

# **Study in Belgium - Information**

Belgium is a federal state and consists of three communities in three regions (Flemish, French and German). Being the largest, the Flemish and French communities have their own higher education system. The three national languages of Belgium are Dutch, French and German. Most universities have Language Centers where students can study French or Dutch as a foreign language. Many universities in Belgium also offer English language study programs.

Admission to most of the Belgian universities is done with the high school diploma depending on the field or university you choose. However, for programs in the fields of medicine, engineering, business and the arts, prospective students are required to pass an entrance examination. The admission of prospective students to postgraduate and doctoral programs is decided by the board of directors of each institution

Although tuition is free, the Belgian government sets registration fees for all public institutions. In the Flemish community the registration fee is about € 600 per year. In the French community registration fees start at € 800. For the exact amount of fees, contact the University of your choice. In general, EU students pay more than Belgian citizens, but less than non-European students. The amount is approximately € 1,500.00 for the first cycle and € 2,000.00 for the second and third cycle. There may also be additional charges for international students, which vary by university.

The Bachelor has a duration of three years (180 credits). The Master has 1 year duration (60 credits), or, in some cases, 2 years (120 credits), veterinary studies three years (180 credits), and medicine four years (240 credits). Doctoral programs vary in duration (60 credits) and offer a research training certificate for the preparation of a doctoral dissertation that is necessary for obtaining an academic qualification (Doctorate after a diploma thesis examination).

The cost of living for students is around € 800 per month, without taking into account the various registration fees. Some educational institutions offer rooms to students at very reasonable prices. Students can also look for housing through agencies or individuals. The minimum price for accommodation can be estimated at 250 to 350 euro per month.

Belgium is undoubtedly a country known for its beautiful cafes, its chocolates, its special architecture, its high standard of living and of course its famous waffles! It is of course a country well known for the high level and quality of its universities. With so many festivals theaters, music and cultural centers, students will always have something to do!