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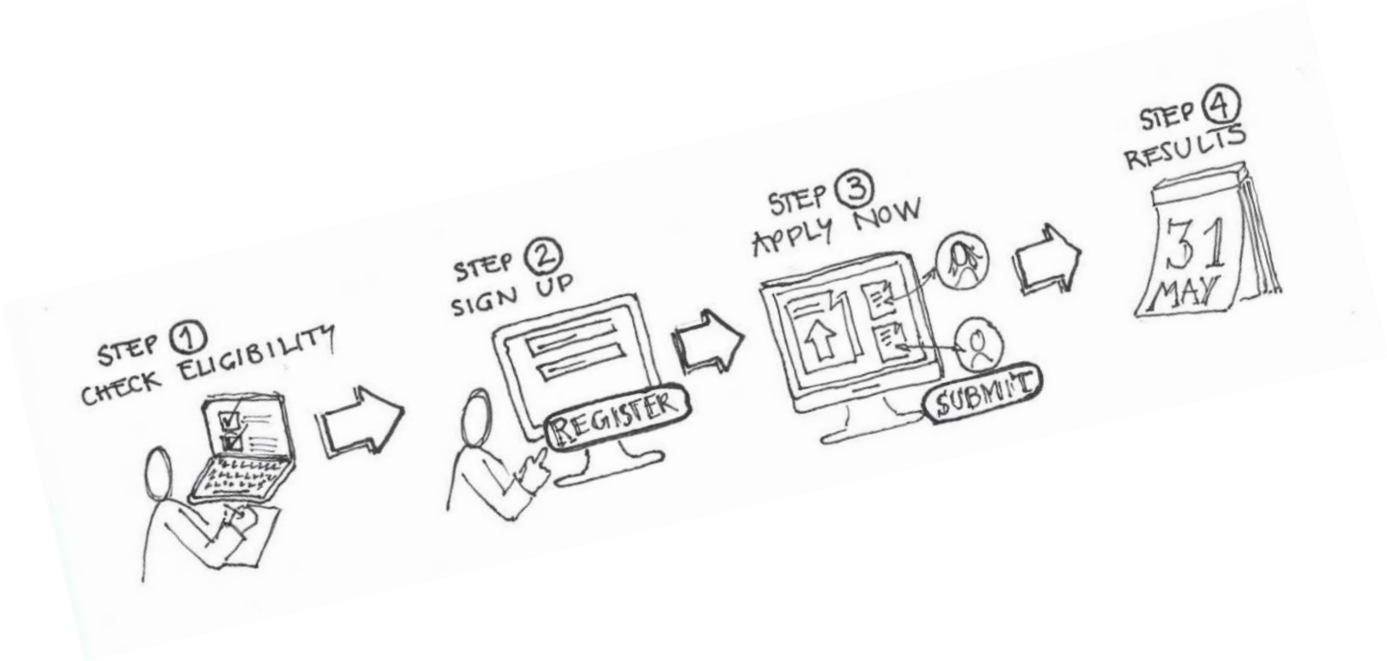
GO ESKAS

User Guide “Onboarding Candidates for a Scholarship”

Rev. 15.10.2026



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Purpose

The following guide walks you through the opening of an account in GO ESKAS by

a) Creating a SWITCH edu-ID with two-factor authentication
b) Signing up for an account in GO ESKAS by initiating a scholarship application
c) Login to GO ESKAS using your SWITCH edu-ID.

Key Words

SWITCH edu-ID is your persistent identity to access all federated services. It is easy to use, controlled by the user and provides secure access to academic services. The service is provided by SWITCH for Swiss Higher Education Institutions and parties with relation to them.

eIAM is the authentication and authorisation infrastructure used by Swiss Government.

GO ESKAS is the application of the Swiss Federal State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation (SERI) where eligible and authenticated students can apply for a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship of the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS).

Prerequisites

Before beginning, ensure the following:

Requirement	***Description***
Email address:	Use your email address you provided to ESKAS and which was used for your Login
Authenticator app:	Install an authenticator app like Google Authenticator or Microsoft Authenticator
Internet access:	You need a stable internet connection
No prior eIAM links:	Ensure you are not logged into any existing eIAM session and do not reuse a SWITCH edu-ID previously linked to an eIAM identity

Note

The use of Switch edu-ID, eIAM und GO ESKAS is free of charge as is to register and to apply for a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship of the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS).

1 Create a new SWITCH edu-ID

To sign in to **GO ESKAS**, you need a **SWITCH edu-ID account**.

