

# APPLYING FOR A "TALENT-CHERCHEUR" RESIDENCE CARD



Holders of long-stay visas valid for 3 months and marked "talent-chercheur" and "PT4 VLS" must apply for a residence permit **within 2 months following their arrival** in France.

The validity period of this residence permit will be the same as the duration of their hosting agreement.

*Important note:* The hosting agreement ("convention d'accueil") with the "talent-chercheur" visa allows the researcher to work within the framework of their activities right upon their arrival in France without having to request for a work permit.

*Quick tip:* It is important to anticipate by starting the residence permit request procedure as soon as the researcher has arrived in France.

## DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

Your file is to be submitted online [on the ANEF website](#). The request is processed by the prefecture of the place of residence.

The documents to be submitted are as follows:

- Valid "talent-chercheur" long-stay visa.
- Passport (pages related to identity information, validity dates and entry stamps).
- Recent proof of address (less than 6 months):
  - if tenant: electricity bill (or gas, water, landline telephone or Internet service bill) or rental lease agreement less than 6 months old or rent receipt or housing tax statement;
  - if staying in a hotel: hotel certificate and bill;
  - if staying at someone's house: dated and signed statement from the host, copy of their identity card or residence card, deed of ownership (or the host's statement of residence tax or copy of the rental lease agreement or the host's electricity, gas, water, landline telephone or Internet service bill). A template of a housing certificate from a host ("attestation d'hébergement") can be found [here](#).
- E-photo. [Photomaton](#) photo booths delivering e-photos can be identified by a blue sticker indicating "Agréé services en ligne ANTS".
- Hosting agreement ("convention d'accueil"): [cerfa n° 16079\\*03](#) filled, dated and signed. The hosting agreement validity period is based on the researcher's stay (duration of the fellowship, of the working contract, ...).
- Diploma at least equivalent to a master's degree.
- New from July 2024:* "Contrat d'engagement à respecter les principes de la République" (Agreement to respect the principles of the Republic) [in French](#) completed and signed. Signing this agreement is [mandatory](#) (subject to exceptions). This document is to be uploaded online when reaching the stage "supporting documents" ("Justificatifs") in the section "proof of address" ("Justificatifs de domicile"). More information and a template of the agreement can be found [here](#).

**Important note about the list of documents:** In most cases, these documents are sufficient but it may happen that the prefecture requests additional documents before validating the request, to check a particular situation. If so, any additional documents requested should be provided on time.

*Quick tip:* The applicant can benefit from the support of the *Centre de Contact Citoyen* who can be contacted by phone at 0 806 001 620 or using the contact form built into their website. It is advised to contact the CCC in writing in order to keep track of the administration's answers.

## AFTER SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

Once the person submits their application, a “**confirmation de dépôt**” is issued on the ANEF account. It is a confirmation that the request has been filed.

The person may then receive an “**attestation de prolongation d’instruction**” during the process of the residence permit request. During the procedure of residence permit request, the “attestation de prolongation d’instruction” with the hosting agreement (“convention d’accueil”) allows the researcher to work within the framework of their activities without having to request for a work permit. However, it does not allow the researcher to come back without a visa after leaving the country.

Additional information or document might be requested by the prefecture. The person must reply within the specific deadline, or the application will automatically be closed.

Once the application is approved by the prefecture, an “**attestation de décision favorable**” is issued. This document indicates the validity period of the residence permit to be issued.

All these documents can be downloaded on the ANEF personal account.

The person receives a text message on their phone once the residence card is ready to be collected at the prefecture. The residence card must be collected before it expires, or the person will not be able to renew their residence permit. In most prefectures, it's necessary to make an appointment on the prefecture's website in order to collect the residence permit. On the day of this appointment, the original of the passport and a €225 printed tax stamp will be requested.

Tax stamps can be bought [on the tax department's website](#).

*Quick tip:* if the person has not received a text message within 2 months after the “attestation de décision favorable” was issued, they can write to the prefecture to ask if the residence permit is ready to be collected and/or make an appointment to collect it.

