ACCOMMODATION GUIDE
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## CAISSE D'ALLOCATIONS FAMILIALES (FAMILY ALLOWANCES FUND)

PROPERTY INSURANCE
The International student office welcomes students from Monday to Friday.

Come visit us at:

**Porte des Alpes Campus (Bron)**
5 avenue Pierre Mendès France
69500, Bron
Maison de l’Étudiant.e – Office U107
Tramway stop : T2 Europe-Université

Please visit [Affluence](#) for office hours
The purpose of this guide is to help you through the accommodation process, making it easier for you to get settled into a new home in Lyon. This guide also gives you details about budget, required documents, as well as other important instructions.

The information given here is not exhaustive. Do not hesitate to contact the organizations referenced in this guide to help you through further steps.

The International student office remains at your disposal in order to guide you in your search and to refer you to qualified organizations that meet your needs.

As there is a severe housing shortage in Lyon, we advise you to start your search very early. Do not wait until you arrive in Lyon to start your search. If you have not found a place to live when you arrive, a search help will be set up for you.
Despite your efforts, it is possible that you may not be able to find accommodation before your arrival in Lyon. In this case you may need temporary accommodation.

The lists below lists a number of organizations that offer temporary accommodation for less than 40€/night depending on availability.

**FOR YOUTH OR STUDENTS**

**Bed & CROUS**
Students can now stay in a university hall of residence for a single night or less than 1 month.
www.bedandcrous.com

**Auberge de Jeunesse du Vieux Lyon**
41-45 Montée du Chemin Neuf, 69005 Lyon
Tél : 04 78 15 05 5
www.fuaj.org/lyon

**Le CISL**
3 Boulevard des Etats-Unis, 69008 Lyon
Tel. 04 37 90 42 42
https://www.cis-lyon.com/

**Le Flâneur Guesthouse**
56 rue Sébastien Gryphe, 69007 Lyon
+33 (0)9 81 99 16 97
www.leflaneur-guesthouse.com

**L’Alter’Hostel**
The Alter’Hostel offers dormitories from 6 to 16 people as well as a women’s dormitory.
www.alter-hostel.com

**SLO Living Hostel**
The SLO offers rooms from 1 to 8 persons.
www.slo-hostel.com

**Away Hostel**
The Away Hostel offers dormitories from 1 to 8 people.
www.awayhostel.com

**HO36 Hostels**
The HO36 offers dormitories for 1 to 6 people.
www.ho36hostels.com

**Lyon Campus**
Practical information about housing and the life in Lyon
www.lyoncampus.org
**PRIVATE UNIVERSITY HALLS OF RESIDENCE**

Short or long term, with furnished rooms and various services (kitchenette, breakfast, internet, etc.) included depending on the residence.

**POPINNS**
Contacts available on the following hotline:
+33 (0)4.72.78.03.04
www.popinns.org
Rental duration: 2 months at least.

**LES STUDELITES**
Contacts are available on the website:
www.studelites.com
Rental duration: one to six months.

**STUDEA Nexity**
Contacts available on the website:
www.nexity-studea.com
Night, weekly, monthly rentals.

**STUDILODGE**
Contacts are available on the website:
www.studilodge.fr
Nightly rentals.
Prices: starting 35€/night.

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**PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION**

Ask beforehand about the rates, which are variable.
Here are a few examples of services offering accommodation in a private home.

**AirBnb**
www.airbnb.fr

**Chambres d’hôtes**
Tel: +33 (0)4 72 13 99 35

**Couch Surfing**
www.couchsurfing.com

**Morning Croissant**
www.morningcroissant.fr
RENTAL STEPS

STEP 1: SEARCHING FOR ACCOMMODATION

> Choose the ads that you are interested in according to location, rent, availability, type of accommodation. (Check «How to Target Your Search», pages 10-11)

> Call to check if the selected offer is still valid or if other accommodations of the same type are available.

> Ask for details that are not presented in the advertisement: the cost of charges, the heating system (collective, individual, gas, electric).

> From abroad: ask if it is possible to look at photos of the accommodation (on the web, by email...).

