SPOUSE WELCOME

YOUR NEW LIFE IN THE AREA & AT CERN
The Social Affairs Service is a drop-in service open to all categories of members of CERN personnel and their families.

It offers advice and support in a wide variety of circumstances (professional and private). In particular, it provides help to facilitate your integration in the Host-States at your arrival and during your stay.

The Service guarantees confidentiality.

Further information can be found on the Social Affairs Service website:

http://hr-dep.web.cern.ch/social/social-affairs-service
This brochure, prepared by the Social Affairs Service, includes information for spouses and partners on various support structures. The aim is to help newcomers and their families settle in the local area.

This brochure gives details on:

- Daily administrative tasks
- Housing in France/Canton of Geneva
- Family-friendly social, cultural life at CERN
- Finding employment/Languages courses
- Childcare, education

Please note that information included hereafter may be subject to changes.

For detailed information on the provisions pertaining to all individual cases the official texts must be consulted (e.g. the Staff Rules and Regulations, the Rules of the CERN Health Insurance Scheme, the Administrative, Operational Circulars and individual employment contracts).
DAILY ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

CERN acknowledges the importance of your new life and the daily administrative tasks you may need to complete during settling. Therefore, you will find on the next page information on the CERN Health Insurance Scheme (CHIS), CERN access cards, vehicle registration, green plates, French and Swiss cards and the banks on-site.
CERN Health Insurance Scheme (CHIS)

UNIQA Meyrin site - Main building (63/R-001)
Tel: +41 (0)22 767 27 30
E-mail: unica@cern.ch
Website: [https://hr-dep.web.cern.ch/chis/cern-health-insurance-scheme](https://hr-dep.web.cern.ch/chis/cern-health-insurance-scheme)
Member portal: [https://extranet.unica.net](https://extranet.unica.net)

As an international organisation CERN has its own mutual health insurance; the CERN Health Insurance Scheme (CHIS). The benefits, conditions, procedures and the contribution levels are defined in the Rules of the CHIS. The CHIS is administrated by UNIQA, whom you may contact for further information and advice or with queries concerning membership, your coverage or the calculation of your reimbursements.

**Mutuelle Interfon - complementary health insurance**

Interfon — CERN building 504 (Restaurant 2)
Tel: +41 (0)22 767 33 39
Website: [http://www.interfon.fr/accueil/index/lang/en](http://www.interfon.fr/accueil/index/lang/en)

**CERN access card for family members**

A valid CERN card is needed to enter the CERN site. The Registration Service issues this card. Access can be occasional or regular depending on the frequency of visits at CERN.

**Vehicle registration**

All drivers must take care of the proper registration of their vehicle while driving or parking on CERN sites by using the tool [vehicles.cern.ch/vehicles](http://vehicles.cern.ch/vehicles).
More information: [https://admin-eguide.web.cern.ch/node/574](https://admin-eguide.web.cern.ch/node/574)

**French Card and Legitimation Card**

For people who choose to live in France and under certain conditions, family members will have a special French Card (« carte spéciale française ») issued by the MEAE. This card allows spouse/partner to drive the car with green plates. More information: [http://admin-eguide.web.cern.ch/en/procedure/french-cards](http://admin-eguide.web.cern.ch/en/procedure/french-cards)

For those who live in Switzerland, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAE) issues a carte de légitimation to members of the CERN personnel and their family members under certain conditions.

**Banks with CHF and EUR**

**UBS, Meyrin site** - Main building (500)
Tel: +41 (0)22 783 21 88
Website: [https://www.ubs.com/locations/switzerland/meyrin/route-de-meyrin-385/ubs-branch-259.html](https://www.ubs.com/locations/switzerland/meyrin/route-de-meyrin-385/ubs-branch-259.html)

**Crédit agricole, Prévessin site** - Building 866
Tel: +41 (0)22 767 70 72
Website: [https://www.ca-centrest.fr/english-speaking-customer.html](https://www.ca-centrest.fr/english-speaking-customer.html)

**Post Office**

**La Poste, Meyrin site** - Main building (63)
Tel: 0848 888 888
E-mail: [custcare@post.ch](mailto:custcare@post.ch)
La Poste, Prévessin site - Building 866

**Green plates**

Members of the personnel taking up residence in France must complete the formalities for the registration of their vehicle in France as soon as they receive their "special French card" (carte spéciale française). Green plate registration is limited to vehicles belonging to members of the personnel, who hold a "special card" (AT or FI-series) or diplomatic card (CD-series) issued by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (hereinafter MEAE). The request has to be done through the Installation Service.
HOUSING

Finding a house/apartment in the area might be an initial challenge. The main question to take into account is where you would like to live, while you are at CERN. To help you find the best option for you and your family, a variety of information on this subject is available.
CERN Housing Service

The CERN Housing Service runs three hotels on the CERN site in Switzerland.

