



GUIDE

# WELCOME TO ROUEN

## 2023 EDITION

ROUEN STUDENT FEDERATION





# EDITORIAL

The FEDER - Rouen Student Federation is a non-profit association under the 1901 law. For 22 years, it has been the leading non-partisan student representation organization in the entire "Upper Normandy" territory, with the exception of the inspection district of Le Havre. Its territory covers an area of approximately 9,000 km<sup>2</sup>, representing around 45,000 students. Currently, its network includes 25 student associations on various campuses, all of which have a scope covering the Rouen Academy either through their field of study or through other "cross-cutting" themes addressing specific topics.

The drafting of the "Welcome to Rouen" guide comes at a time when the city of Rouen, located in Normandy, seeks to enhance its attractiveness as a study destination for both domestic and international students. With its renowned higher education institutions, pleasant living environment, and numerous academic and professional opportunities, Rouen positions itself as an ideal city for students seeking excellence and personal growth.

The main objective is to provide newcomers with all the necessary resources to facilitate their integration and enable them to fully benefit from their experience in Rouen.

The guide highlights the city's strengths, such as its quality educational institutions, excellent academic programs, affordable cost of living, and rich cultural fabric. It also presents available support services, such as student life services managed by FEDER, financial assistance, and integration events organized by the Rouen metropolitan area.

By providing practical information, advice, and testimonials from students already settled in Rouen, this guide aims to reassure newcomers and help them quickly adapt to their new environment. Through this guide, FEDER aspires for Rouen to become not only a top-choice study destination but also a place of life and sharing where every student can thrive fully.



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# ROUEN AT THE HEART OF STUDENT LIFE

The University of Rouen Normandy, founded in 1966, is a prominent higher education institution, proudly welcoming a dynamic student community of 33,000 individuals, including 3,500 international students and 850 doctoral candidates, thus contributing to its cultural and intellectual diversity. With its 2,500 staff members, including 1,500 dedicated to teaching and research, spread across 39 research units, the university embodies a hub of intellectual excellence and innovation. Organized into 6 training and research units, complemented by 2 University Institutes of Technology, 1 Institute of Preparation for General Administration, and 1 Institute of Business Administration, the University of Rouen Normandy offers a diverse and multidisciplinary educational palette. Its commitment to academic excellence and cutting-edge research makes it a major player in the French educational landscape.

The University of Rouen Normandy stands out for its wide range of programs, offering students more than 100 paths in various academic fields. Fields such as Integrative Biology, Health, and Environment provide insights into crucial contemporary issues, while Chemistry opens doors to understanding the fundamental compounds of our world. Legal disciplines are also highlighted with dynamic programs in Law, while Economics and Management prepare students to tackle future economic and managerial challenges.

The university also excels in History, Memory, Heritage, and Languages, offering in-depth understanding of past and present societies. Programs focused on Human, Societies, Risks, and Territories provide critical analysis of contemporary social dynamics, while programs in Mathematics, Information, and Systems Engineering open doors to technologies and innovative solutions. Finally, disciplines such as Physics, Engineering Sciences, Materials, and Energy allow students to delve into the mysteries of the physical universe and contribute to its exploration and technological development.



# ROUEN AT THE HEART OF STUDENT LIFE

## **Mont-Saint-Aignan Campus :**

As the historical and administrative heart of the University of Rouen Normandy, it houses a variety of leading academic institutions. This complex includes the IUT of Rouen, the UFR Sciences and Techniques, the UFR Arts and Humanities, the UFR Human and Social Sciences, the UFR Sports Science and Physical Education (STAPS), as well as the National Institute of Professorship and Education (INSPE). The University House, also present on the campus, serves as a hub for activities and meetings, offering students a conducive environment to participate in a plethora of events throughout the year. Additionally, the Michel Serres Space serves as the central point for student services, thus concentrating the resources and facilities necessary for their academic and personal development.

## **Pasteur Campus (Rouen):**

Inaugurated in 2001 and located in the heart of the city of Rouen, the Pasteur campus constitutes a major center for teaching and research. It brings together the UFR Law, Economics and Management Sciences, as well as the prestigious IAE, IPAG, IEJ Institutes, and the Commercialization Techniques and Legal Careers departments of the IUT of Rouen.

## **Martainville Campus (Rouen):**

Anchored by the Health UFR. In a collaborative approach, the University, in partnership with the Rouen University Hospital and the Henri Becquerel Center, initiated the Rouen Normandy Health Campus. This initiative aims to strengthen the links between education, research, economic transfer, and care for the population, while fostering a stimulating and friendly environment conducive to intellectual emulation and student well-being.

