



University
of Basel

Uni Guide

University of Basel.



Foreword



Dear Students,

Congratulations on choosing to study at the University of Basel. With this Uni Guide, we want to welcome you to the Basel area and show that you have made the right decision.

This brochure will make it easier to get started, allowing you to concentrate on your studies with peace of mind. The initial study period presents many questions: How do I get to grips with everyday student life? Where can I find an apartment? How much money do I need for my studies and where can I find a part-time job? As the best tips and tricks come from your fellow students, they will answer these questions themselves. Experienced students also know where the best places are to meet up after class to make the most of life outside the lecture hall – and Basel has plenty to offer!

I hope you enjoy our tips and I wish you every success during your time at our university.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "A. Schenker-Wicki".

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Andrea Schenker-Wicki
President of the University of Basel

Contents



Study

- 3 Tips for new students
- 4 Dates
- 5 Student checklist
- 5 New to Switzerland?
- 6 Swimming bag, t-shirts and more
- 6 University Library
- 7 Online Services
- 7 ADAM
- 7 Eduroam
- 8 Software for students
- 8 Hardware for students
- 9 From Basel to the world
- 10 ABC of studying



Support

- 15 Student Administration Office
- 15 Students Without Barriers
- 15 Language Center
- 16 International Office
- 16 Student Advice Center
- 16 Pastoral Counseling
- 16 Treatment in the undergraduate clinic
- 17 Coordination Office for Refugees
- 17 Studying with children
- 17 Social Services



Accommodation

- 19 Sharing an apartment
- 20 At home in Basel
- 22 Apartment hunting



Work

- 25 Gaining work experience
- 26 Internships
- 26 Let's go abroad!
- 26 Student jobs
- 27 Student trainees
- 27 Sirop
- 27 Career Service Center



Life

- 29 Away from the lecture hall
- 30 Traffic
- 30 Mobility Carsharing
- 30 University Sports
- 31 Follow us!
- 31 Campus Stories
- 31 Stay up to date
- 32 Student organizations
- 38 Food and Drink



Finances

- 41 My budget
- 42 Scholarships: Where to ask
- 42 Financial support
- 43 Switzerland's scholarship system
- 43 Insurance
- 43 AHV



Facts

- 45 The university at a glance
- 46 Students
- 46 International
- 47 Did you know?
- 47 The university: A chronicle



Study

When you start your studies, there will be a whole pile of changes and you may find yourself feeling a little lost. To make sure this doesn't last too long, we have put together some tips.

However, the most important thing is initiative! Talking with your fellow students and asking your lecturers, student committees and the skuba will make things much easier.

Tips for new students

“Starting university can be overwhelming – a new city, new people, new information. Don’t be intimidated, not by students who seem to know everything, nor by heavy books and complicated technical terms. Everyone starts from scratch and uncertainty is just part of the process. There will be moments when everything comes easily – and others when you doubt yourself. That’s normal! The important thing is to keep at it, accept setbacks and learn from them. Studying is not a sprint, but a marathon. Do your best, make new friends and enjoy this time!”

Noah Bruttel

Law



“Throw yourselves headlong into daily university life: grapple in-depth with the material, challenge what you have learned, be active in the lectures and don’t be afraid to ask critical questions. Don’t allow yourselves to be intimidated at first by the sheer volume of the subject matter – take it step by step and pay attention to good time management. And be sure to visit the University of Basel’s diverse events for your faculty as well, to expand your horizons.”

Lea Bachmann

Writing her dissertation in Law

Dates

Teaching period

Fall semester 2026

September 14, 2026 to
December 18, 2026

Spring semester 2027

February 22, 2027 to
June 4, 2027

Fall semester 2027

September 20, 2027 to
December 23, 2027

Teaching-free period

Dies academicus

November 27, 2026

Easter

March 27 to April 2, 2027

Labor Day

May 1, 2027

Feast of Ascension

May 6 to May 7, 2027

Whit Monday

May 17, 2027



“Start Smart” Week: Start of program 2026

The “Start Smart” week offers an introduction for new students at the bachelor’s level so that the start of their studies is as smooth as possible. The university management team greets new students in a Welcome Ceremony held on Monday morning, September 14, followed by introductory events at the faculties. In addition, the service units, student organizations and student committees of the University of Basel will present the diverse range of services offered at the Info Market in the Kollegienhaus.

On the following evenings, first-year students can explore the university world. This includes everything from presentations to guided tours, for example of the university library, and a bar tour through the city.

unibas.ch/start-smart

Course registration

Fall semester 2026

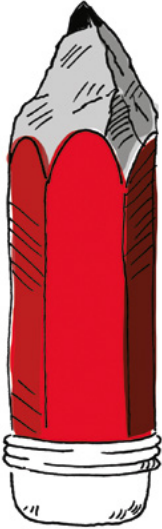
August 1, 2026 to October 12, 2026

Spring semester 2027

January 1, 2027 to
March 22, 2027



Student checklist



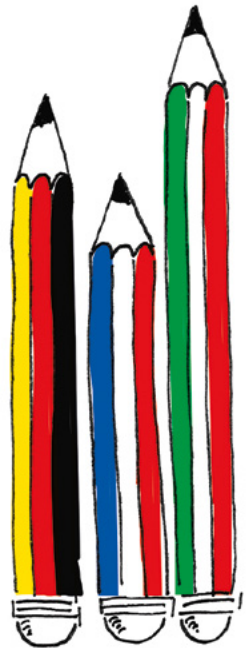
In the first week of the semester, you should:

- Visit an introductory event
- Read your study guidelines
- Draw up a schedule
- Activate your student accounts
- Attend a tour of the University Library
- Activate your UNICard
- Read the Campus Stories at unibas.ch/campus-stories
- Follow the university of Basel on instagram: [instagram.com/unibasel](https://www.instagram.com/unibasel)

New to Switzerland?

Moving abroad to study is a huge step. These tips will help you feel at home in Basel:

- Look for an apartment markt.unibas.ch and wove.ch
- Register with the migration department (Migrationsbehörde)
- Check out the German language classes at the Language Center sprachenzentrum.unibas.ch
- Meet new people through University Sports unisport.ch
- Get a "colourkey" and discover Basel's leisure activities colourkey.ch
- Explore Switzerland with the GA Night sbb.ch



Swimming bag, t-shirts and more

The stylish way to swim: Keep your belongings dry with the University of Basel's watertight swimming bag. You can also get your hands on bags, t-shirts, hoodies and other uni products.

unibas.ch/merchandise



University Library

Spread across five locations, the university library is without a doubt the beating heart of the University of Basel. Finding your way around the library can initially be a challenge for first-semester students, so it is advisable to take part in a library introduction at the beginning of the semester. Once you have registered via the [swisscovery](https://www.unibas.ch/swisscovery) search portal ([registration.slsp.ch](https://www.unibas.ch/swisscovery)), you can use your UNICard to take advantage of the full range of books, magazines and e-media. The university library becomes extremely busy during exam season – if not before – when its much-coveted workspaces are in short supply. The university library has a large number of study rooms tailored to students' different needs: reading rooms, quiet areas, single tables, armchairs and group rooms. There are even spots for a power nap.

ub.unibas.ch/en/

You can find more workspaces for students at:

unibas.ch/lemraeume

Online Services for students

The University of Basel offers its students Online Services. You can log on via services.unibas.ch using your Unibas email address and the corresponding password. Among other things, Online Services cover the following:

Registration

Towards the end of the preceding semester, students and doctoral students already matriculated at the University of Basel (not newly registered students) receive an email at their Unibas address reminding them to register for the next semester. Registration takes place solely via Online Services.

Course registration

Course registration takes place online. The registration period begins on January 1 or August 1 and ends after the fourth week of lectures. Registering for courses is extremely important because if you do not register for your courses at the start of the semester, you will not receive any credit points for them.

Access to academic achievement account

To obtain an overview, you can use Online Services to access your account containing your academic achievements (courses completed successfully/unsuccessfully including grades, credit points and further details). You can also download an up-to-date overview of your achievements in PDF format at any time and see the current status of your studies.

Change of address

You can change your address and that of your parents/guardians and emergency contact online at any time.

