

Monthly budget estimate for students in Geneva

Rent: CHF 700 – 1,200

Monthly rental charges vary widely in Geneva, both in private accommodation and student residences. At the Graduate Institute student residences, rental costs start at CHF 700 per month.

Food: CHF 400 – 600

Savings can be made by cooking at home, shopping at discount supermarkets and seeking the best deals for food. Eating out in Geneva can be expensive and weigh heavily on a limited budget. Students benefit from a permanent 10% reduction on the Maison de la paix campus. Kitchen facilities are available on campus, where students can re-heat pre-cooked meals.

Public transport: CHF 45 – 70

Public transport costs vary depending on age (students under 25 pay CHF 45, while older students pay CHF 70) and location (Geneva only or including suburban tariff zones). Yearlong subscriptions are more budget efficient if used over 12 months. Daily and weekly passes are also available. You can see the various options [here](#).

Health insurance plan (illness and accidents): CHF 100 – 350 plus out-of-pocket costs

Minimum coverage is a legal requirement for each individual living in Switzerland. Some providers offer cost-effective student packages, subject to certain conditions such as age and pre-existing health conditions. Cost variables include the annual deductible amount (not covered), non-mandatory options for additional coverage (“extras”) and a choice of private or semiprivate hospital options.

The non-deductible amount can range from CHF 500 to 1,500 per year; the lower it is, the higher the monthly premium. Coverage of basic medical care ranges from 80% to 100% of cost; the remainder must be paid out-of-pocket. Additional non-mandatory care products and services might be reimbursed at a lower rate.

Mobile phone: CHF 30 – 80

Most students purchase either a prepaid or monthly plan. In addition to the one-time cost of buying the phone, most students pay around CHF 30 per month for the standard cell phone service. Unlimited wifi is available on campus and at our residences.

Other costs: CHF 200+

In general, you will need to plan for additional costs which may include clothing and other supplies, day trips, going out with friends, shopping and unpredictable expenses.

Purchase of software: CHF 100 – 150 *per year*

Software required for your studies is available from our IT Service, at reduced student prices in most cases.

Total monthly cost: CHF 1'485 – 2'500+

NB: Non-resident students pay CHF 4'000 for IHEID tuition fees per semester while resident students pay CHF 2'500 per semester. Students receiving full financial support must pay CHF 500 per semester.