



Bourse Master Île-de-France

Grant for foreign students

Guide for 2009

The Île-de-France Region proposes personal financial assistance to help students to be internationally mobile. This assistance is given in the form of a grant called the “*Bourse Master Ile-de-France*” and is intended for 1st or 2nd year foreign students on Master’s Degree courses at higher education establishments in Île-de-France.

The number of grants is subject to a quota defined every year at the time the regional budget is put to the vote.

Applicants, apart from those who are nationals of European Union countries, are pre-selected with the assistance of the diplomatic offices of the French Foreign Ministry. Please note that filing an application does not entitle the applicant to a grant.

Final selection of grant holders is the responsibility of a Regional Allocation Commission chaired by Mr Marc LIPINSKI, Vice-President of the Ile-de-France Regional Council and in charge of Higher education, Research, and Scientific and Technical Innovation.

PRESENTATION OF THE “BOURSE MASTER ILE-DE-FRANCE” PROGRAMME

Eligible applicants

Nationality:

The “*Bourse Master Ile-de-France*” programme is open to students who are nationals of European Union countries, and to students having any of the following 16 non-EU and EU nationalities:

- South African, Argentine, Brazilian, Canadian, Chilean, Hungarian, Indian, Lebanese, Madagascan, Malian, Moroccan, Mauritanian, Polish, Russian, Senegalese, and Vietnamese.

When applicants with dual nationality have French nationality, they are not given priority.

This scheme is only for first-time arrivals, and is not for people already in France at the time they apply.

Age:

No age limit is set on entitlement to a “*Bourse Master Île-de-France*” grant.

For information, students on initial degree courses who are aged over 28 are not entitled to the specific “student” welfare cover.

Nature and level of the required initial qualifications:

At the time of filing of the application, the student shall be enrolled:

- **on initial studies** in at least the third year of a bachelor’s degree course (L3);
- **at a higher education establishment of their country of origin** (European Union, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, India, Mali, Mauritania, Russia) or of the decentralised co-operation zone of the Île-de-France Region (City of Montreal in Canada, City of Budapest in Hungary, City of Beirut in the Lebanon, City of Antananarivo in Madagascar, Greater Casablanca Region in Morocco, City of Warsaw – Region of Mazovia in Poland, Dakar Region in Senegal, City of Hanoi in Vietnam).



Host establishment and project for studying in Île-de-France :

As from making their applications, students must select no more than two higher education establishments in Île-de-France at which they wish to continue their studies to study for a master's degree. The following are not eligible: studying for a *Diplôme Supérieur d'Université (DSU)*, inter-establishment exchanges, further studying or resumed studying for apprenticeships, day-release or sandwich type courses, or further education courses.

It is incumbent on each student, and on them alone, to take all the necessary steps to enrol, within the allotted times limits, at the establishment of their choice. Similarly, they are solely responsible for accomplishing the administrative formalities related to leaving for France.

The terms of the grant

General conditions:

Obtaining a “*Bourse Master Ile-de-France*” grant is subject to acceptance of all of the following conditions:

- the student undertakes to do the full university course for which they have been selected at the same establishment;
- the student lodges in the individual room reserved and funded by the Ile-de-France Region at the *Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris*, throughout their stay for studying in Île-de-France;
- the student does any placements or research related to their course in Île-de-France; any period outside Île-de-France shall entail a *pro rata* reduction in the amount of the grant;
- the student comes to Île-de-France on their own.

There shall be no dispensation from compliance with these principles. In the event of defaulting on any one of these conditions during the year of university study, the Region reserves the right to cancel the entitlement to the grant in full.

Amount:

For the entire duration of the stay, the regional grant totals a flat-rate amount of 10,500 euros per student.

The grant is managed by the *Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris (CIUP)* which makes the payment of the monthly allowance to the student, after it has deducted the rent for the individual room (by way of indication, 355 euros per month for students under thirty for the academic year 2008 to 2009).

The regional grant should make it possible to cover, under good conditions, all of the expenses related to studying in Île-de-France. It should assist in paying for local transport, food, and miscellaneous other needs. It also covers the cost of the student's accommodation at the *Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris* in the 14th arrondissement.

No provision is made for any other financial or material assistance by the Region.

The object of the grant is not cover:

- payment by the student of all of the fees for enrolment at the host establishment;
- the costs related to the administrative formalities for entering and residing in France;
- the costs of welfare cover and of miscellaneous insurance cover in France; or
- the costs of travelling from the country of origin to Île-de-France.

