

OST Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences  
Student Exchange Program

# Fact Sheet

## Academic Year

### 2025/2026

Schools of Technology / Computer Science / Architecture,  
Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning



**OST**  
Eastern Switzerland  
University of Applied Sciences

# General Information

**Name** OST - Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences

**Address** Oberseestrasse 10, Rapperswil, SWITZERLAND

**Erasmus Code** CH ST.GALL08

**Website** [Incoming Students - OST](#)

**E-Mail International Office** [io-eng@ost.ch](mailto:io-eng@ost.ch)

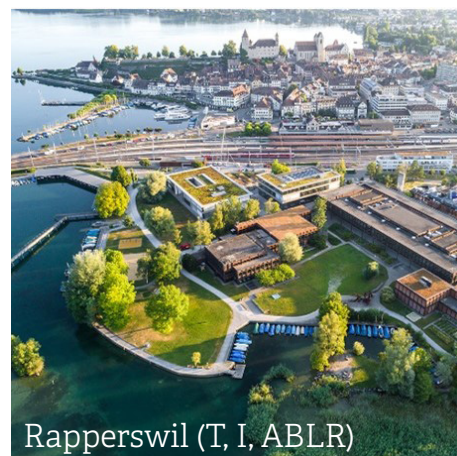
Fact Sheet for:

School of Technology (T)

School of Computer Science (I)

School of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture,

Spatial Planning (ABLR)



Rapperswil (T, I, ABLR)

## Academic Calendar

### Semester Dates

Welcome Week

Classes

Exams

### Fall Semester

Week 37

Weeks 38 - 51

Weeks 3 - 5

### Spring Semester

Week 7

Weeks 8 - 23

Weeks 25 - 27

## Programs and Courses

### School of Technology

Programs offered in [School of Technology](#)

### School of Computer Science

Programs offered in [School of Computer Science](#)

### School of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning

Programs offered in [School of Architecture, Civil Engineering,  
Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning](#)

### Master of Science in Engineering (MSE) with 12 profiles:

[Study program](#)

Business Engineering

Civil Engineering

Computer Science

Data Science

Electrical Engineering

Energy and Environment

Information and Cyber Security

Mechanical Engineering

Mechatronics & Automation

Medical Engineering

Photonics

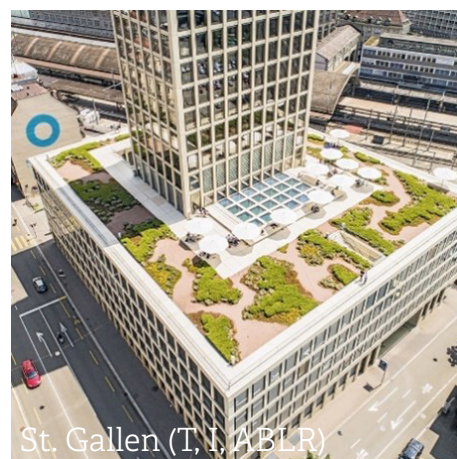
Spatial Development and

Landscape Architecture

Check our  
Course Offer  
here



Buchs (T)



St. Gallen (T, I, ABLR)

### Language of Instruction

English or German.

### Course Load

According to the requirements of the home university. A full-time study load consists of 30 ECTS per semester. 1 ECTS corresponds to about 30 hours of workload including classes and independent study.

### German Beginner and Refresher

German beginner class is offered every semester free of charge.

A 3-week intensive [German refresher course](#) (B2/C1) is offered before the start of each fall semester. Cost: CHF 700.

# Nomination and Application

15 May / 15 Oct

## Nomination

Upon nomination through your home university, you will receive the application link and instructions.

1 Jun / 1 Nov

## Application

Apply online and submit application documents.

30 Jun / 30 Nov

## Admission

You will receive a letter of acceptance and a welcome package upon application approval.

Jul-Aug / Dec-Jan

## Preparation

- Apply for visa if needed
- Sign the student dorm rent agreement or apply for housing on your own
- Check your health insurance coverage
- Obtain a liability insurance
- Finalise your choice of courses
- Make your travel plans
- Get in touch with your Swiss Buddy!

