

Spring Semester	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Autumn Semester	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Nationals of a third country				
Apply for a visa D Prepare all documents according to the checklist and send them at least 3 months before arrival to the Swiss representation in your country of residence	beginning of month			
Processing If all the required documents are submitted, this can take up to 8–10 weeks	8-10 weeks			
*optional: Fill out ZHAW authorisation Form This allows us to contact the Immigration Office directly and represent you in foreign police entry procedures	direct communication between ZHAW StudAdmin and Migration Office			
Arrange your Accommodation in Switzerland Plan well in advance, as it can take a lot of time Useful links: Accommodation Marketplace	immediately after application			
Receipt of the visa authorisation A fee of CHF 95.- will be charged for the authorisation to issue a visa			beginning of month	
*If the ZHAW has a power of attorney, the university will receive the visa authorisation and forward it to you. The fee of CHF 95.- is also issued by the ZHAW			beginning of month	
Complete visa application Contact the relevant Swiss embassy			upon receipt	
Visa becomes valid 2–3 weeks before the start of the semester (regardless of the application date)				beginning of month
Entry into Switzerland only with visa D, not with a tourist visa				individual
Registration at residents office Apply for a residents permit within 14 days of arrival				depending on arrival