

ASSOCIATION DES PROGRAMMES UNIVERSITAIRES AMÉRICAINS EN FRANCE

COVID-19 Info Sheet France

Compiled by: APUAF COVID-19 Committee Last Updated:March 3, 2022

INTRODUCTION

As the COVID-19 situation in France continues to evolve and the local regulations and resources adapt to new realities, the committee has updated this Info Sheet to reflect the current situation

As always, please continue to use the many links and references in the following text to verify, confirm and update the information in these pages, as the situation continues to change, and new information is often available soon after publication of the Info Sheet.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES CURRENTLY IN EFFECT SINCE LAST FACT SHEET OF January 24, 2022:

- Since February 15th the delay for the booster dose is reduced to three months after the last injection or infection with Covid-19 in order to keep a valid Pass Vaccinal
- As of January 27th, **Non citizen, non immigrant travelers to the United states must be fully vaccinated** to enter the country by plane or meet the criteria for exemption and should check the <u>CDC site</u> before departure
- Contact cases will only have to perform one test (self-test or antigenic test or RT-PCR test) at D2 (i.e. two days after having been informed of having been in contact with a positive person), instead of three tests today (at D0, D2 and D4).
- As of February 28th, masks will no longer be mandatory in closed spaces where the Pass Vaccinal is required. Masks indoors will be maintained in transport and enclosed areas not subject to the vaccination pass.
- Standing concerts have been resumed since February 16 in compliance with the health protocol.
- In cafés and bars, standing drinking is authorized again since February 16.
- Discotheques, closed since December 10th, have been opened in compliance with the sanitary protocol since February 16th.
- As of February 2, the capacity limits have been lifted in establishments with a seated audience (stadiums, concert halls, theaters, etc.). To access these places, masks remain mandatory.
- Since February 2nd, the obligation to wear a mask outdoors is over.
- Convivial moments can resume in the professional sphere.
- Announcement by Prime Minister Castex that as of March 14, vaccine pass will be lifted and face masks will no longer be needed indoors with the exception of public transport.

SECTION 1: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

Who is authorized to travel to France?

Since February 12, new simplified rules apply at borders. Two main factors impact the travel restrictions:

• Whether the traveler is vaccinated or un-vaccinated

Where the traveler is coming from: the color-coded classification according to the level of COVID in each country

<u>Fully vaccinated travelers can enter France with proof of complete vaccination</u> <u>Unvaccinated travelers</u>

- arriving from a "green" country.
 - must present a negative antigen test (48 h prior to departure) or PCR test (72h prior to departure) to enter France (departure from the first flight in the event of a connection) but test and isolation upon arrival are lifted.
 - arriving from an "orange" country
 - Must show a compelling reason for travel to France (see list below)
 - must present a negative antigen test (48 h prior to departure) or PCR test (72h prior to departure) to enter France (departure from the first flight in the event of a connection)
 - a sworn statement attesting to the absence of symptoms of covid-19 infection and contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19 to enter the metropolitan territory.
 - o Be subject to random testing upon arrival
 - Must isolate in case of a positive result accordingly to the health measure in France at the time of arrival.
 - Https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/covid-19-international-travel

Countries are listed as Green or Orange/Amber, depending on the level that COVID is circulating in each country.



Color Codes as of February 12

Green: no or little viral circulation:

 Countries of the European area: Member States of the European Union as well as Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the Vatican. In addition, the following countries and territories are added: Bahrain, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Colombia, Ivory Coast, Cuba, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Kuwait, Laos, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Qatar, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Vietnam.

Orange/Amber: a moderate and "controlled" level of viral circulation: all countries not included in the list of "green" countries

https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel

Travelers who wish to leave France must inquire into the rules to entry in another territory.

What is required to travel from the U.S. to France?

The U.S. is currently coded as an Orange/Amber country.

