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## Educational pathways

**After graduating from school, there are various educational paths. You can enter the world of work directly through an apprenticeship or go to a secondary school.**

Today, it is no longer so important which career path you choose at the beginning. In Switzerland, every education and training leads to a degree. Each qualification guarantees the connection to a further educational step.

This allows you to shape your professional career individually and achieve your professional goals through further training.

Find out more on the information page for career guidance:

**Career guidance Switzerland (available in 14 languages)**

**Career/Study & Career Counselling of the Canton of St.Gallen**

### Pathways

## Vocational education and training / apprenticeship

Vocational education and training (= apprenticeship) is the most common form of vocational training for young people in Switzerland. It is a mixture of theory and professional practice. The vocational qualification is recognised throughout Switzerland.

The apprenticeship is exciting and varied because it combines school and work practice. During the training, the apprentices already receive an income.

The young people can choose from around 230 professions. They choose an apprenticeship on their own.




After completing the apprenticeship, there are a wide range of further training opportunities at colleges of higher education, private institutions and universities of applied sciences.

Leaflet available in different languages: **"What is an apprenticeship?"**

### Vocational qualification for adults BAE

Have you missed out on completing an apprenticeship? Do you work in a profession and want to earn a degree?

Here you can find information on shortened vocational education and training:

-  Information and registration for counselling
-  Example of shortened vocational education and training - H. Zenuni
-  Example of shortened vocational education and training - Video portrait M. Imfeld

## Higher education / higher education entrance qualification

If you like going to school and still want to learn a lot, you can go to a **Mittelschule** (🔗 [Higher Middle Education / Upper Secondary Education](#)) (secondary level II). **Mittelschulen** (🔗 [Higher Middle Education / Upper Secondary Education](#)) offer different courses that lead to a baccalaureate or a technical or vocational baccalaureate.

The **Mittelschulen** (🔗 [Higher Middle Education / Upper Secondary Education](#)) lead to university entrance qualification and allow admission to all Swiss universities and colleges without taking an examination.

In the Canton of St.Gallen, the following schools can be completed after lower **Sekundarstufe I** (🔗 [High school level for grades 7-9](#)) :

- **Kantonsschule am Burggraben St.Gallen**
- **Kantonsschule am Brühl St.Gallen**
- **Heerbrugg Cantonal School**
- **Sargans Cantonal School**
- **Wattwil Cantonal School**
- **Wil Cantonal School**

The schools are spread throughout the canton. There are other fee-paying schools for higher education in the Canton of St.Gallen:

- **Interstate Baccalaureate School for Adults ISME in St.Gallen and Sargans**
- **Non-State Grammar School Friedberg, Gossau**

The Canton of St.Gallen also has the patronage of the Swiss School of Rome.

 Information on the training courses in 11 languages

 Matura Navigator

## Studying at university / college / university of applied sciences

After successfully completing a baccalaureate or a vocational baccalaureate, it is possible to study at a university or university of applied sciences, depending on the degree.




If you would like to complete a university degree with a **foreign baccalaureate certificate** , you can obtain information on the equivalence of your degree from Swissuniversities/ Swiss Enic. There you can check whether your secondary-school leaving certificate meets the general admission requirements for Swiss universities. ([www.enic.ch](http://www.enic.ch) > admission to the degree programme).

The Swiss higher education landscape offers a wide range of study opportunities at all levels (Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate). There are different types of higher education institutions:

- University Colleges (UH)
- Universities of Applied Sciences (FH)
- Universities of Teacher Education (PH)

Depending on the degree programme, the lessons are held in different languages: German, French, Italian or English.

## Information on choosing a degree programme

 Informationen zu Studium und Beruf  DE  PDF, 135 kB



### Overview

Presentation of the Swiss education system / Canton of St.Gallen



### Explanatory film English

Subtitles: Arabic/ Italian/ Persian/ Turkish/ Tigrinya/ Ukrainian



### Explanatory film French

Subtitles: Arabic/ Italian/ Persian/ Turkish/ Tigrinya/ Ukrainian

### Career and study counselling

At the Career, Study and Career Counselling Service ([www.berufsberatung.sg.ch](http://www.berufsberatung.sg.ch)) you can find out more about possible career paths, fields of study, vocational training or retraining.

