

**2025 - 2026**

Innovative  
programs led by 2  
institutions

# GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**BORDEAUX  
POITIERS  
TOURS**



In 2025, the **pôle Aliénor** and the **PESMD Bordeaux Nouvelle-Aquitaine** are partnering within the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region to create an innovative educational offer, aimed at strengthening the professional integration of future performing artists and teachers.

From september 2025 onwards, students will benefit from instruction by teaching artists-teachers-researchers of both institutions, supported by ambitious and multidisciplinary artistic joint projects (orchestras, chamber music sessions).

This collaboration will also enable future graduates to take advantage of the artistic (operas, orchestras, festivals, professional ensembles, national stages, contemporary music venues, etc.) and educational (higher education institutions, conservatories, music schools, etc.) partnerships of both institutions, thus expanding their professional network across a wider region.



Tours  
Poitiers  
Bordeaux

**PESMD Bordeaux Nouvelle-Aquitaine and pôle Aliénor are both higher education institutions dedicated to the performing arts, accredited by French ministry of Culture.**

**PESMD** (Higher Education Center for Music and Dance) **Bordeaux Nouvelle-Aquitaine** is located in Bordeaux (SouthWest of France), and delivers diplomas:

- Performer: DNSPM (**Bachelor in music performance**),
- Music teacher: DE (**Bachelor in instrumental and vocal pedagogy**),
- Dance teacher: DE (**Bachelor in dance pedagogy**).

**pôle Aliénor** is located in Poitiers and Tours (SouthWest of France) and delivers the following diplomas :

- Performer: DNSPM (**Bachelor in music performance**)
- Music teacher: DE (**Bachelor in instrumental and vocal pedagogy**).

In addition, pôle Aliénor is a partner of the University of Poitiers **in the research master's program “Music: research and ensemble practice” in early music**, offered in partnership with the University of Tours and the Abbaye aux Dames, the musical city – Saintes.



# Study departments

Depending on your study field and/or instrument, you will be settled in Poitiers, Tours or Bordeaux.

## Music

STRING INSTRUMENTS: violin, viola, cello, bass	POITIERS
WOODWINDS: clarinet, oboe, flute, bassoon	BORDEAUX
SAXOPHONE	POITIERS
BRASS: trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba, euphonium, saxhorn	TOURS
PERCUSSIONS	TOURS
PIANO	POITIERS and BORDEAUX
POLYPHONIC INSTRUMENTS : harp, accordion, classical guitar	BORDEAUX
EARLY MUSIC: all instruments, organ, singing	POITIERS
TRADITIONAL MUSIC: all instruments and singing	POITIERS
RYTHMIC MUSIC: all instruments, singing, and electronic music	BORDEAUX
GENERAL MUSIC EDUCATION	BORDEAUX
MUSIC / DANCE ACCOMPANIMENT	BORDEAUX

## Dance

CLASSIC / CONTEMPORARY / JAZZ	BORDEAUX
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# How to apply for Erasmus+?

1. Contact the international relations coordinator of your school for information regarding the programme requirements.
2. The application must be sent by e-mail by the Erasmus+ coordinator of the sending school to :  
**Lauren SUISSE, Erasmus+ coordinator**  
[international@poles-na.com](mailto:international@poles-na.com)

***Note:** all applications are accepted, even if your sending institution is not a partner yet.*

## Application deadlines :

- for 25/26 Spring semester : **October 15**
- for 26/27 Autumn semester and academic year : **April 15**

## Required documents

- Cover / Motivation letter
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Student application form Erasmus + (available on [www.polealienor.eu](http://www.polealienor.eu) or by email : [international@poles-na.com](mailto:international@poles-na.com))
- Video recording (15 to 20 minutes)

## Language requirements

Recommended language skills: **B1**. No certificate is required for admission. All the courses are taught in French, some courses may be given in Spanish (instrumental or chamber music lessons).

3. You will receive a response within four weeks following your application.

# How to apply for regular program ?

Foreign candidates must follow the same application procedure as French candidates, filling the application form on **www.concours-musique.eu**

**Application deadline : February 13, 2026**



## Language requirements

Recommended language skills: **B1 for DNSPM and C1 for Pedagogical program**. Language certificate is compulsory.