Travelers who are VACCINATED:

• Must show proof of complete vaccination cycle

Vaccinations that are accepted for entry into France: **Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca** and **Johnson & Johnson https://www.ema.europa.eu/covid-19-vaccines** and <u>https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/</u>

Proof of vaccination must be produced and must attest to a full vaccination cycle

- One can travel 1 week (7 days) after the second injection for Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca
- One can travel 2 weeks after the single injection for those who have recovered from COVID
- One can travel 4 weeks (28 days) after the injection of J&J

Travelers who are NOT VACCINATED:

 must present a negative antigen test (48 h prior to departure) or PCR test (72h prior to departure) to enter France (departure from the first flight in the event of a connection)

- Must have a compelling reason to enter France (see page 1)
- The sworn "Statement of Honor" template can be found here: <u>https://mobile.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel</u>

Must provide a sworn statement they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in the presence of someone with COVID in the past 14 days. <u>https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-ofinternational-travel</u> and <u>https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/venir-en-franceinformations-aux-etudiants-et-chercheurs-internationaux</u> o Be subject to random testing upon arrival

Français

Engagement sur l'honneur

 Must isolate in case of a positive result accordingly to the health measure in France at the time of arrival.

Student Visas

The Campus France FAQ gives detailed information concerning the current status for U.S. students and non-U.S. students coming to France from the U.S. <u>https://www.usa.campusfrance.org/covid-19-faqs</u>

- Students traveling to France for short-term programs of under 90 days do not need a visa if they are U.S. citizens (regardless of vaccination status). Non-US-citizens should verify whether or not they need a short-stay visa.
- Students traveling to France for longer programs of over 90 days must <u>apply for a student visa</u>.

All VFS Centers in the U.S. are open and accepting student visa appointments for students planning to study in France. French Consulates continue their service of delivering visas to international students enrolled in studies in France. <u>https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/welcome-page</u>

Leaving France & entering the United States

Effective January 26, all air passengers ages 2 and older, regardless of vaccination status, must show a negative COVID-19 test taken **no more than 1 day** before travel to the United States. Alternatively, travelers to the United States may provide documentation from a licensed health care provider of having recovered from COVID-19 in the 90 days preceding travel, called a Certificate of Recovery.

https://fr.usembassy.gov/required-covid-19-testing-for-all-travelers-to-the-unitedstates/? ga=2.267563790.1439285260.1646043061-62219 https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html

<u>nttps://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.ntml</u> <u>https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s0112-negative-covid-19-air-passengers.html</u>

Non citizen non immigrant travelers to the United states must be fully vaccinated to enter the country by plane or meet the criteria for exemption and should check the CDC site below before departure

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel/travel-assessment/foreign-vaccine.html

Vaccinated persons wishing to leave France to travel to a country outside the EU that is currently classified as **Orange/Amber** don't need to provide a compelling reason. They are strongly advised to inquire about entry requirements and/or restrictions in the country of destination.

Non vaccinated persons wishing to leave France to travel to a country outside the EU that is currently classified as Orange/Amber should inquire about entry requirements before departure. https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel U.S. citizens and residents will not be prevented from leaving French territory.

- As November of 8, the United States permit entry from persons coming from the European Schengen Area who are not U.S. citizens. Details and exceptions listed here: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/requirements-for-air-travelers-to-the-us.html
- This order applies to all air passengers, 2 years of age or older, travelling into the U.S., including U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.
- Test must be a viral test (NAAT or antigen test). The CDC offers here a checklist of tests and/or documents necessary for air travel to the US:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html#general

Upon entry in the U.S., the <u>CDC recommends</u>, but does not currently require:

For Vaccinated Travelers

• Getting a new COVID test 3-5 days after travel & self-monitoring for COVID symptoms

For non-vaccinated Travelers

- Getting a new COVID test 3-5 days after travel, and a self-quarantine period of 7 days or 10-day quarantine if you do not get tested upon return.
- Self-monitoring for COVID symptoms & avoiding people at increased risk of illness for 14 days.

