

# HOUSING EXPENSES

Practical sheet 1



Before your arrival it is essential that you establish a budget for your stay. Housing is an important part of your budget.

Before entering accommodation, it is advisable to make an estimate of the expenses to be expected, that is to say :

- any moving expenses
- estate agency fees : approximately 1 month's rent *(if applicable)*
- security deposit : 1 month's rent *(excluding charges)*
- 1st month's rent
- meter connection costs for water and gas, electricity subscription fees
- home insurance
- council tax *(if the tenant is still living in the accommodation on January 1st and is liable for it)*
- subscription to internet, television and/or telephone *(if not included in the rental charges)*
- rental charges : expenses related to the provision of collective services to all residents, maintenance and use of the building *(electricity, water and heating in common areas, lift, security, cleaning, green areas, household waste, sanitation)*
- energy consumption costs : water, electricity and/or gas consumed in the rented accommodation *(amount charged by independent agencies such as ES - Énergies Strasbourg).*

The monthly rental charges can sometimes already include energy consumption in the rented accommodation, especially when the meter is not individual but common to the whole block of flats.

## AVERAGE ESTIMATE

- for a university residence (Crous) : between €175 and €550
- for a private residence : between €520 and €650
- for a one-room flat in the private sector between €500 and €750 including charges

**! WATCH OUT!** for booking cheques and other illegal charges. Even if this is becoming more and more common with estate agencies or some private landlords, it is forbidden by law to ask for a booking cheque.

