# Handbook Immigration 2024-2025

Welcome to the Erasmus University Rotterdam!

We assist students that are in need of an immigration case and arrange all immigration formalities.
This handbook helps familiarize you with the procedures.

Warm regards from Team Immigration Claire, Melanie & Sophie



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#### 1. What is the IND and who are we?



#### The IND

The <u>Immigration and Naturalisation Service</u> (IND) implements the foreign national policy in the Netherlands. The IND collects the immigration fee and creates your residence permit after we have sent them your information and you have been approved by the IND. The <u>cost</u> of the application is determined by the IND.

#### Team Immigration

The Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) is a recognised sponsor for the purpose of stay "to study" at the IND. A recognised sponsor can submit applications for the residence permit for study for their international students and declares in the application that the international student meet the conditions.

As a recognised sponsor, we have our responsibilities. We assess and submit all the application forms for our students to the IND. The IND checks whether the student meets all the conditions required and must decide on an approval or not. We comply by the code of <u>conduct for Higher Education</u>.

#### The Immigration Officers

Claire, Melanie & Sophie are your EUR immigration officers (sponsors) and we're part of the <u>International</u> <u>Office</u> of the Erasmus University Rotterdam. We will assist you during the process of arranging a visa and residence permit.







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Your immigration case will be <u>started by your faculty</u> automatically. If you have an immigration case and received a conditional offer, the start of the immigration case does <u>not</u> mean that you will receive an unconditional offer. You must meet the admission requirements, for more questions about your admission contact your faculty.

For your enrollment you need to meet all the enrollment requirements (admission) including meeting the immigration deadline <u>as communicated to you by email</u>. Failing to meet the immigration deadline, means you are <u>not able to enroll</u>, so please make sure to submit everything (including paying your invoice) before the immigration deadline.

If you decide to not join the Erasmus University Rotterdam or you do not meet the admission requirements, you should deregister yourself via Studielink before the 31st of August, inform your faculty and inform Team Immigration. We will arrange your refund if you already fulfilled the payment conditions and cancel your immigration process.



## 2. Immigration procedure: The road to your residence permit - conditions



By Dutch law, students cannot apply for a study residence permit themselves, so Team Immigration EUR will apply for your residence permit. Team Immigration will start your immigration procedure once we have been informed by your faculty.

#### **Conditions**

There are <u>certain conditions</u> that apply to everyone (these procedures and conditions also apply to exchange students):

- You have a valid passport.
- You do not pose a danger to public order or national security.
- You take a TB (tuberculosis) test upon arrival in the Netherlands, if applicable for your nationality.
- You are a student at a university or university of applied sciences to a full-time <u>accredited</u> <u>study programme</u>.
- Your educational institution is a <u>recognized sponsor</u>. Recognized educational institutions, such as the Erasmus University Rotterdam, are listed in the <u>Public Register of Recognised Sponsors</u>.
- You have an <u>independent sufficient and sustainable income</u>. This will be checked every year. More information: IND income requirement.



## 2. Immigration procedure: The road to your residence permit - obligations



#### Legal obligations:

There are several <u>legal obligations</u> and conditions that apply to students who have a study residence permit. If you no longer fulfil the conditions of your study residence permit, your sponsor (Team Immigration) is obliged to report this to the IND. The IND can decide to withdraw your study residence permit.

- Being registered at the city hall within 4 months upon arrival;
- Having an active enrollment at the university as a full-time student or exchange student;
- Meeting the requirements of the <u>Study progress monitoring</u> each academic year;\*
- Providing a statement of income each academic year;
- As a student, you have your own information obligation. You must report important changes to your official sponsor such as changes in your <u>main residency</u> or changing universities.

The IND and Team Immigration (EUR) checks whether you comply with these obligations and conditions. It's your own responsibility to meet the conditions for your study permit. More information about studying in the Netherlands can be read <a href="here">here</a>.

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<sup>\*</sup> N/A for exchange students.

<sup>\*</sup> First-year BA students at EUR need to obtain all 60 ECTS to fulfil the requirements of the Binding Study Advice (BSA) at EUR! This BSA requirement gets priority over the 50% requirement of the study progress monitoring policy.