Important!
For any housing search before your arrival, be careful and avoid paying before signing a contract; some fake ads are circulating on the internet.

> Agreeing on a date to visit the accommodation (be careful if you have an impediment on the day of the visit, it is advisable that you notify the owner promptly).

> Prepare the required paperwork before visiting the accommodation in order to quickly apply for it if it corresponds to your search.

STEP 2: ONCE YOU HAVE IT

> Get home insurance
The purchase of a home insurance is compulsory and will be required by the landlord prior to signing the lease. You can get this insurance from your French bank or a private insurer. (Check «Insuring your property», page 20).

> Draw up an inventory of fixtures for your new accommodation during the check-in
As soon as you arrive into your new accommodation (private, CROUS...) you must make an inventory of fixtures. It is important to write down everything clearly and in detail (the condition of the ground, the ceilings, equipment, stains, cracks ...) in order to avoid any dispute at the time of departure (inventory of fixtures). Be very attentive and inform the agency or the owner of any damage you may notice as soon as possible. If the damage or defect is not listed in the inventory, the owner may decide to retain part or all of the deposit when you leave the accommodation.
> Arrange for gas, electricity and water to be turned on.

Suppliers may differ from one apartment to another. These procedures are done through the phone or on the internet. You will need the number that appears on the meter (electricity or gas meter) and possibly the family name of the previous tenant.

- GDF SUEZ (gas): 09 69 399 993* or www.particuliers.engie.fr
- EDF (electricity): 3004 or www.edf.fr
- Direct Energie (gas and/or electricity): 0 970 806 969* or https://total.direct-energie.com/
- Veolia (water): 0 810 000 777* or www.service-client.veoliaeau.fr
- Greater Lyon (water): 09 69 39 69 99* or https://agence.eaudugrandlyon.com/

* paid number - price of a local call per minute

> Make the necessary arrangements to get a French phone number or to install the internet in your new accommodation.

- Telephone/Internet suppliers: Orange, SFR, Bouygues, Free, Sosh

Students with disabilities
Some university residences offer adapted housing for people with reduced mobility, ask us for more information.
Exchange students: report your disability when applying for University housing.

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STEP 3: BEFORE YOU LEAVE

> Send a registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt to your owner or the rental agency at least 1 month in advance to notify them of your departure (3 months notice if your accommodation is located in the south of France, outside Lyon and its urban area);

> Take the necessary steps to end any gas, electricity or water contracts you had by contacting your suppliers;

> Cancel your telephone and/or internet subscription (Check with your suppliers);

> Draw up an exit inventory of fixtures;

> Notify the CAF (Caisse d’Allocations Familiales) of your departure;

> If everything is in order, get your deposit back.

> Pay your housing tax if you resided in France on January 1st. Make sure that the payment deadline is respected, otherwise a 10% fee could be applied (for more information visit www.impots.gouv.fr).
The real estate market in Lyon is varied as it is in other cities. The size of the accommodation, the neighborhood, and the presence of public transportation nearby all have an impact on pricing. Here are a few tips to help you find an accommodation that fits your budget.

