

Swiss Light Fintech Banking Licence





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Switzerland has long been known as a global financial hub, renowned for its stability, security, and privacy. Its banking sector is one of the most prominent in the world, attracting wealthy individuals, corporations, and institutional investors seeking a safe haven for their assets.

The Swiss banking industry has a long history dating back to the 18th century, when wealthy families sought a discreet and secure way to store their wealth. Swiss banks quickly gained a reputation for their strict adherence to privacy laws and impeccable financial services, attracting clients from around the world.

Switzerland's banking sector is known for its strong regulation and supervision, ensuring the stability and integrity of the financial system. The country has strict anti-money laundering laws and a robust regulatory framework, making it a trustworthy and reliable destination for banking.

Swiss banks offer a wide range of financial services, including wealth management, asset protection, investment banking, and private banking. They are known for their expertise in managing assets and providing tailored solutions for clients' financial needs.

Switzerland is home to some of the world's largest banks, such as UBS and Credit Suisse, as well as numerous private banks and wealth management firms. These institutions have a global presence, offering services to clients in multiple jurisdictions.

The Swiss banking sector benefits from the country's political stability, strong economy, and skilled workforce. Switzerland has a well-developed infrastructure, a highly educated population, and a business-friendly environment, making it an attractive destination for financial institutions.

Swiss Bank License vs Swiss Fintech License

Traditional Bank License

Light Fintech Banking Licence

Industry

Banking

Banking

Regulator

FINMA

FINMA

Est. total costs (not counting employees)

Expect total costs of approximately CHF 450,000, based on the estimates below:

(1) Writing business plan, help with sourcing employees, management and coordination;

(2) Outside legal;

(3) Audit firm to draft the internal guidelines; and

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TARGET PRICE

\$750,000

BUSINESS TYPE

Financial Services

COUNTRY

Switzerland

BUSINESS ID

L#20240638

(4) Audit of the application (required by law)¹; this includes the legal work and documents as set forth in the FINMA guidelines.

(5) Miscellaneous CHF 25,000

(6) FINMA fees, CHF 5-20,000

Expect total costs of approximately CHF 250,000 - CHF 350,000 based on the estimates below:

(1) Writing business plan, help with sourcing employees, management and coordination;

(2) Outside legal (if req.)

(3) Audit firm to draft the internal guidelines; and

(4) Audit of the application (required by law)²; this includes the legal work and documents as set forth in the FINMA guidelines.

(5) Miscellaneous CHF 25,000

(6) FINMA fees, CHF 5-20,000

Minimum capital

CHF 10 million

CHF 2 million OR 3% of deposits

Public deposits

Unlimited

Max CHF 100 million

Use of Deposits

Lending and deposit business

Deposit business only, no lending (no interest margin business)

Capital and liquidity requirements

As per Banking Act

None

Supervision and monitoring

Normal auditor; annual audits

Reduced requirements and frequency

Accounting

As per Banking Act

As per Swiss Code of Obligations

Deposit guarantee

As per Banking Act

None

Organisational requirements

Comprehensive, as per Banking Act

Exceptional relaxation of requirements possible

Licensing requirements

See Bank License Guidelines, below

See Fintech License Guidelines, below

Employee requirements

The bank will need a team of employees with solid prior banking experience. We can help provide proper staff. Expect approx. CHF 1.5 to 2 million per year salary costs

The Fintech will need a team of employees with solid prior banking experience. We can help provide proper staff. Expect approx. CHF 500,000 per year salary costs (+/-).

1 These are fair estimates, but can be more or less, depending on many factors. Plan for CHF 20 million

2 These are fair estimates, but can be more or less, depending on many factors. Plan for CHF 20 million

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