#### 3. Residence permit - Timeline

Team Immigration will send you The student (you) submits all the Your faculty starts your **Team Immigration reviews your** instructions regarding your required documents in Osiris and fulfills immigration case in Osiris documents immigration case the payment requirement 10 working days **April - June** 5 working days Please note: do not make any travel arrangements until When IND approves your Are all documents correct? The When your documents are The IND processes your IND you have received application, team Immigration immigration office will forward incorrect, the 10 working days application your approval! will notify you via Osiris your application to the IND will start again! 8 weeks +10 working days, if incorrect When your residence permit is ready, The student (you) travels to the Upon arrival, the student The student (you) schedules Team Immigration will notify you via Netherlands with their approval (you) visits the IND desk for their biometric appointment at Osiris. You can collect your residence letter their biometric data the IND desk in the Netherlands permit at the IND desk Please note: schedule Please note: Your immigration process is handled by Team Immigration (EUR) and your admission your biometric data process by your faculty. This means that we help students with a conditional (e.g. pending appointment at IND graduation) and unconditional offer after we are informed by your faculty. Having an immigration even if you are not in the Netherlands yet! case does not automatically mean that your conditional offer is now unconditional, always refer to the admission team of your faculty for questions regarding admission. Team immigration has no knowledge about your admission process and/or deadlines. Submitting your immigration documents on time (before the deadline) is part of your enrollment request, failing to submit your documents and pay your invoice on time results in an incomplete enrollment!

## 3a. Residence permit: introduction



We chose the VVR – Dutch residence permit procedure for you based on your nationality.

The residence permit allows someone to live in the Netherlands for a period longer than 90 days. It is issued in the form of an identification card.

This card is created by the IND after they have approved the application and received biometric information such as fingerprints, signature and photo from the bearer of the card (you). You will have to visit one of the IND desks in the Netherlands to submit your biometric information.

There are many different types of residence permits, but for students there is a separate residence permit for the purpose of 'study'. This residence permit allows someone to live and study in the Netherlands. Team Immigration (EUR) will apply for a residence permit at the IND on behalf of our students.

Below are some facts about the residence permit:

#### **VVR** facts

- You don't need a visa (MVV) to come to the Netherlands, but you still need to be approved by the IND before you travel to the Netherlands.
- VVR is the name for the procedure of a residence permit.
- ! Do not buy your flight ticket before receiving the approval letter of the IND!
- When you arrive in the Netherlands you need to pick up your residence permit within 90 days.



## 3b. Residence permit immigration procedure explained

#### 1. Start immigration case + invoice:

You received an email to start your immigration procedure via Osiris cases (you can find an example of Osiris cases in <u>Chapter 5</u>). You will also receive another email with your payment instructions (<u>chapter 7</u>)

\*Not applicable for ISS/MEL/IHS students who will receive an invoice from their faculty instead.

#### 2. Submitting your documents:

In Osiris cases, you will be asked to upload certain documents. You can download the forms in Osiris case as well. The following documents are required:

- A valid passport copy with the page with your signature, pages with stamps and visas included. Your passport needs to be valid for at least 6 months from the moment of the application. If your passport does not contain a valid signature, please include the following: write a short explanation of why there is no signature in your passport. Sign this with your full name, current date and signature and merge it together with your passport in one PDF file.
- <u>Antecedent form</u>: this is a statement declaring you do not have a criminal background. It's not needed to obtain this in your home country.
- A transfer receipt of your fees (proof of payment) or a <u>scholarship letter</u>.
- Signing <u>declaration of intent study progress monitoring</u>.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- Digitally signed forms are **NOT accepted** and your signatures on the forms must match your passport's signature. Always **sign with a pen**. We will reject these forms, which results in a delay of your immigration process.
- ❖ The antecedent form cannot be older than 3 months.





## 3b. Residence permit immigration procedure explained

#### 3. Team Immigration (EUR) reviews submitted documents:

Team Immigration (EUR) will review your documents within **10 working days** and let you know if your documents are correct or incorrect. Please be patient, as we cannot speed up the process.

- Are they <u>correct</u>? This means that your payment has been received and all your documents are correct. Your application will be sent to the IND. The IND will send us their decision regarding your residence permit within 8 weeks.
- Are they <u>incorrect</u>? Team Immigration (EUR) will send your application back with remarks about your incorrect documents or payment. Please read the remark and correct your mistakes. After that, you can upload and submit your documents. Incorrect documents will delay the entire process, as the 10 working days will start again after resubmitting.

#### 4. Scheduling biometric appointment after approval IND:

After IND's approval regarding your application, we will receive your <u>approval letter</u>. You can expect this letter in your Osiris case and a notification with new instructions via email. Please read this email carefully.

Once you received your approval letter, you can start scheduling your <u>biometrics</u> <u>appointment</u> at an IND desk in the Netherlands, to hand in a photo (will be taken there), your signature and your fingerprints and plan your travel arrangements. When the IND has your biometrics, they can start making the residence permit card with all your information.

