

Frequently Asked Questions by Prospective International Students and Doctoral Candidates

Type of University

There are 12 universities awarding doctorate degrees in Switzerland, 10 cantonal universities and 2 Federal Institutes of Technology. Additionally, there are further types of universities as universities of applied sciences, universities of teacher education and a few more university-level institutions, which are public institutions of higher education. The following information regards the 12 public universities in Switzerland.

Study Programs

All Swiss universities offer a range of Bachelor's, Master's and PhD programs. The details on the study programs are published on the websites of the institutions.

Grading and Credit System

In Switzerland, usually a 6-point grading scale is used, where 6 represents the highest and 1 the lowest grade: 6 = excellent; 5 = good; 4 = pass; below 4 = fail

The Università della Svizzera italiana is using a 10-point grading scale:
10 = very good; 8 = good; 6 = pass; below 6 = fail

Switzerland's higher education institutions are using the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). One credit corresponds to 25-30 working hours („student workload“). 60 ECTS credits are attached to the workload of a full-time year of formal learning (academic year) where a student's workload ranges from 1,500 to 1,800 hours.

Academic Calendar

The academic year is divided into two semesters:

Fall semester: lectures from September (week 38) to December (week 51)

Spring semester: lectures from February (week 8) to May (week 22)

Examination dates differ according to university and faculty and can take place at the end of a lecture period or during the semester break.

Average Study Time

A Bachelor's degree consists of 180 ECTS credits and can be completed within three years (provided 60 credits are obtained per academic year).

Master's programs have been designed to be completed in 3 semesters (1.5 years/90 ECTS) or 4 semesters (2 years/120 ECTS).

Research doctorate degrees are generally awarded after 3-5 years of postgraduate research and study, and submission of a thesis.

Language requirements

The language of instruction especially on **Bachelor's level** is the official language of the location of the university, i.e. German, French or Italian.

The language of instruction for **Master's programs** varies from university to university. Some programs offer course work in English and German/French. Some programs are predominantly taught in English.

A **PhD** can usually be completed in English.

The websites www.studyingswitzerland.ch and www.uni-programme.ch present all programs including the respective teaching language. Candidates must be in command of sufficient language skills in the language of instruction of their selected program (English and/or German/French/Italian).

Notice to candidates from the People's Republic of China: The Swiss embassy/consulate general requires Chinese citizens applying for a student visa to provide a valid IELTS test. If you already have a TOEFL test score, you can use this for your application. If admitted, you may have to take the IELTS test.

Admission

Bachelor

Students applying for a Bachelor's degree must fulfill the national admission requirements as well as the requirements of the cantonal universities or federal institutes of technology. Details can be found on the respective website of CRUS (in German only): <http://www.crus.ch/information-programme/studying-in-switzerland/anmeldung-zulassung.html?L=2>

Master

To be eligible for admission to a Master's program at a Swiss university, you need to have a high-quality Bachelor's degree or an equivalent first academic degree from an internationally recognized university. The degree must be in a related subject to the Master's program you wish to apply to. Your previous studies must comply in quality, depth and breadth with the requirement profile of the chosen Master's program.

If you have not yet completed your Bachelor's program you can apply and be conditionally admitted with the requirement that you obtain your Bachelor's degree before the start of the Master's program.

On request, applicants need to provide evidence that their degree entitles them to access graduate studies in the same field at their degree awarding university, if such a program is available, or at another university in their home country. This requirement applies in particular to candidates of non-Swiss universities and university-level institutions, which are not entitled to confer Master's and/or PhD degrees (e.g. Brazil: Facultades; Scandinavia: University Colleges).

PhD

Admission requirements and application information can be found on the websites of each of the 12 public universities. Doctoral students plan and write their dissertations within the framework of a traditional doctorate or within the framework of "schools" or "programs".

Deadlines

The application deadlines for all programs vary between institutions. Please check the websites of the universities.

Studying Medicine in Switzerland as a Non-Swiss Citizen

Admission to study medicine in Switzerland is strongly restricted for non-Swiss citizens. More information can be found on the respective website of CRUS (in German only: www.crus.ch/information-programme/anmeldung-zum-medizinstudium.html?L=2) and on the websites of the universities.

