

INSTRUCTION SHEET

Independent student status is distinct from independence for purposes of taxation. A separate income tax declaration is not sufficient for a student's tuition fees to be calculated based solely on student resources rather than parental resources.

The applicable criteria for recognition of financial independence are those established in Annex 3 of the circular [NOR : ESRS2413977C dated 10 June 2024](#) of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, subject to the application of the criteria of tax residence and not nationality, and the provision by students of the documents necessary for the study of the application.

For reasons of social equity and according to Sciences Po students' socio-professional categories, the Financial Independence can also be granted to civil servants or students in employment. They will need to provide the administration with evidence of income equal to or greater than 90% of the French minimum wage for the current academic year, along with the relevant supporting documents that will be requested during the online administrative registration.

If the conditions of financial independence are met, the tuition fees will be calculated according to the common rules for calculating fees, i.e. based on all the resources received before any abatement, deduction or charge in the calendar year N-2, provided that the student is financially independent from that year onwards (receipt of at least 90% of the minimum wage). Otherwise, we will base our calculations on the following years.

If any one of the conditions is not met, tuition fees will be calculated based on common rules of tuition fees' calculation, regardless of the student's age.

You will need to submit a financial independence request form along with all required documentation as indicated below:

How to request the financial independent student status

1. Complete your online registration (Sciences Po Online Platform, Administrative Services heading).
2. During the online registration process, at step 2 enter the amount of your resources.
3. At step 3 "payment" go to the Dispensation field at the bottom of the page and check the box corresponding to your situation.
4. At step 5, fill in and upload the independent student request form and all supporting documents

Once your request has been reviewed and, depending on your situation, you may be requested to submit more documents.

Important! The request must be submitted by 31 October 2025 at the latest.

For students registering for Spring semester only, your application must be sent before 31 January 2026.

For further information, or to schedule an appointment, please contact: independance.financiere@sciencespo.fr

Late applications will not be processed and the request for independent student status will be denied.

List of criteria and supporting documents

Identify your situation and provide the supporting documents.

Student who is married or entered into a civil union prior to September 1 of the academic year (by 1st of September 2025 for 2025-2026).

The couple, the spouse or the partner must have income equal to or greater than 90% of the French minimum annual income (SMIC: 15404€ net, as of 1st January 2025), to ensure their financial independence. The parties must have submitted a separate income tax declaration from their parents or legal guardian.

Supporting documents to provide
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The independent student status request form 2. An official marriage or civil union document 3. Your current working contract covering the academic year (you and/or spouse, partner) 4. The 3 last monthly payslips, including September from the current academic year (couple) 5. Your household last two years income tax returns (on 2023 and 2024 revenues). If the marriage occurred in 2025, you would also need to provide all 2025 payslips. 6. Proof of nominative rent: rent receipt for September of the current academic year + rental contract

Student with dependent children who is no longer on the income tax declaration of his own parents or legal guardian.

Supporting documents to provide
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The independent student status request form 2. A copy of your « family book » or children birth certificate 3. Your current working contract covering the academic year 4. The 3 last monthly payslips, including September from the current academic year 5. Your last two years income tax returns (on 2023 and 2024 revenues). 6. Proof of nominative rent: rent receipt for September of the current academic year + rental contract

Other cases provided by the CROUS

- Student, aged between 18 and 21 years old, who receives social assistance benefits from the child social services agency or a student, over the age of 21 years old and who used to receive the above-named benefits.
- Student, aged 18 years old or more, subject to guardianship or a change in parental authority during his or her childhood: household income to which the student is considered or failing that, the student's personal income.
- Orphaned student (both parents): household income to which the student is considered or failing that, the student's personal income.
- Refugee student: household income to which the student is considered or failing that, the student's personal income.

Supporting documents to provide

1. The independent student status request form
2. Supporting document of your situation (social assistance benefits, parent's death certificates, refugee status etc.)
3. Your current working contract covering the academic year
4. The 3 last monthly payslips, including September from the current academic year
5. Your last two years income tax returns (on 2023 and 2024 revenues for 2025-2026 university year).
6. Proof of nominative rent: rent receipt for September of the current academic year + rental contract

Working student

The student must have a monthly income equal to or greater than 90% of the French minimum annual income (15404€ net, as of 1st January 2025) during the academic year (from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026 for the academic year 2025-2026). He must also have an independent residence from his parents at his name.

Supporting documents to provide

1. The independent student status request form
2. Your current working contract covering the academic year
3. The 3 last monthly payslips, including September from the current academic year
4. Your last two years income tax returns (on 2023 and 2024 revenues for 2025-2026 university year).
5. Proof of nominative rent: rent receipt for September of the current academic year + rental contract

Civil servants' students (including ENS)

The student must have a monthly income equal to or greater than 90% of the French minimum annual income (15404€ net, as of 1st January 2025) during the academic year (from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026 for the academic year 2025-2026). He must also have an independent residence from his parents at his name. Internship compensation does not qualify as salary income. Students who have taken a leave of absence for the academic year, for personal or other reasons, are not eligible for independent student status.

Supporting documents to provide

1. The independent student status request form
2. Proof of enrolment at ENS or another institution for the current academic year, indicating the remuneration you will receive for the academic year or your current working contract covering the academic year
3. The 3 last monthly payslips, including September from the current academic year
4. Your last two years income tax returns (on 2023 and 2024 revenues for 2025-2026 university year).
5. Proof of nominative rent: rent receipt for September of the current academic year + rental contract
6. A signed affidavit from your parents stating that they do not provide financial support of any kind for your studies, including housing
7. Your parents tax assessment on 2023 revenues