

before approval was received from the "Controle de l'Habitant" with the understanding that if the request was turned down, the relationship would be terminated.

In other cases, the potential employee may not commence work until approval comes through and the permit is issued. This can cause a delay of three to six months while the authorities assure themselves that a suitable Swiss candidate cannot fill the position.

Permits are tied to specific positions and cannot be transferred to other positions.

### Berne

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: No  
Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0  
Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes  
Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

It is very difficult, if not impossible, for a spouse to obtain employment in Berne in spite of the fact that it is fairly easy for diplomatic spouses to obtain a work permit. The category of work permit granted to diplomats is, in most cases, an obstacle to obtaining work. In Swiss organizations, priority is given to the Swiss. As Berne is situated in the German part of Switzerland, candidates are required to speak Swiss German (or, at least, German) fluently, in addition to the other official languages.

With the exception of cases where a speciality is much sought after, it is impossible to find a job in Berne or the surrounding areas. There are, however a few companies (language schools or Canadian advanced technology firms), and some foreign embassies which have indicated their willingness to accept applications.

There are a number of opportunities open to spouses interested in research and study:

A number of language schools in Berne offer excellent daytime courses in most modern languages from Arabic to Serbo-Croat. The Canadian Government language training programme pays the fairly high fees for German language instruction. Ten week intensive courses for beginners, two hours per day, as well as afternoon courses twice a week, are available. In addition, private tutors can be easily found. The Migros School gives language courses in the evenings at a lower cost than the daytime schools.

There is an excellent Conservatory of Music which is well known for its violin teaching but where most instruments are taught to advanced students. Berne has an almost unlimited supply of highly qualified private teachers and many music shops which stock musical scores and records.