



## **EMPLOYMENT IN SWITZERLAND**

### **PROCEDURE FOR FORMAL EMPLOYMENT**

Important change:

From 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014 onwards, the procedure for obtaining an authorization for a visa regarding a work permit has to be initiated by the prospective employer through the channel of the competent cantonal authorities in Switzerland. They will thereafter examine directly the request.

The cantonal procedure needs to be finalized and a positive decision must have been taken, before a visa request can thereafter be submitted at the Swiss representation abroad. In such cases a copy of the document “authorization to enter Switzerland.....” issued by the canton needs to be submitted together with the original passport, two photos, copy of the first and last page of the passport and the visa fee (no visa application needs to be filled in).

It is not any longer possible to submit the initial request directly or via VFS to the Consulate General (it will be declared inadmissible).

Exempted from this rule are:

- Cabaret-dancers
- Musicians and Artists with an employment of less than 8 months
- Trainees from Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Japan, Canada, Monaco, New Zealand, Phillipines, Rumania, South Africa, Ukraine, USA.
- Phd Students, post graduates, academic guests, scholarship holders, MAS (Master of Advanced Studies) students.

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