



VISA APPLICATION FOR FAMILY REUNION

The competent Authorities in Switzerland are responsible for issuing entry permits for the purpose of family reunion. The decision process takes between 8-12 weeks. The following procedure is required:

The application must be submitted at the visa counter at one of our representations by appointment from Monday to Friday in the morning (except on Chinese and Swiss public holidays).

Appointments are mandatory through the company VFS Global: <https://visa.vfsglobal.com/chn/en/che>

The personal presence of all applicants is mandatory for adults and minors.

Non-compliance with the set guidelines (items not presented, photocopies missing, etc.) will lead to the rejection of the application. Thank you for your cooperation.

Following documents in English, French, German or Italian are required:

- National passport or official travel document valid for more than 3 months beyond the validity of the requested visa, with at least two blank pages
- 3x copy of the passport including the signature page
- 3x **visa D** application form (**application for national visa for stays of more than 90 days**), duly completed and signed by the applicant. The form can be downloaded on the website: <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen/einreise/visumantragsformular.html>
- 4x coloured passport photo undamaged, of recent date, white background, size 35x45mm
- 2x copy of Swiss residence permit of the spouse/parent (if applicable)
- 2x copy of passport including signature page of the spouse/parent
- 2x copy of invitation letter from the spouse/parent living in Switzerland
- 2x proof of family relation (marriage certificate / birth certificate), with Apostille from MFA (1 original and 1 copy)
- 2x Criminal Record Certificate, legalized by notary, with Apostille from MFA translated into French, German or Italian (1 original and 1 copy)
- Proof of language competency (A1) in the language spoken at the future place of residence in Switzerland or confirmation of enrolment in a language course that will allow this level to be acquired, translated (German, French or Italian) + 1 copy. The Swiss representation will check the conformity of the certificate and will conduct an oral test with the applicant. Please consult [the requirements on SEM website](#) for further details.
No language test required, if the partner is Swiss or EU/EFTA citizen

Minors:

- 2x birth certificate of the dependent child, with Apostille from MFA (1 original and 1 copy)
- 2x proof of guardianship (if applicable), with Apostille from MFA (1 original and 1 copy)
- 2x notary certificate of permission to reside in Switzerland (if applicable); from both parents or legal guardians (when minor is travelling alone) or the parent or legal guardian not travelling (if minor is travelling with one parent), with Apostille from MFA (when not in China, attested by the relevant authorities in the country of residence) (1 original and 1 copy)

Documents not in English, French, German or Italian require a notarized translation

Visa fee as published on the website. The amount is equivalent to EUR 90 for adults and EUR 45 for children from the age of 6-12 years. Children under the age of 6 years are free of charge.

You may join 2x copies of any other relevant documentation, that you consider relevant to your application.

The Cantonal Migration Authorities may ask for additional documents.

The application will be forwarded to the competent Swiss authorities for their decision (8-12 weeks).
On receipt of the authorization to issue the visa, the applicant must contact the Embassy/Consulate General directly by e-mail:

Beijing: beijing.visa@eda.admin.ch

Shanghai: shanghai.visa@eda.admin.ch

Guangzhou: guangzhou.visa@eda.admin.ch

China, May 2026