

Swiss Law for Foreign Accountants

Preparation course for the certificate of required knowledge of Swiss Law
in accordance with the Audit Oversight Act (AOA)

Course for auditors with foreign qualifications
October/November 2020

- Course language: English
- Registration deadline: October 1st, 2020



**EXPERT
SUISSE**

Audit
Fiscalité
Fiduciaire

Starting point

Current situation

The Swiss Federal Act on the Licensing and Oversight of Auditors (Audit Oversight Act, AOA) and the Ordinance on the Licensing and Oversight of Auditors (Audit Oversight Ordinance, AOO) require that individuals and audit companies be approved by the **Federal Audit Oversight Authority (FAOA)** to provide audit services. To this end, the FAOA maintains a public register of licensed auditors.

The requirements to be approved as an audit expert or auditor are set out in section 4 of the AOA (training, professional practice, reputation). Also formulated there are the additional requirements for individuals who have completed their training abroad.

Individuals who have completed **outside of Switzerland** a training (including education and experience) that is comparable to Swiss qualifications may apply to the FAOA for approval and registration in the auditors' register. Among the conditions to the granting of such approval is the proof by the applicant that he/she possesses the required knowledge of Swiss Law.

The examination

According to sections 6 and 34 AOO to prove such sufficient knowledge of Swiss Law the applicants are required to pass an examination organized under the supervision of the FAOA. The FAOA has delegated to EXPERTsuisse Ltd. the organisation of the examination and approved the regulations prepared by EXPERTsuisse for such examination. Candidates will have the choice to take the examination in German, French, Italian or English. The next examination is scheduled to take place in November 2020.

The course

Candidates are not required to follow any particular preparation course in order to take the examination. However, EXPERTsuisse continues to offer a course with the purpose of preparing the candidates to such examination. The course is conducted entirely **in English** and runs over four days. The next course is scheduled to take place in October/November 2020 in anticipation of the examination in November 2020.

Concept and course leader

Frédéric Rochat, Dr. iur., attorney-at-law, LL.M. (Columbia 04), Kellerhals Carrard, Lausanne

Lecturers

Laurence Brand Corsani, lic. iur., attorney-at-law, GAPANY & BRAND CORSANI, Fribourg

Denis Cherpillod, Dr. iur., attorney-at-law, Reymond & Associés, Lausanne

Olivier Comment, Indirect tax Director PricewaterhouseCoopers SA, Lausanne

Vanessa Déglise, LL.M. (Columbia Law School), Attorney-at-law, OBERSON ABELS SA, Geneva

Roberto Di Grazia, Swiss certified public accountant, Director, PwC Neuchâtel

Stefan Haag, Swiss certified public accountant, Director, PwC, Winterthur

Willy Hofstetter, Partner Audit Services/ Managing Partner Q & RM Switzerland Ernst & Young Ltd., Zurich

Markus Nyffenegger, lic. iur., certified Tax Adviser, Ernst & Young Ltd., Zurich

Frédéric Rochat, (see above)

Urs Sturzenegger, attorney-at-law, Partner Legal, Deloitte Ltd., Zurich

Course programme and examination subjects

Course: «Swiss Law for Foreign Accountants – Preparation course for the certificate of required knowledge of Swiss Law in accordance with the Audit Oversight Act (AOA)»

The course will be conducted **in English**. However, it is necessary to have sufficient knowledge of at least one of Switzerland's official languages (i.e., German, French and Italian) as certain statutes and other supporting materials are available only in these languages.

As English is not an official language in Switzerland, there is no official translation of the Swiss statutory provisions. English translation of certain Swiss statutes are available on the Confederation's official website (www.admin.ch/bundesrecht) or from the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce including the Audit Oversight Act (available at <http://www.amcham.ch>). Please note that only the versions in official languages (i.e., German, French and Italian) of Swiss statutes are legally binding.

Course location

The course will take place in Berne (exact location to be announced in the confirmation)

Dates: 29th–30th October & 5th and 6th November 2020 (08.30a.m.– 06.00p.m.)

Examination

27th November 2020

Please consult our homepage for further information.