## **Madrillet Campus (Saint-Etienne-Du-Rouvray) :**

Located in Saint-Étienne-du-Rouvray, the Madrillet Campus is home to a section of the UFR Sciences et Techniques. It also hosts ESITech, the Higher School of Engineers in Innovative Technologies, an institution that trains engineers in physics, chemistry, and biology. Furthermore, this campus has welcomed non-university engineering schools such as INSA, CESI, and ESIGELEC, specializing more in general engineering and computer science.



# ROUEN AT THE HEART OF STUDENT LIFE

## **Évreux Campus :**

Spread over three distinct sites, it offers a variety of programs and resources. The Navarre site constitutes a center of excellence bringing together the IUT of Évreux and a branch of the UFR Sciences and Techniques. As for the Tilly site, it houses a branch of the INSPE as well as the Master 2 Industrialization in Biotechnologies, thus contributing to the academic and professional development of students. Finally, the La Musse site completes this picture by providing a conducive environment for training in the fields of Occupational Therapy, Audiology, and Physiotherapy, thus meeting the training and care needs of the local population.

## **Elbeuf Campus :**

Located just 15 minutes from Rouen and less than an hour from Paris, this campus offers an ideal environment for higher education. Equipped with a branch of the IUT of Rouen, it offers a variety of programs, especially in the fields of Multimedia and Internet Professions, as well as Networks and Telecommunications, thus meeting the growing needs of the professional market in these constantly evolving sectors.

## **Private Institutions :**

When you come to France, you may choose to study in a private institution. In these institutions, international services are set up to answer your questions and accompany you throughout your stay. These services are specially designed for international students and can assist you with administrative procedures, academic orientation, housing-related issues, visas, social security, and much more. Feel free to contact these services to get the necessary assistance and facilitate your study experience in France.





# UNIVERSITY SERVICES

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION OFFICE (DRIC)

The International Relations and Cooperation Office (DRIC) serves as the primary welcome desk for international students within the University of Rouen Normandy, regardless of their campus of registration. It is responsible for all administrative procedures related to admission, while also being the reference point for all matters concerning the university's international community.

## WORLD SPACE

World Space, within the International Relations and Cooperation Office (DRIC), stands out as a genuine warm and attentive haven for international students. Its dedicated team is available to assist them with administrative procedures and facilitate their integration within the University of Rouen Normandy. It is a one-stop shop offering personalized assistance, where students can:

- Complete their administrative registration and obtain their student card,
- Receive valuable information about the university's cultural and associative life,
- Complete the necessary procedures to obtain their residence permit, particularly for students who are not nationals of the European Union or the European Economic Area.

## HOUSE OF LANGUAGES

The House of Languages at the University of Rouen Normandy is a privileged gateway to French language and culture, located on the Mont-Saint-Aignan Campus. If you wish to enhance your French language skills to pursue or start university studies, you will find enriching opportunities in preparation for the University Diplomas in French Studies (DUEF).



# UNIVERSITY SERVICES

The teaching teams are also available to assist you in achieving your professional or specific goals and to advise you throughout the year towards DELF and DALF certification. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to participate in French workshops led by student tutors.

In addition, the House of Languages offers foreign language training accessible to all students and professionals wishing to learn a new language or improve their language skills in a language already mastered. The languages taught include English, German, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Japanese, and Russian. These courses are offered in the evening, in small groups.

Finally, the House of Languages encourages cultural exchanges, promotes interculturality, and works for the harmonious integration of students in a multicultural and dynamic environment.

## UNIVERSITY HOUSE

The University House (MdU), nestled in the heart of the Mont-Saint-Aignan campus, offers a rich and varied cultural program every year, including performances, exhibitions, musical and dance platforms, as well as artistic practice workshops. It is an essential place where students find all the necessary information concerning their life on campus. They can meet student associations as well as the University Preventive Medicine Service. In addition to being an information center, the MdU is a real living space where students can eat, exchange, and meet in a friendly atmosphere at the Bocal, a space dedicated to relaxation and student meetings.





# UNIVERSITY SERVICES

## CULTURE CARD

The Culture Card offers students of the University of Rouen Normandy exclusive discounts in more than 20 theaters, concert halls, and cinemas partners! Generously offered by the institution, it includes three €5 discount coupons, usable in participating venues. To benefit from it, simply present your Léocarte previously loaded at the ticket office of the participating venues. To fully enjoy the benefits of the Culture Card, you just need to activate it for free during the receptions organized on the different university sites.

