

# France: Montpellier-Sister Cities year-long exchange

## Exchange Program – Montpellier, France

### Program Summary

The Montpellier, France year-long exchange is a collaboration between UofL, Université Paul Valéry (also known as Montpellier III) in France, Sister Cities of Louisville, Inc., and the Mayor's Office of International Relations in Montpellier.

Applications are welcomed from UofL students with an interest in French culture and language. Applications may come from any academic discipline; however, this is a French language program and *all courses are conducted in French*. Exchange participants spend two semesters studying in Montpellier and are expected to return to the University of Louisville to resume their studies.

### Program Duration:

Early September to June. Students should arrive by the end of the first week of September for preparatory activities prior to the start of classes and plan to not leave before the end of June. This is a study and work program, as the students receive a monthly stipend to help with room and board expenses from the International Relations office in Montpellier for ten (10) months.

### Exchange includes:

- Waiver of tuition at PVU
- Stipend to help cover room and board expenses (paid in France).

General information on IEFÉ at Université Paul Valéry and course listings are available at the International Center and at [Université Paul Valéry website](#).

**Application deadline:** February 15

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicants must have completed thirty (30) semester hours of college courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or better at the time of the award.
- They must have completed courses in French through the intermediate level with a grade point average of at least 3.2. The participant will be studying intensive French courses and, depending on placement exam results, will study subject area courses/attend lectures in French.

- Applicants must have completed thirty (30) semester hours of college courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or better at the time of the award.
- The exchange period is for ten months (September through mid-July). The exchange student will study in Montpellier for one academic year (i.e., from October to mid-June) and also work in the Office of International Relations of the city of Montpellier.
- Students are expected to arrive in Montpellier by the end of the first week of September for placement exams and to register for classes.
- The participant will be studying intensive French courses and, depending on placement exam results, will study subject area courses/attend lectures in French.

**To apply, submit the following materials to the Office of Study Abroad & International Travel by February 15:**

- The application form (available at the International Center, Brodschi Hall). This includes a detailed budget for the program.
- Complete transcripts beyond the secondary level.
- Two letters of recommendation. At least one letter must be from a professor of French.
- A 750 word statement of purpose that outlines the proposed course of study, the applicant's qualifications, as well as educational objectives to be achieved by studying in France. In addressing his or her qualifications, the applicant should include a discussion of career goals, work experience, special skills or licenses, foreign language proficiency and foreign and domestic travel experience.

The period of study in France should contribute to the field of study or career that the applicant intends to pursue upon his or her return. Applicants should demonstrate the ability to conduct themselves in both interpersonal academic situations to the credit of the University of Louisville, Sister Cities of Louisville, and the United States.

Application materials can be picked up and returned to:

**Virginia Hosono  
International Center  
Office of Study Abroad and International Travel  
101 Brodschi Hall  
University of Louisville  
Louisville, KY 40292**

## Financial Matters for Start of Program

- Students will have to be prepared to cover expenses averaging 1,600 Euros within their first few days in Montpellier.
  - These funds will be needed to cover insurance, student fees, housing and the housing deposit.
- Students will also need a visa to study in France, which is obtained through contacts with Campus France and the French Consulate in the US prior to their departure.
- Once they get to France, they will need to get a “Carte de Sejour” (residence permit) as well.
- As part of the required documentation, students will have to demonstrate that they have sufficient funds for the academic year in Montpellier --usually a statement from the bank will suffice.
  - The estimated amount on the Campus France website is 800 Euros a month (x 10 months = 8,000 Euros).
  - Since exchange students will receive a stipend of 5,000 Euros and this is documented in their U of L acceptance letter, they will only have to get a letter from the bank stating that they have an additional 3,000 Euros.