Data transfer information

In Online Services, you can indicate to the University of Basel whether it is permitted to transfer your data to third parties.

services.unibas.ch

ADAM

ADAM is the University of Basel's central learning platform and is based on the open-source learning management system ILIAS. On ADAM, students can access and download course materials and documents, submit assignments and receive feedback, communicate with fellow students and lecturers, and complete self-assessments. Through ADAMtools, they can also create working groups and conduct surveys.

adam.unibas.ch

Eduroam

Eduroam (education roaming) is a global network that enables people at higher education institutions to access the internet from their current campus. This means that next time you visit another university, you will be able to use their campus network without any problems. Simply connect to the eduroam WLAN and follow the instructions.

mobile.unibas.ch

Software for students

The IT Services provide the Asknet software portal for downloading software. To log in, you will require your Edu-ID address and password. As part of campus contracts, the University is able to offer software at a reduced price or free of charge. All available offers are listed in the Web shop. IT Services offers software for download via the Asknet portal. You will need your Edu-ID to log in. As part of campus contracts, the university can provide software either at a discount or free of charge. You'll find everything that is available in the webshop.

asknet.unibas.ch

Upgrade your digital skills

The University of Basel offers the self-learning course "UPGRADE your digital skills" on the learning platform ADAM so you can hit the ground running with your studies. New bachelor's students can earn a credit point when they complete the final assessment.

unibas.ch/en/upgrade-your-digital-skills



Hardware for students

The Neptune Project is a real favorite among students. During two sales windows each year, certain laptops, tablets and other IT accessories can be ordered online at a reduced price. To find out when the next promotion is due to start, go to

projektneptun.ch

If your laptop decides to go on strike right in the middle of a paper or project you can borrow a device from the URZ. These devices are solely intended to help out in the event of shortages or breakdowns and are only to be used for teaching and research. They can be borrowed for a maximum of 30 days.

unibas.leihs.app



From Basel to the world



Eucor & EPICUR

Eucor – The European Campus is an alliance of five universities based in the Upper Rhine region, namely the Universities of Basel, Freiburg, Haute-Alsace, Strasbourg and the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). As a student of the University of Basel, you can attend courses at the partner universities, use libraries and other facilities, and benefit from student discounts. You can study at a partner university for up to two semesters and remain enrolled at the University of Basel. In addition, travel expenses are reimbursed each semester up to a fixed sum. Eucor has been associated with the European University Alliance EPICUR since 2022. You can also access a range of selected interdisciplinary and practical courses offered by the Eucor universities as well as the Universities of Odense (Denmark), Poznań (Poland), Rome (Italy), Sevilla (Spain), Thessaloniki (Greece) and BOKU in Vienna (Austria).

unibas.ch/en/studies/eucor-epicur

Study abroad – Student Exchange

Your university studies present you with a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend one or two semesters at a foreign university. The University of Basel

offers various programs that you should definitely check out. The Student Exchange office coordinates the programs on offer. Start considering early on

whether and where you want to schedule a semester abroad and find out the deadlines for applications.

unibas.ch/mobility

ABC of studying

B

Buddy Support

Questions about your study program, lectures or seminars? Want to know how to find a cheap apartment in Basel, where to go out or where to get good coffee? Many Faculty groups offer you the opportunity of support from a “buddy” while getting to know the university. Contact your Faculty group directly to inquire.

C

Credit points

Credit points must be earned throughout your period of study. Generally, one point equates to around 30 hours of study. This system allows your university achievements to be calculated and compared with other universities around the world. But you won't receive these valuable points until you've passed the course assessment (exam, essay, presentation, etc).

Colloquium

In an academic context, colloquia are where research findings are presented and discussed, developed and subjected to critical analysis. They are important not only for scientific exchange and reflection, but also for career advancement. Participation enables students and doctoral candidates to take part in academic debates.

D

Datenabschrift

A transcript of records is an official document without a signature used by the President's Office to certify credit points acquired at the University of Basel each semester. Transcripts of records should be retained, as together they form a complete record. They may be required for scholarship applications or for transferring credit points to another university.

unibas.ch/datenabschrift

E

Events

Presentations, panel discussions, Q&A sessions – a great many events take place at the University of Basel, as various as the university itself. An overview of all events can be found in the Public Events Calendar.

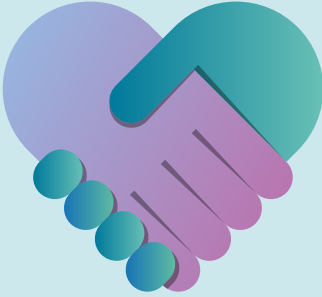
unibas.ch/veranstaltungen

F

Faculty groups

Faculty groups (FGs) bring together all students from a particular discipline and thus form the basis for the student representative body, skuba, which represents your interests at department level, organizes events and looks after first-semester students. If you have any questions, they can give you first-hand tips.

skuba.ch/de/organisation



Personal Integrity

The University of Basel is committed to fostering a respectful and safe learning culture. If you experience or witness something that does not feel right, you can contact the Personal Integrity Office at any time in complete confidence. The co-heads of the office provide advice and support in cases involving violations of personal integrity and conflicts related to university studies. This may include incidents of discrimination, bullying, sexual harassment, or other forms of boundary violations.

Consultations are free of charge and can be arranged by email at personalintegrity@unibas.ch. Speaking with the Personal Integrity Office does not commit you to taking any further action, and you decide at all times what steps, if any, you wish to take next.

Family friendliness

The University of Basel is certified as a family-friendly university and believes that it should be possible to reconcile your studies with your work and family life. For example, the university offers emergency care for sick children.

unibas.ch/en/family



Hiwi (Student assistant)

Academic departments are always busy places. Student assistants – or “Hiwis” for short – retrieve books from the library, scan, copy mountains of documents, and also get to take a peek behind the academic scenes. Working as a “Hiwi” is a good part-time job and allows you to make contact with key people in your department.



Inclusive language

We encourage the use of gender-inclusive language. However, students are not subject to any university requirements regarding gender-inclusive language: The use of inclusive symbols such as asterisks or colons cannot be either prescribed or prohibited. Everything else can be found in our language guidelines.

unibas.ch/en/inclusive-language

IT Services

IT Services are responsible for your email address and VPN access to the university network (among other things). You can also download software here. The Neptune Project, which allows you to purchase laptops at a discounted price, is also very popular with students.

its.unibas.ch



LGBTIQ+

The University of Basel is committed to an inclusive culture without any discrimination. Specific services and resources for the queer community:

unibas.ch/en/lgbtiq



Nightline

Nightline Basel is a student-run, anonymous, and confidential listening and information service that offers students low-threshold support at night for worries, stress, and personal challenges.



Ombudsman's Office

The Ombudsman's Office is open to all students wishing to submit a complaint relating to university matters, provided that these do not fall within the remit of another board of appeals. If conflicts arise during your studies that must be treated as confidential, you can contact the Ombudsman's Office.

unibas.ch/ombudsman-s-office



Psychological support

Anyone can find themselves facing psychological problems. If it happens to you, please do not hesitate to seek help. The Student Advice Center is the first point of contact for students.

unibas.ch/psychological-counseling



Registration

You've passed your first semester and that longed-for break has begun. Despite your holiday mood, it's very important that you don't forget to register for the coming semester using Online Services. You will receive a reminder email from the university stating the period in which to register.

Research Magazine

UNI NOVA is the University of Basel's academic magazine. As well as a focus on a particular area, UNI NOVA reports on current research at the University of Basel and features profiles, opinion columns and tips for books and public events. The magazine is published twice a year and subscription is free. Copies of the magazine in German to take away can be found in various racks in the main building. You can find the English version online at:

unibas.ch/en/uninova



Seminars and proseminars

Seminars and proseminars are generally aligned with lecture topics. These interactive classes offer an opportunity to work on specific topics based on participants' contributions in shared discussion. A proseminar provides an introduction to a subject area, with methods presented and practiced and an overview communicated. In a seminar, an individual topic is treated in more depth in joint academic work. The students undertake reports, group work and presentations.

skuba ✖

Studentische Körperschaft
der Universität Basel

skuba

The Studentische Körperschaft der Universität Basel (skuba) advocates for students' interests within the university and is committed to ensuring good study conditions. Together with the student associations, the Studierenderrat (student council) and the Executive Board, it helps shape a democratic structure with direct student participation. Students can get involved themselves by joining the Studierenderrat or serving on committees and thereby actively contribute to university life. At the Lernoullianum, you can find support with questions, concerns, or ideas related to your studies.

skuba.ch

T

Tutorials

Tutorials are classes in which the content of a lecture or seminar is explained and repeated in greater depth. The tutors are normally older students who can give you practical tips and advice.