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE OF PHYSICAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES - SUAPS

For engaging and varied sports activities, the University Service of Physical and Sports Activities (SUAPS) offers you a range of choices with over 80 different activities. Whether you prefer swimming, basketball, yoga, tennis, or any other discipline, SUAPS has something to meet your desires. By registering with SUAPS, you have the opportunity to meet other students in a different setting from that of classes, thus promoting exchanges and social ties. Membership in SUAPS is accessible to students upon payment of the membership fee, allowing you to fully enjoy this diverse sports offering.

## UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE - SSU

The University Health Service is dedicated to students experiencing difficulties related to their health, whether physical, psychological, or social. Nurses welcome you without an appointment to offer advice, attentive listening, and to direct you to specialized consultations such as doctors, acupuncturists, sophrologists, psychologists, psychiatrists, or dermatologists. All these consultations are free of charge and strictly confidential, in accordance with medical confidentiality. Depending on your study campus, some appointments can be made online via your Digital Workspace (ENT), in the dedicated preventive medicine section.

A medical visit is systematically offered to international students to assess their health status and facilitate their access to care. For students experiencing financial difficulties, whether temporary or long-term, the social health shop offers a warm welcome as well as hygiene and essential products free of charge.

The social worker is also available to accompany you in all your administrative procedures related to health, such as full coverage, procedures related to pregnancy, Universal Health Coverage (CMU), or subscribing to student health insurance. Additionally, student health relay agents, trained by the service, are there to answer your questions and guide you towards the support you may need.

## THE LEOCARTE / STUDENT CARD

The Léocarte consolidates your student status and offers you a multitude of practical benefits. It allows you to have lunch in all CROUS catering facilities, such as Resto'U, cafeterias, and brasseries. Additionally, it grants you access to various university services, such as borrowing books from University Libraries, using printers-copiers, accessing certain buildings, and even the possibility of benefiting from reduced rates or participating in certain exams.

To obtain your Léocarte, simply finalize your administrative registration and apply via your Digital Work Space (ENT).

It should be noted that in private institutions, the type of student card may vary depending on the services and benefits offered.





# NORMANDY, A LAND OF CULINARY DELIGHTS

## IZLY PAYMENT

The Izly payment system is a secure electronic payment system, specially designed for students' needs. It allows users to top up their Izly account via various means such as credit card or bank transfer, and then use this balance to make purchases in university restaurants (CROUS), cafeterias, university libraries, and other partner services.

In addition to facilitating cashless transactions, Izly also offers the opportunity to manage one's budget effectively and to benefit from special promotions and exclusive discounts. This secure payment system is widely used in many higher education institutions in France, offering students a convenient and reliable solution for their daily expenses on campus.

## Catering

CROUS Normandie offers a varied range of catering services on the campuses of Rouen, Évreux, and Elbeuf, thus providing students with a balanced and affordable diet. In Rouen, students can choose from several options, including Resto'U, which offers complete meals at socially student-friendly prices (3.30 euros non-scholarship - 1 euro scholarship) in a friendly environment, cafeterias offering a selection of hot and cold dishes, as well as brasseries offering diverse menus.





# NORMANDY, A LAND OF CULINARY DELIGHTS

Regardless of the campus, CROUS ensures that students' dietary needs are met by offering balanced menus adapted to all tastes and dietary requirements, in compliance with current health standards.

CROUS offers students at least one vegetarian alternative at each catering site, or even vegan.

## **Mont Saint Aignan Campus**

RU du Panorama - traditional catering

University Restaurant La Soucoupe

Lavoisier Brasserie - traditional catering

L'Express Cafet' Cafeteria (UFR of Human and Social Sciences) sandwiches, salad

## **Martainville Campus**

Resto'U Martainville Cafeteria (sandwiches, salads)

## **Pasteur Campus**

RU Pasteur (Tertiary Sciences Hub) Cafeteria: sandwiches, paninis, salads

## **Madrillet Campus**

Resto'U du Madrillet

Cafeteria

## **Restaurant TILLY (Evreux)**

Resto'U





# NORMANDY, A LAND OF CULINARY DELIGHTS

## AGORAé

AGORAé, a social and solidarity initiative led by FAGE (Federation of General Student Associations) in Rouen and implemented by FEDER (Federation of Rouen Students), opens its doors 3 days a week in Mont-Saint-Aignan, thus providing valuable support to students in need.

As a social and solidarity grocery store, AGORAé offers precarious students access to affordable food products, while providing them with a space for exchange and sharing. It is a place where students can meet, exchange information, be listened to, and accompanied in their efforts. AGORAé plays a crucial role in promoting equal opportunities for access and success in higher education.

The AGORAé in Rouen, located in Mont-Saint-Aignan (Panorama), is the result of collaborative work by associations committed to social action to support students in precarious situations. Access requests are processed based on social criteria, with a form available on the AGORAE Instagram page: [Agorae\\_rouen](https://www.instagram.com/agorae_rouen/). These requests are then reviewed by an allocation committee comprising members of FEDER and civic service.