Themes of the course

Oversight of Auditors

Licensing, supervision and cooperation within the framework of the Audit Oversight Act (AOA), the Auditor Oversight Ordinance (AOO) and the Ordinance of the FAOA on the Oversight of Audit Firms (OAF-FAOA)

Audit Report in Switzerland

Presentation and discussion of different types of auditors' reports and special situations which may influence the content of the reports – Auditing Standard (AS) 700: the statutory auditor's report; AS 290: duty of auditing bodies in the case of loss of capital and overindebtedness; AS 570: going concern concept

Other Obligatory Examinations

Audits in accordance with the Swiss Code of obligations concerning incorporations, capital raising and reduction, liquidation, the Swiss Merger Act (FusG/LFus)

Ordinary Audit & Limited Statutory Examination

Presentation and discussion of ordinary and limited audits; verifying implementation of internal control system and presenting a comprehensive report to the administrative board

Contract Law

Conclusion, performance and non-performance of contracts; differentiating between special contracts and innominate contracts; differentiating between an employment contract and mandate; special features of the audit mandate

Company Law

Introduction to the principles of Swiss company law with particular focus on corporations, including formation, capital structure, organization, shareholder rights, liability rules; presentation of partnerships and limited liability companies; merger law

Swiss and International Corporate Taxation

Examples of the taxation of partnerships and corporations, tax liability relating to direct and indirect taxes; determination of taxable profit and its relationship to accounting law; special tax status; double taxation agreement; transfer pricing; etc.

Swiss VAT

Basic principles; VAT on sales in Switzerland

Swiss Social Security System

Presentation of the essential features of the Swiss social security system; special features of the Old Age and Survivors' Insurance (AHV) and occupational pension schemes

Information/Administration

EXPERTsuisse SA
Chemin des Croisettes 28
1066 Epalinges
Telephone 058 206 06 57
Telefax 058 206 05 59
Contact: Delphine Maire Conversano
delphine.maire@expertsuisse.ch
www.expertsuisse.ch/swisslaw

Deadline for registrations: no later than October 1st, 2020

Course fee: CHF 3360.– incl. VAT

This includes:

- Attendance to the course
- Course documentation (excluding English translations of legal texts and any other books)
- Drinks during breaks and mineral water
- Lunch

General Terms and Conditions

General provisions

- The General Terms and Conditions of EXPERTsuisse Ltd. apply and are available online at www.expertsuisse.ch.
- Registrations remain valid even if you have not received a confirmation from EXPERTsuisse (EXPERTsuisse is not responsible for electronic/postal distribution failures).
- Content, programme, timetable, duration and location are subject to modification. EXPERTsuisse reserves the right to cancel the course if there is an insufficient number of participants.

Registrations/General Terms

- Registration form must include a handwritten signature.
- The course fee must be paid in full according to the invoice you will receive before the beginning of the course.

Costs incurred in the event of withdrawal

- Should you be prevented from attending the course, the fees will be charged as follows, but you are free to send another candidate in your stead:
- Cancellation received 30 days or more prior to the beginning of the course: no tuition is due
- Cancellation received less than 30 days but at least two weeks prior to the beginning of the course: CHF 900.–
- Cancellation received less than two weeks prior to the beginning of the course: 100% of the tuition is due

Registration to the examination

Please note that **registration to the examination is separate from registration to this course**. The filling of a specific registration form and payment of specific fees will have to be made by all persons wishing to take the examination. Necessary information and material will be provided to the attendants.

Links for further information

EXPERTsuisse AG
www.expertsuisse.ch

Federal Audit Oversight Authority, FAOA
www.rab-asr.ch

English, German, French and Italian version of the main legislative texts in respect of auditor oversight regulation (AOA, AOO, OO-FAOA) may be accessed via the above-mentioned website of the FAOA. At the time of publication of this flyer, the relevant link is <https://www.expertsuisse.ch/swisslaw>

Information/Administration

Course November 2020
Swiss Law for Foreign Accountants
(only in English)

Course fee:
CHF 3360.– incl. VAT

Surname, first name

Business address

Home address

Company name

Address

Company suffix

Postal code/City

Address

Telephone home

Postal code/City

Invoice to home address

Invoice to business address

Telephone office

Correspondence to home address

Correspondence to business address

E-Mail office

P.S. At the end of the registration period, participants will receive confirmation of their registration with the necessary detailed information.

Course location: Berne (exact location to be announced in the confirmation)

Deadline for registrations: **October 1st 2020**

Start of course: October 29th 2020

With my signature, I hereby confirm that I acknowledge and accept the General Terms and Conditions of EXPERTsuisse Ltd.

Place/Date

Signature

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the course in November 2020. Please send me (without any obligation) the course information/course dates for the next course (November 2021), as soon as these information are available.

Registration to:
EXPERTsuisse SA, Chemin des Croisettes 28, 1066 Epalinges
Telefax 058 206 05 59, delphine.maire@expertsuisse.ch