

**Bern University of Applied Sciences**  
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Do not hesitate to contact us for further  
information regarding opportunities abroad.

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## Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management Science Study Abroad Guide

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## Why study abroad?

Studying abroad during your bachelor studies will equip you with the tools and experience necessary to thrive in today's globalized and complex world.

### Studying abroad will allow you to

Strengthen your global perspective

Enhance your cross-cultural communication skills

Become a more dynamic and creative problem-solver

Develop complementary interests/skills

Build your international network of friends/future colleagues

Enhance your post-graduation prospects



«The most important thing for me during my semester abroad was to grow personally. Due to not having friends there at first, I had to get out of my comfort zone and get to know people and places i wouldn't have if I didn't leave home.»

**Ruedi Trachsel**, Student, BFH Industrial Engineering and Management Science, Exchange student at the Technical University of Applied Sciences Lübeck, Germany (2021)

# Exchange possibilities

## 4 There are three ways in which you can spend a semester abroad while enrolled at the BFH:

|                       | Swiss European Mobility Programme SEMP (former Erasmus)   | Bilateral agreements  | Free mover  |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| Eligible universities | Listed in the MoveOn platform   | The BFH could sign a bilateral agreement with a non-EU/EFTA university (not guaranteed)                   | Student's choice  |
| Transfer of credits   | Guaranteed. Modules must be specified in the learning agreement signed by the BFH and the host university | Guaranteed. Modules must be specified in the learning agreement signed by the BFH and the host university | Students must get approval from the BFH before applying to the host university                                    |
| Application           | Nomination by the BFH   | Nomination by the BFH   | Students must meet the application requirements of the host university. The application is sent to them directly. |
| Tuition fee           | Regular BFH tuition   | Regular BFH tuition   | Tuition fee of the home university for international students   |
| Grants                | Grants from the Swiss European Mobility Programme for up to 2 semesters                                   | No scholarship paid by the BFH  | No scholarship paid by the BFH  |

# FAQs

## When should I go?

We recommend you go abroad during your 4th or 5th semester. During semester 6 your workload will be high (thesis) and you won't probably be able to make the most out of your experience abroad.

## How long should I go?

You can go abroad for one or two semesters.

## How much should I pay?

As part of the Swiss-European Mobility program, students are eligible for a grant of CHF 1600 per semester. The grants are limited to two semesters.

## How far ahead should I start planning?

Students are encouraged to discuss the possibilities of going abroad with the international advisor a good six to eight months in advance. See the examples below:

| Study abroad                               | Start planning and collect information | Apply online | Prepare your stay        |
|--|--|--------------|--------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> semester (Autumn semester) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester               | CW2          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> semester (Spring semester) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester               | CW 32        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> semester |

## Where do I start?

- Check the list of partner universities for the program [bfh.moveon4.de/publisher/1/eng#](http://bfh.moveon4.de/publisher/1/eng#)
- Get a counseling interview with our International Advisor ([international-wing@bfh.ch](mailto:international-wing@bfh.ch)) to answer questions about the application procedure, module selection, and so on.
- Submit an online application through the MoveOn platform within the deadlines (deadline for autumn semester: CW 2 and for spring semester: CW 32)
- Confirm your nomination at the selected partner university and receive information about the details of becoming an exchange student abroad (application, housing, course registration).

# Other international opportunities

## 6 Swiss-Chinese Summer School in Technology

The BFH together with the College of New Materials and New Energies of the Shenzhen Technology University (SZTU) in China organize every year a four-week Summer School open to all bachelor students. Registration closes every December and upon completion of the program, the student is awarded 4 ECTS points towards the ordinary study programme.

For more information visit the following link:  
[bfh.ch/ti/swiss-chinese-summer-school](http://bfh.ch/ti/swiss-chinese-summer-school)

## Technical internships abroad

Are you interested in an internship abroad? IAESTE Switzerland is an organization for the exchange of students at higher education institutions wishing to obtain technical experience internationally.

To check available posts for internships abroad, please visit:  
[iaeste.ch/traineeshipoffers](http://iaeste.ch/traineeshipoffers)

## Travel the world as a volunteer

ICYE offers volunteer stays worldwide and allows you to participate in projects at any country of your choice.

To know more, visit: [icye.ch/fr](http://icye.ch/fr)

## Certificate of Global Competence

This certificate offers you the opportunity to acquire additional intercultural and transcultural skills as part of your regular studies at the BFH – and to provide evidence of this to future employers.

For more information, visit the following link: [bfh.ch/en-glocal-competence](http://bfh.ch/en-glocal-competence)



2019 Swiss-Chinese Summer School attendees

«Although covid was a big challenge for my semester abroad, I was able to meet so many new people in a short amount of time, who I now count among my close circle of friends. These connection would hardly have been possible otherwise.»

**Florian Meichtry**, Student, BFH Industrial Engineering and Management Science, Exchange student at the Via University College, Denmark (2021)



«Visiting another school with different dimensions, learning methods and focus areas was very enriching. I got to work on projects with fellow foreign students which was extremely interesting as well. In addition, I was able to get an idea of how big and diverse the industrial engineering business is, how differently you can deal with it and where I stand in it.»

**Ruedi Trachsel**, Student, BFH Industrial Engineering and Management Science, Exchange student at the Technical University of Applied Sciences Lübeck, Germany (2021)

«Studying abroad is an opportunity to have an experience unlike any other. Take this opportunity to travel the world with no commitments, but to study, learn and networking with other people. You should take this opportunity and plan very early to study abroad.»

**Seda Otuzbir**, Student, BFH Industrial Engineering and Management Science, Exchange student at the University of Technology Sydney (2020)

