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Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education

## **STUDYING IN SWITZERLAND** UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

### **2009**



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# SWISS HIGHER EDUCATION

(by COHEP, CRUS, and KFH, Berne 2009)

## SWITZERLAND

### **The Country and its People**

Switzerland is a small country of 41 284 square kilometres located in Europe between France, Germany, Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein (FL), and Italy. Its capital is Berne. The country is one of the most mountainous in Europe: the Alps, Pre-Alps, and Jura occupy more than two-thirds of its land area. Contrasting with these mountainous regions is the Swiss plateau, which is home to a majority of the country's 7.4 million people.

Over two-thirds of the population live in urban areas. Zurich is Switzerland's largest city, with about 374 000 people. Four other cities have populations in excess of 100 000: Geneva, Basel, Berne and Lausanne. Zurich, Berne, and Geneva are all three placed on the second rank with respect to European cities' public safety and offer high quality of life which makes them to popular places of residence.

Geographically diverse, Switzerland is also diverse in terms of its spoken languages. This small country recognises no fewer than four national languages. German is spoken by 64 % of the population, French by 20 %, Italian by 6,5 %, and Romansh by less than 1 %. About 9 % speak other languages. A fifth of the population is made up of resident foreigners.

### **Economy**

Switzerland's unique education and training system provides a vast range of educational options, from vocational training and apprenticeships to university-level education, thereby producing a well qualified workforce at all levels. On account of Switzerland's high-quality education system and its multicultural society, a large part of the population is fluent in several languages. As the workforce is generally highly motivated, Switzerland ranks fifth among the world's leading national economies with respect to overall productivity.

Switzerland's size has enabled well-developed networks between the various fields of expertise in research, development, and industry. Its location in the heart of Europe is another advantage. Situated at the nexus of European technologies and cultures, Switzerland is equidistant between America and Asia. Close ties with the EU assure direct links to European science and innovation programmes. Bilateral contracts with the EU provide Swiss-based companies with excellent market access to more than 450 million consumers. And last but not least, Switzerland has an almost ideal size – and spirit – to qualify as a pilot market in which manufacturers can analyse market response to new products.

### Political Organisation

Switzerland is a confederation comprising 26 cantons. In 1848, Switzerland adopted a new constitution marking the power of the central government while at the same time leaving a relative high degree of sovereignty in the hands of the cantons. It constituted a decisive step towards democracy. It promoted centralisation without rejecting liberalism, in line with Swiss traditions. This federalist system is still in force today.

Endowed with their own constitutions, their own governments and their own laws, the cantons have the right to legislate in quite a lot of areas. In areas such as education they enjoy broad power.

Direct democracy is entrenched firmly at each level (Confederation, cantons, communes). Citizens do not only elect the members of their parliaments, but also the members of their governments, except for the Federal Council. Moreover, important questions are submitted to popular votings – for constitutional questions, or following the exercise of the popular right of initiative and referendum. In Switzerland, Members of Parliament are not professionals; they fulfil their local or federal mandates along with other jobs.

## THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN SWITZERLAND

Education has always been an overriding priority in Switzerland, as evidenced by an outstanding level of resources allocated to Swiss schools and different types of universities. Switzerland's unique dual education and training system provides a vast range of educational options, from vocational training and apprenticeships to university-level courses.

Preschool education (kindergarten) and compulsory schooling (primary and lower secondary) both take place in the communes. The Confederation ensures that primary education satisfies standards of quality, and guarantees compliance with the principle of free education. At the upper secondary level, the Confederation is responsible for vocational training. Recognition of the relevant certificates – the Federal Certificate of Competence and the Professional Maturity Certificate (Professional Baccalaureate) – is also a federal matter. General education at the upper secondary level and in the gymnasias, in particular, is the responsibility of the cantons which regulate the school-leaving examinations marking the completion of these academically oriented secondary-school studies. The Confederation recognises these diplomas insofar as they satisfy the relevant conditions. The diplomas certify that their holders have the required general knowledge and aptitudes to take university-level studies.

Higher education in Switzerland, fitting into the general dual system, covers the range from academic to applied studies by charging two types of institutions with the different training tasks. Twelve doctoral / research universities (ten cantonal universities and two Federal Institutes of Technology) offer theoretically oriented, scientific bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. Professionally oriented studies are offered at the nine universities of applied sciences («Fachhochschulen» / «Hautes écoles spécialisées») and at the 14 universities of teacher education («Pädagogische Hochschulen» / «Hautes écoles

pédagogiques»/«Alte scuole pedagogiche»). In the universities of applied sciences integrated are also the top education in music, theatre, design, and fine arts.

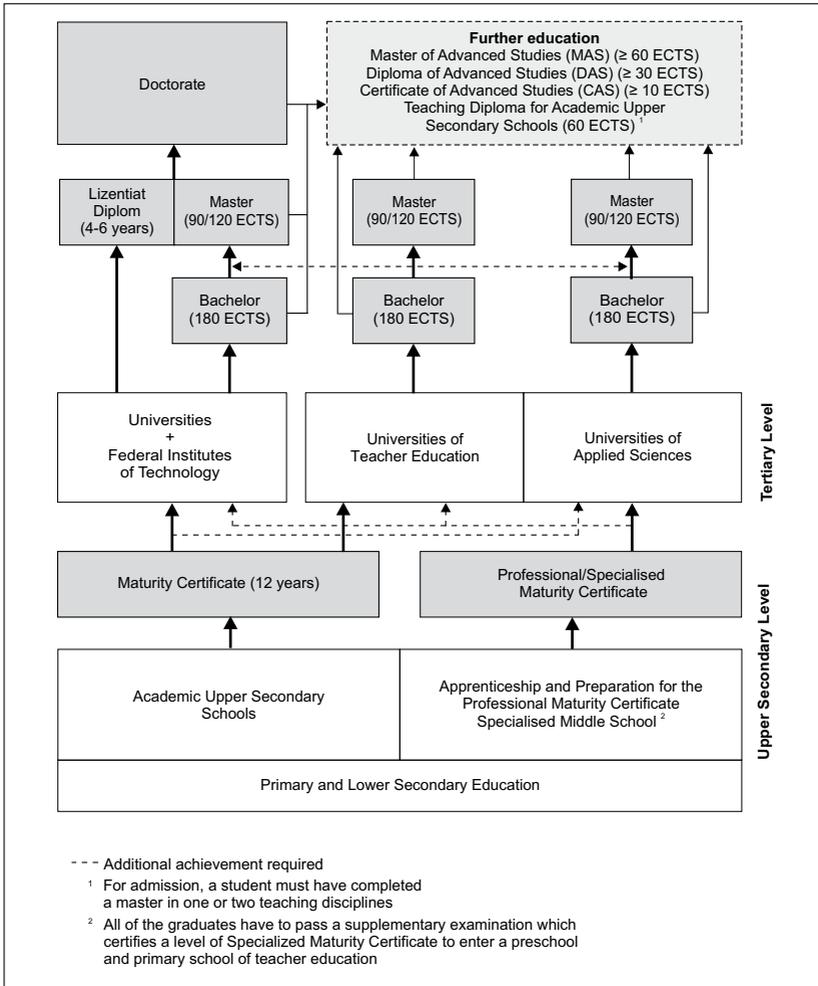
At all the different types of universities the Bologna declaration is implemented.

Holders of a maturity certificate («gymnasiale Matura») have access to the doctoral / research university or a university of teacher education. They also can enrol, after completing a one-year internship or work placement, in a university of applied sciences. Holders of a professional maturity certificate («Berufsmaturität») are entitled to study at a university of applied sciences or, after passing a supplementary examination, at a doctoral / research university or a university of teacher education.

The modern, diversified but coherent system of Swiss higher education is perfectly suited to the needs of students, the scientific community, modern society, and the economy and it is directly compatible with other European educational systems.

A perfect example for the coherence of the Swiss higher education system is the harmonisation of the semesters: Switzerland is the first and only country in Europe in which all higher education institutions start their courses in the same weeks of each year. The autumn semester begins in week 38 and the spring semester in week 8. Today, other European countries are discussing on how to follow the Swiss example.

*The Swiss Higher Education System*



**DOCTORAL/RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES**

Ten cantonal universities and two Federal Institutes of Technology are labelled **swissuniversity.ch**. They are currently the only research universities in Switzerland that are allowed to confer doctoral degrees. The ten cantonal universities are in Basel, Berne, Fribourg, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, St. Gallen, Italian-speaking Switzerland, and Zurich. Most of them have been evolving over a number of centuries in step with societal and economic needs, always in harmony with a humanist ideal.

Since the mid-19th century, the Confederation has played an active role in national science policy. While it began by creating its own polytechnic in Zurich, the Confederation now has six institutions comprising the two Federal Institutes of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) and in Zurich (ETHZ) and four research institutes, the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI), the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL), the Swiss Federal Institute for Materials Science and Technology (EMPA), and the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG). The two Federal Institutes of Technology (ETHZ and EPFL) are known worldwide and have brought forth many Nobel Prize laureates.

In addition to the federal institutes, Switzerland's cantonal universities also have excellent reputations on account of their high-quality research. In recent worldwide rankings at least five of the Swiss universities (depending on the ranked area) have always been amongst the 50 best universities of the world, which means they guarantee to all potential students the possibility of choosing among high-quality courses in different universities and in different cultural regions of Switzerland within a reachable distance.

Although each of the universities has its own characteristics, they all basically have the same structure combining research and education (a prerequisite for those students, who intend to follow their studies up to a doctorate level). The twelve Swiss universities are divided into faculties or departments, including theology, law, economic and social sciences, arts, natural science, and medicine (Fribourg and Neuchâtel offer but basic medical courses). St. Gallen is renowned for economics, social sciences and law especially in German-speaking Europe, but also in the US and Asia. Lucerne, the youngest institution to qualify as a Swiss university, in 2004, succeeds in offering Catholic theology/religious studies, humanities, and law. The second youngest Swiss university, the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) in the Italian-speaking canton of Switzerland, is not only famous for its courses in architecture with Prof. Mario Botta, but also offers economics, communication sciences, and informatics. The two Federal Institutes of Technology are well known for producing highly qualified engineers, architects, and scientists and work closely together with their counterparts, the University of Zurich and the University of Lausanne, respectively, in study areas such as the human sciences.