Tuition fees

Higher education in Switzerland is publicly funded so the tuition fees – both for Swiss and international students – are very modest. Currently the tuition and semester fees for international students vary from CHF 500 to CHF 4,000 per semester depending on the university. Please find an overview on the tuition fees on the website of CRUS: www.crus.ch/information-programme/studying-in-switzerland.html?L=2 - 8_Costs

Living expenses

A typical student budget is around CHF 1,750 to 2,500 per month, including tuition, housing, subsistence, insurance, transport and other living costs (depending on the location of the university and personal demands). For doctoral students with a higher living standard the budget may be between CHF 2,000 and 3,500.

Scholarships

Some universities and the Swiss government provide scholarships to talented foreign graduate and PhD students. For the application details and deadlines check the information on the universities' websites. For Swiss Government Scholarships, check the website of the State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation: www.sbf.admin.ch/themen/01366/01380/01828/index.html?lang=en

Many doctoral students are employed as research assistants, i.e. they get a salary. PhD student salaries vary between CHF 3,000 and 4,800 per month, depending on the university, the department and the thesis. Some universities also reduce the tuition fee for doctoral students.

Immigration

Students who are admitted to a Swiss university can apply for a student visa. Please contact the Swiss embassy in your home country for detailed information. General information can be found on the website of the Swiss Federal Office of Migration: www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home.html

Working in Switzerland

During the lecture period, international students are generally allowed to work a maximum of 15 hours a week. Within the first six months, Bachelor's students from non-EU countries are not allowed to work and Master's students from non-EU countries are only allowed to work at their university (assistantship). The detailed regulations for work permits depend on the canton of the university in Switzerland and your country of origin. Please check the website of the corresponding migration office or the cantonal Office for Economy and Labor for exact details.

Dormitories/Housing

Most universities have a number of rooms reserved for international students. The International Student Services and the Housing Office are at hand to help finding accommodation.

Where can I get further information?

Please check the websites of the universities:

University of Basel:	www.unibas.ch	University of Neuchâtel:	www.unine.ch
University of Bern:	www.unibe.ch	University of St. Gallen:	www.unisg.ch
University of Fribourg:	www.unifr.ch	University of Zurich:	www.uzh.ch
University of Geneva:	www.unige.ch	Università della Svizzera Italiana:	www.usi.ch
University of Lausanne:	www.unil.ch	EPF Lausanne:	www.epfl.ch
University of Lucerne:	www.unilu.ch	ETH Zurich:	www.ethz.ch

University of Bern, Switzerland's Capital University
Researching and teaching at the highest level

Overview

The University of Bern offers top quality across the board. It earns special recognition in cutting-edge disciplines, is renowned for the excellent quality of its teaching, offers a delightful setting, and a campus environment intimately linked to the social, economic and political life of the city. The University of Bern's comprehensive offering includes 40 Bachelor and 70 Master programs, PhDs in all disciplines, 10 Graduate Schools and more than 200 executive programs. The University encompasses the complete array of classical disciplines: theology, humanities, human sciences, law, economics and social sciences, medicine, veterinary medicine and natural sciences.



Key Figures 2013

Number of students:	16'000
Female students:	54%
International students:	13%
Strategic research centers:	9

Study Programs

A wide variety of attractive bachelor, master and doctoral degree programs in all disciplines: theology, humanities, human sciences, law, economics and social sciences, medicine, veterinary medicine and natural sciences

www.unibe.ch/eng/studies/prospective_students.html

On doctoral level several Summer or Winter Schools are offered each year: for further information contact the Graduate School directly:

www.unibe.ch/eng/studies/doctoral_programmes.html

Application

Bachelor: for entrance requirements from your country, refer to

www.zib.unibe.ch > EN (above) > Internationals > Application and Admission

Master: a Bachelor degree from a recognized university and admission from faculty of graduate school

PhD/Doctoral: a Master degree from a recognized university and admission from faculty or graduate school

- www.zib.unibe.ch > EN (above) > Internationals > Application and Admission

Language requirements

Bachelor programs are taught in German.

Master programs are taught in German or in English.

Graduate schools and most doctoral programs are taught in English.

> www.zib.unibe.ch > EN (above) > Internationals > Application and Admission

Immigration

Swiss Entry Requirements EU or EEA (European Economic Area) Citizens:

No visa is required.

Non-EU and non-EEA citizens:

Citizens have to ask about visa regulations at the Swiss embassy in their home country.

www.int.unibe.ch > Incoming > Regular International Students

Finances

Annual tuition fees for international and national students: CHF 1,610 (~1,300 € ~1,500 \$ (12/2013)
living expenses in Bern: at least CHF 1,500 per month.

