

Information for the internship in a school abroad

Berufspraktische Studien Sekundarstufe I

Below you will find important information for mentoring teacher candidates participating in the overseas internship program of the School of Education, University of Applied Sciences Northwest Switzerland.

Structure of the internship

The main goal of the internship is to specifically strengthen **subject didactic competencies** in a subject of study. This is done by planning, implementing, and evaluating teaching units.

The **internship** in a school abroad lasts **three weeks**. Teacher candidates should be able to actively participate in at least **15 lessons per week**. The requirement is not that the teacher candidates teach these lessons completely on their own. Instead, they should take responsibility for several sequences after prior planning with the responsible teacher. The intended form of instruction is carried out in cooperation with the responsible teacher (co-teaching).

The teacher candidates are accompanied by a **reflection seminar** in Switzerland, where questions about subject didactics are focused. Therefore, the teacher candidates need to be able to teach the same subject in the school abroad as the one focused in the reflection seminar. In the reflection seminar, subject didactic actions are analyzed by means of artifacts such as videos, audio recordings, transcripts, planning, teaching materials, student work, etc., based on already existing knowledge. From the analyses, teacher candidates can draw inferences for designing sound instruction with student learning in mind.

Most teacher candidates complete their **portfolio** after the internship. For this, they need to be able to work on their core practices identified by them and the teachers responsible for the internship. The responsibility for developing the core practices lies with the teacher candidates.

Internship agreement

Once teacher candidates are assigned a teacher at the school abroad, they complete an **internship agreement** together. The form can be downloaded from our [information website](#). The teacher candidates send the filled-in and signed form by e-mail to: praxis.sek1.ph@fhnw.ch.

Mid-term review discussion

The responsible teacher and the students have a mid-term review discussion based on the goals of the internship.

Test certificate

Towards the end of the internship, the responsible teacher of the school abroad fills out the test certificate and sends the signed form by e-mail to: praxis.sek1.ph@fhnw.ch.

Remuneration of internships for schools abroad

The fee paid covers the supervision, co-planning, counseling, and assessment of the internee, based on 22 hours for one internee or 33 hours for 2 internees in the same class. The per-hour rata should reflect the local rates for teachers with the expected work experience in secondary school.