



Certificate supplement

1. Legally protected titles of the qualification (in the original languages german, french, italian)

Zimmerin/Zimmermann EFZ - Charpentière/Charpentier CFC - Carpentiera/Carpentiere AFC

2. Translated title of the qualification

Carpenter
Federal Diploma of Vocational Education and Training

3. Profile of skills and competences

Holders of this qualification produce, erect and repair wooden structures, wood materials and other building materials. They work in construction, both above and below ground, as well as in housing and hall construction, interior fixtures, roofing and façade engineering, staircase construction and agricultural constructions. They handle heating and sound insulation, moisture protection and wood treatment. Important professional competences include the creation, preservation and maintenance of wood and hybrid constructions.

Training objectives are broken down into seven competence areas:

1. Preparing work
2. Fastening structural components
3. Prefabricating structural components
4. Erecting wooden constructions
5. Applying protective layers and insulation
6. Assembling linings / substructures
7. Assembling prefabricated products

4. Range of occupations accessible to the holder of the qualification

Carpenters build roof trusses, wooden houses, barns and halls; manufacture bridges and facades; construct stairs and gates; upholster walls and ceilings; lay floors; put in windows; and isolate walls and roofs. They select suitable timber and process it accordingly depending on the intended use of the end product.

In addition to their work in the construction of new buildings and in interior remodelling, they also renovate old buildings. They are able to install photovoltaic and solar systems.

Carpenters usually work in a team. Timber companies are subject to strict requirements for occupational safety, health protection and environmental protection, and for the careful use of natural wood products and other building materials. Carpenters work in small, medium and large carpentry shops, and often also in specialised timber construction companies (including prefabrication, building construction and staircase construction).

5. Official basis of the qualification

5.1 Name and status of the body awarding the qualification (professional organisation)

Holzbau Schweiz
FRECEM - Fédération Romande des Entreprises de Charpenterie d'Ebénisterie et de Menuiserie

5.2 Name and status of the national authority responsible for issuing the qualification

State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI, Einsteinstrasse 2, CH-3003 Bern
www.seri.admin.ch

5.3 Level of the qualification (national or international)

National Qualifications Framework for the VPET system: Level 4
European Qualifications Framework: Level 4

5.4 Grading scale/Pass requirements

6 = very good
5 = good
4 = satisfactory

3 = unsatisfactory
2 = poor
1 = unusable

Minimum passing grade: 4.

5.5 Access to next level of education/training* (optional)

Access to various Federal and Advanced Federal Diplomas of Higher Education in the wood sector. Holders of a Federal Vocational Baccalaureate may enrol in a study programme for a Bachelor of Science (UAS) in wood technology, architecture or civil engineering without taking an entrance examination.

* The decision regarding admission always rests with the admitting institution.

5.6 International agreements (optional)

5.7 Legal basis of the qualification

- VET Ordinance dated 5 August 2013 (occupation no.: 30003).

- Ordinance of 27 August 2014 on the National Qualifications Framework for Vocational and Professional Qualifications (SR 412.105.1)

6. Officially recognised ways of acquiring the qualification

Training for the Federal VET Diploma: Carpenter lasts 4 years. Training content is usually distributed across two different learning locations: classroom instruction at a vocational school and apprenticeship training at a host company. However, depending on the VET programme, learners will also attend branch courses at a branch training centre. Professional competences required for the given occupation are decided by the sponsor of the VET programme.

- Host companies provide learners with practical skills associated with the occupation. Learners usually work an average of 4 day(s) per week.
- Vocational schools provide classroom instruction in vocational subjects and subjects falling under the category of language, communication and society (LCS). Learners usually attend classes an average of 1 day(s) per week; total number of lessons: 1440.
- Branch training centres provide learners with additional skills that are intended to complement classroom instruction and apprenticeship training, total duration of branch courses: 45-49 days.

The qualification procedure and final examination includes the following:

- Practical project covering 16 hours
- (Written and/or verbal) testing of knowledge gained from vocational instruction covering 4 hours
- LCS
- Execution plans covering 3 hours

The calculation of the overall grade takes into account the grades obtained for individual areas of competence and the grades obtained from classroom instruction at the vocational school and branch courses.

Other equivalent qualification procedures are possible.

7. Additional information

Issued by:

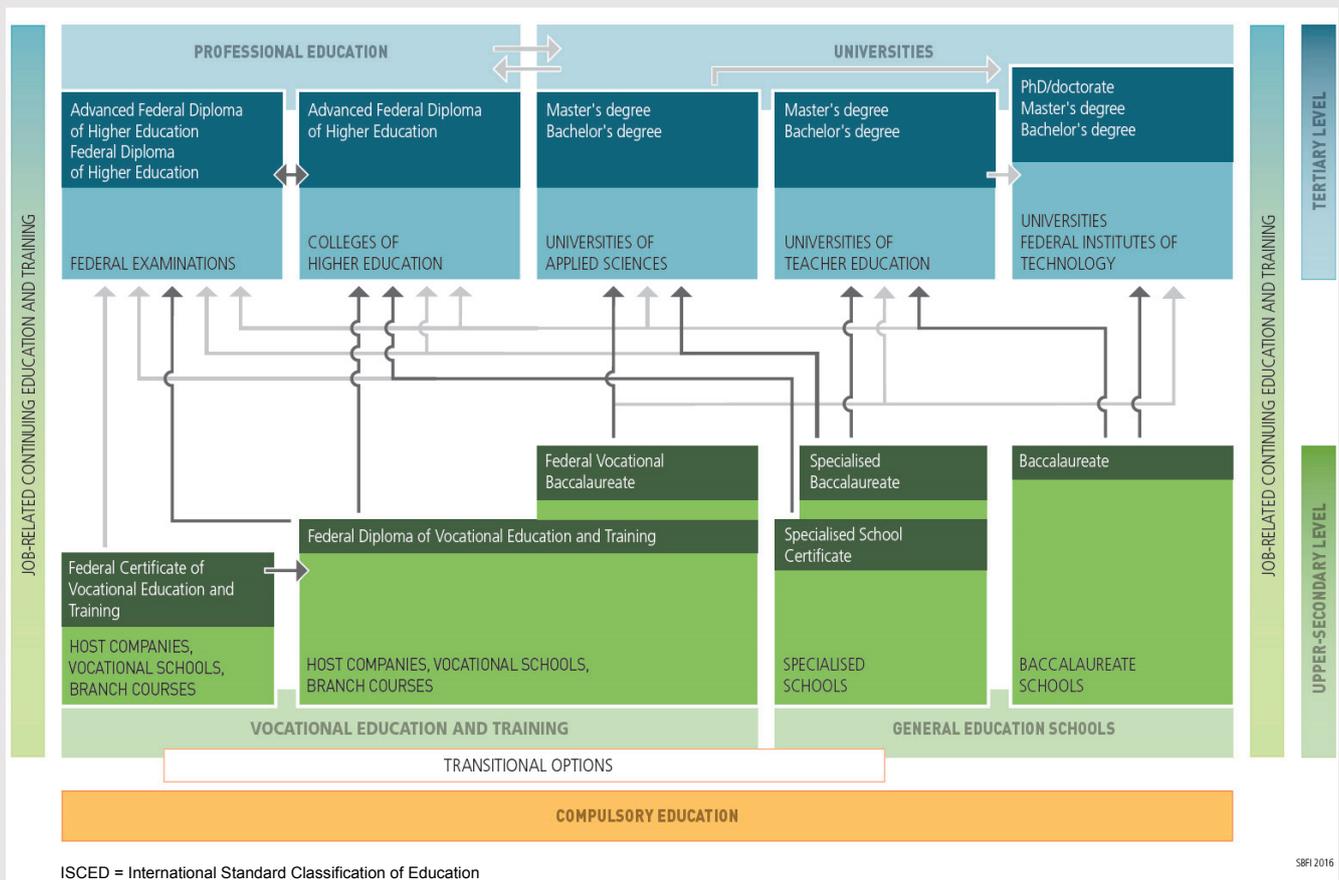
National reference point: State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI, www.seri.admin.ch



This certificate supplement draws its legal basis in Article 4 paragraph 1 of the Ordinance of 27 August 2014 on the National Qualifications Framework for Vocational and Professional Qualifications (NQF-VPQ-O, SR 412.105.1). This certificate supplement follows the model recommended by the European Parliament and Council (Decision No. 2241/2004/EC). The purpose of the certificate supplement is to provide sufficient data to improve the international transparency and fair professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, certificates etc.). It describes the nature, level, context, content and type of training and education pursued

and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. The certificate supplement is free from value judgements, equivalence statements or recommendations on recognition.

8. Information on the national education system



Vocational education and training (Upper-secondary level)

Vocational education and training (VET) prepares young people to carry out a given occupational activity. In training, emphasis is placed on establishing systematic correlations between theory and practice. Learners acquire professional competences that enable them to properly execute work-related tasks and activities in a goal-oriented manner, at their own initiative and with a sufficient level of flexibility. Swiss VET programmes include language, communication and society (LCS) subjects, which provide young people with basic skills needed to orient themselves both in their personal lives and within society. At the same time, LCS subjects help young people to overcome personal and work-related challenges.

The training content of Swiss dual-track VET programmes is divided into two main learning locations that reflect the dual nature of theory and practice: classroom instruction takes place at vocational schools and practical training at host companies. Depending on the occupation, there may also be a third learning location: the branch training centre, which serves to complement the first two. Upon completion of a three-year or four-year VET programme, graduates enter the labour market with a solid qualification: the Federal VET Diploma.

After having gained a few years of work experience, holders of a Federal VET Diploma may pursue tertiary professional education or if they obtain the Federal Vocational Baccalaureate they may enrol in a Swiss university of applied sciences (UAS).

Federal Vocational Baccalaureate (Upper-secondary level)

The preparatory course for the FVB complements the vocational training received for the Federal VET Diploma. The corresponding examination covers general education subjects and learners who pass this examination may enrol in a Swiss university of applied sciences directly or may attend a subsequent preparatory course for another examination, the University Aptitude Test (UAT). This latter examination serves as a bridge between the FVB and enrolment in Swiss tier-one universities, which include cantonal universities and Switzerland's two federal institutes of technology (FITs).

Swiss education system

There are two main pathways within the Swiss education system, both spanning upper-secondary and tertiary level: vocational/professional, on the one hand, and general education/university, on the other. While it is possible to switch between these two pathways at any time and at any level, in some cases, certain conditions apply. Generally speaking, the Swiss education system is highly permeable in this manner.