U

UNICard

You will receive your UNICard by post after your matriculation. You will have to reactivate it every semester once you've paid your tuition fees. You can use your UNICard to borrow books from the University Library. And beyond the campus, UNICard serves as your student ID.

unicard.unibas.ch

University course directory

This lists all courses taking place in a department in the current semester, and not only states the time and location of a course, but also describes its content in detail. You can use the online timetable to create a list of your courses and transfer this to Online Services during the registration period.

unibas.ch/coursedirectory

Z

Zschokke-Haus

The Zschokke House is the educational and recreational house of the University of Basel, located in the middle of the skiing and hiking area of Engelberg at 1'262 m.a.s.l. It is a place for research and study, leisure or rest and relaxation. The house can be rented by students and employees for business and private group stays.

zschokkehaus.ch



Support

To complete your studies successfully, you will also need to deal with many administrative matters and obtain information from various places. The University of Basel has a range of offices that can advise and support you on a wide variety of matters, from admission to your Unibas email address.

Student Administration Office

The Student Administration Office is a source of general information. If you have a question about admission, registration, matriculation, or semester registration, you've come to the right place. There is a ticket system. So please pull a number outside and wait until you are called. However, many questions can be resolved without actually going to the office in person. You can use Online Services to change your address and register for courses, semesters, etc., online.

unibas.ch/studium

Students Without Barriers

The Students without Barriers (StoB) service point offers information and advice and arranges compensation for disadvantages so that students with a disability or chronic illness can successfully complete their studies in an accessible environment.

stob.unibas.ch



Language Center

¡Aprendamos un nuevo idioma! Learning a language broadens your horizons and makes studying and working together possible in the first place. Whether Arabic, Italian or Japanese, the Language Center offers affordable semester and intensive courses and workshops. It also supports students with writing texts in English or German for their studies through its online writing consulting service. Students can earn elective credits for completed courses..

sprachenzentrum.unibas.ch

Lernbörse

Studying together helps students overcome challenges, clarify questions, establish learning routines, and motivate one another. The Lernbörse provides University of Basel students with a secure platform for networking and connecting with fellow students. Access is provided via the SWITCH edu-ID.

lernboerse.unibas.ch

ITS Service Desk

The ITS Service Desk is the central point of contact for technical support and is also responsible for equipment loans (see page 8).

its.unibas.ch/en/sd
support-its@unibas.ch



International Office

The International Office consists of the sections International Relations, Student Exchange, and the Welcome & Euraxess Center. Students eager to gain international experience can obtain information from Student Exchange team about exchange programs and partner universities.

The websites of the Welcome & Euraxess Center provide international students with comprehensive information on arriving in Basel and living in Basel and Switzerland.

unibas.ch/mobility

Treatment in the undergraduate clinic

Patients receive excellent dental treatment and can save money at the same time. Treatment is carried out exclusively by advanced students (master curriculum) and under the constant supervision of experienced dentists.

uzb.ch

Student Advice Center

Many important questions may arise during your studies. What is the best way to plan my studies? What should I do after my bachelor's degree? Would it be better to swap degree programs? For questions concerning study and career planning, you can arrange a free consultation at the Student Advice Center. The study and career advisors guide you through the decision making process, support you in difficult situations, with your studies or writing papers, and have an open ear for personal issues.

studienberatung.unibas.ch
lernboerse.unibas.ch

Pastoral Counseling

Would you like to speak confidentially with a trained pastoral counselor? The University of Basel offers two possibilities: catholic and reformed.

kug.unibas.ch
unipfarramt.unibas.ch



Coordination Office for Refugees

Refugee students can find support here during their studies. The coordination office offers a wide range of advice relating to finances, migration, study progress and can also help with psychosocial issues. If required, it also provides support with correspondence with various official bodies such as social welfare and the migration office.

unibas.ch/refugees

Social Services

Whether you have financial worries, health-related problems or difficult family circumstances, the University's Social Services will be there to listen. The team will answer questions relating to the Day Care Center, assist students with disabilities and chronic illnesses as well as refugees, and support students in making applications for scholarships. Consultations are free of charge and unbureaucratic. Simply phone up to arrange a personal meeting.

unibas.ch/sozialberatung

Studying with children

The Diversity Office helps with matters regarding the compatibility of studies and family life. Once your child is born, the University of Basel day care service will be happy to help you continue your studies.

unibas.ch/kinderkrippe





Accommo- dation

Move out or stay at home? Commute or move to the city? And if so, where? Students choose their living arrangements for a wide variety of reasons. As in many cities, Basel's housing market is tight, so make sure to plan ahead of time for your search!

Sharing an apartment



“Shared flats are worlds in constant flux. They mix a wide variety of people and experiences – and are always evolving. Life in a shared flat is full of changes, compromises and minor disputes. Living with others means having to open up, but it also offers the opportunity to get to know people very quickly and very closely. At best, your shared flat offers you a nurturing community; at worst, living together becomes a huge emotional chaos. You might even exist completely at cross purposes. All of this is part of life. It’s much quicker to find the right home locally, once you’ve already settled somewhere in Basel.”

Cleo Hemmeter
Economics

“Studying is the perfect fresh start – a new city, new people and countless opportunities. A shared flat can be more than just a room – it can be a temporary home, a place for long conversations, shared evenings and spontaneous discovery tours through the city. This is where friendships are formed that often last beyond your studies. What’s important? Be honest with yourself! Are you looking for a functional living space or would you prefer a community that cooks, laughs and enjoys student life together? How important are cleanliness, peace and quiet or shared activities to you? If you know your wishes and boundaries, it’s easier to find a shared flat that really feels like home.”

Murat Dimen
Political science and sociology



At home in Basel

The Rhine divides Basel into two parts, Kleinbasel in the north and Grossbasel in the south. The city has 19 residential districts, each with its own special character. The Canton of Basel-Stadt also includes the municipalities of Riehen and Bettingen. Basel is an extremely popular place to live. But despite the tight housing market, it is possible for students to find attractive accommodation.



Registration

Every move into, move within or move away from the canton of Basel-Stadt must be reported to the Residents' Registration Office within 14 days. In many cases, you can do this online via eMoving if you have moved within Switzerland.

For cross-border moves, a personal visit to the Residents' Registration Office is required.

Registration gives you access to various benefits, such as discounted public transport tickets (U-Abo), parking cards and more. Information and forms are available at:

[bdm.bs.ch/wohnen/
basel-for-new-arrivals](https://bdm.bs.ch/wohnen/basel-for-new-arrivals)

Grossbasel

Grossbasel encompasses the whole of Basel on the left of the Rhine and, with the old town, also includes the city's historic center. Grossbasel's direct proximity to many university buildings and its location in the center of the city are beneficial for students.



Gundeli

The Gundeli district is located between the platforms of the SBB train station and Margarethenpark in the south of the city. Although slightly further from the center and the Rhine, advantages for students include lower rents and a direct connection to the SBB station. The district has developed greatly in the last few years and is now known as the "city within the city". Its good location, many shops and cafés and cultural diversity make Gundeli a lively and attractive place for students.



Kleinbasel

Kleinbasel is the area to the right of the Rhine. It is a very popular residential area among students, with lower rents than Grossbasel and a very active nightlife. The district's greatest attraction, however, is the Rhine riverfront, where Basel's residents spend much of their free time in the summer. Numerous "buvettes" (refreshment stands) between the different bridges and Dreiländereck (border triangle) invite you to while away the time.