- **If you already have a SWITCH edu-ID account**:

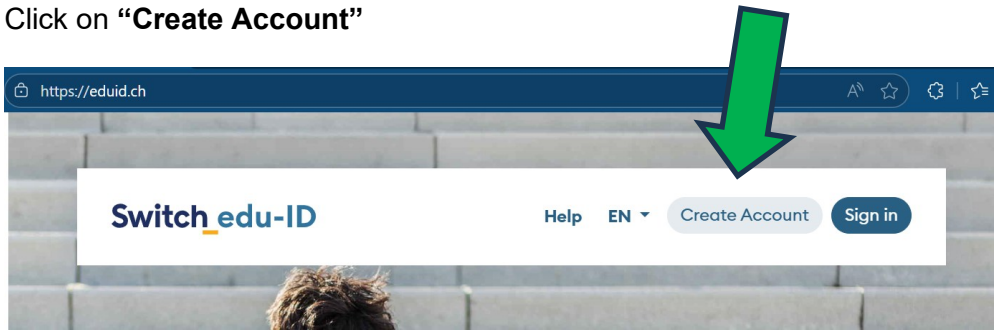
  Please skip this chapter and continue directly with chapter *2 Initiate your scholarship application in GO ESKAS*.

- **If you do not have a SWITCH edu-ID account yet**:

  Please continue with the following steps to create a new SWITCH edu-ID

1.1 Switch edu-ID Website

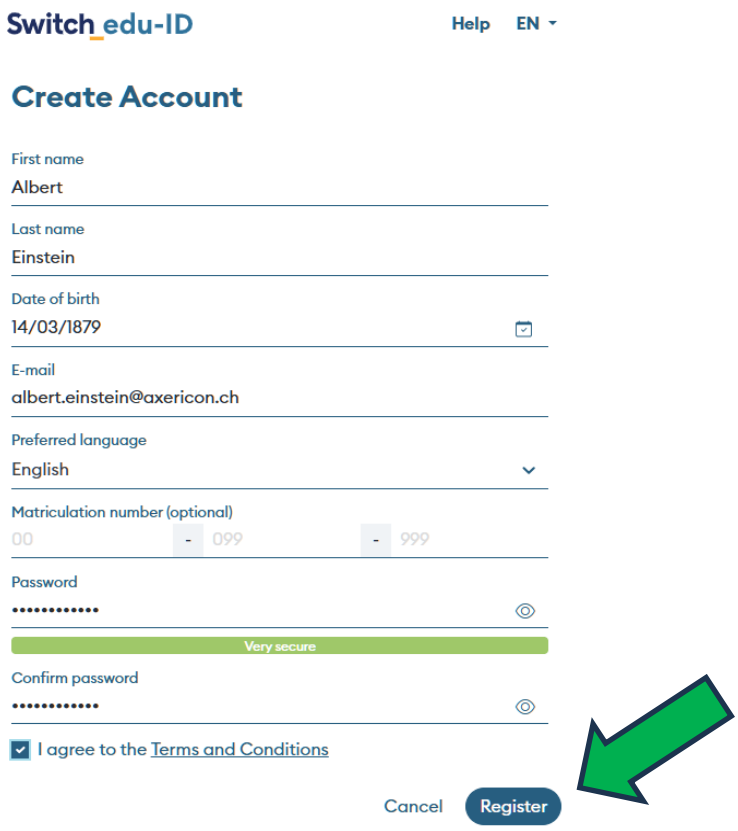
1. Open your browser and go to: **https://eduid.ch**
2. Click on **“Create Account”**



1.2 Complete the Registration Form

1. Complete the fields as shown:
   - **First name / Last name**
   - **Date of Birth**
   - **Email address**: use your e-mail of your login
   - **Language**
   - **Password**: Choose a strong password
   - **Confirm Password**

