

Swiss Leading House VPET-ECON

A Research Center on the Economics of Education, Firm Behavior and Training Policies



University of
Zurich^{UZH}

Co-Director

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Uschi Backes-Gellner

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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

Co-Director

Prof. Dr. Stefan C. Wolter

Zurich/Bern, August 2025

PhD-Student Position in Economics at University of Bern

The Centre for Research in Economics of Education at the University of Bern, in collaboration with the Swiss Leading House *Economics of Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET-ECON)*, invites applications for an **assistant position in the field of the economics of education** in the Leading House (70% for four years), starting in the 2025 autumn semester or by agreement.

About us

The Swiss Leading House *Economics of Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET-ECON)* is part of the Department of Business Administration at the University of Zurich and the University of Bern—two leading research and teaching institutions in the German-speaking world. The Leading House is dedicated to economic research on vocational and professional education and training in Switzerland. Our research employs cutting-edge econometric methods, including machine learning, as well as innovative datasets and field experiments.

Your tasks

You will work on empirical projects in the fields of the economics of education with a strong focus on vocational and professional training and education. The research projects are integrated into the activities of the Leading House VPET-ECON. You will have access to an excellent national and international network of scholars and alumni from research and practice, and work in a dynamic team that supports one another in content and methodology. You will participate in the international doctoral course programme in the economics of education and successfully complete it during your dissertation period. This programme offers a wide range of training activities and numerous opportunities to attend international conferences.

Your profile

- Excellent Master's degree in economics
- Very good knowledge of econometrics and experimental methods and/or an interest in expanding these skills (e.g., in machine learning or generative AI)
- Experience in data analysis with statistical software such as STATA, Python, or R
- Commitment and ability to work independently
- Strong team skills
- Good to very good knowledge of German and excellent written and spoken English

www.economics-of-education.ch

Leading House VPET-ECON

A Research Programme of the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation

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We offer

- A selection of interesting and topical dissertation subjects within the framework of ongoing empirical projects
- Participation in a structured doctoral course programme in the economics of education
- Participation in doctoral courses of the Economics Department of the University of Bern
- Competitive salaries according to cantonal guidelines
- Financial support for participation in international conferences and workshops

Application

We welcome your application with immediate effect. Review of applications will begin right away and will continue until the position is filled. Please send your complete application documents (motivation letter, CV, academic transcripts, and employment references) in a single PDF file by email to Prof. Dr. Stefan C. Wolter (stefan.wolter@unibe.ch).

Further information about the Centre for Research in Economics of Education and the Leading House can be found at:

- [Centre for Research in Economics of Education](#)
- [LH VPET-ECON](#)