Grants, Scholarships

Master Grants University of Bern and Swiss Federal Scholarships

www.int.unibe.ch > Incoming > Regular International Students > Master Grants

Housing

Students halls of residence

<http://www.vbsl.ch>

Accommodation service by the Students Union SUB

<http://subnew.unibe.ch/wohnen>

further opportunities, appartements shares

www.int.unibe.ch > Incoming > Regular International Students > Accommodation in Bern

Additional Offers

Language courses

Academic English <http://www.entwicklung.unibe.ch/aes>

German as a Foreign Language <http://www.daf.unibe.ch>

Sports facilities

A very attractive sports programme for students of the University of Bern for free

<http://www.sport.unibe.ch> > EN

Students Associations

Extramurals activities in culture, religion, politics

www.unibe.ch/campus/gruppen.html

Exchange students

Students from Universities with which the University of Bern has an exchange agreement are not required to pay fees. For applications: contact your International Office.

Further Information

Student information Services

info@zib.unibe.ch

www.infostelle.unibe.ch > EN

Admissions

info@zib.unibe.ch

www.zib.unibe.ch > EN

University of Geneva

Overview

Founded in 1559 by Jean Calvin, the University of Geneva (UNIGE) is dedicated to thinking, teaching, dialogue and research. With 16'500 students of more than 140 different nationalities, it is Switzerland's second largest university. It also has the highest rate of female enrolment (61% as against a national average of 50.2%). UNIGE's buildings are spread across the city, thus ensuring a strong link between student and city life, and certain research centres are located in the country or near the lakeshore.

16,500 students
4,200 employees
28 bachelor's degrees
97 master's degrees
85 doctoral degrees
258 continuing education programmes
4,700 diplomas awarded

Study Programs

UNIGE is composed of nine faculties (Science, Medicine, Humanities, Social Science, Economics and Management, Law, Psychology, and Educational Science, Protestant Theology and Translation, and Interpreting). There are also several Interdisciplinary Centres (informatics, neurosciences and environment...). UNIGE offers more than 280 types of degrees and more than 250 Continuing Education programmes covering an extremely wide variety of fields : exact sciences, medicine and humanities.

Programs taught in English

http://www.unige.ch/international/Futuretudiant/document/telecharger/Programmes_taught_in_english_janvier_2014.pdf

Joint degrees

JOINT DIPLOMA

http://www.unige.ch/international/collaborationspartenariats/diplconjoint_en.html

JOINT DOCTORAL DEGREE

The joint doctoral degree allows a doctoral candidate to earn a degree from two separate institutions by defending one single dissertation. The dissertation is supervised by two thesis directors, one from each institution, which thereby undertake to award a single doctoral degree on the basis of one dissertation. The diploma so awarded indicates that it has been granted as a double doctorate by «The partner institution» and the UNIGE.

Short-term programs

<http://cms.unige.ch/exchange2012/en/in/international-exchanges/what-to-study/english-short-term>

Application

Enrolling at the University of Geneva

www.unige.ch/enrolment

Tuition fees: CHF 500.00 per semester

Pre-enrolment deadlines for Bachelor: 10 January 2014:

Last chance to pre-enrol at the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting (FTI)

15 February 2014: Last chance to pre-enrol for medical studies by way of the Conference of Rectors of Swiss Universities (CRUS)

Applications for enrolment for Bachelor: 30 April 2014¹ (Students requiring an entry visa to Switzerland are strongly advised to apply by 28 February 2014)

Contact :immat@unige.ch

+41 (0)22 379 77 39 or +41 (0)22 379 78 74

Requirements for students with international qualification

<http://www.unige.ch/dife/sinscrire/conditions-admissions/diplomes-etranagers/etranagers.html>

Language requirements

http://www.unige.ch/dife/sinscrire/conditions-admissions/examens/francais_en.html

Immigration

Resident permit

<http://cms.unige.ch/exchange2012/en/in/erasmus-europe/once-in-geneva/residence-permit>

<http://www.ge.ch/sec/>

Finances

Tuition fees: CHF 500.00 per semester

Scholarships

http://www.unige.ch/international/Futuretudiant/financement_en.html

Work permission

<http://cms.unige.ch/exchange2012/en/in/erasmus-europe/once-in-geneva/working>

<http://uniemploi.unige.ch/offres-uniemploi-ang>

Housing

Guidelines

http://www.unige.ch/batiment/division/service-batiments/prestations/loger_en.html

Average price: 600-800 CHF

Additional Offers

<http://www.unige.ch/dife/etudiantplus.html>

Further Information

<http://www.unige.ch/international/index.html>



Overview

The University of Lausanne is a Swiss state university founded in 1537, focused on Life Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Business, Social Sciences and Humanities. UNIL has outstanding results in research and is also renowned for its innovative teaching methods.

