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COVID-19 Info Sheet France

Compiled by:
APUAF COVID-19 Committee
Last Updated: December 8 2021

INTRODUCTION

As the COVID-19 situation in France continues to evolve and the local regulations and resources adapt to new realities, the committee has updated this Info Sheet to reflect the current situation

As always, please continue to **use the many links and references in the following text to verify, confirm and update the information in these pages**, as the situation continues to change, and new information is often available soon after publication of the Info Sheet.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES SINCE LAST FACT SHEET OF OCTOBER 6, 2021:

- PCR or Antigen tests required of all travellers entering France (Except from the European Union and Schengen Area countries (including Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, and the Vatican))
- PCR or Antigen tests required of all travellers entering the US. Starting December 6, all air passengers, regardless of vaccination status, must show a negative COVID-19 test taken **no more than 1 day** before travel to the United States.
- Pass sanitaire; as of Jan. 15, 2021, a third dose of the Covid-19 vaccination (or booster) is required to have a valid pass
- Negative PCR or Antigen test results are valid for travel or as a pass sanitaire for only 24 hours
- mandatory masking in heavily dense outdoor areas by decision of the prefect
- discotheques closed for 4 weeks starting Dec. 9
- elementary schools go to Level 3 protocols

SECTION 1: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

Who is authorized to travel to France?

As of December 4, to control the spread of the virus and its variants new measures at the borders have been temporary taken.

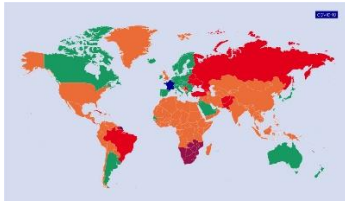
All travelers must present a negative PCR or Antigen tests 24h or 48h prior to arrival according to the country they come from.

The only exception is fully vaccinated travelers coming from the European Union and Schengen Area countries (including Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, and the Vatican)

Two main factors impact the travel restrictions:

- Whether the traveler is vaccinated or un-vaccinated
- Where the traveler is coming from: the color-coded classification according to the level of COVID in each country

Countries are listed as **Green**, **Orange/Amber**, **Red**, and **Scarlet Red**, depending on the level that COVID is circulating and the status of dangerous variants in each country. Different travel requirements are associated with each group.



Color Codes as of December 4

Green: no or little viral circulation:

- European Union and Schengen Area countries (including Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, and the Vatican), plus Argentina, Australia, Bahrein, Canada, UAE, Hong-Kong, Kuwait, Japan, Jordan, Qatar, Lebanon, New Zealand, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Korea, Taiwan, Union of Comoros, Uruguay and Vanuatu.
- **Vaccinated** travelers from following Green countries (European Union and Schengen Area countries (including Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, and the Vatican) can travel freely to France without PCR testing prior to travel. They must provide proof of full vaccination and a sworn statement that they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in contact with someone with COVID in the past 14 days.
- **Vaccinated travelers from other green countries** must provide a negative Antigen or PCR result (test taken less than 48h of boarding).
- **Non-vaccinated** travelers from the European Union and Schengen Area countries must provide a must present a negative PCR or antigen test of **less than 24 hours** prior boarding. (from Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, and the Vatican included)

Orange/Amber: a moderate and "controlled" level of viral circulation:

- All countries that are not currently classified as "Green" or "Red", including the U.K and the United States.
- **Vaccinated** travelers from Orange countries must present a negative PCR or antigen test less than 48h prior to boarding. *24h from the UK. They must provide proof of full vaccination and a sworn statement that they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in contact with someone with COVID in the past 14 days.
- **Non-vaccinated** travelers must adhere to the following requirements to travel:
 - A compelling reason for travel to France (see list below)
 - A recent negative test result (PCR or antigen within 48h to 24h of boarding. If you are travelling from the United Kingdom and are not vaccinated, you must present a negative PCR or antigenic test taken less than **24 hours prior to departure**.
 - Must provide a sworn statement they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in the presence of someone with COVID in the past 14 days.
 - Random Covid testing upon arrival at the airport
 - Self-isolation for 7 days & statement swearing to take another PCR test at the end of the isolation period.
- Compelling reasons that allow **non-vaccinated** travelers to enter France include (among others):
 - Students registered at an institution of higher ed for programs in France of over 90 days.
 - Researcher (and family) coming to France at the invitation of a research lab for work that must be done in person.
 - Travelers in transit through France for under 24 hours in international zones

Red: a high level of virus circulation and of COVID variants - travel is discouraged:

- Afghanistan, Belorussia, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Georgia, Moldavia, Montenegro, Pakistan, Russia, Serbia, Surinam, Turkey, and Ukraine.
- **Vaccinated** travelers from Red countries must present a negative PCR or antigen Covid test less than 48h prior to travel. They must provide proof of full vaccination and a sworn statement that they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in contact with someone with COVID in the past 14 days.
- **Non-vaccinated** travelers must adhere to the following requirements to travel:
 - A compelling reason for travel to France

- A recent negative test result (PCR or antigen within 48h)
- Systematic COVID testing upon arrival at the airport
- Quarantine for 10 days under supervision by authorities

Scarlet Red: High level of virus circulation and of highly new transmissible variant.

