

Welcome

Integration is our major concern

“FABIA, Competence Centre for Advising and Integrating Foreigners” is an organisation with no political or religious affiliations that aims at integrating immigrants. Our focus is to enable local persons and immigrants to live together harmoniously.

The **target groups** are immigrants with L, B and C and F (10+) residence permits and Swiss citizens. Furthermore, specialists from private and public bodies use our services. We correspond with individuals, groups, public and private organisations and institutions.

The Scope of Our Activities:

Information and Advice

FABIA offers **information and advice on integration and immigration**. It informs and advises people living in the canton of Lucerne as well as officials who are involved with immigrants, on the following topics:

- Social and workplace integration
- Inter- and cross-cultural questions concerning immigration
- Language courses and integration matters
- Matters concerning the social and health systems
- Matters concerning schooling
- Getting in touch with professionals (e.g. doctors, therapists, lawyers)
- Legal matters (residence permits, social insurance, family law etc.)

FABIA offers written information on matters concerning immigration and integration and runs the website www.integration-zentralschweiz.ch

Personal Social Assistance

FABIA has been commissioned by the communities of Buchrain, Ebikon, Horw, Kriens and the City of Lucerne to offer advice to foreigners in connection with **personal social assistance**. We offer advice on personal problems and support in administrative affairs.

Consultations can take place either personally, or by telephone in various languages (Albanian, German, English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian, Spanish). If necessary, an interpreter can be arranged.

We work together with the Interpreter Service of Central Switzerland.

The consultations are free of charge; for administrative services, we charge a fee.

Schooling and Education

FABIA has been commissioned by the Elementary Schooling Service, DVS, of the canton of Lucerne to counsel teachers, social workers, officials, and parents of immigrants on matters concerning integration and the schooling of foreign school children and young people. FABIA organises parental evenings in schools, arranges intercultural meetings and offers written translations.

Pre-School Learning

FABIA offers pre-school courses for parents and children. The subject “German and Information for Mothers, Fathers and Children” encourages pre-school children to use German and supports parents in bringing them up. The project “Tell me a Story” in the framework of family literacy supports parents in pre-school education and helps children to speak fluently.

Project Advice and Guidance

We help organisations and clubs that are planning integration projects. If you have an idea for such a project, we can advise you on its realisability and help to organise it, fit it into the existing structure, finance and present it.

Courses and Presentations

FABIA offers courses and presentations on the following intercultural topics:

- German and integration courses
- Courses for elementary school teachers
- Workshops for social and health workers

- When several languages are spoken in the family...
- Binational couples
- Health
- Residence permits and their effect on integration
- Social insurance
- From school to the workplace
- Addiction and immigration
- Violence at home
- The family is coming to Switzerland

The topics can be discussed with FABIA as needed. FABIA offers information modules on various subjects for organisations and clubs for immigrants and carries out informative presentations.

Networking and Working Together

FABIA works together with recognised experts, centres of expertise and organisations that supplement our activities. We arrange contacts as required.

FABIA supports and networks with immigrant organisations in the region, arranges contacts with interested parties and counsels on organisational matters.

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