



# Universities / Universities of Applied Sciences

There are two different types of universities in Switzerland. The universities and the universities of applied sciences. Questions concerning admission on the basis of a foreign diploma should be directed to the universities.

## Higher Education System

Swiss higher education institutions are divided into universities, federal institutes of technology, universities of teacher education and universities of applied sciences (tertiary level | degré tertiaire). Universities of applied sciences are more practice-oriented and universities are more theory-oriented. The types are equal and organized according to the European Bologna System. On completion one receives a Bachelor's or Master's degree which is recognized throughout Europe.

## Admission

Universities have varying admission policies. Swiss gymnasium baccalaureate diplomas guarantee access to universities. Foreign diplomas will not always be recognized. Questions regarding the recognition of foreign diplomas for admission will be answered by the respective institution of higher education (university/training institution). In general, very good German or French skills are a prerequisite. An exception is made for courses of study which are offered entirely in English. Higher education advisory services of Bern will provide free information on higher education opportunities.

## Professional Education and Training

In addition to the universities professional education and training is a popular form of continuing one's education in Switzerland. This enables professionals to specialize and deepen their professional knowledge as well as their leadership skills. Professional education and training follows vocational education and training (Berufslehre | Apprentissage). A university preparatory school diploma is not necessary. The Vocational Guidance and Information Centers (BIZ | OP) will provide information on the various possibilities.

## Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

[www.hallo-bern.ch/en/school-and-education/universities--universities-of-applied-sciences](http://www.hallo-bern.ch/en/school-and-education/universities--universities-of-applied-sciences)