Travelers should look into local and state recommendations or requirements in the U.S. by accessing this travel planner: <u>CDC COVID Travel Planner</u>

SECTION 2: HEALTH SERVICE ACCESS & CAPACITY

Access to protective equipment (masks, gloves, gel, at-home tests)

All pharmacies and most grocery chains in France currently have low priced equipment available.

- **Disposable surgical masks** are available at approximately 10 40 centimes each.
 - Certified 'Grand Public' re-usable masks cost about 2 euros each and come in 2 different categories: Category 1 masks filter approximately 90% of particles and Category 2 masks filter 70%. Annex 3 of the National Protocol for Staying Healthy & Safe at Work states that only official PPE, surgical masks or Category 1 masks should be worn in public. Note that masks are no longer required to be worn outside as of 2 February 2022. French workplace protocols
 - **Disinfectant gel** costs about 10-12 euros per liter. There are also public gel dispensers (free) in some cities in France, and almost all places of business have gel dispensers available for customer use.
 - France currently has sufficient protective gloves available for the general public.
 - <u>At-home antigen tests</u> are available in pharmacies (around 5,20 euros/test) and supermarkets (at cost, around 2 euros/test).

Self-isolation and/or quarantine period – unvaccinated travelers

As of February 12, 2022:

Unvaccinated travelers arriving from a "green" country must present a negative PCR test taken no more than 72 hours prior to entering France, or a negative antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to entering France, or a certificate of recovery. They do not need to self-isolate.

Unvaccinated travelers arriving from an "orange" country must present a compelling reason to enter France and may be randomly tested upon arrival. Those testing positive must self-isolate for seven days.

The state health insurance website, <u>Ameli.fr</u> gives detailed advice (in French) for limiting contact with others and keeping living conditions clean during self-isolation.

Access to health care & hospitalization

- The platform <u>mesconseilscovid.sante.gouv.fr</u> allows anyone with symptoms to obtain within 3 minutes personalized advice as to how to proceed (for treatment, testing, etc.) and how to protect oneself and others.
- Web-based platforms and apps such as https://vitemadose.covidtracker.fr/ allow students to book medical appointments, PCR tests and vaccination appointments across the country with ease. Video consultations and in-person appointments with general practitioners are readily available as early as same day.
- Same day house-calls are also available in most French cities (through services such as SOS Médecins or UMP). <u>https://www.sosmedecins.fr/</u> and <u>https://www.ump.fr/</u>
- Students have access to all French public hospitals where there is a dedicated space for COVID patients.

French Hospitals are currently at 53% capacity (on February 25, 2022) for intensive care/reanimation beds. Statistics can be tracked here: <u>https://dashboard.covid19.data.gouv.fr/vue-d-ensemble?location=FRA</u>

Access to testing

For costs: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A15235

Saliva Test: Covid-19 saliva tests are not for sale to the general public but widely used in primary and secondary schools as well as universities.

Antigen Test: Available in pharmacies, airports, done onsite. Rapid results. Fee charged: approximately 25 euros, 30 euros if done on a Sunday. Patients on French National Health can access for free if prescribed for medical reasons, and/or if patient has completed a vaccination cycle.

PCR test: done by appointment in certified laboratories. Free if prescribed for medical reasons by health care professional for those on French National Health. <u>https://www.sante.fr/coronavirus-covid-19-questions-et-reponses-sur-les-tests-de-depistage</u>

<u>At-home self-testing kits</u>: At-home antigen tests now available in pharmacies (around 5,20 euros/test) and supermarkets (at cost, around 2 euros/test).

Immunity Test (blood test) available in France to determine if patients has developed immunity to COVID. These tests are done by medical prescription in labs.

