

CHANGE OF STATUS FROM STUDENT OR “JOB SEARCH / BUSINESS CREATION” TO “TALENT – QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE”



Persons who have obtained a degree in France at least equivalent to a Master’s degree, and who are offered an employment contract for more than 3 months with a **gross annual remuneration of at least 39582€**, may apply for a “Talent – salarié qualifié” residence card.

The file is to be submitted online [on the ANEF website](#) **between 4 and 2 months** before the previous residence permit expires.

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

DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

The following documents must be provided:

- Valid student residence permit: visa + confirmation of online validation of the visa, or student residence card, or “récépissé”, or “Job Search / Business Creation” (“Recherche d’Emploi / Création d’entreprise” - RECE) residence card or APS.
- 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”.
- Master’s degree or equivalent diploma obtained in France (or final examination certificate called “attestation de réussite définitive”).
- The attestation form for the employer. The form is available [on this link](#).
- 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](#).

AFTER SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

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

The person may then receive an “**attestation de prolongation d’instruction**” during the process of the residence permit request.

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 decision favorable**” is issued. This document indicates the validity period of the residence permit to be issued.

All these documents can be downloaded on the person’s ANEF 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 a 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 person has not received a text message within 2 months after the “attestation de decision favorable” was issued, he/she can write to the prefecture to ask if the residence permit is ready to be collected and/or make an appointment to collect it.

Important note

For holders of a student residence permit (except Algerian nationals): pending the notification of the decision on the application filed, they are allowed to work within the limit of 964 hours during the year of validity of their student residence card.

Once they obtain the “attestation de decision favorable”, they are not limited anymore.

Holders of a “Job Search / Business Creation” (“Recherche d’Emploi / Création d’entreprise” - RECE) residence card or APS are allowed to work full-time as long as they work in their field of studies or research and earn a gross salary of at least 1,5 times [the SMIC](#) (€2 702.70 per month in July 2025).