

# Fact sheet ETH ZURICH / CH ZURICH07

## Swiss-European Mobility Programme (SEMP)

### Academic year 2025-2026

#### Contacts

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Departmental Exchange Coordinators	<a href="#">List of Departmental Exchange Coordinators</a>

#### Nomination and application

Nomination	Autumn semester	Spring semester
Nomination deadline (for course <u>and</u> project students)	March 25	September 25
Form of nomination	Send your <b>nominations by email</b> to <a href="mailto:semp.in@ethz.ch">semp.in@ethz.ch</a> (applies to thesis/project students <u>with</u> an exchange spot, too)	
Content of nomination	Nominations <b>must</b> include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Student's full name, date of birth, email address</li> <li>- Number of exchange semesters (1 or 2)</li> <li>- Study program at home university <u>and</u> ETH department each student is nominated for (ISCED or subject code on exchange agreement; students must apply for the department they are nominated for: see additional requirement on page 2)</li> <li>- Purpose of exchange (courses or project/thesis).</li> </ul>	

Application	Autumn semester	Spring semester
Application window opens	February 1 for autumn semester	September 1 for spring semester
Application deadline (for course <u>and</u> project students)	April 1	October 1
Online application	<a href="#">Application information for students and link to online application</a> The admission decision will be sent out to applicants approximately 5 weeks after the application deadline.	
Staff mobility	Employees and lecturers at European partner universities should arrange the details of their stay at ETH Zurich directly with the contact persons of the inviting institute or department, who will also clarify any questions regarding guest status. There is no SEMP funding available. However, staff visitors may be granted financial support from their home university via Erasmus+.	

## Requirements

Language skills	Student Mobility (SMS)	Staff Mobility (STT/STA)
Languages of instruction	<p><b>English:</b> Master courses are generally offered in English; only some Bachelor courses are offered in English.</p> <p><b>German:</b> mostly Bachelor courses. For more details on the language of instruction, see the <a href="#">course catalogue</a></p>	Based on the bilateral arrangement between the staff visitor and the hosting institute.
Required language level	<b>C1</b> recommended, min. B2	<b>C1</b> recommended, min. B2
Fields of study	All	All
Language Certificate	No language certificate required. We trust our partners to nominate students with a B2 language level or higher in English and/or in German, depending on the chosen courses (learning agreement).	No language certificate required.
Language courses	<a href="#">Language courses:</a> A 2-week intensive German course is offered before the start of the semester. Regular courses offered during the semester as well.	

### Additional requirements for student mobility

Course work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All exchange students are expected to aim at a minimum workload of 20 ECTS per semester of course, thesis/project work or a combination on both.</li> <li>A workload of 30 ECTS or more may be overwhelming for students not used to ETH's highly demanding academic environment.</li> <li>The majority of courses (generally <b>2/3</b>) must be taken within the assigned department.</li> <li>Students must have completed at least 2 years/120 ECTS of their studies at university level in a relevant study field before the planned start of the exchange period.</li> <li>ETH Zurich reserves the right to decline applications from students who have only recently started their studies at the sending institution and have not yet been able to establish a solid academic track record there, which is necessary in order to assess their ability to successfully study at ETH Zurich.</li> <li>More details are available in the <a href="#">Study Plan Guidelines</a> and <a href="#">Conditions set by the departments</a>.</li> </ul>
Project/Thesis work	<p>A) <b>With</b> a spot within one of our exchange agreements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students must find a supervising professor at ETH Zurich on their own and be nominated by their home university <u>before</u> applying <i>within the regular application deadlines</i>.</li> <li>Project/thesis work is expected to be full-time. A combination of course work and a thesis/project must be discussed with the supervisor.</li> </ul> <p>B) <b>Without</b> a spot within the exchange agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students apply independently as <a href="#">project mobility students</a>. They must find a supervising professor at ETH Zurich on their own <u>before</u> applying.</li> <li>Project/thesis work is expected to be full-time.</li> <li>No study fees and no SEMP scholarship.</li> <li>These students can apply until 2 months before their desired start date (3 months in advance if visa needed).</li> </ul>

## Academic calendar and examination periods

Academic calendar	<a href="http://www.ethz.ch/semester-dates">www.ethz.ch/semester-dates</a>
Examination periods	ETH Zurich has unusually late examinations periods ( <a href="#">session examinations</a> ). There is a possibility for students to <a href="#">prepone examinations</a> under certain conditions.

## Learning Agreement and Transcript of Records

Learning Agreement	We will issue an electronically signed Learning Agreement based on the study plan approved by the Departmental Exchange Coordinators - we appreciate our partners accepting the SEMP Learning Agreement format. The Learning Agreement can be adjusted after the beginning of the semester. A final electronically signed Learning Agreement will be issued.
Transcript of Records	Grades are usually available online beforehand. Transcripts can only be issued after the end of the second examination and may take up to 6 weeks. Students have to request their transcript and may order up to three free transcripts of records from the study administration office of their assigned department.
Grading System	For more information see <a href="#">ETH Zurich's Grading System and ECTS Grades</a>

## Scholarships

SEMP scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incoming students within the Swiss-European Mobility Programme (SEMP) will receive a scholarship from the Swiss Government, paid by ETH Zurich.</li> <li>• Students with a spot* apply automatically for the scholarship by applying for their exchange period, no separate application is necessary.</li> <li>• SEMP has a <a href="#">semester scholarship of 5 monthly rates</a> per exchange semester, independently of the exact duration of stay.</li> <li>• Students can only receive a scholarship for one academic year during their exchange, i.e. students staying for two semesters covering two different academic years can receive only one semester scholarship in total. *Only project and thesis students nominated <u>with</u> a spot within an exchange agreement are eligible for a SEMP scholarship.</li> </ul>
"Green Top-Up" for eco-friendly Travel	ETH is committed to sustainability and encourages all exchange students travelling from Europe to Switzerland to choose an environmentally friendly means of transport. Students who do so and send us proof of it before the start of the semester will receive a financial " <a href="#">top-up</a> " towards covering part of their travelling expenses.
Heyning-Roelli Foundation	The Heyning-Roelli Foundation offers scholarships to talented students with financial constraints to help with travel and personal expenses. These are external funds and do not affect scholarships already granted within SEMP. Information on the conditions and application process may be found at <a href="http://www.heyning-roelli-stiftung.ch/index_en.html">http://www.heyning-roelli-stiftung.ch/index_en.html</a>

## Additional information

Visa and residence permit	Detailed information and the necessary documents will be sent to students after their application has been accepted. Further information can be found here: <a href="#">Immigration</a> → Do I need a Visa? <a href="#">FAQ</a>
Mandatory Health Insurance	Detailed information will be sent to the students after their application has been accepted and upon their arrival. Further information can be found here: <a href="#">Health Insurance</a>
Housing	Detailed information will be sent to the students after their application has been accepted. Housing is usually limited in the autumn semester whereas in the spring there is more housing available. Further information can be found here: <a href="#">Necessary steps</a> → Accommodation <a href="#">Housing Office</a>
Special needs	For information and support refer to the <a href="#">Disability Advisory Service</a> . Students interested in applying for exchange at our institution should contact this department, ideally before applying, to make sure that ETH can provide the support needed in case of special needs.
Emergency Contact for Students while on exchange	The Emergency Helpdesk at ETH Zurich can be contacted around the clock from external lines or mobile phones on +41 44 342 11 88.