



Educational opportunities in the Canton of Thurgau

Contents

	Page
Overview of key information	4
Early-years support	5
The state school system (kindergarten, primary school, secondary school)	6
Bridge offers/integration courses	8
Vocational education and training	10
▪ Federal Vocational Baccalaureate	
▪ Informatics Secondary School	
▪ Cantonal courses	
Baccalaureate schools	11
▪ Academic baccalaureate schools	
▪ Thurgau-Schaffhausen Adults' Baccalaureate School	
▪ Preparation course	
▪ Specialised schools and the Specialised Baccalaureate	
Higher vocational training	12
▪ Federal examinations	
Federal Professional Examinations FPE	
Advanced Federal Professional Examinations AFPE	
▪ Higher vocational schools	
▪ Other higher vocational schools	
Higher education institutions	13
▪ Thurgau Teacher Training College	
▪ Other higher education institutions	
Continuing education and training	14
Supplementary courses for all levels of education	14
▪ Parent education	
▪ Educational psychology and speech therapy	
▪ Advice on careers and study programmes	
▪ Education contributions and contributions	15
to schools outside the canton	
▪ Further sources of information and support	

LEGAL NOTICE

Publisher

Department of Education and Culture

Edition 2023

The brochure can be downloaded in Albanian, Arabic, English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Serbo-Croatian, Slovakian, Spanish, Tamil, Turkish and Ukrainian from dek.tg.ch → [Publikationen und Downloads](#) → [Bildung](#).

Editors

Secretariat-General of the Department of Education and Culture
(Generalsekretariat des Departements für Erziehung und Kultur)
Department of School Education (Amt für Volksschule)
Department of Secondary and High Education (Amt für Mittel- und Hochschulen)
Department of Vocational Education and Advisory Services
(Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung)


Concept and design

Joss – visuelle Kommunikation, Weinfelden



QR code for digital brochure
'Educational opportunities
in the Canton of Thurgau'

NB:

links to flyers, explanatory videos or further information on a website are either indicated with  or are underlined.

If you want to manually input websites into your browser, you may need to add 'www.' before the link to open the website, depending on your browser.



Foreword

Dear parents
To whom it may concern

For children and young people, school is one of the most important parts of the first two decades of their life. School, teachers, classmates: they all have an important role to play and impact children and young people through into adulthood. We are very aware of this. As a result, we are keen to ensure you are provided with extensive information about the education system in the Canton of Thurgau so you can advise your child and support them on their school journey. This brochure is intended to serve as a guide and help you find your feet in the educational landscape in Thurgau.

As a parent, you play a key role in terms of your child's schooling – smooth collaboration between school and parents is crucial for academic success.

Alongside information about the education system in Thurgau, this brochure also provides lots of details about further information and courses. We would be delighted if they interested you and you chose to make use of them.

Cantonal Councillor
Monika Knill

Overview of key information

Compulsory schooling lasts eleven years. All children and young people resident in the Canton of Thurgau may attend a state-run school free of charge.

Children start their compulsory education with two years of kindergarten. After this, they attend primary school for six years and secondary school (lower-secondary level) for three years. This marks the end of their compulsory schooling.

Subsequent to this, young people can progress to upper-secondary level in various ways. Around two-thirds of young people in Thurgau undertake an apprenticeship that qualifies them to practice their chosen profession. To complement their apprenticeship, high-performing young people can complete a Federal Vocational Baccalaureate, which provides them with direct access to a university of applied sciences (tertiary level).

Around a third of young people at upper-secondary level pursue an academic course at an academic upper-secondary level school or a specialised school, in preparation for courses at tertiary level.

