

WORKING WHILE STUDYING



GENERAL CASE

Foreign students (except Algerian students) holding a “student” (« étudiant ») residence card or long-stay visa valid as a residence permit may freely perform a part-time professional job as a secondary activity during the period of their studies.

The part time performance of this professional activity is limited to 60% of the legal workday duration, i.e. **964 hours per year**. The reference period for calculating the 964 hours is the validity period of the residence permit or long-stay visa valid as a residence permit.

Exception: foreign students who have signed an apprenticeship contract (« contrat d’apprentissage ») can work **full time** starting in the first year of their stay if they have proof of enrolment in a degree program that will result in a master's diploma or a professional degree (« licence professionnelle »).

The apprenticeship contract may be completed by holders of the student residence permit who are under 30 years of age.

Employers wishing to hire a foreign student (except Algerian students) must submit a prior statement to the prefecture of the place where the company is located, **at least two working days before the beginning of the contract**.

In Paris, this declaration of employment must be made by **email to the dedicated service « relation et service à l’usager » [via the contact form](#)**, or at pp-dpg-6eb-declar-prealable-etudiant@interieur.gouv.fr **at least 48 hours before the beginning of the contract**.

The employer must send:

- a copy of the student’s residence permit (residence card, VLS-TS visa and validation pdf, or « attestation de décision favorable » or « attestation de prolongation d’instruction » only within a renewal application procedure)
- and a completed and signed student employment form [available here](#) in JPEG or PDF format.

The statement must contain the following information:

- company name or surname and first name(s) of the employer, address of the employer, company registration number or, otherwise, the number under which social security contributions are paid ;
- surname, first name(s), nationality, date and place of birth of the employee ;
- expected hiring date ;
- nature, duration of the contract and number of annual working hours.

Important information:

- Long-stay visas valid as a residence permit authorise holders to work from the start of their validity period.
- Employers who fail to file a statement of employment of a foreign student with the prefecture are liable for the criminal sanctions. If foreign students work more than 60% of the legal working hours, their temporary residence cards may be cancelled and their renewal request may be refused.

Please note that the student residence permit does not allow to be self-entrepreneur (« auto-entrepreneur »)

SPECIAL CASE: STUDENTS SUBJECT TO WORK PERMIT

Algerian students under the Franco-Algerian agreement do not benefit from the legislative amendments made for other nationals:

- They may only work 50% of the annual legal working hours, or 822.50 hours per year.
- They must obtain a work permit when they wish to perform a professional activity, from the first hour of work performed.
- They must wait until their residence certificate is issued (the receipt of the first application is not valid for work).

As an exception, some foreign students can work more than 964 hours:

- students holding a professionalisation contract, **starting from the second year of their stay in France.** The professionalisation contract (« contrat de professionnalisation ») may be completed by holders of the student residence permit who are under 26 years of age.
- students whose academic training includes a salaried work programme (salaried doctoral students working on a thesis, holding a doctoral contract, ATER [Temporary Lecturer and Research Assistant], students with a CIFRE [Industrial Agreement for Training through Research], FFI, research fellows, and at the end of the course for accountants, lawyers, state-certified architects).

In order to benefit from this exception, the student must previously apply for and obtain **a work permit, from the first hour of work performed.**

APPLYING FOR A WORK PERMIT

The application must be submitted online on the following website:

<https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/>