

What is integration?

Integration is when you feel at home in Switzerland, when everyone feels part of the same community, when everyone is involved in the good of all. Gradually, each person has to play a part in economic, political, cultural and social life as best they are able. Respect, mutual support and equal opportunities are important for successful integration.

How does integration happen?

Integration takes place in everyday life: at home, at work and during leisure time. Everyone is free to move around and communicate with others. People from all countries and cultures must be treated equally and with respect. The rules for successfully integrating foreigners are set out in Article 4 of the Federal Act on Foreign Nationals and Integration (Loi fédérale sur les étrangers et l'intégration) (FNIA) [FR].

Inclusion: a responsibility for society as a whole

Inclusion concerns everyone. Inclusion is for the good of all. The state (the Confederation, cantons and communes) and society must facilitate equal opportunities for all. Foreigners must be encouraged to take part in public life. Integration takes place first in regular structures such as:

- school
- training
- work
- health

Sometimes integration offerings are needed to help strangers get into mainstream structures. For example, an integration class, with French classes and other lessons, so that they can later enter a vocational school.

Integration policy

Since 2014 the Confederation and the cantons have created the Cantonal Integration Programmes (Programmes d'intégration cantonaux) (CIPs). These combine offerings for foreigners.

The CIP syllabus covers different areas:

- Information and advice
- French courses
- Training and work
- Early childhood
- "Living together"
- Combating discrimination and racism
- Interpreting and translation

Each canton creates its own programmes according to its needs.

Since 2019 integration offerings for people coming from asylum have been part of these programmes (the Swiss Integration Agenda (Agenda Intégration Suisse) (SIA)). In addition to the CIPs, the Confederation also supports other national projects and programmes (FR).

In the Canton of Jura: the two main services for integration are

- The Office for the Integration of Foreigners and the Fight against Racism (Bureau de l'intégration des étrangers et de la lutte contre le racisme) (BI)

In the Canton of Jura, the office implements the policy of integrating foreigners and combating racism.

The office is the point of contact between the public, the administration, institutions and associations.

The office is part of the Social Action Service (Service de l'action sociale), under the responsibility of the Department of the Interior of the Canton of Jura (Département de l'intérieur du canton du Jura).

- The Jura Association for Welcoming Migrants (Association Jurassienne d'Accueil des Migrants) (AJAM)

The AJAM accepts asylum-seekers (refugee B, F, N and S permits).

The AJAM supports them in their new life in the Canton of Jura.

The association helps people:

- receive medical care
- find a job
- find accommodation
- integrate into the social life of the Jura.

The Canton of Jura has delegated this work to the AJAM.

The AJAM also manages the Animation and training centre for women and families (Centre d'Animation et de Formation pour Femmes et Familles) (CAFF) and the Community Health Centre (Maison de Santé Communautaire) (MdSC).

Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

www.bonjour-jura.ch/en/integration/what-is-integration