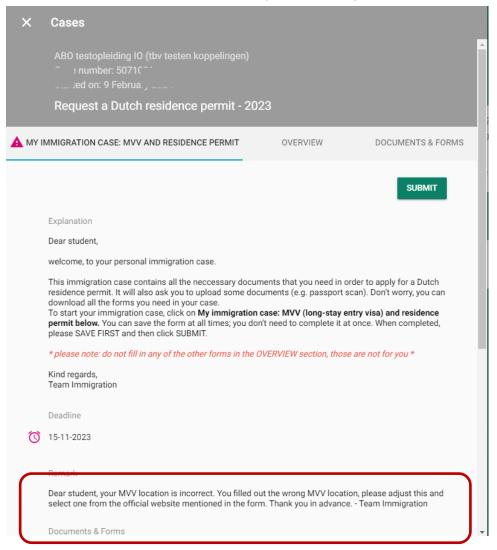
! Please note: schedule your biometric appointment as soon as possible after you have received the approval letter, because it will be very busy in the summer period!





## 3b. Residence permit immigration procedure explained

If your documents are incorrect, you will receive an email and you should go to your Immigration case. At the bottom, you will see: Remark and our explanation about the incorrect documents. Open your form, correct the mistake and make sure to submit your form again.







## 3c. Receiving your residence permit

5. The IND uses your biometrics\* to produce your residence permit card. Once the card is ready, the IND sends us a pickup letter with information. We will forward this letter to you and you'll receive an email from us with instructions. The IND needs approximately 8 weeks to issue your residence permit. If it takes longer, contact us at <a href="mailto:immigration@eur.nl">immigration@eur.nl</a> with your student number.

The residence permit allows someone to live in the Netherlands for a period longer than 90 days. It is issued in the form of an identification card.

• You have submitted your biometric information upon arrival at an IND desk in The Netherlands.



## 3c. Upon arrival in the Netherlands



1. You must register in the <u>Municipal Personal Records Database (BRP)</u> in the municipality you are going to live as soon as possible after your arrival. You will need your IND approval letter. <u>Register at the city hall/municipality</u> or visit the One Stop Shop. ISS students can register in <u>The Hague</u>

\*If you are planning on living somewhere other than Rotterdam, The Hague or Capelle a/d IJssel, you may need to bring your birth certificate for your appointment at the municipality\*

- 2. After your registration at the municipality, you will receive your BSN number (citizen service number) about two weeks later by postal mail at your Dutch address. You need a <u>BSN</u> number to open a <u>bank account</u>, get a <u>job or internship position</u> in the Netherlands, or apply for your <u>DigiD</u>. Questions? <u>Mail to: orientation@eur.nl</u>
- 3. Bank account: open a Dutch bank account. If you have not received your BSN number yet, you can already open an account at Bunq, you will have to provide them with your BSN number at a later state. More information about Dutch bank account can be found here.
- 4. Arrange your <u>health insurance</u> if you haven't done so yet.\*
- \* ISS students do not need to take out health insurance, as this will be arranged by the ISS



## 3d. Conditions of your residence permit



- The residence permit card is issued by the IND in the Netherlands.
- Your permit is valid for the entire study program as long as you stay enrolled at the EUR
   + 3 extra months as graduation gift.
- You must <u>register at the municipality/city</u> hall upon arrival (as soon as possible) if you are staying for **longer than 4 months** in the Netherlands. You'll need your Dutch residence permit, if your Dutch residence permit cannot be picked up yet, you can print the IND approval letter we sent you and bring it to the registration desk.
- You should have sufficient financial means during your stay in the Netherlands. This will be checked every academic year.
- If you deregister or leave the Netherlands, you should always contact the immigration office.
  - → Do you want to study longer in the Netherlands? Please apply for an <u>extension</u> 3 months before your current residence permit expires.



## 3d. Conditions of your residence permit



#### Study Progress Monitoring (Not applicable to Exchange students):

- As a full-time degree student, you need to pass at least 50% of your nominal ECTS per academic year in order to keep your residence permit. This is called <u>study progress</u> monitoring. Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) must report to the Dutch Immigration and Naturalization Service (IND) in case you do not meet the 50% requirement.
- Please note: First-year BA students at EUR need to obtain all 60 ECTS to fulfil the requirements
  of the Binding Study Advice (BSA) at EUR! This BSA requirement gets priority over the 50%
  requirement of the study progress monitoring policy
- Keep in mind that you receive a study permit from the Erasmus University Rotterdam, so if you
  wish to switch to a different study at the EUR, you will keep the same permit and must obtain
  50% of your credits. Always contact Team Immigration for advise!
  - Pre-master students need to successfully complete their program in 1 year, meaning: being admitted to their master program.