Study Programs

- UNIL offers 15 Bachelor's and 33 Master's degrees as well as Doctorates in the fields of Life Sciences, Business, Environmental Sciences, Humanities, Social Sciences, Humanities, Sport Sciences and Medicine.
- Programmes taught in English:
 - MSc in Geology
 - MSc in Molecular Life Sciences
 - MSc in Behaviour, Evolution and Conservation
 - MSc in Medical Biology
 - MSc in Management
 - MSc in Finance
 - MSc in Economics
 - MSc in Actuarial Science
 - several PhD programmes
- Courses in French and a foreign language are offered during the semesters. Courses are also offered during the university breaks in summer and winter (3- and 6-week courses)

Application

- Application criteria for bachelor's programmes are available on www.unil.ch/immat
- Admission to Master's programmes and Doctorates is based on the application file (more information on www.unil.ch/immat)
- Application must be submitted before February 28 each year.

Requirements for students with international qualification

- Strong motivation and outstanding academic records

Language requirements

- At bachelor's level, almost all courses are taught in French (level B1 is required, B2 recommended)
- At master's level, programmes are taught in English and/or French (level C1 recommended)
- At doctoral level, a very good command of French or English is required
- UNIL is located in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. Basic skills in French are recommended for daily life and social integration.

Immigration

- EU citizens: no visa required
- Non EU citizen: a visa is required. Please note that the process takes minimum 3 months to complete.

Finances

- Tuition fees: CHF 580 per semester for local and international students (CHF 80 for Doctorates). A non-refundable CHF 200 application fee is required for holders of a non-Swiss degree.
- The cost of living is approx. CHF 1950 per month (all included).
- UNIL offers each year approx. 10 Masters' grants to holders of a foreign degree, on a competitive basis.
- Foreign students can obtain a student's work authorization only 6 months after arrival (this delay does not apply to EU students). The authorization allows the student to work up to 15h/week during the semester and fulltime during holidays (max. 3 months per year).

Housing

- Average price for a room: CHF 700.- per month
- Finding housing in Lausanne is currently difficult (UNIL housing office: www.unil.ch/logement)

Additional Offers

- Free language courses in several contemporary languages
- Sports facilities with more than 90 activities available at very low cost
- A vibrant cultural life on campus (theatre, cultural workshops, students' associations etc.)

Further Information

- Programme descriptions: www.unil.ch/programmes
- Information for prospective students: www.unil.ch/international
- Admissions: www.unil.ch/immat

Contact:

marc.pilloud@unil.ch

The University of Lucerne

Overview

The University of Lucerne is the youngest university in Switzerland. Its roots stretch back as far as 1600, but it has only existed as a modern university since the year 2000. The number of students has grown from about 250 in the founding year to currently around 2'700 students.

The University of Lucerne comprises three faculties: Theology, Humanities and Social Sciences and Law. Its emphasis on networking is a particular characteristic. In the areas of research, teaching and services it creates links between confessions and religions, times and cultures, philosophy, politics and law. It holds the leading position in tertiary education in Central Switzerland, is a player in the realms of scientific research, education and further education. It numbers amongst the profiling factors in the economic life of Central Switzerland and is a motor for regional and cross-regional development.

Total Students Fall Semester 2013	2'874	
Bachelor Level	1'484	52%
Master Level	883	31%
Others (non-regular students)	58	2%
PhD Level	298	10%
Continuing Education	151	5%
Total Staff as per 2012	448	
Academic	322	72%
Administrative	126	28%

Study Programs

The following page provides a complete overview of the Bachelor degrees, Master degrees, Doctorates and short-term programs available at the University of Lucerne:

http://www.unilu.ch/eng/studienangebot_4038.html

Application

Information regarding the admission application process for the University of Lucerne can be found here: <http://www.unilu.ch/files/zlr-2013---gesamtdokument-en.pdf>

The application deadlines for Bachelor, Master and Doctoral studies' students can be found here: http://www.unilu.ch/eng/anmeldetermine_6510.html

Requirements for students with international qualification

It is up to the applicants themselves, to provide evidence that they fulfill the requested admission criteria.

