

UN Youth Volunteers Programme – Intake 2016

Qualified Swiss graduates are invited to submit applications for the annual UN Youth Volunteers Programme for Swiss nationals. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Human Security Division (HSD) of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) are financing 15 positions within this programme. It aims to give young people with little professional experience an insight in the work of the United Nations at field level and to impact on development results on the ground.

The selected volunteers will spend one year in a priority country of SDC or HSD working for a United Nations agency. The assignments will start in February/March 2016.

Requirements

University graduates may apply if they:

- Are Swiss Nationals (C permit not included).
- Are born on or after February 1, 1987
- Have completed a Masters degree (by October 2015).
- Have up to two years of working experience and maximum one year professional experience abroad.
- Are proficient in English and have an active knowledge of two official Swiss languages. Other languages according to the Description of Assignment (DOA).
- Have a demonstrated interest in questions related to international cooperation, development, human rights, peace promotion or humanitarian politics.
- Target a long term career in the field of international cooperation.
- Have a driving licence (cat B) if required in the DOA.
- Meet other specific requirements as defined in the DOA.

Volunteering and/or working experience in a developing country are of advantage as well as practical experience in international cooperation and/or knowledge of the United Nations system.

Candidates are expected to be geographically mobile, to be able to adjust to difficult living conditions and to accept substantial changes in their assignment description.

Competencies

- A high level of communication and presentation skills
- Ability to work harmoniously in a multicultural environment and respect diversity
- Strong planning and organisational skills
- A commitment to values and principles of volunteerism
- Research and analytical skills

- A commitment to continuous learning
- Other specific competencies as defined in the Description of Assignment (DOA).

Conditions of service (COS)

The UN Volunteer receives a monthly living allowance according to the cost of living in the country of assignment ranging from 1500 to 3000 USD. The travel expenses to the duty station as well as health/life insurance costs will also be covered. More information can be found in the UNV COS Handbook at <http://www.unv.org/en/how-to-volunteer/cos.html>, as well as in the Description of Assignment (DOA).

Selection process

The entire recruitment process takes about four months. Interviews are carried out by cinfo and take place between 15 and 28 October 2015. The final selection is done by the United Nations agencies on the basis of cinfo's recommendation. Selected candidates will be informed by the end of November and are expected to start their assignment in February/March 2016. More information: www.cinfo.ch