

University residences are the most interesting housing solution for a foreign student. They offer housing dedicated to students for an affordable price. However, the number of rooms available is very limited. This document presents the two types of student residences in France.



PUBLIC / PRIVATE UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES



The National centre website presents all of its general services. Contacts (website, telephone number, address) for each regional centre (CROUS) are available on the national website.

www.crous.fr

Inventory

Having a room in a university residence is the cheapest solution for a foreign student. Rent is about 200 €/month, not including social assistance. However, the French real estate for students only offered 340,000 rooms in 2011 :

- **161 500** in CROUS residences
- **40 000** as social housings
- **20 000** in residential school for preparatory classes ("prépa")
- **20 000** in "Grandes Ecoles"
- **100 000** in private residences

Private residences make a handy and affordable alternative, despite being more expensive. There is less competition compared to public residences, although they are still unable to meet the high demand. University residences can only welcome 13% of total students. In 2000, the French government launched an expansion program aimed at doubling the number of student housings by 2020. Public investments in this sector has

increased by 74% over a few years. Around 60,000 new buildings are already planned to be added to the CROUS network.

Public student residences

The oldest residences are furnished studios (with a washbasin) of about 10 m² with shared showers and toilets. This type of residence has been significantly refurbished since 2004. The most recent or refurbished residences come with an Internet connection and are more comfortable. Rooms range from a single equipped with a small bathroom, washbasin, shower and a toilet to studios with a kitchenette. This is the most affordable housing, with monthly rent ranging from 120€ for a single room to 350€ for a studio.



SEVEN PRIVATE RESIDENCES ON TRIAL

Name	Location	Services	Rent	Advantage
Studélites www.studelites.com	28 in Île-de-France, 26 in South-western part of France	Welcome service, Internet access, laundry, vending machine, gym, access control, car park, bike garage	Paris: from 580€ in the XIIIth district Île-de-France: from 427€ charges included to Noisy-le-Grand France excl. Paris: from 340€ charges included in Saint-Étienne, 425€ in Lyon, 395€ in Marseille	With its welcome service and access control (digital lock and/or entry phone), this type of residence is well-secured
Estudines www.estudines.com	23 in Île-de-France, 43 in France excl. Île-de-France	Secured residences, security manager available. Other services included or optional depending on residences: Internet, laundry, linen, cleaning service, vacuum cleaner, iron	Paris and Île-de-France: from 678€/month in Levallois-Perret or 622€/month in Saint-Ouen France excl. Paris: from 437€/month charges included Rouen-Darnetal or 345€/month charges included in Poitiers	Wi-Fi Internet is free and there are agreements with shops nearby to benefit from price cuts
Fac-Habitat www.fac-habitat.com	13 in Île-de-France, 20 in France excl. Île-de-France	Option: laundry, car park, broadband Internet access (may be included in the rent), gym, work room, shared room, entry phone or badge lock, bike garage	Île-de-France : from 367€ in Nanterre, 371€ in Évry, 387€ in Saint-Denis France excl. Paris: from 322€ in Nantes, 385€ in Angers, 350€ in Marseille, 333€ in Nice and 387€ in Lyon (including charges for power and furniture)	Those are registered "social" residences: no agency or registration fee and reduced security deposit. A caretaker lives in the residence
Lamy Résidences www.lamyresidences.com	About 110 residences in 47 cities	Option: reception desk, breakfast service, cleaning service, linen and dishes renting, laundry, car park, shared room, entry phone or digital lock	Paris: from 722€ (XIIth district) Paris region: from 488€ in Clichy France excl. Paris: from 376€ in Amiens, from 379€ in Limoges, from 436€ in Dijon, from 368€ in Rennes, from 458€ in Grenoble	Transfer from a residence to another is free and unlimited during an internship or a summer job. Monthly free housekeeping per month and free broadband Wi-Fi Internet
ICADE Résidences Services www.ica-de-immobilier.com	22 in Île-de-France, 33 in France excl. Île-de-France	Option: reception desk, Internet, gym, car park, laundry, breakfast room	Paris: from 617€ in the XVIIIth district France excl. Paris: from 441€ in Marseille, 423€ in Lyon or 431€ in Bordeaux	Possibility of renting "studios" to be shared (35 m ² , private room and toilet, shared kitchen) in designated residences. Service available in a "ready-to-live-in pack" for about 20 residences
Suite Études www.suitetudes.com	3 in Île-de-France, 22 in France excl. Île-de-France	Option: welcome desk, car park, secured access, bike garage, break room/lunchroom, laundry, free unlimited broadband internet access, gym, cleaning service, linen, TV rental, breakfast	Île-de-France: from 560€ including charges, France excl. Paris: from 345€ including charges	"Mobility pass" service to benefit from free registration fees between two housings, wherever in France. Other promotions available.
Club Étudiant - OSE www.leclubetudiant.com	16 in Île-de-France, 28 in France excl. Île-de-France	Option: digital lock, entry phone or badge lock, video surveillance, night and weekend watch, wireless broadband internet, laundry, work room, TV room, gym, bike garage, car park, cleaning service, vacuum cleaner rental	Paris: from 460€ Île-de-France: from 435€ France excl. Paris: from 340€	Booking cheque cashed on confirmation. It will be given back to the student if he/she cannot study in the city/residence. Security deposit and registration fee can be paid in 3 parts. Housing assistance for designated residences can be paid in advance while the CAF processes the student's request.

Private student residences

Unlike public student residences, private residences dedicated to student housing are not limited to student who benefit from a scholarship. Accommodation ranges from one-room studios to three-room apartments, with rooms coming fully furnished. While they offer both an attractive price and often a convenient location, they also offer helpful services. Services are sometimes included in the rent and vary between residences, students should pay attention to what is offered on their website or by contacting them by phone.

As they are privately rented, a lease agreement must be established (usually for a duration of 9 to 12 months) and proof of deposits and guaranties must be given. A security deposit generally equivalent to a month

of rent will be required and unless specified otherwise agency charges should be expected. These can be expensive and as high as 200 to 300€. Rents can be equivalent or superior to rents in the private sector, especially if charges are included such as power, insurance and local tax (roughly equivalent to the UK Council tax). However, part of the rent can be paid by the Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (French authority for housing assistance) as aid, after demand and registration (free).

Private student residences are highly sought after and limited in number. You should ask well in advance to maximise your chance of getting a room. The main networks of residence with services offer online booking and registration on waiting lists.



This website is the web portal of the Association for Economic Development of Student Housing (l'Association pour le développement économique du logement étudiant). It lists private residences.

www.adele.org