A foreign school-leaving certificate must fulfill the conditions outlined on pages 2-4 of the following document:

<http://www.unilu.ch/files/zlr-2013---gesamtdokument-en.pdf>

Language requirements

German is the main language of instruction and the language of administration at the University of Lucerne. Therefore the University requires a good command of German from its students. Appli-

cants who are not native German speakers must prove their language competence in German for admission to Bachelor or to Master studies.

The Master in Health Sciences is taught solely through the medium of English and thus no proof of German language competence is required for this particular programme.

Immigration

General information on the conditions for obtaining a Swiss student visa can be found here:

http://www.unilu.ch/eng/einreise_in_die_schweiz_4254.html

Finances

An overview of the current application and tuition fees can always be found here:

<http://www.unilu.ch/files/Info-Gebuehren-englisch-neu-Mai-2013.pdf>

Housing

Information on affordable accommodation options for students can be found here:

http://www.unilu.ch/eng/wohnen_4726.html

Additional Offers

Further information regarding language courses, sports facilities, student organization etc. can be found via the following link: http://www.unilu.ch/eng/studentisches_leben_4462.html

Further Information

For more information please consult the page 'Quick Info for Potential Students':

http://www.unilu.ch/eng/studieninteressierte_schnell_370923.html





University of Zurich (UZH)

Overview

The University of Zurich (UZH) was founded in the year 1833 and is today with its 26,000 enrolled students, Switzerland's largest university. UZH belongs to Europe's most prestigious research institutions and is as such a member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU). Made up of seven faculties covering some 100 different subject areas, the University offers a wide variety of Bachelor's, Master's and PhD programs. In addition, UZH's continuing education programs offer excellent learning opportunities.

Numerous distinctions highlight the University's international renown in the fields of medicine, immunology, genetics, neuroscience and structural biology as well as in economics. To date, the Nobel Prize has been conferred on twelve UZH scholars. In 2013, UZH was ranked on position 60 in the overall Shanghai Ranking (Individual disciplines: Life Sciences & Agricultural Sciences: international rank 27; Clinical Medicine & Pharmacy: international rank 38; Social Sciences: international rank 51-75; Economics/Business Administration: international rank 51-75), on position 78 in the QS Ranking and on position 121 in the Times World University Ranking. Furthermore, the Faculty of Economics, Business Administration & IT is accredited by both, AACSB and EQUIS.

Study Programs

- Bachelor and Master degree programs of the Faculties of Science, Arts and Social Sciences, Veterinary Science, Medicine, Economics, Business Administration and Information Technology, Law and Theology www.degrees.uzh.ch
- PhD fields of Study of all faculties: www.grc.uzh.ch/interest-phd/interestphd_en.html
- Doctoral Programs and Graduate Schools: www.grc.uzh.ch/interest-phd/pgrs_en.html

Application

With a foreign qualification, the application periods are:

- For fall semester: December 1 to April 30; if you require a visa: at latest by Feb. 28
- For spring semester: May 1 to November 30; if your require a visa: at latest by Sept. 30

Requirements for students with international qualification

Bachelors Level

Foreign qualifications recognized by UZH must represent the highest possible graduation diploma from a high school or secondary school in the respective country and entitle students to a place at any university faculty and to any field of study in that country. A Baccalauréat International is recognized if 32 of 42 are reached and six fields of study are displayed. At least three fields of study have to be completed at higher level (one of them in natural science). For details visit the website of the admission office at UZH: www.uzh.ch/studies/application/bachelor_en.html

Masters Level

High-quality Bachelor degree or an equivalent first academic degree from an internationally recognized university. The degree must be in a related subject to the respective Master program. Check for the specific requirement profiles of the different master programs here:

www.uzh.ch/studies/application/master_en.html

PhD Level

Individual doctorate and PhD programs: www.uzh.ch/studies/application/doktoratphd_en.html



Language requirements

The language of instruction on the Bachelors level is German. On the Masters level, the language of instruction is mostly German, some programs offer course work in English and German and some programs are predominantly taught in English. Candidates must be in command of sufficient language skills in the language of instruction of their selected program. A corresponding language certificate must be provided at the latest before begin of studies. The minimum required is level C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Corresponding scores of the most common English language tests depend on the faculty and the study program.

Immigration

Please contact the Swiss embassy or consulate in your country for information about the immigration procedure. Students from countries with a visa requirement need to apply for a visa at the Swiss embassy or consulate general of their home country at least three months before entry. After having entered Switzerland, all students are required to register at the local residents' registration office.

