



## Migrationsamt

# Information for Students and PhD Candidates (Non EU/EFTA Nationalities)

### 1. Persons eligible for permission of entry to Switzerland:

Foreign persons, who visit Switzerland for more than three months for studies. As a rule the permission will not be valid longer than the duration of the studies. The education must finish within 8 years.

### 2. The most important requirements for an entry to Switzerland

Accepted are educational institutions offering higher education, leading to internationally acknowledged degrees: Institutions such as universities, universities of applied sciences, art and design schools in Switzerland.

### 3. All the following documents have to be submitted together with the application form A1:

- Documents of completed studies, schools or vocational education.
- Confirmation of registration of the university or institute of higher education.
- Proof of financial reliability for all costs of living is required. Either a bank statement or a guarantee from a solvent resident in Switzerland must be presented. The guarantor has to submit his last tax statement and the statement of the debt registration office. If the stay is to be paid by the student, confirmation of the ability to cover all expenses is required (at least 2'000 Swiss Francs per month).
- A bank statement of a Swiss domiciled bank or post finance branch must be presented.
- A copy of a valid passport.

### 4. Submission of the application form and attachments

Persons who require a visa have to submit a personal entry application at the Swiss Embassy responsible for their home country. Persons who do not require a visa can send their application directly to the migration office of the Canton of St.Gallen. Applications from third parties living in Switzerland or an application personally sent from Switzerland will not be accepted.

The application must be submitted at least two months before the education starts. The applicant must wait for the permission of entry abroad.

### 5. Other work during the stay

Students at a university or a university of applied sciences may be allowed to take up employment in their specialist area or another job of no more than 15 hours a week if at least six months have passed since the training programme started and if the school's management team confirms that this will not affect the length of the training programme. A job application must be submitted before the employment starts, which will also involve checking that conditions of work and pay are in line with standard practice in the local area, in the professional field and in the industry.

### 6. Further stay in Switzerland after successful graduation

After successful completion of the degree, foreigners can receive an additional permission for further six months to find employment for high qualified persons. This requires sufficient financial resources and appropriate accommodation. This permission for six months with the purpose of finding employment will not be extended.

**Please pay attention: All submitted documents have to be translated if they are not in German language.**