2. **Accept the terms** and click **“Register”**

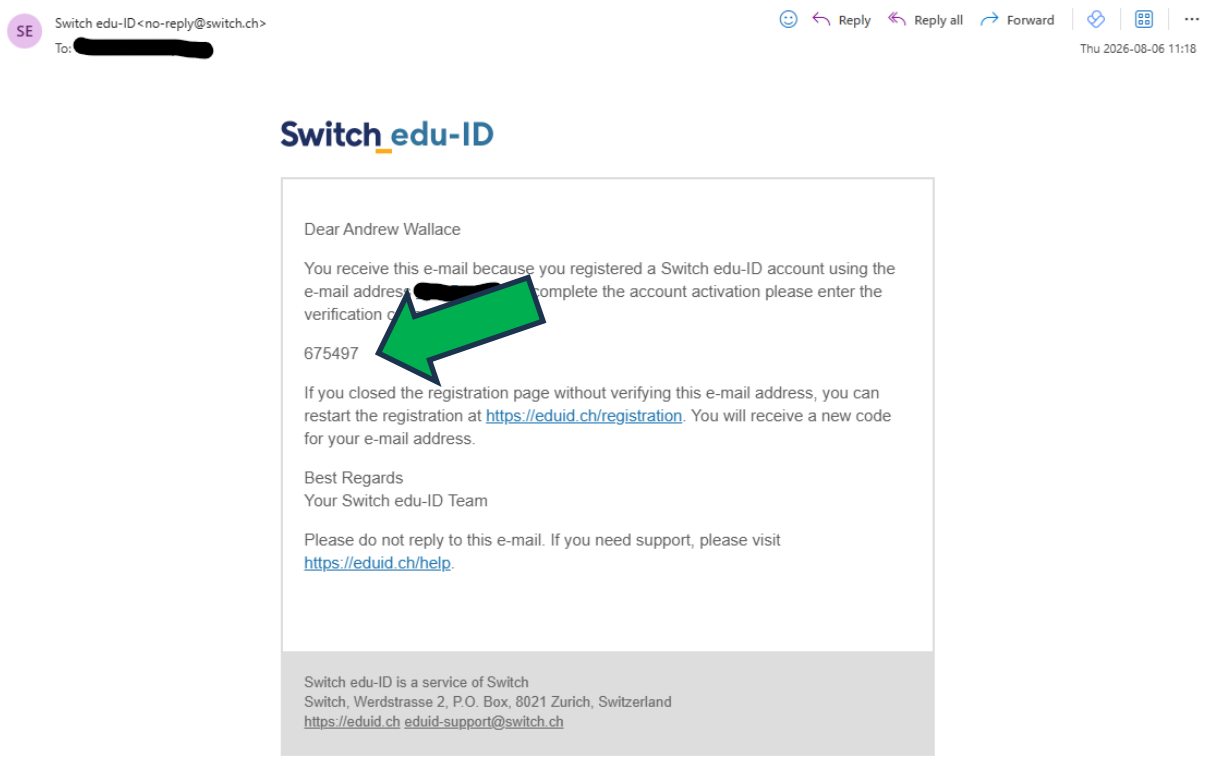


Note: If the “Register” button is not visible, that means that there is already an active SWITCH edu-ID session. In this case, you should not create a new account. Proceed with chapter *2 Initiate your scholarship application in GO ESKAS*.

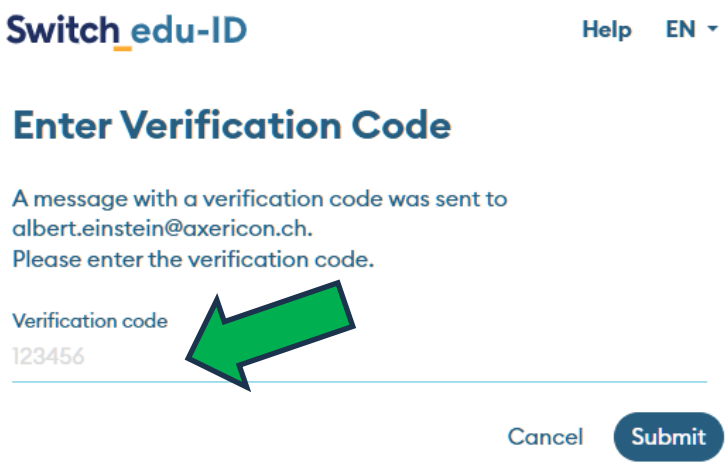
The button will also not be visible if another person has created an account on the same device. In this situation, open another browser and try this step using the browser in “private mode” or after deleting the browser cookies.

1.3 Confirm Your Email Address

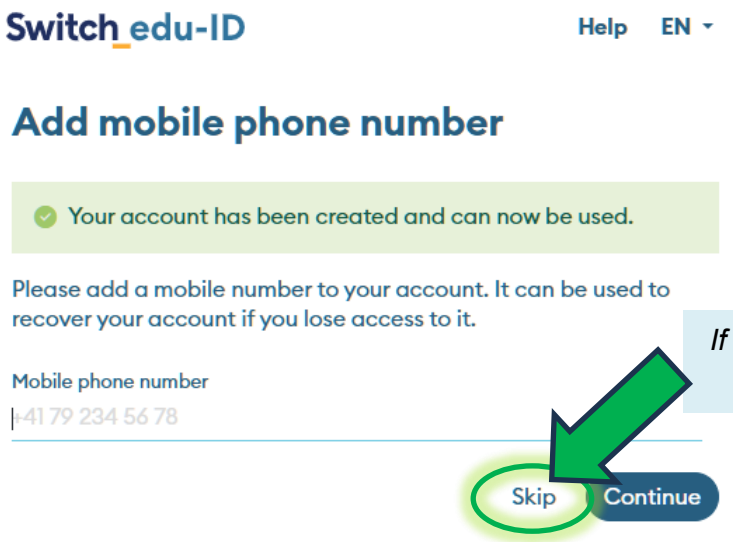
1. Check your email inbox for a verification email from SWITCH.