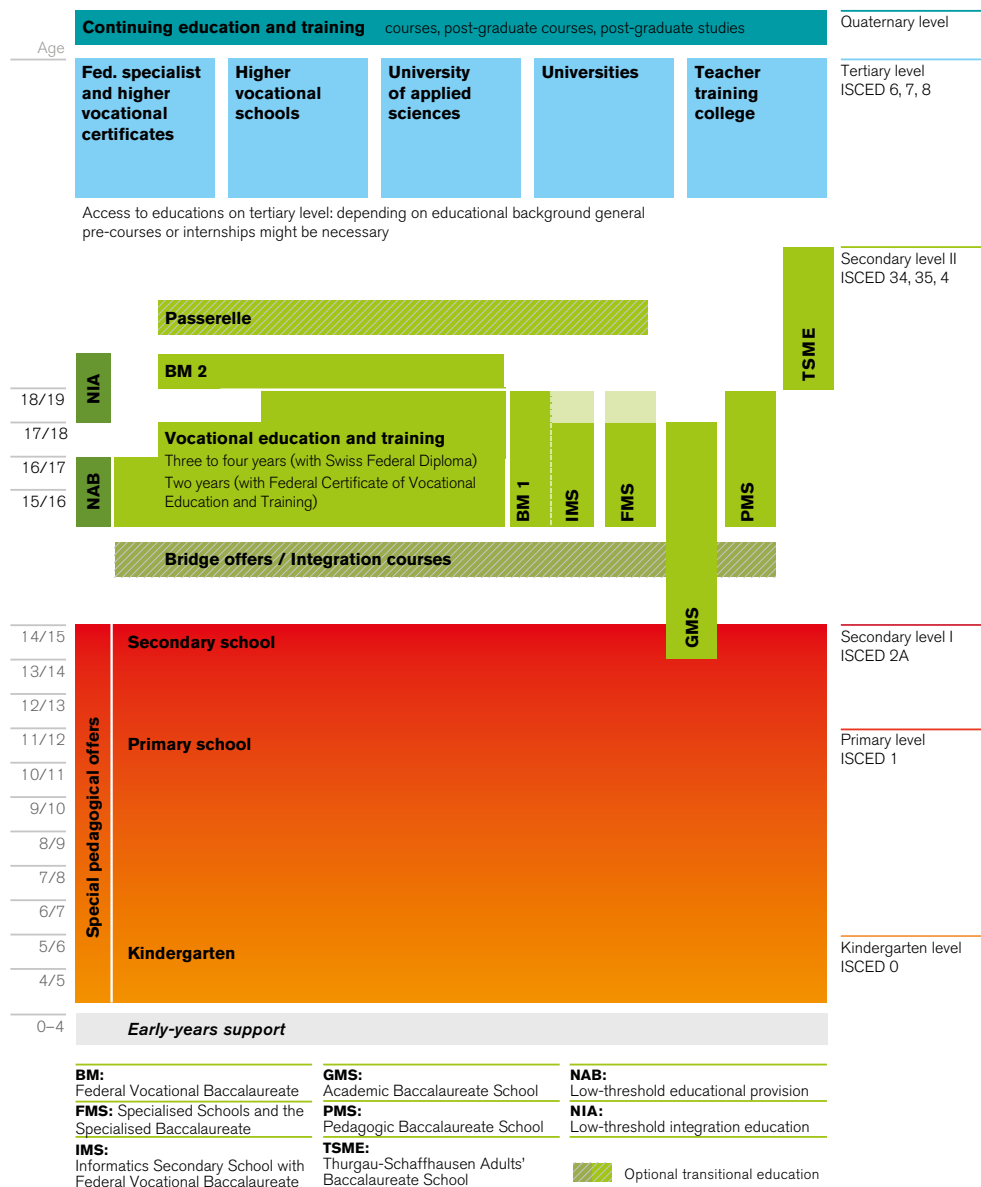
An upper-secondary level qualification enables the holder to attend various higher education institutions at tertiary level, depending on whether the qualification in question is an apprenticeship, a Federal Vocational Baccalaureate or an academic qualification attained at an academic upper-secondary level school or a specialised school.

A HIGHLY FLEXIBLE EDUCATION SYSTEM

The Swiss education system is highly flexible: there are various ways to join or switch to a course or a school, or to catch up on or complete a particular course.

[Das Bildungssystem im Kanton Thurgau – YouTube](#)

The education system in Thurgau at a glance



Early-years support

Getting off to a great start

Parents hold primary responsibility for bringing up their children: family is the first and most important place for early-years development. Undertaking day-to-day activities with their family offers children key opportunities for learning, be it with others, through play or through movement.

Children are born capable, active and curious. They learn from experience, via relationships and, above all, through playing with other children.

Early-years support assists young children and families where needed. This provision includes midwives, paediatricians, advice for parents, parent education, playgroups, day nurseries and childminders.

Services/contact

Contact your local authority or school district to find out about their provision.

- 📍 Advice: perspektive-tg.ch / conexfamilia.ch
- 📍 Parent education: elternwissen-tg.ch
- 📍 Various services: sozialnetz.tg.ch

Multilingualism

If your child is being brought up multilingual, talk to them in your strongest language. This ensures deep, lively conversations. At the same time, your child needs knowledge of German so they can start kindergarten. Facilitate contact with German-speaking peers and adults for your child when they are as young as possible. Playgroups and nurseries are the perfect places to learn German.

You can find **further information** at:

📍 elternwissen-tg.ch → Das können Eltern tun → Sprich mit mir

Mandatory selective support for preschool language development

In 2024, the Canton of Thurgau is launching mandatory selective support for preschool language development so that every child can get off to a good start in kindergarten. Language skills are crucial for communicating with other children and adults, as well as for success academically.

As a result, children with insufficient knowledge of German receive preschool language support a year before starting kindergarten. The nature of this support can vary from one school district to another, but it potentially includes playgroups, nurseries or childminders. The school district is responsible for assessing language skills and coordinating this provision.