In the **Career Information Centres** (BIZ) you will find documents on all professions, fields of study and career topics. Use the **eBIZ** or the information platform [Berufsberatung.ch](http://Berufsberatung.ch) from the comfort of your own home with helpful information in different languages.

#### Consultation

You can contact the cantonal career, study and career counselling service at the **Career Information Centre (BIZ)** for a free consultation .


#### Information

 Berufswahlfahrplan  PDF, 205 kB

 Berufsabschluss für Erwachsene in einfacher Sprache  PDF, 43 kB

 Berufswahlplaner  PDF, 3768 kB

#### viamia - professional assessment for people over 40

 [viamia for people over 40](#)

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### Financing of training / scholarships

Costs may be incurred for training after compulsory schooling. These depend on:

- the type of education (free or tuition fees)
- the place of training (near or in another canton)

You can apply for financial support from the Canton of St.Gallen - a so-called scholarship.

#### Scholarship - Information and Support

 [Information on scholarships in the Canton of St.Gallen](#)  deutsch

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#### Integration into vocational training, studies and work

### Brückenangebot: Bridging year between school and work

A **Brückenangebot** ([🔗 Bridging year between school and work](#)) lasts 1 year and is for adolescents and young adults who would like to complete basic vocational training leading to the Federal Certificate of Competence (EFZ) or the Federal Vocational Certificate (EBA) after completing compulsory schooling.

There are offers such as:

- **Pre-apprenticeship**
- **Integration course**
- **Vocational preparation year**
- **Design preparatory course for young people**

The targeted teaching, individual support and initial experience in a professional internship prepare the participants well for their future apprenticeship.

Young people with the following residence permit are allowed to attend a **Brückenangebot** ([🔗 Bridging year between school and work](#)) :

- Permit B (residence permit / recognized refugees)
- C permit (settlement permit)
- F permit (provisionally admitted refugees / provisionally admitted persons)
- Status S

## Information and links

- [🔗 Brochure](#)
  - [🔗 Further information on the bridging services in the Canton of St.Gallen](#)
  - [🔗 GBS Commercial Vocational and Further Education Centre St.Gallen](#)
  - [🔗 bzbs Vocational and Further Education Centre Buchs Sargans](#)
  - [🔗 BWZ Vocational and Further Education Centre Raoperswil-Jona](#)
  - [🔗 BWZ Vocational and Further Education Centre Toggenburg, Wattwil](#)
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## Invol+: Pre-integration apprenticeship

The Integration Pre-Apprenticeship+ (InVol+) helps you prepare for an apprenticeship and lasts one school year. Participants attend the school for 1-2 days per week, during which language skills and professional skills are promoted, and spend 3-4 days per week in the internship.

The InVol+ is aimed at:

- Provisionally admitted persons
- recognised refugees
- Immigrants from EU/EFTA countries
- Immigrants from third countries
- Persons with protection status S

InVol+ is offered in 6 professional fields:




- Retail and logistics
- Gastronomy
- Mechatronics
- Construction and ancillary trades
- SRC Nursing Assistants
- Automobile

- [🔗 Integration Pre-Apprenticeships Ti-SG](#)
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## Motivational semester



Young people who have finished school or dropped out of further education and have not yet found an apprenticeship can start a motivational semester.

You can join the program weekly.

-  [Brochure Motivation Semester](#)
  -  [Motivational semester rheinspringen bridges St.Gallen](#)
  -  [Further information on the motivational semester](#)
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## Navigation 20-30

Are you between 20 and 30 years old and it was not possible for you to learn a profession after compulsory schooling? In the **Navigation** programme, you will be accompanied and supported on your way to vocational training. Admission to the program is possible weekly.

-  [Flyer rheinspringen navigation](#)
  -  [More information about rheinspringen - navigation](#)
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## Studies: Admission to higher education for refugees

There are support services for refugees interested in studying at over 20 Swiss universities. Here you will find an overview of all contacts as well as information on university access for refugees.

-  [Prospects for studying in Switzerland](#)  mehrsprachig
  -  [Offers for Refugees Interested in Studying - Information in 12 Languages](#)
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