Steps to take for testing

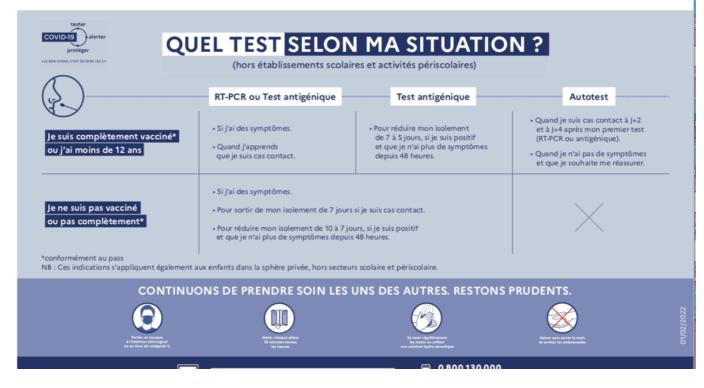
Precise procedures have been put in place for different case scenarios. Details can be found and downloaded here: <u>Steps to Take to be Tested</u>

- I don't present any symptoms and I would like to be tested: no prescription needed, PCR results within approximately 24h, Antigen test results in 15-30 min. Fee for test unless patient has a completed vaccination cycle and is affiliated with French National Health.
- I have symptoms: specific protocol for testing to avoid contact with others during testing and until results are in. PCR results within approximately 24h, Antigen results in 15-30 min. Fee for test unless patient has been identified by French National Health as a contact case, or has a completed vaccination cycle and is affiliated with French National Health.
- I have been in contact with a person who has tested positive: Antigen or PCR test available. Fee for test unless patient has been identified by French National Health as a contact case, or has a completed vaccination cycle and is affiliated with French National Health.
- A specific function is available through the website & application <u>Doctolib.fr</u> to locate the testing center or lab closest to you with the earliest available appointments for a test.
- Students who don't have French National Health have total access to testing but need to pay for the test and submit to their personal health insurance after if COVID testing is covered by their insurance policy.
- As of January 20: It is no longer mandatory to perform a PCR test to confirm a positive antigen test.
- However, a PCR test is still required after a positive self-test. <u>https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus</u>
- As of Feb; 28 Contact cases will only have to perform one test (self-test or antigenic test or RT-PCR test) at D2 (i.e. two days after having been informed of having been in contact with a positive person), instead of three tests today (at D0, D2 and D4).

Tracking

https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/infographie-test.pdf





New self-isolation rules as of February 2022

All COVID patients must provide a local doctor with the list of people with whom they have been in touch within 48 hours of the first symptoms. Medical authorities will contact every person on that list and provide them with further instructions (see above).

New rules for self-isolation

If vaccinated with a complete cycle: The Covid positive person self-isolates a minimum of five days from date of first symptoms or positive PCR. If on day five they test negative for Covid and have had no symptoms for the last 48 hours, they may end their isolation period. If they test positive, they must continue to self-isolate for another two days (seven days total). They do not need to retest at the end of the seven days.

https://www.ameli.fr/paris/assure/covid-19/symptomes-gestes-barrieres-cas-contact-et-isolement/en-cas-detest-positif-au-covid-19

Anyone who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive must follow a specific protocol <u>https://www.ameli.fr/paris/assure/covid-19/comprendre-le-covid-19-se-proteger/en-cas-de-contact-avec-une-personne-malade-du-covid-19</u> This link also contains the specific protocol if one has been exposed to the Omicron variant.

If you are not vaccinated and/or are immunocompromised:

- Wear a certified mask at all times when in contact with others, isolate immediately.
- Take an antigen test immediately. If negative, stay isolated 7 days after the last contact with the COVID patient.
- After 7 days take a PCR or antigen test
- Stay in quarantine for until the test results are in

If you are identified as a contact case, are fully vaccinated and not immune-compromised, you should perform one test (self-test or antigenic test or RT-PCR test) at D2 (i.e. two days after having been informed of having been in contact with a positive person), instead of three tests today (at D0, D2 and D4).