Further information can be found at:

📍 av.tg.ch → Themen → Selektives Obligatorium Vorschulische Sprachförderung

Assistance and support services

Preschool children can access various assistance and support services, such as speech therapy, psychomotorics or remedial early-years education.



The state school system

The foundation for life-long learning

State school provision spans eleven years. It is divided into kindergarten, primary school and secondary school. Attending a state-run school is compulsory and free of charge.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten lasts two years. It assists with children's development across subjects and through play, preparing them for subject-specific learning at primary school. Children are generally four years old when they start kindergarten. Parents can delay their child's starting kindergarten by one year. All the information parents need about starting school can be obtained from their local school.

📄 **Flyer:** [Unser Kind kommt in den Kindergarten – Tipps für Eltern](#)

Primary level

Primary school lasts six years. At primary school, pupils learn knowledge and skills in languages, mathematics, 'nature, people, society', art, music, 'movement and sport', 'media and IT' and 'education for sustainable development'. In addition, their personal, methodological and social skills are fostered.

📄 **Flyer:** [Unser Kind kommt in die Schule – Tipps für Eltern](#)

Secondary level

Secondary school lasts three years. Pupils expand and deepen the knowledge and skills they acquired at primary school. In addition, subjects such as 'nature and technology' and 'economics, labour, household' are taught and compulsory electives offered. Secondary school prepares pupils for vocational education and training or further schooling. Secondary schooling is divided into two types (basic and advanced requirements) and various different levels. The schools ensure pupils can move between achievement levels.

Curriculum for schools in Thurgau

The curriculum describes what pupils should be able to know and do. Cycle 1 encompasses kindergarten and the first two years of primary school (up to the end of Year 2). Cycle 2 encompasses four years of primary school (Years 3 to 6), while Cycle 3 encompasses the three years of secondary school (Years 1 to 3).

You can find **further information** at:

📄 tg.lehrplan.ch

The academic year and holidays

The academic year begins after the summer holidays. The 13 weeks of holidays are divided across the academic year. The Ferienplan ([holiday plan](#)) can be found at av.tg.ch.



School location and journey to school

Pupils attend the state-run school at their place of residence. The school authority is responsible for allocating pupils to individual schools, while the school's management assigns pupils to classes. In principle, children travel to school independently. Their journey to school is the responsibility of their parent/guardian, but the school authority ensures their journey is as safe as possible.

Lesson times (block times) and daycare provision

Generally, children have at least three hours of teaching each morning at kindergarten and three and a half hours at primary school. Each school organises their lunchtime and afternoon teaching differently. There are no lessons on Wednesday afternoons at kindergartens and primary schools. Many school districts offer daycare services (supervised sessions, help with homework, lunch provision, etc.). In principle, childcare services are subject to a fee.

Homework

Homework enables pupils to reinforce and extend the topics they discussed at school and gives parents an insight into the topics being covered at school.

📄 **Flyer:** Hausaufgaben – Tipps für Eltern

Report cards and assessment

From primary school onwards, pupils' achievements in each subject are assessed in words (Year 1/2 of primary school) or marks (from Year 3 of primary school). In addition, their attitude to learning, working and socialising with others is appraised. A review meeting is held annually with their class teacher. Pupils receive a report card at the end of each academic year (for primary school) or the end of each semester (for secondary school).

📄 **Flyer for parents** (in German and twelve other languages)

📄 **Explanatory video:** Fördern und Beurteilen in der Volksschule

Assistance and support services

Every child receives support at school in line with their abilities and needs. There are various forms of support available for pupils requiring particular assistance, or those with particular strengths and talents. The provision available locally is described in the support concept of the school district in question.

There is also cantonal provision for particularly gifted, high-performing pupils from Year 3 of primary school onwards. They attend workshops during lesson time or can take part in stimulating events outside the school day to expand their interests. Both services are free, except travel costs.

You can find **further information** at:

📄 bbf.tg.ch

Special schools

There is special provision to support children and young people with physical, mental or linguistic disabilities or problematic behaviour. Whenever possible, the child should attend their local school, where they will be supported within the regular class through integrated special schooling. The school authority determines how this is put into practice. If it is not possible to support the child within the regular class, they will attend a special school. Special schools specialise in particular types of disability or learning and behavioural difficulties.

Parental rights and obligations

Parents are responsible for making sure their children attend school regularly. Smooth collaboration with the child's teacher helps the child feel comfortable at school. Regular discussions about the child's behaviour and performance, and participation in parents' evening and other school events, are helpful. Parents have the right to sit in on lessons, in consultation with the teacher.