## 4. Exchange students



Exchange students also follow the same procedure for MVV As an exchange student, you do not pay the tuition fee. You will receive an invoice with only the immigration fee (228 euros) and the living fee/financial means (again this is based on how many months you will be staying in the Netherlands).

\* If you're in the possession of a <u>study permit of another EU country</u>, please contact team Immigration. We will provide you with specific instructions after reviewing your study residence permit.

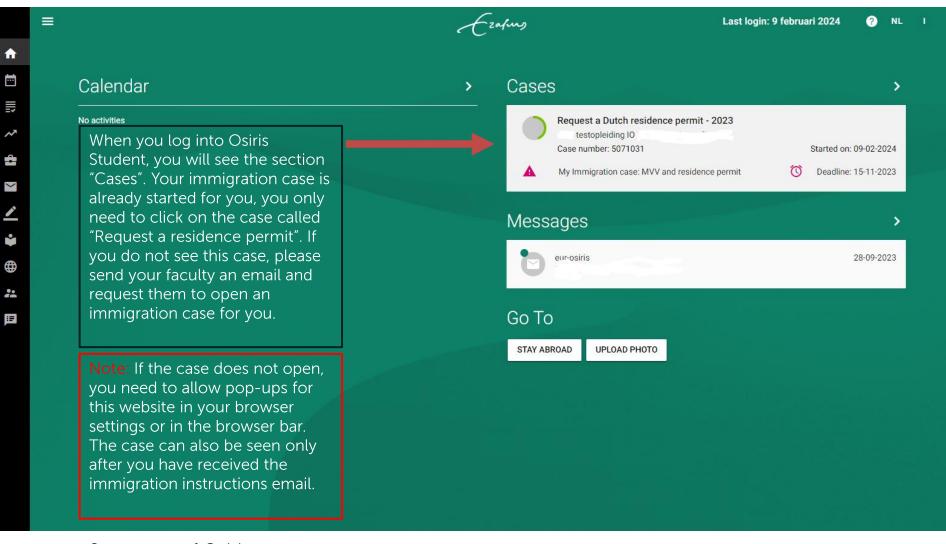
On exchange for more than 90 days but no longer than 4 months

- Do **not** register at municipality
- You cannot get a BSN number, but you also won't need one
- For refund you need to mail immigration@eur.nl for more information.



### 5. Example of an Immigration case

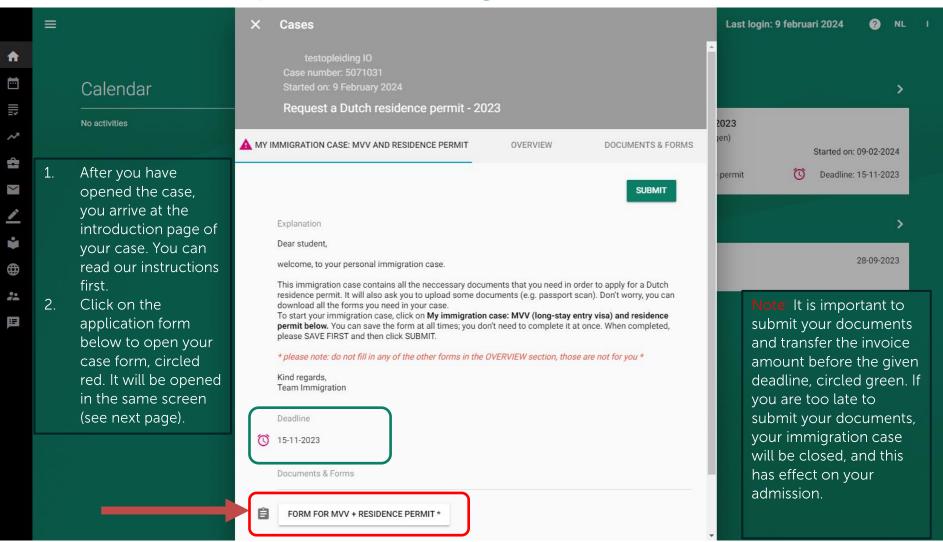




Start page of Osiris cases.