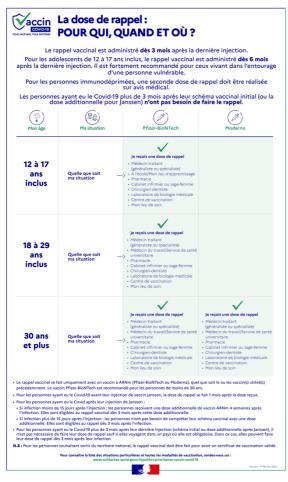
Vaccinations

France's vaccination strategy: https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/vaccins

- Obligatory vaccination in certain professional sectors including health care and those in contact with vulnerable
 populations
- Vaccination open to all adults and minors over five years old.
- Booster vaccinations currently open to all persons over 12 years of age whose last COVID vaccination or infection dates from three months ago.
- Booster vaccination campaigns in retirement homes and for those over 80 living at home: dedicated phone number 0800 730 957
- The interval for the booster dose is reduced to three months after the last injection or infection with Covid-19.
- The vaccine booster is open to all persons 18 years and older. Starting January 24, it will be open to all adolescents aged 12 to 17 without obligation.
- Vaccination is open to all children aged 5-11 years and requires the agreement of both parents.
- One COVID infection = one vaccination. If you contracted COVID more than 3 months after your last vaccination, you do not need the booster injection. You can, however, obtain the booster if needed to cross borders.
- The delay for the booster dose is reduced to three months after the last injection or infection with Covid-19 in order to keep a valid Pass Vaccinal

Vaccination Dashboard

People who have been vaccinated are still required to follow all COVID-19 protocols in private and public spaces, in workplaces and in schools.



SECTION 3: RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO COVID-19

Current situation

All sectors of business, culture and society are open.

Masks and social distancing are required in all indoor spaces except while consuming. As of February 28, any indoor space requiring the Pass Vaccinal (restaurants, theatres, cinemas, etc.) will be exempt from the indoor mask mandate. This does not include long-range transport in trains, planes or buses.

The main restriction in place today concerns the Pass Sanitaire (which will be replaced by a Pass Vaccinal) and the obligation to show the pass to enter establishments and gatherings where large numbers of people share space.

Pass Vaccinal (Health Pass or Green Pass)

What is the Pass Vaccinal?

The "Pass Vaccinal" or "Health Pass" is simply a paper or digital proof of protection from COVID-19. It consists of showing one of the following: <u>https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/pass-vaccinal</u>

 Proof of full vaccination, including the "booster shot" (7 days after final dose of AstraZenica, Moderna and Pfizer within France, 7 days for travel within the EU and for anyone recovered from COVID with 1 dose, 28 days after J&J) <u>https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14896</u>

A negative self-test taken under professional supervision (not valid for cross-border EU travel), PCR or Antigen test of less than 24h

A positive PCR test more than 11 days and less than 6 months old, or other official proof of recovery from COVID

Required Eligibility: The Pass Sanitaire is required for anyone 12 years old and over.

What is the Pass Vaccinal?

The "Pass Vaccinal" has replaced the Pass Sanitaire, requiring anyone in France seeking access to non-local public transport (planes, buses, trains), restaurants, bars, cafés or any public gatherings to show proof of having received the full cycle of vaccinations against COVID-19. It will be presented in the same way as the aforemention Pass Sanitaire.

Required Eligibility: The Pass Vaccinal is required for anyone 16 years old and over.

Exemptions due to medical reasons

For those who have a medical reason impeding them from being vaccinated, a doctor's certificate can be established as an alternative to the Pass Sanitaire and used to enter all restricted areas. <u>https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A15102</u>

The following reasons are the only accepted exemptions to not being vaccinated:

- Allergy to one of the components of the vaccination
- A grade 2 minimum anaphylactic reaction to the first dose of the vaccination
- Episodes of capillary leak syndrome
- Episodes of thrombotic and thrombocytopenic syndrome
- Post-COVID PIMS (Pediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome)
- A conclusion agreed upon by a medical committee that symptomes experienced after a first dose of the vaccination were too serious for a second dose

And two temporary counter-indications:

- Monoclonal antibody treatment against COVID
- Actively evolving myocarditis or pericarditis post vaccination

When and how do you use a Pass Vaccinal?

