



Berner Fachhochschule
Haute école spécialisée bernoise
Bern University of Applied Sciences



Bern University of Applied Sciences BFH

IUAV Online Session: Mobility Opportunities at PIONEER Alliance Universities
3 March 2026

► Global Engagement Office / Hanna Estadieu

Bern – federal city and UNESCO cultural heritage



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Bern – activities



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Bern – activities



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BFH: facts and figures

2884 employees
Established in 1997 33 bachelor's degree programmes
7925 students
27 master's degree programmes 8 schools
Proportion of female employees 54% 3 languages of instruction

BFH sites

Travel times between the cities by public transport:

Bern – Zollikofen: 8 min

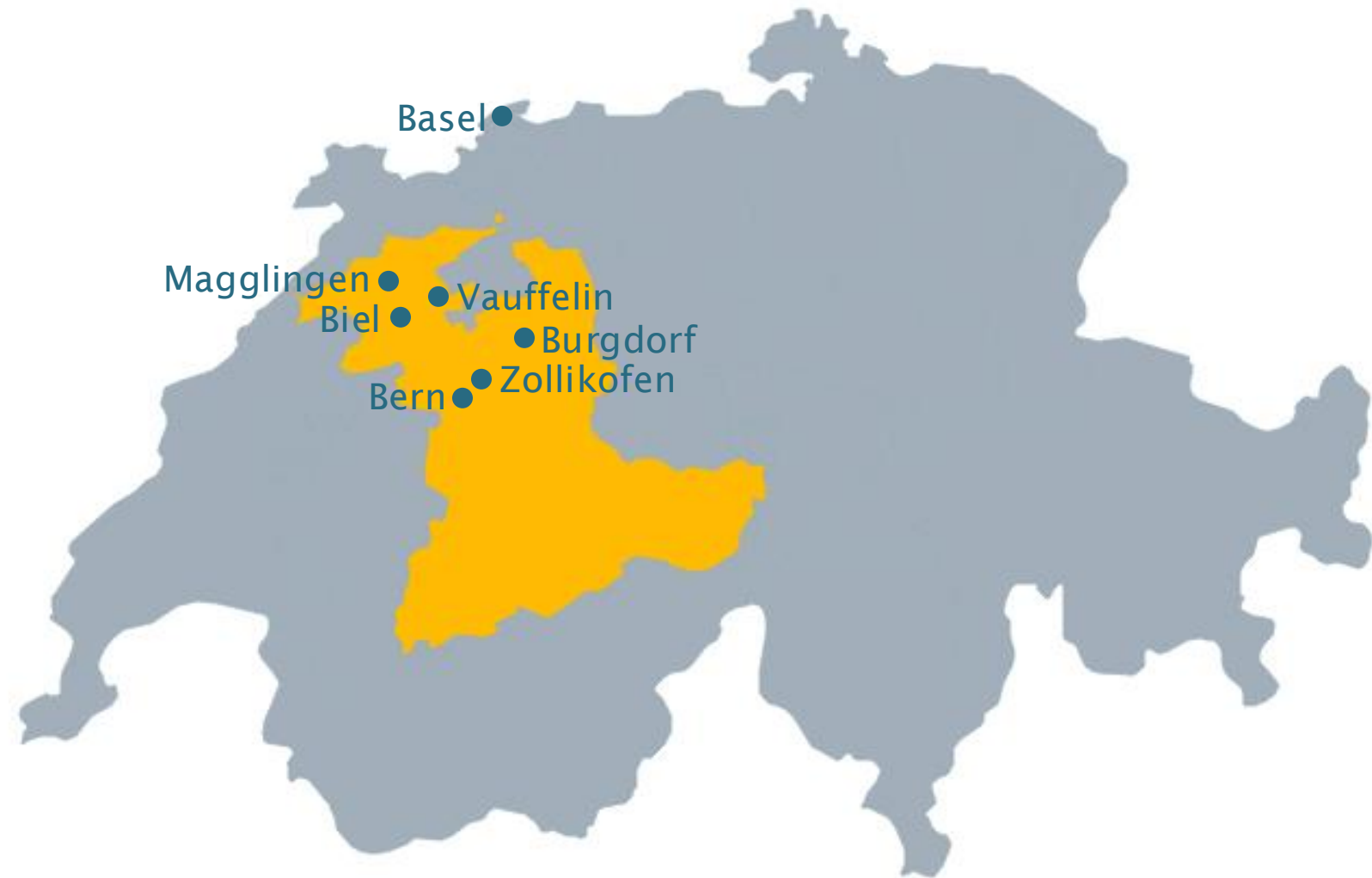
Bern – Burgdorf: 13 min

Bern – Biel: 27 min

Bern – Magglingen: 51 min

Bern – Basel: 1 h 2 min

(In Vauffelin, there are laboratories only.)