- South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Namibia, Eswatini, Zambia, Mauritius Island
- Vaccinated and unvaccinated travelers from Scarlet red countries must adhere to the following requirements to travel:
 - A compelling reason for travel to France
 - A recent negative test result (PCR within 48h or Antigen within 24h)
 - Systematic COVID testing upon arrival at the airport
 - Quarantine for 10 days under supervision by authorities

Websites where details and updates can be found:

<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel>

What is required to travel from the U.S. to France?

The U.S. is currently coded as an **Orange/Amber** country.

Travelers who are **VACCINATED**:

- Must show proof of complete vaccination cycle
- [Must present a negative PCR or antigen test less than 48h prior to boarding](#)
- Must provide a sworn statement they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in the presence of someone with COVID in the past 14 days. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel> and <https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/venir-en-france-informations-aux-etudiants-et-chercheurs-internationaux>

Travelers who are **NOT VACCINATED**:

- Must show a PCR or Antigen negative test result less than 48 hours max before flight departure
- Must provide a sworn statement they don't have COVID symptoms and haven't been in the presence of someone with COVID in the past 14 days. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel> and <https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/venir-en-france-informations-aux-etudiants-et-chercheurs-internationaux>
- Must commit to taking an Antigen test upon arrival
- Must swear to self-isolate for 7 days and follow up with a PCR test at the end of the self-isolation period
- Must have a compelling reason to enter France (see page 1)

Engagement sur l'honneur :



The sworn "Statement of Honor" template can be found here: <https://mobile.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel>

Vaccinations that are accepted for entry into France: **Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca** and **Johnson & Johnson**
<https://www.ema.europa.eu/covid-19-vaccines> and <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/>

Proof of vaccination must be produced and must attest to a full vaccination

- One can travel 1 week (7 days) after the second injection for Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca
- One can travel 2 weeks after the single injection for those who have recovered from COVID
- One can travel 4 weeks (28 days) after the injection of J&J

Student Visas

The Campus France FAQ gives detailed information concerning the current status for U.S. students and non-U.S. students coming to France from the U.S. <https://www.usa.campusfrance.org/covid-19-faqs>

- Students traveling to France for short-term programs of under 90 days do not need a visa if they are U.S. citizens (regardless of vaccination status). Non-US-citizens should verify whether or not they need a short-stay visa.
- Students traveling to France for longer programs of over 90 days must [apply for a student visa](#).

All VFS Centers in the U.S. are open and accepting student visa appointments for students planning to study in France. French Consulates continue their service of delivering visas to international students enrolled in studies in France. https://france-visas.gouv.fr/en_US/web/france-visas/welcome-page

Leaving France & entering the United States

France requires all passengers leaving the EU to comply with the restrictions for international travel which are based on the color classification of the country of destination. Starting December 6, all air passengers, regardless of vaccination status, must show a negative COVID-19 test taken **no more than 1 day** before travel to the United States.

Vaccinated persons wishing to leave France to travel to a country outside the EU that is currently classified as **Orange/Amber** must have a compelling reason for their trip. They are advised to inquire about entry requirements and/or restrictions in the country of destination.

Non vaccinated persons wishing to leave France to travel to a country outside the EU that is currently classified as **Orange/Amber** must fill out the Certificate to leave Metropolitan France and must provide a compelling reason for their trip. U.S. citizens and residents will not be prevented from leaving French territory. Travelers wishing to go to an Orange/Amber country should inquire about entry requirements before departure. <https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Certificate-of-international-travel>

Certificate to leave Metropolitan France :



- As November of 8, the United States permit entry from persons coming from the European Schengen Area who are not U.S. citizens. Details and exceptions listed here: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/requirements-for-air-travelers-to-the-us.html>
- This order applies to all air passengers, 2 years of age or older, travelling into the U.S., including U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.
- Test must be a viral test (NAAT or antigen test). The CDC offers here a checklist of tests and/or documents necessary for air travel to the US:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html#general>

Upon entry in the U.S., the [CDC recommends](#), but does not currently require:

For **Vaccinated** Travelers

- Getting a new COVID test 3-5 days after travel & self-monitoring for COVID symptoms

For **non-vaccinated** Travelers

- Getting a new COVID test 3-5 days after travel, and a self-quarantine period of 7 days or 10-day quarantine if you do not get tested upon return.
- Self-monitoring for COVID symptoms & avoiding people at increased risk of illness for 14 days.