Sep / Feb

## Arrival

Moving into the student dorm and Welcome Week!

## Application Documents and Requirements

Application form  
Proof of enrolment at home university  
Official transcript of records  
Proof of language proficiency\*\*  
OST Learning agreement  
Passport-sized photo  
Copy of passport or ID card  
Bachelor Architecture: very good GPA (best third of students)

## Additional Requirements for MSE Students

Enrolled as master student at home university  
Very good GPA (best third of students)  
Letter of Motivation  
Curriculum Vitae  
2 reference letters  
English C1

## Additional Requirements for Master Students in Architecture\*

Enrolled as master student at home university  
Very good GPA (best third of students)  
Portfolio

*\*Due to limited capacity, OST cannot guarantee admission for all exchange applicants in MA Architecture. A strong portfolio is highly recommended.*

## \*\*Language Requirements and Accepted Language Certificates

**English:** TOEFL pbt 550, ibt 79; IELTS 6.0; PTE Academic 50 pts, CEFR level B2 or equivalent.

**German:** CEFR level B2 or equivalent.

A confirmation of language skills from the home institution may be accepted if no formal certificate is available.

## Deadlines

Deadline	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Nomination	15 May	15 October
Application	1 June	1 November

## Accommodation

**Campus Rapperswil:** The student hall of residence is conveniently located, just a five-minute bus ride from campus. Shared apartment of 3 or 6 rooms with exchange students. Current cost is CHF 680 per month. Application is submitted together with the student exchange application. More information: [Student Dorm Rapperswil](#).

**Campus Buchs:** No on-campus accommodation. Rooms in shared flats and private accommodation in or near Buchs, approx. CHF 400 - 700 monthly.

**Campus St.Gallen:** No on-campus accommodation. Rooms in shared flats and studios with other exchange students, CHF 550 - 700 monthly. Application deadlines: 15 May/15 October.

# Contact and Further Information

## SEMP Grant

Exchange students from European partner universities will receive funding from the Swiss-European Mobility Program.

### Incoming students from Europe

AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, GR, ES, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, 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**

**Green travel top-up for travel without airplane**

**CHF 100.-**

## Visa, Residence Permit, Health Insurance

### Visa

**EU/EFTA:** No visa required for students who are EU/EFTA citizens.

**Non-EU/EFTA Students:** 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. The cost for the visa is paid by the student.

### Residence Permit

All students must apply for a residence permit L upon arrival. The cost for the residence permit is paid by the student.

### Health Insurance

All residents in Switzerland must possess a health insurance which is valid in Switzerland.

**EU/EFTA:** European Health Insurance Card, EHIC.

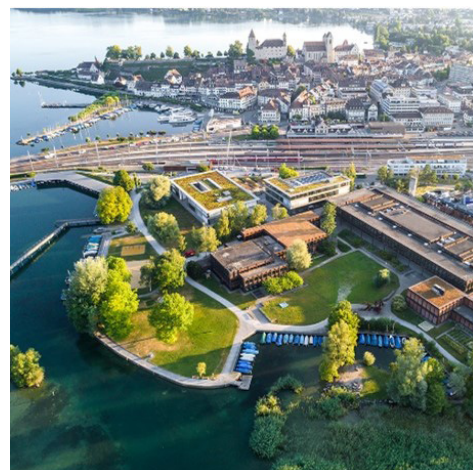
**UK:** Global Health Insurance Card, GHIC.

**Non-EU/EFTA Students:** 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 appr. CHF 65.00/month).

## Money Matters

### Example of a monthly budget

	CHF
Accommodation	500 – 700
Groceries	400
Public transport	70
Books	60
Health insurance (can be waived)	65
Entertainment	150
Total per month appr.	1300 – 1600



## International Office

### Head

Magdalena Schreiber

### Exchange Coordinator Incomings

Maarit Vähä-Piikkiö

### Exchange Coordinator Outgoings

Sydney Childers

### International Coordinator Industrial Engineering

Mathias Kleiner

**E-Mail** [io-eng@ost.ch](mailto:io-eng@ost.ch)

### Address

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