Term:

The “*Bourse Master*” grant is allocated for a year of a master's degree course (1st or 2nd year (*M1* or *M2*)). It may be renewed, on the same conditions, for an additional year in order to enable the student to complete the full course for a master's degree in Île-de-France.

The duration of the studying in Île-de-France may not be less than **9 consecutive months** or exceed 22 months over a two-year period.

A student who decides to stay on in France after their studies shall do so under their own responsibility, without the liability of the Ile-de-France Region being incurred in any way.



SELECTION AND GRANT ALLOCATION PROCEDURE

The grants are allocated using a five-stage procedure, up to the limit of the quota set every year by the Region.

1st stage: Compiling the application file

The blank application file is to be obtained in the country of origin from the various regional partners of the scheme: French embassies, representatives of decentralised co-operation zones, etc.

No blank file shall be sent directly by the Region.

This procedure does not apply to applications from students who are nationals of European Union countries, except for those coming from one of the Region's decentralised co-operation zones in Europe (Region of Mazovia in Poland, City of Budapest in Hungary).

The application file should be filled in carefully, it should include all of the required documentary evidence, and it should be signed by the applicant on pain of being inadmissible. Only the Region's formal file may be used to submit an application.

2nd stage: Pre-selection by the Region's partners

The Region's local partners (embassies and co-operation zone partners) pre-select applicants from among the best foreign students, while complying with the eligibility criteria recalled above. Another criterion taken into account is whether or not the student has started applying to one or both of the desired host establishments.

Furthermore, it is requested that, for the same academic level, priority be given to applicants having an underprivileged economic situation or not having any other sources of funding.

Additional criteria set by our partners (personal or family resources of the applicant, estimated total duration of the stay, employment prospects on their return, etc.) can be added to the above initial assessment criteria.

Only those applications that are pre-selected are forwarded, as ranked in order of priority, to the offices of the Region for examination.

3rd stage: Opinions of the host establishments

The two host establishments selected by the applicant are asked by the Region for their opinions on the academic level, the quality of the project, and the possibility of enrolment on the desired level of degree course.

At this stage, two unfavourable opinions mean that the application will be rejected. The decision of the establishment is the sole responsibility of that establishment without the Region intervening in any way whatsoever.

When a favourable opinion is given, pursuant to the desires of the student, the application is submitted to the Regional Allocation Commission for examination.

4th stage: Selection of the applicant by the Regional Allocation Commission

The Regional Allocation Commission is chaired by the Vice-President of the Île-de-France Regional Council, who is in charge of Higher Education, Research, and Scientific and Technical Innovation.

The Commission is the sole competent authority for allocating the regional grants. It bases its decision on the examination of the applications by the regional offices, on the priorities defined by the local partners, and on the opinions of the potential host establishments.

The Commission's decision is notified by email to the embassies and representatives of the partner co-operation zones and to the students. At this stage, the applications are put into 3 categories:

- **inadmissible applications**, meaning that they are rejected;



- **granted applications**, meaning that notification is given that a grant is allocated conditionally subject to final acceptance of the student by one of the two establishments of their choice; and
- **eligible applications on a waiting list** that might be granted in the event that a student whose application has been granted withdraws.

5th stage: Final allocation of the grant

On receiving the certificate of admission issued by the host establishment (specifying the title of the master's degree, its level, its duration, and its status as initial studies excluding apprenticeship and day-release or sandwich type courses), the Region shall, via email, issue a certificate confirming the status of "Master Île-de-France" grant holder.

As soon as the status of grant holder is confirmed to the student, the student undertakes to contact the *Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris (CIUP)* to indicate the exact date of their arrival in Paris. The formalities for reserving the rooms are handled by the programme. However, it is up to each grant holder to accomplish all of the administrative formalities necessary for coming to France.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE FOR THE "BOURSE MASTER ÎLE-DE-FRANCE" PROGRAMME Academic Year 2009-2010

Thursday 22nd Jan.	Launch of the call for applications with the embassies and with the local partners
February – March	Pre-selection of the applications in the country of origin
Friday 27th March	Deadline for sending short-listed applications to the Region
April – May	Host establishments asked for their opinions
Friday 15th May	Deadline for opinions from the establishments
Beginning of June	Regional Allocation Commission
Friday 12th June	Notification of the results to the students, local partners, and embassies
Friday 31st July	Deadline for reception of certificates of admission for the conditional grant holders
Wed. 30th Sept.	Final validation of the list of <i>Master Île-de-France</i> grant holders for 2009-2010