



FARRIERY TRAINING AND REGULATORY SYSTEMS IN EUROPEAN NATIONS

In 2009, the member associations of EFFA were asked to complete a questionnaire covering the training and regulatory systems for farriery in their countries, and providing information on the numbers of horses and farriers. Questionnaires have been completed and returned by:

- Austria
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Great Britain (does not include Northern Ireland as different rules apply)
- Holland
- Hungary
- Sweden
- Switzerland

The information is shown in the attached spreadsheet. Questions are shown in English, French and German and the responses in whichever of these languages the national association chose to use. In order to access the data, open the spreadsheet and then scroll across to get the country in which you are interested. You can then see both the questions and the responses, and can scroll down the page to see all the questions and answers. Where no answer is shown, this is because the national association did not provide the data.

It is expected that the information will be particularly useful to farriers planning to train or work in other European countries, and to those involved in issuing licences to practise who want to know what conditions apply in other nations.



REPLIES FROM QUESTIONNAIRE FARRIERY TRAINING AND REGULATORY SYSTEMS IN EUROPEAN NATIONS

PART I – TRAINING

1. What is the youngest age at which you can start to train as a farrier?

Austria	16
Czech Republic	15
Denmark	15
Finland	
France	16
Germany	15
Great Britain	16
Holland	16
Hungary	18
Sweden	19
Switzerland	15

2. Is there an upper age limit and if so what is it?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	No
Denmark	No
Finland	
France	Adult no limit Apprentice 23
Germany	No
Great Britain	No
Holland	
Hungary	No limit

Sweden

Switzerland No

3. Do candidates have to achieve minimum standards of academic or practical work before starting and what are they?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	Yes – Compulsory elementary school
Denmark	Yes – 9 years at school
Finland	Yes
France	No
Germany	Yes (a) Certificate of Secondary Education (b) Lateral entry requires successful completion of vocational training
Great Britain	Yes Currently 4 GCSEs and Forging Certificate but may change
Holland	Yes Ready for vocational education VMBO K
Hungary	No
Sweden	Yes 1 month with a farrier
Switzerland	Yes 9 years schooling



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4. How long is the training for (a) school leavers and (b) mature students?

Austria	Currently at least 1 year Should be increased to 3 years
Czech Republic	(a) 3 years (b) Not limited
Denmark	4 years
Finland	
France	CAPA apprentices 2 or 3 years and BTM 5 years Adult CAPA no limit
Germany	3,5 Years (a) Training after school 3.5 years, after 21 years of age or Abitur (university entrance) exam. 2.5 years plus 4 months preparation course for state farriery examination
Great Britain	Same for all 4 years and 2 months
Holland	(a) 3 years (b) 2 years
Hungary	2 years / 4 semesters
Sweden	1 or 2 years depending on college
Switzerland	Training lasts 4 years in the case of secondary training or depending on age and preparatory training, the duration can be shortened by 1 to a max. of 2 years

5. How many students are in training at any time?

Austria	None
Czech Republic	10
Denmark	20 – 25
Finland	
France	
Germany	Depends on farriery school
Great Britain	450
Holland	30 students/study year

Hungary	15
Sweden	90
Switzerland	As a rule 2

6. Are there any limits on number of students?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	No
Finland	Yes
France	
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	No
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

7. Is the training (a) full-time college, (b) all with master farrier, (c) some college and some with master?

Austria	c
Czech Republic	c
Denmark	c
Finland	c
France	a or c
Germany	c
Great Britain	c
Holland	c
Hungary	c
Sweden	c
Switzerland	c



8. How many colleges teach farriery?

Austria		2
Czech Republic	None until new qualification implemented	
Denmark		1
Finland		
France		10
Germany		10
Great Britain		3
Holland		3
Hungary		1
Sweden		4
Switzerland	3 practical course centres & 3 vocational colleges	

9. Does the student have to pay for training and if so how much?

Austria		No
Czech Republic	School leaver free Mature student 900 euros	
Denmark		No
Finland		Yes
France		
Germany		Yes
Great Britain	No if grant available 12000 euros if no grant	
Holland		Yes
	Leaving school 1'400 euros per year Mature 3'500 euros per year	
Hungary		Yes
		3'000 euros
Sweden		No
Switzerland		No

10. Is the student in paid employment while training?

Austria	Yes
Czech Republic	No
Denmark	Yes
Finland	Yes
France	Yes
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	No
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

11. Does the student have to pass a final examination, and if so at what level?

Austria	Yes, EFFA standards
Czech Republic	Yes, EFFA qualification
Denmark	Yes
Finland	Yes
France	Yes, level 5
Germany	Yes, State farriery examination
Great Britain	Yes, Level 3 Technical Certificate Diploma of Worshipful Company of Farriers
Holland	Yes, MBO Level 3
Hungary	Yes, They must alone: shoe horses make shoes
Sweden	Yes, Varies from college to college
Switzerland	Yes, at national level/Federal Certificate of Competence



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12. Does the examination include

- (a) shoemaking,
- (b) shoeing,
- (c) oral,
- (d) written paper?

