

## CMI Brest - How to exchange your driving license

Any driver with a driving license issued by a country not belonging to the European Union can drive with his title in France for a period of one year from the acquisition of his normal residence in France (first residence permit or sticker OFII). Valid driving license shall nevertheless be accompanied, if it is not written in French, of an official translation with legalization or apostille.

**Beyond this period of one year, this licence is no longer valid to drive in France.**

- The exchange of a driving license is to be requested during one-year after you got your 1st residence permit. Beyond this deadline, the exchange cannot take place and the driver will have to pass the exams to get a French driving licence if he/she wishes to drive.
- If you hold a residence permit indicating the status of "étudiant-élève", you can drive in France throughout the validity of this title IF you got your license before you entered French territory with the visa that gives you now the right to study here. The exchange of foreign driving license will be requested in case of change of status on the residence permit Beware! If you got your licence during summer holidays in your country while you were already a student in France, your licence is not valid in France!
- The exchange can take place only if France has a reciprocal agreement with the country that issued your driving title. The list of countries with which a reciprocal agreement has been concluded [Figure here](#)
- To be exchanged, your driver's license must still be valid.
- You must have the minimum age for driving in France and must not have been subject to sanctions, suspension or cancellation of driving licenses in the country of origin as provided in exchange or in the case a previous document issued in France.

<u>Specific conditions</u>		<u>Documents to provide</u>	
<p>You are a EUROPEAN citizen</p>	<p>You must file your application within one year from the date of obtaining your residence in France.</p> <p><b>Important!</b> Normal residence is considered fixed in France from the 186th day following the arrival on French territory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your original National Identity Card or your valid passport + 2 photocopies;</li> <li>Proof of residence in France for at least six months (tax forms, lease agreement, EDF, etc ...)</li> </ul> <p>If you do not have the nationality of the State that issued the driving license, you will produce a proof of the presence of at least six months also including the date of the examination of the driving license in the country that you issued the permit: residence certificate issued by your diplomatic mission in that State or by the state that issued your driver's license.</p>	<p><u>Common to all applications:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <a href="#">formulaire Cerfa</a> completed, dated and signed.</li> <li>Your original valid foreign driving license</li> <li>The official translation of your driver's license, with legalization or apostille</li> <li>A certificate of the issuing driving licenses attesting to the validity of the right to drive                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 color photocopies of the driving license whose exchange is requested</li> </ul> </li> <li>Proof your residence in France</li> <li>Four recent passport photographs <a href="#">RESPECTING FRENCH NORMAS</a></li> </ul>
<p>You are a NON EUROPEAN citizen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>you must have obtained your license before the date of issuance of your first French residence permit.</li> <li>You must file your application within one year from the date of commencement of validity of your first residence permit. Beyond this deadline, your application will not be accepted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your original residence permit valid at your address or passport on which is affixed the OFII sticker + 2 copies</li> </ul> <p>If your license was issued by a state that you do not have citizenship, you must provide convincing proof of your residence for 6 months in the country that issued this License. This period of residence shall include the date of issue of driving license for which you request the exchange</p>	