Breite

The Breite district lies on the Grossbasel side in the east of the city. Part of the district sits directly on the banks of the Rhine and is particularly famous among students for the "Birsköpfl", the park in which the Birs flows into the Rhine. In the summer, this is a great place to lie on a towel and relax in the sun, taking an occasional refreshing dip in the Rhine.



Wettstein

The Wettstein district can be found in Kleinbasel on the banks of the Rhine. It houses the premises of the pharmaceutical group Hoffmann-La Roche and gained a new trademark with the Roche Tower, Switzerland's tallest building, a few years ago. The Wettsteinplatz transport hub provides very good connections to numerous tram and bus routes and to the SBB and Badischer Bahnhof train stations.

Apartment hunting

Links

- The University of Basel marketplace enables you to find apartments, someone to take your place in an apartment, people to live with and rooms in shared apartments.
markt.unibas.ch
- The “Evangelisches Studienhaus Meierhof” is aimed at prospective theologians and other students interested in theology.
studienhaus.ch
- You can place free ads for apartments or rooms on Flatfox. The app lets you easily manage contact requests, applications and ads.
flatfox.ch/en
- Online database for flatshares (WG-Zimmer) where you can post your request for free.
wgzimmer.ch

WoVe

Looking for accommodation can be a real challenge for students. Luckily, you have the Association for Student Accommodation – or WoVe – on your side. Since 1970, this non-profit organization has been promoting the letting and placement of fair-priced accommodation for young people. You can find our opening hours and further information on our website:

wove.ch



Why should you register with WoVe?

It's easy to find a room through WoVe. Rental prices vary depending on the property and are based on factors such as size, comfort level and amenities.

How do I go about finding accommodation through WoVe?

The application form for a furnished or unfurnished room is available on the WoVe website and can be submitted either by email or in person. If you decide on an unfurnished room, you can contact households with free rooms directly to arrange an inspection and get to know the other residents. If it all works out, WoVe will draw up the rental agreement. For furnished rooms, students can choose directly from a list of available options and draw up a rental agreement with the WoVe team. Anyone seeking advice or assistance is warmly invited to visit the consultation office during opening hours.

What kind of accommodation can WoVe arrange?

WoVe can offer lodgings through the “Wohnstiftung für Studierende” (student accommodation foundation) at reasonable rates. It can also arrange interim use of properties by trainees – an ideal solution that is usually very reasonably priced. Then there are the special types of residence such as the student house in the Erlenmatt quarter.



House for students

In summer 2019, WoVe opened the student residence in the Erlenmatt quarter, providing highly popular rooms in shared apartments. Grouped around a courtyard, the 16 apartments are accessed via an open stairway and exterior corridors. Each apartment provides accommodation for four to seven individuals. The residents particularly appreciate the fact that they are among their peers in the inner courtyard.

- **Studentenheim Basel:**
This student residence is on Mittlere Strasse 33 and provides 99 furnished rooms.
unibas.ch/genossenschaft-studentenheim
- **The Katholisches Studentenhaus** offers affordable accommodation for 74 students in a central location – regardless of religion and nationality.
studentenhaus.ch
- The student residence at Hebelstrasse 17 is open to students from all faculties at the University of Basel.
alumnium.unibas.ch
- The **PRO-FILIA** house offers rooms for young women enrolled in training and degree programs.
profilia.ch



Work

For many students, earning money alongside their studies is a financial necessity. Others simply want to gain practical experience and enhance their CVs. Be it an internship, student job or student assistant position, combining work and studies is always a challenge.

Gaining work experience

“In my first semester, my first professional experience was working in for a catering firm. I enjoyed the job a lot, but the working hours made it increasingly stressful. I now have an office job with a pharmaceutical company, where I help with the administration and organization of events. This gives me regular working hours and a supportive environment. I also have the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge from my studies in a practical way. At the same time, I’m expanding my skills through my daily work – for example in building a professional network and navigating the world of work with confidence.”

Vladlena Fras
Economics



“Outside university, I work as a legal assistant in a law firm. During my studies, we learn the basics through theory and mostly fictitious cases, which is why my practical experience is a great enrichment to my studies. It gives me the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge I learn at university in practice and helps me to better understand the sometimes complex and abstract subject matter of the lectures. In addition, the work helps me get to know the specific procedures and processes of the daily work of a law firm and to identify connections. These insights enable me to constantly learn more about which specialist areas interest me and will also make it easier for me to choose a career after graduation.”

Andrina Strasser
Law

Internships

Participating in internships during semester vacations can help launch your career. They allow you to apply what you have learned in real life situations. You won't make a fortune, but you will be investing in your future.

markt.unibas.ch
kulturmanagement.unibas.ch

Let's work abroad!

The international student network AIESEC organizes internships in companies and schools. With its global volunteering program, AIESEC also offers young people the chance to spend several weeks abroad working for a social project or organization, helping them broaden their horizons on a personal and professional level, put the knowledge from their studies into practice, and build up an international network.

aiesec.ch
info@aiesec.ch



Student jobs

Delivering food and packages as a bicycle courier, taking on night shifts in private care facilities or working as a student assistant in teaching and research: Students in Basel have plenty of options to work alongside their studies. Many need to work to remain financially independent, while others want to gain practical experience during semester vacations. Whether and how much you can work differs from person to person and greatly depends on the phase of your studies, which may allow you to take on larger or smaller responsibilities. However, employers are generally quite understanding about fluctuating workloads and student budgets tend to be fairly flexible too. Nevertheless, combining work and studies remains a challenge. You can find good jobs at:

markt.unibas.ch, ronorp.net/basel/jobs

Student trainees

Some of Basel's largest companies (such as the Baloise Group) employ student trainees. In contrast to many other student jobs, these positions relate to what you are studying and the workload can usually be adapted to fit in with exams and semester vacations. Employers often support bachelor's and master's theses too. The best thing to do is consult the company's website directly.

Sirop

Researchers from all over the world use this online portal to publicize their internships, projects and vacant doctoral and postdoctoral positions. Students and graduates can perform targeted searches for interesting academic projects and submit applications online. The platform bridges the gap between academics looking for qualified workers and students wishing to take part in interesting research projects.

sirop.org

Career Service Center

So you've finished university – what next? The Career Service Center (CSC) will help you get your career off the ground. The CSC offers personalized careers advice, workshops, events and information to make it easier for our students to launch, plan and steer their professional lives. Good application documents and a professional interview are crucial to starting your career successfully. A detailed and intensive check-up will put your application portfolio under the microscope. If necessary, they can also help you to reflect on your situation and outline your prospects. To arrange an appointment, simply email csc@unibas.ch.

The CSC organizes a number of interesting events, such as workshops, career days or panel events, with the aim of enabling students to get in direct contact with company representatives. Every two years, the long night of the career takes place in November. The event features everything from interview training to style coaching.

unibas.ch/csc





Life

While it is crucial to get a handle on your studies, what happens outside the lecture hall is just as important. And this is what makes Basel the perfect choice: Not only is it a great place to study, it's also a great place to live.

Away from the lecture hall

“For me, my involvement in the unissa – United for Sustainable Student Action is the perfect complement to everyday university life. In contrast to my often rather theoretical studies, I can get something concrete off the ground together with other motivated people. I also gain valuable experience in event management and project management. The unissa offers me the opportunity to work independently and to address aspects of sustainability that I truly care about, such as climate justice. I’ve also met a lot of inspiring people, who I enjoy spending time with and whose enthusiasm is infectious. Because we primarily organize events at the university, I’ve also got to know the university itself better, which in turn is useful for my studies.”

Jessica Granchi

History and geography



“My passion for reading was one of the reasons why I decided to study German philology and history. But in everyday life, I often don’t get around to reading the books I’d choose for myself. That is why I started a book club with some fellow students. It encourages me to read more – including books I wouldn’t normally pick up on my own – , to meet regularly, and to discuss what we’ve read in depth over dinner. One of the most important things I have learned is this: if you want to discover something unfamiliar, you do not necessarily have to travel the world – you can also find it between the covers of a book.”