Austria	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) No
Czech Republic	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Denmark	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Finland	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
France	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Germany	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Great Britain	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Holland	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Hungary	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes
Sweden	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) No, (d) Yes
Switzerland	(a) Yes, (b) Yes, (c) Yes, (d) Yes

13. Are EFFA standards incorporated into the national training scheme?

Austria	Yes
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	Yes
Finland	Yes
France	No
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Not explicitly but all areas covered
Holland	Yes
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

14. Has the national system been accredited as meeting EFFA standards for the Certified Euro-Farrier?

Austria	Yes
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	Yes
Finland	Yes
France	No
Germany	No
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	Yes
Hungary	No
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

15. If not yet accredited, is this planned in the next 5 years?

Austria	
Czech Republic	
Denmark	
Finland	
France	Yes
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	
Holland	
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	Yes
Switzerland	



16. Is your training and examination system recognised by Government?

Austria	Yes
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	Yes
Finland	Yes
France	Yes
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	Yes
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	Yes
Switzerland	Yes

17. Which body is responsible for setting standards?

Austria	Bundesinnung der Schlosser und Schmiede A-1040 Wien Schaumbergergasse 20/4 metalltechnik@bigr2.at
Czech Republic	Ing. Jindřich Vinčálek Czech Farrier Association Lelekovice 320 664 31 Czech Republic ina.vin@volny.cz
Denmark	Danish Government in consultation with Association of Metalworkers
Finland	Finnish National Board of Education PO Box 380 FIN-0031 Helsinki
France	CAPA Ministre Agriculture BTM Assemblée permanente des chambres de Métier APCM
Germany	Bundesministerium für VLE Regierungsdirektor Heym Rochusstr. 1 53123 Bonn

Great Britain	Farriers Registration Council Sefton House, Adam Court, Newark Rd, Peterborough PE1 5PP Tel. + 441733 319911 frc@farrier-reg.gov.uk
Holland	Aequor MR Adriaan v Egmond Horaplantsoen 18 6717 LT Ede
Hungary	Ministry of agriculture Mr Laszlo Megyeri 0036-30/966-3274
Sweden	Department of Agriculture in Stockholm
Switzerland	Schweizerische Metall-Union (SMU) Bildungszentrum Chräjeninsel 2 3270 Aarberg Tel. +41 (0)31 391 70 28, Fax +41 (0)31 391 70 29 bildungszentrum@smu.ch

18. Is there a body responsible for administering training, and if so what is its contact address?

Austria	Bundesinnung der Schlosser und Schmiede A-1040 Wien Schaumbergergasse 20/4 metalltechnik@bigr2.at
Czech Republic	Yes, As for question 17
Denmark	
Finland	Yes
France	Yes, Yes
Germany	No
Great Britain	The Farriery Training Agency, Adam Court Newark Rd, Peterborough PE1 5PP
Holland	Yes NHB Deurne AOC Zwolle 6717 LT Ede



Hungary Yes
 University of Kaposvár
 7400 Kaposvár
 Guba S. u. 40
 Balazs Novak
 0036 302444576
 E-Mail: novak.balazs@ke.hu

Sweden No

Switzerland Yes
 Schweizerische Metall-Union (SMU)

19. Are there minimum standards for master farriers and what are they?

Austria No

Czech Republic Yes
 10 years shoeing + government examination

Denmark Yes
 Svende bret. Danish examination

Finland No

France No

Germany Yes
 (a) Master metalworker for trainees
 (b) for lateral entrants min. 3 years
 self-employment after farriery examination
 (c) in the case of management of a farriery school and
 preparation courses: training to become
 master farrier/farriery instructor

Great Britain Yes
 L11 Coaching Course
 ATF Induction Course
 ATF Shoemaking Assessment