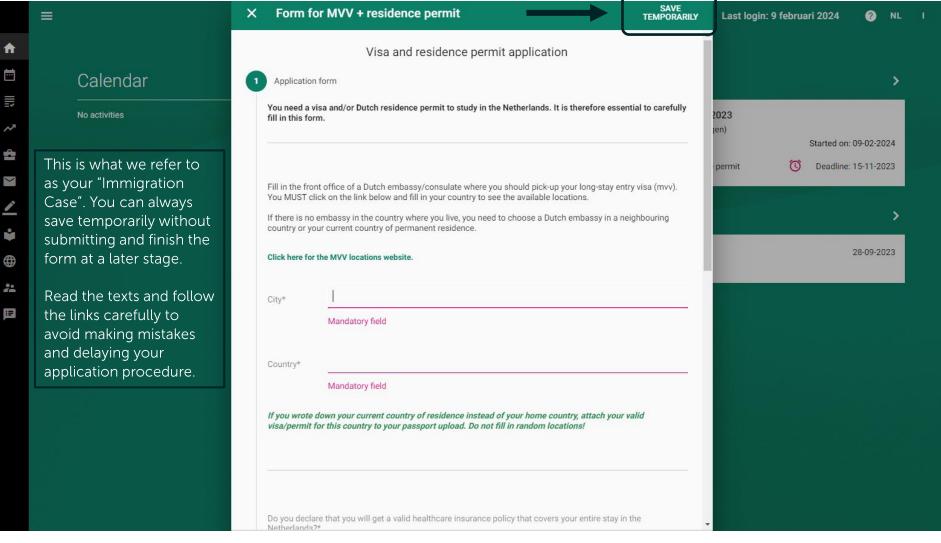




Select your case at the bottom.



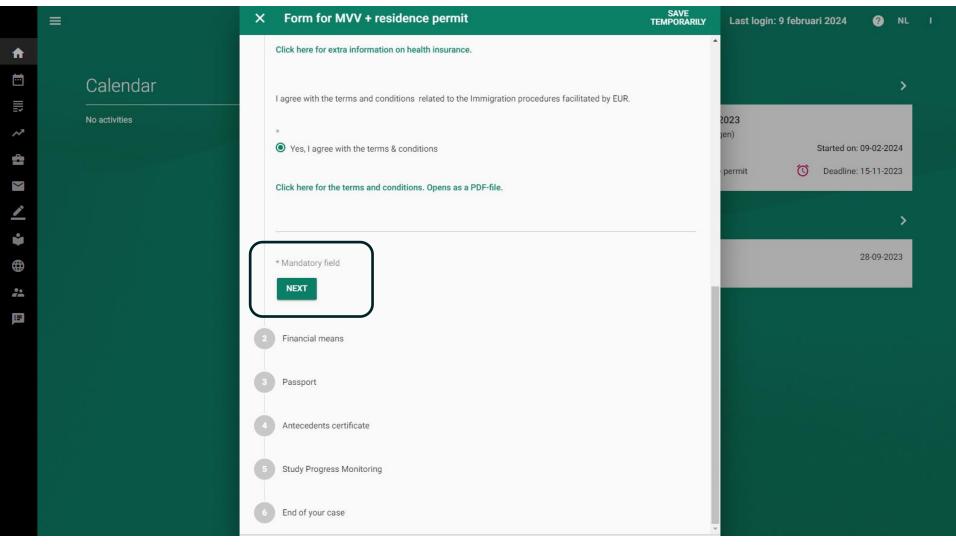




This is your case where you upload your documents.



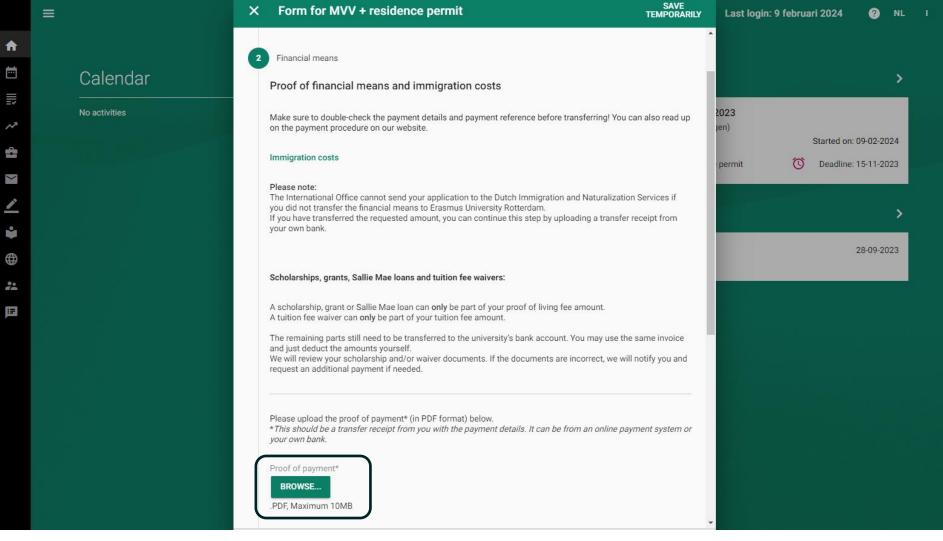




Select next to continue to the next page of your case.