Rafael Feind

German philology and history



Traffic

Most University of Basel sites are located close together in the city center. Short distances are best covered using the well-established public transport network. The U-Abo season ticket allows you to travel cheaply as far as Fricktal or into Germany. Or even better – cycle. Low-cost bikes can be found on the University of Basel marketplace or at the Velomärt.

tnw.ch
velomaert-basel.ch

Mobility Carsharing

When bulk buying for you and your flatmates or moving house, a set of wheels can prove really useful. Students under the age of 28 can join Mobility at a special rate.

mobility.ch/campus

University Sports

Whether it's flowing curves in surfskating, airy swings on the flying trapeze, a slower-paced experience of nature while hiking, or focused breath practice through breathwork – Unisport offers a program with over 120 disciplines in sport, movement and body awareness. In addition to weekly training sessions from Monday to Saturday, Unisport also offers camps, workshops and advice. It doesn't matter whether you're a beginner, returning athlete or even a top athlete, there's something for you at every level. For those who prefer to train individually, a modern fitness center is available at very fair subscription rates. The center is run by a professional and dedicated team who are on hand to offer advice and support during training. Most training sessions are free of charge and don't require advance booking. Courses that require registration can be booked via the website. These courses are popular and fill up quickly. All Basel University students with a valid student ID card are eligible to participate in Unisport.

Important: Always carry your ID with you, as there are regular entry checks. Information on the entire program, further helpful information and impressions from events and courses can be found on the Internet.

unisport.ch
[instagram.com/unisportbasel](https://www.instagram.com/unisportbasel)



Social Media

Follow us!

You can also find the University of Basel on social media. Five different channels provide insights into university life, explain current research findings, and draw your attention to exciting events. Follow us and tag us in your posts.

 [instagram.com/unibasel](https://www.instagram.com/unibasel)

 [tiktok.com/@unibasel](https://www.tiktok.com/@unibasel)

 [linkedin.com/school/unibasel](https://www.linkedin.com/school/unibasel)

 bsky.app/profile/unibas.ch

 [youtube.com/unibasel](https://www.youtube.com/unibasel)



Campus Stories

What is it like to live in a student residence? What is the “Room of Horrors” at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences? And how do you stay safe in a chemistry lab? Our Campus Stories offer insights into everyday student life and highlight what makes our university unique.

unibas.ch/campus-stories

Stay up to date

On Instagram, we show you each week what’s happening at our university throughout the semester – from parties at Verso and exciting lectures to events organized by student associations. Follow us and stay up to date!

[instagram.com/unibasel](https://www.instagram.com/unibasel)

Student organizations



Akademische Turnerschaft Alemannia zu Basel

Akademische Turnerschaft Alemannia is a dueling (fencing) society that accepts students from the University of Basel and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW.

alemannia-basel.ch

Akademische Verbindung Froburger Basel

Orange, white and green – Froburgers show their colors when studying, working, and at leisure. Students at the University of Basel can share their once-in-a-lifetime university experience with us, making friends across faculties and generations in the process.

avfroburger.ch

Akademischer Alpenclub Basel

The Akademischer Alpenclub Basel is a group of adventurous mountaineers who enjoy planning and leading their own routes. The club has more than 100 members, of whom most – but not all – are students and doctoral researchers at the University of Basel.

aacbasel.ch

Albanian Student Association (ASA)

ASA is dedicated to supporting the integration of international students, particularly Albanian-speaking students. It connects students within the same subject area, organizes cultural events, and fosters exchange with alumni of the University of Basel.

asabasel.ch

AKV Rauracia

AKV Rauracia is Switzerland's largest academic association. Its members come from all disciplines. This student society promotes lifelong friendship, scholarship, and social polish. It has a history stretching back 150 years.

rauracia.ch

Amnesty Students Basel

Do you want to campaign for human rights? Are you interested in working for an international NGO? Amnesty Students Basel helps to keep human rights issues in the public eye.

[instagram.com/amnestyunibas](https://www.instagram.com/amnestyunibas)

Association des Francophones des Étudiants de Bâle

The Association des Francophones des Étudiants de Bâle (AFEB) aims to bring together all the French-speaking students at the university in order to establish a link between students from different faculties and to facilitate their integration.

[instagram.com/afebunibas](https://www.instagram.com/afebunibas)



beraber

Do you want to make an active contribution to the integration of foreign children and young people? Do you enjoy explaining things and helping people to learn? Are you motivated, committed and reliable? Can you imagine yourself providing remedial education to children and young people? Then you're in the right place.

beraber.ch



**Chor &
Orchester
Universität
Basel**

Choir and orchestra at the University of Basel

They give you the opportunity to make music with other students, members of the University, and anyone else who wants to come along. It's also an opportunity to strike a balance between mind, body and soul and to meet students from other faculties.

coub.unibas.ch



CAMPUS live

CAMPUS live is a student society at the University of Basel. They use various events such as lectures and seminars to provide inspiration for study and life in general and tackle current topics. They also provide a forum for considering the Christian faith and what it stands for.

campuslive.ch/basel

CCEAM Basel

The Committee on Cultural Competence and Ethical Awareness in Medicine organizes events that encourage medical students to reflect on intercultural issues in healthcare. In doing so, it aims to promote culturally sensitive care and improve the quality of treatment for patients from diverse backgrounds.

[instagram.com/cceam_bs](https://www.instagram.com/cceam_bs)

Christian University Association (VBG Basel)

VBG Basel is the meeting point for students from all subject areas at the University of Basel and the region's universities of applied sciences. They believe that the Christian faith encompasses and shapes all areas of life. They therefore encourage each other to express their Christianity in their everyday student lives.

basel.vbg.net



ELSA

The European Law Students' Association – ELSA for short – is a politically neutral, independent and non-profit association for law students and young legal professionals.

[instagram.com/elsa_basel](https://www.instagram.com/elsa_basel)

English Seminar Choir

The English Seminar Choir was founded in 1989 to give students the opportunity to practice their English through the medium of song. The choir has become a major part of the University of Basel and of cultural life in Basel. The English Seminar Choir is open to all enthusiastic singers, both students and non-students.

esc-basel.ch

ESN Basel

The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) Basel offers exchange students leisure activities that allow them to socialize and learn more about Switzerland and its culture.

[instagram.com/esn_basel](https://www.instagram.com/esn_basel)

F

Frauenstadtrundgang

The “Frauenstadtrundgang” association brings the city’s history to life. For 30 years, students and trained scientists have been developing walking tours that take a gender-specific look at the various neighborhoods and wider region of Basel.

frauenstadtrundgang-basel.ch

foraus

foraus’ regional groups allow people with an interest in foreign affairs to meet in their area, network and help shape constructive foreign policies for Switzerland. If you wish to learn more about foraus, the regional groups are the first point of contact.

foraus.ch/#!/regiogruppen/basel

G

Graduate Consulting Club

The goal is to promote the consulting industry and to provide a platform for the members to develop their consulting career. To reach that goal, the Graduate Consulting Club is bringing together students from the University of Basel and ETH Zürich and providing them with a framework to prepare for case interviews.

graduateconsultingclub.org

H

Helvetia Basel

The Helvetia Basel student society is part of Helvetia, the Swiss student association. It brings together current and former students of the University of Basel and aims to encourage political and historical understanding among its members.

helvetia-basel.ch

I

IAESTE Switzerland

IAESTE is an international exchange organization that arranges placements abroad for students in engineering and science faculties. IAESTE Switzerland offers internships in more than 80 countries.

iaeste.ch/lokale-komitees/join-us/lc-basel

J

Jurassia Basiliensis

Jurassia Basiliensis is a color-wearing (farbtragend) student society at the University of Basel that offers lifelong membership. They have made it their mission to cultivate and cement friendships between their members.

jurassia.ch

K

Katholische Universitätsgemeinde Basel

As a Catholic university community, they are open to students and teaching staff of all ecumenical and religious leanings. Searching for answers themselves, they allow themselves to be challenged, inspired, and supported by the Christian faith.

kug.unibas.ch

Kurdischer Studierendenverband Basel

The “Kurdish Students’ Association” represents the interests of Kurdish students, promotes networking and cultural activities, and advocates for educational opportunities and the recognition of Kurdish identity. It supports diversity, cultural exchange, and an inclusive university environment.

instagram.com/ksv.basel

L

Law Clinic

The Law Clinic offers free legal advice provided by students of the Faculty of Law at the University of Basel. The consultation is open to students and staff as well as external persons. You can submit your question via the Law Clinic website.

lawclinic-unibas.ch

M

Marxist Society Uni Basel

The Marxist Society Uni Basel aims to tackle questions relating to the theory and practice of politics that will bring change to society. The reading groups focus on classic Marxist texts.

marx-unibas.ch

Multilingual Toastmasters

Toastmasters has more than 270,000 members in 13,000 clubs worldwide, who meet regularly for training sessions to improve their rhetorical skills and leadership qualities. Members meet on a regular basis in the Collegiate Building of the University of Basel. Guests are always welcome.

baselmultilingual.toastmastersclubs.org

MUN Team Basel

Model United Nations is a simulation of the main bodies of the UN. Students from all over the world meet for conferences around the globe and debate current issues affecting world politics.

munbasel.ch

Muslim Students Association University of Basel

The association aims to foster communication and exchange among Muslim students and between Muslim and Non-Muslim students as well as to help its members balance their academic life through the organization of several activities.