The Pass Vaccinal is required under the following conditions. Users must present either a paper form or a digital form of the pass to access any restricted event or venue:

- Since July 21, it is required in order to enter cultural venues or events with more than 50 people including concerts, museums, theatres, cinemas, etc.
- Since August 9, it is required for airplane and long-distance train/bus travel as well as cafes, restaurants, gyms, certain shopping centers and medical facilities.
- The Pass Vaccinal is not required for travel outside of France.
- Here is a detailed list (in French) of all places in France where the Pass Sanitaire is required: https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14896
- https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/pass-sanitaire
- https://www.gouvernement.fr/pass-sanitaire-toutes-les-reponses-a-vos-questions

How do you get a Pass Vaccinal?

In France, vaccination and all test results are delivered with an official document that serves as the Pass Vaccinal. A QR code on that document allows users to scan their proof or results to the TousAntiCOVID app (see below under "Tools") to produce a digital form of the pass.

Pass Vaccinal for non-locals

At the end of August 2021, the French government announced the official procedure for vaccinated travelers from outside of the European Union to access and use the Pass Vaccinal. The following online platform manages the conversion of proof of vaccination into French/EU QR codes/passes for foreign students: https://www.demarches-simplifiees.fr/commencer/passe-sanitaire-etudiants.

The health pass can be obtained in a pharmacy for 36€ with proof of your vaccination and your passport. A map with the names of addresses of pharmacies that will convert to the pass vaccinal are listed here: https://www.sante.fr/how-to-obtain-a-french-health-pass

The pharmacies in the airports Roissy Charles de Gaulle (open from 6 am to 8 pm) and Orly can issue a Pass Vaccinal upon your arrival in France

Aéroport Roissy Charles de Gaulle AÉROPORTS DE PARIS Terminal 2 A/B/C/D : Pharmacie Roissy 2 Liaison A/C Zone publique . 6 h 30 – 22 h, 7/7 Téléphone +33(0)1.48.62.62.00 Fax +33(0)1.48.62.00.76 Contact pharmacieroissy2@gmail.com Responsable HARMACI Maurice Ibghei Aéroport Roissy Charles de Gaulle AÉROPORTS DE PARIS Terminal 2 A/B/C/D : Pharmacie Roissy 2 Plan du terminal 2DMap of terminal

Please note that this conversion can only take place if the traveler can provide proof of full vaccination with EU approved vaccines : **Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca** and **Johnson & Johnson** (https://www.ema.europa.eu/covid-19-vaccines).

Tools

In addition to consulting the general government websites that communicate all essential information concerning the virus and restrictions, everyone is asked to download the app **TousAntiCovid**, which serves several functions:

- Tracking: the app alerts users if they are in close contact with a Covid patient
- Information: the app publishes the daily stats concerning the virus
- Testing: the app can be used to locate the nearest testing center
- **Pass Sanitaire/Vaccinal**: the app generates a digital version of the Pass Sanitaire/Vaccinal by storing the QR code found on vaccination certificates and COVID test results acquired in France.

This app uses Bluetooth technology for tracking and does not share personal identification information. Use of the app for everyone, including COVID patients, is voluntary. <u>TOUS ANTI COVID Tracking App</u>

The French government has put in place a **24/7 hotline** (in French only) to respond to any questions concerning COVID-19 (health, regulations, workplace, social services, legal, civil, childcare and education, travel and leisure activities, etc.). A WhatsApp group managed by the government provides an additional Q&A source for anyone who wishes to join: <u>WhatsApp with Government</u>





Wearing Masks

The wearing of masks is no longer mandated in indoor spaces (not including long-distance transport in planes, trains and buses) requiring a pass vaccinal for access.

