

Information about visa, residence permit & health insurance

Visa and Residence Permit

Students from EU/EFTA countries

Students from EU or EFTA countries do not need a visa to study in Switzerland.

After arrival in Switzerland, you must register at the local municipal office within **14 days**. Together with the International Student Advisor, you will apply for an **L Permit** (residence permit for stays of up to one year).

The processing and issuance of the residence permit costs about **CHF 70.00**.

Students from Great Britain

Students from Great Britain must apply for an **entry permit** ("Einreisebewilligung") before travelling to Switzerland.

The processing and issuance of the entry permit costs about **CHF 100.00**.

After arrival in Switzerland, you must apply for a residence permit. Together with the International Student Advisor, you will apply for an **L Permit** (residence permit for stays of up to one year) at the local municipal office.

The processing and issuance of the residence permit costs (for non-EU/EFTA) about **CHF 140.00**.

Students from Non-EU /EFTA countries

Students from non-EU/EFTA countries must apply for a **student visa** at the Swiss embassy or consulate in their home country before travelling to Switzerland.

Depending on the length of stay, there are two types of visas for students:

- **C Visa** for a shorter stay max. **90 days** (summer schools, seminars, etc.)
- **D Visa** for an extended stay (e.g. for an exchange semester lasting longer than three months)

The processing and issuance costs of **visa type C or D cost approximately CHF 90.00**.

After arrival in Switzerland, students must register at the local municipal office and apply for a **residence permit**.

Where should I apply for a Swiss visa?

When applying for a Swiss visa, you must book an appointment at the **Swiss embassy or consulate in your home country**.

Please make sure to book your appointment **well in advance (ideally up to six months before your planned departure)**, as the visa process may take several weeks.

All documents must be submitted in **French, German, or English**. If your documents are in another language, you must provide **certified translations**.

Health insurance

Do I need health insurance?

Health insurance is **mandatory for students staying in Switzerland for longer than three months**. Before your exchange semester, please check whether your current health insurance is **valid in Switzerland** and what it covers (for example through the **European Health Insurance Card – EHIC**).

If your insurance is not valid in Switzerland, please contact the **International Student Advisor** for further information.