

Switzerland

Business visitors: FAQs



If planning on traveling to Switzerland for temporary business, it is important to remain compliant with the immigration laws of Switzerland. The purpose of the visitor's intended travel, duration of stay and citizenship will determine if and what type of visa is required. The information in this document is intended to serve as an informational resource about business visitor requirements in Switzerland.

Who needs a business visitor visa for Switzerland?

A business visa is required for persons who wish to enter Switzerland for the purposes of temporary business. Business visitors are not permitted to engage in employment of any kind while in Switzerland.

What activities are permitted as a business visitor?

Activities permitted typically include:

- Attending business meetings (including representing their overseas employer in meetings with clients)
- Attending contract negotiations
- Hosting or attending business presentations
- Attending seminars or "fact-finding" meetings

Activities not permitted typically include:

- Performing productive work
- Accepting employment
- Attending school or study

These lists are subject to change and are not all-inclusive.

Who is required to apply for a business visa?

The requirement of applying for a business visa at a Consulate abroad is dependent upon the visitor's nationality. Citizens of certain countries are visa-exempt, and therefore do not require a business visa application to be submitted and approved at a Consulate prior to travel to Switzerland. Please contact your Crown Switzerland office to request more information about the countries that are exempt of visa.

How long can a traveler stay in Switzerland on a business visa?

The maximum allowable stay on a business visa in Switzerland is 90 days cumulatively for stays within a 180-day period.

Is there a limit on the number of times a visitor may travel to Switzerland on a business visa in any given period?

There may be a limit on how many visits a person may make to Switzerland in any given period depending on the issuance of a multiple entry visa.

Can a visitor's spouse and children also come to Switzerland?

A business visitor's spouse and children can come to Switzerland as visitors; however, they must each apply for their own separate visa.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is provided for general information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice. If you have any further enquiries regarding the applicability of this information, please contact Crown's Regional Immigration Manager, EMEA.