



Bern University of Applied Sciences BFH | Department of Health Professions

Information for International Offices

Exchange Programmes

Study Programme	Language Level for studies	Language Level for traineeships
BSc in Midwifery MSc in Midwifery	German upper B2/ C1 (+English B2)	German upper B2
BSc in Nursing MSc in Nursing Specialisations: - Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) - Nurse Practitioner (NP) - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) - Research	German upper B2/ C1 (+English B2)	German upper B2
BSc in Nutrition and Dietetics MSc in Nutrition and Dietetics	German C1 (+English B2)	German C1
BSc in Physiotherapy MSc in Physiotherapy Specialisations: - Musculoskeletal - Neurology - Professional development - Physiotherapy for pain management - Athletics	German upper B2/ C1 (+English B2)	German upper B2
MSc in Food, Nutrition and Health	English B2	

Traineeships are available for BSc and MSc students in the applied Research and Development team at the BFH-Health Department. A B2 Level in German and/or English is required. For more information, please contact the [International Office](#).

Further Information

Mobility Grants

Within Europe, student exchanges take place in the context of the EU Programme in the fields of education, training, youth and sport, Erasmus+. Since the academic year 2014/15, the grants for incoming and outgoing students and staff are being paid by Switzerland in the framework of the «Swiss European Mobility Programme» (SEMP, formerly Erasmus). However, procedures and conditions remain the same.

Grants are issued under the SEMP mobility programme. These amount to CHF 1900 or CHF 2200 per semester, depending on the length of the exchange programme and the country of origin of



your Higher Education Institution for a study semester. For traineeships the grants amount to CHF 440 per month, calculated on the basis of the effective internship days.

Greener Mobility

Students who travel each way by train or bus will receive a single additional financial support of 100 CHF per mobility.

Within the framework of SEMP, our exchange programme contains the following possibilities:

- **studies:** a SEMP exchange lasts between 60 days and 12 months.
- **traineeships:** a SEMP exchange lasts between 60 days and 12 months.
- **combination** of studying and completing a traineeship (minimum duration of stay: 60 days)

Languages

Most of the courses at the university are conducted in German, the student must have profound German skills in order to be eligible to apply. For traineeships, the required German language level may vary and shall therefore be decided on a case-to-case basis. For detailed information see table above.

Bern University of Applied Sciences supports students who wish to learn or improve a local language German or French. Generally, 80% of the cost of such courses (to a maximum of CHF 1500) is covered for Erasmus students. A written request for this financial support must be made via the International Office. Please note that there is no entitlement for the coverage of the course fees. Non-Erasmus students can equally apply for a financial contribution by Bern University of Applied Sciences. However, Erasmus students are prioritized.

Living and Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to organize their accommodation during their stay in Switzerland. The International Office can support the student with finding a housing in the region of Bern. However, the International Office does not guarantee accommodation for exchange students. Useful links can be found [here](#).

The living costs in Switzerland are high. The monthly expenses including food, accommodation, transport and entertainment, varies between CHF 1400 and 2100. Erasmus students also have the possibility to be assigned a buddy.

In Switzerland the standard work week is 42h. The rules and regulation of the host institution apply to regular and incoming students. BFH recommends the practice organisation to compensate placements financially. However, practice organisations are not obliged to pay out any financial compensation to the students.

Nomination and Application Deadlines

	Fall semester	Spring semester
for studies	15 th March (Nomination)	15 th September (Nomination)
	15 th April (Application)	15 th October (Application)
for placements	Since there is a limited supply of traineeships, please contact our International Office as soon as possible. The placement offerings for incoming students are on a first come, first served basis.	



Short programmes at BFH/ in collaboration with BFH (in English)

- [Personalised Rehabilitation: Diet and Exercise](#)

The summer school is organised by the University of Antwerp, Bern University of Applied Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the University of Hasselt with an exciting mix of international and domestic speakers. The summer school is aimed for dietitians, physiotherapists, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physicians etc. Students in their final year are also eligible to enrol. English knowledge is required.

- [Cross-cultural Communication and diversity](#)

Learn to apply current theoretical frameworks when analysing cross-cultural case studies. Stimulate your awareness for similarities and differences between different cultural backgrounds. English level B1 required. Summer School takes place in calendar week 35.

Further Information can be found on our website:

- [for incoming students](#)
- [for researchers](#)
- [for partner universities](#)

Contact International Office | Health

Bern University of Applied Sciences
International Office | Health
Aileen Kirchhofer



Head and Incoming Exchange Coordinator
Murtenstrasse 10
CH-3008 Bern
Switzerland
aileen.kirchhofer@bfh.ch
+41 31 848 45 67
www.bfh.ch/health-professions/en/

Bern University of Applied Sciences
International Office | Health
Tanja Andrist



Outgoing Exchange Coordinator
Murtenstrasse 10
CH-3008 Bern
Switzerland
tanja.andrist@bfh.ch
+41 31 848 45 52
www.bfh.ch/health-professions/en/