Welcome Refugees

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You are a refugee or an asylum seeker and would like to begin or continue your studies.

All the relevant information can be found on this page.

Studying in France

See <u>the list of the 21 AUF initiatives (June 2016)</u> selected to support the integration of over 1,000 non-French speaking student refugees from twenty countries, 55% of whom come from Syria.

Science for refugees: a platform launched by the European Commission that puts scientists and researchers in contact with institutions that would like to receive refugees. (https://ec.europa.eu/research/science4refugees/index.cfm)

French language requirements:

It is usually necessary to have a Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (Diploma in French Language Studies or DELF) to register for a university degree course or equivalent.

A B2 level in French is required in order to register for a higher education course. In order to help you obtain this, there are French courses available at the Centre de Français Langue Étrangère (CFLE):

http://cfle.univ-poitiers.fr/#ksup

Would you like to have your degree or diploma internationally recognized?

Recognition of foreign degrees or diplomas is at the discretion of French higher education institutions. However, it is possible and recommended that you have your degree or diploma assessed in order to facilitate the recognition.

On this page, you will find information related to the recognition of your degree or diploma.

Learn French

The European Union offers online French learning through the Online Linguistic Support (OLS) platform for refugees.

Once you pass a language test indicating your language level you will receive free access to courses and MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) and a forum.

Other resources available to help you practice French:

FUN-MOOC (Massive Open Online Course)

Over 220 MOOCs are available on the FUN (France Université Numérique or France Digital University) website, which was set up in 2013 by the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research.

Some MOOCs are specially reserved for learning French, with lessons in French as a Foreign Language (FLE). Other MOOCs will allow you to strengthen your skills in a number of areas: digital, information technology, science, environment and development, economy and finance, law, humanities and social sciences, etc.

② 'Vivre en France' from level B1 (Alliance Française) (https://www.fun-mooc.fr/courses/course-v1:dgef-interieur+134002+session01/about)

Paroles de FLE from level B2 (Université de Nantes) (https://www.fun-mooc.fr/courses/course-v1:univnantes+31001+session03/about)

☑ Study and pass the DELF B2 and DALF C1(https://www.fun-mooc.fr/courses/course-v1:ujendouba+36002+session03/about)

In partnership with Kiron, FUN MOOCs supports student refugees

L'Université Ouverte des Humanités (UOH)

This is the Université Numérique Thématique (Thematic and Digital University), dedicated to the academic fields of Humanities, Social Sciences, Languages, Literature and Arts. To promote greater success for students, particularly at undergraduate level, and to contribute to the development of the France Digital University, the UOH offers free access through this portal to scientifically, educationally and technically approved teaching content.

The DELF (French language certification)

Certif'Lang: this **French as a Foreign Language (FLE) module** includes oral comprehension and written comprehension both linked to the same theme following a certain model used to evaluate a student's language ability. This module prepares students for the written and oral comprehension tests of the Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (DELF) B1 and DELF B2 (<u>Common Reference levels of the UE</u>).

There are seven available modules: three for the DELF B1 and four for the DELF B2.

Others linguistic supports:

OLS information in French: click here [PDF - 1 MB]

OLS information in Arabic: click here [PDF - 1 MB]

Manual in English click here [PDF - 612 KB]

Manual in Arabic click here [PDF - 520 KB]

Information on French courses can be found at the Center for French as a Foreign Language (CFLE) at the University of Poitiers, click here: http://cfle.univ-poitiers.fr/

Student status

Student status, in addition to refugee status, gives you the right to financial aid: student grants, specific assistance, accommodation subsidies, etc. It also gives you access to accommodation in student housing, social services, cultural services, etc.

You can also access to food services, healthcare and student employment services. The **CROUS** (Centre Regional des Oeuvres Universitaires et Scolaires or Regional Centre for University and School services) is your local contact for anything relating to these matters.

http://www.crous-poitiers.fr/

Financial aid

Your status as a student refugee gives you the right to access grants managed by the CROUS. To find out more, visit this page.

As a Syrian student in France, you can apply for the <u>Syria grant programme of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI)</u>.

<u>The European Union grant programme (HOPES)</u> is for Syrian students who wish to study in countries bordering Syria.

Accommodation

You will find all information relating to student accommodation in this section.

<u>CALM</u> (Comme à la maison) is a platform that puts local residents in contact with refugees for temporary accommodation, which allows applicants to spend 1 to 9 months in a person's private home.

Food services:

<u>In this section</u>, you will find information about the Resto'Us (University restaurants), in Poitiers and their location and prices.

Healthcare:

You are entitled to free health checks and psychological support.

<u>The following page</u> explains how the university healthcare system works. Please note that you must bring your medical records to your doctor's appointments.

If you are to enroll at a French higher education institution for the first time in September 2019, you will need to contact the nearest CPAM agency and register online.

https://www.ameli.fr/assure/adresses-et-contact/points-accueil/agence-de-vienne

There will be some documents required as proof of residency: an enrolment certificate of your higher education institution, a residence permit, and any other proof on your resettlement status.

Finding a student job

Support your studies with a part-time job

Jobaviz: a platform where you can find some student job offers.

https://www.jobaviz.fr

Do you need any counselling regarding your degree or your future career?

On this page, you will find the answers to your questions regarding the employment formalities in France.

Advice & Support:

Various associations are here to support you

RESOME is a network of associations, collectives and volunteers. The RESOME fights daily for—the pursuit of studies, French language learning and the orientation of exiles in the French higher education system. The RESOME supports asylum seekers and refugees in their plans to pursue higher education. contact@resome.org

A list of other organizations in Poitiers that help migrants and refugees in need: https://www.net1901.org/annuaire-association/villePoitiers,86194/theme/aide-aux-refugies-et-aux-immigres-hors-defense-de-droits-fondamentaux,210.html

<u>Bibliothèque Sans Frontières</u>: To help you with your course and professional training. Patrick Weil, a research historian at the CNRS (Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, National Centre for Scientific Research), has set up a "library without borders", portable cultural centers for refugees. These help occupy minds and reduce the climate of violence in camps through culture. Bibliothèques Sans Frontières is a Non-Governmental Organisation that acts for access to information and education and the promotion of cultures.

Recent graduates:

If you've just completed your studies and are still looking for your first job offer, you can request the ARPE.

The ARPE is a financial allocation for up to five months that helps young graduates until they find their first employment.

OFPRA

Specific assistance and accommodation options are described on pages 17, 18 and 19 of the OFPRA guide. The addresses of the 34 offices where requests can be made are also included at the end of the guide: https://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/fr/textes-documents/guide-des-procedures

Guide (FR)

Guide (EN)

Guide (AR)

Interactive map

Welcome Map: an interactive map of Poitiers to help you with your new day to day life (food, French lessons, associations-that help to support undocumented persons, libraries, hospitals and even Wi-Fi hotspots).

http://uk.poitiers-tourism.com/home/discover/interactivemap.aspx

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