[instagram.com/msaubasel](https://www.instagram.com/msaubasel)

N

nanoΣ

The “Nano Association” aims to support first-year students as they begin their studies and to strengthen connections among students of nanosciences as well as with Nano alumni.

fg-nanoverein.unibas.ch/verein-fachgruppe

O

Offene Bühne

Offene Bühne is a platform for theater, poetry, music, and other fringe events. The stage is located in the lovingly restored cellar of the historic Engelhof building, which also houses the University’s Department of German.

offene-buehne.ch

Offener Hörsaal

The project Open Auditorium (German: Offener Hörsaal) aims at promoting refugee participation in the existing student auditing program at the University of Basel. The student auditing program is open to everyone and includes around 500 courses in German, French and English.

offener-hoersaal.ch

Officers of the University of Basel

Are you looking for the camaraderie of the military at the university? The officer’s association regularly organizes events aimed at the preservation of basic military skills and further topics regarding the army, politics, history and economics.

[facebook.com/of2unibas.ch](https://www.facebook.com/of2unibas.ch)

P

Psychedelic Awareness & Research Association Basel (PARAB)

The multidisciplinary student association aims to promote knowledge about the therapeutic use of psychedelics. It supports the development of a community around evidence-based psychedelic research and therapy and informs professionals and the public. The aim is to pave the way for beneficial psychedelic experiences in a safe, legal, and accessible manner.

[instagram.com/psychedelicassociationbasel](https://www.instagram.com/psychedelicassociationbasel)

Q

Queerfeministischer Austausch

The “Queerfeminist Exchange” association provides a safe space for discussing abuse of power, hierarchies, and discrimination within the university context. It supports measures and developments at the University of Basel – particularly in the area of personal integrity – and makes relevant information accessible to students.

[instagram.com/qfaua](https://www.instagram.com/qfaua)

R

reatch Basel

The independent think-tank reatch strengthens relationships between academia and other parts of society. It promotes the potential of science and technology in line with societal values and enriches public debate with critical points of view or productive solutions. reatch works in a transdisciplinary manner and relies on the innovative strength of many volunteers.

[reatch.ch](https://www.reatch.ch)

Reformiertes Pfarramt beider Basel an der Universität

The Reformiertes Pfarramt sees itself as bridging a gap between the university and the Evangelical Church. The university chaplaincy is a service provided by the Reformed Church of the canton of Baseland and the city of Basel for students, assistants, and teaching staff.

[unipfarramt.unibas.ch](https://www.unipfarramt.unibas.ch)

S

Schweizerischer Akademischer Skiclub Sektion Basel

Do you enjoy winter sports? Are you a student? Then the Schweizerischer Akademischer Skiclub (SAS) is the right place for you. The SAS offers a professional environment and supports ambitious athletes through to their participation in winter “Universiaden”.

[sas-ski.ch](https://www.sas-ski.ch)

Schweizerischer Studentenverein

The Schweizerischer Studentenverein is a society of Christian, color-wearing students and former students who come together to cultivate amicitia (friendship), scientia (science) and virtus (virtue).

[schw-stv.ch](https://www.schw-stv.ch)

Schwizerhüsli Basiliensis

The Schwizerhüsli Basiliensis society offers students from all faculties and universities a refreshing change from everyday university life. The society meets once a week at its local bar – the legendary “Crocodil” – close to the Spalentor gateway.

[schwizerhuesli.ch](https://www.schwizerhuesli.ch)

Science Slam Club Basel

The aim of the Basel Science Slam Club is to bring the research undertaken at the University of Basel to the public in an entertaining yet scientifically accurate way, in the form of the annual “Science Slam”.

[scienceslam.unibas.ch](https://www.scienceslam.unibas.ch)

Socordia

Socordia is the first feminist student association at the University of Basel. The association's aim is to promote feminist concerns and debates at the University of Basel.

[facebook.com/SocordiaBasel](https://www.facebook.com/SocordiaBasel)

STAB Studenti Ticinesi a Basilea

Studenti Ticinesi a Basilea brings together students from the canton of Ticino and supports them in their transition to the University of Basel.

lastab.ch

Stiftung Calcutta Project Basel

Would you like to demonstrate your commitment to society in a forward-looking, intercultural, fascinating and diverse field? Then the Foundation Calcutta Project Basel is the right place for you.

calcutta-project.ch



UniGärten Basel

The university gardens allow students and staff at the University of Basel to get to know and try out alternatives to supermarket shopping. The gardens are a platform for learning and exchanging ideas, a space to experiment and a green meeting place all rolled into one.

unigaerten.unibas.ch

unissa – United for Sustainable Student Action

unissa is the contact point for all those connected to the university, in particular students, who want to implement projects relating to sustainability at the University of Basel.

unissa-basel.ch

Unitheater

The Unitheater Basel aims to put on one annual production with professional direction or support from 2014 onwards. Uni Theater is open to all members of the University of Basel.

unitheater.ch

Uni-T

Uni-T means “Uni(versität) t(anzt)” and is pronounced as the word “unity”. The two parts of the name are representative of the philosophy of the 25-person dance group. A passion for dance and close camaraderie is what connects the members of the Uni-T family – something that is apparent not only during practice, but on stage as well.

uni-t.ch



Young Surgical Students Association (YSSA Basel)

YSSA Basel aims to build connections between medical students and the field of surgery by offering hands-on workshops and informative lecture series. In this way, students can further develop their practical skills already during their studies.

yssa-basel.ch



We are Computer Science

“We are Computer Science” is a non-profit Basel-based do-and-think-tank. Their main focus points are to increase gender inclusivity and promote a fair and unbiased future for everyone interested in computer science.

we-are-cs.unibas.ch



Zofingia Basel

Zofingia is Switzerland's oldest student society and currently has 400 active members and 3,000 former members. Each Swiss university has its own chapter, which then forms part of the overall society.

zofingia-basel.ch

Food and Drink



Mensa and Cafeteria

The University of Basel canteen at Bernoullistrasse 16 offers a daily selection of hot and cold dishes. Many creative vegan and vegetarian options are also available. On the upper floor of the canteen you'll find the Bernoulli study room with space to work and sockets for your digital devices.

There are also various cafeterias at the university where you can eat: in the Kollegienhaus, in the Biozentrum and at the Faculty of Economics and Law. You can find a list of all catering options at:

unibas.ch/catering

Pizza at the university library

Pizza from the pizza oven is available in the University Library cafeteria. Pizzas are freshly prepared on-site. There are different variations to choose from – catering to every taste.

For just a few francs you can choose your favorite slice and enjoy it on the terrace of the University Library with a beautiful view.



Cantina E9

This restaurant at Eulerstrasse 9 is open every lunchtime from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm and offers new menus each day (including soup, salad, a main course and dessert). As a student, receive a 10 percent discount and support a social project at the same time.

cantina-e9.ch

Cheaper for students

From coffee to pizza to Basler Leckerli: If you show your valid student ID card, you can benefit from discounts at various catering outlets in Basel. A list of current offers is available online. It's always worth asking at other outlets whether they offer a student discount.

www.unibas.ch/de/Students-Welcome



Verso

The Studentische Körperschaft der Universität Basel (skuba) runs its own cultural venue and hosts a wide range of events during the semester, making the program at least as diverse as the university itself.