It is important to note that AGORAé plays an essential role in supporting international students, representing approximately 60% of beneficiaries.

Indeed, international students, excluded from the CROUS scholarship system, face additional financial difficulties due to eligibility criteria. The conditions for receiving CROUS scholarships are particularly stringent for international students.

This reality makes AGORAé all the more crucial for international students in precarious situations, offering vital support for their subsistence during their studies in France.



MSA



# ROUEN, THE STUDENT CAPITAL

## ROUEN, NORMANDY

Welcome to the metropolis of Rouen, a dynamic and welcoming city located in the northwest of France, in Normandy. As an international student, you will discover an environment rich in history, culture, and learning opportunities.

Rouen, a city of art and history, is full of architectural treasures, such as its famous Notre-Dame Cathedral, immortalized by Claude Monet in his paintings. Stroll through the cobbled streets of the medieval city center, where you will find charming shops, quaint cafes, and bustling markets. Be sure to visit the Gros-Horloge, an iconic symbol of the city, and the historic Old Market district.

As a student, you will benefit from a wide range of renowned educational institutions, such as the University of Rouen Normandy, offering a diversity of study programs in various fields. You will also have access to modern and well-equipped libraries, as well as state-of-the-art research laboratories.

Student life in Rouen is lively and diverse, with many cultural, sports, and social activities to discover. Participate in events organized by student associations, attend concerts, art exhibitions, or theatrical performances, or explore the city's numerous parks and gardens to relax between classes.

In terms of transportation, Rouen has an efficient bus and tram network, allowing you to easily move around the city and its surroundings. Additionally, the city is well-connected by trains, enabling you to travel easily to other destinations in France and Europe during your breaks. (see Astuce Network section)





# ROUEN, THE STUDENT CAPITAL

Finally, as an international student, you will find valuable support in Rouen to assist you with your integration and daily life. Welcome and orientation services are available to help you with administrative procedures, housing inquiries, healthcare needs, and much more.

In summary, the metropolis of Rouen offers an ideal setting for your study experience in France, combining cultural heritage, academic excellence, and quality of life. We look forward to welcoming you and assisting you in succeeding in this new adventure!





## Administrative Procedures

Administrative procedures before your departure to France are essential to ensure a legal and comfortable stay.

### Student Visa "long stay" for non-European citizens

First and foremost, if you are a non-European citizen, it is imperative to apply for a "long stay" student visa in your country of residence. This visa allows a stay in France ranging from four months to one year or more to pursue higher education.

You can check if you need a visa and the procedures to follow on the [official Visa](#) for France website. This visa grants various rights, including the freedom to travel to all countries in the Schengen area, the possibility to work up to 964 hours per year to supplement your resources, access to VISALE for a free deposit, the possibility of receiving housing allowance from the Family Allowance Fund (Caf), and the ability to extend your stay beyond the validity of the residence permit issued.

In general, the new VLS-TS visa applies to all international students enrolled in a French higher education institution, except for Algerian nationals who are subject to different provisions.

### Visa procedures via the ANEF platform

Within three months of your arrival in France, it is imperative to validate your visa via the [ANEF platform](#). This step is crucial to maintain your legal stay in France and the Schengen area. The process is entirely dematerialized and can be done online by providing information such as your visa, date of entry into France, address of residence, and your Bank Identity Statement to pay the residence permit issuance fees (€50 in 2023). Once this step is completed, you will receive confirmation of the validation of the registration of your long-stay visa valid as a residence permit.



# FRANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

## Contribution to Student and Campus Life (CVEC)

It is also important to note that the Contribution to Student and Campus Life (CVEC) is a mandatory annual fee (€100 for the 2023-24 academic year) provided for by French law "orientation and success of students."

This contribution aims to improve the living conditions of students on campuses by financing various services such as access to healthcare, the development of sports facilities, and support for student associations. You must register online on the dedicated website, except for students under the "Exchange Mobility" status who are exempt.

These administrative procedures are crucial to facilitate your integration and ensure a harmonious stay in France.





## Health Insurance

Health insurance in France, known as Social Security, is mandatory for all international students. Once registered with French social security, you are entitled to a partial refund of medical expenses, covering up to 70% of medical consultations, the purchase of prescribed medications, and hospital stays. For example, a standard consultation with a general practitioner costs around €25. It is important to choose a treating physician by filling out a dedicated form. For more detailed information on social protection in France, you can visit the Ameli.fr website.

