



Fees factsheet for BFH students, with effect from academic year 2026/2027

02/2026, valid from autumn semester 2026/2027¹

Key details at a glance

From autumn semester 2026/2027

Tuition fee for bachelor's and master's degree programmes
Tuition fee for international students

CHF 850 / semester
CHF 2'550 (or CHF 1'050
or CHF 850)* / semester

Examination fee
Fee for social and cultural institutions and for sport
Fee for the Students' Association (VSBFH)

CHF 80 / semester
CHF 24 / semester
CHF 15 / semester

There is an additional flat-rate fee for equipment, which may vary from one degree programme to another, and other costs for course material, specialist literature, consumables, etc.

*For exemptions, see further information on tuition fees for international students at the end of the factsheet.

Basic principles

- In the event of discontinuation of study, no fees are reimbursed as a rule.
- Students who are matriculated at another university and have an agreement for temporary study at Bern University of Applied Sciences are not liable for the tuition fee or the payment for social, cultural and sports facilities.

Application

Registration fee (per registration) CHF 150
A processing fee of CHF 10 will be charged for payments made by invoice.

Fee for aptitude test / Selection process

Bern University of the Arts (payable on registration) CHF 150
School of Social Work
– bachelor's degree programme (payable on registration) CHF 100
– master's degree programme CHF 200
School of Health Profession CHF 200

Tuition fees (per semester)

Standard rate Bachelor's / Master's programme
for international students*

CHF 850
CHF 2'550

*International students who have come to Switzerland or Liechtenstein for the purpose of studying will pay the standard fee of CHF 850 plus a tuition fee supplement of CHF 1'700 (CHF 2'550 in total).

Exemptions:

- The tuition fee supplement of CHF 1'700 does not apply if:
 - ▶ a Swiss canton or the Principality of Liechtenstein contributes to the study costs, or
 - ▶ the students had their main place of residence in Switzerland or Liechtenstein when they obtained their entrance qualification (vocational, specialised or academic) for bachelor-degree level study.
- A transitional arrangement applies to students matriculated before the autumn semester 2026/2027. They pay a semester fee of CHF 1'050, unless they change degree programmes.

For details, see the following additional information for international students at the end of the factsheet.

Payment in instalments:

Upon request, the tuition fee of CHF 2'550 can be divided into three instalments of CHF 850 each. Send your request to the Central Student Administration by 31 July (for the autumn semester) or by 31 January (for the spring semester). Ideally, you should submit it immediately after your admission to studies.

Examination fee

per semester

CHF 80

There is a flat-rate examination fee each semester (with the tuition fee), regardless of the number of examinations and any re-sit examinations. There are no additional fees for theses or thesis oral examinations or for re-sitting examinations in full or in part.

Total examination fees cannot exceed the amount of CHF 500. If an examination is not taken, the examination fee is not generally reimbursed.

Fee for social and cultural institutions and for sport

per semester

CHF 24

This fee is billed each semester with the tuition fee.

Flat-rate fee for equipment

The flat-rate fee for equipment is max. CHF 150 and varies depending on the degree programme. This fee is billed each semester with the tuition fees.

Fee for the Students' Association (VSBFH)

per semester

CHF 15

The VSBFH contribution is billed each semester with the tuition fee. It is paid to the VSBFH in full (www.vsbfh.ch).

Leave-of-absence fee

per semester

CHF 100

Students granted leave of absence who are members of Bern University of Applied Sciences' Student Association (VSBFH) must also pay the VSBFH contribution.

Fees for auditors

per ECTS credit of the module attended
(no more than CHF 1'200 per semester)

CHF 150

BFHcard

1st card

free of charge

Replacement card

CHF 30

Various individual costs

- Course material, specialist literature, requirements for individual lessons, consumables, laptop, etc.
- Study trips, excursions, visits
- Usage-dependent printing and photocopy costs
- Lodging and meals

The individual costs vary depending on the degree programme. The Student Administrations of the respective schools will be happy to provide information about the average costs to be expected. Contact persons for each school can be found on our website.

Further information for international students on the amount of tuition fees

International students

who have come to Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein for the purpose of studying will pay tuition fees of CHF 2'550 per semester (tuition fee of CHF 850 plus tuition fee supplement of CHF 1'700) from the start of the autumn semester 2026/2027, following a decision by the Bernese Cantonal Government.

This applies to persons who fulfil the following three criteria:

- foreign nationality,
- residence permit for the purpose of study,
- parents not resident in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein.

The decisive factor is the status at the start of the degree programme at BFH.

Exemptions:

The tuition fee supplement does not apply if a Swiss canton or the Principality of Liechtenstein contributes to the tuition costs in accordance with the FHV Student Personal Data Form. This is the case if students:

- are minors or financially dependent on their parents at the start of their studies and their parents are domiciled under civil law (official main place of residence) in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein;
- were gainfully employed for a total of at least two years before the start of their studies¹ (without simultaneously being in basic vocational education and training in the sense of a vocational apprenticeship or academic/specialised baccalaureate with a first degree²) and were financially independent of their parents and were resident in the same Swiss canton or the Principality of Liechtenstein under civil law for at least two years uninterrupted during this time;
- are domiciled under civil law (official main place of residence) in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein at the start of their studies and hold a residence permit that was not issued for study purposes (short-term residence permits (L) are excluded, even if they relate to gainful employment);
- have refugee status and have been definitively assigned to a canton in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein by the State Secretariat for Migration;
- are under Swiss guardianship.

