

## CHIROPRACTIC IN SWITZERLAND

Since 1 September 2007 the Federal Law on Education of the Medical Professions (Medizinalberufegesetz MedBG – Loi sur les professions médicales LPMéd) is in effect. It regulates the education, postgraduate, continuing education and professional activity of the five medical professions, the physicians, the dentists, the chiropractors, the pharmacists and the veterinarians.

The federal legislation regulates the education, the diploma and the postgraduate education of chiropractors.

### EDUCATION

Chiropractic students have the possibility to study either in Switzerland or abroad.

#### Switzerland

The first course in chiropractic started at the University of Zurich in fall 2008.

For further information about chiropractic study in Zurich, please visit:

<https://www.med.uzh.ch/de/Medizinstudium/chiropraktikstudium.html>

#### Abroad

[Ordinance on the Recognition of Chiropractic Degree Programmes at Foreign Universities](#)

(German)

[Ordinance on the Recognition of Chiropractic Degree Programmes at Foreign Universities](#)

(French)

Holders of a diploma obtained in an EU or EFTA country, the United Kingdom, or a third country (outside the EU/EFTA) who wish to apply for recognition or equivalency of their education and/or postgraduate qualification must submit their request to the following body:

[Medizinalberufekommission \(MEBEKO\)](#)

[Commission des professions médicales \(MEBEKO\)](#)

#### Diploma from EU or EFTA countries or the United Kingdom:

[Diplome der Medizinalberufe aus EU- oder EFTA-Staaten oder dem Vereinigten Königreich](#)

[Diplôme de profession médicale délivré dans un État de l'UE/AELE ou dans le Royaume-Uni](#)

#### Diploma from a third country (non-EU/EFTA state):

[Diplom der Medizinalberufe aus einem Drittstaat \(nicht EU-/EFTA-Staat\)](#)

[Diplôme de profession médicale délivré dans un État tiers \(hors de l'UE/AELE\)](#)

It is strongly recommended that individuals interested in undertaking chiropractic studies abroad contact ChiroSuisse at [study-chiropractic@chirosuisse.ch](mailto:study-chiropractic@chirosuisse.ch) **before** registering. It is also recommended that these individuals keep in touch in order to receive relevant information.

## **FEDERAL EXAM – FEDERAL DIPLOMA**

Successful completion of the federal exam in chiropractic medicine allows for practice as a chiropractor under supervision in Switzerland. Admission requirements are a diploma from an accredited course of study in chiropractic. In addition, candidates coming from abroad with a foreign diploma, must have acquired 60 ECTS from a course of study in a Swiss university leading to a degree in a medical profession, i.e. human medicine, chiropractic medicine, dentistry, pharmacology or veterinary medicine. We recommend that these 60 ECTS are acquired in year six of the Chiropractic Medicine program at the University of Zurich. The federal exam is offered in French and German.

[Eidgenössische Prüfung in Chiropraktik](#)  
[Examen fédéral en chiropratique](#)

## **6 TH YEAR IN CHIROPRACTIC MEDICINE (CLINICAL YEAR) IN ZÜRICH OR LAUSANNE:**

Candidates with a chiropractic diploma from abroad may acquire the missing 60 ECTS-credits in the year 6 of the Chiropractic Medicine program in Zürich (German) or in Lausanne (French). The program consists of 6 months of rotations as an underassistant in the Teaching Clinic for Chiropractic Medicine (Balgrist University Hospital or CHUV) and 6 months in the different clinics of the Balgrist University Hospital or the CHUV.

To be admitted, candidates must qualify to be admitted to study Chiropractic Medicine at the University of Zürich and pass the Clinic Entrance Exam (CEE) that usually takes place at the end of May or the beginning of June. Students without a Swiss higher education entrance qualification (Maturität, maturité) must hand in a German or a French language diploma (Level C1) together with the application. Candidates must apply online:

<https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/en/studies/application/medicine/chiropractic.html>

or in German: <https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/de/studies/application/medicine/chiropractic.html>

Deadline for the application is End of February of the year of the exam. The exam is held in German and French.

For further information please also visit: [Chiropractic Education in Switzerland](#).

If the option of taking year 6 of the Master in Chiropractic Medicine is for any reason not feasible, candidates may acquire the 60 ECTS-credits by the successful completion of a first year of Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, or Pharmacology. These courses are offered in French at the Universities of Fribourg, Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel, In German at the Universities of Basel, Bern.

Please check the requirements for application to the medical faculties in CH:

<https://www.swissuniversities.ch/en/service/applying-to-medical-school/applying-to-medical-school>

### **POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION – FEDERAL POSTGRADUATE TITLE**

Prerequisite to be admitted to the postgraduate education (assistantship, postgraduate courses) is the Federal Diploma. The postgraduate education as well as the postgraduate exam is offered by the Swiss Academy of Chiropractic and leads to the federal postgraduate title. The postgraduate exam is offered in French and German.

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

The federal postgraduate title is the prerequisite in order to practice chiropractic in his/her own office in Switzerland independently.

In addition to this a chiropractor needs a cantonal work permit and when working for the social insurances: a concordat number ([Zahlstellenregisternummer/Registre des codes-créancier](#)) of SASIS. Chiropractors with a federal postgraduate title who prefer to work dependently (employed) have to apply for a control number (K-Nummer/No C).

### **USEFUL LINKS**

[Swiss Federal Examination in Chiropractic](#) (German)

[Swiss Federal Examination in Chiropractic](#) (French)

[www.swissuniversities.ch](http://www.swissuniversities.ch) (German)

[www.swissuniversities.ch/fr/](http://www.swissuniversities.ch/fr/) (French)

[study-chiropractic.ch](http://study-chiropractic.ch)

[www.chirosuisse.ch](http://www.chirosuisse.ch)