## Mutual Funds

Health insurance does not fully cover healthcare expenses in case of illness or hospitalization. Therefore, it is strongly recommended for students to subscribe to health insurance, especially for specialized consultations such as visits to the dentist, optician, or gynecologist.

Health insurance, also known as complementary health insurance, is an insurance policy that complements reimbursements from Social Security to reduce the out-of-pocket expenses of the insured, especially in case of excess fees, dental expenses, or optics.

Although this complementary insurance is not mandatory, it is strongly recommended as it fills the gap between the amounts charged by the State for treatments and the amount reimbursed by Social Security.

To obtain a higher reimbursement rate, students can subscribe to complementary insurance from student health insurance companies. Another option is to apply for CPAM Complémentaire Santé Solidaire: depending on the student's status, a form will be sent to fill out and submit online. Then, CPAM will contact the student for an interview, and they will be enrolled in the solidarity health insurance scheme.



## HEALTH FOR ALL

You are free to choose your student mutual insurance

For 50 years, SMENO, a partner of FEDER, has been committed to protecting students' health by offering mutual and insurance offers adapted to every budget.

SMENO offers students, French and foreign, mutual funds for every budget and tailored to your needs. It will cover you in case of healthcare expenses.

They also offer civil liability for only €12.50 per year! It provides comprehensive coverage for your internship, private life, and studies while meeting legal obligations, avoiding hardships in the event of an accident, and studying without stress. Do you want to go abroad as part of your training? SMENO covers all your healthcare expenses internationally starting from €25 per month.

Thanks to FEDER, get a 10% discount with the code FEDER, for your departures abroad, as well as for your mutual insurance. More information on our website. Find them at the Rouen agency located at the Théâtre des Arts or by phone at 09 72 67 60 00.

### Civil Liability

Civil liability is a legal principle that requires you to compensate for damages you cause to others, whether by negligence or violation of the law. You may be held responsible for damages caused by persons, animals, or objects under your responsibility. To avoid having to compensate victims directly, it is imperative to have taken out civil liability insurance with an insurance company.

It is important to note that this civil liability is often included in home insurance. However, if you choose to live off-campus, you must take out your own home insurance and civil liability insurance, as it is mandatory in France.





# TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL

## Astuce Network

The Astuce Network, manager of public transport in the Rouen Normandy Metropolis, offers essential connectivity through its various means of transport. Serving the 71 municipalities of the metropolis, the network offers accessible journeys through metro, bus, and TEOR lines. Whether you are traveling for studies, work, or leisure, the Astuce Network facilitates your travels at an affordable rate, with a cost of only €1.80 per trip. Thanks to this accessibility and reasonable pricing, the Astuce Network contributes to making daily travel more convenient and economical for residents and visitors of the Rouen metropolis. If you travel regularly, it is advisable to subscribe to an annual pass.



## TransUrbain

For a student studying in Évreux, the TransUrbain network represents a valuable resource for getting around the city and its surroundings. This public transport network offers a variety of bus lines serving different neighborhoods of the city, as well as connections to university campuses and major points of interest. By using TransUrbain, students can easily attend their classes, access sports and cultural facilities, and explore the Normandy region. With regular schedules and affordable fares, the TransUrbain network facilitates the mobility of international students in Évreux, allowing them to fully enjoy their study experience in this charming French city.





# TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL

## **SNCF**

The SNCF network is an essential means of transportation for traveling across the region and beyond. As a student, you can benefit from attractive discounts on train tickets, notably using the Youth Card, which offers preferential rates to travelers under 27 years old. Thanks to the Rouen train station, located in the heart of the city, you can easily reach other major French cities such as Paris, Le Havre, or Caen. Additionally, the regional railway network of SNCF allows you to access many points of interest near Rouen, such as the magnificent cliffs of Étretat or the charming coastal town of Honfleur. In summary, the SNCF network offers international students a convenient, affordable, and efficient transportation solution to explore the region and discover all that Normandy has to offer.

## **FlixBus**

The FlixBus network offers a convenient and affordable transportation option for traveling throughout France and even across Europe. With FlixBus, students have the opportunity to reach Rouen from many French and European cities, providing great flexibility in their travels. Whether traveling to Rouen from Paris, Lille, Lyon, or even from foreign cities such as Brussels, Amsterdam, or Berlin, FlixBus offers regular routes at competitive rates. This interurban bus network not only provides an economical alternative to other modes of transportation but also allows students to easily discover the cultural and geographical diversity of the region and the European continent.





# TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL

## Loveloo Rouen

Loveloo Rouen is a valuable resource for international students settling in Rouen. By offering a bicycle rental service at advantageous rates, Loveloo facilitates students' daily travels in the city and on university campuses. With its network of stations strategically distributed throughout the city, students can easily rent a bike to attend their classes, explore the city, or simply enjoy cycling by exploring the banks of the Seine or the green parks.

