



# REGULATIONS GOVERNING FRANCE EXCELLENCE EIFFEL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR RECIPIENTS (Regulation applicable 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 to 36 months of funding to enable scholarship holders to earn a master's-level degree.
- The doctoral component supports mobility from 6 to 36 months, as specified below.

### 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 foreign decision-makers in the private and public spheres in priority areas of study.

### 2. Fields of study for master and doctorate

The two broad disciplines of the Eiffel Scholarship Program embrace the following fields of study:

#### **Science and technology**

- ✓ Biology and health
- ✓ Ecological transition
- ✓ Mathematics and digital sciences
- ✓ Engineering

#### **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 research organizations that nominate candidates for the Eiffel program commit to admit them to:

- a master's degree program accredited by the French government
- an accredited engineering program
- a joint doctoral program (joint supervision of dissertation and/or dual degree), in partnership with an institution of higher education 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 December 31** of the year in which the scholarship is awarded.

**The start date 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 herein.

#### **Master level**

The scholarship is awarded for:

A maximum of 12 months for awardees entering the second year of a master's program (M2)

A maximum of 24 months for awardees entering the first year of a master's program (M1)

A maximum of 36 months for awardees entering an engineering program.

#### **Doctoral level**

Eiffel scholarships are awarded for a period of 6 to 36 months from September 1 of the award year.

The scholarship duration will be determined according to the following terms:

A scholarship of 36 months is subjected to a registration in year one.

A scholarship of 6 to 18 months is determined according to the enrolment year, for all candidates, especially for those who are already engaged in a joint doctoral program (joint supervision of dissertation and/or dual degree), in partnership with an institution of higher education abroad:

- A maximum of 6 months for awardees entering the third year of a doctorate program
- A maximum of 12 months for awardees entering the second year of a doctorate program
- A maximum of 18 months for awardees entering the first year of a doctorate program

## 5. Covered services

### **Master level**

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €1,181 in addition to certain direct services, notably international airfare, domestic travel support, insurance, assistance in seeking housing, and cultural activities.

### **Doctoral level**

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €1,700 in addition to certain direct services, notably international airfare, domestic travel support, insurance, assistance in seeking housing, and cultural activities.

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

## II. APPLYING FOR AN EIFFEL SCHOLARSHIP

### **Step 1**

Contact the Campus France office in your country of origin or the Cooperation and Culture Office of the French Embassy; both can advise you about your study plans.

Contact the French educational institution or research organization by visiting its website or by emailing or telephoning its office of international relations to learn how to apply for admission (including the date by which your application must be received). Inform them of your wish to be considered for an Eiffel scholarship.

It is your responsibility to choose the school or university that best suits your plans to study or conduct research in France.

All French institutions of higher education can nominate candidates for Eiffel scholarships.

### **Step 2**

The educational institution accepts and supports your application for the Eiffel scholarship.

The institution files your application online using Campus France's dedicated website.

Applications submitted directly by students or by institutions outside France will not be accepted.

The call for applications and all other necessary information can be found on the Campus France website: <https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/le-programme-des-bourses-eiffel>

### III. PROGRAM REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO RECIPIENTS

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

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

Campus France, the agency responsible for promoting French higher education, research, and international academic mobility, is responsible for managing and tracking your program of study in France. You are requested to become familiar with your rights and obligations as a scholarship recipient by reading this document carefully and contacting Campus France if you require further information. **When contacting us, we ask that you always include the file number that will be assigned to you.**

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, they must provide email notification to Campus France, as the agent of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.**

#### 1. Duration of the Eiffel scholarship

For both components of the Eiffel program, scholarships are awarded for the academic year corresponding to the year in which the scholarship was applied for. The study period must begin between September 1 and December 31 of the year the scholarship was awarded.

#### **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 student must repeat some portion of the study program, the scholarship is suspended. Recipients may elect to spend their gap year to repeat the uncompleted year at their own expense. If they are successful, their scholarship benefits may be reinstated for the following year.

#### **Master level**

Eiffel scholarships are granted for a number of months sufficient to complete the academic program specified in their application. Students 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 12 months for enrollments in a Master 2 program, 24 months for enrollments in a Master 1, and 36 months for enrollments in an engineering program.

Students undergoing language training before commencing their academic program are eligible to receive scholarship benefits for a maximum of one month, from August 2024. 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.

**2. Internships and exchanges: Internships and exchanges must be compulsory as part of the curriculum. The scholarship holders must notify Campus France beforehand.**

**Internship**

The definition of "internship" is 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 program 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 becomes an integral part of the study program and, as such, becomes a degree requirement. The criteria for judging successful completion of the internship for purposes of obtaining the degree must be specified in the program description. 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 mobility**

Academic exchange or mobility to another campus, including campuses abroad, must be a fixed degree requirement as specified in the degree description. Holders of an Eiffel scholarship must notify Campus France of the dates of their mobility.