Holland Yes
 EFFA diploma
 Aequor certified

Hungary No

Sweden Yes, the conditions are:
 Full time farrier
 Min. of 6 years experience after journeyman exam.
 Examination SHF «five step extension course»
 60 hours of business economy

Certificate from a one day of pedagogics
 These are the conditions for having access to
 the master farrier examination
 More infos under: <http://www.hovslagarforeningen.nu/Default.asp?path=24156%2C24157%2C24160&pageid=35204>

Switzerland Yes
 Successfully completed training as farrier
 Further training to become SMU qualified farrier
 Instructors course DIK

20. To whom should a candidate apply?

Austria Bundessprecher für Hufschmiede
 Hr. Josef Frech (Tel. +43 664 283 83 83)
 Österreichischer Hufschmiede Verband
 (Tel. +43 664 341 189 86)
info@hufschmiedeverband.at

Czech Republic Czech Farrier Association
 Landwirtschaftsministerium
 Government Institute of Specialty
 Education and Training

Denmark LIFE. Danish University

Finland

France Chambre de Métier

Germany To the farriery schools, the EDHV
 (www.edhv.de) or see Point 17

Great Britain Recruitment and CPD Manager
 Farriery Training Agency

Holland One of the 3 schools named in Q18

Hungary Dr Balázs Burucs
 0036 204139404
 E-Mail: burucsb@oai.hu

Sweden Swedish Farrier Association can provide
 internet links to the colleges and other
 education actors

Switzerland SMU Berufsbildungszentrum Aarberg
 Kantonale Berufsbildungsämter



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21. Is there a list of master farriers and how may it be obtained?

Austria	Yes www.hufschmiedeverband.at www.metalltechnik.at
Czech Republic	Yes Czech Farrier Association website
Denmark	Yes From the Government
Finland	No
France	No
Germany	Yes www.edhv.de
Great Britain	Yes www.farrierytraining.co.uk
Holland	Yes Aequor
Hungary	No Still no education for masters
Sweden	Yes, published on www.hovslagareforeningen.se with a «M» after the farriers name
Switzerland	Yes Schweizerische Metall-Union (SMU) Bildungszentrum Chräjeninsel 2 3270 Aarberg Tel +41 (0)31 391 70 28 , Fax +41 (0)31 391 70 29 bildungszentrum@smu.ch

TEIL II – REGULATION

22. Is there any restriction on who may carry out barefoot trimming?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	No
Denmark	No
Finland	No

France	No
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	No
Holland	No
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	No
Switzerland	No

23. Is there any restriction on who may practise farriery?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	No
Finland	No
France	Yes
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	No
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

24. Which body sets the requirements for practising farriery?

Austria	Bundesinnung der Schlosser und Schmiede
Czech Republic	Czech Government - Ministry of Agriculture Živostenský úřad Živostenský úřad - trade licence office
Denmark	
Finland	
France	The Government



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Germany	BMVEL (see Point 17), The Farriery Law forms the basis
Great Britain	The Farriers Registration Council Adam Court, Newark Road, Peterborough PE1 5PP
Holland	
Hungary	Hungarian Farriers Association
Sweden	
Switzerland	Schweizerische Metall-Union (SMU) Bildungszentrum Chräjeninsel 2 3270 Aarberg Tel +41 (0)31 391 70 28 , Fax +41 (0)31 391 70 29 bildungszentrum@smu.ch

25. What are the requirements?

Austria	Practical experience + state farriery examination
Czech Republic	Government examination and evidence of practical experience
Denmark	
Finland	
France	CAPA or 3 years' practical experience
Germany	a) Training as metalworker, key area farriery, plus 4 months preparation course for state farriery examination b) 4 weeks introductory course, 2 years practical experience with social insurance, plus 4 months preparation course for state farriery examination Advanced training after 5 years to become farriery instructor (master status)
Great Britain	Complete apprenticeship (4yrs 2 mths) incl NVQ 3 + Technical Certificate + IT, business studies, communication & application of number Other options for Army, those holding recognised overseas qualifications and as laid down in EU Directive 2005/36

Holland	
Hungary	Certificate of successful completion at accredited farriery school
Sweden	
Switzerland	Min. requirements as per Federal Education Decree, as well as EFZ farriery training plan (including EFFA Standards)

26. Is there a difference in the requirements between EU farriers and those from elsewhere, and if so what?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	No
Denmark	No
Finland	No
France	No CAPA or equivalent
Germany	No Standardised guidelines apply for all
Great Britain	Yes Farriers from EU have registration rights under Directive 2005/36 which is not extended to those from outside EU
Holland	No
Hungary	No Accept EU Diplomas Currently no farriers from non EU states
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes Not all countries have the model of master training course. (Basically the mutual recognition of equivalent training courses applies)



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27. To which body should someone wishing to practise farriery apply?