In addition, there are some smaller institutions offering a limited curriculum which confer diplomas in association with a traditional university. The following are considered as public institutions of higher education: the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies (L'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement, IHEID) in Geneva and the Graduate Institute for Advanced Public Administration (Institut de hautes études en administration publique, IDHEAP) in Lausanne. They are not allowed to confer doctoral degrees without specifically associating to one of the twelve doctoral/research universities.

For more information see [www.swissuniversity.ch](http://www.swissuniversity.ch), [www.crus.ch](http://www.crus.ch), [www.proff.ch](http://www.proff.ch). Specific information for doctoral candidates and researchers on: [www.euraxess.ch](http://www.euraxess.ch).

## UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Switzerland has since 1997 seven public-funded universities of applied sciences (UAS) and two private UAS which are recognised by the Swiss authorities. Both offer practice-oriented university-level education.

The universities of applied sciences are organised regionally and all have several campuses.

The universities of applied sciences in the German-speaking part of Switzerland are:

- Berne University of Applied Sciences (BFH, Berner Fachhochschule) with campuses in Berne, Burgdorf, Biel, Zollikofen, and Magglingen
- University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW, Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz) with campuses in Brugg / Windisch, Olten, Basel, and Muttenz
- University of Applied Sciences of Eastern Switzerland (FHO, Fachhochschule Ostschweiz) with main campuses in St. Gallen, Rapperswil, Buchs, and Chur
- Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts (Hochschule Luzern) with campuses in Lucerne and Horw
- University of Applied Sciences of Zurich (ZFH, Zürcher Fachhochschule) with campuses in Zurich, Winterthur, and Wädenswil
- Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences Switzerland (FH KAL) with campuses in Basel, Berne, St. Gallen und Zurich

The university of applied sciences in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland is:

- University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI, Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana) with campuses in Lugano, Manno, Canobbio, and Verscio

The universities of applied sciences in the French-speaking part of Switzerland is:

- University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland (HES-SO, Haute Ecole Spécialisée de la Suisse Occidentale) with main campuses in Geneva, Lausanne, Sion\*, Sierre\*, Fribourg, Yverdon-les-Bains, Changins, Neuchâtel, and La Chaux-de-Fonds. (\*offering, in part, degree programmes in German)
- University of Applied Sciences Les Roches Gruyère with campuses in Bluche, Bulle and Gihe

The universities of applied sciences (UAS) cover the following areas of knowledge and research:

- Engineering and Information Technology (all UAS except KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Architecture, Building Engineering and Planning (all UAS, except KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Agriculture and Forestry (BFH and HES-SO only)
- Chemistry and Life Sciences (all UAS except FHO, SUPSI and HSLU, KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Design (all UAS except FHO, KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Social Work (all UAS except KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Health (all UAS except HSLU and FHNW, KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Business, Management and Services (all UAS)

- Applied Psychology (ZFH and FHNW only)
- Applied Linguistics (ZFH only)
- Sports (BFH only)
- Teacher Education (ZFH, FHNW, and SUPSI)

A distinctive feature of Swiss universities of applied sciences is their integration of artistic courses of study in

- Theatre Arts (ZFH, BFH, and SUPSI only)
- Music (all UAS except FHO, KAL and Les Roches Gruyère)
- Fine Arts (all UAS except FHO), KAL and Les Roches Gruyère.

Universities of applied sciences provide a practice-oriented education, accommodating the needs of both students and the job market. They offer an excellent learning environment: small campuses, a communal atmosphere, a good learning infrastructure, well-equipped laboratories, a good student / faculty ratio, small study groups, student-oriented classes, and highly qualified teachers who are often involved in research and/or professional practice.

In addition to their bachelor's and master's degree programmes, the UAS offer a wide range of federally recognised courses in continuing education (MAS – Master of Advanced Studies / EMBA – Executive Master of Business Administration) to facilitate lifelong learning among graduates. Their flexible organisation allows UAS to respond quickly to the needs of both students and the professional environment.

In all departments, the UAS also conduct distinguished research which aims at solving problems related to their professional fields. With their research, the UAS form an important link in the innovation chain. Research at the UAS is also connected to instruction, with students gaining research expertise in their respective professional fields. In the artistic courses of study, the main emphasis is on the development of students' artistic identity.

As the education they receive is practice-oriented, students graduating from UAS have very good prospects on the job market. The most recent studies show that 96 % of students find employment in their professional field within twelve months of graduating. The education supplied by the UAS meets the demands of the job market. A UAS degree also serves as an entry qualification to further studies at universities both in Switzerland and abroad. All universities of applied sciences are accredited by the federal government of Switzerland.

For more information see [www.kfh.ch](http://www.kfh.ch) (website of the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences).

## UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

The universities of teacher education were created in 2001 and train teachers in Switzerland. The universities of teacher education have the same principals like the universities of applied sciences – they offer a practice-oriented education – but are for the most part independent establishments.

In most cases, teachers working at the different levels of the school system (initial and continuing education) are trained in the universities of teacher education which are financed by the cantons. In some cases the teachers are trained in universities or in other tertiary institutions.

Today, Switzerland has fourteen universities of teacher education. Twelve of them are independent establishments (Berne; Brig / St-Maurice; Chur; Fribourg; Kreuzlingen; Lausanne; Locarno; Luzern / Schwyz / Zug; Porrentruy / Bienne / La Chaux-de-Fonds; Schaffhausen; St.Gallen; Zurich<sup>1)</sup>) while two universities of teacher education form part of universities of applied sciences (in Basel / Brugg / Solothurn and in Zurich). In Geneva, the university trains future pre-primary and primary school teachers.

In Geneva, the university trains teachers at different levels: pre-primary, primary and soon, as a replacement of the Institut de Formation des Maîtresses et des Maîtres de l'enseignement Secondaire du canton de Genève (IFMES) still in service during a phase of transition, also secondary I and II. The University of Fribourg offer training courses for secondary I and II. In Zurich, training of teachers for secondary II is provided by an institute which is managed jointly by the university, the Federal Institute of Technology and the University of Teacher Education.

The Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training is responsible for the training and further education of teachers for the vocational education. They also provide a Master of Science in vocational training. The Swiss Federal Institute of Sport Magglingen (SFISM) passes on knowledge and develops appropriate skills for sport & physical activity's practice and education as well as for teacher training.

The universities of teacher education award diplomas, bachelor's or master's degrees for the following domains: pre-primary education, primary education, secondary education, special needs education, speech and language therapy, psychomotor therapy, vocational training and sport. Besides this, the universities of teacher education provide masters of advanced studies, diploma of advanced studies and certificate of advanced studies. The universities of teacher education are responsible for tuition (initial and continuing training), applied research, development and evaluation; they also provide other services like consultation, introduction to the profession, mobility and others.

## RELATIONS BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES, UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Cooperation and transfer possibilities between the different types of Swiss higher education institutions are essential. A perfect balance between cooperation and division of tasks are the objective of Switzerland's higher education institutions. The Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS), the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences (KFH), and the Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education (COHEP) therefore encourage exchange programmes and work together readily.

An example for this cooperation between the three rectors' conferences is the agreement concerning the permeability between the different types of universities. Under defined conditions students of one type of university can continue their studies at another type of university.

## INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

Switzerland participates as an «indirect partner» in the European Union's education programmes (Lifelong Learning Programme, [LLP], Leonardo da Vinci, Youth Programme). Swiss participation and scholarships awarded to foreign students who come to Switzerland are temporarily financed by the State Secretariat for Education and Research, SER.

The Information and Coordination ERASMUS Switzerland (ICES) agency, hosted by CRUS, is responsible for allocating the resources for ERASMUS student mobility grants to the participating higher education institutions.

The higher education institutions introduced the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which seeks to foster student mobility by ensuring the recognition of credits obtained elsewhere.

With the entry into force of the bilateral agreements between Switzerland and the EU, Swiss scientists have access to EU programmes to encourage mobility for researchers.

## RESEARCH IN SWITZERLAND<sup>2</sup>

Switzerland has superior qualities and skills in education, science and technology which are recognised internationally. The competitiveness of Switzerland is due to the considerable investment into research. On a percentage basis, the amount Switzerland spends on research and development in relation to gross domestic product (GDP) puts this country near the top of the list. More than two-thirds of these resources come from the private sector with the major interest coming from the chemical, pharmaceutical, electronics, and metallurgical industries.

The federal legislation puts the onus for the promotion of scientific research on the Confederation, which in turn has created various instruments including in particular the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Innovation Promotion Agency CTI to carry out this task.

The Swiss National Science Foundation is the most important instrument of the Confederation for the promotion of research and the development of a new generation of scientists. The foundation which was set up in 1952 supports scientific research at Swiss higher education institutions and independent research institutes. The main thrust of the foundation's activity is the financial backing of high-quality individual projects in the sphere of general basic research. The promotion of young scientific talent is

achieved through grants for future and advanced researchers and exchange programmes with various partner countries. The SNSF is also responsible for carrying out the National Research Programmes (NRP) and for the National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR). A special programme of the SNSF called DORE promotes the research in the fields of social sciences, health sciences, school education, music, and fine arts.

The Innovation Promotion Agency CTI is the federal agency promoting applied research and development of economic interest. The CTI promotes the development and application of new technologies and methodology. It brings dynamic companies and institutions and researchers at all types of universities together by supporting their cooperation in applied research and development. CTI services range from action programmes in different fields of the economy, the public services, and cultural life to the support for setting up of new firms and services. The tools of the CTI can also be used by small and medium-sized enterprises or other institutions with needs in new knowledge.

Basic research is carried out in Switzerland mainly by universities and the Federal Institutes of Technology. The universities of applied sciences on the other hand concentrate on applied research and development and pursue the establishment of close contacts between their research units and those in the private sector, especially with SME (small and medium enterprises) and the creative economy. Research is one of the emphases at the universities of teacher education as well. The main research at the universities of teacher education will be developed in the context of the professional didactics and the master study programmes.