### WHERE CAN YOU LIVE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Lyon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lyons</strong></td>
<td>There is a lot of competition for cheap housing in the city centre, close to shops, restaurants and bars, and the Berges du Rhône campus. Students often want to stay downtown at all costs and ignore the good deals that remain outside this area. The city of Lyon benefits from a well-developed public transportation network (fr. Transports en Commun Lyonnais or TCL), a public bicycle rental system (Vélo’v) and the city is feasible on foot. In order to find housing that fits within your budget and gives you quick access to the campus where you attend classes, it may be necessary to move away from the city centre. Do not ignore accommodation in Bron, Villeurbanne, and Vénissieux as they are often cheaper. Do not hesitate to use the «itinerary» function on the TCL website when looking for accommodation in order to get an idea of the commute route. When you see ads for the 2nd, 9th, etc., these numbers indicate the districts where the dwelling is located. Lyon is divided into 9 districts. The postcodes in Lyon all start with 6900-, the last digit you see is the number of the district where you live. It indicates rounding. The postcodes for the cities around Lyon are as follows: Bron - 69500, Villeurbanne - 69100, Vénissieux - 69200, Caluire-et-Cuire - 69300, Oullins - 69600.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### YOUR BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Rent</strong></th>
<th>You should budget around 350 to 550 euros per month for your rent depending on the type of property you choose (studio, university residence, furnished or unfurnished, shared accommodation, etc.).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deposit</strong></td>
<td>When you move in, you must provide an amount that is at least equal to two or three times the rent of your residence. Most landlords require a deposit (or «security deposit») of a month's rent. You may also have to pay agency fees or handling charges (see page 18).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fees</strong></td>
<td>Filing fees, agency fees, or honoraria: collected at the time the lease is concluded, are remuneration for services rendered and to be rendered in the normal management of the rental. Drafting costs of lease can be extra. These costs correspond to an amount of 8 to 12€/m² depending on the geographical area of the property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAF</strong></td>
<td>Depending on your situation, you can benefit from financial help (accommodation funds) managed by the Caisse d’Allocations Familiales (CAF). For more information go to the CAF website (<a href="http://www.caf.fr">www.caf.fr</a>).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### THE TYPE OF PROPERTY

| **Studio** | A living room, «bedroom», «living room» and «kitchen» included. |
| **T1/F1** | A main room with a separate kitchen. |
| **T1/F1 bis** | A kitchen that opens onto the living room, a separate bedroom. |
| **T2/F2** | A living room, a separate kitchen or an «open» kitchen, and a separate bed-room. The T2/F2s have a larger surface area than the T1/F1s. |
| **T3/F3** | A living room, a separate or «open» kitchen, 2 separate bedrooms. |
PUBLIC UNIVERSITY HALLS OF RESIDENCE

Rooms in public university residences are granted in priority to scholarship holders or foreigners whose tax residence has been located in France for at least two years. These rooms are managed by the CROUS (Regional Centre for University and School Activities).

Room allocation
- For exchange students
International students going on an exchange must indicate their wish to obtain a room at the time of their online University registration. Beware! The number of places are limited, not all requests can be met.

- For non-exchange students
The DRI does not reserve places for international/non-exchange students.

How and when to apply?
- For exchange students
You can request a room or a studio in a public university hall of residence when you apply online.

- For non-exchange students
Fill in your application for a Dossier Sociale Étudiant (DES) on:
https://www.messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr/envole/
(when registering online) between 15 January and 15 May for the following school year.

How much is the rent?
Between 150€ and 410€/month and per person depending on the accommodation (eventual housing funds not deducted).

The accommodation
There is an array of choices, from furnished single rooms of 9 m² with collective sanitary facilities up to T5 apartments of 70m² (apartment-sharing) according to the residence.

Financial help, funds
If you are hosted in a CROUS residence you can receive financial help.

Unable to get an accommodation for the start of the academic year?
If you have not applied before 15 May or if you were not assigned an accommodation for the year, you can apply for a «short-term» rental. At the end of October you can apply for short-term accommodation (until the end of the school year).

Questions? Contact the CROUS
Services for International Students in Lyon Monday through Friday from 9 am until 5 pm.
9 rue de la Madeleine, 69007 Lyon / Tel : 04.72.80.13.26 ou 13.37
www.crous-lyon.fr

LOKAVIZ, The Student Housing Central

Student accommodation portal now online thanks to the CROUS. The site publishes housing announcements for private accommodation and CROUS residences. To see them, you will have to prove your student status and register on the website www.lokaviz.fr.
PRIVATE UNIVERSITY HALLS OF RESIDENCE

More expensive than public university housing, private university residences are often the easiest and most convenient solution for international students.

Depending on the residence, you can find a studio or a shared room (T3 apartments). Be aware of the services included - internet, furniture, etc. - in the residence – not all residences offer the same services.

With more than fifty residences around Lyon, there are many places to be found! Below is a non-exhaustive list of agencies managing private student residences in Lyon.