Contact

If parents have questions about school, their first port of call is the class teacher. General information can be found on the website of the Department of School Education:

📄 av.tg.ch



Bridge offers/integration courses

Support with getting started in a profession or secondary school

There are various kinds of provision for young people unsure of what they want to do professionally or who do not have their next steps planned, and for young people and young adults who have gaps in their education due to their migration background. This provision helps them prepare for vocational training or further education.

BRIDGE OFFERS

A preparation year can help young people expand their basic academic knowledge and personal skills. They will be given proactive guidance in choosing a career. Cantonal opportunities are divided between bridge offers with a focus on academic education (type A) and bridge offers with a focus on practical application (type P).

Duration

1 year

Admission conditions

See the guidelines on the following website:

☞ abb.tg.ch → Schulische Bildung → Brückenangebote

Registration period

From February until 20 April at the latest

You can find **further information** on the websites of the school in question:

- Academic education in Weinfelden
☞ gbw.ch → Brückenangebote
- Academic education in Frauenfeld
☞ bztf.ch → Brückenangebote
- Academic education in Romanshorn
☞ sbw.edu → Bildungsangebot → SBW Brückenangebot

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, Schulische Bildung,
Aufnahmestelle Brückenangebote, Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 59 99

☞ abb.tg.ch → Schulische Bildung → Brückenangebote

CANTONAL INTEGRATION COURSES

The canton of Thurgau offers cantonal integration courses for young people living in Thurgau who do not speak German as a first language. The focus is on learning German and on general education. The aim is to supply participants with the qualifications for secondary school, an apprenticeship (Federal Certificate or Diploma of Vocational Education and Training) or further education. The courses are aligned with each other and structured flexibly: as soon as a student has reached the level of German for the next course, they are able to switch to this course.

INTEGRATION COURSE 1A

Some secondary schools offer the upstream Integration Course 1a (integration class) for 12- to 16-year-olds. The course teaches German in preparation for attending regular secondary school.

Admission conditions

Age: 12–16

Level of German: CEFR 0 or A1

Duration

Max. 1 year; 5 days a week

Cost

Covered by the school district

Contact

Amt für Volksschule, Spannerstrasse 31, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 57 70

☞ av.tg.ch → Themen → Integrationskurse

INTEGRATION COURSE 1B

Integration Course 1b focuses on learning German and dealing with everyday situations.

Admission conditions

Age: 17–34

Level of German: CEFR 0 or A1

Duration

Max. 2 years; 8 half-days a week

Cost

CHF 1,000 per semester

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, Schulische Bildung,
Aufnahmestelle Integrationskurse, Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 56 91

☞ abb.tg.ch → Schulische Bildung → Integrationskurse

INTEGRATION COURSE 2

Integration Course 2 builds on Integration Course 1b and focuses on teaching German and lower-secondary level content.

Admission conditions

Age: 17–34

Level of German: CEFR A2

Duration

Max. 1 year; 8 half-days per week

Cost

CHF 1,000 per semester

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, Schulische Bildung,
Aufnahmestelle Integrationskurse, Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 56 91

📧 abb.tg.ch → Schulische Bildung → Integrationskurse

INTEGRATION COURSE 3

Integration Course 3 builds on Integration Course 2, and prepares participants both practically and academically for vocational training or further education.

Admission conditions

Age: 17 and above

Level of German: CEFR B1

Duration

6 months to 1 year; 5 days a week

Cost

Covered by unemployment insurance.

Contact

The relevant RAV regional office, rav.tg.ch → über uns → RAV Thurgau



Vocational education and training

Vocational education

Vocational education and training lays the foundations for lifelong learning and opens up an array of career options. More than two-thirds of young people opt for this route after completing their compulsory schooling.

Businesses in Thurgau are very keen to train young people, which, in turn, ensures a wide range of educational opportunities. Young people work at an apprenticeship host company and attend classes at a vocational education institution. Inter-company courses are also held. Vocational education and training courses lead to a Federal Diploma of Vocational Education and Training or a Federal Certificate of Vocational Education and Training.

Duration

Vocational education and training with a Federal Certificate of Vocational Education and Training lasts two years and with a Federal Diploma of Vocational Education and Training lasts three or four years.

Admission conditions

Valid apprenticeship contract

Professions offering an apprenticeship

You can find information on professions offering an apprenticeship on the following website: berufsberatung.ch

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, vocational information centres in Frauenfeld, Kreuzlingen and Amriswil

abb.tg.ch → [Berufs- und Studienberatung BIZ](#)

abb.tg.ch → [Bildungszentren](#)

FEDERAL VOCATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

The Federal Vocational Baccalaureate supplements vocational education and encompasses a demanding, expanded general education. In conjunction with a Federal Diploma of Education and Training from a three- or four-year vocational education and training course, the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate enables the holder to be admitted a university of applied sciences without undergoing an examination. The Federal Vocational Baccalaureate can be completed either during (BM1) or after (BM2) vocational education and training.