Efforts to integrate Swiss research activities into those taking place internationally began in the early 1950s; since then these efforts have been consistently reinforced through Swiss membership in the most important international research organisations and Swiss participation in the main international research programmes.

## KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Switzerland ranks fifth among the world's leading national economies with respect to overall productivity. Cooperation and synergies on the cantonal, national, and international levels make Switzerland an almost ideal place to identify solutions designed to develop products to market maturity.

There are a large number of institutions and tools in Switzerland for promoting and supporting research and establishing contacts to promote exchanges between universities, universities of applied sciences and businesses. During the last ten years, the cantonal universities, Federal Institutes of Technology and the four research institutes have either created technology transfer departments or designated officers responsible for relations with industry.

The universities of applied sciences act as a transmission belt between research and industry. All of the universities of applied sciences have a technology transfer service. The

cooperation between the UAS and the private sector has developed rapidly over the past ten years.

Besides the activities of the CTI, an important instrument for the creation of synergies between the public and private sectors is the so-called European Union Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. These programmes encourage cooperation on a European level between universities and firms, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises. Swiss participation in these programmes is one of the most important priorities of this country's international science policy.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Internationality begins on campus, amongst students. Switzerland has the highest share of international students in Europe (2005: 17 %), on bachelor and advanced studies levels, most of them coming from other European countries.

Internationality means also promoting the mobility of students and researchers, and hence depends on cooperation. Swiss higher education institutions are reliable partners in European exchange and research programmes. Bilateral agreements ensure and facilitate cooperation between higher education in Switzerland and European partners. Furthermore CRUS implements the Scientific Exchange Programme with the New Member States of the EU from 2009–2016 ([www.sciex.ch](http://www.sciex.ch)).

Higher education institutions themselves have numerous bilateral agreements with countries throughout the world. The international relations of universities are generally managed both by rectorates and their international officers and by faculties, depending on the type of cooperation. Thousands of people cross one of the borders every morning to reach their workplaces. Since 1991, seven universities located on the Upper Rhine and close to national borders have formed EUCOR, the cross-border Confederation of Upper Rhine Universities. The joint EUCOR student card grants unhindered mobility and access to the seven partner universities. Through joint programmes and courses, and through joint research initiatives and staff exchanges, internationality has become a matter of everyday life at the EUCOR universities. A similar programme also takes place at the universities of applied sciences of north-western Switzerland with homologous higher education institutions in France and Germany.

Active participation on the level of the three Swiss higher education rectors' conferences is secured by membership in organisations such as the European University Association EUA, the Academic Cooperation Association ACA, and the Network of the Universities of Applied Sciences UAS NET and on platforms such as the above-mentioned EAIE and the NAFSA, an association of international educators and an organisation promoting international education and providing professional development opportunities to the field in the USA. These efforts ensure Switzerland's integration in the process of promoting visibility as well as quality of higher education.

In view of the increasing importance of international exchange in the area of science, the State Secretariat for Education and Research will be concentrating its efforts in 2008–2011 on Switzerland as a university and research location. The focus on cooperation areas conducive to the mobility of students, teaching staff, and researchers will be confined to Europe as well as to non-European partners. Increasing efforts are geared to collaboration with suitable non-European partner countries and regions amongst which the most important will be China, India, Russia, and South Africa.

Moreover, higher education institutions strongly cooperate with the science advisers of the Swiss embassies and the outposts of the Swiss Knowledge Network «swissnex».

### **Recognition of Diplomas**

In neighbouring countries ...

In addition to these multilateral relations, Switzerland also attaches great importance to bilateral agreements, in particular with neighbouring countries, in order to ensure student mobility and mutual recognition of programmes and diplomas. It has concluded bilateral agreements with Austria, Germany, Italy and France. These agreements govern the recognition of the programmes and diplomas of all higher education institutions.

... and elsewhere

Switzerland acceded to the university conventions of the Council of Europe and UNESCO in 1991 and ratified the Lisbon Convention, in 1998. Among other measures, this Convention provides for a «Diploma Supplement» (DS), which is a description of the qualification to be attached to each diploma awarded by a university, university of applied sciences or university of teacher education. In general, foreign universities recognise the Swiss maturity certificate as a qualification giving access to university studies. Both the Lisbon Convention and the Bologna Declaration recommend the introduction of the Diploma Supplement.

### **Reforms in the Higher Education System**

Internationalisation, and mainly the implementation of the Bologna Declaration, is the major reforming factor in Switzerland. The implementation of quality assurance and accreditation procedures on the basis of international criteria and standards are some of the most important elements in the frame of the Bologna implementation process ...

A structural reorganisation of the Swiss higher education system is being prepared for the period after 2012. It is planned to introduce a framework law to regulate the universities, universities of applied sciences, and universities of teacher education, and to apply uniform funding principles to them. Responsibility at federal level shall be concentrated in a single department, with joint bodies being created to take on overall steering of the higher education system.

# UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The universities of teacher education in Switzerland have a mandate to train a sufficient number of qualified teachers for different levels<sup>3</sup>. The universities of teacher education have a four-fold mandate: teaching, research, continuing education and ongoing training, and the performance of services (documentation centers, expertise, advice, etc.).

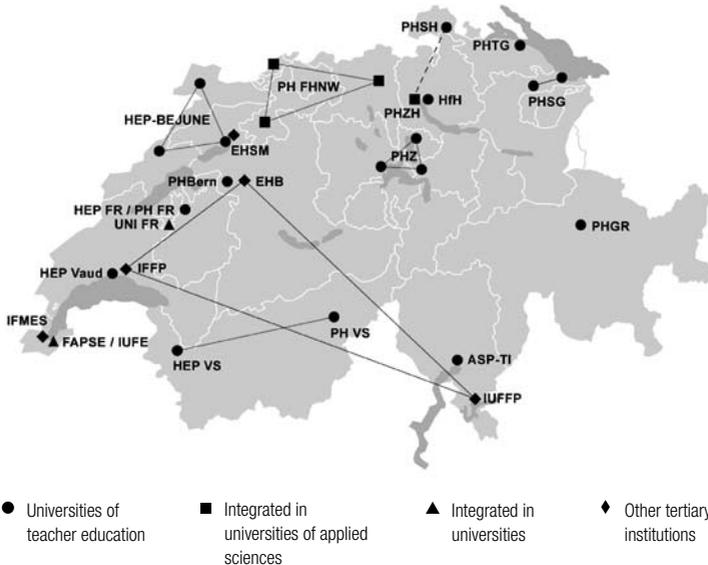
The institutional basis for the universities of teacher education varies. A majority of them are independent institutions, but universities of teacher education may also form part of a network operated by a university of applied science (in Basel / Brugg / Solothurn and Zurich) or integrated into a university (Geneva, Fribourg). In the special case of vocational education, as well as the practice and teaching of sports, these are official entities of the Confederation.

### Teaching Language

The vernacular language for teaching in these institutions is German, French, Italian or Romansch, depending on their geographical location. One university of teacher education offers the possibility of following a training course either on a bilingual basis or in German or French (Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg / Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise); another which is present on two different geographical sites, one German-speaking and the other French-speaking, stipulates the requirement of two training semesters in the other teaching language (Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis / Haute école pédagogique du Valais). The institution responsible for training vocational trainers is based on three different language sites (Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung / Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation professionnelle / Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale). The Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen EHSM / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM) conducts courses in German and French.

3) Pre-primary, primary, secondary I, secondary II, special needs education (early remedial education and scholastic remedial education, speech and language therapy, psychomotor therapy, teaching in the vocational schools, practice and teaching of sports)

*Geographical Chart of the Universities of Teacher Education*



With regard to the present allocation of tasks between the Confederation and the Swiss cantons, teacher education is essentially a matter for the cantons and is based on inter-cantonal law. At the national level, the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK) is the body which governs the recognition of the different study programmes throughout the country and defines minimum training requirements (the universities of teacher education may impose further conditions). The Higher Education Council of the EDK is the supreme authority which determines such matters as the political framework for implementation of the Bologna Declaration to ensure that the same standards are applied in the universities of teacher education as in the other universities of applied sciences and universities.

