

IES Abroad France – Nantes & Paris: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 3.0 minimum GPA
 - 4 semesters of college-level French required
- *Program Academics*
 - 3 IES credits typically translate to 4 AC credits.
 - Nantes
 - Required to take 15-19 IES credits
 - 3-4 of these credits must be in French Language
 - Placement test on-site determines French level
 - Paris
 - Enroll in French Studies program or Business and International Affairs program.
 - French Studies program:
 - 15-19 IES credits
 - 4 credits minimum must be French Language courses
 - Placement test on-site determines French level
 - Business and International Affairs program:
 - 15-19 IES credits
 - Fall term: Possibility of obtaining Certificate in International Management, or taking classes regarding French Business/International affairs
 - EITHER PROGRAM, FALL/WINTER/SUMMER: Student fulfills “S” course requirement. If program runs into May, may fulfill “S” course *spring term* requirement; student must confirm this with Registrar upon publication of program dates.
 - Alma College allows pass/fail for a course provided it meets guidelines published in the Academic Catalog. Refer to the Pass/Fail Option form (provided with Step 4) for complete instructions. Pass/fail must be requested within nine weeks after the class begins.
 - Incomplete grades must be replaced by letter grades within six weeks from being recorded on the Alma transcript, or they convert to “E”. Contact the Registrar for assistance when you have received an Incomplete grade.

Housing

- Paris:
 - Home-stay with 7 breakfasts and 3 evening meals/week provided **OR**
 - Additional fee for a private apartment (approx. 20 minutes away from school), meals not included
- Nantes:
 - Home-stay with 7 breakfast, 5 evening meals/week provided

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *What travel documents do I need to go to France?*
 - A passport is required for international travel and must be valid at least 180 days beyond the last date of the program.
 - A student visa is not required for visits of 90 days or less. If you plan to stay in the country for more than 90 days, you will need to apply for a visa.
2. *Can I use my cell phone in France?*
 - Using a U.S. cell phone abroad to make local and/or international calls can be very costly. Check with your service provider for details.
 - One option is purchasing a mobile phone for approximately 30 euros once you arrive at the program.
 - You could also purchase phone cards once you arrive in France. It is not recommended to purchase international calling cards while in the United States because they often will not function once you are abroad.
 - PicCell Wireless and other such companies allow students to rent a phone with a global SIM card and charger appropriate for France.
 - The cheapest option is to set up Skype or QQ, a free internet-based calling service. Look online for details.
3. *Will I have internet access at the school? Should I bring my laptop?*
 - Nantes:
 - The IES Nantes Center provides wireless internet access, and students are encouraged to bring a laptop.
 - The Center's computer lab contains several computers and a printer.
 - There are also relatively inexpensive internet cafes in Nantes.
 - Paris:
 - The IES Paris Center provides wireless internet access, and students are encouraged to bring a laptop.
 - The Center has computer lab for student use.
 - There are multiple, relatively inexpensive internet cafes throughout Paris, as well as restaurants that offer free wifi internet for paying customers.
4. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process or general questions about the IES Abroad Program?*
 - Your first point of contact should be the official IES website (www.iesabroad.org).
 - If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, you can call IES Abroad by phone toll-free at 1-800-995-2300, or by e-mail at info@IESAbroad.org
 - Off-Campus Studies staff are always available to help answer your questions.