

Your path to studying in Belgium.

A starter guide to help you ask the right questions, find official information, and organise your journey from school discovery to arrival.

Sources reviewed: 5 September 2026

Make it your plan

My intended study level: _____
My preferred programme / subject: _____
My preferred language: _____
My target intake: _____
My current country of residence: _____

1. Find the right school and programme

Use official directories to make a shortlist. Compare teaching languages, qualifications, entry requirements, fees, and deadlines on each institution's website. Keep the programme link beside your notes.

- [Study in Flanders: programme directory](#)
- [Study in Belgium: French-speaking higher education](#)

2. Understand your application

Ask your chosen institution which documents and language evidence it requires. Check how it assesses your qualifications and whether translations, legalisation, or an equivalence procedure are needed for your case.

[Official admission guidance for Flanders](#). For programmes in French-speaking Belgium, use the institution's admissions guidance and [Study in Belgium](#).

3. Build a realistic budget

Get tuition figures directly from your institution for your programme and student category. Add accommodation, a deposit, utilities, food, insurance, travel, and initial arrival expenses. Check scholarship terms and deadlines separately.

Your budget headings

Tuition: _____ Housing & deposit: _____

Living costs: _____ Insurance & travel: _____

Arrival costs: _____ Emergency buffer: _____

Use [Study in Flanders: practical information](#) and [Study in Belgium](#) as starting points. Confirm the financial evidence required for your student residence route with the Immigration Office.

4. Prepare for your student visa

The route depends on your nationality, residence, study plans, and length of stay. Read the [Belgian Immigration Office's study guidance](#) and check instructions from the Belgian diplomatic or consular post responsible for where you live.

Use their current checklist to confirm the admission evidence, identity documents, financial evidence, and other documents applicable to you. Check any appointment, translation, legalisation, and submission instructions before booking travel.

Questions to check

- Which authority handles my application?
- Which documents are required for my situation?
- What fees, dates, and appointment steps apply?
- What evidence of financial means is accepted?

Admission and visa decisions are separate: institutions decide admission; Belgian authorities decide visas and residence.

5. Plan your student accommodation

Start with your institution's student housing service. Compare the location, commute, lease period, deposit, included bills, and cancellation terms. Verify the property and provider before sending money.

[Study in Flanders: student housing](#). Ask your chosen school for its own housing guidance and recommended search channels.

6. Get ready for your first weeks

- Confirm enrolment and orientation details with your institution.
- Contact the municipality where you will live about registration, appointments, and documents.
- Confirm your health insurance arrangements and what cover applies when you arrive.
- Plan your arrival journey, mobile connection, banking, and everyday essentials.
- Find your school's international office and student support contacts.

Official resources: [municipal registration](#), [healthcare cover](#), [train journeys](#).

Your next three actions

1. _____

By: _____

2. _____

By: _____

3. _____

By: _____

This is a general starting point. Check current requirements and deadlines with your institution and the relevant authorities for your own circumstances. The planned StudLead platform will bring together personalised roadmaps, checklists, document tracking, reminders, and mentor support.