## OVERVIEW OF UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Locations	Member Institutions of COHEP	Links
Berne	PHBern, deutschsprachige Pädagogische Hochschule	<a href="http://www.phbern.ch">www.phbern.ch</a>
Brig St-Maurice	Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis (PH VS) Haute école pédagogique du Valais (HEP VS)	<a href="http://www.phvs.ch">www.phvs.ch</a> <a href="http://www.hepvs.ch">www.hepvs.ch</a>
Brugg, Aarau, Basel, Liestal, Solothurn, Zofingen	Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)	<a href="http://www.fhnw.ch/ph">www.fhnw.ch/ph</a>
Chur	Pädagogische Hochschule Graubünden (PHGR) Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni (ASPGR) Scola auta da pedagogia dal Grischun (SAPGR)	<a href="http://www.phgr.ch">www.phgr.ch</a>
Fribourg	Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (PH FR) Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise (HEP FR)	<a href="http://www.hepfr.ch">www.hepfr.ch</a>
Fribourg	Universität Freiburg, Departement Erziehungs- wissenschaften / département de la formation d'enseignantes et d'enseignants	<a href="http://www.unifr.ch/lb">www.unifr.ch/lb</a>
	Université de Fribourg, Departement für Heil- und Sonderpädagogik / département de pédagogie curative et spécialisée	<a href="http://www.unifr.ch/spedu">www.unifr.ch/spedu</a>
Geneva	Université de Genève, Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)	<a href="http://www.unige.ch/fapse">www.unige.ch/fapse</a>
Geneva	Université de Genève, from its implementation Institut Universitaire de Formation des Enseignant-e-s (IUFE) as a replacement of the IFMES (phase of transition)	<a href="http://Wwwedu.ge.ch/dip/ifmes">Wwwedu.ge.ch/dip/ifmes</a>
Kreuzlingen	Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (PHTG)	<a href="http://www.phtg.ch">www.phtg.ch</a>
Lausanne	Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud)	<a href="http://www.hepl.ch">www.hepl.ch</a>
Locarno	Alta Scuola Pedagogica (ASP-TI)	<a href="http://www.aspti.ch">www.aspti.ch</a>
Lucern, Schwyz, Zug	Pädagogische Hochschule Zentralschweiz (PHZ)	<a href="http://www.phz.ch">www.phz.ch</a>
Porrentruy, Bienne, La Chaux-de-Fonds	Haute école pédagogique – BEJUNE (HEP-BEJUNE)	<a href="http://www.hep-bejune.ch">www.hep-bejune.ch</a>
Schaffhausen	Pädagogische Hochschule Schaffhausen (PHSH)	<a href="http://www.phsh.ch">www.phsh.ch</a>
St. Gallen, Rorschach	Pädagogische Hochschule des Kantons St. Gallen (PHSG)	<a href="http://www.phsg.ch">www.phsg.ch</a>
Zurich	Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich (PHZH)	<a href="http://www.phzh.ch">www.phzh.ch</a>
	Zürcher Hochschulinstitut für Schulpädagogik und Fachdidaktik (ZHSF) der Pädagogischen Hochschule, der Universität und ETH Zürich	<a href="http://www.zhsf-edu.ch">www.zhsf-edu.ch</a>
Zurich	Interkantonale Hochschule für Heilpädagogik Zürich (HfH)	<a href="http://www.hfh.ch">www.hfh.ch</a>
Locations	Associate member Institutions of COHEP	Links
Berne-Zollikofen, Lausanne, Lugano	Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung (EHB) / Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation professionnelle (IFFP) / Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale (IUFPF)	<a href="http://www.ehb-schweiz.ch">www.ehb-schweiz.ch</a> <a href="http://www.iffp-suisse.ch">www.iffp-suisse.ch</a> <a href="http://www.iuffp-svizzera.ch">www.iuffp-svizzera.ch</a>
Magglingen/ Macolin	Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen EHSM / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / La Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)	<a href="http://www.ehsm.ch">www.ehsm.ch</a>

## ORGANISATION OF STUDIES IN THE UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

### Academic year

The academic year is divided into two semesters: the autumn semester begins in the 38<sup>th</sup> week and runs until the 51<sup>th</sup> week; the spring semester begins in the 8<sup>th</sup> week and runs until the 22<sup>th</sup> week of the annual calendar. Practical training is generally included in the form of work experience which, depending on the institution or study programme, may be organized at the beginning, during or at the end of the training.

### Standard length of studies

The length of studies depends on the type of training course which is chosen. The standard length of studies to qualify as a pre-primary and/or primary teacher certified by a teaching diploma and a bachelor's degree is three years of full-time study (180 ECTS credits)<sup>4</sup>.

Studies to train teachers for secondary I require between 270 and 300 ECTS credits (master's degree level) affected during integrated or consecutive courses, depending on the number of disciplines involved.

As to professional training for secondary II teachers, this corresponds to 60 ECTS credits and presupposes scientific training certified by a masters or equivalent diploma in one or two chosen teaching disciplines. Students generally train in two disciplines first and then go on to qualify as secondary II teachers. For students who have chosen one discipline only, integrated teacher education is possible.

### Initial Teacher Education

The universities of teacher education are organised to provide initial teacher education courses for the different levels of teaching. Each university of teacher education provides training for a specific study programme or for a number of different study programmes, each corresponding to training for a particular level of teaching or for a particular type of teaching. Depending on the particular establishment, students may train to become pre-primary (infant school) and/or primary (1<sup>st</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> year of primary education) teachers for certain levels or for all level of primary schooling<sup>5</sup>; to teach at secondary I (7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> years) or at secondary II (maturity schools) or in special needs education, speech and language therapy or psychomotor therapy<sup>6</sup>.

- 4) The University of Geneva is an exception; since 1996, it has been offering integrated training (pre-primary + primary + special needs education, 240 ECTS credits) lasting for 4 years of full-time study. Since 2006, this training leads up to the Master's diploma for primary school teachers (270 ECTS credits) which is a condition for access to the profession
- 5) The University of Geneva where one single course prepares for pre-primary, primary and special needs education teaching is an exception
- 6) See Chapter entitled «Study programmes offered at the Universities of teacher education» (below)

### **Titles Granted**

The fields of study at the universities of teacher education allow students to take teaching diplomas (for teaching at different levels) with an academic title (BA and MA).

The teaching diplomas granted by a university of teacher education are recognized by the EDK provided that they meet the minimum requirements set by the EDK regulations for the different fields of study.<sup>7</sup> A teaching diploma recognized by the EDK permits the holder to teach anywhere in Switzerland at a scholastic level corresponding to the degree major. However, it does not automatically guarantee a teaching post. The academic titles are regulated and certified under the Directives for the Coordinated Renewal of Teaching at University-Level Higher Education Institutions within the Framework of the Bologna Process of 5 December 2002 as long as the fields of academic study are completed by obtaining a bachelor or master.

### **Postgraduate Studies and Continuing Education**

The various establishments which train teachers offer a great many services in the field of continuing education, leading up to a range of different certificates. Some continuing education programmes lead up to recognized diplomas of the Master of Advanced Studies (MAS), Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) or Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) type, while other postgraduate or continuing education courses lead to other types of certification or attestation<sup>8</sup>.

7) See: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

8) See Chapter entitled «Master of Advanced Studies (MAS), Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) and Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS)» (below)

# STUDY PROGRAMMES OFFERED AT THE UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

## STUDY PROGRAMMES IN TEACHER EDUCATION

### Pre-Primary and/or Primary Teacher Education

The teacher training programme for the pre-primary and/or primary level gives students the skills they need in everyday situations to be able to understand and further the individual requirements of children, correctly evaluate the learning behavior of children, support their socialization, work together with other teachers, school administrators, officials and parents, and to plan and develop lessons within the framework of the school's curriculum while taking interdisciplinary points of view into consideration.

A teacher training programme for the pre-primary and/or primary level ends with a bachelor's degree, at a minimum<sup>9</sup>. According to the Regulations on the Recognition of University Degrees for Teacher at the pre-primary and/or primary<sup>10</sup> from the EDK at least 180 ECTS credits are necessary for graduation. A full-time study programmes takes six semesters or three years (including practice teaching).

Graduates of the teacher training programme for the pre-primary and/or primary level receive a «Teaching Diploma for the Pre-Primary and/or Primary Level» and the academic title of «Bachelor of Arts in Pre-Primary and/or Primary Education».

The following universities of teacher education offer these programmes: PHBern, HEP VS/PH VS, PH FHNW, PHGR, HEP FR/PH FR, FAPSE Geneva, PHTG, HEP Vaud, ASP-TI, PHZ, HEP-BEJUNE, PSHH, PHSG, and PHZH<sup>11</sup>.

According to the EDK regulations, the following minimum qualifications must be fulfilled for acceptance in a teacher training programme for the pre-primary and/or primary levels: a maturity from a gymnasium, a teaching certificate recognized by the EDK, or a university degree. Generally, candidates with a specialized maturity certificate with a pedagogical orientation are also admitted directly to the educational programmes for teachers at the pre-primary and/or primary. Applicants with a professional maturity or a vocational college (DMS) or trade college (HMS) certificate, or those who have completed an apprenticeship will be accepted if they can demonstrate that their knowledge corresponds to the requirements for a specialized maturity certificate with a pedagogical orientation and also fulfil certain additional criteria (approximately equal length of schooling or professional practice).

In Geneva, the teaching license mentioned<sup>12</sup> is the title required for teaching at a primary school. Placed under the responsibility of the University of Geneva, in partnership with the department of primary education, this professional and academic education

9) Cf. EDK degree title regulations on the website: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

10) In German «Reglement über die Anerkennung von Hochschuldiplomen für Lehrkräfte der Vorschulstufe und der Primarstufe» [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

11) See «Table of study programmes offered at the universities of teacher education» (below)

12) Applies until 2010

programme has awarded a university degree in education with 240 ECTS credits since 1996. Students alternate between theory and practice throughout the course of studies. Holders of a teaching license may work in primary teaching in Geneva and apply for a position in the other French-speaking cantons. This education programme was accredited by the EDK in 2005 for the teaching at pre-primary and primary levels.

This new bachelor's degree in higher education mentioned above is organized in two cycles. Access to the first one-year cycle, which is a general survey of education, is open to everyone, who fulfils the University of Geneva's admission requirements. Admission to the second cycle is subject to specific conditions.<sup>13</sup>

#### Fields of Study Programmes for Pre-primary and Primary Level

There are different, distinct course cycles for those working towards a teaching diploma for the pre-primary and primary levels:

- Distribution of teaching diploma within the pre-primary level (BA in Pre-Primary Education  $-2/-1$ ) and primary level (BA in Primary Education  $+1/+6$ ,  $+3/+6$ ),
- Teaching diploma for classes at the  $-2$  level (first year at the pre-primary level) to  $+6$  (sixth year of primary school) (BA in Pre-Primary and Primary Education  $-2/+6$ ,  $-2/+5$ ),
- Teaching diploma for pre-primary and primary (BA in Pre-Primary and Primary Education  $-2/+2$ ,  $-2/+3$ ),
- Teaching diploma for the primary level ( $+1/+6$ ,  $+3/+6$ ).

#### Conditions for Admission

Candidates should contact the university of teacher education concerned directly for further information about the admission procedure (see addresses at the end of this brochure).

