Moving to Strasbourg…

It is important to get your bank account straight away as you can't get paid or rent an apartment without one. To do this, you must make and appointment with whatever bank you chose and take your passport and work contract with you.

To find an apartment in Strasbourg, you can check the notice boards throughout the IGBMC, look in local papers-the newspaper "DNA" and two specific ones, "le MASS" (36 r Fossé des Tanneurs 67000 STRASBOURG) and "Bonjourle67" (17 rue des Bouchers 67000 STRASBOURG), or use the websites listed below.
• http://www.bonjour.fr/, "immobilier"
• http://www.dna.fr. This is the website for Alsace newspaper and there's a link for flat announces on the left: "immo"
• http://www.petites-annonces.fr/, "immobilier"
• http://www.cnous.fr/crous-strasbourg/, "logement". This is the website for Students information. You'll find information about « students residences », with the necessary steps to take for French and foreigners students. There are also information about financial helps.
• http://strasbourg.webcity.fr/petitesAnnonces/. There are announces for flats renting but also for "colocations".

Another option is to use an agency to find an apartment. If you don't speak French this can be helpful because some agencies will call and make the appointments for visits for you and take you there to see the apartments. This is costly though, most agencies will take 1 month rent for the service. There are many agencies in the city centre and they are easy to find since they will have adverts in the window for available apartments. It is possible to get furnished flats, or one that at least comes with an equipped kitchen. However, it is much more common that the apartment will not have

furniture, a stove or fridge. You can get cheap second hand furniture from EMMAUS, which is a charity run organization, and you can find some very nice things there (5 chemin Holtzmatt 67200 STRASBOURG). Otherwise there is an IKEA in Strasbourg and you can rent a truck from IKEA to move your new furniture. Second hand ('occasion' in French) kitchen appliances and clothes washing machines are available, just look in the yellow pages of the phone book to find a dealer.

When you sign a contract to rent a flat you generally have to pay a deposit for, which is equivalent of two months rent. You also have to pay straight away the rent for the first month. In addition to the basic rent you will also pay charges, which usually include water and cleaning of the common areas of the building. Sometimes heating is also included, check this with the landlord.

To pay your rent by a direct bank transfer you need a RIB from your landlord. You can then set up this monthly transfer at your bank. It's not a good idea to give your landlord your RIB! A 2-room apartment with charges in the city center will cost about 500-600 euros a month.

It's possible to get help for the deposit and the guarantee with the "Locapass", a contract between the IGBMC and the CCI (Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie).
See Armelle or Bénédicte for the details. *(room 1019)*
Internet: http://www.loca-pass.com/

To check the location of the flat in town, you can use:
http://www.mappy.fr/ or http://pagesblanches.fr

Phone

There are several phone providers. You have to check out prices and offers since they change all the time and very different depending on what countries you want to call and if you want cable TV or internet as well. Ask for advice in your lab….

Electricity

You have to call the electricity company ES Strasbourg to change the electricity contract for your apartment over to your name. You will need to

know the name of the appartments last tenant: for this you have to ask your landlord.

Getting Around

• Public transport:
You can use the **tram or the bus**. You can find maps on the following website: http://www.cts-strasbourg.fr/cts2.html
Please note that monthly tickets are cheaper and that there are specific student prices. You have to get a 'BADGEO' from the TRAM office (there is one located in 'rue du jeu d'enfant' just off place Kleber and another one at the railway station. You have to provide them with an ID size photo, your identity card/passport and your student card. Once you receive your BADGEO you can buy your ticket each month at the TRAM stations. If you live in the city centre it will take about 30 minutes to get to the IGBMC by TRAM.

• Cycling:
There's an excellent cycle path network. You can ask for a map of Strasbourg or Alsace in the tourism office close to the cathedral. There's a cycle path that goes from Strasbourg city centre to the IGBMC that takes about 20-25 minutes.
You can rent a bike for a day, a week or a month in "Vélocation" shops. One is located "4 rue du Maire Kuss", near the railway station.

• Airport:
There is a bus-tram shuttle to and from the airport that costs about 6 euros each way and includes the price of the tram ticket. It leaves from Baggersee station of the tram A. Buses come every 20-30 min and it takes 20 minutes to arrive to the airport.

Going out…

You can find addresses of restaurants, bars, announces for concerts and so on on the following website: http://www.webcity.fr/, clicking on "Strasbourg".
For the cinema, you can find info on: http://cinema.dna.fr/

(Note: cinemas like Star, Star St. Exupery and Odysee they project films in the original language with French subtitles).

Please note that a lot of information concerning all aspects of the life in Strasbourg is available on the website: http://www.strasbourg.fr/

Useful links to find addresses, locations and telephone numbers are:

Pages jaunes :
http://www.pagesjaunes.fr/

Mappy :
http://www.mappy.fr/

The IKEA website in Strasbourg is:
http://www.ikea.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/IkeaNearYouView?storeId=4&langId=-2&catalogId=10101&StoreName=strasbourg).

And to check the nice 'Strasbourg' weather, you can go to:
http://www.meteo-strasbourg.net/