4 steps

to university admission

Are you about to apply to a Swiss university? This step-by-step guide will help you find the information you are looking for.

step 1

Choose a university and a program

Browse the official database at www.studyprogrammes.ch.

Choose the type of university, language of instruction, level and field of study.

step 2

Check the admission requirements

In Switzerland, there is no centralised admission procedure. However, each university is autonomous and sets its own admission criteria. For specific information, you should therefore contact the admissions department of the university of your choice directly.

Undergraduate admission

The main requirement is a secondary school leaving certificate that is considered equivalent to the Swiss Matura. Please note that additional requirements must be met depending on the school leaving certificate obtained and the country of origin (https://www.swissuniversities.ch/en/topics/admission/admission-universities-schools/country), and that admission to undergraduate studies in the field of medicine is extremely restricted.

Admission to a master's program

The main requirement is a bachelor's degree from an accredited university in a specific field of study.

Admission to a doctoral program

The main requirement is a master's degree from an accredited university in a relevant field of study.

Language requirements

A good knowledge of the language of instruction is a prerequisite for successful studies. See step 3 below or the university profiles for more information on the language of instruction at the various universities.

step 3

Contact the university

The university of your choice will provide you with specific information about application deadlines, required documents, admission procedures and registration.

Apply for a visa

Before entering Switzerland, you must apply for a visa at the Swiss diplomatic/consular mission in your country of residence. Please note that it takes at least 8 weeks to obtain a visa. You cannot study in Switzerland with a tourist visa.

For the visa application, you must submit at least:

- proof of adequate financial resources to cover the cost of living in Switzerland during the course of your study so as to ensure that you will not become dependent on welfare benefits;
- a health insurance policy that includes accident coverage;
- a study plan with information about the purpose of your studies;
- a confirmation that you have been admitted to a recognised or accredited educational institution;
- proof that you fulfil the personal and educational requirements for the intended study;
- a motivation letter, your curriculum vitae and an information sheet detailing your language skills;
- proof that you have appropriate accommodation; and
- a confirmation that you will leave Switzerland at the end of your studies.

Please note that the Swiss diplomatic or consular mission may require additional documents or other guarantees. The competent Swiss authorities will ultimately decide whether the requirements for the planned study stay of more than three months are met.



If the faculty of the Swiss university subjects you to the ECUS exam, the BER school offers you a complete preparation over an academic year or an intensive revision before the exam. You can consult the information on our website: https://ecoleber.ch/examen-ecus/.

The BER School is a pioneer in preparation for the ECUS!