The wearing of a mask is mandatory from the age of 6 years old in public transport and in places receiving the public, excluding those indoor spaces requiring the pass vaccinal for access.

Travelers should consult local resources and authorities for details. <u>https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F35351</u>

How to Wear a Mask.

Information concerning masks. https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/gestes-barrieres

<u>Schools</u>

School protocols have been simplified. The objective is to keep schools open as much as possible. Thus:

When a positive case is detected in a classroom, parents will no longer be asked to pick up their child immediately, they can wait until after school.

When a positive case is detected in a classroom, children will be able to use 3 free self-tests (instead of one PCR test followed by two self-tests).

Finally, parents will no longer be asked to provide a certificate after each self-test: a single certificate will be required.

Returning after the winter break of 2022, school protocols will follow Level 2 (yellow) protocols (down from Level 3)

https://www.education.gouv.fr/annee-scolaire-2021-2022-protocole-sanitaire-et-mesures-de-fonctionnement-324257

Higher Education

Frédérique Vidal, the Minister of Higher Education in France, had announced before the school year started that institutions of higher education would re-open for a 100% in-person academic year 2021/2022.

https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus

The Ministry authorizes French institutions of higher education to organize classes as they see fit, either in-person and/or remote, but they recommend that priority be given to face to face instruction, in particular for discussion

sections ("travaux dirigés"). Priority should also be given to the inperson instruction of 1st year and international students.

COVID mitigation techniques and social distancing are still to be maintained within all university spaces and the Ministry asked that all institutions put into place vaccination strategies and centers prior to the start of classes and to continue to make self-tests available to students.

The "pass vaccinal" is not currently required to attend school or university classes but is required for participation in extra-curricular activities (club sports, various student associations, events on campus, etc.).

Several official government websites give detail concerning academic and campus life during the COVID crisis.

- Ministry of Higher Education general Covid info
- Official student life website : Préparer ma rentrée 2021 : https://www.etudiant.gouv.fr/fr/rentree2021

International Students: International students continue to be welcomed into France provided they satisfy the French government's

current conditions of coming to France for participation in a short-term program or semester program (over 90 days). International students currently in France can apply for and/or renew residency permits, online, thus avoiding the previously obligatory in person appointment at the prefecture. (Campus France Stay Permit Renewal info). https://www.campusfrance.org/en/renew-residency-permit

Workplaces

Since February 2, 2022, telework is no longer mandatory but is recommended.

Convivial moments can resume in the professional sphere.

The national protocol for workplace health and safety can be found here: https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/le-protocole-national-pour-assurer-la-sante-et-la-securite-des-salaries-enentreprise-au-3-janvier

Gatherings, Socializing & Cultural Activities

There are no longer any capacity limits in place for socializing in a group in public or in private. https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/questions-reponses#derogations

Standing concerts have been resumed since February 16 in compliance with the health protocol. In cafés and bars, standing drinking is authorized again since February 16.

Discotheques, closed since December 10th, have been opened in compliance with the sanitary protocol since February 16th.

As of February 2, the capacity limits have been lifted in establishments with a seated audience (stadiums, concert halls, theaters, etc.). To access these places, masks remain mandatory.

Associated fines for not adhering to protocols

A fine of 135 euros may be applied in the event of non-compliance with COVID protocols such as wearing masks https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F35351. Repeat offenders can be fined up to 3,750 euros and could risk 6 months of prison, community service, drivers' license suspension of up to 3 years maximum.

