and in English at [Advice for Foreign Nationals in France](#). Further information is also available on the European Union website: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/FRA>

COVID Case Management in schools

Primary & Secondary Education:

The government has introduced a massive Covid screening program and has again reinforced the [COVID protocol](#) that is in place in primary and secondary schools; as of April 26, classes are systematically closed for 7 days as soon as there is just [1 confirmed case of a COVID](#). [Updated School Protocol](#).

Higher Education: [Higher Education COVID info](#)

Most French institutions of higher education (as is also the case for companies and businesses) have published their campus COVID protocols on their websites. Here are two examples from the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle <http://www.univ-paris3.fr/covid-19> and the Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1 <https://www.univ-lyon1.fr/protocole-sanitaire>.

This committee contacted both the *Académie de Paris* and the BEESP (*tutelle des établissements d'enseignement supérieur privé*) of the Paris *rectorat* and received this feedback in writing:

For study abroad programs in France that are registered as *Etablissements d'enseignement supérieur privé hors contrat*, it is advised that you reach out to your *rectorat* or *académie* to learn what the process is for declaring positive cases of COVID within your program participants, faculty and staff. The *Académie de Paris* has indicated that we should declare confirmed cases by emailing the ARS at ARS-DD75-alerte@ars.sante.fr. Further information concerning the COVID crisis can be obtained by contacting the educational officials at covid19.esri@region-academique-idf.fr (for Ile de France).

Sports and exercise

The government announced progressive re-opening of sports venues and the resumption of collective sport activities as of May 19 (<https://www.gouvernement.fr/les-quatre-etapes-du-deconfinement>). Until then, sports and exercise are authorized, but according to the following requirements:

- Indoor physical education/sports can resume at schools as of May 3rd, provided gauges and protocols are respected.
- Individual sport (walking, running, biking, hiking, etc.) is permitted across France.
- Group athletic activity in public places (fitness classes, walks and hikes, etc.) must be limited to 6 people maximum per group and must maintain the physical distance of 2 meters between people.
- Outdoor sports equipment and sites are open and accessible: stadiums, golf, tennis, outdoor fields, equestrian centers, etc. and the practice of all these sports is allowed. <https://www.sports.gouv.fr>
- Participants are not required to wear a mask during sports.
- Excluded from these limitations are several groups who can continue indoor and outdoor sports (Sports Science students, professional and pre-professional athletes, those with a medical prescription for a certain activity, etc.) <https://www.service-public.fr>

A full list of restrictions concerning sports activities can be found here: <https://www.sports.gouv.fr/accueil-du-site/actualites/article/application-des-decisions-sanitaires-pour-le-sport-a-partir-du-3-avril>

Student Support

The Ministry of Higher Education & Research has established a student mental health support website (with an English Language version) that compiles all the contacts and services related to mental health support for students during the COVID-19 crisis. The website covers all regions of France, and in addition to mental health support also serves as a resource for information about financial support, student housing, and health care. <https://www.soutien-etudiant.info/>

On January 21st, the government announced a mental health care package (a “*chèque psy*”) to allow students in psychological distress access to free mental health support.

Several Hotlines and free resources are available to students:

- A free 24/7 hotline monitored by the Association SPS (*Soins aux Professionnels de Santé*) for students has been opened and can be reached here: <https://www.asso-sps.fr/prise-en-charge/etudiants>

- <https://www.nightline.fr/paris>, a student proposed/supported hotline to support peers (non-professional) is available everyday between 9pm to 2:30am: +33 1 88 32 12 32
- The BAPU (Bureaux d'aide psychologique universitaires) have psychologists, psychotherapists and psychiatrists available to students in need. Addresses and contact information can be found here: <https://www.etudiant.gouv.fr/fr/besoin-d-une-aide-psychologique-1297>
- [SOS Amitié](#) at +33 9 72 39 40 50 (24/7 in French),
- [SOS Help](#) +33 1 46 21 46 46 (3pm-11pm, in English)
- [Fil Santé Jeunes](#) at +33 800 235 236 (9am to 11pm for ages 12-25).

[Ameli](#) has a list of additional resources.

City websites also list support specifically aimed to help the students studying there. Examples:

- In Paris: <https://www.paris.fr/pages/confinement-les-dispositifs-pour-les-etudiants-15717>
- In Strasbourg: <https://www.strasbourgimesetudiants.eu/-/aide-pour-les-etudiants-du-territoire-covid19>
- In Aix en Provence: <https://www.aixenprovence.fr/Etudiants-vos-dispositifs-d-urgence>

On April 15, the government announced a special provision for 10 free sessions with a psychologist for children and adolescents between the ages of 3 and 17. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/forfait-100-psy-enfants-10-seances-sans-avance-de-frais>



ADDITIONAL LINKS & GENERAL RESOURCES

An English summary of information concerning the current situation in France, mobility, visas, testing, etc. can be found here: <https://fr.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>

For information concerning every country in the European Union, and for details on all aspects of the Covid-19 crisis in Europe, see the following website: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en/>. And for information specifically for France: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/FRA>

For current information, including health recommendations and measures, from the French government on the COVID-19 situation in France, see the following website: [Main COVID-19 Government Website](#)

Access to daily communiqués with daily statistics and key messages: [Daily Communiqués by French Government](#)

Official website dedicated to Student Life in the French universities: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

Timeline of government actions [French Government Actions](#)