

## Exchange Students – Frequently Asked Questions

### Where is Rennes?

Rennes is a dynamic student city located in the North-West of France, only 2 hours by regular TGV (high-speed train) from Paris. There are direct flights to Rennes from Paris and the UK.

Rennes is the capital of Brittany, a region with a strong historical background, many tourist attractions, a strong service industry and a beautiful coastline.

For more information, see the links on the document, *Useful websites*.



### Which programmes are offered to the international students?

As long as you meet the *pre-requisites* established by ESC Rennes School of Business, you may apply for:

- Undergraduate Transfer Credit Programme.
- Postgraduate Transfer Credit Programme.

Double degrees:

- International Bachelor Programme in Management.
- Master.

You can find more details on the website: <http://www.esc-rennes.fr/index.php/en/programmes/exchange-programmes>

### Why come to ESC Rennes School of Business?

- Large selection of classes at undergraduate and postgraduate level entirely taught in English.
- International environment, faculty and staff.
- Help to find accommodation.
- Welcome service at Rennes airport or train station to take you to your lodgings.
- Beautiful area (St. Malo, Mont St-Michel, Dinard, etc).

For more information, see the links on the document, *Why Choose ESC Rennes School of Business?*

### Am I eligible to go on exchange?

Yes, if you are registered on an under or postgraduate business programme at your home university (which has signed an exchange agreement with ESC Rennes School of Business). Students pay their tuition fees directly to their home institution.

### Am I eligible for a Double Degree?

Yes, at undergraduate or postgraduate level, provided your home institution has signed a Double Degree bilateral agreement with ESC Rennes.

### How long can I stay?

One semester or one academic year. The semesters last about 4 months:

- Autumn semester: September to December.
- Spring semester: January to April/May.
- Academic year: September to April/May.

### What is the deadline for applying?

- For the fall semester: 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2013.
- For the spring semester: 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2013.
- For the academic year: 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2013.

### I wish to stay longer on exchange. What is the procedure?

The international students are welcome to stay longer at ESC Rennes School of Business provided the home university agrees with the student's request.

The application process will be the same as all the international students and will be validated by the manager of the international studies office.

### How can I choose my classes?

Once registered, you will be contacted by email 2-3 months before the start of the semester to make your on-line choice of classes.

Please note that this step is necessary if you want to get the courses you need.

### What is the grading system?

ESC Rennes School of Business uses the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

### What are the minimum credits required per course per semester?

We recommend students to take 30 ECTS credits per semester. But some students take fewer classes depending on home university requirements.

| Programme  | ECTS credits  |
|--|---------------|
| Undergraduate/IBPM classes                               | 5             |
| Postgraduate/MSc classes                                 | 6             |
| French Language class (optional)                         | 3 / semester  |
| French Culture class (optional)                          | 3 / semester  |
| International Summer programme in Responsible Management | 6 / two weeks |

30 ECTS are usually equivalent to 15 US credits or 60 UK credits.

### How are the students evaluated?

Students are given a detailed course outline at the beginning of each class (not available beforehand) where the professor(s) give the following information: learning objectives and outcomes, course description and main topics, teaching methods and bibliography, method of assessment. About 50% - 70% of the total mark = final examination. The rest of the % can be assessed on individual and / or group presentations, quizzes, case studies, etc. The final examinations always take place during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester and are compulsory for all students.

### How can I learn or improve my French?

ESC Rennes School of Business organizes an optional *Practical French for Beginners* programme before the fall semester starts. It usually takes place in the School during the 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the semester. Definitive fees are confirmed before the final deadlines.

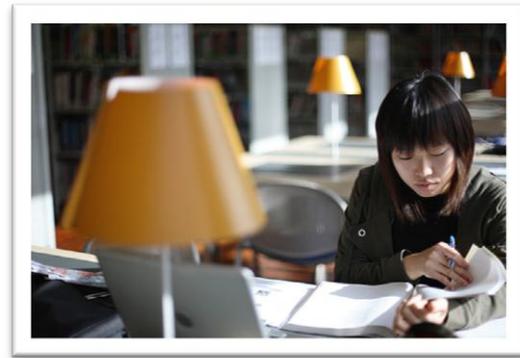
All international students have the possibility to attend courses in French Language and French Culture. These classes earn 3 ECTS credits each per semester regardless of your level of business studies. A placement test is organized on arrival in order to ascertain your level (beginners, intermediate, advanced, etc.). The French culture classes are taught in English except for the students who follow the advanced French classes.