Travelers should look into local and state recommendations or requirements in the U.S. by accessing this travel planner: [CDC COVID Travel Planner](#)

SECTION 2: HEALTH SERVICE ACCESS & CAPACITY

Access to protective equipment (masks, gloves, gel)

All pharmacies and most grocery chains in France currently have low priced equipment available.

- **Disposable surgical masks** are available at approximately 15 to 25 cents each.
- Certified 'Grand Public' **re-usable masks** cost about 2 euros each and come in 2 different categories: Category 1 masks filter approximately 90% of particles and Category 2 masks filter 70%. Annex 3 of the National Protocol for Staying Healthy & Safe at Work states that only official PPE, surgical masks or Category 1 masks should be worn in public. [National Workplace Protocol \(French\)](#)
- **Disinfectant gel** costs about 10-12 euros per liter. There are also public gel dispensers (free) in some cities in France, and almost all places of business have gel dispensers available for customer use.
- France currently has sufficient **protective gloves** available for the general public.

Self-isolation and/or quarantine period – unvaccinated travelers

There is an obligatory self-isolation period of 7 days for the arrival of the following unvaccinated travelers:

- 7 days of self-isolation+recognized [compelling reason for travel](#) + negative PCR test taken no more than 24 hours prior to travel or negative antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to travel + random antigen testing upon arrival at port of entry for non-vaccinated people coming into France from an **Orange/Amber** country.
- 10 days of quarantine, under supervision of authorities + [compelling reason for travel](#) + negative PCR or antigen test taken no more than 48 hours prior to travel and antigen test taken upon arrival at port of entry for unvaccinated people coming into France from a **Red** country.

The state health insurance website, [Ameli.fr](#) gives detailed advice (in French) for limiting contact with others and keeping living conditions clean during self-isolation.

Access to health care & hospitalization

- The platform [mesconseilscovid.sante.gouv.fr](#) allows anyone with symptoms to obtain within 3 minutes personalized advice as to how to proceed (for treatment, testing, etc.) and how to protect oneself and others.
- Web-based platforms and apps such as <https://www.doctolib.fr/>, <https://vitemadose.covidtracker.fr/> allow students to book medical appointments, PCR tests and vaccination appointments across the country with ease. Video consultations and in-person appointments with general practitioners are readily available as early as same day.
- Same day house-calls are also available in most French cities (through services such as SOS Médecins or UMP). <https://www.sosmedecins.fr/> and <https://www.ump.fr/>
- Students have access to all French public hospitals where there is a dedicated space for COVID patients.
- **French Hospitals are currently at 43% capacity (on Dec 7, 2021)** for intensive care/reanimation beds. Statistics can be tracked here: <https://dashboard.covid19.data.gouv.fr/vue-d-ensemble?location=FRA>

Access to testing

For costs: <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A15235>

Saliva Test: Covid-19 saliva tests are not for sale to the general public but widely used in primary and secondary schools as well as universities.

Antigen Test: Available in pharmacies, airports, done onsite. Rapid results. Fee charged: approximately 25 euros. Patients on French National Health can access for free only if prescribed for medical reasons (not travel or other). If results are positive, patients are asked to confirm with a PCR test.

PCR test: done by appointment in certified laboratories. Free if prescribed for medical reasons by health care professional for those on French National Health. <https://www.sante.fr/coronavirus-covid-19-questions-et-reponses-sur-les-tests-de-depistage>

Immunity Test (blood test) available in France to determine if patients has developed immunity to COVID. These tests are administered mostly in labs and require a prescription. Cost: approximately 20 euros per test.

Steps to take for testing

Precise procedures have been put in place for different case scenarios. Details can be found and downloaded here: [Steps to Take to be Tested](#)

- I don't present any symptoms and I would like to be tested: no prescription needed, PCR results within approximately 24h, Antigen test results in 15-30 min. Fee for test whether on French National Health or not.
- I have symptoms: specific protocol for testing to avoid contact with others during testing and until results are in. Those on French National Health need prescription for free test, PCR results within approximately 24h, Antigen results in 15-30 min.
- I have been in contact with a person who has tested positive: Antigen or PCR test available. Those on French National Health need prescription for free test.
- A specific function is available through the website & application [Doctolib.fr](#) to locate the testing center or lab closest to you with the earliest available appointments for a test.
- Students who don't have French National Health have total access to testing but need to pay for the test and submit to their personal health insurance after if COVID testing is covered by their insurance policy.