BFH Schools



Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering

Sites: Biel, Burgdorf



Health Professions

Sites: Bern, Basel



School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences

Sites: Zollikofen

BFH Schools



Bern Academy of the Arts

Sites: Bern, Biel



Social Work

Sites: Bern



Engineering and
Computer Science

Sites: Biel, Burgdorf

BFH Schools



Business

Sites: Bern



Swiss Federal Institute of Sports Magglingen*

Sites: Magglingen

*affiliated university

Wide range of courses

- ▶ 32 Bachelor degree programmes
- ▶ 27 Master degree programmes
- ▶ Practice-oriented and research-based teaching
- ▶ Some degree programmes are unique within German-speaking Switzerland or even nationwide (e.g. Sports, Agronomy, Forestry, Wood Engineering, Automotive and Vehicle Engineering, Creative Writing, Medical Informatics).
- ▶ Teaching in German, French, and English, depending on the study programme.



Practical arrangements

Principles

- ▶ Exchange students from our partner universities do not pay tuition fees at BFH.
- ▶ Students are responsible for covering all personal expenses and living costs themselves (e.g. accommodation, travel, and learning materials).
- ▶ Students must arrange their own accommodation. A popular option among international students is renting a room in a Student Lodge (a non-profit organization with student housing buildings in Bern), but you are free to choose the type of accommodation you prefer. Many also live in shared flats.

Useful links

- ▶ [Studies + Life | BFH](#)
- ▶ [Services + Counselling | BFH](#)
- ▶ [Accommodation](#)
- ▶ [Student Lodge](#)
- ▶ [Swiss Federal Railways SBB CFF FFS](#)
- ▶ [Public transportation | BERNMOBIL \(in German\)](#)
- ▶ [Cost of Living - study in switzerland+](#)
- ▶ [ESN Bern and ESN Guide \(The Swiss Guide for Exchange Students\) | ESN Switzerland](#)
- ▶ [Bern Welcome](#)
- ▶ [City of Bern](#)

Swiss-European Mobility Programme SEMP

Swiss SEMP grants are available for incoming exchange students from Europe (in case an Erasmus+ grant is not available).

- ▶ Currently, the following 2 BFH Schools have a mobility contract with IUAV:
 - Bern Academy of the Arts: BA Art Education, BA Fine Arts, BA Visual Communication, MA Art Education, MA Contemporary Arts Practice.
 - School of Architecture, Wood & Civil Engineering: BA/MA Architecture.

Country of home university	Total SEMP grant (flat rate)
DK, FI, IS, IE, LI, LU, NO, SE, UK	Grant for 1 semester: CHF 1900 Grant for 2 semesters: CHF 3800
AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FR, GR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, MK, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, RS, SI, SK, TR	Grant for 1 semester: CHF 2200 Grant for 2 semesters: CHF 4400



Nomination and application

Process

- ▶ Students are nominated by their home universities for an exchange semester.
→ Please contact the International Relations Office of your home university for further information.
- ▶ After you have been nominated by your university, you will receive an application link and further instructions from the mobility coordinator of the relevant BFH department.

Deadlines

Autumn semester

- ▶ Nomination: 31 March
- ▶ Application: 15 April

Spring semester

- ▶ Nomination: 30 September
- ▶ Application: 15 October

Questions? Our International Offices are here for you!

Architecture, Wood & Civil Engineering:
international.ahb@bfh.ch

Health Professions:
internationales.gesundheit@bfh.ch

School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences:
international.hafl@bfh.ch

Bern Academy of the Arts:
international@hkb.bfh.ch

General information:

[Studying in Switzerland | BFH](#)

[Information for partner universities | BFH](#)

[Global engagement | BFH](#)

Social Work:
international.soziale-arbeit@bfh.ch

Engineering and Information Technology:
international.ti@bfh.ch

Business:
international.business@bfh.ch

Swiss Federal Institute of Sports Magglingen:
iro.ehsm@baspo.admin.ch

[Study at BFH – YouTube](#)

[Student exchange at BFH: shape your future with us! – YouTube](#)

Thank you for your attention.

www.bfh.ch

