

RENEWING A “TALENT-CHERCHEUR” RESIDENCE PERMIT



Researchers wishing to stay in France beyond the expiry date of their residence permit must apply for a renewal **at the earliest 4 months and at the latest 2 months before the expiry date** of their VLS-TS visa or residence permit.

Important note: in case of delay, a penalty of 180 euros will be applied and will be added to the tax of the requested residence permit.

Quick tip: the renewal request must be submitted on time, even if a document is missing. Instead of the document, a short letter explaining why the document is missing is to be provided.

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” residence permit: residence card, or visa + confirmation of online validation of the 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”.
- 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](#).
- New hosting agreement (“convention d’accueil” - [cerfa n° 16079*03](#)) for the coming research period after the expiration of the residence permit. It must be established by a public or private organization with a research or higher education mission previously approved, and filled, dated and signed.

The hosting agreement validity period is based on the researcher's stay (duration of the fellowship, of the working contract, ...).

The duration of the new residence card will be that indicated in the new hosting agreement.

- Or** France Travail attestation indicating the duration and the amount of the unemployment benefits ("attestation d'allocation d'aide au retour à l'emploi"), if the researcher doesn't have a new hosting agreement, had a working contract and is involuntarily deprived of employment (end of a CDD for example).

Quick tip: if the France Travail attestation indicating the duration and the amount of the unemployment benefits has not been received yet, the work certificate ("certificat de travail") and the employer's attestation for France Travail ("attestation de l'employeur destinée à France Travail") can be provided instead, or a short letter explaining why the document is missing.

Important note: In case of a residence permit renewal based on unemployment rights, the residence card issued will be for the same duration as the rights to unemployment benefits (called "chômage" or "aide au retour à l'emploi" – ARE) as indicated by France Travail.

AFTER SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

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

The researcher may then receive an "**attestation de prolongation d'instruction**" during the processing of the residence permit request. As part of a renewal process, this document is an extension of the previous residence permit. Therefore, the "attestation de prolongation d'instruction" with the hosting agreement ("convention d'accueil") allows the researcher to work within the framework of its activities without having to request for a work permit. Moreover, it allows the researcher to come back to France without a visa after leaving the country.

Additional information or document might be requested by the prefecture during the processing. The researcher 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 researcher's ANEF account.

The researcher 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 researcher will not be able to renew their residence permit. In most prefecture, it is necessary to make an appointment on the prefecture's website in order to collect your residence permit. At 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 researcher 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.

