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What is the short stay visa "student contest"?

Verified 28 juin 2021 - Legal and Administrative Information Directorate (Prime Minister)


The short-stay visa *student* allows you to come to France to take a competition or an admission test in a higher education institution.

Warning : this procedure does not concern a foreigner who is a national of European country, or members of his family living in France with him.

This visa is for a maximum period of **3 months**. It is valid **only for France**. It shall be issued only if the result of the admission test is known within that period.

You must make the request to the consular authorities **French** in your country of residence.

Who shall I contact


- **Visa Service (French Embassy/Consulate in the foreigner)**  (<https://france-visas.gouv.fr/web/france-visas/ma-page-pays?caller=depotVisas>)

If you pass the competition or interview, this visa will allow you to apply for a **student residence card** (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F2231?lang=en>) **directly in prefecture**. You will not be required to return to your country to apply for a long-stay visa.

FYI : to apply for this card directly in the prefecture, you must apply for a short-stay visa *student* **even if you Schengen short-stay visa waiver** (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F21921?lang=en>).

If you fail the contest or interview, you will have to leave France.


Statute and miscellaneous references

- Code on the entry and residence of foreigners and the right of asylum: Articles L422-1 to L422-3 
(https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/codes/section_lc/LEGITEXT000006070158/LEGISCTA000042771652/)
Article L422-2

Online services and forms

- Registration in French higher education / application for a "student" visa procedure "Études en France" (<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/R18575?lang=en>)
Online service

For more information, please contact

- Countries concerned by the online registration procedure "Etudes en France"  (<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/procedure-etudes-en-France>)
Campus France Agency