In addition to promoting a healthy and ecological lifestyle, Loveloo also promotes the integration of international students by offering them a practical and enjoyable way to discover Rouen and immerse themselves in local life.

## Carpooling

Carpooling in Rouen represents an economical and ecological option for students wishing to travel within the city and its surroundings. This practice involves sharing the same car between 4 or 5 people making a similar journey, reducing individual transportation costs and contributing to reducing traffic congestion.

In Rouen, several regional carpooling platforms are available, such as covoiturage76.net, covoiturage27.net, as well as international services like BlaBlaCar and Klaxit. These platforms allow students to easily find drivers or passengers with whom to share their journeys, offering a practical and friendly solution for getting around the Rouen region while fostering exchanges between travelers.





# ACCOMMODATION FROM A TO Z

For an international student coming to study in Rouen, several housing options are available, including private student residences and accommodations with individuals.

## **CROUS University Residences**

CROUS housing is an attractive option for international students coming to study in France. Managed by the Regional Center for University and School Works (CROUS), this service offers a variety of affordable accommodations tailored to the needs of students, such as university residences and student cities. These accommodations not only provide a comfortable and secure living environment but also foster an atmosphere conducive to intercultural exchange and social bonding with other students.

Additionally, by choosing CROUS housing, international students often benefit from additional services such as access to internet connection, common areas, and specific financial assistance. In summary, CROUS housing represents a practical and friendly solution for international students seeking affordable and well-located accommodation during their studies in France.

## **Student Residences or Private Rental Housing**

Private student residences often provide a convenient and secure option, offering furnished rooms with common areas such as equipped kitchens, study rooms, and relaxation areas. They also offer additional services such as internet connection, laundry facilities, and sometimes even social activities to promote integration.

On the other hand, some international students prefer to opt for accommodations with private individuals, allowing them to live in a family environment and immerse themselves more deeply in the local culture. This can also be a more economical option for some students.

Ultimately, the choice between these options will depend on the student's personal preferences in terms of comfort, budget, and proximity to the university campus.



# ACCOMMODATION FROM A TO Z

## Guarantors

If you are an international student coming to study in France and do not have a European guarantor, there are alternative solutions to facilitate your housing search. One of them is Visale, a free service that allows you to obtain a guarantor within 72 hours, up to the age of 30. You can learn more about this service on their website <https://www.visale.fr/visale-pour-les-locataires/avantages/>.

In addition to Visale, you also have the option to choose Studely via <https://www.studely.com/article/logement-en-france-tout-savoir-sur-le-bail-etudiant/> or Garantme via <https://garantme.fr/fr>. These platforms offer a simple and fast process, allowing you to obtain a guarantor within a few hours and be accepted in most rental processes in France. It is worth noting that Garantme does not apply to CROUS rentals. These options provide a practical and efficient solution to secure your accommodation in France without needing a European guarantor.

## Housing Insurance

Housing insurance is an essential component of renting, being mandatory for all tenants. It provides protection against various risks and disasters to which a dwelling may be exposed, such as floods, fires, or electrical damage. This insurance covers not only the building and the apartment itself but also the furniture and occupants at the time of the incident, as well as their civil liability. In fact, the law imposes on the tenant the responsibility for any damage they may cause to the leased property, as well as to neighboring properties. Therefore, taking out housing insurance is essential to ensure that both the landlord and the tenant benefit from adequate legal protection in the event of an incident. In the event of a disaster such as a fire or water damage, housing insurance will cover the damages caused to the rental property. Furthermore, if a third party suffers damages caused by the tenant, housing insurance intervenes to cover part of the expenses, in accordance with French law, which stipulates that anyone responsible for unintentional harm to others must compensate the victim.

## Housing Allowance (APL/APS) from CAF Rouen

If you reside in a CROUS residence, foreign students are entitled to a housing allowance (APL/ALS) from the French government, managed by the Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF) of Rouen. This allowance is accessible to all international students, except those benefiting from a student visa with a residence permit exemption. The amount of this allowance varies depending on the rent paid for your accommodation. To apply, you will need to register online in the weeks following your arrival in France. A group appointment will then be organized to guide you through the necessary steps. It should be noted that opening a French bank account is required before being able to benefit from this allowance and the residence permit exemption.





## Disability Situation

Students with disabilities receive dedicated support within the University, notably through the special department Espace-handicap, located at the Maison de l'Université on the Mont-Saint-Aignan Campus, in the Espace Michel Serres (B4), 1st floor. This service offers personalized assistance for organizing studies, tailored advice for each situation, as well as adapted housing solutions in partnership with the University, the University Medical Service, and other specialized structures. For more information on adapted housing and available social assistance, students can consult the CROUS de Rouen website under the "housing" or "social assistance" sections.

