

OST Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences
Student Exchange Program

Fact Sheet

Academic Year

2026/2027

Schools of Management / Technology / Computer Science / Architecture,
Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning



General Information



Name OST - Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences
Website <https://www.ost.ch/en/international-relations-ost>
Erasmus Code CH ST.GALL08

Address **Campus Rapperswil**
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Campus St. Gallen
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io-socialwork@ost.ch
io-health@ost.ch



Academic Calendar

Fall Semester

Orientation Week 37
Classes Weeks 38 - 51
Exams Weeks 3 - 5

Week 36
Weeks 38 - 51
Weeks 3 - 5

Spring Semester

Orientation Week 7
Classes Weeks 8 - 23
Exams Weeks 25 - 27

Week 6
Weeks 8 - 23
Weeks 25 - 27

Language of Instruction:

English or German

Course Load:

According to the requirements of the home university. A full-time study load consists of 30 ECTS credits per semester. 1 ECTS credit corresponds to 30 hours of workload.

Nomination and Application

15 May / 15 Oct

Nomination

Upon nomination through your home university, you will receive the application link and instructions.

1 Jun / 1 Nov

Application

Apply online and submit application documents.

30 Jun / 30 Nov

Admission

You will receive a letter of acceptance and a welcome package upon application approval.

Jul-Aug / Dec-Jan

Preparation

- Apply for visa if needed
- Sign the student dorm rent agreement or apply for housing on your own
- Check your health insurance coverage
- Check your accident insurance coverage
- Obtain a liability insurance
- Finalise your choice of courses
- Make your travel plans
- Get in touch with your Swiss Buddy!

Sep / Feb

Arrival

Moving to Switzerland and Orientation!

Students must be nominated by their home university to be eligible to apply.

Application Documents and Requirements

Application form
Proof of enrolment at home university
Official transcript of records
Proof of language proficiency*
OST Learning agreement
Passport-sized photo
Copy of passport or ID card

*Language Requirements and Accepted Language Certificates

English: TOEFL pbt 550, ibt 4; IELTS 6.0; PTE Academic 50 pts, CEFR level B2 or equivalent.

German: CEFR level B2 or equivalent, C1 for health sciences.

Additional Requirements for Master (MSE) Students

Proof of enrolment in a master's program at home university
Very good GPA (best third of students)
Letter of Motivation
Curriculum Vitae
2 reference letters
English C1

Additional Requirements for Students in Architecture

Very good GPA (best third of students)
Portfolio

Deadlines

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Nomination	15 May	15 October
Application	1 June	1 November

Accommodation

Campus Rapperswil: The student hall of residence is conveniently located, just a five-minute bus ride from campus. Shared apartment of 3 or 6 rooms with exchange students. Current cost is CHF 680 per month. Application is submitted together with the student exchange application. More information: [Student Dorm Rapperswil](#).

Campus St.Gallen: No on-campus accommodation. Rooms in shared flats and studios with other exchange students, CHF 550 - 700 monthly.

Buddy Program

All exchange students will receive a buddy, a local student who will support them during their stay by helping them navigate campus life, understand local customs, and integrate into the community.

Money Matters

SEMP GRANT Exchange students from European partner universities will receive funding from the Swiss-European Mobility Program.

CHF 2200.- / semester (AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, GR, ES, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, MK, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, RS, SI, SK, TR)

CHF 1900.- / semester (DK, FI, IS, IE, LI, LU, NO, SE, UK)

CHF 100.- Green travel incentive for travel without airplane

Example of a Monthly Budget	CHF
Accommodation	500 – 700
Groceries	400
Public transport	70
Books	60
Health insurance (can be waived)	45
Entertainment	150
Total per month appr.	1300 – 1600

Further Information

Visa

EU/EFTA: No visa required for students who are EU/EFTA citizens.

Non-EU/EFTA: will receive documents from the International Office at OST to apply for a Swiss visa in their home country. For country-specific requirements, please refer to the website of the Swiss Consulate in your home country. The cost for the visa is paid by the student.

Residence Permit

All students must apply for a residence permit L upon arrival. The cost for the residence permit is paid by the student.

Work Permit

EU: Students may work up to 15 hours / week.

Non-EU, Bachelor: can be requested after 6 month wait period.

Non-EU, Master: can be requested under certain conditions without the 6 month wait period.

Health Insurance

All residents in Switzerland must possess a health insurance which is valid in Switzerland.

EU/EFTA: European Health Insurance Card, EHIC.

UK: Global Health Insurance Card, GHIC.

Non-EU/EFTA Students: Proof of health insurance with unlimited coverage in Switzerland. Health insurance provider in home country signs an exemption form together with a copy of the insurance policy in English, both documents will be evaluated by the local authorities in Switzerland. If the documents are not accepted by the local authorities, students are obliged to sign up for a Swiss health insurance (starting at appr. CHF 45.00/month).

Team International Office

Schools of Technology, Computer Science, Architecture, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning

Ms. Magdalena **Schreiber**
Head of International Office

Ms. Stella **Nicolaci**
Manager International Relations

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Ms. Maarit **Vähä-Piikkiö**
Exchange Coordinator Incomings

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International Coordinator
Industrial Engineering

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Director of International Office

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International Coordinator Outgoings

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Int. Relations Manager, Faculty Exchange

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International Relations Manager,
Study Trips

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Mr. Thiago **Garone**
Research Assistant

School of Health Sciences

Ms. Janine **Vetsch**
Head of International Office