ADELE (search engine)
More than 100 private university residences in the city of Lyon (including Vénissieux, Villeurbanne, and Bron)
www.adele.org

CAP’ETUDES
Rent: from 391€ to 586€/month.
Tel : 04 75 81 83 83
contact@cap-etudes.com
www.cap-etudes.com

FAC-HABITAT
(La Guillotière Residence)
Rent: from 418€ to 706€/month.
14, rue du Dr Crestin | 69007 Lyon
Tel : 04 37 65 87 01
lyon@fac-habitat.com
www.fac-habitat.com

CARDINAL CAMPUS
Rent: from 360€ to 950€/month.
Contact by residence available on:
www.cardinalcampus.fr

GESTETUD
Rent: from 460€ to 740€/month.
Contacts by residence available on the site
www.gestetud.fr

POPINNS
Rent: from 280€ to 560€/month.
Tel : 04 72 78 03 04
www.popinns.org

LES ESTUDINES
Rent: from 490€ to 900€/month.
Contact by residence available on:
www.estudines.com

LES STUDELITES
Rent: from 408€ to 990€/month. Free booking fees on 4 residences.
Contacts per residence available on :
www.studelites.com

ODALYS CAMPUS
Lyon Confluence Residence
Rent: from 520€ to 890€/month.
Reduced booking fees.
7 cours bayard, 69002 Lyon
Tel: 04 78 82 49 02
lyon@odawlys-campus.com
www.odalys-campus.com
STUDEA NEXITY
Rent: from 440€/month. Free booking fees on 4 residences.
Contacts by residences available on: www.nexity-studea.com

STUDILOGE
Rent: from 499€ to 758€/month.
Contacts by residences available on: www.studiloge.fr

OXANCE
Rent: from 392€ to 811€/month.
Marie TOBBI - Service Logements Lyon
Tel: 04 76 20 44 66
logement@mfrs.fr

LES BELLES ANNÉES
Rent: from 476€ to 999€/month.
Tel: 04 78 17 14 11
contact@lesbellesannees.com
www.lesbellesannees.com
Flat-sharing (la colocation) consists of sharing the same apartment with other tenants. (The tenants either sign a single contract that includes the names of all the tenants or each one signs an individual contract with the landlord that is independent of the others).

The International Relations Office receives a few announcements from individuals wishing to rent a room or an apartment to international students.

Do not hesitate to consult the cork panel dedicated to housing advertisements on the premises of the DRI, on the Berges du Rhône campus, as well as the announcements posted at the Maison de l’étudiant (Student Centre) on the Portes des Alpes campus.

ASSOCIATIONS

**ESN COSMO LYON**
Maison de l’étudiant (Student Centre)
25 rue Jaboulay | 69007 Lyon
contact@cosmolyon.com
https://lyon.esnfrance.org/

**IStudent LYON**
Facebook.com/lyon.erasmus
contact@iamerasmus.fr

USEFUL WEBSITES:
SEARCH FOR RENTALS, ROOMMATES, CLASSIFIED ADS AND PRIVATE RESIDENCES

Beware of list sellers!
Never give money to access an ad or the owner’s contact information.

- www.lacartedescolocs.fr
- www.seloger.com
- www.leboncoin.fr
- www.paruvendu.fr
- www.spotahome.com

INTERMEDIARIES

**CRIJ**
66 Cours Charlemagne | 69002 LYON
Tel : 04 72 77 00 66
https://www.info-jeunes.fr/

**CLL AJ LYON**
3, rue de l’Abbé-Rosier | 69001 Lyon
Tel: 04 72 07 87 17
www.rhonealpes.uncllaj.org/lyon

**CROUS**
59, rue de la Madeleine | 69007 LYON
Tel : 04 72 80 17 70
www.crous-lyon.fr/logements/

**CLL AJ DE L’EST LYONNAIS**
8, rue du 8 mai 1945 | 69800 St Priest
Tél : 04 37 25 02 19
cllajestyonnais@uncllaj.org
www.rhonealpes-uncllaj.org/est-lyonnais/
In response to this need, a large number of companies has erupted, offering to facilitate the «exchange» of apartments. Depending on the situation, it is not always necessary to proceed to a real change of apartments: you can leave your apartment to rent for other students, or not, and look for an apartment in your host city. These accommodations may be available for a few days, a semester, or a year. You may take advantage of this service even if you do not want to rent out your original apartment. Here's an example:

**Housing Anywhere**
Short term, semester, or year possible  
www.HousingAnywhere.com

If you are interested in a sublet apartment, be CAREFUL: make sure that the subletting will be done with the agreement of the owner. While this is prohibited by law, many sublease offers are published without the owner's consent. If you undertake to sublet a property without an agreement, remember that you will not benefit from the protections or funds due as a tenant.