**Table of Study Programmes Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education**

Member Institutions of COHEP	Study programmes					
	BA in Pre-Primary Education (-2/-1)	BA in Pre-Primary and Primary Education (-2/+2 <sup>a</sup>   -2/+3 <sup>b</sup> )	BA in Primary Education (+1/+6   +3/+6 <sup>c</sup> )	BA in Pre-Primary and Primary Education (-2/+6   -2/+5D)	MA in Secondary Education (Sek. I) (BA included)	Diplom Sek. II/ Diplôme degré sec. II (MA preconditioned)
PH Bern, deutschsprachige Pädagogische Hochschule		X <sup>A</sup>	X <sup>C</sup>	X	X	X
Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis (PH VS) Haute école pédagogique du Valais (HEP VS)				X		
Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)		X <sup>A</sup>	X		X	X
Pädagogische Hochschule Graubünden (PHGR) Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni (ASPGR) Scola auta da pedagogia dal Grischun (SAPGR)	X		X			
Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (PH FR) Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise (HEP FR)				X		
Universität Freiburg, Departement Erziehungs-wissenschaften / Université de Fribourg, Département de la formation d'enseignantes et d'enseignants					X	X
Universität Freiburg, Departement für Heil- und Sonderpädagogik / Université de Fribourg, Département de pédagogie curative et spécialisée						
Université de Genève, Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)				X		
Université de Genève, from its implementation Institut Universitaire de Formation des Enseignant-e-s (IUFÉ) <sup>14</sup> as a replacement of the IFMES (phase of transition)						
Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (PHTG)	X		X		X	X
Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud)				X	X	X
Alta Scuola Pedagogica (ASP-TI)	X		X	X <sup>D</sup>	X	X
Pädagogische Hochschule Zentralschweiz (PHZ)		X <sup>A</sup>	X		X	
Haute école pédagogique – BEJUNE (HEP-BEJUNE)				X	X	
Pädagogische Hochschule Schaffhausen (PHSH)	X		X		X <sup>15</sup>	
Pädagogische Hochschule des Kantons St. Gallen (PHSG)		X <sup>B</sup>	X		X	
Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich (PHZH)	X		X		X	
Zürcher Hochschulinstitut für Schulpädagogik und Fachdidaktik (ZHSP)						X
Interkantonale Hochschule für Heilpädagogik Zürich (HfH)						
Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung (EHB)/ Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation/professionnelle (IFFP)/ Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale (IUFFP)						
Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen (EHSM)/ Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM)/ Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)						

14) Master secondary I and II for Geneva is in the process of being transferred to the IUFÉ of the university

15) Under the direction of the PHZH

Diplom Sek. I + II / Diplôme degré sec. I + II (MA preconditioned)	Diplom in Vocational Education (Sek. II)	MA in Special Needs Education (BA preconditioned)	BA / MAE in Speech and Language Therapy	BA in Psychomotor Therapy	Other BA and MA <sup>16</sup>
	X				
X	X				
	X	X			X
					X
	X	X			
	X <sup>17</sup>	X <sup>E</sup>			X
X					
					X
	X				
	X				
X	X				
	X				
	X	X	X		
X					X
					X

16) See chapter: «Other Study Programmes at Bachelor and Master Levels» (below)

17) Under development in collaboration with the HEP Vaud

## Secondary I Teacher Education

As part of an education programme for secondary I teachers, students gain the skills that make it possible for them to plan and design lessons based on the current curricula while taking interdisciplinary points of view into consideration. The programme teaches them to advise pupils on decisions that need to be made with regard to their scholastic and professional career possibilities, assess their abilities and performance, work with other teachers, school administrators, officials and parents, and collaborate in working out and implementing education projects. Secondary I school teachers receive a Master's degree upon graduation<sup>18</sup>. According to the EDK Regulations on the Recognition of University Degrees for Teacher at the Secondary I<sup>19</sup> the study programmes requires 270 to 300 ECTS credits for graduation.

Graduates of the teacher training programme for the secondary I receive a «Teaching Dipoma for the Secondary I Level» and the academic title of «Master of Arts in Secondary Education».

The following institutions train teachers at the secondary I: PHBern, PH FHNW, University of Fribourg, PHTG, HEP Vaud, ASP-TI, PHZ, HEP-BEJUNE, PHSG, PHSB under the direction of the PHZH<sup>20</sup>.

According to the EDK regulations, for admission to a secondary I teachers programme, a student must have a maturity from a gymnasium, a teaching diploma recognized by the EDK for the primary level or a degree from a vocational college. Applicants with a specialized maturity or a diploma from a recognized vocational college, a professional maturity or a recognized certificate, completed three-year or longer apprenticeship and several years of work experience must take an acceptance examination to show that their general education corresponds to that of an applicant with a maturity from a gymnasium. Further, teacher education institutes may have other requirements in conjunction with special programmes in education.

## Conditions for Admission

Candidates should contact the university of teacher education concerned directly for further information about the admission procedure (see addresses at the end of this brochure).

18) cf. EDK degree title regulations on the website: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

19) In German: «Reglement über die Anerkennung von Hochschuldiplomen für Lehrkräfte der Sekundarstufe I»: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

20) See «Table of study programmes offered at the universities of teacher education» (above)

## Secondary II Teacher Education

An education programme for teachers at the secondary II gives students the skills to plan and design lessons based on the current curricula while taking interdisciplinary points of view into consideration while at the same time providing pupils with the basic knowledge and skills needed for university studies, assessing their independence and performance, and furthering their self-evaluation and team skills.

According to the Regulations on the Recognition of Teacher's Certificates for Maturity Schools<sup>21</sup> handed down by the EDK<sup>22</sup>, the teaching methodological, educational science and professional practice course work consists of 60 ECTS credits. For admission, a student must have completed a master in one or two teaching disciplines<sup>23</sup>.

For students who train in two teaching disciplines, professional training generally follows on from scientific training (consecutive training). For candidates who intend to teach one discipline only, the professional training may form an integral part of the course of higher studies. Master's degrees in the scientific disciplines are delivered by the universities while master's degrees in the field of arts or music are obtained in the universities of applied sciences.

Graduates of the teacher training programme for the secondary II receive a «Teaching Diploma for Matura Schools».

The following institutions train teachers at the secondary II: PHBern, PH FHNW, University of Fribourg, PHTG, HEP Vaud, ASP-TI, and ZHSF.

The following institutions combine teacher education for secondary II with that for secondary I: HEP VS / PH VS, HEP-BEJUNE and at from its implementation the IUF (Geneva) as a replacement of the IFMES (phase of transition)<sup>24</sup>.

## Conditions for Admission

Candidates should contact the university of teacher education concerned directly for further information about the admission procedure (see addresses at the end of this brochure).

## Training to Become a Teacher in Special Needs Education

The special needs education programme allows students to gain the knowledge, operational abilities, and personal competences, which qualify them in the field of early remedial education for preventive and instructional support of children, whose development is endangered, disrupted or hindered, as well as appropriate familial intervention, and in the field of scholastic remedial education, for instruction and educational work with pupils who have special education needs.

21) In German: «Reglement über die Anerkennung der Lehrdiplome für Maturitätsschulen»: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

22) cf. EDK degree title regulations on the website: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

23) The list of disciplines will be found in the EDK regulation on the recognition of maturity schools certificates «Reglement der EDK über die Anerkennung von gymnasiale Maturitätsausweisen (MAR)»: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

24) See «Table of study programmes offered at the universities of teacher education» (above)

Special needs education studies correspond to a masters degree with a focus on the field of early remedial education or in the field of scholastic remedial education, or both. The modules include a general cross-section of the subject matter totaling 60 ECTS credits, which provides the base for the two directions. The further parts of the course of studies go into greater depth in each direction. At least 40 ECTS credits are earned in courses given by lecturers. The practical units make up at least 20 ECTS credits.

According to the Regulations on the Recognition of University Degrees in Special Needs Education (in the field of early remedial education and in the field of scholastic remedial education<sup>25</sup>), a special needs education study programmes corresponds to a master's degree programme<sup>26</sup>. Graduates of the teacher training programme for special needs education receive a «Special Needs Teaching Certificate» and a reference to their chosen area of specialization as well as the academic title of «Master of Arts in Special Needs Education».

The following institutions offer study programmes in special needs education: PHBern, HEP VS / PH VS, PH FHNW, University of Fribourg, FAPSE Geneva, HEP Vaud, PHZ, HEP-BEJUNE, and HfH<sup>27</sup>.

In order to be accepted in a special needs education programme or in the field of scholastic remedial education and early remedial education, the following minimum qualifications set by the EDK<sup>28</sup>, must be met: a teacher's certificate for normal classroom work or a bachelor's degree in speech and language therapy or psychomotor therapy, or a bachelor's degree in a related field of studies, in particular, in the theory of education, social education, special needs education, psychology or occupational therapy. Students, who have received a bachelor's degree through an integrated study programmes for a secondary I teacher's certificate, may also be accepted for this programme.

To enter an early remedial education major, students without a teaching diploma in speech therapy or psychomotor therapy for the pre-primary or primary school levels should have completed additional course work in the fields of pre-primary education and developmental psychology. In addition, they need to provide evidence of experience in the child and family area.

To enter a scholastic remedial education major, the student must hold a recognized teaching diploma corresponding to the level of a bachelor degree for teaching in normal classes and should have completed additional course work on the theory and practice of teacher education in normal schools.

### Conditions for Admission

Candidates should contact the university of teacher education concerned directly for further information about the admission procedure (see addresses at the end of this brochure).

25) In German: «Reglement über die Anerkennung der Diplome im Bereich Sonderpädagogik» [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

26) cf. EDK degree title regulations on the website: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

27) See «Table of study programmes offered at the universities of teacher education» (above)

28) The establishment of a bachelor programme has been proposed at certain universities

### **Training in Speech and Language Therapy and Psychomotor Therapy**

Training in speech and language therapy helps students gain the skills to test for and diagnose language and communication disorders as well as to plan, conduct and evaluate an appropriate course of therapy with appropriate measures. Training in psychomotor therapy trains students how to test and diagnose psychomotor development disorders and their related disabilities as well as to plan, conduct and evaluate appropriate therapeutic measures for these. Further, both programmes teach students the skills needed to prepare expert opinions, conduct consultations, and work together with other professionals, parents and authorities. 180 ECTS credits are necessary for graduation from the programme according to the EDK Regulations on the Recognition of University Degrees in Speech and Language therapy Education and University Degrees in Psychomotor Therapy<sup>29</sup>, which corresponds to a three-year, full-time study programmes and is completed with the awarding of a bachelors degree<sup>30</sup>. A teacher-training internship is an integral component of the programme and is done in the form of practical training.

