

**Address**

**Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences (OST)**

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Oberseestrasse 10, Rapperswil  
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**Website:**

[Incoming students | OST](#)

**Erasmus Code**

CH ST.GALL08

**Factsheet for**

School of Technology (T)

School of Computer Science (I)

School of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning (ABLR)

**Campus Rapperswil (T, I, ABLR)**



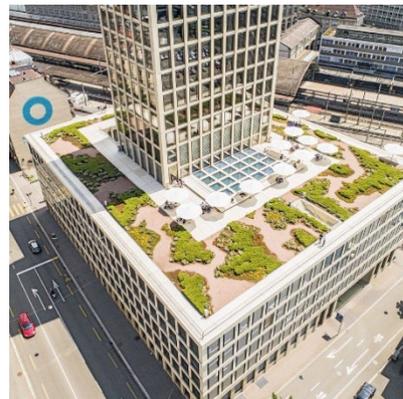
Campus Rapperswil  
Oberseestrasse 10  
8640 Rapperswil, Switzerland

**Campus Buchs (T)**



Campus Buchs  
Werdenbergstrasse 4  
9471 Buchs, Switzerland

**Campus St.Gallen (T, I, ABLR)**



Campus St.Gallen  
Rosenbergstrasse 59  
9001 St.Gallen, Switzerland

Studienzentrum Waldau St. Gallen  
Schönauweg 4  
9000 St.Gallen, Switzerland

**International Office, Schools T, I, ABLR**

**Contact person**

**Function**

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## Funding of Swiss-European Mobility Program SEMP

<b>General information</b>	On arrival, exchange students from European partner universities will receive funding from the Swiss-European Mobility Program.	
<b>Incoming students from Europe</b>	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, GR, ES, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LU, LV, MK, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, RS, SI, SK, TR	CHF 2200.- /semester
	DK, FI, IS, IE, LI, LU, NO, SE, UK	CHF 1900.-/semester
<b>Green travel top-up</b>	For travel without airplane	CHF 100.-

## Semester dates and deadlines

<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>Fall semester</b>	<b>Spring semester</b>
Nomination:	15 May	15 October
Application:	01 June	01 November
Orientation session:	Week before the start of the semester	Week before the start of the semester
Classes:	mid-September to mid-December	mid-February to mid-June
Examination period:	January (weeks 3-5)	June (weeks 25-27)

## Application procedure and academic information

Applicants must be officially nominated by their home university for their exchange semester. After that, students can apply.

<b>Application documents</b>	Application form Passport-sized photo Learning agreement Proof of language proficiency	Proof of enrolment at home university Official transcript of records Scan of passport or ID card
<b>Additional requirements for Master students</b>	Enrolled as Master student at home university Very good grade average (best third of students)	Letter of Motivation CV 2 reference letters
<b>Schools and programs</b>	<p><b>School of Technology</b> Programs offered in <a href="#">School of Technology</a></p> <p><b>School of Computer Science</b> Programs offered in <a href="#">School of Computer Science</a></p> <p><b>School of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning</b> Programs offered in <a href="#">School of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning</a></p> <p><b>Master of Science in Engineering (MSE)</b> with 11 profiles: <a href="#">Study program</a></p>	
<b>Language of instruction</b>	Business Engineering Civil Engineering Computer Science Data Science Electrical Engineering Energy and Environment English or German	Mechanical Engineering Mechatronics & Automation Medical Engineering Photonics Raumentwicklung & Landschaftsarchitektur

<b>Language requirements</b>	English: TOEFL / IELTS, Pearson Test of English (Academic) or equivalent Score: TOEFL paper based 550, internet-based 79; IELTS 6.0; PTE Academic 50 pts, CEFR level B2 or equivalent German: CEFR level B2 or equivalent (In the absence of a formal language certificate, confirmation of a student's language skills at the required level issued by the home institution may be accepted.)
<b>German course</b>	German beginner class offered every semester. Additional courses can be organized according to demand. A <a href="#">3-week intensive German refresher course</a> (B2/C1) is offered, which takes place before the start of the fall semester. Cost: CHF 700.
<b>Course selection</b>	Course choice to be made with the international coordinator at the home institution. Courses can be changed within two weeks of the official semester start (subject to availability).
<b>Course load per semester</b>	Depending on the home institution's requirements. A regular ECTS load is 30 credits per semester. The academic level at OST is high.

