Residencies in the Paris give right to housing benefit. There are two kinds of housing benefit called “Aide Personnalisée au Logement” a.k.a ALP or “Allocation Logement” a.k.a. AL. It is granted by the Caisse des Affaires Familiales a.k.a CAF.

The difference between them only consist on the existence or not of an agreement between the owner of the housing and the French State. For example, if you decide to rent the accommodation of the CROUS residencies or in any other “social housing” facility, you will be granted the APL; if you decide to rent to a private owner then you will get the AL.

The subsidy will be calculated depending on your financial resources and on the rent without service charge (electricity, water supply, heating etc.).

Most of the time, the renting establishment chooses to use the “tiers payant” in order to receive your housing benefit automatically on their bank account. In this case, the residency (or the owner of the housing) directly perceives the amount of the subsidy allocated to you by the CAF and thus you will only have to pay for the remaining amount of the rent. For example, if your rent is 400€ a month, and the housing benefit you obtained is a monthly amount of 100€, you will only need to pay 300€ as a rent. However, if the renting establishment agrees for you to perceive the housing benefit on your private bank account, you need to pay the whole rent, so 400€ in the previous example. If the renting establishment prefers using the “tiers payant”, you cannot oppose this decision.

⚠️ Be aware that if you do not pay for the remaining part for more than two months, your housing benefit will be suspended.

How to proceed

In order to apply for the APL or AL, you need to go on the CAF website (which is only available in French): [www.caf.fr](http://www.caf.fr).

From there, you can do a simulation to know approximately the amount of the housing benefit you will be allowed. Please follow this link to access to the simulation generator page: [Simulation of the Housing Benefit](http://www.caf.fr).

After that, you can apply online or download the application form at the following link: [Application Form](http://www.caf.fr).