Speech and language therapy studies are offered in the following universities of teacher education: PH FHNW and the HfH<sup>31</sup>, at the universities of Fribourg and Geneva. The study programmes in psychomotor therapy studies are conducted at the HfH.

According to the minimum qualifications in the EDK regulations, a maturity certificate from a gymnasium, a teacher's diploma recognized by the EDK, or a degree from an institute of higher learning is required for admission to speech and language therapy or psychomotor therapy studies. People with other degrees or certificates must take an entrance examination, which also has an additional vocational aptitude survey.

At the PH FHNW and the HfH, graduates of the training programme for speech and language therapy receive a «Speech and Language Therapy Diploma» and the academic title «Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Language Therapy».

At the University of Fribourg graduates of the training programme for speech and language therapy receive an academic title «Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Language Therapy».

At the university of Geneva (FAPSE) graduates of the training programme for speech and language therapy receive an academic title «Master of Science in Speech and Language Therapy».

Graduates of the training programme for psychomotor therapy receive a «Psychomotor Therapy Diploma» and the academic title «Bachelor of Arts in Psychomotor Therapy».

### **Conditions for Admission**

Candidates should contact the university of teacher education concerned directly for further information about the admission procedure (see addresses at the end of this brochure).

29) In German: «Reglement über die Anerkennung der Hochschuldiplome in Logopädie und der Hochschuldiplome in Psychomotoriktherapie»: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

30) cf. EDK degree title regulations on the website: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

31) See «Table of study programmes offered at the universities of teacher education» (above)

### **Training to Teach in Vocational Schools**

The Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (SFIVET) provides initial and ongoing training for vocational education teachers at the tertiary level on behalf of the Swiss Confederation.

The SFIVET offers undergraduate degree study programmes for vocational education teachers and for instructors at institutions of higher learning, which require 60 ECTS credits for completion.

In addition, a master programme is offered that qualifies graduates for various works in research, development, and evaluation, and makes it possible for students to learn about and respond to current developments in vocational education. A bachelor's degree or equivalent diploma is required for admission to the master programme. This study programme requires 90–120 ECTS credits for graduation, and graduates receive the academic title of «Master of Science in Vocational Education».

Finally, the SFIVET offers a post-graduate programme for Gymnasium (Swiss high school) teachers and qualifies them to teach at a vocational Matura school. This post-graduate programme requires 10 ECTS credits for completion, where a federal certificate is awarded.

Beyond this, the SFIVET offers further certificate programmes and undergraduate study programmes<sup>32</sup>.

Furthermore, the PHSG and the ZHSF offer training programmes for teaching in vocational schools (secondary II).

### **Theory and Practice of Sports**

The Swiss Federal Institute of Sport Magglingen (SFISM) provides instruction in the knowledge and skills for practicing and teaching sports and physical activities.

A course of studies leading to a Bachelor of Science degree lasts three years. Students are prepared for professions in the field of sports. They may choose among the following majors: physical education, health and adapted physical exercise (APA), health and fitness, competition sports, sports and tourism, and sports management.

Upon completion, graduates are awarded a Bachelor of Science. The academic diploma includes the selected major, which is an internationally recognized professional title. 180 ECTS credits are necessary for graduation. Graduates with a Bachelor of Science may join the workforce directly or continue studies for a master from the SFISM or at another institution of higher learning.

For admission to a study programmes leading to a bachelor degree, students must have completed a vocational matura, matura, or the equivalent.

The Swiss Federal Institute of Sport Magglingen (SFISM) offers a programme leading to a Master of Science in Sports degree with a focus on sports at the elite level. This degree normally is taken directly after the completion of a Bachelor of Science degree but may also begin later. The course of studies normally requires three semesters.

## OTHER STUDY PROGRAMMES AT THE BACHELOR AND MASTER LEVELS

### List of Bachelor Programmes Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education

Member Institutions of COHEP	Bachelor studies (180 ECTS)
Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen (EHSM) / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)	Bachelor of Science with a specialisation in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• physical education</li> <li>• Health and adapted physical exercise (APA)</li> <li>• Health and fitness</li> <li>• Competition sports</li> <li>• Sports and tourism, sports management</li> </ul>

### List of Master Programmes Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education

Member Institutions of COHEP	Master studies (90–120 ECTS)
Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)	Master of Arts of Multilingualism
	Master of Arts in early childhood education for children with special needs
Universität Freiburg, Departement Erziehungs-wissenschaften / Université de Fribourg, département de la formation d'enseignantes et d'enseignants	Master of Arts in research and didactic of plurilingualism
Université de Genève, Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)	Master of Arts in Educational Sciences, orientation Adult Education
	Master of Arts in Educational Sciences, orientation Analysis and intervention in educational systems
Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (PHTG)	Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education (in the process of being developed) <sup>33</sup>
Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung (EHB) / Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation professionnelle (IFFP) / Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale (IUFPF)	Master of Science in Vocational Education and Training
Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen (EHSM) / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)	Master of Science in Sports, orientation Elite Sports

## MASTER OF ADVANCED STUDIES (MAS), DIPLOMA OF ADVANCED STUDIES (DAS), AND CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED STUDIES (CAS)

There are different types of courses or programmes of continuing education, ranging from a few hours to several semesters of employment training certified by a straightforward attestation from the training establishment in question or by certification corresponding to a number of ECTS credits and therefore eligible for recognition by other establishments in Switzerland and abroad.

In addition to the cantonal regulations on continuing education and certification procedures, the certificates to which the complementary programmes lead up are also regulated at national level by the EDK<sup>34</sup>. Further training courses offered by university of teacher education may take the form of a Master of Advanced Studies MAS (requires at least 60 ECTS credits), a Diploma of Advanced Studies DAS (requires a minimum of 30 ECTS credits) and a Certificate of Advanced Studies CAS (requires at least 10 ECTS credits).

At the universities of teacher education, continuing education studies leading up to the title of MAS, of DAS or of CAS in the field of education are regulated by the EDK but remain closely linked to the field of specialisation of the training establishment which provides these courses. The University of Geneva also offers training programmes leading up to University Masters of Advanced Studies (MAS) with 60 ECTS credits acknowledging the acquisition of skills of a high academic level, while at the same time providing training with a professional character. The Swiss university master's degree, or a degree deemed to be equivalent, is required to be admitted. The procedure to validate existing knowledge may be used to permit access to this type of MAS.

In general, a teacher who attends continuing education is able to acquire in-depth professional knowledge in a particular field. This enables him or her to perform, within the educational establishment, specific tasks which contribute to some extent to the development of the school.

Continuing education is habitually offered in the form of modules and includes the requirement to write a professional memorandum. The basic admission conditions (teacher's diploma with at least two years professional experience) are sometimes supplemented by further admission conditions, depending on the particular training course.

34) «Reglement über die Anerkennung der Abschlüsse von Zusatzausbildungen für den Lehrberuf» dated 17 June 2004, amended on 1 March 2007: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

## List of MAS Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education

Member Institutions of COHEP	Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) (60 ECTS)
PHBern, deutschsprachige Pädagogische Hochschule	Leadership and Management Diversity Management
Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis (PH VS) Haute école pédagogique du Valais (HEP VS)	Masters in Home Economics Education <sup>35</sup> Masters in Creative Arts Education <sup>35</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)	Integrated promotion of gifted pupils and special abilities Change Management in the Educational Field Andragogical Learning in the Educational Field Communicating Arts Cultural intermediation in the Educational Field Speech and Language Pathology
Pädagogische Hochschule Graubünden (PHGR) Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni (ASPGR) Scola auta da pedagogia dal Grischun (SAPGR)	School Development <sup>36</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (PH FR) Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise (HEP FR)	Masters in Home Economics Education <sup>35</sup> Masters in Creative Arts Education <sup>35</sup>
Universität Freiburg, Departement Erziehungswissen- schaften / Université de Fribourg, département de la formation d'enseignantes et d'enseignants	Standards in learning and instruction for educational leadership and for teacher trainers
Université de Genève, Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)	Master of Advanced Studies in Work analysis and development of professional competences Theory, practice and teacher training settings <sup>37</sup> Leadership of educational institutions and educational politics <sup>38</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (PHTG)	School development <sup>36</sup>
Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud)	Diploma in the teaching of creative manual activities / manual work Leadership of educational institutions and educational politics <sup>38</sup> Masters in Home Economics Education <sup>35</sup> Masters in Creative Arts Education <sup>35</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule Zentralschweiz (PHZ)	Teacher education <sup>39</sup> Educational technology Adult and professional Education <sup>40</sup>
Haute école pédagogique – BEJUNE (HEP-BEJUNE)	Masters in Home Economics Education <sup>35</sup> Masters in Creative Arts Education <sup>35</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule Schaffhausen (PHSH)	School development <sup>36</sup>

35) MAS under the guidance of the HEP VS, HEP FR, HEP Vaud, HEP-BEJUNE

36) In cooperation with the Pädagogische Hochschulen of the Lake Constance region (PHTG, PHSH, PHSG, PHZH, PH Feldkirch in Austria and PH Weingarten in Germany) and the PHGR

37) In cooperation with the University of Fribourg, Lausanne, Lugano and Neuchâtel

38) Consortium EHB, IDHEAP, HEP Vaud and University of Geneva

39) Cooperation with PHSG / PHZ

40) In cooperation with the aEB Schweiz Akademie für Erwachsenenbildung and the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern

Member Institutions of COHEP	Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) (60 ECTS)
Pädagogische Hochschule des Kantons St. Gallen (PHSG)	Supervision und Organisationsberatung im Bildungsbereich ..... School development <sup>41</sup> ..... Teacher education <sup>42</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich (PHZH)	Educational Management ..... Educational Innovation ..... School development <sup>41</sup>
Interkantonale Hochschule für Heilpädagogik Zürich (HfH)	Managing and developing therapeutic teaching establishments ..... Special Needs Educational Management and Leadership ..... Klinische Musiktherapie: Berufsbegleitende Ausbildung Musiktherapie
Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung (EHB) / Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation professionnelle (IFFP) / Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale (IUFPF)	Educational Management: specialization in Leadership in Institutions for Vocational Education and Training ..... Educational Management: specialization in measures for promoting integration and inclusion in Vocational Education and Training ..... Leadership of educational institutions and educational politics <sup>43</sup>
Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen (EHSM) / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)	Movement and Sport Therapy ..... Sport Management