From faculty group meetings and pub quizzes to panel discussions, Verso functions as a cultural hub every week during the semester.

All students have the option to rent the Verso space. The Verso team can help you with this – bureaucracy-free and budget-friendly.

verso-basel.ch/reservation
[instagram.com/verso_basel](https://www.instagram.com/verso_basel)

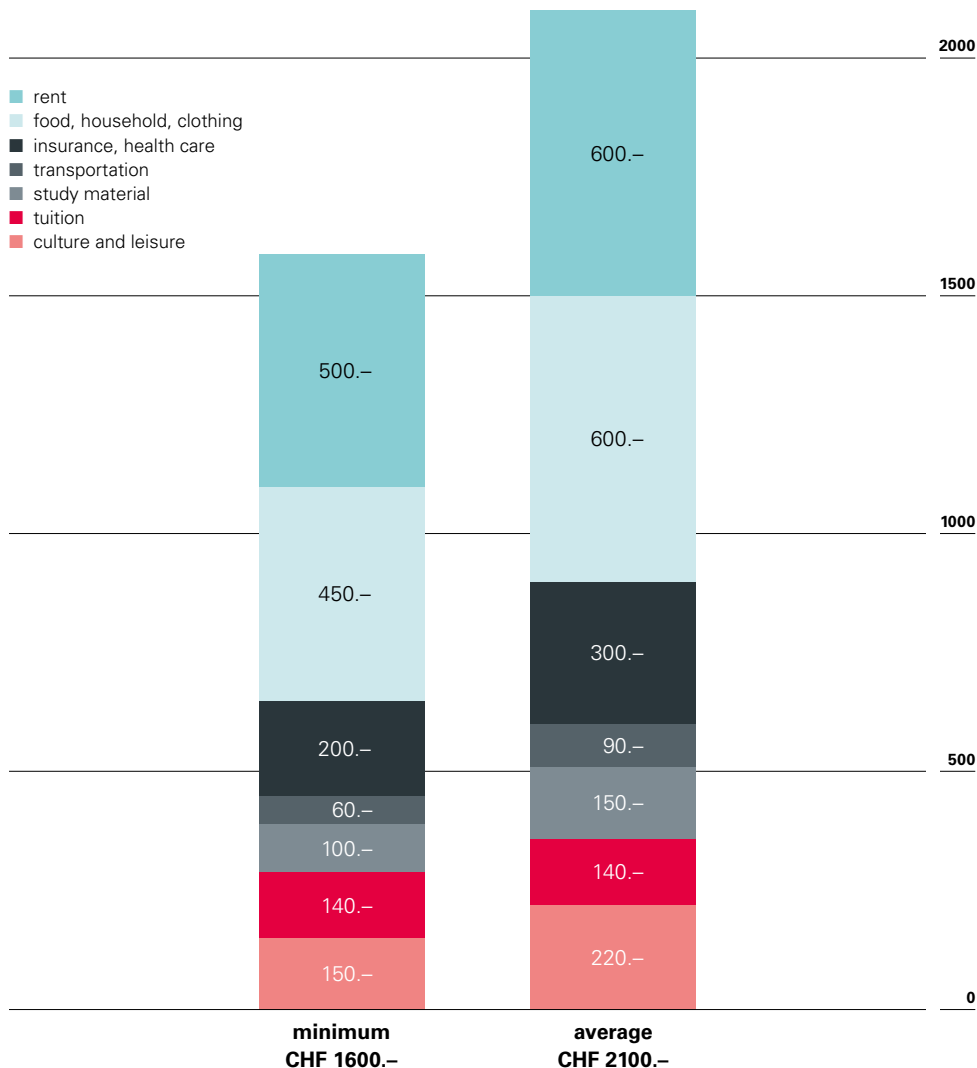


Finances

Alongside the tuition fees charged by the University of Basel, your studies will involve a few other expenses: books, insurance, rent and (of course) living costs. The following pages provide a guide to the types of costs incurred when you live away from home.

My Budget*

Compared to other Swiss cities, Basel is a relatively cheap place to live. The most important thing is to draw up a personal budget at the very start – this can save you a few headaches later on.



* This budget is realistic if planned well in advance. However, international students are often only able to take care of organizational matters once they arrive in Basel, and searching for accommodation from abroad can be more difficult. Since lower-priced and moderately priced housing options are usually taken early on, rental costs for these students tend to be higher (CHF 600–800).

Scholarships: Where to ask

Switzerland has a decentralized system of scholarships, which means that each canton has its own rules and regulations. University education is essentially financed either by a student's parents and/or the canton in which the parents are eligible to pay tax.



Basel-Stadt

The Office for Educational Grants is responsible for the allocation of scholarships and loans to those eligible in the canton Basel-Stadt.

hochschulen.bs.ch/stipendien.html



Basel-Landschaft

The Office for Educational Grants provides information on scholarships and loans for the canton Baselland.

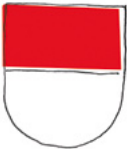
baselland.ch



Aargau

The Department of Education, Culture and Sport supports those students who cannot finance their university education themselves.

ag.ch/stipendien



Solothurn

The Department of Education and Culture, Scholarships Department, advises students on all issues related to financing University education.

so.ch

Scholarships for international students

There are no specific scholarships available for international students at the University of Basel.

Financial support

The Social Services office of the University of Basel can advise you in all financial matters during your studies. For students with very limited resources, the university offers financial aid through its scholarship funds.

unibas.ch/sozialberatung

Swiss scholarship system

This page provides an overview of the most important information related to the system of scholarships in Switzerland.

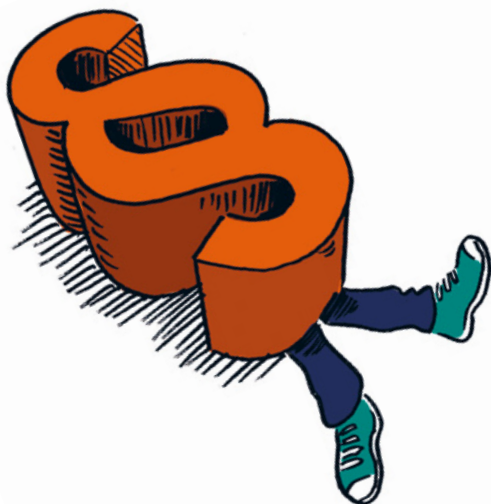
ch.ch/en/school-and-education/higher-education

Insurance

When starting their studies, most people probably don't give any serious thought to insurance and leave their parents to sort out such tedious matters. However, it's high time you took responsibility to avoid any nasty surprises later on. The Social Services at the University of Basel can provide personal advice about insurance and has produced a useful leaflet on insurance tips for students, which is available at

unibas.ch/sozialberatung

Students are essentially responsible for their own insurance. Everyone resident in Switzerland is required to take out health insurance unless they are eligible for exemption (for further information, visit kvg.org or unibas.ch/sozialberatung). The hardest part is to choose from the numerous providers. The various premiums can be compared on comparis.ch. It's vital that your health insurance also includes accident cover – unless you work more than eight hours a week and are therefore covered by your employer. All students enrolled at the University of Basel are provided with automatic and free insurance cover against the consequences of an accident causing permanent damage – however, this does not include medical costs, but is a one-off capital payment in the event of disability due to an accident.



AHV

As a student residing in Switzerland, you are obligated to contribute to AHV (old-age and survivors' insurance) as of January 1 of the year in which you celebrate your 21st birthday. The University of Basel is legally obliged to pass on certain information about you (name, date of birth, address, marital status, OASI number and nationality) to the responsible OASI compensation office to ensure that there are no gaps in your contributions. The compensation office will then determine whether you have to pay the minimum contribution for those who are not in employment or whether you are already covering the OASI contributions, for example because you have a part-time job.