Tracking

All COVID patients must provide a local doctor with the list of people with whom they have been in touch within 48 hours of the first symptoms. Medical authorities will contact every person on that list and require testing (see above).

Anyone who has been in contact with someone who has tested positive must follow a specific protocol <https://www.ameli.fr/paris/assure/covid-19/comprendre-le-covid-19-se-proteger/en-cas-de-contact-avec-une-personne-malade-du-covid-19> This link also contains the specific protocol if one has been exposed to the Omicron variant.

If you are not vaccinated and/or are immunocompromised:

- Wear a certified mask at all times when in contact with others, isolate immediately.
- Take an antigen test immediately. If negative, stay isolated 7 days after the last contact with the COVID patient if you do not live with the person in question, 17 days after the first symptoms of the COVID patient in question if you live with them.
- After 7 days (or 17 days), take a PCR or antigen test
- Stay in quarantine until the test results are in
- **Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 10 days (obligatory by law)** after signs of first symptoms, or if asymptomatic, after test date. <https://www.ameli.fr>

If you are fully vaccinated and not immune-compromised, you should:

- Follow the same instructions above concerning testing and follow-up testing
- You are not required to self-isolate, but must respect social distancing, hand washing, and mask wearing in public.

Vaccinations

France's vaccination strategy: <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/vaccins>

- Obligatory vaccination in certain professional sectors including health care and those in contact with vulnerable populations
- Vaccination open to all adults and minors over 12 years old.
- Booster vaccinations currently open to all adults over 18 years of age whose last COVID vaccination or infection dates from five months ago.
- Booster vaccination campaigns in retirement homes and for those over 80 living at home: dedicated phone number **0800 730 957**

[Vaccination Dashboard](#)

People who have been vaccinated are still required to follow all COVID-19 protocols in private and public spaces, in workplaces and in schools.

La dose de rappel : POUR QUI, QUAND ET OÙ ?

Le rappel vaccinal est administré :

- dès 8 mois après votre dernière injection, ou votre infection Covid-19 si celle-ci est survenue après votre vaccination ;
- à partir de 3 mois pour les personnes sévèrement immunodéprimées sur avis médical.

Mon âge	Ma situation	Pfizer-BioNTech	Moderna
12 à 17 ans inclus	Je suis immunodéprimé, j'ai une pathologie à haut risque ou une comorbidité	<p>✓</p> <p>Je reçois une dose de rappel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Médecin traitant (généraliste ou spécialiste) • À l'hôpital/lieu d'apprentissage • Pharmacie • Cabinet infirmier ou sage-femme • Chirurgien-dentiste • Laboratoire de biologie médicale • Centre de vaccination • Mon lieu de soin 	
	Dans toutes les autres situations	<p>→ Pour l'instant, je ne suis pas éligible au rappel</p>	
18 à 29 ans inclus	Quelle que soit ma situation	<p>✓</p> <p>Je reçois une dose de rappel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Médecin traitant (généraliste ou spécialiste) • Médecin du travail/Service de santé universitaire • Pharmacie • Cabinet infirmier ou sage-femme • Chirurgien-dentiste • Laboratoire de biologie médicale • Centre de vaccination • Mon lieu de soin 	
30 ans et plus	Quelle que soit ma situation	<p>✓</p> <p>Je reçois une dose de rappel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Médecin traitant (généraliste ou spécialiste) • Médecin du travail/Service de santé universitaire • Pharmacie • Cabinet infirmier ou sage-femme • Chirurgien-dentiste • Laboratoire de biologie médicale • Centre de vaccination • Mon lieu de soin 	<p>✓</p> <p>Je reçois une dose de rappel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Médecin traitant (généraliste ou spécialiste) • Médecin du travail/Service de santé universitaire • Pharmacie • Cabinet infirmier ou sage-femme • Chirurgien-dentiste • Laboratoire de biologie médicale • Centre de vaccination • Mon lieu de soin

• Le rappel vaccinal se fait uniquement avec un vaccin à ARNm (Pfizer-BioNTech ou Moderna), quel que soit le ou les vaccin(s) utilisé(s) précédemment. Le vaccin Pfizer-BioNTech est recommandé pour les personnes de moins de 30 ans.
 • Pour les personnes ayant eu le Covid-19 avant leur injection de vaccin Janssen, la dose de rappel se fait 1 mois après la dose reçue.
 • Pour les personnes ayant eu le Covid après leur injection de Janssen, 2 situations :
 - Si l'infection moins de 15 jours après l'injection : les personnes reçoivent une dose supplémentaire de vaccin ARNm 4 semaines après l'infection. Elles sont éligibles au rappel vaccinal dès 5 mois après cette dose supplémentaire.
 - Si l'infection plus de 15 jours après l'injection : les personnes n'ont pas besoin de compléter leur schéma vaccinal avec une dose supplémentaire. Elles sont éligibles au rappel dès 5 mois après l'infection.