You can find **further information** on the website of the school in question:

- Bildungszentrum für Wirtschaft Weinfelden (Weinfelden Education Centre for Business)
bzww.ch → [Grundbildung](#)
- Bildungszentrum für Technik Frauenfeld (Frauenfeld Education Centre for Technology)
bztf.ch → [Berufsmaturität](#)

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, Schulische Bildung, Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 59 30

abb.tg.ch → [Schulische Bildung](#) → [Berufsmaturität](#)

INFORMATICS SECONDARY SCHOOL

Informatics Secondary School (Informatikmittelschule, IMS) offers vocational education and training within an academic structure combined with a Federal Vocational Baccalaureate. Students will graduate as information technologists with a Federal Diploma of Vocational Education and Training and a Federal Vocational Baccalaureate certification in business and business services.

You can find **further information** on the school's website:

- Informatics Secondary School with Federal Vocational Baccalaureate in business

kanti-frauenfeld.ch → [Informatikmittelschule](#)

Contact

Amt für Mittel- und Hochschulen, Grabenstrasse 11, 8510 Frauenfeld

Phone 058 345 58 30

amh.tg.ch

CANTONAL COURSES

LOW-THRESHOLD EDUCATIONAL PROVISION (NIEDERSCHWELLIGES AUSBILDUNGSANGEBOT, NAB)

Low-threshold educational provision (niederschwelliges Ausbildungsangebot, NAB) is open to young people from the Canton of Thurgau aged 15 to 18 who have completed compulsory schooling and do not meet the requirements for vocational education and training (Federal Certificate/Diploma of Vocational Education and Training).

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, Schulische Bildung, Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 56 91

abb.tg.ch → [Schulische Bildung](#) → [niederschwelliges Ausbildungsangebot](#)

LOW-THRESHOLD INTEGRATION EDUCATION (NIEDERSCHWELIGE INTEGRATIONS-AUSBILDUNG, NIA)/ INTRODUCTORY INTEGRATION COURSE (INTEGRATIONSVORLEHRE, INVOL+)

Low-threshold integration education (niederschwellige Integrationsausbildung, NIA) draws on low-threshold education provision (niederschwelliges Ausbildungsangebot, NAB) and is aimed at non-native speakers aged 18 and above for whom cantonal integration courses are not suitable. Students can attend an introductory integration course (Integrationsvorlehre, INVOL+) in their second year, if certain conditions are met.

Contact

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung, Schulische Bildung, Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 56 91

abb.tg.ch → [Schulische Bildung](#) → [niederschwellige Integrationsausbildung/Integrationsvorlehre \(INVOL+\)](#)

Baccalaureate schools

The path to studying at a Swiss federal institute of technology, university, teacher-training institution, university of applied sciences or higher education institution

Academic baccalaureate schools prepare students to study at a Swiss federal institute of technology, university or teacher-training institution. The Specialised Baccalaureate also opens up certain routes to universities of applied sciences. The specialised school diploma enables admission to higher vocational schools.

ACADEMIC BACCALAUREATE SCHOOLS

Academic baccalaureate schools provide a broad-based general education and offer preparation for study at higher education institutions. Pupils graduate with a baccalaureate recognised in Switzerland. It enables the holder to study at all university-level higher educational institutions in Switzerland (universities, Swiss federal institutes of technology), teacher-training institutions and, after a one-year internship, universities of applied sciences, too.

Every school offers special courses:

- Bilingual baccalaureate in English at Kantonsschule in Frauenfeld, Kreuzlingen, Romanshorn or Wil
- Bilingual baccalaureate in French at Kantonsschule Frauenfeld
- Bilingual baccalaureate in French or Italian at Kantonsschule Romanshorn
- MINT class at Kantonsschule Kreuzlingen for students interested in mathematics, IT and natural sciences
- Pedagogic Baccalaureate School (PMS) with integrated vocational education for those interested in teaching-related professions
- Art and sports classes at the Pädagogische Maturitätsschule (PMS) in Kreuzlingen for high-performing students who are gifted in the fields of sport, art and music
- 'Matura Talenta' baccalaureate for gifted students at Kantonsschule Romanshorn

You can find **further information** on the website of the school in question:

- Kantonsschule Frauenfeld
📍 kanti-frauenfeld.ch → [Gymnasium](#)
- Kantonsschule Kreuzlingen
📍 ksk.ch → [Angebot](#) → [Bildungsangebot](#)
- Kantonsschule Romanshorn
📍 ksr.ch → [Gymnasiale Maturitätsschule](#)
- Pädagogische Maturitätsschule Kreuzlingen (PMS)
📍 pmstg.ch → [Matura mit Berufsbildung](#)
- Kantonsschule Wil
(For students from Hinterthurgau)
📍 kantiwil.ch → [Gymnasium](#)

Contact

Amt für Mittel- und Hochschulen
Grabenstrasse 11, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 58 30
📍 amh.tg.ch → [Mittelschulen](#)

THURGAU-SCHAFFHAUSEN ADULTS' BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

Individuals who meet the necessary requirements can take the academic baccalaureate part-time at the Thurgau-Schaffhausen Adults' Baccalaureate School (TSME) or, following the preparation course, take the supplementary examination.