Students also have the possibility to apply for French course outside the School: the **CIREFE** (Rennes International Center for the study of French as an international Language) offers courses exclusively for non-French speaking students. More information can be found on:

<http://www.sites.univ-rennes2.fr/cirefe/?q=en>

### Do I need to fill in a learning agreement?

When planning your study schedule in France, you should check the requirements of your home university and fill in a learning agreement. The learning agreement is a confirmation of the list of courses and makes the credit transfer easier after the study exchange. The agreement must be approved by the student, the home university and the ESC Rennes School of Business before the student's departure for an exchange. It should be updated immediately when changes occur. Please note that you might have to modify the Learning Agreement for a variety of reasons after arriving to ESC Rennes, e.g. in cases of timetable clashes and unsuitability of chosen courses (in level or content).



### Do I receive a certificate of attendance on arrival?

A certificate of attendance will be provided to the students on request, 2 weeks after the Orientation Week.

### When will the ESC Rennes send the transcript of records?

The transcript of the students is sent to the home university the week after the exam board, once all the courses have been validated.

- Fall semester: in March.
- Spring semester: in July.
- Whole academic year: in July.

A copy of the transcript can be sent to the student on request.

### When will I get my student card?

The student card is printed approximately 2 weeks after the Orientation Programme provided all the administrative duties have been completed, such as the photo session which is mandatory for all the international students so as to print the student card.

### Is there a welcome service in Rennes?

Yes, the *WellCome Team* - a student association - will help you on arrival. You will be picked-up at the train station, bus station or Rennes' airport provided you arrive during the official arrival dates. The WellCome Team will also bring you to your lodgings.



### Is there an orientation week?

Yes, it is **COMPULSORY** for all the international students, so you have to make sure you will arrive before the beginning of the Orientation Programme. The arrival dates will be confirmed to you so as to be on time.

During the Orientation Programme the Administration and WellCome teams will do their best to help you “feel at home”. Some of the events organized last year for our international students were:

- **Official registration** when you complete a maximum number of administrative duties (health insurance, Ofii enrolment, etc.), open a bank account, register to rent bicycles, get a French cell phone number, housing insurance, bus pass and train pass (12-25)...

All without leaving the comfort of the ESC Rennes School of Business!

- **Personalized training** on our intranet and configuration of your laptop computer.
- **Presentations** on living in France, care and safety, culture shock and Brittany.
- **Outings** – organized by the WellCome team - to a bowling alley, dinner in a typical Breton *creperie*, visit of St. Malo and other local tourist destinations, guided tours of Rennes, etc.

### How can I find accommodation?

ESC Rennes *Accommodation Department* will contact you by email once you have been accepted. Several options are available, such as:

- Shared flat or house.
- Independent flat / studio in a private residence.
- Private independent flat / studio.
- Home stay or lodger.
- State student hostels.

The rooms are generally furnished and equipped. We advise you to budget between 350 - 500€ per month all included.

### Is there any financial help while studying at ESC Rennes School of Business?

Only European students or non-European students with a visa “ETUDIANT” are entitled to housing allowance (called ALS), which reduces their monthly rent. The WellCome student team will help you apply during the Orientation Week.

There are no other grants but living in a city such as Rennes is cheaper than in Paris. Reductions are granted to students in transportation (bus, metro, bicycles...), entertainment (cinemas, museums, restaurants...), etc.

### How do I obtain a visa?

All non-European students must register with their nearest *CampusFrance agency* or if this does not exist in their country, the French Embassy or Consulate. For more information, please check with your nearest CampusFrance Agency, French Embassy or Consulate.

### What are my estimated expenses while studying in Rennes?

A budget is very personal and depends on your way of life. We can only give an estimated guess, which obviously will differ from one student to another:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Room   | €350 / month on average<br>+ 1-2 month's rent deposit<br>(refundable) |
| Food   | €200 / month  |
| Personal expenses                                      | €150  |
| Bus pass   | €30.30 / month  |
| Student Health Insurance                               | €207 (price for 2012/2013)  |
| Complementary Health Insurance                         | €100 / year   |
| Civil responsibility                                   | €40 / year  |
| Residence Permit<br>(for students with long-stay visa) | €55 / year  |
| <b>Average Total per month</b>                         | <b>€700 excluding travel and personal expenses</b>                    |

### Is French Health insurance compulsory?

Yes, all students are required by French law to take out the French Student Health Insurance. In 2012/2013 students paid €207. Only students from the European Community are exempt *IF* they can produce a nominative and valid EHIC card (European Health Insurance Card) for the length of their studies in Rennes.