Private market accommodation advertisements can also be found on this link: http://smb-dep.web.cern.ch/en/CERN_Housing

CERN Marketplace

People at CERN publish ads regarding the housing market.

More information:

International Geneva Welcome Centre (CAGI)

The mission of the International Geneva Welcome Centre is:

1. To offer practical assistance to newcomers - particularly with housing, schooling, and other issues - and answer questions Internationals may have throughout their stay in the region.


106, route de Ferney - 1202 Geneva
Website: http://www.cagi.ch/en/home.php
E-mail: network.cagi@etat.ge.ch
Tel: + 41 (0)22 546 14 26

Housing Brochure

The Social Affairs Service publishes on its website a brochure to point out what you should know before signing a rental contract.

More information:
Brochure on finding accommodation in France: https://cds.cern.ch/record/2233184/files/Housing_En%20-%20FRANCE.pdf


Cost of living brochure

The Social Affairs Service publishes on its website a brochure on the cost of living in France and in the canton of Geneva.

More information:
FAMILY-FRIENDLY SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LIFE AT CERN & IN GENEVA

CERN clubs are subsidised by the Staff Association and CERN administration. Clubs offer sports, leisure and cultural activities, enhancing non-professional relations among CERN staff members and facilitating their own and their families’ integration into the local area. Clubs are run under the supervision of the Staff Association through the Clubs Coordinating Committee (CCC). The Committee is elected by the presidents of CERN clubs.

« La Ville de Genève » devotes a large part of its budget to cultural activities, which can be enjoyed by English-speakers without any knowledge of French.

Interfon cooperative is a grouping of national and international civil servants of the Franco-Genevoise area with over 6000 members.
Clubs at CERN

Amateur radio club
Arts Visuels Club
Astronomy Club
Automobile Club
Basketball Club
Billiards and Snooker Club
Canoe-Kayak Club
CERN Choir
CERN Squash League
Cineclub
Collectes à long terme
Cricket Club
Croquet Club
Dancing Club
English Books@CERN
Filmmaker's Club
Finance Club
Fitness Club
Fitness Club – Boxing
Fitness Club – Powerlifting
Fly Fishing Club
Football Club
Frisbee Club
Games Club
Golf Club
Ice Hockey Club
Jazz Club
Learning classical music Club
Martial Arts Club
Martial Arts: Kashima no Tachi-Kenjutsu
MicroClub
Music Club
Nature et Abeilles Club
Orienteering club
Petanque Club
Photo Club
Record Club
Rugby Club (seniors/kids/women)
Running Club
Scuba Club
Ski Club
Softball Club
Solar club
Staff Association Clubs Committee (CCC)
Swimmers’ Club
Table Football Club
Table Tennis Club
Technical modeling club
Velo Club
Volleyball Club
Welcome Club
Yachting Club
Yoga Club

More information under these links:
http://staff-association.web.cern.ch/clubs
http://staff-association.web.cern.ch/

Arts & Culture in Geneva in English

A dynamic, international city like Geneva devotes a large part of its budget to cultural affairs. Supporting creativity in the arts and facilitating public access to culture in all its forms are the principal policy objectives of the Department of Culture and Sport.

More information: http://www.ville-geneve.ch/themes/culture/english/

Interfon cooperative

A grouping of national and international civil servants of the Franco-Genevoise area with over 6000 members. Created 50 years ago, its mission is to inform, to recommend and to benefit its members a number of services from companies also adherent (suppliers, contractors and service providers) of the region.

FINDING AN EMPLOYMENT

To settle in a new country might be the start of a new job search. That is why CERN gives you the opportunity to meet with networks, who can give you advice and help on jobseeking in the area.

France or Switzerland?

Residing in Switzerland

The choice to live in Switzerland can have an impact on your spouse’s chances to find a job. Family members of CERN members of the personnel, can indeed obtain a Swiss working permit (Ci permit) upon the presentation of a work contract.

