

# Job Search Guide For Expats in Switzerland

Open the doors to  
your dream career!



## ALL YOU NEED

- Job Search Websites
- Company Websites
- Swiss Work Permit and Visa Requirements

Good luck with your job search  
and professional development!

# Job Search Guide for Expats in Switzerland

Switzerland is a fantastic destination for expats, offering a high standard of living, attractive salaries, and a stable economy. However, job searching can be competitive and complex. This guide provides key job search resources, tips, and information to help expats navigate Switzerland's job market.

## 1. Job Search Websites

Job portals are one of the most direct ways to find job opportunities in Switzerland. Here are some of the top job platforms:

### General Job Portals:

- **[LinkedIn](#)**  
LinkedIn is widely used in Switzerland, particularly for professional networking. Optimize your profile and join relevant groups to increase your visibility. Many Swiss companies post job opportunities on LinkedIn, and it's a great tool to connect directly with hiring managers.
- **[Indeed Switzerland](#)**  
A global job search engine with a local Swiss version. It offers job listings across many industries and allows you to set up job alerts to stay updated on new listings.
- **[Jobs.ch](#)**  
One of Switzerland's largest job boards. Jobs.ch has a wide variety of listings, including positions across different sectors, such as IT, finance, healthcare, and sales. You can also set up notifications for new job postings matching your profile.
- **[JobScout24](#)**  
Another leading job search platform. The website is simple to use and includes advanced search filters to help you find the best job opportunities based on your preferences.
- **[Glassdoor Switzerland](#)**  
Glassdoor is more than just a job listing site. It provides company reviews, salary information, and interview experiences, which can help you get a better sense of company culture and what to expect in the hiring process.

### Expatriate-Specific Job Sites:

- [The Local Switzerland](#)  
The Local is an English-language news site in Switzerland that includes job listings for expats. They cover various sectors, from customer service to senior management roles.
- [JustLanded](#)  
This website provides information on living in Switzerland as an expat and offers job listings, housing advice, and more. It's a great resource for new arrivals to Switzerland.
- [Swiss International Agencies \(SIA\)](#)  
SIA focuses on providing job listings for international professionals, often in multinational companies or roles requiring English proficiency.

### Niche Job Portals:

- [Euraxess Switzerland](#)  
For those in research or academia, Euraxess provides job listings specifically for scientists, researchers, and academics. The website also offers information on funding opportunities and research collaborations.
- [Talent.com](#)  
A large platform for job listings across various sectors in Switzerland, including engineering, healthcare, finance, and more.

## 2. Company Websites

Large companies in Switzerland often post their job vacancies directly on their websites. Check the career pages of these global companies regularly for new opportunities:

- [Nestlé](#)
- [Novartis](#)
- [Roche](#)
- [UBS](#)
- [Credit Suisse](#)
- [Swisscom](#)

You can often find job listings on their websites in multiple languages, including English. Set up job alerts to receive notifications for relevant roles.

### 3. Recruitment Agencies

Recruitment agencies can match your profile with suitable employers. Some agencies specialize in certain industries, while others cover a broad range of sectors.

- [Michael Page Switzerland](#)
- [Robert Walters](#)
- [Adecco Switzerland](#)
- [Manpower](#)
- [Randstad](#)

These agencies can assist in finding both permanent and temporary positions, and many offer services for expats.

### 4. Networking

Networking is crucial in Switzerland, and many jobs are filled through personal connections. Expats should make an effort to meet people in their industry and community.

- **LinkedIn**  
Build a strong professional network. Join industry-specific groups, connect with people in Switzerland, and follow companies you're interested in. Many companies prefer hiring through referrals, and LinkedIn is a great tool for making connections.
- **Meetup**  
Meetup is popular for both social and professional networking. Join groups that cater to your field, as well as expat groups where you can meet people who may share job opportunities.
- **Local Business Events and Conferences**  
Attend industry conferences, trade shows, and seminars. These events are excellent networking opportunities to meet potential employers and collaborators.
- **Swiss Networking Events**  
There are many expat and international groups in Switzerland that host regular events. Websites like [Expat Switzerland](#) and [Internations](#) can help you find such events.

