



LAOS: Student visa

(stay of more than 3 months)

Documentary requirements *(Students going to the Canton of Lucerne LU, refer to **)*

- **Three (3) [Visa application forms](#)** (National (type D) visa application form) duly filled in, dated and signed by the applicant; for minors signature of parental authority or legal guardian
 - **Four (4) [passport pictures](#)** recently made color pictures, 3.5 - 4 cm in width, neutral light background, head takes up 70-80% of the surface
 - **Passport** valid at least three months after the planned entry date in the Schengen territory, at least two blank pages; for resident foreigners: work permit and/or resident permit and valid exit/re-entry permit in the passport
 - **Three (3) photocopies of the passport** personal data page and previous Schengen visa
- 2 (two) identical sets of the following:**
- **Registration confirmation** school/university, original & 2 photocopies (original will be returned)
 - **Payment confirmation** school fees, original & 2 photocopies (original will be returned)
 - **Proof of sufficient funds** for the duration of the intended stay in Switzerland (bank statements of applicant or sponsors with letter of sponsorship or guarantee), original & 1 photocopy
 - **Diploma (*)** already completed studies, original & 2 photocopies (original will be returned)
 - **CV** in English or in one of the Swiss national languages, original & 1 photocopy
 - **Written commitment from the applicant** to leave Switzerland after the intended stay, original & 1 photocopy
 - **Letter of motivation** including the reason for studies in Switzerland (proof that the proposed studies are necessary for further studies or employment in the country of residence) and the future plans after the studies, original & 1 photocopy
 - **Family register (*)** Original with 2 photocopies (original will be returned)
 - **If under 18 years old: Birth certificate (*)** original & 2 photocopies; if minors travel without their legal guardian a **parental consent** needs to be submitted in person at the Swiss Consular Agency in Vientiane, 1 original with 2 photocopies & 2 passport copies of the legal guardians (parents). If only one parent signs, proof of sole custody needs to be submitted.
 - **If available:** a TOEFL or IELTS certificate, kindly submit: Original & 2 photocopies (original will be returned)

- **Only a complete application will be accepted.**
- **Documents in Laotian language (*) must be translated into English or in one of the Swiss national languages by a registered Notary Public.**
- **Original documents are returned to the applicant immediately.**

Fees

The Student visa is free of charge; a [postage fee](#) for each way will be charged to send the documents to the Regional Consular Center in Bangkok.

Procedure

Applications can be submitted at the Consular Agency in Vientiane during [Opening Hours](#). Please arrange an appointment in advance: vientiane.ca@eda.admin.ch / +856 21 251 794

Personal appearance of the applicant is mandatory

The visa application will be sent to the Regional Consular Center in Bangkok by weekly courier and then forwarded to the competent Office for Migration in Switzerland for decision. The process may take several months.

In order to inquire about the status of the application, the applicant may contact the Regional Consular Center in Bangkok after 2 months earliest by [e-mail](#), indicating full name and date of birth.

Once the authorization to enter Switzerland has been granted, the passport can be submitted to the Consular Agency in Vientiane by the applicant or by any authorized third person **by appointment only**. The passport will be sent to the Regional Consular Center in Bangkok by weekly courier ([shipping costs apply](#)) and usually returned to Vientiane the following week.

**** For Students going to the Canton of Lucerne LU:**

The same documentary requirements apply with the following difference:

- **1 Visa application form** (instead of 3)
- **2 passport pictures** (instead of 4)
- **1 set of the supporting documents** (instead of 2)

Bangkok, January 2025