Information for all students: www.uzh.ch/studies/application/generalinformation/entry_en.html

Information for international Master students: www.int.uzh.ch/in/master_en.html

Finances

Tuition fees for International students with a foreign entry qualification per semester:

Bachelor: CHF 1269 / Master: CHF 869 / PhD: CHF 299

Many UZH doctoral students are employed as research assistants, i.e. they get a salary and do not need a scholarship (especially in the field of Science). PhD student salaries vary between CHF 3000 and 4800 per month, depending on the department and the thesis.

Housing

UZH has number of dorm places reserved for international students:

www.int.uzh.ch/in/program/organization/before/housing_en.html

An average room in a shared apartment in Zurich costs between CHF 400–800 per month. A room in a student dorm typically costs around CHF 450–500 per month.

Additional Offers

Students can learn various languages at the Language Center of UZH:

www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch

The Academic Sports Association Zurich provides a varied range of over 120 sport activities:

www.asvz.ch

Further Information

Admissions Office

Rämistrasse 71

CH-8006 Zürich

Tel: +41 44 634 22 36

admission@uzh.ch

Opening times Mo-Fr: 09.30-12.30

www.uzh.ch/studies/application.html

www.uzh.ch

International Relations Office

Rämistrasse 71

CH-8006 Zürich

www.int.uzh.ch

University of St. Gallen (HSG)

Overview

The University of St. Gallen (HSG) was founded as a “Business Academy” in 1898 – in the heyday of St. Gallen embroidery. We continue to pursue the goal of providing our more than 7,600 students with a practice-oriented education, guided by an integrative view of management, economics, law, social sciences and international affairs. With success: the University of St. Gallen has constantly been ranked among the top business schools in Europe. Our Master in Strategy and International Management is ranked 1st worldwide in the Financial Times Ranking. In addition, the CEMS MIM programme is 7th and the Master in Banking and Finance is ranked 10th. Accreditations by EQUIS and AACSB International underline our commitment to a holistic curriculum that meets the highest academic standards.



The HSG is a bilingual institution and offers programmes at various levels: The Bachelor's courses for undergraduates are taught in German and in English. Seven of the thirteen subsequent Master's programmes (postgraduate programmes) are taught entirely in English. Furthermore, the HSG offers most of the Ph.D. programmes in English.

Study Programs

Undergraduate Studies: Bachelor's Programmes

Business Administration (English and German) | Economics (English and German) | International Affairs (English and German) | Law (German) | Law and Economics (German)

Postgraduate Studies: Master's Programmes

Business Innovation (German) | Marketing, Services and Communication Management (English and German) | Accounting and Finance (German) | Banking and Finance (English) | Strategy and International Management (English) | Business Management (German) | Management, Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (German) | Economics (English and German) | Quantitative Economics and Finance (English) | International Affairs and Governance (English and German) | International Law (English) | Law (German) | Law and Economics (German)

Ph.D. Programmes

Management (5 specialisations / English and German) | Finance (English) | Economics and Finance (English) | International Affairs and Political Economy (English and German) | Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (English and German) | Law (German)

Exchange Programmes and Double Degree Programmes: www.exchange.unisg.ch

Application

Please note that you can only enrol online during the enrolment windows:

(www.admissions.unisg.ch)

- For programmes starting in the Autumn Semester: 1 Feb to 30 April of the current year
- For programmes starting in the Spring Semester: 1 Sept to 30 Nov of the preceding year

Requirements for students with international qualification

Bachelor's Level

Only students holding a recognised school leaving certificate, for example the International Baccalaureate, the A-Levels, the Pre-US, the “Swiss Matura” or the “German Abitur” are eligible to apply.



Students holding school leaving certificates from other countries should contact the Admissions Office for further information. For foreign applicants: HSG entrance examination or (just for applicants outside the European area) GMAT 680 / GRE 160 / LSAT 163. Evidence of an adequate command of the programme language (Level B2).

Master's Level

Recognised Bachelor's degree in the same or a similar major. GMAT 680, GRE 160 or LSAT 163 (depending on the programme). Possibly a language test (Level C1)

Ph.D. Level

Admission is contingent on a Master's degree obtained from a university. Applicants must have obtained their Master's degree in consecutive degree courses. Admission on the basis of a Master of Advanced Studies (MAS, Master of Business Administration [MBA], Executive Master, etc.) is ruled out. Please find detailed information on www.phd.unisg.ch.