All the courses are given in French.

- Registration fee : €100
- Tuition fee for one program : €300
- Tuition fee for two programs : €500

## Campus visa

Which procedure you follow to enter a French institution depends on your nationality, the country in which you reside, and your educational plans.

- European students don't need a visa. The admission procedures are simple.
- Non-European citizen need to inform about the right procedure, on the Études en France [website](#)

**Please note that non-European residents must contact pôle Aliénor by December 15 for the next academic year.**

# Living in France

## Visa

Students from the EU and EEA do not need a visa to study in France. Non-European citizens residing in the EU must apply for a long-stay student visa in their country of residence before arriving, as their residence permit only allows a 3-month stay in France. Visa applications cannot be made after arrival. A 50 € stamp duty is required to validate the visa.

More information here : [france-visas.gouv.fr](https://france-visas.gouv.fr)

## Health insurance

Health insurance is mandatory for non-EU international students (excluding Erasmus) and registration with French social security is free. To cover additional medical costs, complementary health insurance is recommended, costing between 5 € and 34 € per month.

More information here : [www.ameli.fr](https://www.ameli.fr)



## Housing benefit

**CAF** : Caisse d'Allocations Familiales

After having signed your rental contract, you can start your application for housing benefit.

More information here : [www.caf.fr](https://www.caf.fr)

## Bank account

Think about opening a bank account in France, you will need it for nearly all administrative procedures. For that, you should go into any bank with your passport, visa, enrollment certificate and a proof of address.

# Living in France



## Dormitories

- **Exchange Students** (Erasmus+ & other programs):

A room in a CROUS residence can be requested starting early July. Contact the International Office for guidance.

- **Non-exchange International Students** (Master only - Poitiers):

Apply for available housing during the supplementary phase (July) via:

[www.lescrous.fr](http://www.lescrous.fr) | [messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr](http://messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr)

## Student card

With registration, a student card is given. Student card allows being identified as a student and to benefit discounts in cultural locations (museums, cinemas, theatres, shops ect).

## Mental health

The institutions have established a partnership with the **Apsytube association** “Free access to psychologists for students”. It allows students to benefit from free online consultations with a psychologist.

## Learning Resources

A documentary collection (scores, books, CDs, DVDs, theses, and teaching materials) is available throughout your studies.



# Cost of living in Bordeaux

## Monthly budget

### Housing

Private apartment .....	450-1000 €
Insurance .....	5-10 €
University dormitory .....	236-441 €

### Food

Food per month .....	250-300 €
1 meal at the university restaurant .....	3.30 €

### Transport

Bus / tram pass .....	28 €
Bus pass per year .....	250 €

### Other expenses

Telephone, Internet .....	30 €
Other .....	around 200 €

**Total per month .....** around 1000 €

*N.B. For the first month try to anticipate monthly budget x3, because you will have to pay for all the subscriptions and insurances.*

*Keep in mind that your total can be different and can vary from 750 to 1200 €.*

# Why Bordeaux ?

## UNESCO World Heritage

Bordeaux's 18th-century golden stone architecture earned it UNESCO status, but the city pulses with modern student life. Stroll along the Garonne River to see the Miroir d'Eau fountain, urban art, cafés and over 50 museums.

## Vineyards & Gastronomy

As the capital of wine, Bordeaux offers affordable tastings (Student tours in Saint-Émilion €15 with transport), local flavors and UNESCO vineyards. Try canelés (caramelized pastries) at Baillardran or fresh oysters at Marché des Capucins, don't forget to visit a unique Cité du Vin museum!



## Big-City Buzz, Small-Town Ease

Bordeaux, France's sixth-largest city, masterfully blends the energy of a metropolis with the charm of a welcoming town, offering students the perfect balance between vibrant urban life and relaxed living. When it's time to unwind, the Atlantic coast beckons—escape to Lacanau for world-class surfing or indulge in fresh oysters by the bay in Arcachon, both just an hour away.

# Student life in PESMD

## French lessons

In Bordeaux you have 2 options for improving your French.