The tuition fee supplement is also waived if students had their main place of residence in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein when they obtained their entrance qualification (vocational, specialised or academic baccalaureate) for bachelor-degree level study.

Transitional arrangement:

International students who are already matriculated and who began their studies before the autumn semester 2026/2027 will pay tuition fees of CHF 1'050 until they complete their current degree programme (bachelor's or master's degree programme). The new fee regulations apply when switching degree programmes.

Students who are Swiss nationals or citizens of the Principality of Liechtenstein

do not pay a tuition fee supplement. If international students gain either citizenship during their studies, the supplemental fee is waived after notification to the central student administration office.

The start date of the degree programme at BFH is defined as follows:

- The beginning of the academic year: first day of Week 38 (start in the autumn semester) or Week 8 (start in the spring semester).
- The start of your studies at BFH: whether or not the tuition fee supplement must be paid is ascertained when you start your studies at BFH, based on your residence permit when you submit the FHV Student Personal Data Form; it applies for the entire duration of your studies at BFH. Where a student switches directly between two degree programmes within BFH without a break (including a direct transfer from a bachelor's to a master's degree programme), the FHV Student Personal Data Form does not have to be submitted again. If the purpose of the residence permit changes during the degree programme, this has no influence on the canton that is liable to pay and the amount of the tuition fee.
- New admission to BFH (change of university): if a student transfers to BFH after studying at another university (e.g. for a master's degree programme after completing a bachelor's degree at another university), this counts as the start of studies at BFH and requires the FHV Student Personal Data Form to be submitted again.
- Returning to BFH: after a break in studies (termination of matriculation without a leave of absence) of at least six months, the FHV Student Personal Data Form is resubmitted and a new assessment is made as to whether the tuition fee supplement must be paid.

The following table provides a summarised overview of the special provisions.

¹ The phrase "before the start of their studies" does not mean that the period of financial independence is required to have taken place immediately before starting to study. It may also have taken place much earlier and is not required to have been for two years straight. Years spent as an apprentice (vocational apprenticeship) do not count as financial independence.

² The term "basic vocational education and training" refers to training programmes that are financed or co-financed by the Confederation and the cantons and that lead to a professional qualification (vocational apprenticeship or academic baccalaureate and specialised baccalaureate with a first degree).

Overview of tuition fees for international students

Students who are Swiss or Liechtenstein nationals always pay the tuition fee of CHF 850.

If you gain citizenship of either of these countries during your studies, please notify the central student administration office.

Amount of tuition fee (per semester)	CHF 2'550 (standard fee supplement)	CHF 1'050 (concessionary fee supplement)	CHF 850 (fee supplement waived)
Date of enrolment	New matriculation at BFH from autumn semester 2026/2027: – Start of studies at BFH (new students) – Transfer from another university to BFH – Return to BFH after a break of at least six months Special case: when switching degree programmes within BFH without a break, the date of first enrolment at BFH is the reference date for the calculation of cost sharing and status.	Students already matriculated at BFH before autumn semester 2026/2027 until a change of degree programme within BFH (switching from a bachelor's to a master's programme is considered a change of degree programme)	New matriculation at BFH from autumn semester 2026/2027 – Start of studies at BFH (new students) – Transfer from another university to BFH – Return to BFH after a break of at least six months Special case: when switching degree programmes within BFH without a break, the date of first matriculation at BFH is the reference date for the calculation of cost sharing and status.
Cost sharing Switzerland / Liechtenstein	No contribution from a Swiss canton or the Principality of Liechtenstein in the cost of study (assessment according to the FHV Student Personal Data Form for new enrolments at BFH) and no university entrance qualification from Switzerland.	Not relevant	Contribution to tuition costs from a Swiss canton or Liechtenstein (assessment according to FHV Student Personal Data Form for new matriculations at BFH) or university entrance qualification from Switzerland.

Amount of tuition fee (per semester)	CHF 2'550 (standard fee supplement)	CHF 1'050 (concessionary fee supplement)	CHF 850 (fee supplement waived)
Status (at the start of studies in Week 38 or 8)	– Residence permit for the purpose of studying, – and parents whose main residence is not in Switzerland or Liechtenstein. – No residence in Switzerland or Liechtenstein when they obtained their university entrance qualification (vocational, specialised or academic baccalaureate)	No residence in Switzerland or Liechtenstein when they obtained their university entrance qualification (vocational, specialised or academic baccalaureate)	– Parents whose main residence is in Switzerland or Liechtenstein (if student is a minor or financially dependent on parents) – Gainfully employed for a total of at least two years prior to enrolment at BFH (without simultaneously being in basic vocational education and training such as an apprenticeship or academic/specialised baccalaureate with a first degree) and thus financially independent of parents, and during this time main residence in the same Swiss canton or Liechtenstein for at least two years uninterrupted – Main residence in Switzerland or Liechtenstein and residence permit not issued for the purpose of studying (short-term residence permits excluded) – Refugee status (definitively assigned to a Swiss canton or Liechtenstein by the State Secretariat for Migration) – Swiss guardianship – Residence in Switzerland or Liechtenstein when they obtained their university entrance qualification (vocational, specialised or academic baccalaureate)