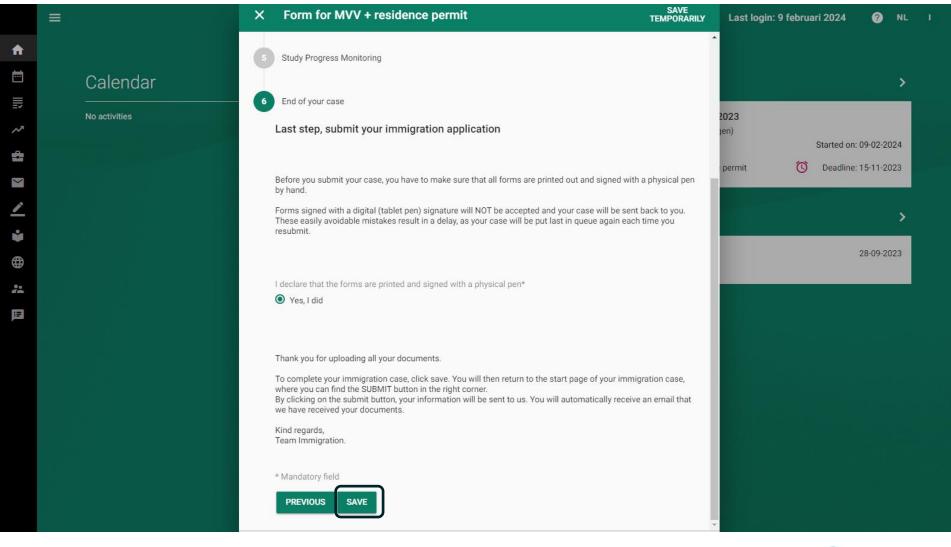






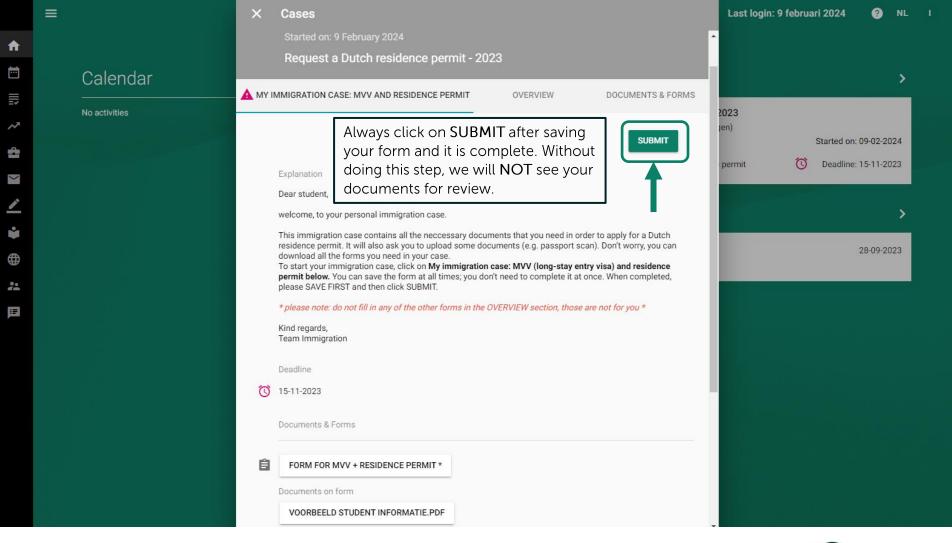






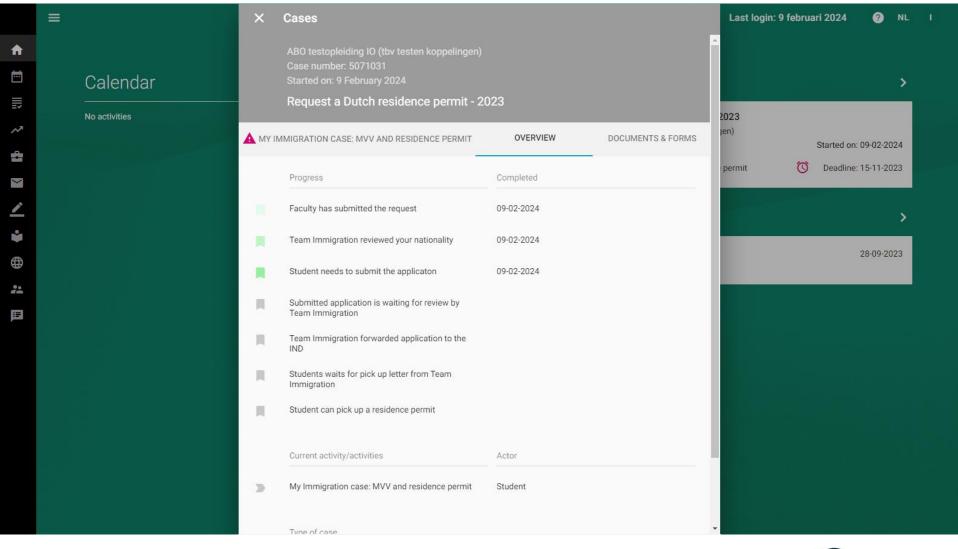














## 6. Common mistakes made by students



#### 1. Use your full name







## 6. Common mistakes made by students



2. Always match your signature and make sure it's handwritten.



2.5 refers to a section in one of the forms you have to fill out. You will find this once you start your immigration case.



### 7. Immigration costs and financial means



Having sufficient financial means is part of the procedure for the Dutch study residence permit.

You will receive a separate email from us with payment instructions and your invoice alongside the immigration welcome email. \*Not applicable for ISS/MEL/IHS students who will receive an invoice from your faculty \*

#### The invoice includes:

1. Immigration fee:  $\leq 228$ , - (the IND needs this fee to process your application)

2. Tuition fee: applicable to your situation

not applicable to Eu-HEM/EMLE students or exchange students).

3. Living fee/financial means (refundable): €1235,- for every month you will be studying in the

- This living fee/financial means should correspond with the duration of your programme. It has a maximum of 12 months; in case you enroll for a programme with a duration of more than one year. (e.g., €1235 \* 12 = €14.820,-)
- If you have a Scholarship Letter (click <u>here</u> for an example), the scholarship can be part of or substitute the <u>living</u> <u>fee/financial means</u> amount. If your scholarship provides you less than the required living fee/financial means amount, the remaining part still needs to be transferred to the university's bank account (the transferred part of the living fee/financial means is refundable). If you receive a student loan (governmental), submit a confirmation letter.
- You can either pay the invoice amount once or do separate payments if your bank has a transfer limit. Make sure to always mention your student number/full name (per reference as stated in your invoice)
   As long as the payments are done before the immigration application deadline.
- If you do have a SEPA bank account, you can pay in installments. Keep in mind we have to see that you have the tuition fee amount available in your personal bank account, as we need to check your cash flows.

IMPORTANT: please note that all additional fees that the banks may charge for the 27 international bank transfer must be covered by yourself (you bear all costs)!