2. **Enter verification code** or click on the **confirmation link** to verify your email address.



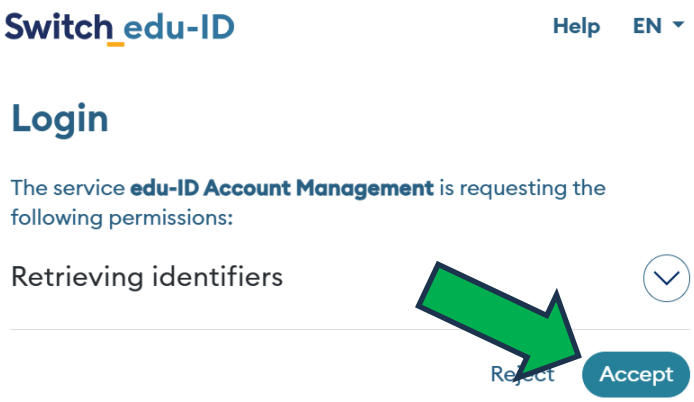
3. You will be redirected to complete your SWITCH edu-ID profile. Skip “Add mobile phone number” at this point.



If you don’t have a swiss telephone number, please click “skip”.

Note: You must confirm your email address within 7 days after activating the account at SWITCH edu-ID.

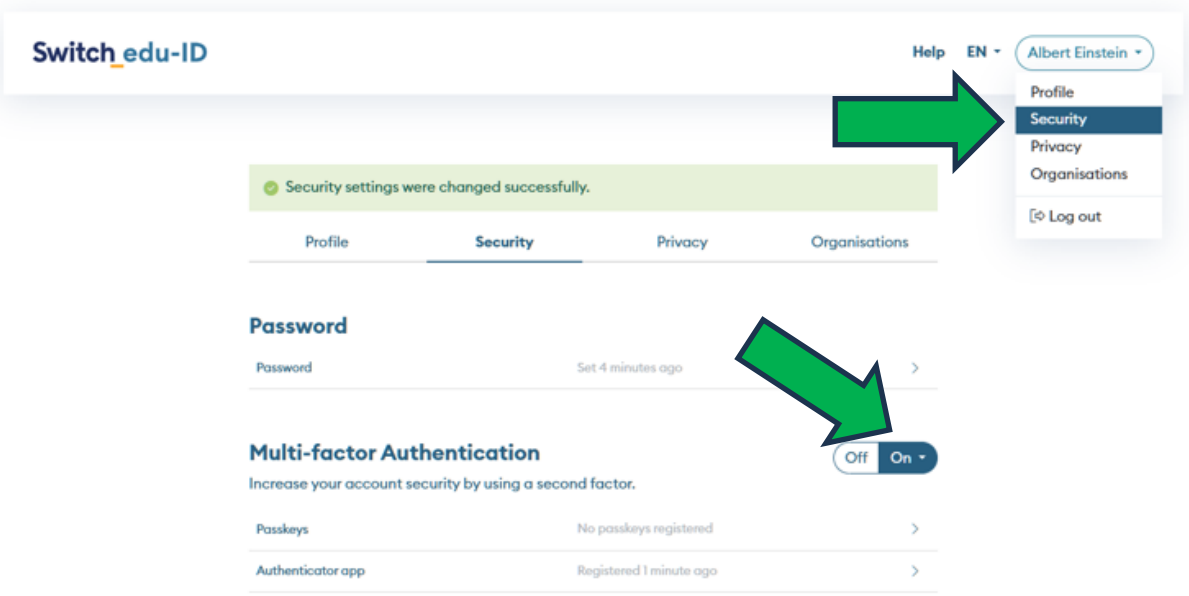
4. Accept **“Retrieving identifiers”**



1.4 Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

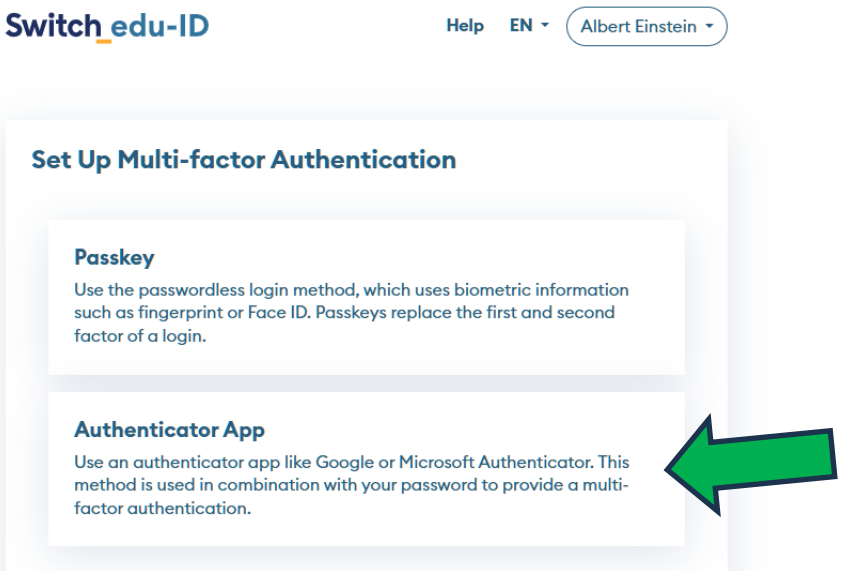
To use your Switch edu-ID with GO ESKAS, two-factor authentication must be enabled. You will not be allowed to log in to GO ESKAS if you have not enabled two-factor authentication in your Switch edu-ID.