Pour connaître la liste des situations particulières et toutes les modalités de vaccination, rendez-vous sur : www.solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/publics-prioritaires-vaccin-covid-19

version 12 novembre 2021

SECTION 3: RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO COVID-19

Current situation

All sectors of business, culture and society are open, with obligatory conditions concerning protocols and obligatory masks indoors.

The main restriction in place today concerns the Pass Sanitaire and the obligation to show the pass to enter establishments and gatherings where large numbers of people share space.

Pass Sanitaire (Health Pass or Green Pass)

What is the Pass Sanitaire?

The "Pass Sanitaire" or "Health Pass" is simply a paper or digital proof of protection from COVID-19. It consists of showing one of the following: <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/pass-sanitaire>

- Proof of full vaccination (7 days after final dose of AstraZenica, Moderna and Pfizer within France, 7 days for travel within the EU and for anyone recovered from COVID with 1 dose, 28 days after J&J)
<https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14896>

N.B. As of January 15, 2022 proof of full vaccination will include the “booster shot”

A negative self-test taken under professional supervision (not valid for cross-border EU travel), PCR or Antigen test of less than 24h

A positive PCR test more than 11 days and less than 6 months old, or other official proof of recovery from COVID

Required Eligibility: The Pass Sanitaire is required for anyone 12 years old and over.

Exemptions due to medical reasons

For those who have a medical reason impeding them from being vaccinated, a doctor's certificate can be established as an alternative to the Pass Sanitaire and used to enter all restricted areas. <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A15102>

The following reasons are the only accepted exemptions to not being vaccinated:

- Allergy to one of the components of the vaccination
- A grade 2 minimum anaphylactic reaction to the first dose of the vaccination
- Episodes of capillary leak syndrome
- Episodes of thrombotic and thrombocytopenic syndrome
- Post-COVID PIMS (Pediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome)
- A conclusion agreed upon by a medical committee that symptoms experienced after a first dose of the vaccination were too serious for a second dose

And two temporary counter-indications:

- Monoclonal antibody treatment against COVID
- Actively evolving myocarditis or pericarditis post vaccination

When and how do you use a Pass Sanitaire?

The Pass Sanitaire is required under the following conditions. Users must present either a paper form or a digital form of the pass to access any restricted event or venue:

- Since July 21, it is required in order to enter cultural venues or events with more than 50 people including concerts, museums, theatres, cinemas, etc.
- Since August 9, it is required for airplane and long-distance train/bus travel as well as cafes, restaurants, gyms, certain shopping centers and medical facilities.
- The Pass Sanitaire also allows access to travel throughout the European Union.
- Here is a detailed list (in French) of all places in France where the pass is required: <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/actualites/A14896>
- <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/pass-sanitaire>
- <https://www.gouvernement.fr/pass-sanitaire-toutes-les-reponses-a-vos-questions>

How do you get a Pass Sanitaire?

In France, vaccination and all test results are delivered with an official document that serves as the Pass Sanitaire. A QR code on that document allows users to scan their proof or results to the TousAntiCOVID app (see below under “Tools”) to produce a digital form of the pass.

Pass Sanitaire for non-locals

At the end of August, the French government announced the official procedure for vaccinated travelers from outside of the European Union to access and use the Pass Sanitaire. The following online platform manages the conversion of proof of vaccination into French/EU QR codes/passes for foreign students: <https://www.demarches-simplifiees.fr/commencer/passe-sanitaire-etudiants> .

For non-student travellers, the health pass can be obtained in a pharmacy for 36€ with proof of your vaccination and your passport. A map with the names of addresses of pharmacies that will convert to the pass sanitaire are listed here: <https://www.sante.fr/how-to-obtain-a-french-health-pass>

Please note that this conversion can only take place if the traveler can provide proof of full vaccination with EU approved vaccines : **Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson** (<https://www.ema.europa.eu/covid-19-vaccines>).

If a vaccinated individual has not had his/her/their proof of vaccination recognized by French/EU authorities, entry into places where the health pass is required will be contingent upon showing negative PCR or Antigen test results within 24h.

