



Switzerland

(Young Workers)

Program

Canada-Switzerland Young Trainee Exchange Program

General

“Trainees” means individuals who have completed a course of instruction and wish to improve their occupational and linguistic skills in another country.

Conditions for admission

To be eligible for this program, candidates must:

- be Canadian citizens;
- be graduates of a university, institute of technology or equivalent educational institution;
- have a minimum of one year’s working experience related to their diploma;
- undertake their period of training in their own profession or trade;
- be 18 to 30 years of age;
- be in good health; and
- have an adequate knowledge of French, German or Italian. (If the applicant’s mother tongue is not one of the above languages, a certificate or letter of reference from a language teacher must accompany the application.)

Training areas

If you are a graduate in the hotel, restaurant, health services or banking fields, the Swiss govern-

ment will undertake a job search on your behalf upon request by the Department of External Affairs.

If you are a graduate in a field other than the ones mentioned above, the Swiss government will accept you if you succeed in finding your own employment.

Duration of training

Generally, authorization for training is granted for a period of one year; however, it is not to be for less than six months. In certain cases and on an individual basis, the training period may be extended to a total of 18 months.

Upon expiration of the training period, trainees may not remain in the host country with a view to holding employment, except when expressly authorized to do so.

Working conditions

Trainees will not be admitted to Switzerland unless appropriate authorities are satisfied that the remuneration offered corresponds to the prevailing rate in the occupation and locale. The authorities will also want to ensure that the terms of employment will be respected.

Trainees will enjoy the same treatment as nationals of the host country in all matters concerning the application of laws, regulations and practices regarding health and working conditions.