ACADEMIC BACCALAUREATE FOR ADULTS

Duration

7 semesters

Admission conditions

In principle, the first semester is open to anyone who holds a secondary school qualification (advanced level) and can provide proof of at least two years of work experience. Apprenticeships, internships, proof of unemployment, time spent running a household and childcare count towards this requirement.

Admission to a higher semester (semesters 2 to 6) is open to applicants who have attended a general school at upper-secondary level (at least to the extent of the semesters skipped). School attendance must be proven with report cards.

PREPARATION COURSE (PASSERELLE)

High-performing graduates of the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate or the Specialised Baccalaureate can attend a one-year full-time preparation course at the TSME for an internal supplementary examination recognised across Switzerland, which will also qualify participants for admission to a university course.

Duration

30 weeks, September to August

Admission conditions

Federal Vocational Baccalaureate/Specialised Baccalaureate with a good average mark (minimum: 4.7); admissions interview

Contact

Thurgauisch-Schaffhauserische Maturitätsschule für Erwachsene
Neuhauserstrasse 7, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 51 00

📍 tsme.ch → [Maturitätsausbildung](#)

📍 tsme.ch → [Passerellenkurs](#)

SPECIALISED SCHOOLS AND THE SPECIALISED BACCALAUREATE

The Specialised Baccalaureate course generally lasts four years and prepares the student to study health, social work, or communication and IT at a university of applied sciences. A Specialised Baccalaureate in education enables the holder to study at a teacher-training institution. Students not wishing to take a Specialised Baccalaureate can continue their education at a higher vocational school after three years, with a specialised school diploma. The Specialised Baccalaureate in education is offered at Kantonsschule Frauenfeld.

Specialised schools are available at Kantonsschulen Frauenfeld and Romanshorn.

You can find **further information** on the website of the school in question:

- Kantonsschule Frauenfeld
📍 kanti-frauenfeld.ch → [Fachmittelschule](#)
- Kantonsschule Romanshorn
📍 ksr.ch → [Fachmittelschule](#)

Contact

Amt für Mittel- und Hochschulen, Grabenstrasse 11
8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 58 30

📍 amh.tg.ch → [Mittelschulen](#)

Higher vocational training

Management education and specialisation for professionals

Higher vocational training lays the groundwork for demanding specialist or management roles. It enables the holder to specialise, extends their specialist skills and provides a qualification in the field of corporate management.

Higher vocational training encompasses:

- federal examinations (Federal Professional Examination FPE and Advanced Federal Professional Examination AFPE)
- training courses at the higher vocational schools

FEDERAL EXAMINATIONS – FEDERAL PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION FPE AND ADVANCED FEDERAL PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION AFPE

Professional examinations enable professionals to gain an initial area of expertise and specialisation in their profession, following vocational education and training. Access to an Advanced Federal Professional Examination is generally contingent on successful completion of a Federal Professional Examination. The Advanced Federal Professional Examination certifies professionals as experts in their field and prepares them to manage a company.

You can find **further information** on federal examinations on the website of the State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation SERI: sbfi.admin.ch → Bildung → Höhere Berufsbildung → Berufsprüfungen BP und höhere Fachprüfungen HFP

HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

The courses offered by higher vocational schools are highly practical in nature. They focus on tangible issues relating to services, operations, workshops and manufacturing. Graduates of a higher vocational school often take up middle management roles.

In the Canton of Thurgau, there are the following options in terms of higher educational schools:

higher vocational school for nursing, higher vocational school for business and higher vocational school for technology, with various courses.

HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR NURSING

Qualification

Registered Nurse,
Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education

Duration

2 to 4 years. 50% of the course is spent at an internship host institution and 50% is spent at the higher vocational school.

Admission conditions

Completion of upper-secondary level education (three- or four-year apprenticeship, secondary school or comparable education).

Contact

Bildungszentrum für Gesundheit und Soziales
Falkenstrasse 2, 8570 Weinfelden, phone 058 345 77 11
bfgs-tg.ch → Tertiäre Bildung

HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR BUSINESS

Qualification

Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education
in Business Administration

Duration

3 years

Admission conditions

Completion of upper-secondary level (three- or four-year apprenticeship or secondary school) and at least two years of professional experience in a commercial environment. In terms of English, B1 of the European Reference Framework is required.

