

Information for entrance exam candidates requiring a visa

Due to various reasons, the entrance exams are scheduled to take place only shortly before the beginning of the autumn semester. At the earliest, successful candidates will receive an official confirmation of having passed the entrance exam on the Friday afternoon after the entrance exams have taken place (end of August). This document is required to apply for a visa. Since processing visas may take up to three months, it is hardly likely that you can start your studies by mid-September when the autumn semester officially begins. This means that you can begin your studies only one year later provided that you have been granted a visa. To begin studying in the current autumn semester, you must take up your studies by the Friday of the third week of the autumn semester (beginning of October) at the latest.

You must apply for a visa in your respective home country. It is possible to enter Switzerland with a tourist visa to take the entrance exam. It is not possible, however, to apply for a student visa to first sit the entrance exam and then join your study programme. Neither is it possible to apply for two visas simultaneously, i.e., one for the entrance exam and one to take up your study programme.