Local travel restrictions



Everyone **residing in France** must adhere to a few French regulations concerning mobility. The current situation allows and requires the following:

In France

- There are no restrictions for travel within continental France.
- For travelers to Corsica, a declaration of honor must be completed by passengers which must be printed and signed, will be required upon boarding by the transport company. Passengers must have completed a PCR test 72 hours before departure (or antigenic test, 48h before departure) or proof of complete vaccination. <u>https://www.prefectures-regions.gouv.fr/corse/Documents-publications/Salle-de-</u> presse/Communique-de-presse/Covid-19-nouvelles-dispositions-applicables-avant-l-arrivee-en-Corse
- For travelers to French overseas territories and departments, information concerning travel restrictions can be found here: https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/outre-mer

International Mobility Information

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Advice for Foreign Nationals in France
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Further information is also available on the European Union website: https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/FRA

Sports and exercise

The Ministry of Sports last updated safety protocols as of January 24, 2022: Student Support https://sports.gouv.fr/pratiques-sportives/covid19/Decisions-sanitaires-applicables-au-sport-apartir-du-24-janvier-2022/

The Ministry of Higher Education & Research established during the 2020-2021 academic year a student mental health support website (with an English Language version) that compiles all the contacts and services related to mental health support for students during the COVID-19 crisis. The website covers all regions of France, and in addition to mental health support also serves as a resource for information about financial support, student housing, and health care. https://www.soutien-etudiant.info/

In addition, the government created in 20-21 a mental health care package (a "*chèque psy*") to allow students in psychological distress access to free mental health support that they have renewed for 2021-22: <u>https://santepsy.etudiant.gouv.fr/</u>

Several Hotlines and free resources are available to students:

- A free 24/7 hotline monitored by the Association SPS (Soins aux Professionnels de Santé) for students has been opened and can be reached here: 0 805 23 23 36 <u>https://www.asso-sps.fr/</u>
- <u>https://www.nightline.fr/paris</u>, a student proposed/supported hotline to support peers (non-professional) is available everyday between 9pm to 2:30am: +33 1 88 32 12 32
- The BAPU (Bureaux d'aide psychologique universitaires) have psychologists, psychotherapists and psychiatrists available to students in need. Addresses and contact information can be found here: <u>https://www.etudiant.gouv.fr/fr/besoin-d-une-aide-psychologique-1297</u>
- <u>SOS Amitié</u> at +33 9 72 39 40 50 (24/7 in French),
- <u>SOS Help</u> +33 1 46 21 46 46 (3pm-11pm, in English)
- Fil Santé Jeunes at +33 800 235 236 (9am to 11pm for ages 12-25).

Ameli has a list of additional resources.

City websites also list support specifically aimed to help the students studying there. Examples:

- In Paris: <u>https://www.paris.fr/pages/confinement-les-dispositifs-pour-les-etudiants-15717</u>
- In Strasbourg: <u>https://www.strasbourgaimesesetudiants.eu/-/aide-pour-les-etudiants-du-territoire-covid19</u>
- In Aix en Provence: <u>https://www.aixenprovence.fr/Etudiants-vos-</u> <u>dispositifs-d-urgence</u>



On April 15, the government announced a special provision for 10 free sessions with a psychologist for children and adolescents between the ages of 3 and 17. <u>https://www.gouvernement.fr/forfait-100-psy-enfants-10-seances-sans-avance-de-frais</u>

ADDITIONAL LINKS & GENERAL RESOURCES

An English summary of information concerning the current situation in France, mobility, visas, testing, etc. can be found here: <u>https://fr.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/</u>

For information concerning every country in the European Union, and for details on all aspects of the Covid-19 crisis in Europe, see the following website: <u>https://reopen.europa.eu/en/</u>. And for information specifically for France: <u>https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/FRA</u>

For current information, including health recommendations and measures, from the French government on the COVID-19 situation in France, see the following website: <u>Main COVID-19 Government Website</u>

https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus

Access to daily communiqués with daily statistics and key messages: Daily Communiqués by French Government

https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/official-statements

Official website dedicated to Student Life in the French universities: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

Timeline of government actions French Government Actions