Contact

Bildungszentrum Wirtschaft, Weiterbildung
Schützenstrasse 11, Postfach 112, 8570 Weinfelden
Phone 058 345 75 75
wbbzww.ch → Kursangebot → Wirtschaftsschule → Höhere Fachschulen

HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR TECHNOLOGY, WITH VARIOUS COURSES

Qualification

Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education
in Engineering (various specialisms),
Business Data Processing Specialist,
Advanced Federal Diploma of Higher Education

Duration

3 years

Admission conditions

Completion of vocational education and training (three- or four-year apprenticeship) in a related field (bztzf.ch) and at least two years of professional experience; equivalent professions to be clarified. Minimum employment of 50% in a pertinent role in the relevant sector.

Contact

Bildungszentrum für Technik
Kurzenerchingerstrasse 8, 8500 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 65 00
bztzf.ch → Weiterbildung → höhere Fachschulen und Nachdiplomstudien

OTHER HIGHER VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Other higher vocational schools institutions offering higher vocational courses are within easy reach of the Canton of Thurgau. A list of the courses offered at higher vocational schools in each canton can be found on the website of the State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation SERI:

sbfi.admin.ch → Bildung → Höhere Berufsbildung → Berufsverzeichnis → Diplome Höhere Fachschule

Higher education institutions

Studying for top-notch qualifications

Switzerland is home to various kinds of higher education institutions: universities, universities of applied sciences and teacher-training institutions.

Universities are primarily active in fundamental research, with their teaching based on this. Universities of applied sciences have a stronger focus on vocational practice and applied research and development. Teacher-training institutions train teachers for various levels of schooling, offer continuing education and training and engage in research of relevance to the sector.

PÄDAGOGISCHE HOCHSCHULE THURGAU (THURGAU TEACHER-TRAINING COLLEGE)

Thurgau Teacher Training College (PHTG) is the only higher education institution in the canton. It trains teachers and headteachers for all levels of schooling, along with experts in early years. Its courses for lower-secondary and upper-secondary levels and early years are offered in collaboration with the University of Konstanz.

KINDERGARTEN LOWER LEVEL

Duration

3 years. 2 years for graduates of the Pädagogische Maturitätsschule Kreuzlingen.

Admission conditions

Academic baccalaureate, Federal Vocational Baccalaureate with preparation course, qualification from a university of applied sciences (potentially subject to conditions), Specialised Baccalaureate in Education. (Other routes of admission are possible via an entrance process.)

PRIMARY LEVEL

Duration

3 years. Two years for graduates of the Pädagogische Maturitätsschule Kreuzlingen.

Admission conditions

Academic baccalaureate, Federal Vocational Baccalaureate with preparation course, qualification from a university of applied sciences (potentially subject to conditions), Specialised Baccalaureate in Education. (Other routes of admission are possible via an entrance process.)

LOWER-SECONDARY LEVEL

Duration

4.5 years of full-time study for the regular course
2 years of part-time study for adding an extra level
Duration can vary when studied part-time

Admission conditions

Academic baccalaureate or equivalent qualification, or teaching diploma for primary level

UPPER-SECONDARY LEVEL

Duration

1 year full-time, up to 3 years part-time

Admission conditions

Specialist Master's degree from a university (Master's degree, diploma, licentiate degree, 'Magister' degree) in a subject taught at Swiss academic upper-secondary level schools.

MASTER IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Duration

2 years full-time, generally 3 years part-time

Admission conditions

A bachelor's degree from a university, teacher-training institution or university of applied sciences in psychology, education, social or sports education or another relevant field.

Further information on the individual courses can be found on the website of the Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau (Thurgau Teacher-Training College):

[phtg.ch](https://www.phtg.ch) → Studium

OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Switzerland

The Canton of Thurgau is just a short distance away from various higher education institutions offering a very wide range of courses. The key universities in the region are [OST – Ostschweizer Fachhochschule](#), the intercantonal [Hochschule für Heilpädagogik \(HfH\)](#) and [Zurich University of Applied Sciences \(ZHAW\)](#). An overview of all the universities, universities of applied sciences and teacher-training institutions in Switzerland can be found at [swissuniversities.ch](https://www.swissuniversities.ch).

Thurgau students can access all higher education institutions via intercantonal agreements. Under these agreements, the Canton of Thurgau pays contributions (school fees) for its students.

Konstanz

The [University of Konstanz](#) and the [Hochschule für Technik, Wirtschaft und Gestaltung \(HTWG\)](#) in Konstanz are of significant importance to Thurgau.