Please consult our website for detailed information on admission criteria: www.admissions.unisg.ch

Immigration

Please contact the Swiss Embassy in your home country as early as possible. It can take up to several months to get a visa. Enrolment Services assists international students with immigration formalities, with problems during their early days at the HSG and with general issues related to settling down at St.Gallen. www.admissions.unisg.ch-> Enrolment Services

Finances

Application fee: CHF 250

Tuition fee per semester for foreign Bachelor's students: CHF 3,126 / foreign Master's students: CHF 3,326 / foreign Ph.D. students: CHF 1,076

The living costs vary according to students' lifestyle. Students should budget around CHF 2,300 per month for overall expenses.

Scholarships: The HSG maintains grants or interest-free loans. Please contact Ms Eva Flick, Head of the Advice Center for Study Funding, for further information. www.studyfunding.unisg.ch

The University of St.Gallen's Career Services Center (CSC-HSG) offers information for international students on Swiss work permit regulations and supports them with their entry into the labor market. International students are permitted to pursue a side job for a max. of 15 hours a week. Please contact the CSC-HSG for further information. csc@unisg.ch / www.csc.unisg.ch

Housing

The University of St.Gallen does not offer on campus accommodation. Students share apartments or rent small studios. Students can rent a single bedroom from CHF 500 upwards per month. The HSG's Student Mobility offers a limited number of rooms in a student residence against a brokerage fee. Interested students should contact them as early as possible: exchange@unisg.ch

Further Information

University of St.Gallen (HSG)

Dufourstrasse 50
9000 St.Gallen / Switzerland
www.unisg.ch / info@unisg.ch

Admissions and Crediting Office

www.admissions.unisg.ch
admissions@unisg.ch

Università della Svizzera italiana

Overview

Founded in 1996, USI Università della Svizzera italiana is Switzerland's most international university. More than half of its students and professors come from abroad and contribute to creating a cosmopolitan and multicultural environment. Its relatively contained size and numbers assure direct interaction between the members of the academic community. The result is a collegiate, dynamic, and multicultural atmosphere, a powerful magnet for motivated students and talented researchers.

Total Students 2013-2014: 3015
2529 Students (Bachelor + Master)
293 PhD students
193 Executive master participants

Total Faculty 2013-2014: 238
99 Full professors
239 Lecturers
503 Assistants and researcher

Study Programs

The Università della Svizzera italiana is an Italian- and English-speaking university that comprises four Faculties: Architecture on the Mendrisio campus; Communication Sciences, Economics, and Informatics on the Lugano campus. The Bachelor in Architecture, Economics and Communication Sciences are taught entirely in Italian while the Bachelor in Informatics is given in English. At the Master level, 12 out of 17 programs are taught in English. Detailed information about the programs is available on www.bachelor.usi.ch, www.master.usi.ch and www.phd.usi.ch.

Application

For Bachelor's programs, find the admission requirements on

www.bachelor.usi.ch/en/requisiti-ammissione

More information on master's admission requirements are available on

www.master.usi.ch/en/study-related-information/admission

All the information regarding PhD Degrees at Università della Svizzera italiana is available on

www.usi.ch/en/phd

Requirements for students with international qualification

- Please refer to the links above.

Language requirements

- Bachelor level: Architecture, Economics, Communication, Italian language and culture are taught in Italian. B2 level is required for foreign students. Informatics is offered in English.
- Master level: Most Master's degree courses are taught entirely in English. Candidates will need to present an official certificate of proficiency (B2 level). Whilst it is an important requisite to be fluent in English, candidates do not need to know or learn Italian in order to successfully participate in the programmes offered in English.

More information on language requirements are also available on:

www.bachelor.usi.ch/en/lingue

www.master.usi.ch/en/practical-info

Immigration

In order to reside in Switzerland, all foreign students must apply for a student residence permit and register with the town Population office. Students from non EU/EFTA countries must also apply for a student visa prior to entering Switzerland.

More information are available on:

www.usi.ch/en/container_prospective_students/useful_information/foreign_students_visa_permits

Finances

Tuition fees for the Bachelor's and Master's degrees amount to CHF 4,000 per semester. Applicants whose official residence was in Switzerland with C permit (including Liechtenstein and Campione d'Italia) at the time of the final high school exam (Maturità) pay a reduced semester fee of CHF 2,000. Living in Lugano or Mendrisio entails for students a monthly expense of approximately CHF 1,500 - 2,300. In average, the monthly budget of a student is approximately as follows:

- CHF 450-800 Shared single room or one-bedroom apartment
- CHF 450 Food and other household expenses
- CHF 60-150 Public transport
- CHF 250 Books and study materials
- CHF 150 Leisure and travel
- CHF 160-280 Health Insurance, if needed

You can find a list of several grants offered to USI students on the following website:

www.master.usi.ch/grants

International students regularly registered in an academic degree programme at a university in Switzerland need to obtain a specific authorization from the competent offices before they start working. The maximum permitted work load is 15 hours per week. No such authorization, however, will be issued in the first 6 months of a student's stay.

