



Swiss Abroad turning 18

Your rights,
obligations and
options



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

As a Swiss citizen residing abroad and turning 18, you acquire new rights and obligations. Find the relevant information below.

Registration at your Swiss representation

When you turn 18, you will receive a registration form from your Swiss representation. Sign and return the registration confirmation within 90 days or register online via the FDFA's online desk.

FDFA's online desk

Via the online desk, you can request certificates, register to vote, or inform your representation of a new email, postal address, or a change in civil status (marriage, birth, etc.).

Education

Switzerland offers a wide range of opportunities for education, vocational training, and employment. Swiss citizens residing abroad do not need a residence or work permit to access them.

Military Service

In times of peace, Swiss citizens living abroad are exempt from conscription and military service as long as they reside abroad. Swiss citizens living abroad who settle permanently in Switzerland are required to perform military service depending on their age.

Political Rights

To exercise your right to vote you will need to register with your representation through the FDFA online desk. You can also register by post or by visiting your representation in person.

[Swiss representations abroad](#)

[The FDFA's online desk](#)

[Study in Switzerland and +](#)

[Vocational education and training in Switzerland](#)

[Career Advisory Service](#)

[Military Service](#)

[Voting and electoral rights](#)

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

Consular Directorate CD

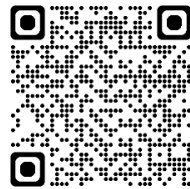
Relations with the Swiss Abroad

www.youngswissabroad.ch

swissabroad@eda.admin.ch

On the next page, you'll find more useful information.

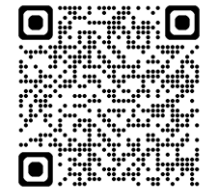
[The ch.ch website](#) is the online portal of the Confederation, the cantons and the communes. It provides official information on the Swiss political system, civic rights and obligations, as well as practical advice.



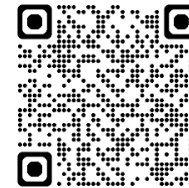
[The Swiss Armed Forces Personnel](#) is at your disposal for any further information on Military Service (dual nationality, bilateral agreements, etc.).

Hotline: +41 800 424 111

E-mail: personelles.persa@vtg.admin.ch



[SwissInTouch](#) is a web application developed by the FDFA. It brings together useful information for Swiss citizens living abroad.



[educationsuisse](#) provides information and guidance on studying, vocational training and internships. It also offers advice on language courses, accommodation options, and scholarships for Swiss citizens living abroad.

Since 1916, the [Organisation of the Swiss Abroad \(SwissCommunity\)](#) has represented the interests of Swiss citizens living abroad. It is committed to maintaining strong ties between Switzerland and its citizens abroad.



[Follow the FDFA on social media](#)

Stay connected with Switzerland around the world. Get updates on Swiss diplomacy, travel information, and stories from Swiss representations abroad.



[Swiss Abroad Act](#)

The Swiss Abroad Act governs the rights and obligations of Swiss nationals who live or travel abroad.

Scan the QR code to learn more about your rights and obligations.



[Easyvote](#) provides neutral and accessible information about Swiss politics, referendums, and elections. The website offers videos, brochures, and educational materials especially designed for young citizens.