Wissenschaftsverbund Vierländerregion Bodensee

The [Wissenschaftsverbund Vierländerregion Bodensee](#) operates one of its two offices in Kreuzlingen. This association encompasses 25 universities, universities of applied sciences and teacher-training institutions in the greater Lake Constance area. It encourages collaboration among these higher education institutions in various ways, including by developing collaborative, cross-border courses.

Continuing education and training

Stay on the ball with vocational and personal continuing education and training

Countless educational institutions offer various continuing education and training courses, promoting personal and professional development.

The **various continuing education and training courses**, from CPD to higher education courses through to general adult education, can be found in the following database:

🔗 berufsberatung.ch → Aus- und Weiterbildung → Weiterbildung – Kurse, Lehrgänge

Supplementary courses for all levels of schooling

PARENT EDUCATION

Parent education is aimed at mothers, fathers, grandparents and other people who live with children. It offers assistance for those bringing up children, demonstrating how children develop and how this development can be supported. It takes parents' resources into account and strives to achieve a mindful, respectful approach.

The Thurgauische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Elternorganisationen (TAGEO) is the cantonal umbrella association for regional and local parent organisations. The courses are published in the parent education calendar and provided via the web app: kalender.tageo.ch

You can find **further information** at:

🔗 elternwissen-tg.ch

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY AND SPEECH THERAPY

If a child experiences challenges at school, they can attend a free educational psychology or speech therapy consultation. Parents and the school receive information on handling a child's strengths and weaknesses, along with recommendations for support. This service is only available for children and young people under the age of 18.

You can find **further information** on the website of the Amt für Volksschule (Department of School Education):

🔗 av.tg.ch → Themen → Abklärung und Beratung, schulpsychologische und logopädische

Amriswil regional office
Kirchstrasse 1, 8580 Amriswil, phone 058 345 74 60

Frauenfeld regional office
Grabenstrasse 11, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 74 30

Kreuzlingen regional office
Konstanzerstrasse 13, 8280 Kreuzlingen, phone 058 345 74 80

ADVICE ON CAREERS AND STUDY PROGRAMMES

Advice on careers and study programmes gives young people and adults information and personal advice on selecting a profession and a degree, and on shaping their career.

You can find **further information** on the website of the Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung (Department of Vocational Education and Advisory Services):

🔗 abb.tg.ch → Berufs- und Studienberatung

Vocational information centres (Berufsinformationszentren, BIZ)

The BIZ is the port of call for all questions about choosing a job, studies and careers.

Opening hours

Monday to Wednesday	8 am to 11:30 am, 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Thursday	8 am to 11:30 am, 1:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Friday	8 am to 11:30 am, 1:30 pm to 5 pm

Amriswil centre for advice on careers and study programmes
Rütistrasse 7, 8580 Amriswil, phone 058 345 59 80
biz-amriswil@tg.ch

Frauenfeld centre for advice on careers and study programmes
Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld, phone 058 345 59 55
biz-frauenfeld@tg.ch

Kreuzlingen centre for advice on careers and study programmes
Schützenstrasse 1, 8280 Kreuzlingen, phone 058 345 59 70
biz-kreuzlingen@tg.ch

EDUCATION CONTRIBUTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE CANTON

Grants and loans

If a student does not have sufficient funds for a particular course, the canton can offer support in the form of grants and loans. Grants are generally awarded for first courses at upper-secondary level (apprenticeships, secondary school, etc.) and tertiary level (degrees at higher vocational schools and higher education institutions). Loans primarily come into play for second courses of study.

The financial circumstances (tax certificates) of the applicant themselves or their parents are decisive for the calculation.

You can find **further information** on the following website:

stipendien.tg.ch

School fees

Various regional and intercantonal agreements ensure that Thurgau residents have free access to all key educational courses not offered by the canton itself, and which, therefore, must be completed at institutions outside the canton. If the course of study is recognised in Switzerland and/or the canton, and covered by an agreement, the Canton of Thurgau will cover the course fees (not to be confused with the semester fees to be paid by the student themselves). In instances where a Thurgau resident has to pay higher course fees for a recognised course of study than those paid by students from the local canton, the canton will refund these additional costs if there is no comparable course available in the canton.

You can find **further information** on the following website:

stipendien.tg.ch

FURTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

Department of Education and Culture (DEK)

Regierungsgebäude, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 57 50
dek@tg.ch, dek.tg.ch
Online statute book: rechtsbuch.tg.ch

Amt für Volksschule (AV)

Spannerstrasse 31, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 57 70
info.av@tg.ch, av.tg.ch

Amt für Berufsbildung und Berufsberatung (ABB)

Grabenstrasse 5, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 59 30
abb@tg.ch, abb.tg.ch

Amt für Mittel- und Hochschulen (AMH)

Grabenstrasse 11, 8510 Frauenfeld
Phone 058 345 58 30
amh@tg.ch, amh.tg.ch