## 7. Immigration costs and financial means



Our recommended options for a safe international money transfer are:

- <u>Transfermate</u>: easy and cheap way for our international students to pay their fees.
- Traditional banks: you can request your local bank to make an international transfer using the information from our invoice. You can also find our bank information on our website here. \*ISS/MEL/IHS students, refer to the invoice received\*
- Online money transfer providers: depending on your country, you may find an online provider that allows you to use your local bank card for an online transfer. Transferwise and Revolut are such known services. Please choose a reliable provider yourself, as this option differs per country. Furthermore, some banks have limits to the maximal amount you can transfer per day. You are allowed to make multiple transfers to pay all costs in order to continue your immigration case. Please always mention your student number in the reference.
- Specialized money transfer companies: again, depending on your country, you may find branches of Western Union, MoneyGram and others alike that can send your money safely.

#### Important notes:

- Remember to take the commission costs of a transfer into account. If there is an option to choose to **bear ALL commission/transfer costs**, please do so. This is because upon receipt, our bank may also deduct commission costs for receiving an international transfer.
- Consider that the EUR should receive a correct exchanged amount in euros.
- We do not accept creditcard or Paypal transactions.



## 8. Refund procedure



If you transferred money to the university bank account to show you have <u>sufficient financial</u> <u>means</u> to cover your living expenses in the Netherlands, a refund case will be opened for you around the end of August/September. The refund case will only be opened once your immigration application has been approved and completed.

Keep in mind that you need a Dutch/<u>SEPA</u> bank account to receive your refund. For more information, click <u>here</u>.

MEL/IHS students please contact your faculty for your refund procedure.

Please note that we strongly advise students to bring enough money with you to sustain yourself in the first two months after arrival, since it can take some time to receive your refund because you need a Dutch bank account or another EU bank account.