If a required internship or exchange is to take place abroad, maintenance of the scholarship is capped at one year, with the additional provision that the period spent abroad may not exceed the total time spent in France.

**Required internship or exchange**

Scholarship holders performing an internship or exchange retain the benefits of their scholarship only when the internship or exchange is a required component of the program for which the scholarship was awarded and takes place within the specified duration of the scholarship. The requirement must appear in the program description.

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

**Optional internship or exchange**

Scholarship holders wishing to enhance their academic experience may elect to perform an internship or exchange not required by their program as specified in the program description. However, in such optional or elective cases the scholarship benefits are suspended for the duration of the experience. Such periods are deemed "gaps." The rules that apply are described below.

### 3. 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 study program with the option of returning to it later. They may wish to complete another course, to perform an internship in a company or civic organization, join an association, 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.<sup>1</sup>**

**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 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 takes 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.

In the event that an Eiffel scholarship recipient enters into a contract of apprenticeship or professional training, scholarship benefits shall automatically cease.

When the scholarship ceases, no further services are provided. Recipients occupying student housing supplied by Campus France must vacate their housing as of the date the scholarship ceases.

**Recipients must begin their program of study in a host institution in France in order to collect their first payment under the scholarship.**

### 4. Splitting of doctoral scholarship

The scholarship holders' stay can be split into several periods. 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-months-scholarship, it is possible to split the scholarship into three stays of 6 months. In the case of a 12-months-scholarship, it is possible to split the scholarship into two stays of 6 months.

**A schedule of the stays in France must be defined and submitted to Campus France during the first stay. If the schedule is changed after the first stay, the potential 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.**

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<sup>1</sup> When a scholarship is suspended, no services are delivered. Recipients occupying student housing supplied by Campus France must vacate said housing as of the date of suspension of the scholarship.

## **5. Covered services**

### **5.1. Living allowance**

#### **Master level**

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €1,181 in addition to certain direct services.

#### **Doctoral level**

Eiffel scholarship recipients receive a monthly allowance of €1,700 (since January 1, 2021) in addition to certain direct services.

#### **Method of payment**

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.

### **5.2. Tuition and fees**

**Tuition and fees** are not covered by the Eiffel scholarship.

However, recipients of French government scholarships are exempt from tuition charges for programs leading to a national diploma (master, doctorate) or accredited engineering degree in public institutions of a scientific, cultural, or professional nature overseen by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, in accordance with article R719-49 of the national education code.

### **5.3. 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.

The cost of airfare incurred by recipients will be reimbursed in an amount up to 50% of the rate determined 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. The reservation of the flight ticket is determined by the receipt of the academic results at the end of the scholarship final year.** In the event that the return ticket 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, plus the cost of second-class train or bus travel from the city of residence to the airport.

The cost of airfare incurred by recipients will be reimbursed in an amount up to 50% of the rate determined by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs for travel from the country concerned.

## **5.4. 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 send a statement of their eligibility for the national scheme to Campus France **within two months of their arrival in France**. Upon receipt of that statement, recipients are enrolled in a **supplemental health insurance scheme** at no cost to the individual 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 within three months from the effective date of their scholarship.*

## **5.5. 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 allowance (subsidy) previously paid for private housing will no longer be available, effective January 1, 2023.

However, recipients who received Eiffel scholarships before 2023 and who were receiving this allowance will continue to receive it under the same conditions until their scholarship expires at the end of their study period or until they begin a gap year.

## **5.6. Recreation and leisure**

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

Short stays of 3–4 days permit 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, cultural exhibits, and athletic contests.

Calendars of offerings are updated every six months in your 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: [culture@campusfrance.org](mailto:culture@campusfrance.org)

## **6. 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.

## **IV. YOUR OBLIGATIONS**

You 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 yourself to your academic program, in particular to sit for all examinations and to follow the rules of your institution.

The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs reserves the right to cease scholarship payments to recipients who engage in activities incompatible 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 (see above).

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 below).

Eiffel scholarship recipients must inform Campus France in a timely manner (see above) before beginning an internship, traveling abroad, or commencing a gap year.

## V. DOCUMENTS THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO CAMPUS FRANCE

- Your place of residence
- Your email address and telephone number
- Certification of academic enrollment
- Certification of enrollment in the national health insurance scheme (Sécurité Sociale)
- For the purpose of monitoring your academic progress, Campus France will send you two documents each year that must be filled out and signed by your institution before being returned to Campus France. The documents are an evaluation form at the end of your first semester and a form reporting your performance at the end of the academic year.

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

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