Residing in France

Employment in Switzerland: EU citizens are considered as « Frontaliers » (cross-border commuters) with a G permit requested by the employer.

Employment in France: EU citizens can take up any gainful employment, including temporary jobs.

French classes

To ensure your integration in the area, French classes at CERN are open to spouses and partners.
Welcome Center in Geneva

The Welcome Center is a service provided by the University of Geneva (UNIGE) and the Geneva University Hospitals (HUG).

The Welcome Center of the University of Geneva and Carriere2 kindly accept spouses/partners of CERN members of the personnel to their monthly workshops on professional transition to Switzerland (registration fee applies).

Chemin Rieu 17 - CP 270
CH-1211 Geneva 17
Tel: +41 (0)22 702 06 30
Website: http://www.welc.ch/en
For more information: http://diversity.web.cern.ch/spousesupport

International Dual Career Network (IDCN)

Spouses/partners of CERN Staff and Fellows, have access to IDCN, a network in the Lake Geneva region, aimed at facilitating job search for their recently relocated mobile employees’ spouses/partners. Events are organised throughout the year in different locations to give members an opportunity to collect information on the regional job market, receive advice from Human Resources professionals, meet recruiters of the corporate members and network with other spouses/partners in the region.

To sign your spouse/partner up, please contact: hr-diversity@cern.ch
Website: http://diversity.web.cern.ch/

International Geneva Welcome Centre (CAGI)

The mission of the International Geneva Welcome Centre is:

1. To offer practical assistance to newcomers - particularly with housing, schooling, and other issues - and answer questions Internationals may have throughout their stay in the region.

2. Support on practical information such as:
   - Job hunting with a Ci permit
   - The Swiss labour law and Swiss employment contract
   - Website: http://www.cagi.ch/en/home.php

Email: network.cagi@etat.ge.ch
Tel: + 41 (0)22 546 14 26

Groupement transfrontalier Européen (GTE)

The most informative resource, where cross-border commuters get help concerning all kinds of questions linked to their status (job search, social security coverage, unemployment rights, tax questions...).

62, rue de Geneva - 01630 Saint-Genis-Pouilly
Website: http://www.frontalier.org/
Tel: +33 892 70 10 74 (0,60 euro/min)

Languages courses

Please consult the table available on the Social Affairs Service website: http://hr-dep.web.cern.ch/social/social-affairs-service (see « reference document »).
CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION

CERN offers access to different child care facilities to meet family needs.

CERN has an on-site child care centre:

- Creche and School of the CERN Staff Association « Le Jardin des Particules »

CERN signed agreements with two child care facilities:

- EVE Champs-Fréchets in Meyrin
- « Jardin de Capucine » in Saint-Genis-Pouilly

The Social Affairs Service webpages give an overview on educational systems and on the child care facilities in both countries.

Switzerland offers many International private schools with programs in English, German and Swedish.

In France, the « Cité Scolaire Internationale - Sites de Ferney-Voltaire et Saint-Genis-Pouilly » offers international sections in English, German, Italian, Spanish and Dutch.
Child care facilities

Creche and School of the CERN Staff Association
« Le Jardin des Particules »
On-site care for children between 4 months and 6 years old.

More information:
http://nurseryschool.web.cern.ch/en

EVE (« Espace de Vie Enfantine ») (Meyrin, CH)
In 1997, CERN signed an agreement with the commune of Meyrin for the assignment of 20 places to members of the CERN personnel in the « Espace de Vie Enfantine » (EVE) at Champs-Frêchets. Children are accepted from 4 months to 4 years old.

More information:
http://www.meyrin.ch/jahia/Jahia/administration/petite_enfance/

« Jardin de Capucine » (Saint-Genis-Pouilly, FR)
In 2011, CERN signed an agreement with « Le Jardin de Capucine » and allocated 40 places to members of the CERN personnel of which 2 places are allocated to short term period applicants. The private nursery welcomes children from 4 months to 4 years old.

More information:
http://www.lejardindezebulon.com/index_en.html

For an overview on child care facilities in France and Switzerland:
http://hr-dep.web.cern.ch/social/childcare-details

For an overview on educational systems in France and Switzerland:
http://hr-dep.web.cern.ch/social/education-overview