\*Please take into consideration that the bank costs have been deducted and the amount you will receive from us might be less than the amount you transferred.\*



#### 8. Refund procedure



#### Requirements:

- Your enrolment at EUR is complete;
- You have a Dutch bank account; (<u>SEPA</u> bank account);
- Your study permit procedure has been approved and/or; you received an email from us about the refund procedure.

#### Instructions:

- Go to 'My Cases' In Osiris Student, where we will have started your refund procedure already;
- Check your refund amount in your email "Confirmation of receipt of financial means (Immigration)";
- Fill in the form according to your situation;
- Upload all the required documents for the refund procedure in Osiris Student;
- Please make sure that your name and account number are both visible on the document you upload.

In general, it takes about two weeks for the payments to be processed. Please contact us at <a href="mmigration@eur.nl">immigration@eur.nl</a> in case you did not receive the money in your bank account within two weeks after you submitted the refund request.







If you transferred your tuition fee, living fee/financial means and immigration fee manually to our bank account, you will also have to indicate your payment method in Studielink in order for your enrollment to be processed correctly.\*

Please see the <u>link</u> for a detailed explanation or scan the QR code. For more questions, please contact the <u>ESSC</u>.







## 10. Changes to your situation? Take action!

- 1. If you continue to study in the Netherlands after the expiry date (in Dutch: *geldig tot*) of your student residence permit, then you need to extend your residence permit. It is your own responsibility to start the application process in time and meet the conditions for your study residence permit. You are strongly advised to start the process three months before the expiration date.
- 2. In case of moving your <u>main residency</u> abroad, please contact us (<u>immigration@eur.nl</u>) with your student number.
- 3. If you decide to de-enroll/terminate your enrollment from the university, please contact us.
- 4. Lost or stolen residence permit, please contact us.
- 5. Have you completed/are you ready to complete your EUR studies, but don't feel ready to leave the Netherlands yet? Check out our <u>"after graduation" page</u> and the <u>IND page</u> for more information.

\*Not applicable if you are an OKP scholarship student\*



#### 11. Contact



#### Please always mention your student number, when contacting the University!

- 1. How can I contact (a department from) the International Office? Please click here.
- 2. Is there a **student help desk**? Can they help with my enrollment? Yes, please contact the Erasmus Student Service Centre (ESSC) <u>here</u>.
- 3. How can I contact the **IND** for questions? Please click <u>here</u>.
- 4. How can I contact my **faculty** for questions? Please click here.
- 5. Where can I ask questions for issues **after arrival**? Please email this mail address: <u>orientation@eur.nl</u>
- 6. Where can I ask questions about housing? Please email: studenthousing@eur.nl





#### 12. FAQ



- 1. Where can I find information about my visa/residence permit? You can find all information regarding **immigration matters** here.
- 2. Is there a **checklist** for me to follow in preparation of my studies in Rotterdam? You can find a checklist <u>here</u>.
- 3. Where can I find information about **life in Rotterdam** after I have arrived? You can find information about life in Rotterdam, the Dutch language and our educational system <u>here</u>.
- 4. Do you want to know more about **orientation activities** for international students in Rotterdam? You can find information about orientation <u>here</u>.
- 5. I want to bring my **spouse**, **children or another family member** with me to the Netherlands. How do I arrange their stay?

The Immigration Office does not arrange this, you have to arrange this with the IND. How? Click here.

6. I want to start a **part-time job/internship** in the Netherlands, do I need a work permit? Everything regarding part-time jobs and internship can be found <u>here</u>.



#### 12. FAQ



- 7. How can I arrange my **health insurance**? Please click <u>here</u>.
- 8. How do I set up a **Dutch bank account**? Please click here.
- 9. What is the **correct bank account of the EUR**? \*Not applicable for ISS students\* Please click <u>here</u>.
- 10. Can I register at the municipality without my residence permit? Yes, print your approval letter of the IND and take it with your with your appointment., you first need to collect your residence permit, then you can go to the municipality.



## **Greetings from Team Immigration**

Thank you for your time.

We hope the information provided made the process a little clearer.

We're looking forward to seeing you and wish you a very nice day and especially time in the

Netherlands and the Erasmus University Rotterdam!

Warm Regards,
Claire, Melanie and Sophie - Team Immigration.



Contact International Office



We go to great lengths to ensure that, to the best of our knowledge, the information provided is current and accurate. Although every reasonable effort is made to provide correct information, we cannot be held responsible for any changes or inaccuracies.

**Erasmus University Rotterdam** 