Additionally, CRIJ Normandie Rouen and HANDISUP are other important resources that offer personalized advice and support to students with disabilities to facilitate their academic and professional journey.

Furthermore, the MDPH (Maison Départementale des Personnes Handicapées) and ONISEP are essential resource centers for obtaining information on the French educational system adapted to students with disabilities.

To facilitate access to public transport within the Rouen Normandy Metropolis, Handistuce offers practical solutions, including buses with platforms for wheelchairs, metro stations adapted for people with disabilities with elevators, and special platforms for wheelchairs on TEOR buses (single route buses). For more details on accessibility to transport and infrastructure, students can download the "Accessibility Guide for All."



## ROUEN INCLUSIVE CITY

### Sports and Disability

The "Sport & Disability" Resource Center in Normandy, under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, is committed to facilitating access to sports for people with disabilities. Its primary objective is to promote the inclusion and accessibility of sports activities by implementing initiatives aimed at breaking physical and social barriers. Through innovative programs and partnerships with specialized structures, the center aims to raise awareness and support stakeholders in the sports world in adapting their infrastructure and practices to meet the specific needs of people with disabilities. Additionally, it strives to promote dedicated equipment and facilities, thus allowing people with disabilities to practice sports safely and in an adapted environment. For more information, you can consult the official website of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.





# BACK-TO-SCHOOL COST IN ROUEN 2023

The FEDER publishes annually an indicator of the cost of back-to-school for students. For 2023, it is the 6th consecutive year that the FEDER publishes its cost of back-to-school.

The start of higher education studies is a pivotal period in the lives of students, marked by the excitement of discovering new academic horizons, but also by financial concerns. The overall cost of back-to-school can be a source of stress for many students, affecting their well-being and their ability to focus on their studies.

## Back-to-school Cost 2023

**2876.54€**

An increase of **3.07%** compared to 2022.

In terms of **back-to-school fees**, there is still an upward trend: **1.82%**.

Regarding **tuition fees**, due to the increase in CVEC, tuition fees have increased by **5.26%**.

However, the cost of **educational materials**, i.e., all supplies necessary for studies, has increased by **1.44%**.

At the same time, **home insurance** has also increased by **17.81%**.

In terms of **daily living expenses**, the trend is upward: **5.02%**.

This increase has several origins. Firstly, in terms of **rents**, where we observe a variation of **+1.45%**.

**Consumables**, which consist of students' daily needs, increase by **10.53%**.

Costs related to **telecommunications and Internet** experience a significant increase of **22.49%**. An increase that weighs heavily on students' budgets, as **these tools are essential** for decently pursuing their education.

Finally, **transportation**, especially car usage, which is **essential** for many students to **access their campus** or **return to their families**, increases by **6%**.



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL COST IN ROUEN 2023

Living expenses	2022	2023	Change
Rent	443.90 €	450.35 €	+ 1.45 %
Meals at the University Restaurant	66.00 €	66.00 €	0.00%
Consumables	309.24 €	341.81 €	+ 10.53 %
Telephony and internet	53.32 €	65.31 €	+ 22.49 %
Entertainment	76.40 €	71.70 €	-6.15%
Total transportation costs	140.03 €	148.43 €	+ 6.00 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1088.89 €</b>	<b>1143.60 €</b>	<b>+ 5.02 %</b>

Back to school expenses	2022	2023	Change
Security deposit	474.50 €	474.50 €	0.00%
Undergraduate tuition fees	170.00 €	170.00 €	0.00%
CVEC	95.00 €	100.00 €	+ 5.26 %
Supplementary health insurance	309.60 €	317.40 €	+ 2.52 %
Home insurance	73.00 €	86.00 €	+ 17.81 %
Agency fees	220.00 €	220.00 €	0.00%
Educational material	359.85 €	365.04 €	+ 1.44 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1701.95 €</b>	<b>1732.94 €</b>	<b>+ 1.82 %</b>

Back-to-school costs	2022	2023	Change
Living expenses	1088.89 €	1143.60 €	+ 5.02 %
Back to school expenses	1701.95 €	1732.94 €	+ 1.82 %
<b>Total back-to-school costs</b>	<b>2790.84 €</b>	<b>2876.54 €</b>	<b>+ 3.07 %</b>



# BACK-TO-SCHOOL COST IN ROUEN 2023

## FOCUS: Access to Student Housing

Housing is crucial for a student, particularly for their study conditions, and it also allows them to gain independence. However, access to housing remains increasingly difficult with a **constant rise in rents** (+1.5% between 2022 and 2023). On average, a rent at the beginning of the academic year will cost around **450.35 euros**.

