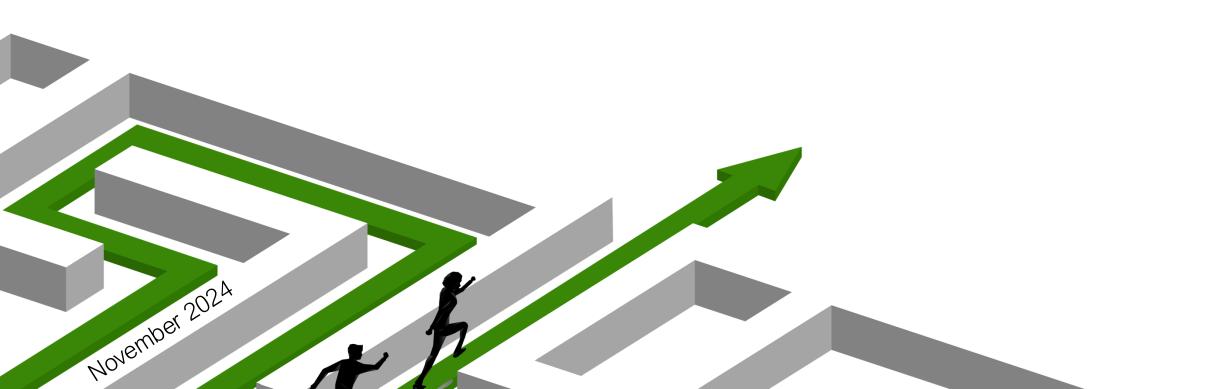


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# The Swiss Securities Firm & Banking Licence



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### Banking & Securities Firm Licence At a glance

- FINMA authorization required
- Offers the broadest scope of authorized activities.
- +275 banks and securities firms (as of November 2024)
- A banking license allows operations as a securities firm as well
- Min. capital requirement:
  - CHF 1.5 million for a securities firm and around CHF 3 million of liquidity
  - CHF 10 million for a bank but realistically at least 15-20 millions
- Licensing duration of minimum a year
- Strict accounting and capital adequacy requirements



## **Banking Licence**

The broadest licence: offer almost all possible financial activities

#### Accept clients' funds (public deposits)

CHF ∞	CHF	
Ð	100m	CHF
en c	e	1m
Banking Licence	Fintech Licence	SRO Sandbox + Exceptions

- Unlimited acceptance of public deposits or solicitation from the public to obtain them.
- Investment of public deposits (lending).
- Interest differential business.  $\bigcirc$
- Remuneration of public deposits (interest).
- Offer own accounts and IBANs.
- Direct access to payment systems SIC, EuroSIC (SEPA).
- Act as a card issuer and/or acquirer and access card schemes.  $\bigcirc$
- Operate a payment system (no additional licence required).
- Offer all other financial intermediary services (e.g., securities trading,  $\bigcirc$ crypto exchange, asset management, brokerage, forex, etc.)



## **Securities Firm Licence**

The most comprehensive license for dealing with securities

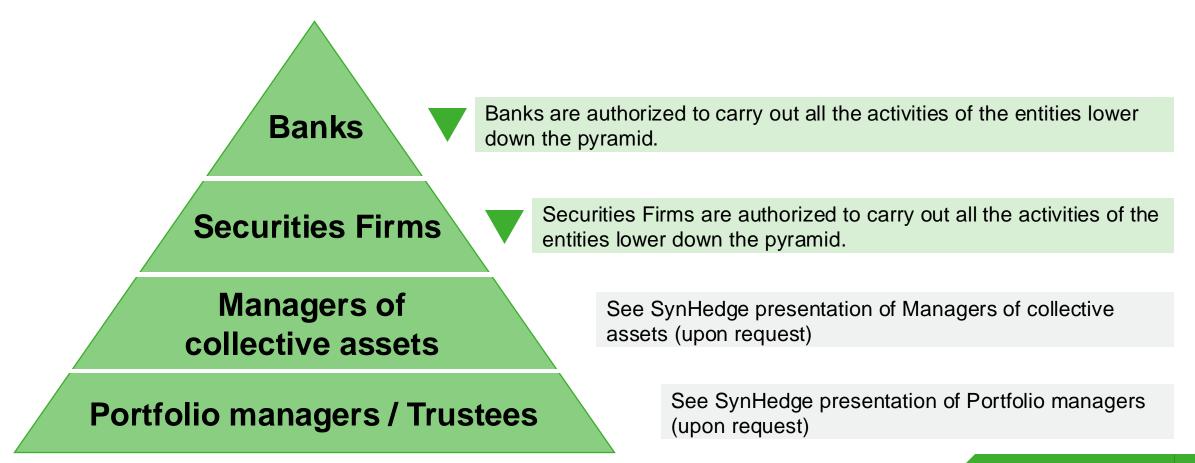
#### Freely underwrite and trade in securities and more

- Trade securities in your own name for the account of a client.
- Underwrite securities issued by third parties and offer them on the primary market to the public.
- Operate an OTF (no additional license required).
- Trade securities on your own account on a short-term basis without limitations.
- Issue derivatives on the primary market.
- Engage in market making with securities.
- Hold client accounts for the settlement of securities trades (inc. SIC, SECOM, euroSIC access)
- Act as a custodian of client securities.
- Offer all other financial intermediary services (e.g., crypto exchange, asset management, brokerage, exchanges, forex, etc.).



### Additional Authorized services

The regime of cascading authorizations





## Switzerland as an Advantage



Build trust with Switzerland's reputation for stability and integrity

Benefit from Switzerland's booming FinTech ecosystem

Access global markets through a well-established financial infrastructure

**Operate in a low-tax jurisdiction (11.85% corporate tax in Zug)** 

**Benefit from the Swiss clear regulatory framework** 



# Licensing Process Key elements & Timeline

<b>Step 1</b> Few months	Pre-assessment & Success scoring of the application	Business plan drafting & Strategy defining	Selection of the ICT infrastructure & IT Tools	Group structure & Governance & Outsourcing
	Collection of documents & agreements	Risk & Compliance framework (policies) & ICS	Financial projection Capital adequacy & Liquidity plan	Trading Framework & Financial Market Requirements
Step 3 2 months	Application audit & adaptations (External auditor)			
<b>Step 4</b> 1+ year*	Submission of the application to FINMA	FINMA application review, Q&A & adaptations	FINMA conditional approval or rejection decision	Your Licence

\* Depends on the complexity of the application (e.g. group structure, shareholding, services offering, crossborder)



## Licensing Excellence with SynHedge

"SynHedge precisely stands for synergy and smart hedging in Banking & Finance. This is what we do best."

Loïc Staub, Attorney at-law Founder & Managing Partner **Deep understanding of the Swiss Banking & Financial Markets** 

#### **Specialized in licensing application**

**Co-founding partner of the Swiss FinTech Alliance Association SFA** The association gathers all current FinTech licence holders and provides a framework to discuss the latest developments and trends in the FinTech sector.

Extensive network enabling us to fulfill all your requests related to the application and post licencing process

Practical expertise that has been thoroughly battle-tested and focuses on excellence and delivering impactful solutions



## Ready to dive deeper?



How much does the licensing process cost?
How long does it actually take to get the licence?
How many directors are required?
Do I need a securities firm licence as a MFO?
When are directors required to be engaged?
Can we operate cross-border?

• Can we outsource our back-office abroad?

**Contact us** 



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### Let's move forward

The secret to getting ahead is getting started





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