



Student Visa Information
Rennes, France - Study Abroad Program
Updated February 2015

Every student applying for a student visa must first complete an online application with Campus France. The completion of the Campus France procedure is a mandatory prerequisite to the student visa application. Complete your Campus France as early as possible so that you have enough time to apply for and receive your visa before your departure. For more information, please visit: www.usa.campusfrance.org and click on "Visas."

The French Consulate requires all applicants to appear **IN PERSON** at the consulate to apply for a student visa. In order to schedule an appointment at the New York Consulate, visit its official website. Your passport containing your issued visa will be returned to you using a secure form of delivery provided by you at your appointment (USPS, FedEx, or UPS). You may not apply for your student visa more than **90 days** prior to your departure. However, you should apply as soon as possible as it may take up to 7 weeks to receive your visa.

WHO NEEDS TO APPLY FOR A VISA?

Official regulations from the French Consulate require students staying longer than 3 months to obtain a student visa. Since one semester lasts approximately 3 and a half months, *ALL Rennes Program semester participants must apply for a student visa.*

Important Reminder: You cannot enter France with a tourist visa and then apply for a student visa. Nor is Nazareth College responsible for any problems you may have if you do not obtain a student visa.

WHERE ARE THE STUDENT VISAS ISSUED?

Student visas are issued in the United States by the French Consulate. You cannot obtain a student visa once you are in France. The French Consulate in New York has jurisdiction over the following States: New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

Even if your permanent residence is not within the jurisdiction of the New York Consulate, you can still apply for your student visa there because Nazareth College is located in the state of New York.

The address of the French Consulate in New York is:

Consulate General of France
934 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10021



WHAT APPLICATION FORMS AND DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED?

The **Program Director** will provide you with the following:

- a. **Letter from the Rennes Program Director to the Consulate** indicating acceptance into the program; enrollment as a full-time student at the Université de Rennes; that credits taken in Rennes will be applicable to your Bachelor's Degree; that Nazareth College verifies of payment for tuition and room & board for the length of your stay; and that you as the student will be making and paying for your travel arrangements to and from Rennes.

YOU will need to complete your visa application with these other documents:

- b. **Original application form + 1 photocopy** of the National Extended-Stay Visa form. **Download the National Extended-Stay Visa form and the sample of how to fill it out.** In order to view the forms you need to have Acrobat Reader installed. Fill out the form carefully. **Please note that the front and back of the form MUST be printed on the same piece of paper.**
- c. **Copy of email from Campus France** entitled "Confirmation Email," informing the student that they may begin preparations to apply to the consulate for the visa.
- d. **Copy of receipt of payment issued by Campus France** for processing fee.
- e. **Original passport + 1 photocopy** that is valid for the intended period of your stay in France plus at least three months, issued within the last 10 years, and with at least two blank pages to affix the visa.
- d. **Two (2) passport size photos.** These must be color photos with a white background. Staple one to each copy of the application.
- d. **Original second form of identification + 1 photocopy:** US drivers license, US State ID card, Voters registration card, or current student ID.
- e. **Airline ticket or reservation**, showing date of departure; OR a handwritten and legible statement from the applicant indicating the intended date of departure, as well as a formal commitment not to depart before that date.
- f. **Notarized letter from your parents or legal guardians assuming full financial responsibility** for at least \$820 per month for room and board. Suggested wording: "I hereby certify that I am the (father/mother/guardian) of (...), will support him/her with a monthly allowance of at least \$820 while he/she is in France and that I am financially responsible for any emergency that may arise."



- g. **Copy of most recent bank statement** from your parents' or legal guardians' account.
- h. **Visa processing fee** in the U.S. dollar equivalent of €50 (as exchange rates change frequently, be sure that you check the Consulate's website before you arrive to ensure you have the correct amount).
- i. **Self-addressed and pre-paid mailing label** for the return of your passport and visa. You can create a shipment online and print the label. The only delivery services that will be accepted are USPS, FedEx, and UPS. Tracking of mailed items is your responsibility so you must keep your customer copy with your tracking number.
- j. If you are not a citizen of the United States you must also present **evidence of your migratory status** in the USA. Provide your "Alien Registration Card" or "US visa with I-20/I-AP-66" (except B1-B2).

If you will be studying in France longer than 6 months YOU must also provide:

- k. **French immigration (OFII) form** completed and signed. Make sure to print your email address carefully on the form to avoid any risk of confusion or error. Visit www.ofii.fr to get started.