Austria	Bundessprecher für Hufschmiede Hr. Josef Frech (Tel +436642838383) Österreichischer Hufschmiede Verband (tel +4366434118986) info@hufschmiedeverband.at
Czech Republic	Živostenský úřad - trade licence office
Denmark	
Finland	
France	Chambre de Métier of the Département
Germany	www.edhv.de or to the farriery schools, whose addresses can be found on the website of the EDHV
Great Britain	Farriers Registration Council (Q24)
Holland	Kamer van Koophandel (Chamber of commerce)
Hungary	Territorial Community
Sweden	So far not defined
Switzerland	Schweizerische Metall-Union (SMU) Bildungszentrum Chräjeninsel 2 3270 Aarberg Tel +41 (0)31 391 70 28 , Fax +41 (0)31 391 70 29 bildungszentrum@smu.ch

28. Is the responsible Government Department

(a) animal welfare or	
(b) metalworking?	
Austria	(b)
Czech Republic	(a)
Denmark	(b)
Finland	
France	a) + + Ministry responsible for craft industries

Germany	(a)
Great Britain	(a)
Holland	(a)
Hungary	(b)
Sweden	(a)
Switzerland	(b)

29. If metalworking, are there any moves to transfer to animal welfare, and does the national association support this?

Austria	No
Czech Republic	
Denmark	Being considered
Finland	
France	Yes
Germany	In Germany, farriery is no longer classified as a craft, therefore the area of responsibility lies with the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
Great Britain	
Holland	
Hungary	Yes
Sweden	
Switzerland	No, but during training a move towards animal welfare is expected.

30a EU Directive 2005/36 covers mutual recognition of professionals. Are you aware of this?

Austria	Yes
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	No
Finland	Yes



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France	Yes
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	Yes
Hungary	No
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

30b Has relevant national legislation been introduced?

Austria	Yes
Czech Republic	Yes
Denmark	
Finland	Yes
France	
Germany	Yes
Great Britain	Yes
Holland	Yes
Hungary	No
Sweden	No
Switzerland	Yes

30c Which body is responsible for implementation?

Austria	Bundesinnungsmeister schmiede.steiner@utanet.at
Czech Republic	Ministry of Education + other related departments
Denmark	
Finland	
France	APCM

Germany In the provinces, the particular authorities responsible, e.g. regional council
At federal level, the BMVEL is responsible (see 17)

Great Britain Department for Business
Innovation and Skills

Holland Economical Department

Hungary

Sweden

Switzerland Federal Office for Professional
Education and Technology
as well as the Conference of
Cantonal Education Directors.

TEIL III – NUMBERS

31. What is the best estimate of the numbers of (a) horses, (b) ponies and (c) donkeys

Austria Approx. 105,000 in total

Czech Republic (a) 65'000

Denmark (a) 160'000
(b) 50'000
(c) 2'000

Finland

France 1'000'000

Germany (a) + (b) 1,1 million
(c) 12'000

Great Britain Estimates vary
Total ca 940,000

Holland (a) 350'000
(b) 50'000
(c) 5'000

Hungary (a) 5'800
(b) 475
(c) 2'300



Sweden	300'000 includes all categories
Switzerland	(a) 70000 (b) 22000 (c) 2800

32. How many full-time farriers are there?

Austria	240 in total
Czech Republic	50
Denmark	250
Finland	
France	1'000
Germany	3'000
Great Britain	2'500
Holland	200
Hungary	100 – 120
Sweden	400
Switzerland	200

33. How many part-time farriers are there?

Austria	Included in Point 32
Czech Republic	300
Denmark	100 – 150
Finland	
France	500
Germany	Cannot be differentiated
Great Britain	Not differentiated Included in total at Q32
Holland	500
Hungary	50 – 60
Sweden	600
Switzerland	100

Official Address:

The Forge
Avenue 'B', 10th Street
NAC, Stoneleigh Park
Warwickshire
England CV8 2LG

Contact Address:

EFFA
c/o Swiss Metal Union
Chräjeninsel 2
CH-3270 Aarberg
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Fax +41 32 391 70 29
www.eurofarrier.org