### 5. Language Skills

Switzerland has four official languages: German, French, Italian, and English. While English is widely spoken, particularly in multinational companies, fluency in one or more of the local languages is highly beneficial.

- **German** is important for jobs in Zurich, Basel, and Bern, where many job listings are in German.
- **French** is required for positions in Geneva, Lausanne, and the French-speaking cantons.
- **Italian** is essential for roles in Ticino, the Italian-speaking region.

Consider taking language courses, or practice speaking through online platforms, language exchanges, or local conversation clubs.

Did you know? At Ich Spreche, we also offer [German courses for all levels](#), from beginner to advanced, to help you improve your speaking, writing, listening, and reading skills.

Additionally, our [conversation club](#) gives you a great opportunity to practice your German in a supportive and interactive environment.

## 6. Swiss Work Permit and Visa Requirements

If you're not a Swiss or EU/EFTA citizen, you'll need to apply for a work permit.

- [Swiss Federal Office for Migration](#) provides detailed information about work permits and visas.
- **L Permit (Short-Term)**: For short-term contracts up to one year.
- **B Permit (Resident Permit)**: For long-term stays.
- **C Permit (Permanent Resident)**: For those who have lived in Switzerland for at least 5 years.

## 7. Job Application Tips

- **CV**: Tailor your CV to Swiss standards. Include your photo (unless you're applying for IT or other tech roles where photos are not required), and be sure to highlight any language skills.
- **Cover Letter**: Write a personalized and concise cover letter that explains why you are a good fit for the job.
- **Languages**: If the job listing specifies a language requirement, make sure your CV and cover letter reflect your proficiency.
- **Follow Up**: After applying, send a polite email to follow up on your application.

## 8. Cultural Tips for Job Interviews

- **Punctuality:** Arrive at least 10–15 minutes early for interviews. Swiss culture places great importance on being on time.
- **Formality:** Address your interviewers by their titles unless invited to use their first names.
- **Dress Code:** Swiss business attire is typically formal. For corporate roles, wear a suit or professional attire.

## 9. Additional Resources for Expats

- **Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)**  
Provides guides on living and working in Switzerland.
- **Cantonal Websites**  
Each canton in Switzerland has its own government website, which often includes job resources and local regulations.

## 10. Key Sectors for Expats

Certain industries are particularly open to foreign workers, especially in multinational companies. These include:

- **Finance & Banking**
- **Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare**
- **Information Technology**
- **Engineering and Manufacturing**
- **Consulting**
- **Hospitality and Tourism**
- **Research and Development**

## 11. Online Course for Job Applications and Job Interviews in German

If you're an expat in Switzerland or another German-speaking country, improving your German is crucial for advancing your career. Our comprehensive course is designed to help you navigate the German-speaking job market with confidence. From crafting a professional resume to mastering interview techniques and writing polished emails, we guide you through every step of the application process. This program equips you with the key skills and insights needed to stand out and land your dream job.

### Our comprehensive course includes three powerful modules:

Each module is tailored to expats like you who want to thrive in German-speaking environments, whether you're in Switzerland, Germany, or Austria. By the end of the course, you'll feel confident, prepared, and ready to take your career to the next level.



### We also offer premium career support:

- **Application Review:**  
We'll review, correct, and enhance your job application materials to help you stand out in the German-speaking job market.
- **Mock Interviews for Preparation:**  
Practice your interview skills in a realistic setting with **personalized mock interviews tailored to your profile and the role you're applying for**, with constructive feedback to boost your confidence.

If you are looking to boost your career and improve your German skills for professional environments, **our course is the perfect solution.**

**Sign up now** and take the first step towards mastering professional communication in German!

For more details or to register, visit our [course page](#).

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Good luck with your job search and professional development!

Kind regards,



Melanie, Founder of Ich Spreche  
<http://www.ichspreche.com>