



PIRE: Bio-inspired Materials and Systems

Inspired by Nature; Shaped by Technology

Guidelines and Budget for Travel to the University of Fribourg

Listed here are expenses to consider in making your budget and their approximate costs.

All costs are listed in Swiss francs (CHF). At the current exchange rate 1 Swiss franc = 1.07 US dollar – so a CHF 64.- train ticket is \$68.48 in US funds. Check the exchange rate before you travel. Things can change.

Transportation costs to Switzerland – plan to fly to Zurich or Geneva

Ground transportation to Fribourg

- Zurich to Fribourg (one-way train ticket) CHF 64.-
- Geneva to Fribourg (one way train ticket) CHF 46.-
- Half-price rail pass CHF 185.-

Before purchasing your train ticket, it is strongly recommended that you purchase a half-price rail pass for CHF 185.-, in order to get half price on all public transportation in Switzerland.

Daily Food Expenses

- Approximate costs CHF 35.-/day
- Includes lunch at the university CHF 10.-/day

Lodging

- Costs vary depending on where your accommodations
- University housing is about CHF 650.-/month or CHF 23.-/night
- Approximate cost of one night in a hotel varies between CHF 60.- to 100./night

Health and Accident Insurance is compulsory

- The cost is CHF 100.-/month

Transportation in Fribourg (zone 10)

- Will cost between CHF 46.-/month to 63.0-/month

After your plans have been made with your faculty advisor and your application has been approved, before you travel, please contact:

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Additional suggestions →

Additional Suggestions –

Rail Travel

Consider downloading the application for Swiss Trains – [CFE app](#) (on my iPhone it is called [SBB app](#)) This app allows you to view train timetables, and purchase tickets and passes for the Swiss rail service.

Another suggested application is [Trainline](#) which covers rail transportation for the rest of Europe.

If you think you want to use these apps, download them while you are still in the states and get acquainted with what they offer. I do not have personal experience with them, but they both seem pretty easy to use and the app provides guidance.

Phone Calls and Messaging

Communicating while in Switzerland is also something to consider. Your first step should probably be to check with your service provider regarding their charges for international calls and data usage. If you have an unlocked phone, you may want to purchase an international SIM card before you travel, again check with your service provider.

There is a free application called [Whats App](#) that will allow you to send text messages, including international messages without charge. Check with your phone provider regarding data charges.