

DU PEPS and DU Sorbonne Alliance (University Access Diploma)

The University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne offers 2 programs for students in exile.

The DU PEPS and the DU Sorbonne Alliance are accessible to anyone with a refugee status, asylum seeker or subsidiary protection who is willing to resume higher education in France and at the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. The 2 programs run from September 14th 2026 to the end of May 2027 (following the academic year and the university calendar).

- **The DU PEPS** offers classes in French as a foreign language from the B1 (intermediate) level to the B2 (independent user) level as well as methodology classes, the teaching of another foreign language and group work. You must have completed the A2 level in French (writing and speaking skills) to be accepted.
- **The DU Sorbonne Alliance** offers classes in French as a foreign language from the A2 (elementary user) level to the B1 (intermediate) level as well as methodology classes. You must have completed the A1 level in French (writing and speaking skills) to be accepted.

If you want to apply to one of them you must:

- Have reached an A1+ level in French (for DU Sorbonne Alliance) or an A2+ level in French (for DU PEPS).
- Be minimum 18 years of age
- Hold A-levels (or equivalent level qualifications from your country / Baccalauréat / see Enic Naric for equivalence)
- Have a refugee status, be an asylum seeker or benefit from subsidiary protection or temporary protection
- Fill in the form online: <https://reseau-mens.org/candidater-a-une-formation-du-passerelle-en-ile-de-france/>

The 2 programs offer:

- 17.5 hours of French classes per week (classes are from Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 1pm) = mandatory
- + 1.5h of English per week (only for DU PEPS) + 2h theater workshop (both DU) + 2h musical culture workshop per week (both DU) = mandatory
- Take the TCF (+ preparation) at the end of the academic year in May
- No tuition fees (TCF free of charge)
- You must be available for all the classes and have time to study: presence in class is compulsory to pass/get the diploma
- You will be registered as a student and have a Paris 1 student card
- A social and academic support by the association UniR (Universities and Refugees)
- Participation in campus life through sports and students' associations
- ⚠ Absences are not permitted unless a medical certificate is provided, the diploma will not be delivered if absences are considered excessive.

Information:

- Classes will be held in one of the centers of the university in Paris.
- Classes begin: Monday September 14th 2026
- Classes end: end of May 2027
- 1st semester exam: January 2027
- 2nd semester exam: May 2027
- TCF class preparation and examination : end of May 2027

Anyone meeting the previous criteria can fill in a registration form. **Candidacy opens from April 15th to May 31st 2026.**

A common online form for all the universities in Paris (there is no specific form for the University Paris 1 so DO NOT APPLY DIRECTLY TO PARIS 1), apply here:

<https://reseau-mens.org/candidater-a-une-formation-du-passerelle-en-ile-de-france/>

Filling the form online for a candidacy does not guarantee every applicant to be accepted in the programs. After your candidacy online, the selected applicants will be informed during the 1st week of June by email to take a written test in French at the Pierre-Mendès France center (31 rue Baudricourt 75013 Paris) so as to check their level (A1+/A2+) in the French language.

Selection of candidates: If you have been selected, A written test in French will be held at the Pierre-Mendès France center (31 rue Baudricourt 75013 Paris) on June 11th for DU Alliance and June 12th for DU PEPS. More details will be given in the email. If you pass the written test, you will then be invited to take an oral interview in French on June 16th or 17th.

Please note that : You must be available to take the test in person. Please check your emails regularly to avoid missing our messages. If you are not available or unable to come to the university, a test online will not be possible. If you are absent at the test in June (whatever the reason might be) your candidacy will be rejected. No other session will be organized.

Applicants who are finally admitted to the DU PEPS or DU Sorbonne Alliance will be informed by email **after the oral examination to start the academic year in September and will be able to proceed to their registration in July (details will be given by email).**