

Terms of Participation



General Information

Subject

“SPARC” is a pre-service training program of the Swiss Armed Forces in the field of cyber defense in accordance with the Ordinance of November 26th 2003 on Pre-Service Training (VAusb; SR 512.15).

Scope

These terms of participation are valid for the entire duration of the SPARC training and each participant of the training program must sign them.

Preconditions

Every Swiss citizen who has completed their 15th year of age may participate in SPARC. SPARC can be attended until the beginning of recruit school.

No previous technical knowledge is required for the training.

Education Information

Entering the Program

The following steps are necessary to enter the program:

1. Attendance of an information event followed by registration and verification of personal data;
2. Completion of the registration process after receipt of the registration letter.

There is no legal entitlement to participate in or complete the SPARC training program.

Exams

Exams may be repeated once if the candidate fails. There is no right of examination inspection.

Training Expenses

There are no costs for the education. For travel to experience days (presence learning events) a Half Fare Card valid for one day may be requested up to one week before the event at cyber.fub@vtg.admin.ch.

Training Period

The maximum duration of training is four years. SPARC may only be completed until the start of recruit school.

Withdrawal from the Program

Withdrawal from the program is possible at any time.

Code of Conduct

Each course participant respects the basic rules of conduct and, in particular, shall not use any techniques and methods learned to harm third parties.

SPARC Code of Ethics

Security

- You independently ensure the integrity of your data, software and hardware at all times.
- You shall not damage data, software and hardware of other participants or the learning platforms.
- Access to the learning platforms is exclusive to you and shall not be shared, nor shall the learning platform be used for any other purpose.

Performance

- You will use the learning platforms responsibly and to further develop your knowledge of cyber security.

- You bring appreciation to training opportunities and do not waste resources.
- You ensure to make progress in your training and actively participate in the events.

Accountability

- You are responsible for all your activities online and offline.
- You shall own up to your mistakes, try to fix them and learn from them.

Respect

- You shall treat other participants and the training staff with respect and decency.
- You shall respect the privacy and dignity of all persons involved.

Compliance

- You shall respect the copyright and identify third-party content. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.
- You shall observe the legal requirements and laws of Switzerland.

Possibility of Exclusion

Course participants who do not respect the defined rules of conduct may be excluded from the program.

In the event of a serious breach of the rules of conduct or other misconduct, immediate exclusion from the training program will occur. The Swiss Armed Forces reserve the right to take legal action. The place of jurisdiction is Bern.

Administration

Insurance

The participant is insured against illness and accident during the experience days in accordance with the Federal Military Insurance Act (MVG, SR 833.1).

Compensation for Loss of Earnings and Service Days

No compensation for loss of earnings or salary shall be provided, and no service days shall be credited.

Handling of personal Data

Personal data is collected for verification at program entry and then stored on the Army's access system.

During the course, course participants are identified by means of a pseudonym.

Use of Photo, Video and Audio Recordings

Participants agree that photographs, video and audio recordings of them may be made and used by SPARC during events. Persons will be made unrecognizable in published recordings.

Communication

Participants are informed about the further course of training on the learning platform. Examination results are sent exclusively by letter.

Place, date

Participant