41) In cooperation with the Pädagogische Hochschulen of the Lake Constance region (PHTG, PHSH, PHSG, PHZH, PH Feldkirch in Austria and PH Weingarten in Germany) and the PHGR

42) Cooperation with PHSG / PHZ

43) Consortium EHB, IDHEAP, HEP Vaud and University of Geneva

### List of DAS Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education

Member Institutions of COHEP	Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) (30 ECTS)
PHBern, deutschsprachige Pädagogische Hochschule	Educational and school management ..... The change of teaching and learning ..... Art and school
Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis (PH VS) Haute école pédagogique du Valais (HEP VS)	Basic concepts and techniques for home economics education <sup>44</sup> ..... Basic concepts and techniques for creative arts education <sup>44</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)	Trainer in Professional Studies ..... Integrated promotion of gifted pupils and special abilities
Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (PH FR) Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise (HEP FR)	Basic concepts and techniques for home economics education <sup>44</sup> ..... Basic concepts and techniques for creative arts education <sup>44</sup>
Université de Genève, Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)	School administration and management <sup>45</sup> ..... Adult Education
Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud)	School administration and management <sup>45</sup> ..... Mental Handicap ..... Basic concepts and techniques for home economics education <sup>44</sup> ..... Basic concepts and techniques for creative arts education <sup>44</sup>
Haute école pédagogique – BEJUNE (HEP-BEJUNE)	Basic concepts and techniques for home economics education <sup>44</sup> ..... Basic concepts and techniques for creative arts education <sup>44</sup>
Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung (EHB) / Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation professionnelle (IFFP) / Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale (IUFPF)	Leadership in Institutions for Vocational Education and Training ..... Measures for promoting integration and inclusion in Vocational Education and Training ..... School administration and management <sup>45</sup> ..... Specialist in accreditation of prior learning
Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen (EHSM) / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)	Sport Management

44) DAS under the guidance of the HEP VS, HEP FR, HEP Vaud, HEP-BEJUNE

45) Consortium EHB, IDHEAP, HEP Vaud and University of Geneva

**List of CAS (15 ECTS) Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education**

Member Institutions of COHEP	Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) (15 ECTS)
Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich (PHZH)	Education, and Business Management
	German as a Second Language
	Leadership within Educational Institution (Headmaster Training)
	Teaching in Higher Education / Higher Education Didactics
	Literacy – Reading and Writing in School and Everyday Life
	Mediation in Schools <sup>46</sup>
	PICTS-Pedagogical ICT Support <sup>47</sup>
	Staff professional development in schools: managerial functions and tasks
	Health Promotion
	Quality in multicultural Schools (QUIMS)
	Finland / Switzerland: Education for the future: International Cooperation programme for Education Professionals <sup>48</sup>
	Understanding School – shaping Pedagogy
	Creative projects with children and teenagers <sup>49</sup>
	Foreign Language learning

46) In cooperation with Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Department Social Work

47) In cooperation with PH FHNW, PHSH and Schweizerische Zentralstelle für die Weiterbildung der  
Mittelschulehrpersonen (WBZ-CPS)

48) In cooperation with National Centre for Professional Development in Education – OPEKO, Tampere, Finland

49) In cooperation with Zurich University of the Arts

**List of CAS (10 ECTS) Offered at the Universities of Teacher Education**

Member Institutions of COHEP	Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) (10 ECTS)
PHBern, deutschsprachige Pädagogische Hochschule	Educational leadership School and quality development Training in practical professional studies Health promotion ICT-culture in school ICT for secondary teaching Gender Consulting in Integration Implementing Integration – didactics Innovative teaching and learning German as a foreign / second language Transitional Opportunities: Assistance to Begin Vocational Training Music / dance Theatre Visual arts
Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis (PH VS) Haute école pédagogique du Valais (HEP VS)	Introduction to home economics education <sup>50</sup> Introduction to creative arts education <sup>49</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)	Leadership and School Management Quality Management in Schools Learn Coaching From School to Profession Discipline and Cooperation: Development the School and Teaching Culture Teaching Music and Performing School and Teaching Culture PICTS – Pedagogical ICT Support <sup>51</sup> KUVÉRUM - Communicating Arts / Mediating Arts at Primary School Train-the-Trainers: Teaching English at Primary School Teaching in Further Education German as Secondary Language and Intercultural Communication Teaching with Textile Creativity Trainer in Professional Studies Speech and Language Pathology
Pädagogische Hochschule Graubünden (PHGR) Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni (ASPGR) Scuola auta da pedagogia dal Grischun (SAPGR)	Bilingual education and immersion

50) CAS under the guidance of the HEP VS, HEP FR, HEP Vaud, HEP-BEJUNE

51) In cooperation with PH FHNW, PHSB and Schweizerische Zentralstelle für die Weiterbildung der Mittelschullehrpersonen (WBZ-CPS)

Member Institutions of COHEP	Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) (10 ECTS)
Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (PH FR) Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise (HEP FR)	Introduction to home economics education <sup>52</sup> Introduction to creative arts education <sup>52</sup>
Universität Freiburg, Departement Erziehungswissenschaften / Université de Fribourg, département de la formation d'enseignantes et d'enseignants	Mentoring and Coaching in Teacher Education
Université de Genève, Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)	School administration and management <sup>53</sup> Conception Project development in E-learning Development and Coaching of training systems Development of learning capacities in experimental sciences, health and sustainable development
Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (PHTG)	Social Education in Schools Headmaster and School Principal Training Coaching Pre-Service and In-Service Teachers Self-Guided and Cooperative Learning (in the process of being developed) <sup>54</sup>
Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud)	School administration and management <sup>53</sup> Introduction to home economics education <sup>52</sup> Introduction to creative arts education <sup>52</sup>
Haute école pédagogique – BEJUNE (HEP-BEJUNE)	Introduction to home economics education <sup>52</sup> Introduction to creative arts education <sup>52</sup>
Pädagogische Hochschule Schaffhausen (PHSH)	PICTS-Pedagogical ICT Support <sup>55</sup>

52) CAS under the guidance of the: HEP VS, HEP FR, HEP Vaud, HEP-BEJUNE

53) Consortium EHB, IDHEAP, HEP VD and University of Geneva

54) In cooperation with Christian-Albrechts-Universität of Kiel, Germany

55) In cooperation with PH FHNW, PHSH and Schweizerische Zentralstelle für die Weiterbildung der Mittelschullehrpersonen (WBZ-CPS)

Member Institutions of COHEP	Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) (10 ECTS)
Interkantonale Hochschule für Heilpädagogik Zürich (HfH)	Neurosciences and Speech and Language Therapy: A Better Understanding of Development Impairments Special Needs Education at Elementary Level (Pre-primary / Primary School) Field Experience Supervision and Specialist Counselling in Therapeutic Disciplines Communication Under Difficult Circumstances PREVOS: Prevention of Behavioural Disorders at Lower Secondary Level
Eidgenössisches Hochschulinstitut für Berufsbildung (EHB) / Institut fédéral des hautes études en formation professionnelle (IFFP) / Istituto universitario federale per la formazione professionale (IUFPF)	School administration and management <sup>56</sup> Basics in consulting of Vocational Education and Training-professionals in education Specialist in practical Vocational Education and Training (social professions) Measures of pedagogic support Intercultural dynamics and diversity management Individual integration and inclusion in Vocational Education and Training Leadership in Institutions for Vocational Education and Training Methodologies in evaluation procedures in accreditation of prior learning Consulting in accompanying accreditations of prior learning The Common European Framework (CEFR) and its Application in Second Language Teaching Specialist in practical Vocational Education and Training
Eidgenössische Hochschule für Sport Magglingen (EHSM) / Haute école fédérale de sport de Macolin (HEFSM) / Scuola universitaria federale dello sport di Macolin (SUFSM)	Sport facilities Movement and Sport Therapy Sport Psychology Health and Fitness Movement and Sports in Social Institutions Sport Management

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

The universities of teacher education have established a goal of placing an emphasis on relevant areas of research. By establishing this focus, the intention is also to develop a master programme in didactic sciences and didactic sciences professor positions in common with universities.

The universities of teacher education conduct research and development in the following areas<sup>57</sup>:

- **School and society:** This field is focused at the macro level and deals with issues relating to education policy, the relationship of education institutions to the general public, the function of education in society, which also includes political education and the reform efforts in the education-policy context.
- **Schools as institutions or organizations:** The aspects, which are researched at this intermediate level, are questions on the organization of the school, school development and school expansion, steering schools and curriculum, the implementation of reforms in schools and team development.
- **Learning and teaching:** This micro level researches didactics, interaction in the classroom, the relationship of learning in school and away from school, and issues on the learning setting, learning requirements, and learning strategies.
- **Development and socialization:** At this level, the children's and youths' perspectives are examined, the development of competence among pupils, the transition from school to profession, career issues among pupils, inter-cultural education, social origins and questions relating to starting school at an early age.
- **Profession and professionalism:** Suitability questions, competence development among teachers, introduction to the profession and ongoing education, as well as career issues among teachers, and identification with one's work are examined from the perspective of teachers.

57) For further information about research and development at the universities of teacher education consult our brochure «Einblicke in die Aktuelle Forschung»/«Regards sur la recherche actuelle»/«Squardi sulla ricerca attuale» on our website at [www.cohep.ch](http://www.cohep.ch)

# MOBILITY AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

## INTER-CANTONAL STUDENT MOBILITY

As from the third study semester and sometimes after successfully sitting for an intermediate examination, students have the possibility of attending one or two study semesters in a different Swiss establishment of higher education. They may also complete a course of practical training in a different canton.

An application must be made to the original institution attended by the student. He or she must present an application form accompanied by a letter of motivation before 1 November if the application relates to the next summer semester and before 1 May in the case of an application for mobility studies in the autumn semester. The main criterion is a good knowledge of the teaching language of the host canton<sup>58</sup>.

