

VET programmes leading to the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate

A VET programme for the Federal VET Diploma can be combined with preparation for the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate (FVB) examination. Vocational Baccalaureate Schools provide more extensive coverage of general education topics than standard VET Diploma programmes. The FVB will allow you to enrol in studies at a Swiss University of Applied Sciences. Depending on the degree programme chosen, you will either be directly admitted or have to go through an admission procedure.



WHAT EXACTLY IS THE FEDERAL VOCATIONAL BACCALAUREATE?

During your VET programme, you will spend an additional day attending a preparatory course for the FVB examination, which also means working one day less per week at the host company. The FVB is an optional qualification that you can obtain in addition to the standard Federal VET Diploma.

The Federal Vocational Baccalaureate provides access to the following tertiary-level training options:

You can enrol in a University of Applied Sciences (UAS). Depending on the degree programme you choose, you may or may not be required to take an entrance examination or undergo an admission procedure.

You can attend a preparatory course for the University Aptitude Test. Passing this test enables you to enrol in a cantonal university or Federal Institute of Technology (FIT).

WHAT PREREQUISITES MUST BE MET IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE FVB EXAMINATION?

You are a good student, so you decide to combine VET with studying for the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate. This combination is suitable for you if you enjoy learning and intensive studying. To put your plan into practice, you need the approval of your host company.

Choose the profile that is most suited to your chosen occupation and tell the managers at the host company that you would like to attend the preparatory course for the FVB examination.

There are different orientations for the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate:

- Engineering, Architecture, Life Sciences
- Nature, Landscape, Food
- Business and Services
- Design and Art
- Health and Social Care

The admission procedure is not regulated in the same way in each canton. In some cantons, learners are required to have a certain grade point average and a recommendation letter from their teacher in the last year of lower-secondary school.

In other cantons, you will need to pass an admission test in order to enrol in the preparatory course for the FVB examination. This test will cover mathematics and languages at the level which is expected of students completing secondary school in the top ability stream.

Tips and suggestions for parents

Act early – in the second half of lower-secondary school – and meet with teachers to find out whether your son or daughter should attend a school offering the preparatory course for the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate (FVB) examination.

Attend the orientation events organised by these schools in your canton.

If your son or daughter applies for an apprenticeship vacancy, he/she should state his/her intention to attend this preparatory course. Apprenticeship trainers must first give their consent for learners to take the additional day of classroom instruction to attend the FVB preparatory course.

Admission examinations from previous years are posted on the website of the VET offices in the various cantons (see addresses: www.adressen.sdbb.ch).