Tools

In addition to consulting the general government websites that communicate all essential information concerning the virus and restrictions, everyone is asked to download the app **TousAntiCovid**, which serves several functions:

- **Tracking:** the app alerts users if they are in close contact with a Covid patient
- **Information:** the app publishes the daily stats concerning the virus
-
- **Testing:** the app can be used to locate the nearest testing center
- **Pass Sanitaire:** the app generates a digital version of the Pass Sanitaire by storing the QR code found on vaccination certificates and COVID test results acquired in France.

This app which uses Bluetooth technology for tracking and does not share personal identification information. Use of the app for everyone, including COVID patients, is voluntary. [TOUS ANTI COVID Tracking App](#)



The French government has put in place a **24/7 hotline** (in French only) to respond to any questions concerning COVID-19 (health, regulations, workplace, social services, legal, civil, childcare and education, travel and leisure activities, etc.). A WhatsApp group managed by the government provides an additional Q&A source for anyone who wishes to join: [WhatsApp with Government](#)



Wearing Masks

Wearing masks outdoors is not required, except in crowded places such as in stadiums, long lines, markets, etc. Some areas of France (regions or departments) have re-instated mask requirements in certain outdoor spaces such as parks and beaches. Masks are mandatory and extended to all outdoor public places with a high density of people or in areas where people gather, by decision of the prefect. Travelers should consult local resources and authorities for details. <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F35351>

It is still mandatory to wear a mask indoors and in public transportation, even when vaccinated, even when the pass sanitaire is required.

[How to Wear a Mask.](#)

[Information concerning masks.](#)

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/gestes-barrieres>

Schools

Schools across metropolitan France started the school year entirely in person. The detailed Covid protocol for schools for the 2021-2022 school year was published July 28th here (in French):

<https://www.education.gouv.fr/annee-scolaire-2021-2022-protocole-sanitaire-et-mesures-de-fonctionnement-324257>

Schools are following 4 scenarios depending on the health situation at the beginning of the school year:

- Level 1/Green level: 100% in person classes and physical education activities inside and/or outside;
- Level 2/Yellow level: 100% in person classes but physical education activities primarily outside and if inside, 2 meters distance to be respected;
- Level 3/Orange Level: hybrid instruction in high schools; physical education activities only to be conducted outside, if inside because of poor weather, only activities where masks can be worn are authorized;
- Level 4/Red: hybrid instruction in high schools as well as 3e & 4e class in middle schools; outside physical education activities are authorized if distance of 2 meters between students and no indoor activities allowed.

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus>

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/gestes-barrieres>

Higher Education

Frédérique Vidal, the Minister of Higher Education in France, had announced before the school year started that institutions of higher education would re-open for a 100% in-person academic year 2021/2022.

On December 6, 2021 the government announced a Level 3 of the health protocol in elementary school (mandatory wearing of masks in the playground and limitation of mixing in the canteen and of high-intensity sports activities indoors).

The rule of closing the class for a period of 7 days from the first positive case no longer applies to elementary school since the week of November 29: students who test negative within 24 hours can continue to attend class.

Middle school students from the 6th grade on who have a complete vaccination schedule can continue to attend classes. Non-vaccinated students must attend classes from home during the isolation period.

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus>

The Ministry authorizes French institutions of higher education to organize classes as they see fit, either in-person and/or remote, but they recommend that priority be given to face to face instruction, in particular for discussion sections (“travaux dirigés”). Priority should also be given to the in-person instruction of 1st year and international students.

COVID mitigation techniques and social distancing are still to be maintained within all university spaces and the Ministry asked that all institutions put into place vaccination strategies and centers prior to the start of classes and to continue to make self-tests available to students.

The “pass sanitaire” is not currently required to attend school or university classes but is required for participation in extra-curricular activities (club sports, various student associations, events on campus, etc.).

Several official government websites give detail concerning academic and campus life during the COVID crisis.

- [Ministry of Higher Education general Covid info](#)
- Official student life website : Préparer ma rentrée 2021 : <https://www.etudiant.gouv.fr/fr/rentree2021>



International Students: International students continue to be welcomed into France provided they satisfy the French government's current conditions of coming to France for participation in a short-term program or semester program (over 90 days). International students currently in France can apply for and/or renew residency permits, online, thus avoiding the previously obligatory in person appointment at the *prefecture*. ([Campus France Stay Permit Renewal info](#)).

<https://www.campusfrance.org/en/renew-residency-permit>

Workplaces

The government last updated workplace sanitary protocol on Nov. 29, 2021:

<https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/protocole-nationale-sante-securite-en-entreprise.pdf>.