In addition to this, there is an increase in CROUS residence rents, amounting to **4.5 euros** per month, following a ministerial recommendation related to inflation. In the Normandy region, approximately **10,480 students** are affected by this increase. This comes two months before the rent freeze scheduled for September, which had been announced by the government.

This housing precariousness affecting the student population continues to increase. It is in this context that the **creation of a OTLE** (Territorial Observatory of Student Housing) appears essential to connect all these housing stakeholders (CROUS, Private Sector Actors, etc.) in order to **establish a SDLE** (Student Housing Master Plan).

Given the current challenge in creating an OTLE, it seems necessary to provide a temporary solution by organizing **a student housing day** led by the Metropolis. This day would bring together all student housing stakeholders and bridge the gap with institutional bodies.

The CROUS Normandy, along with its student Vice President with whom we work, has created an **emergency housing scheme for students starting in the academic year 2023**, a partial response to the issue but a victory for the BOUGE TON CROUS list and the FEDER with these **4 emergency housing units** granted via CVEC financing, in Mont-Saint-Aignan.



## FEDER'S POSITION

On Wednesday, July 1st, 2020, the Council of State made a decision regarding the appeal filed in 2019 regarding the increase in tuition fees for international students from outside the European Union. Although the Constitutional Council had previously affirmed the principle of free public higher education, it also indicated that the implementation of "modest" fees was possible. The Council of State ultimately rejected the various requests, considering that the tuition fees established in April 2019 for international students were "modest" compared to the actual cost of education, and that it was conceivable to offer partial or total assistance and exemptions.

This decision is a real disappointment for international students from outside the European Union, who are faced with social selection based on their financial means. It also raises concerns among French and European students, according to the FAGE (Federation of General Student Associations, the leading representative organization of students in France). The FEDER (the leading representative organization of students in Rouen) supports the FAGE on its positions. They advocate for higher education accessible to all, and had strongly criticized since November 2018 the announcement of the increase in tuition fees for international students from outside the European Union, as part of the "Welcome to France" plan.

At the meeting of the European Student Union (ESU), the European federation of student associations and unions, the FAGE put forward a motion at this forum to denounce the "Welcome to France" model.

The amounts of €2770 and €3770 cannot in any case be considered "modest," representing several months of rent and food expenses for international students. Faced with this measure, all representatives of the FEDER mobilized in the University of Rouen to prevent its implementation, advocating in particular for exemptions.



## FEDER's POSITION

This decision sets a worrying precedent and raises fears of an increase in tuition fees in other public higher education programs. The financial disengagement of the State cannot be compensated by individual contributions. In a context where access to higher education should promote the emancipation of everyone, it is crucial to prioritize funding for higher education and research.

The FEDER reaffirms its opposition to the measures proposed in this text and their impacts on foreign students. **Since the "Welcome to France" plan, foreign students have been paying tuition fees at universities 16 times higher than French students.**

The FEDER is concerned about the implementation of this measure and **deplores a total lack of understanding of the precariousness of foreign students.** It wishes to reaffirm its commitment to an open and accessible university for all.

Although grateful for the exemptions put in place by the University of Rouen Normandy, **the FEDER requests the withdrawal of this cap limiting the possibilities of exemption in universities**, in order to allow each one to welcome a greater number of international students while exempting them. It also calls for **the opening of scholarships based on social criteria to international students**, given their increasing precariousness, especially with the 3.5% increase in CROUS rents, knowing that a large portion of them reside in CROUS accommodations.

This precariousness of international students is reflected in our Agoraé, **where 66% of the beneficiaries are international.**

The FEDER will remain mobilized to defend the rights of all students, French and foreign, and to promote an inclusive and egalitarian university for all. Together in the same university for egalitarian universities.



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

For an international student arriving in Rouen, it is essential to be informed about local emergency numbers to be able to react quickly in case of need.

In the event of a life-threatening emergency requiring urgent medical intervention, it is crucial to call SAMU by dialing 15.

For any situation requiring police intervention, such as cases of violence or theft, it is appropriate to call the police by dialing 17.

In the event of a fire, gas leak, flood, road accident, or natural disaster, the fire department should be contacted by dialing 18.

Additionally, the European emergency number 112 is available free of charge for emergencies throughout Europe.

Finally, it is important to know the number of the Poison Control Center in case of accidental ingestion of toxic substances +33 2 41 48 21 21.

These emergency numbers are essential to ensure the safety and well-being of international students in Rouen.



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