## Further Information

<b>Monthly Budget in CHF:</b>	Accommodation: 400 – 700, food: 400, public transport: 70, books: 60, health insurance (can be waived): 80; entertainment: 150. <b>Total per month: approx. CHF 1300 – 1600</b>
<b>Visa</b>	<u>EU/EFTA:</u> No visa required for students from EU/EFTA countries. <u>Non-EU Students:</u> will receive documents from the International Office at OST to apply for a Swiss visa in their home country. For country-specific requirements, please refer to the website of the Swiss Embassy/Consulate in your home country. <u>All students:</u> A residence permit must be obtained after entering Switzerland. The costs for the visa and the residence permit are paid by the student.
<b>Health insurance</b>	You must have a health insurance which is valid in Switzerland. <u>EU/EFTA:</u> European Health Insurance Card, EHIC, UK-Students GHIC. <u>Non-EU Students:</u> Proof of health insurance valid in Switzerland. Health insurance provider in home country signs an exemption form together with a copy of the insurance policy in English, both documents will be evaluated by the local authorities in Switzerland. If the documents are not accepted by the local authorities, students are obliged to sign up for a Swiss health insurance (starting at CHF 64.00/month – e.g. <a href="#">Scorestudies</a> or <a href="#">Swisscare</a> ).
<b>Accommodation</b>	<u>Campus Rapperswil:</u> Student housing: 10min by bus to the Campus, several shared apartments with 3 or 6 rooms each only for exchange students, the cost is currently CHF 680 per month. <u>Campus Buchs:</u> No on-campus accommodation. Rooms in shared flats and private accommodation in or near Buchs, approx. CHF 400 - CHF 700 monthly. <u>Campus St.Gallen:</u> No on-campus accommodation. Rooms in shared flats and studios with other exchange students, CHF 550 - CHF 700 monthly. Application deadlines: 15 May/15 October.
<b>Facilities</b>	Canteen and cafeteria at all three locations.  Library at all <a href="#">three locations</a> . Access to <a href="#">library at HSG University in St.Gallen</a>  <a href="#">Sport am Campus Rapperswil-Jona   OST</a> <a href="#">Sport am Campus St. Gallen</a> <a href="#">Sport program in Buchs</a> Many outdoor activities possible in the whole region - from skiing and snowboarding in winter to hiking and biking in summer.

<b>Buddy program</b>	International exchange students can be matched with a Swiss "buddy" student. A buddy is a Swiss student, who will support you in Switzerland, show you around and help you to integrate in Switzerland and get to know life on campus.
<b>Work permits and regulations</b>	EU students are currently permitted to work up to 15 hours per week without registration at the migration office. Should EU students wish to work more than 15 hours per week, the consent must be obtained from the migration office in the canton of St. Gallen by submitting the A1 form and the employment contract. Students from outside the EU/EFTA countries may start working only 6 months after starting their degree program.
<b>Welcome week and events</b>	Right before the semester start, a welcome week is offered to all exchange students. In the welcome week exchange students will have an opportunity to get to know the university, other exchange students and the staff of international office. Events will be organized in this week as well as later during the semester. Our students can also take part in events organized by Zurich ESN (Erasmus student network).
<b>Free time</b>	Typical activities in Switzerland include hiking, skiing, and snowboarding. Rapperswil is a very nice and picturesque town right on the lake of Zurich. It might be good to know that Zurich, the biggest city in Switzerland, is close to Rapperswil and easily reachable by public transport. In general, traveling in Switzerland and around Europe is easy thanks to excellent public transport in Switzerland and OST is located right in the heart of Europe!
<b>Electronic Devices</b>	Switzerland has different plugs and sockets to most other European countries. Please make sure to bring a suitable adapter for your electronic devices.
<b>Mobile Phone</b>	Switzerland is not part of the EU roaming union. Costs can be very high when using your regular provider. Please check with your phone provider beforehand. Prices vary greatly between providers in Switzerland. Some providers offer pre-paid solutions without requiring a contract. (Check out <a href="#">Aldi Swiss Mobile</a> , <a href="#">Lidl Connect</a> , <a href="#">Yallo</a> , <a href="#">GoMo</a> , <a href="#">Lebara</a> .)
<b>Money matters</b>	<p>Please check with your bank before your stay in Switzerland as banks can have high fees for currency transfers, withdrawing money in Switzerland etc.</p> <p>As it is often not possible for exchange students to open a regular Swiss bank account, many of our exchange students use <b>Wise</b> or <b>Revolut</b> for payments in Swiss francs and exchanging currencies.</p> <p>If you receive a Swiss European Mobility grant, please check with your bank if you can receive transfers in Swiss francs to make sure that you will receive your stipend.</p>
<b>Public transport</b>	<p>Public Transport in Switzerland is very good but unfortunately also expensive. There are different options to save on public transport depending on your needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Half-price ticket (Halbtax)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Network travel pass</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Point-to-point Travelcards   SBB</a></li></ul> <p>Most students get the half-price ticket during their stay in Switzerland. If you have classes in Zürich and Rapperswil the ZVV network pass or <b>point-to-point pass</b> could be a good choice. You can get advice at the SBB counter at all bigger train stations.</p>
<b>Parking</b>	<p><u>Campus Rapperswil</u>: No parking on campus for students; public car park at 10 minutes' walking distance (no free parking). Private Parking can be searched <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Campus Buchs: Free parking on campus Campus St. Gallen: Multi-storey car park next to the campus (no free parking). Waldau St. Gallen: Free parking on campus</p>