



Whatever the length of your stay in France, your entry into the country to work within an Inserm research laboratory is subject to obtaining a visa, unless your situation or nationality exempts you from requesting one. Upon your arrival in France, depending on your situation, you may be required to obtain a residence permit.

VISA

Hosting and internship agreements

To submit a visa application, you will need an agreement signed by the Prefecture on which the Regional Office for your host research laboratory depends.

■ If you are an intern: your educational institution will issue you an internship agreement that you must complete. This must be signed by your internship supervisor, your educational institution, the Regional Office and yourself. The Regional Office will then pass it on to the Prefecture for signature. This process must imperatively be carried out two months before the beginning of your internship (reduced to one month if your internship falls under an European Union or inter-governmental cooperation program).

Visa application

Once you receive your signed agreement back from the Prefecture, you will need to submit your visa application to the French Consulate (or French Embassy) in your country of origin.

Your visa application must be submitted at least two months prior to the date on which you will leave for France.

Depending on your situation (nationality, status, duration of stay, etc.), the required visa category will vary (cf. table hereinafter).

ATTENTION Issuance and signature of this agreement may take up to three months. Therefore, we would advise you to start the procedure well in advance of your arrival.

■ If you are a researcher (including PhD students): the Regional Office for your host laboratory will issue you with a hosting agreement that you will be required to complete. This must be signed by the Director for your host laboratory, the Regional Office and yourself. The Regional Office will then pass it on to the Prefecture for signature.

ATTENTION The hosting agreement will not state the legal framework for your presence at Inserm so under no circumstances can it be used in lieu of the required contract (cf. Fact sheet **2**).

duration of your stay	if you are ...	visa to apply for	cost of your application	your family
up to 90 days	researcher or intern	short-stay visa (C visa) aka "Schengen visa" This visa allows you to move freely within the Schengen Area for as long as the visa is valid.	€0, €35 or €60 depending on your nationality and your situation	Your spouse or partner and your children must make separate visa applications from your own.
	researcher	long-stay visa (D visa) valid as a residence permit category " <i>passport talent - chercheur</i> "	€99	Your spouse and children under 18 may request D visas valid as a residence permit under the " <i>passport talent (famille)</i> " category. Your spouse can therefore take up employment in France. On the other hand, your partner and children over 18 must make separate visa applications from your own.
from 91 days to 1 year	intern	long-stay visa (D visa) valid as a residence permit category " <i>stagiaire</i> "		Your spouse or partner and your children must make separate visa applications from your own.



duration of your stay	if you are...	visa to apply for	cost of your application	your family
over 1 year	researcher	long-stay visa (D visa) category “ <i>passport talent - chercheur</i> ” with residence permit to solicit	€99	Your spouse and children under 18 may request D visas under the “ <i>passport talent (famille)</i> ” category with residence permit to solicit. Your spouse can therefore take up employment in France. On the other hand, your partner and children over 18 must make separate visa applications from your own.
	intern	visa de long séjour (D visa) <i>valant titre de séjour mention “stagiaire”</i>	€99	Your spouse or partner and your children must make separate visa applications from your own.

ATTENTION

A minimum threshold for subsistence income during your stay in France may be a precondition for obtaining your visa. If you are an intern, this threshold is set at the monthly amount of the basic subsistence allowance paid to fellowship holders by the French Government (€615 in

- If you apply for a C visa: this visa will allow you to move freely within the Schengen Area for 90 days but will not allow you to submit a residence permit application once you arrive in France. Therefore, you will not be able to extend your stay beyond 90 days.
- If you apply for a D visa valid as a residence permit category “*passport talent*”: this visa will have to be validated by the French Office for Immigration and Integration (*Office français de l’immigration et de l’intégration* - OFII) within 3 months after you arrive in France.
- If you apply for a D visa category “*passport talent*” with residence permit to solicit: you will have to apply for a residence permit to continue to stay in France beyond the three months validity period of your visa.
- If you apply for a D visa valid as a residence permit category “*stagiaire*”: this visa will have to be validated by the OFII notably implicating your attendance to a mandatory medical examination (cf. Fact sheet **2**)

IN PRACTICE

If you hold a D visa valid as a residence permit, you must, as soon as you arrive in France, send OFII:

- your OFII certificate application form, signed by the authority that issued your visa;
- a copy of your ID document;
- proof of your entry into France or the Schengen Area.

An “OFII sticker” (“*vignette OFII*”) will be added to your D visa, possibly after a mandatory medical examination. This definitively confirms its validity.

NOTE

To obtain addition of the “OFII sticker” on your D visa valid as a residence permit, you will have to provide a tax stamp (*timbre fiscal*), paper or electronic, which costs €60.

-  Schengen Area countries:
- www.schengenvisainfo.com
- Administrative procedures for entering France:
- www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en > Coming to France > Getting a visa
 - OFII: www.ofii.fr > EN
- Purchase of “OFII” electronic tax stamps:
- www.timbresofii.fr (French)

Visa waivers

The requirement to hold a C visa is waived for citizens of European Union, European Economic Area Member States, Switzerland and a list of countries set by the European Union (potentially subject to conditions).

The requirement to hold a D visa is waived for citizens of European Union, European Economic Area Member States, Switzerland, Monaco and Andorra.

These visa waivers only apply to mainland France (other conditions apply for French overseas departments and territories).

ATTENTION

-  Visa waivers:
- www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en > Coming to France > Getting a visa > Foreign nationals holding ordinary passports exempt from visa requirements

RESIDENCE PERMITS

Issuance

To continue your stay in France beyond the validity period of your D visa, you must submit a residence permit application to the Prefecture under which your home address falls. This application must be made prior to expiry of your visa.

- If you are a researcher: a multi-annual residence permit bearing the title “*passport talent - chercheur*” will be issued to you for the duration of your assignment in France, for a period of up to 4 years. Residence permits for your spouse (excluding your partner) and children under 18 will bear the title “*passport talent (famille)*” and are valid for the duration of the validity



period of your residence permit “*passeport talent - chercheur*”. This authorizes your spouse to work in France.

ATTENTION

If you are an Algerian citizen, the “*passeport talent*” residence permit issuance procedure does not apply to you: the type of residence permit to apply for and the procedure for obtaining it are specific to your nationality.

- If you are an intern: the type of residence permit to apply for and the procedure for obtaining it will vary depending on your nationality.

ATTENTION

We recommend that you begin the residence permit application process at least four months prior to the expiry date on your D visa.

IN PRACTICE

To find out the procedures to follow:

- www.service-public.fr > Étranger > Titres, documents de séjour et de circulation des étrangers (French)

NOTE

Applying for a residence permit requires the payment of a fee, paid as tax stamps (*timbres fiscaux*) which may be up to €269 depending on your situation.

Renewal

If the duration of your assignment in France is longer than the validity period of your residence permit, you will need to renew the latter at the Prefecture under which your home address falls, two months prior to the date of expiry.

ATTENTION

We recommend that you begin the residence permit renewal process as far in advance as possible.

The procedures and documents needed for renewal vary depending on the Prefecture; please ask for details from the Prefecture under which your home address falls.

The following documents are needed to process your residence permit renewal application:

- passport;
- birth certificate;
- family record book;
- proof of address from within the last three months or an accommodation certifying letter (accompanied by the ID document of the person providing the accommodation);
- valid residence permit;
- 3 passport photos;
- renewed hosting or internship agreement or certification of renewal of contract, issued by the Regional Office.

IN PRACTICE



Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

- www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en > Coming to France