1. Move on to the **“Security”** section by clicking on your user name and selecting Security from the menu. Then change the **“Multi-factor Authentication”** setting to on

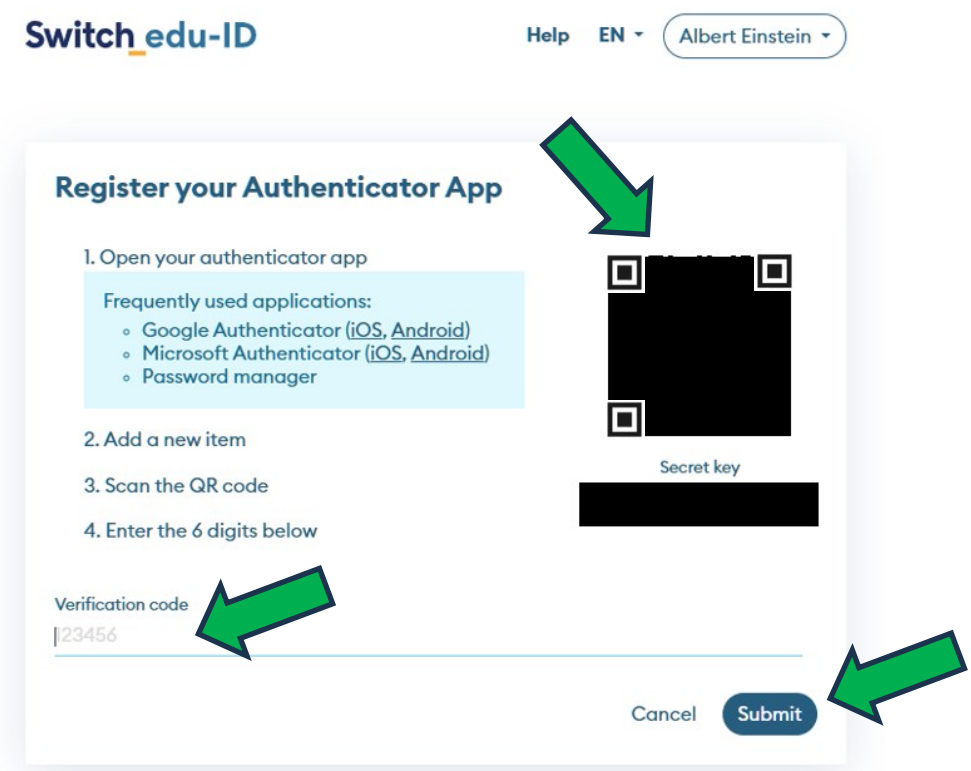


2. Click on “**Authenticator App**”

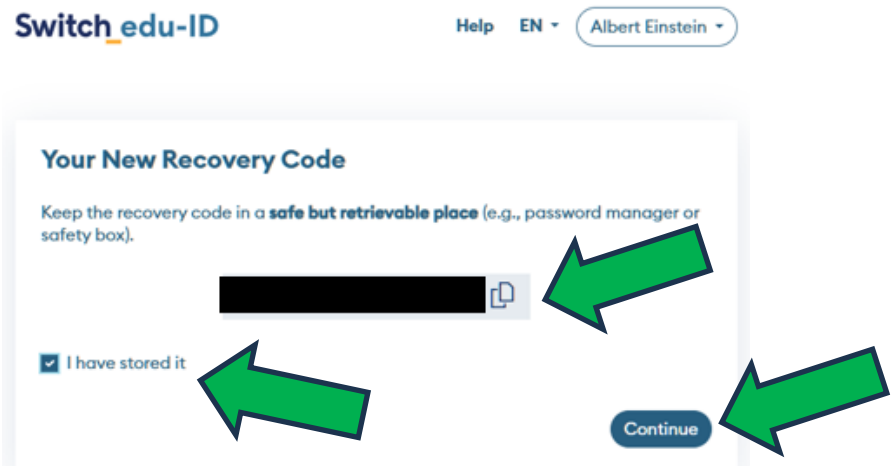
You may also use Passkey, if you prefer. This guide explains how to use an authenticator app. Therefore it is recommended to select “Authenticator App” here.



