

## ORION EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP: PRACTICAL SHEET FOR THE RECEPTION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

In the ORION programme, a call for applications for "Excellence Scholarships" is put in place each year to finance one year of Master 2 studies corresponding to the first semester of studies followed by the research internship. The financial aid for the academic year amounts to 7000 € (1000 € per month for 7 months). Then there is a gratification for an internship (5 or 6 months), the amount of which is calculated on the basis of the Social Security ceiling (i.e. approximately 600 € per month). Candidates for the Excellence Scholarships are presented by the heads of training and may be from a foreign university.

The purpose of this practical information sheet is to provide information on the administrative procedures for the international mobility of applicants from foreign universities and the services offered by the University of Lorraine for the reception of foreign students.

Once selected to benefit from the Excellence Scholarship and subject to admission to a Master 2 degree or final year of engineering school, the future student must register at the University of Lorraine and apply for a **long stay visa valid as residence permit for students (visa de long séjour valant titre de séjour (VLS-TS) mention étudiant) valid from 4 months to 1 year.**

Below is a list of the people involved in the procedure for welcoming foreign students and their respective roles:

- The head of training, who undertakes to welcome and support the student during his/her mobility at the University of Lorraine and his/her administrative registration.
- ORION, which sets up the payment of the grant and the internship gratification in coordination with the central services of the UL and the host laboratory.
- the International and European Relations Department (IERD or DRIE in French) which accompanies the student from the formalities before his arrival to the reservation of CROUS accommodation as soon as he is registered. The IERD welcomes the student at the train station and opens their bank account in France.

Important:

- CROUS housing: reservations are made by semester. The CROUS does not allow reservations for two academic years. Other housing options: <https://welcome.univ-lorraine.fr/fr/logement/>
- To benefit from this mobility support, the student must not be living in France at the time of the application for the ORION Excellence Scholarship.
- For laboratories in a restricted area (In French, zone à régime restrictif: ZRR), the student's application must be anticipated as the waiting period can be very long.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

The student must provide ORION with the following documents:

- Foreign agent creation form for registration in the management tools
- Copy of passport
- Copy of student visa
- French IBAN on arrival in France

The student should make sure to apply for a **long stay visa valid as residence permit for students (visa de long séjour valant titre de séjour (VLS-TS) mention étudiant) valid from 4 months to 1 year** and not another kind of visa (especially no tourist or internship visas as they are restrictive).

ORION makes the "Excellence Scholarship" certificate so that the student can obtain a visa.

## STUDENT'S RECEPTION

IERD, within the framework of Welcome@Lorraine, proposes to help the student in the following steps:

- Kind of student visa to apply for
- Opening a French bank account
- Housing application
- Home insurance
- Social Safety

After final notification of the ORION MASTER GRANTS, the student can ask for an interview to help with mobility with the IERD (Nathalie Fick or Isabel Keller) but also with the supervisor if the latter is not used to welcoming international students. The purpose of this voluntary interview is to:

- Evaluate the aptitude for international mobility (comfort zone, degree of autonomy).
- To offer socio-cultural support for mobility and settlement in Lorraine (in coordination with the student associations).
- To know the student's status (in couple/with children), to inform him/her of the cost of living in Lorraine according to his/her situation (alone or with family).

After this interview, a budget table will be provided to the student to allow him/her to evaluate his/her financial capacity to come to France.

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- The student will be able to eat in the university restaurants. He will have to download the Izly application to load his CROUS account in euros.
- If the student does not wish to live in a university residence, you should know that the University of Lorraine is a partner of the Studapart housing platform, which offers a housing guide and a guarantor system. All information on Studapart: <https://www.studapart.com/fr>. You will also find information on housing on the University of Lorraine's website, particularly those offered by the CROUS, as well as on how to obtain a guarantor: <https://welcome.univ-lorraine.fr/fr/logement/>
- [UL-timate Welcome Kit](#) lists the various services offered to students to help them settle in, in particular the Feel Français platform for online procedures (with the access code) and the BuddySystem to benefit from a sponsorship by a student already living in Lorraine.
- The Practical Guide for International Students with Disabilities and the Guide for International Students, as well as a wealth of practical information, can be found at <https://welcome.univ-lorraine.fr> under the heading "Study".