1. The Department FLE of the University of Bordeaux Montaigne delivers several courses.
  2. Alliance Française has also a large selection of courses based on your level.
- P.S. Courses are payed by each student, but you can get extra ECTS (only within Erasmus+ program).

## Studios booking

The institution provide fully equipped dance studios designed to support your artistic growth and daily practice. These spaces are available to all enrolled students, they may book dance studios (subject to availability) for practice and rehearsals.

## Youth Discount Card (Carte Jeune)

Unlock exclusive discounts in Bordeaux with the free Carte Jeune, available to all students under 26! You have to sign up online for free, present your e-Cartejeune (QR code) at partner venues and discounts will apply automatically—no extra paperwork! the benefits include discounted tickets for cinemas, museums and sports events, savings at bookstores, swimming pools, escape games, and more.

## Resources

You have access to Bordeaux conservatoire's resource center that houses an extensive collection of over 15,000 musical scores spanning classical, jazz, and contemporary repertoire. The center complements these resources with a rich media library featuring more than 8,000 audio recordings and 2,500 video documents including concert archives and masterclasses.



# Cost of living in Poitiers and Tours

*N.B. The cost of living is similar in both cities. For the first month, try to anticipate monthly budget x3, as anticipation for paying subscriptions and insurances.*

*Keep in mind that your total can be different and can vary from 600 to 1000 €.*

## Monthly budget

### Housing

Private apartment .....	350-600 €
Insurance .....	5-10 €
University dormitory .....	236-441 €

### Food

Food per month .....	200-250 €
1 meal at the university restaurant .....	3.30 €

### Transport

Bus / tram pass .....	27 €
Bus pass per year .....	200-230 €

### Other expenses

Telephone, Internet .....	30 €
Other .....	around 200 €

**Total per month .....** **around 900 €**

# Why Poitiers ?

## Connections

The city of Poitiers, settled in the North of the Région Nouvelle Aquitaine, is connected with big European major cities (Paris, Bordeaux, Brussel, London...) by the TGV railway.

## History

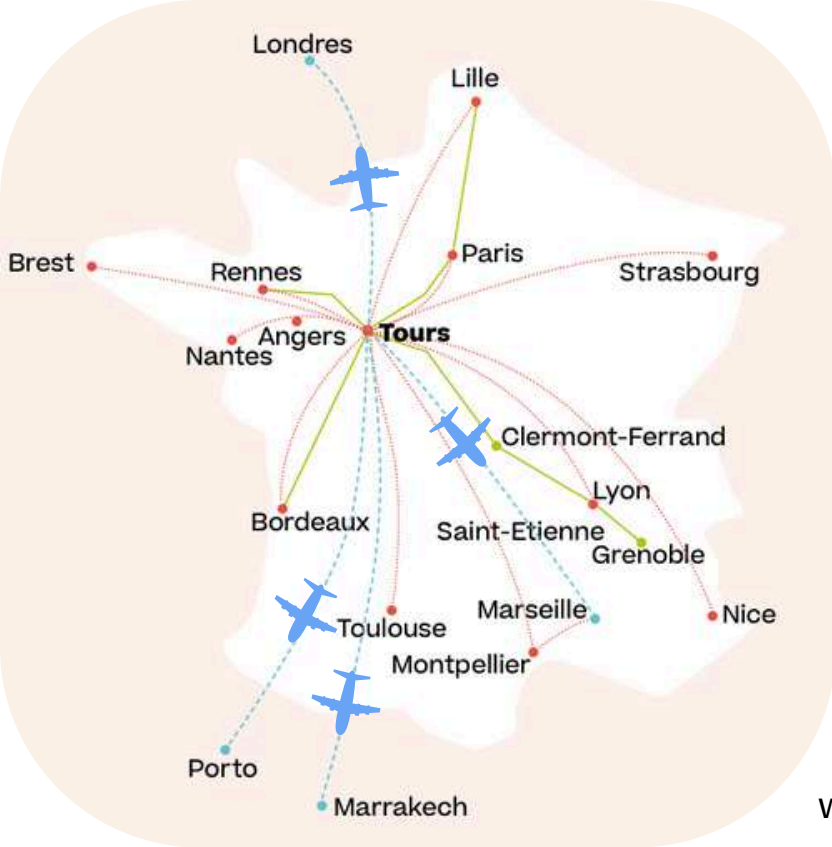
Poitiers (90 000 inhabitants + 28 000 students) has a rich 2 000 years old history, and presents a prestigious architectural patrimony. The University (founded in 1431) is one of the oldest in Europe; the presence of so many students promotes a very creative and diversified cultural



## Innovation

Poitiers is a city that embraces innovation. With Futuroscope leading in digital and immersive experiences, and a strong network of research centers, startups, and university partnerships, it offers a dynamic environment for students interested in development, science, and creativity.





