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- **Languages**

What are the teaching languages?

Lectures and studio work are delivered in French in the Foundation Year and at Bachelor level (some Bachelor studios are given in English). Master/MAS programmes are largely bilingual (English/French).

Fluency in French is therefore essential for the Foundation Year and Bachelor programmes. The same applies to English (as a minimum) for Master programmes.

Do I need a language certificate to enrol in an ECAL course?

With regard to the Foundation Year and Bachelor programmes, non French-speaking candidates who have not completed a school education in Switzerland must be able to attest of their proficiency in French. A B2 level of the European Language Portfolio is therefore required.

In general, language proficiency is checked by the juries upon the competitive examinations. ECAL thus reserves the right to require that eligible candidates whose command of French or English is approximate follow intensive language courses in the summer break as a prerequisite for final admission.

- **Accommodation**

Does ECAL offer boarding?

ECAL is not a boarding school but may, to the extent possible, guide students in looking for accommodation. As the housing market in the Lake Geneva area is relatively tight, students are invited to make related arrangements well in advance.

Can ECAL guarantee that foreign students will find accommodation?

No.

- **Scholarships / Tuition Fees**

May I obtain a scholarship in Switzerland as a foreign student?

Training aid (grants or student loans) may be awarded by the cantons to Swiss students (nationals, foreign permanent residents and persons with refugee status). Foreign citizens residing in Switzerland for studying purposes only do not have access to these scholarships.

However, the [Swiss Confederation](#) offers excellence scholarships to foreign students, researchers and artists for a period of study or research in Switzerland.

I am a foreign student. Are my tuition fees at ECAL higher than those of a Swiss student?

Except for the Foundation Year, where the course fees are set according to the domicile, tuitions fees are identical for all students, within the same Bachelor, Master or MAS programme. However, a valid private liability insurance is required for any loan of ECAL equipment.

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- **Miscellaneous**

Does ECAL offer evening classes?

No.

May I have a tour of ECAL?

Apart from events organised by ECAL (various exhibitions, Half-Time, Open Day, etc.), no individual visits are allowed. Group tours may be arranged subject to advanced planning – please contact the [ECAL Secretariat](#).

My company wishes to hire an intern. How do I go about this?

Please contact the [ECAL Secretariat](#). After reviewing your request, an ad can be posted on the alumni section of the website or on the dedicated notice boards at ECAL.