Employers are still encouraged to ensure frequent ventilation of enclosed areas of the workplace, to permit employees to miss work for vaccination and to make antigen auto-tests available to employees for voluntary use. Working from home is no longer required as of June 9, and employers can set a number of days for working in the office and at home.

On December 6th, 2021, the government recommended:

- Implementing 2-3 days of telecommuting per week when possible.
- Limiting face-to-face meetings.
- Postponement of greeting ceremonies, farewell parties, etc.
- <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus>

Working remotely is no longer required and employers can require employees to resume activity at the workplace at 100%. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/qv-teletravail-deconfinement.pdf>

- Physical distancing (at least 1 meter between individuals and/or workstations, and **2 meters during coffee breaks and/or meals**)
- Obligatory mask wearing (in closed and/or shared spaces) and the responsibility of the employer to provide masks. **Only Category 1 cloth/fabric masks or disposable medical/surgical masks are authorized.**
- The promotion of regular, thorough handwashing
- Regular mechanical or manual ventilation of the premises
- Routine disinfecting at least once a day of all surfaces and objects
- Meetings should still take place virtually when possible but if in person, physical distancing recommendations (1 meter between individuals) should be respected. Moments of “conviviality” are authorized if there are no more than 25 people involved, the *gestes barrières* are respected and that the event takes place preferably outside.
- Management of the flow of people to avoid excessive crowding and crossing of individuals

Employees are instructed to stay at home should they develop Covid symptoms or if they have recently been in contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus and they are a high risk contact person (non-vaccinated and/or immunocompromised). **Obligatory temperature checks or PCR tests** at the workplace are not authorized.

Gatherings, Socializing & Cultural Activities

There are no longer any capacity limits in place for socializing in a group in public or in private. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/questions-reponses#derogations>
[Discotheques are closed for 4 weeks starting Dec. 9th](https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/questions-reponses#derogations). On the link below follow the evolving situation for Christmas markets, outdoor events, restaurants, and bars.
<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/loisirs>

Associated fines for not adhering to protocols

A **fine of 135 euros** may be applied in the event of non-compliance with COVID protocols such as wearing masks <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F35351>. Repeat offenders can be fined up to **3,750 euros** and could risk 6 months of prison, community service, drivers' license suspension of up to 3 years maximum.

Local travel restrictions

Everyone **residing in France** must adhere to a few French regulations concerning mobility. The current situation allows and requires the following:

In France

- There are no restrictions for travel within continental France.
- For travelers to Corsica, a declaration of honor must be completed by passengers which must be printed and signed, will be required upon boarding by the transport company. Passengers must have completed a PCR test 72 hours before departure (or antigenic test, 48h before departure) or proof of complete vaccination. <https://www.prefectures-regions.gouv.fr/corse/Documents-publications/Salle-de-presse/Communique-de-presse/Covid-19-nouvelles-dispositions-applicables-avant-l-arrivee-en-Corse>
- For travelers to French overseas territories and departments, information concerning travel restrictions can be found here: <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/outre-mer>

[International Mobility Information](#)
[Advice for Foreign Nationals in France](#)

Further information is also available on the European Union website: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/FRA>

Sports and exercise

The Ministry of Sports last updated safety protocols: <https://www.sports.gouv.fr/pratiques-sportives/covid19/Decisions-sanitaires-applicables-au-sport-a-partir-du-30-septembre-2021>

Student Support

The Ministry of Higher Education & Research established during the 2020-2021 academic year a student mental health support website (with an English Language version) that compiles all the contacts and services related to mental health support for students during the COVID-19 crisis. The website covers all regions of France, and in addition to mental health support also serves as a resource for information about financial support, student housing, and health care. <https://www.soutien-etudiant.info/>

In addition, the government created in 20-21 a mental health care package (a "chèque psy") to allow students in psychological distress access to free mental health support that they have renewed for 2021-22: <https://santepsy.etudiant.gouv.fr/>

Several Hotlines and free resources are available to students:

- A free 24/7 hotline monitored by the Association SPS (*Soins aux Professionnels de Santé*) for students has been opened and can be reached here: 0 805 23 23 36 <https://www.asso-sps.fr/>
- <https://www.nightline.fr/paris>, a student proposed/supported hotline to support peers (non-professional) is available everyday between 9pm to 2:30am: +33 1 88 32 12 32
- The BAPU (*Bureaux d'aide psychologique universitaires*) have psychologists, psychotherapists and psychiatrists available to students in need. Addresses and contact information can be found here: <https://www.etudiant.gouv.fr/fr/besoin-d-une-aide-psychologique-1297>
- **SOS Amitié** at +33 9 72 39 40 50 (24/7 in French),
- **SOS Help** +33 1 46 21 46 46 (3pm-11pm, in English)
- **Fil Santé Jeunes** at +33 800 235 236 (9am to 11pm for ages 12-25).

