

French tuition and basic training

WHO?

All adults aged over 18.

Up to the age of 18, children and young people learn French at school.

From the age of 18, they are entitled to adult French tuition and basic training.

WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?

Learning French allows you to:

- cope with everyday situations,
- have an active social life,
- have access to training and
- expand your career opportunities.

Acquiring key skills through basic training (reading/writing, maths, IT and learning skills) is vital to enable you to move on and get a job and become integrated in Geneva society.

HELP AVAILABLE

General information

Soon after your arrival, you will attend a group information meeting. At this meeting, you will receive key information about French tuition and basic training in the Canton of Geneva and in Switzerland.

Staff from the Office pour l'orientation et la formation professionnelle et continue - OFPC (Office for Careers & Vocational and Continuing Training) will assess your levels of French and training.

They will then enrol you on French courses provided by qualified professional tutors who will help you to attain the oral and written level required to achieve social and professional integration. If necessary, you will be given guidance enabling you to pursue basic training suited to your needs.

There are two possible pathways:

A_the “Professional integration” pathway applies to anyone aged over 18 who could become employed in Switzerland. This includes:

- people who already have professional experience and/or training,
- people who are able to undertake basic training or professional training and
- people of working age.

The agency responsible for providing you with support is the OFPC (Office for Careers & Vocational and Continuing Training).

B_the “Specific social integration” pathway applies to anyone who is unable for work for various reasons:

- people of retirement age,
- people with health problems and

- people who cannot be employed due to their personal circumstances.

The organisation responsible for providing you with support along your specific social integration pathway is Hospice général - HG (the Public Assistance Office).

GOOD TO KNOW

Where necessary, interpreters speaking your own language can assist you at sessions and interviews.

Help with French tuition and basic training will enable you to:

- gain the benefits of French lessons as quickly as possible,
- undertake basic training (reading/writing, maths, IT and learning skills),
- acquire spoken and written skills in French, enabling you to undertake vocational or continuous training, study, find a job and work in your specialist field,
- acquire spoken and written skills in French, enabling you to live as independently as possible if, due to your circumstances, you are unable to seek employment.

1 “Professional integration” pathway

You will take French lessons up to spoken Level A2. Once you achieve that level, you will take a French test and be awarded a Level A2 certificate.

You will undergo a skills appraisal at the Centre de Bilan Genève - CEBIG (Geneva Skills Appraisal Centre). This appraisal will allow you to establish your vocational aims and how to achieve them.

New French language learning objectives will be set on the basis of the requirements of your vocational aims.

2 “Specific social integration” pathway

On the basis of your circumstances and objectives, you will be offered French lessons and/or basic training with a view to social integration.

Every 6 months, your circumstances will be reviewed and your pathway adapted accordingly. If conditions allow, you will be transferred to the “Professional integration” pathway.