Housing

This is a service provided by the University to help students in their search for a place to stay:

<http://www.alloggi.usi.ch/en/index.htm>

Additional Offers

USI offers **Italian language courses** for non Italian-speaking students, researchers and professors. The courses are offered throughout the academic year and they are free.

A Service for **Sport and Leisure** has been set up to promote joint sporting activities between the Università della Svizzera italiana and the University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI) and to coordinate local members' participation in national and international university sports events. The Service organizes regular sports activities, free or at convenient prices.

Further Information

Via Giuseppe Buffi 13
CH-6904 Lugano
Tel.: +41 (0)58 666 4795
Email: studyadvisor@usi.ch



Overview

EPFL is the **Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne**, located in full view of the Alps, on the north side of Lake Geneva. From its foundation in 1853, EPFL has evolved into an **internationally renowned** institution that attracts some of the best intellects in the world. With **state-of-the-art facilities, bright and motivated students** and **outstanding faculty**, EPFL's reputation as a **top-rate teaching and research institution** continues to grow.

Study Programs

EPFL gives access to most fields of **Basic Sciences, Engineering, Computer Science, Life Sciences** and **Architecture**. It currently offers 13 Bachelor's programs, 22 Master's programs and 18 interdisciplinary doctoral programs. 3 websites group all detailed information for prospective students:

- <http://bachelor.epfl.ch>
- <http://master.epfl.ch>
- <http://phd.epfl.ch>

Application

- For Bachelor's programs, find the admission criteria on <http://bachelor.epfl.ch>
- For Master's and doctoral programs, the admission is a (very) **competitive process** based on application (motivation letter, academic records, recommendations).
- For Master's programs, candidates can apply by the **15th of January or 15th of April** of each year. Applying by the first deadline allows candidates to receive **an earlier answer about their application** and therefore get more time to **prepare their arrival** (visa, accommodation, etc).
- Each doctoral program offers **several application deadlines per year**. Find all details on <http://phd.epfl.ch>

Requirements for students with international qualification

- **Strong academic records** in a related field and **outstanding motivation**.

Language requirements

- Bachelor's programs: a majority of courses are taught in French, a good command of this language is necessary.
- Master's level: a majority of the programs are entirely taught in English. A good command of French is however required for few masters.

- Doctoral level: a good command of English is necessary; no prerequisites in French required.

Immigration

(for admitted candidates)

- EU citizens: no visa required. A residence permit must be acquired upon arrival (administrative formality).
- Non EU citizens: visa required. The process takes around 3 months and candidates are advised to apply for a *temporary residence permit for study purposes* at the same time.

Finances

- Tuition fees: **CHF 1266.-/year** (no tuition fees for doctoral students)
- **Some excellence fellowships are offered to outstanding Master's candidates**
- Doctoral students benefit from a **dual status** (student and employee) and **therefore receive a full, competitive salary.**
- For international students (BSc and MSc levels) coming from **outside the EU**: a student's work authorization can be obtained minimum **6 months after arrival**. It allows the student to work up to 15h/week during the semester and fulltime during holidays (max. 3 months/year).
- For international Master's students (BSc and MSc levels) coming **from a EU country**: upon arrival a student's work authorization can be obtained. It allows the student to work up to 15h/week during the semester and fulltime during holidays (max. 3 months/year).

Housing

- It is recommended to start looking for a room or an apartment early, either as private accommodation or in student's residences.
- A service from EPFL support students in this process: <http://logement.epfl.ch>
- The average price for a room in a shared apartment or a student's residence turns around CHF 700.-/month.

Additional Offers

- **Free language courses** at EPFL's language center
- **Outstanding sports facilities** shared with the University of Lausanne, on the shore of the Lake
- **Numerous students associations** according to hobbies, origins, interests, etc.

Further Information

- www.epfl.ch
- <http://bachelor.epfl.ch>
- <http://master.epfl.ch>
- <http://phd.epfl.ch>
- **Contact:** spe@epfl.ch