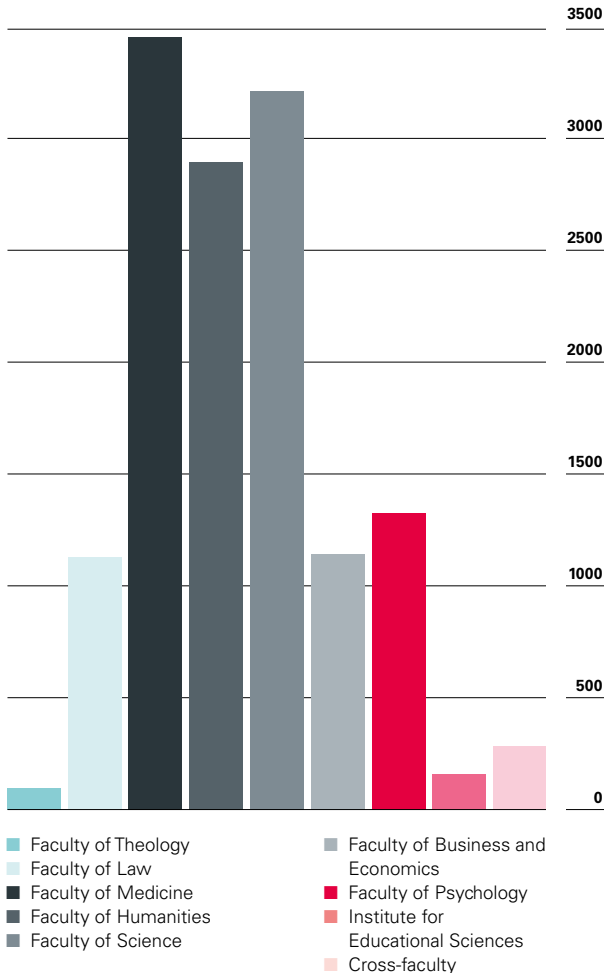
Facts

As the oldest university in Switzerland, Basel has a rich and fascinating history in teaching and research dating back more than 560 years. Since it was founded in 1460, our university has been constantly evolving and developing.

The university at a glance

Students

The Faculties of Medicine, Humanities and Natural Sciences are the largest faculties at the University of Basel, each with around 3000 students.



1460

Founded

7

Faculties

413

Professors

3398

Full-time equivalent positions, of which

2160

are academic staff (64 percent)

770

Million annual budget (CHF)

Students

6278

Bachelor's students

4404

Master's students

1777

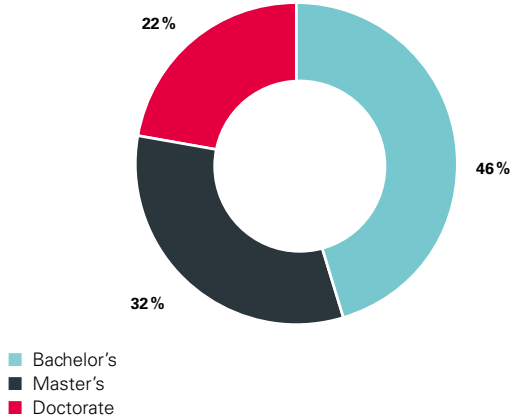
First-year students in Fall semester 2025

58

Percentage of proportion of female students and doctoral candidates

Level of study

The high proportion of doctoral students underlines the strength as a research university.



International

129

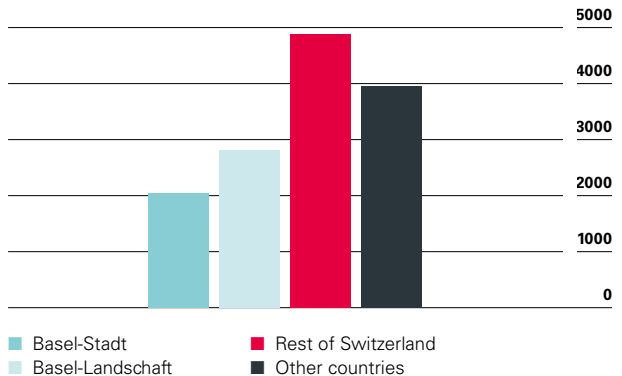
Nations are represented at the university

29

Percentage of international students and doctoral students

Origin

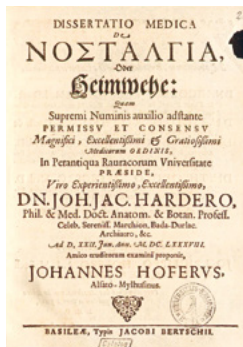
35 percent of students and doctoral candidates come from the cantons of Basel-Stadt and Basel-Landschaft.



Did you know?



1543 The Anatomical Museum of the University of Basel houses the world's oldest prepared skeleton, which was produced by Andreas Vesal in 1543.



1688 The term “nostalgia” appears for the first time in the dissertation submitted by Johannes Hofer in 1688 to the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Basel.

The university: A chronicle



Foundation ceremony in Basel Minster: on April 4, 1460, Bishop Johann von Venningen appoints Georg von Andlau (left, kneeling) as the first Rector and presents Mayor Hans von Flachslanden with the deed of foundation.

1460

The University of Basel opens with a ceremony in Basel Minster.

1588

An anatomical theater and a “hortus medicus” (later the botanical garden) are built.

1527

Physician, alchemist and philosopher Paracelsus teaches at the University as Professor of Medicine.

1590

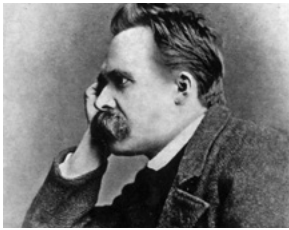
The collection of the university library is expanded by 2700 books from the former monastic libraries.

1661

Together with the university, Basel city acquires private art and book collections. The so-called "Amerbach Kabinett" is opened to the public in 1671.

1822

The university course directory is no longer published in Latin but in German.



1869

Friedrich Nietzsche assumes the chair as Professor of Classical Philology.

1890

Emilie Louise Frey becomes the first woman admitted to study (medicine).

1938

Elsa Mahler, associate professor for Russian linguistics and literature, is the first woman to be appointed as professor at her Alma Mater Basiliensis.

1939

The University gains a new main building in the form of the Kollegienhaus on Petersplatz.

1950

Tadeus Reichstein, Professor of Organic Chemistry, receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine.



1965

The new University Library is completed.

1971

The Biozentrum provides an interdisciplinary center for the life sciences.

1978

Microbiologist and geneticist Werner Arber receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine.

2003

The Faculty of Psychology is founded, the seventh faculty at the University of Basel.

2010

The University celebrates its 550th anniversary.

2021

Opening of the new Biozentrum.



King Carl Gustaf presents Werner Arber with the Nobel Prize in Stockholm in 1978.

Imprint

A publication by the University of
Basel, Communications and Marketing

Editor: Noëmi Kern

Design: Continue AG, Basel

Illustrations: Björn Ian Craig

Photos: Cover: Mark Niedermann;
Foreward: Lucia Hunziker; p. 3: Manoel
Jaus; Niklas Bienbeck; p. 6: Raisa
Durandi; Andri Pol, p. 8: AdobeStock;
p. 9: Tobin Meyers; p. 15: Adobe Stock;
p. 16: Getty Images; p. 17: Adobe Stock;
p. 19: Agnieszka Wormus; skuba; p. 20:
Basel Tourismus / Andreas Zimmermann;
Christian Flierl; p. 21: Niklaus Spoerri;
Christian Aeberhard; Christian Flierl;
p. 23: Damian Poffet; p. 25: Marie-
Isabelle König; Shania Imboden;
p. 26: Christian Flierl; p. 29: Catherine
Weyer; Stef Holenstein; p. 30:
Universitäts-sport / Joel Sames;
p. 38: Raisa Durandi; p. 39: Verso;
p. 47: Anatomisches Museum
der Universität Basel

Translation: Supertext AG, supertext.ch

Proofreading: Univorks, Erlangen

Printing: Stuedler Press AG, Basel

Print run: 1330

Published: May 2026



**Educating
Talents**
since 1460.

University of Basel
Petersplatz 1
Postfach
4001 Basel
Switzerland

www.unibas.ch