[Ameli](#) has a list of additional resources.

City websites also list support specifically aimed to help the students studying there. Examples:

- In Paris: <https://www.paris.fr/pages/confinement-les-dispositifs-pour-les-etudiants-15717>
- In Strasbourg: <https://www.strasbourg.gouv.fr/etudiants/-/aide-pour-les-etudiants-du-territoire-covid19>
- In Aix en Provence: <https://www.aixenprovence.fr/Etudiants-vos-dispositifs-d-urgence>

On April 15, the government announced a special provision for 10 free sessions with a psychologist for children and adolescents between the ages of 3 and 17. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/forfait-100-psy-enfants-10-seances-sans-avance-de-frais>

ADDITIONAL LINKS & GENERAL RESOURCES

An English summary of information concerning the current situation in France, mobility, visas, testing, etc. can be found here: <https://fr.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>

For information concerning every country in the European Union, and for details on all aspects of the Covid-19 crisis in Europe, see the following website: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en/>. And for information specifically for France: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en/map/FRA>

For current information, including health recommendations and measures, from the French government on the COVID-19 situation in France, see the following website: [Main COVID-19 Government Website](https://www.gouvernement.fr/covid-19)

PRATIQUANTS DE LOISIR ET DE COMPETITION	
Haut niveau* et professionnel * athlètes inscrits sur les listes ministérielles Elite, Séniors, Relèves	Obligation du Pass sanitaire pour les sportifs qui pratiquent dans les ERP intérieurs (ERP X) et de plein air (ERP PA). Exemption* pour les compétitions et manifestations sportives (en dehors des ERP) soumises à une procédure de déclaration ou d'autorisation.
Mineurs de plus de 12 ans	Obligation du Pass sanitaire en ERP X et ERP PA sauf pour les activités non soumises à déclaration ou autorisation préfectorale organisées dans l'espace public. Pas de limitation de participants (sauf arrêté préfectoral) quel que soit le lieu de pratique (ERP X, ERP PA, espace public). Toutes pratiques autorisées. Les jeunes qui auront 12 ans en cours d'année disposeront d'un délai de 2 mois pour présenter leur Pass sanitaire.
Majeurs	Obligation du Pass sanitaire en ERP X et ERP PA sauf pour les activités non soumises à déclaration ou autorisation préfectorale organisées dans l'espace public. Pas de limitation de participants (sauf arrêté préfectoral) quel que soit le lieu de pratique (ERP X, ERP PA, espace public). Toutes pratiques autorisées.
SPORT SCOLAIRE, UNIVERSITAIRE	
Mineurs et majeurs	Exemption du Pass sanitaire pour les élèves (majeurs ou mineurs) et leurs enseignants dans tous les lieux d'enseignement de l'EPS habituels : piscines, gymnases... Dans le respect des protocoles sanitaires en vigueur (types de pratiques adaptés au niveau de circulation du virus).

Sont assimilés à des ERP X ou PA, les « ERP alpha-dépendants » et les « ERP par destination ». Les ERP « alpha-dépendants » : il s'agit d'équipements assimilés à des ERP de type PA, aménagés le cas échéant dans les conditions fixées par la réglementation ERP de droit commun, qui ont vocation à être désinstallés à l'issue de l'événement. C'est un cas de figure assez classique que nous rencontrons lors d'événements sportifs par obligation soumise à déclaration et/ou autorisation.
Les ERP « par destination » : il s'agit de bâtiments, locaux ou enceintes, qui ne sont pas répertoriés comme ERP, dont la fréquentation est nécessaire à la mise en place des activités de plein air ou de plein air, sans que l'activité, organisée par un établissement d'enseignement physique et sportive (EAPS), ne s'y déroule forcément. Il s'agit d'un lieu de rendez-vous ou d'accueil, d'un lieu de stockage de matériel ou de produits.
* Exemption non applicable si les sportifs de haut niveau ou professionnels concourent simultanément avec des sportifs amateurs. Dans ce cas le Pass sanitaire est imposé à tous.
Pour mettre en œuvre le Pass Sanitaire : <https://www.gouvernement.fr/pass-sanitaire-toutes-les-reponses-a-vos-questions>



<https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus>

Access to daily communiqués with daily statistics and key messages: [Daily Communiqués by French Government](https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/official-statements)
<https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/official-statements>

Official website dedicated to Student Life in the French universities: www.etudiant.gouv.fr

Timeline of government actions [French Government Actions](#)