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# Apprenticeship or university? Or even both?

Swiss Abroad can also benefit from the excellent and diverse range of educational opportunities available in Switzerland.

In Switzerland, it is also possible to study at university after completing an apprenticeship. Unlike in many other countries, the education system in Switzerland is characterised by a high degree of flexibility. Anyone who has the necessary qualifications can, in principle, complete the training of their choice. The educational pathways can therefore be very varied.

Around two thirds of all young people choose the path of a vocational apprenticeship after completing compulsory schooling. Some of them complete the apprenticeship with a vocational baccalaureate, which opens direct access to a university of applied sciences at university level. With a further year of schooling, the so-called Passerelle, it is also possible to study at a "traditional" university.

One third of young people continue to attend a general education school such as a Gymnasium after completing compulsory education. The Swiss "maturity certificate" provides direct access to one of the 10 Swiss universities or to the federal institutes of technology (ETH Zurich, EPFL Lausanne). Holders of a maturity can also complete a vocational apprenticeship or study at a university of applied sciences with a one-year internship.

## Apprenticeship

Three- to four-year vocational apprenticeships are available in over 250 professions. During an apprenticeship, apprentices receive a modest

wage. Three days a week they usually work in the training company and two days they attend vocational school. However, there are also full-time vocational schools.

## Universities studies

In Switzerland, there are three types of higher education institutions offering Bachelor's and Master's studies:

- Universities of applied sciences offer practice-oriented programmes, as well as art and music faculties. With a Bachelor's degree, entry into the working world is usually smooth.
- Universities and institutes of technology offer courses in law, economics, mathematics, natural science, humanities, and social science. The Federal Institutes of Technology (ETHZ and EPFL) focus on engineering, mathematics, and natural science.
- Universities of teacher education provide teacher training at all school levels.

## Information and contact details

The team at educationsuisse speak English, German, French, Italian and Spanish. They can help you find the correct answers to your questions and give support on specific matters. For further information or queries, email [info@educationsuisse.ch](mailto:info@educationsuisse.ch) or call +41 (0)31 356 61 04. (RG)



## Paper prices at a record high

There is a paper shortage in Switzerland, as in the rest of Europe. Paper prices are soaring as a result. This is having a serious impact on newspapers and magazines, including "Swiss Review". In view of this, please note again that readers can pay a voluntary subscription to help fund the print edition of "Swiss Review". Your support expressed in this way will help us to offer the "Review" on paper in the same quality for many years to come. The bank details for the transfer of voluntary subscriptions are as follows (please note: cheques cannot be cashed):

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## Summer holiday camps for children aged 8 to 14

Swiss children living abroad will have an opportunity to get to know Switzerland and its culture – and have a great time with around 40 other children from around the world – at a series of two-week summer holiday camps from the end of June to the end of August 2022. Registration for these camps begins on 10 January 2022.

### The camp dates are:

Saturday 25 June – Friday 8 July 2022  
 Saturday 9 July – Friday 22 July 2022  
 Saturday 23 July – Friday 5 August 2022  
 Saturday 6 August – Friday 19 August 2022

Further details on the various offers (locations, age groups, etc.) will be available online from mid-December 2021 at [www.sjas.ch](http://www.sjas.ch). The registration deadline is 15 March 2022.

The Foundation for Young Swiss Abroad (FYSA) wants to give all Swiss children living abroad the chance to get to know Switzerland in this way at least once. We therefore offer price reductions whenever these are justified. The relevant fee reduction application form is available for completion when you sign up to a camp. For further details, please do not hesitate to contact the FYSA.

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## Youth offers in 2022 for young people from the age of 15



Next summer and next winter, the Organisation of the Swiss Abroad (OSA) will be organising holiday camps as well as online offers for young Swiss Abroad aged 15 or older. For further information, visit [revue.link/youthoffers](http://revue.link/youthoffers).

### Our holiday camps at a glance

**09.07. – 22.07.2022** Sport and leisure camp in Fiesch (canton of Valais)  
**23.07. – 05.08.2022** Sport and leisure camp (with or without a language course) in Jaun (canton of Fribourg)  
**06.08. – 21.08.2022** Swiss Challenge  
**28.12. – 06.01.2023** New Year's ski camp

### Our online offers:

**14.03. – 25.03.2022** Online German and French course  
**11.07. – 22.07.2022** Online German and French course  
**13.07.2022** 2nd Congress of Young Swiss Abroad, to be held online in collaboration with the Youth Parliament of the Swiss Abroad (YPSA)

We will also be happy to post you our information brochure including the schedule of events on request. You can sign up to our youth offers from 10 January 2022. The registration deadline is 15 March 2022.

We will naturally keep an eye on the pandemic. The health and safety of participants and camp organisers is our highest priority, and we will put in place all necessary and appropriate precautions in good time.

For further details, please do not hesitate to contact the Youth Service:

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