### SOLIDARITY HOUSING

Solidarity housing requires your involvement in the daily life of the dwelling but also offers you rich experiences that can not be found elsewhere.

If you are renting a property - a studio, apartment or a shared room - without signing a lease (a rental agreement), you are considered to be subletting. Even if you are in contact with the landlord himself/herself, if you do not sign a contract, you are subletting.

Subletting is forbidden in France, unless the owner of the property is the owner of the apartment (a private individual or a management company) gives his/her agreement beforehand.

If you sublet a property without the agreement of the owner, you will not benefit from the protections or assistance offered to tenants (CAF, insurance of your property, etc.).

Good news: Subletting with owner's agreement is more and more common in France! And that is good news for students who participate in international exchanges!

The number of students leaving on an exchange or leaving for an internship (abroad or simply in another French city) is constantly increasing. In any case it is a temporary departure. Sometimes when you feel like leaving, you reconsider, even if the rent is expensive, only because finding a new apartment can be difficult.

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**WHAT IS SUBLETTING?**

If you are renting a property - a studio, apartment or a shared room - without signing a lease (a rental agreement), you are considered to be subletting. Even if you are in contact with the landlord himself/herself, if you do not sign a contract, you are subletting.

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Solidarity residences offer you accommodation at a reduced rate in exchange of services (maintenance of the property) and of time spent with your “roommate” (for intergenerational housing programs) or your participation in solidarity actions (volunteering).

To gain access to these accommodations you must submit a file (the fees remain very affordable), and possibly come for an «interview» in order to meet your future roommates.

esdes-intergenerations.net
habitat-humanisme.org/rhone/loger
solidarite-logement.org
leparisolidairelyon.org
afev.org/nos-actions/koloc-a-projets-solidaires

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HOUSING SEARCH?

To assist you in your housing search, we have prepared interactive modules with key information and student tips. Log in to access our housing module and watch these videos to learn more. Each video is followed by a short exercise to help you see if you understood the information.

Click below:
moodle-ouvert.univ-lyon2.fr

If you have any questions about your rights and duties as a tenant, please contact the following agencies below.

**ADIL du Rhône – Lyon**
9, rue Vauban, 69006 Lyon
Tel : 04.78.52.84.84.84
Monday - Thursday 9h-18h non-stop
Housing Information Agency of the Rhône, Adil offers complete and personalized housing advice: relations with the professionals, procedures for obtaining social accommodation, contracts, lease insurance, rent and charges, home ownership.
A wealth of information on legal, financial and tax aspects. A presentation of the accommodation offers is available.
www.adil69.org

**ANIL**
National Agency for Housing Information
www.anil.org

**ADELE**
Association for the Economic Development of Student Housing
www.adele.org

**LOCA-PASS**
Helps you become a tenant :
www.actionlogement.fr/l-avance-loca-pass
Most owners require a guarantor. This guarantor can be either a person residing in France (a person who undertakes to provide a guarantee), or a person who is not a resident of France (a person who undertakes to substitute for you in the event of financial default), or a French organization ready to act as guarantor for you.

GUARANTOR IN FRANCE

Whether he/she is a French national or not, if you have a guarantor residing in France, here is an indicative (but not definitive) list of the documents he/she must provide:

> a copy of the family record book
> a bank or postal statement
> photocopies of the last three supporting financial resource documents (as a rule the landlord requires that the tenant or his/her guarantor be able to justify their net monthly income - i.e. after taxes are removed - at least equal to three times the amount of the rent)
> a photocopy of the last rent receipt or property tax receipt (if owner)
> a photocopy of the tax/non-tax notice for the previous year
> a photocopy of your identity card

YOU DO NOT HAVE A GUARANTOR RESIDING IN FRANCE?