3. Register your **Authenticator App**
   a. Open an authenticator app of your choice on your mobile phone (frequently used apps are Google Authenticator or Microsoft Authenticator)
   b. Add a new item in your authenticator app. The app will prompt you to scan a QR-Code.
   c. With your authenticator app, scan the QR code shown by Switch edu-ID
   d. The authenticator app displays a 6 digits code. Enter those 6 digits in the field "**Verification code**" displayed by Switch edu-ID.
   e. Click "**Submit**"



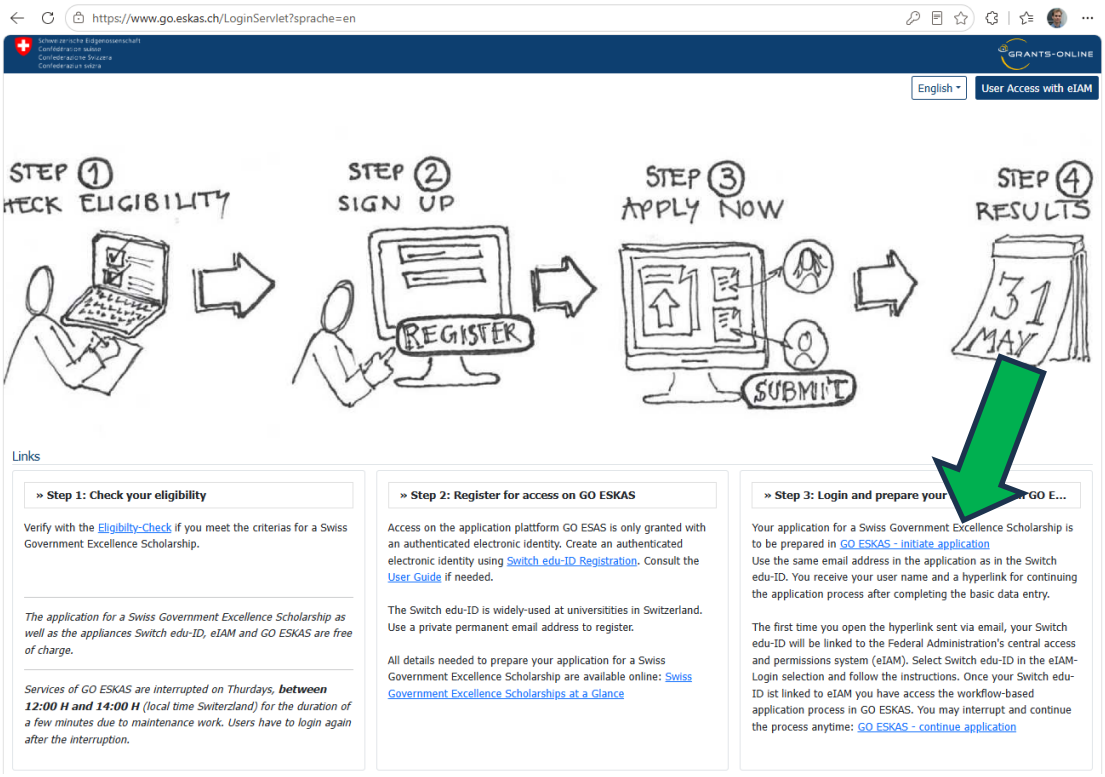
4. Store the **recovery code in a safe but retrievable place,** confirm **"I have stored it**", and click **"Continue"** and move on to chapter *2 Initiate your scholarship application in GO ESKAS.*