## INTERCANTONAL RECOGNITION OF TEACHING DIPLOMAS

The EDK regulates the recognition of diplomas granted after study programmes at national level. Reference should be made to the list of diplomas recognised by the EDK in the field of pedagogics and therapeutic-pedagogics published on the website [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch).

## INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF STUDENTS

A range of exchange opportunities are offered to students at teacher education establishments in Europe:

- The Socrates / Erasmus programme enables students to spend between three and twelve months of study abroad. A good knowledge of the vehicular language of the partner university and the drafting of a final report are required for Erasmus mobility training which a student may attend once only in the course of his or her studies<sup>59</sup>.

58) Further information can be obtained from the different teacher education establishments: see «Addresses» at the end of this brochure

59) For further information about the Socrates/Erasmus programme: [http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc80\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc80_en.htm)

- During or after the completion of studies, a practical training course lasting for three to twelve months abroad may be attended under the Leonardo programme. This course must be attended in a school, establishment or business in Europe with a degree of employment of between 80 and 100 %.<sup>60</sup>
- In the case of students destined to become primary and secondary school teachers, a programme of linguistic assistance lasting for between six and eight months depending on the country may also be attended during the study course.<sup>61</sup>
- Other possibilities for international mobility studies can also be organised at the initiative of the student himself or herself.

## INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF TEACHING DIPLOMAS

The entry into force of the bilateral agreements between Switzerland and the European Union on 1 June 2001 guaranteed the mutual recognition of diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications.

Teaching diplomas lead up to professions which are regulated by the States. Specific agreements exist between some countries. The Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK) is the body authorised to examine teaching diplomas. The following teaching diplomas are considered:

- foreign teaching diplomas for pre-primary and primary, secondary I and matura schools;
- foreign teaching diplomas for special needs education, and
- foreign university degrees from speech and language therapy and psychomotor institutions of higher learning.

The EDK examines the foreign teacher diplomas, having regard not only to the initial teacher education but also to all continuing education and all professional experience already acquired. Compensatory measures are proposed if essential differences exist between training courses.

Applications for the recognition of foreign teaching diplomas must be sent directly to the EDK for review<sup>62</sup>.

60) Further information is available from the Swiss Coordination Centers: [www.studex.ch](http://www.studex.ch), [www.s.o.l.ch](http://www.s.o.l.ch), [http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc82\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc82_en.htm)

61) For further information: [www.wbz-cps.ch](http://www.wbz-cps.ch)

62) For further information about the procedures for the recognition of foreign diplomas in the field of education, please consult the EDK website: [www.edk.ch](http://www.edk.ch)

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

All foreign students planning to study at a Swiss university of teacher education should contact the chosen institution directly, preferably a year before they plan to begin studies.

When you have received confirmation of acceptance by a university of teacher education, please contact the Swiss embassy in your country for information on entry formalities for Switzerland. You will have to show proof that you have adequate financial means to support yourself during your studies.

### Study Costs and Enrolment

Tuition fees vary from one university of teacher education to another; they range from around CHF 350.00 to CHF 800.00 per semester. Foreign students have to pay more at certain schools. Moreover, enrolment fees and examination fees must also be paid at several universities of teacher education. Because of these variations, interested candidates are advised to obtain information directly from the university of teacher education that they may wish to attend.

Living expenses in Switzerland come to between approximately CHF 18 000.00 and CHF 28 000.00 a year (depending on the campus site and personal needs).

The deadlines for enrolment vary from one university of teacher education to another. Sometimes, enrolment is required as early as in January or February to begin a training course in September.<sup>63</sup>

### Residence Permit

After your arrival in Switzerland, you will have to apply to the police department dealing with aliens to obtain a residence permit. You will have to present the following documents:

- a valid passport, if necessary with a visa
- confirmation that you have been accepted by a Swiss university of teacher education
- a guarantee of sufficient financial means to support yourself during your studies (e. g. bank statement)
- a statement of address in Switzerland.

The residence permit will only be issued if your financial means are guaranteed. In addition, you will have to renew the residence permit annually. It is almost impossible for foreign students to obtain a work permit in Switzerland, other than in exceptional cases during holidays.

63) For further details, please apply directly to the university of teacher education concerned.  
See Chapter «Addresses» (below).

### **Information Services**

Information on studying in Switzerland is generally available from the following sources:

in your home country:

The Swiss diplomatic missions abroad (embassies, consulates) provide general information on study opportunities and on relevant entry formalities and conditions.

in Switzerland:

- Universities of teacher education (Pädagogische Hochschulen / Hautes écoles pédagogiques / Alte Scuole Padagogiche)
- Swiss Federal Office for Professional Education and Technology (OPET)
- Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK)
- Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education (COHEP)
- Conference of Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences (KFH)
- Rector's Conference of the Swiss Universities, Information and Documentation Service (CRUS)

Applicants wishing to come to Switzerland on an exchange programme (e. g. Socrates / Erasmus) can obtain information from the international adviser at their own institution or at their chosen university of teacher education in Switzerland. Additional information about institutions is also available through Information and Coordination ERASMUS (ICES).

Information on academic recognition is available from the universities of teacher education, the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK) or, in some cases, from the Swiss Information Centre for Academic Recognition Matters (SWISS ENIC).

# ADDRESSES

## UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

### **PHBern, deutschsprachige Pädagogische Hochschule**

Fabrikstrasse 2, CH-3012 Berne

T +41 (0)31 309 20 11

F +41 (0)31 309 20 99

info@phbern.ch

www.phbern.ch

### **Pädagogische Hochschule Wallis (PH VS)**

#### **Haute école pédagogique du Valais (HEP VS)**

Alte Simplonstrasse 33, CH-3900 Brig

T +41 (0)27 606 96 50

F +41 (0)27 606 90 51

brig@phvs.ch

www.phvs.ch

Avenue du Simplon 13, CH-1890 St-Maurice

T +41 (0)24 486 22 40

F +41 (0)24 486 22 44

st-maurice@hepvs.ch

www.hepvs.ch

### **Pädagogische Hochschule der Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (PH FHNW)**

Baslerstrasse 43, CH-5201 Brugg

T +41 (0)848 012 210

F +41 (0)56 460 06 09

info.ph@fhnw.ch

www.fhnw.ch/ph

### **Pädagogische Hochschule Graubünden (PHGR)**

#### **Alta scuola pedagogica dei Grigioni (ASPGR)**

#### **Scola auta da pedagogia dal Grischun (SAPGR)**

Scalärastrasse 17, CH-7000 Chur

T +41 (0)81 354 03 02

F +41 (0)81 354 03 07

info@phgr.ch

www.phgr.ch

**Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (PH FR)**  
**Haute école pédagogique fribourgeoise (HEP FR)**

Murtengasse 36, CH-1700 Freiburg

Rue Morat 36, CH-1700 Fribourg

T +41 (0)26 305 71 11

F +41 (0)26 305 71 29

HEPFR-Info@edufr.ch

www.hepfr.ch

**Universität Freiburg, Departement Erziehungswissenschaften**  
**Université de Fribourg, département de la formation d'enseignantes et d'enseignants**

Rue P.-A. de Faucigny 2, CH-1700 Freiburg

Sek I T +41 (0)26 300 75 88

Sek I F +41 (0)26 300 97 11

Sek II T +41 (0)26 300 75 76

Sek II F + 41(0)26 300 97 11

lehrerbildung-sekretariat@unifr.ch

www.unifr.ch/lb

www.unifr.ch/edu

**Universität Freiburg, Departement für Heil- und Sonderpädagogik**  
**Université de Fribourg, département de pédagogie curative**

Rue St. Pierre-Canisius 21, CH-1700 Freiburg

T +41 (0)26 300 77 01

F +41 (0)26 300 97 49

Theresa.schaad@unifr.ch

www.unifr.ch/spedu

**Université de Genève : Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Éducation (FAPSE)**

40, Bd. du Pont-d'Arve, CH-1211 Genève 4

T +41 (0)22 379 04 36

Presidence-SSED@pse.unige.ch

www.unige.ch/fapse

**Institut de Formation des Maîtresses et des Maîtres de l'Enseignement Secondaire du canton de Genève (IFMES), period of transition**

Avenue du Bouchet 16, CH-1209 Genève

T +41 (0)22 388 69 80

F +41 (0)22 388 69 81

lfmes@etat.ge.ch

www.edu.ge.ch/dip/ifmes

**Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (PHTG)**

Unterer Schulweg 3, CH-8280 Kreuzlingen 2

T +41 (0)71 678 56 56

F +41 (0)71 678 56 57

office@phtg.ch

www.phtg.ch

**Haute école pédagogique du canton de Vaud (HEP Vaud)**

Avenue de Cour 33, CH-1014 Lausanne

T +41 (0)21 316 92 70

F +41 (0)21 316 33 97

www.hepl.ch

**Alta Scuola Pedagogica (ASP-TI)**

Piazza San-Francesco 19, CH-6600 Locarno

T +41 (0)91 816 02 11

F +41 (0)91 816 02 19

infoasp@aspti.ch

www.aspti.ch

**Pädagogische Hochschule Zentralschweiz (PHZ)**

Zentralstrasse 18, CH-6003 Luzern

T +41 (0)41 227 30 00

F +41 (0)41 227 30 01

info@phz.ch

www.phz.ch

**Haute école pédagogique – BEJUNE (HEP-BEJUNE)**

Rue du Banné 23, CH-2900 Porrentruy

T +41 (0)844 886 996

F +41 (0)32 886 99 96

info@hep-bejune.ch

www.hep-bejune.ch

**Pädagogische Hochschule Schaffhausen (PHSH)**

Ebnatstrasse 80, CH-8200 Schaffhausen

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## SWISS CONFERENCE OF RECTORS OF UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION (COHEP)

The Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education (COHEP) groups together the Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education and other tertiary level establishments with a similar mission. Among other tasks, the COHEP defends the interests of teacher education in relation to

the political authorities, the organisations and public opinion. It supports cooperation, coordination and development of universities of teacher education at the cantonal level and promotes their integration into the higher education system. It is a national platform for the exchange of information and experience between the chief executives and assures cooperation in the field of quality development.

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