# Why Tours ?

## Culture & Lifestyle

Tours offers a lively student scene with concerts, festivals, museums, and a vibrant café culture. It's a great place to enjoy French art de vivre in a welcoming and youthful atmosphere.

## Culture and charm

In Tours, every corner offers something to discover—watch a play at the Grand Théâtre, enjoy live music at Le Temps Machine, or dive into indie films at Les Studios. Explore art at the CCCOD or stroll through the Musée des Beaux-Arts. From comic book festivals to wine fairs and Japanese pop culture events, there's always something happening. Tours isn't just a place to live—it's a place to experience!

## Gateway to the Loire Valley

Located in the heart of the Loire Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site, Tours is surrounded by stunning castles, vineyards, and natural beauty—perfect for weekend adventures and cultural exploration.



# Student life in pôle Aliénor

## Instruments and equipment

pôle Aliénor provides pedagogical equipment such as instruments, audio or video, computers, instrumental practice places, scores.

## Mentoring

Students wishing to receive support in their studies (organization of work, methodology, written work, etc.) can benefit from mentoring and be monitored by a student tutor throughout the year.

## Libraries

You have access to Poitiers conservatoire's library and university of Poitiers music department's library. Also, we recommend applying to François-Mitterrand media center of Poitiers. Access to music library of Tours is allowed with a free registration.

## Students lounge room

### "La Plage"

This space, which the students have named "La plage", is completely dedicated to them. They are autonomous in the management of this space and must abide by the basic rules that have been set.

## French lessons

**Poitiers :** The Centre FLE of the University of Poitiers delivers several courses.

**Tours :** The Centre FLE of the University of Tours proposes also different courses.

P.S. Courses are payed by each student, but you get extra ECTS (only within Erasmus+ program).



# Useful links

- ✓ PESMD's international page <https://www.pesmd.com/index.php/international>
- ✓ pôle Aliénor's international page <https://polealienor.eu/en/international-2/>
- ✓ Accomodation :
  - University dormitories <https://www.messervices.etudiant.gouv.fr> (section « finding accommodation »)
  - Private housing <https://www.lokaviz.fr> or <https://erasmusplay.com>
  - Housing benefit <https://www.caf.fr>
- ✓ French health insurance <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/>
- ✓ Official visa information <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits>
- ✓ French courses :
  - in university of Bordeaux <https://defle.u-bordeaux-montaigne.fr/en/index.html>
  - in university of Poitiers <http://cfle.univ-poitiers.fr>
  - in university of Tours <https://international.univ-tours.fr/english-version/international-researchers-staff-support/learning-french>
- ✓ Culture card in Poitiers <https://www.carteculture.org>
- ✓ Youth card in Bordeaux <https://cartejeune.bordeaux-metropole.fr/>
- ✓ Tourist offices <https://www.bordeaux-tourisme.com/> <https://visitpoitiers.fr>  
<https://www.tours-tourisme.fr/en/>
- ✓ Info Jeunes - organisation helping young people <http://infojeunes-na.fr>

# International office

## **Coordinator of international relations and Erasmus+**

Claire MICHON

## **International relations coordinator**

Delphine LAVALLEY

## **Erasmus+ coordinator**

Lauren SUISSE

[international@poles-na.com](mailto:international@poles-na.com)

## **Disability and inclusion**

The institutions are committed to welcoming all audiences; individuals with disabilities are encouraged to contact Marion Dumeynie, disability coordinator, to find suitable solutions for continuing their training : [referent.handicap@polealienor.eu](mailto:referent.handicap@polealienor.eu)

**Erasmus+**  
Enriching lives, opening minds.



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the European Union