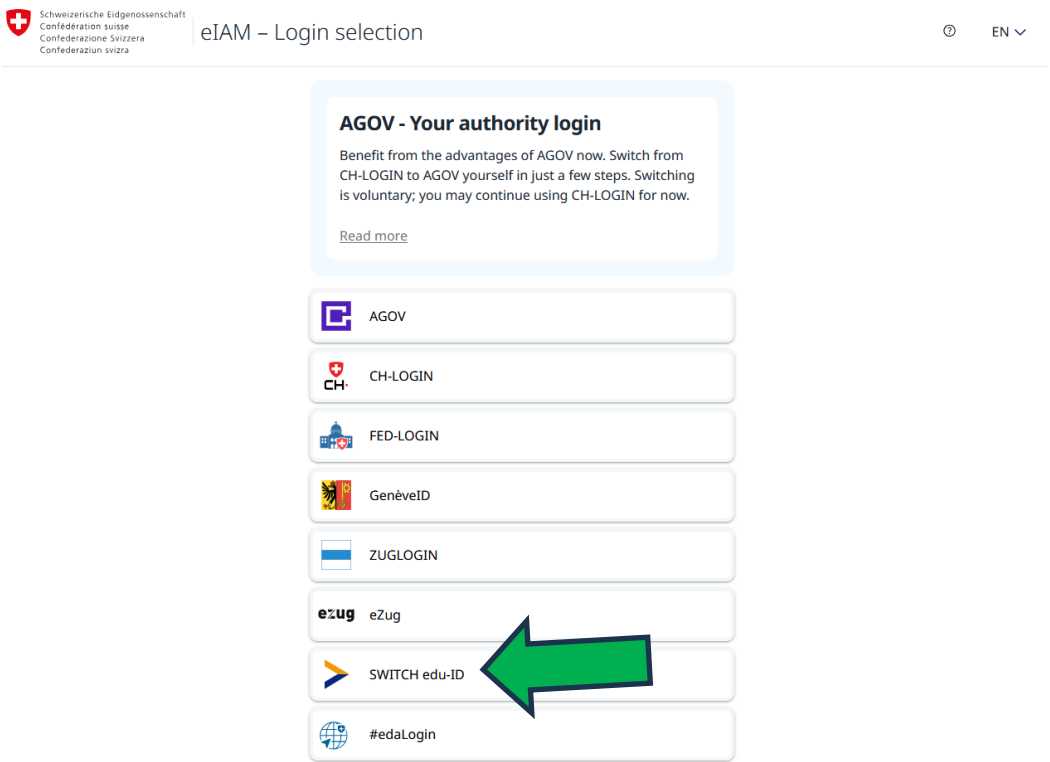
2 Initiate your scholarship application in GO ESKAS

1. Open your browser and go to **https://www.go.eskas.ch**

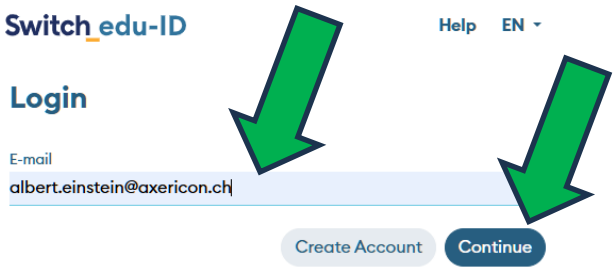
2. Select the link to initiate a new application



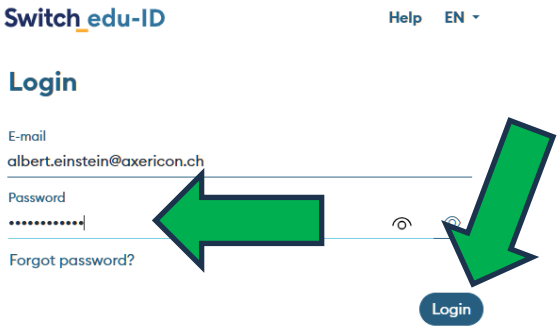
3. You are prompted to select your login method. Click on “**SWITCH edu-ID**”. You might need to scroll down to see the SWITCH edu-ID login method in the list.



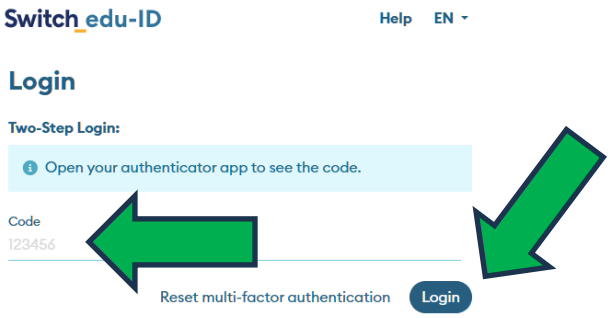
4. You are forwarded to the Switch edu-ID login page. Enter the **email address you used for your SWITCH edu-ID account** and click “**Continue**”



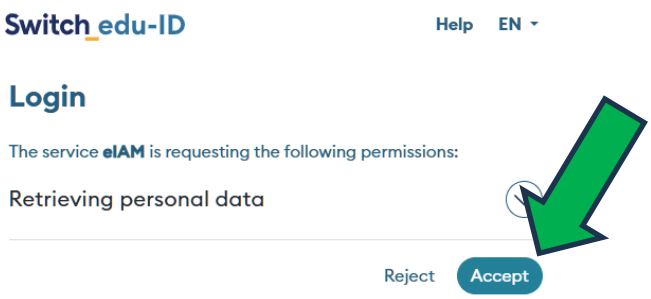
5. Enter your **password** and click “**Login**”.