VISALE

The VISALE service is accessible to all students under 30 years of age, regardless of the nature of their accommodation (private landlords or student residences).

VISALE is a service that provides financing in the housing sector. The VISALE service is compulsory for exchange students applying for university residences managed by the CROUS.

For more information (please check the website www.visale.fr > Locataire

BANK GUARANTEE

The bank undertakes to settle the unpaid rents by the tenant (who now owns an account in the said bank).

You will be obliged to block a certain amount of money, this may be negotiable. The amount of money to be blocked depends on the bank, but is calculated over a number of months of rent (the equivalent of a few months' rent up to a sum equivalent to the amount of rent for the duration of the lease).

Administration fees vary between 20 and 100€. Contracts are subject to an annual fee equivalent to 1 or 2% of 12 months’ rent for one year of guarantee.
HOUSING BENEFIT

International students can benefit from a housing benefit funded by the CAF (Caisse d'Allocations Familiales) provided that the lease and the rent receipt are in their name.

However, it is possible to obtain a housing benefit even if your name does not appear on the lease, on condition:
1/ you sign a sublet lease
2/ the owner gives you his written agreement.

For non-European students, a long-stay visa bearing the CESEDA R133-3 6° is also required.

The application can be made online after finding accommodation, as soon as the lease is signed on the CAF website:

www.lyon.caf.fr
Caisse d'Allocations Familiales de Lyon
67 Boulevard Vivier Merle
69003 Lyon
Monday to Friday from 8am to 4pm

There are two kinds of financial aid, that are non-cumulative (i.e. you can only receive one grant at a time, even if you are eligible to both):
> L'Aide personnalisée au logement (APL)
> L'Allocation logement à caractère social (ALS)

They vary according to the rent, the income of the tenant and his/her family expenses, the nature of the property and its location. Depending on the rent, the allowance can go up to 190 euros per month.

You will receive the allowance monthly for the entire duration of the lease, starting from the second month.

Important tip: If you have not obtained your residence permit yet, send your housing benefit request to the CAF as soon as you have signed the lease, even if it is incomplete. You can send the copy of the valid residence permit as soon as you receive it.

PROPERTY INSURANCE

Insurance must be purchased before entry into the new apartment and may be required prior to the signing of the lease.

You can take out house insurance with:
- a private insurance company (SMERRA, LMDE, etc.)
- your bank.

You can also compare offers online through specialized websites.
DEFINITIONS AND LEXICON

**Bail** - **Contract/Lease** -
A rental agreement signed by the tenant and landlord setting out their respective rights and responsibilities.

**Caution** - **Deposit** -
A sum of money paid when the contract is signed. It is returned to the tenant when they leave the accommodation, provided that they have paid their rent and nothing in the apartment has been damaged. It is equivalent to at least a month’s rent.

**Charges Comprises - Utilities included in rent** -
This means that the rent includes some basic utilities (heat, water, garbage and electricity).

**Garant** - **Guarantor** -
A person living in France or an organisation who acts as the tenant’s sponsor.

**Etat des lieux (d’entrée et de sortie)** - **Inventory of fixtures (upon arrival and departure)** -
A document describing the condition of the apartment, signed by the landlord (or the ‘régie’, which is the company responsible for management of the property, ensuring the maintenance of the property and the payment of rent and service charges) and the tenant.

**Frais de dossier** - **Administration fees** -
The fees paid if you rent your property through an agency

**Quittance de loyer** - **Rental receipt** -
The rent receipt is a proof of payment. Once you’ve paid your monthly rent you’ll receive a rent receipt stating that you have paid your rent.

**Régie** - **Real state agency** -

**Taxe d’habitation** - **Housing tax** -
The obligatory occupation tax that is equivalent to about one or two months’ rent.
CONTACT
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ OFFICE
Bureau U107 | Maison de l’étudiant (Student Centre)
Porte des Alpes Campus | Bron | logement-dri@univ-lyon2.fr