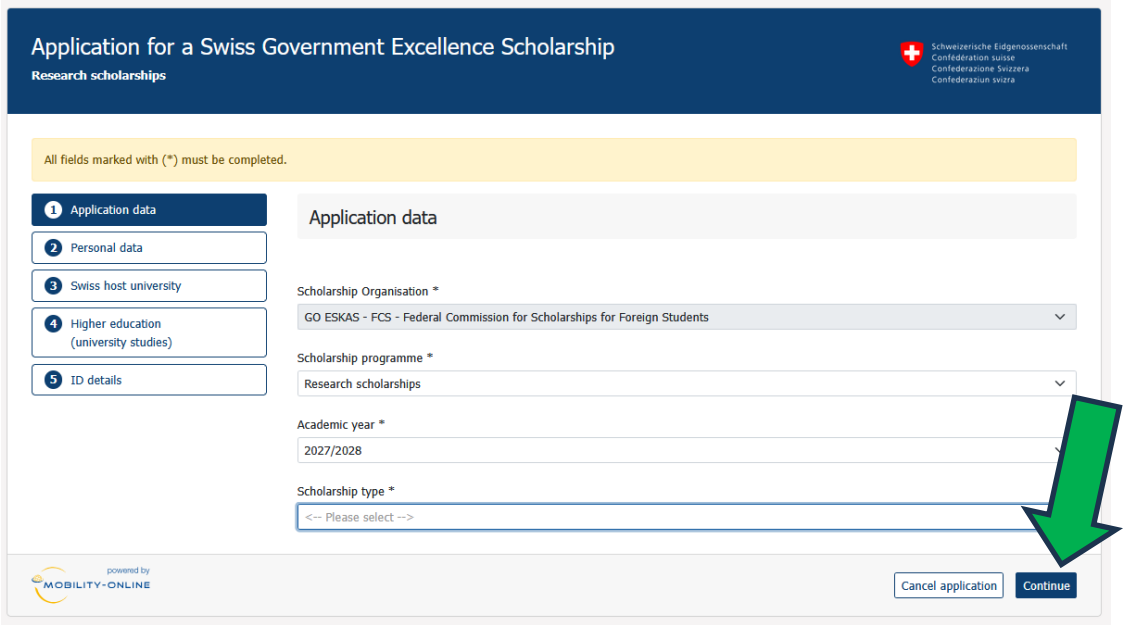
6. Open your authenticator app, find the 6 digit code, enter it in the field “code” and click “Login”



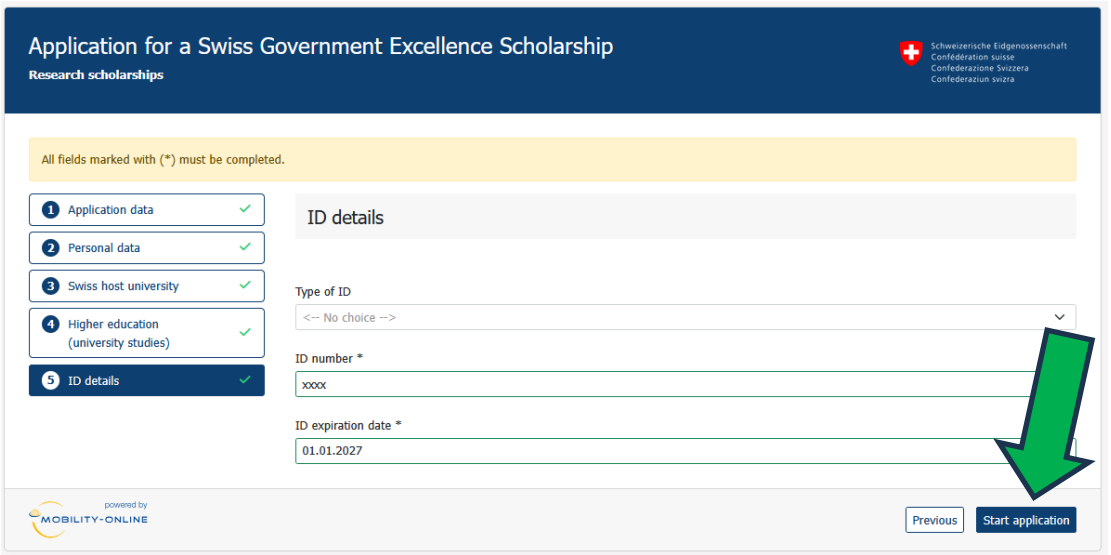
7. Allow GO ESKAS to read your Name and Email address from your Switch edu-ID by clicking on “Accept”.



8. You are forwarded to the GO ESKAS application form, which consists of five pages. Fill in the fields and move to the next page by clicking “continue”.



9. After having completed all fields on all five pages, click on “Start application”.



10. Check your mailbox of the email address you have just entered in the GO ESKAS application form in the previous step. You received an email notification that your login was created.

    You can now proceed with step *3 Login to GO ESKAS*.

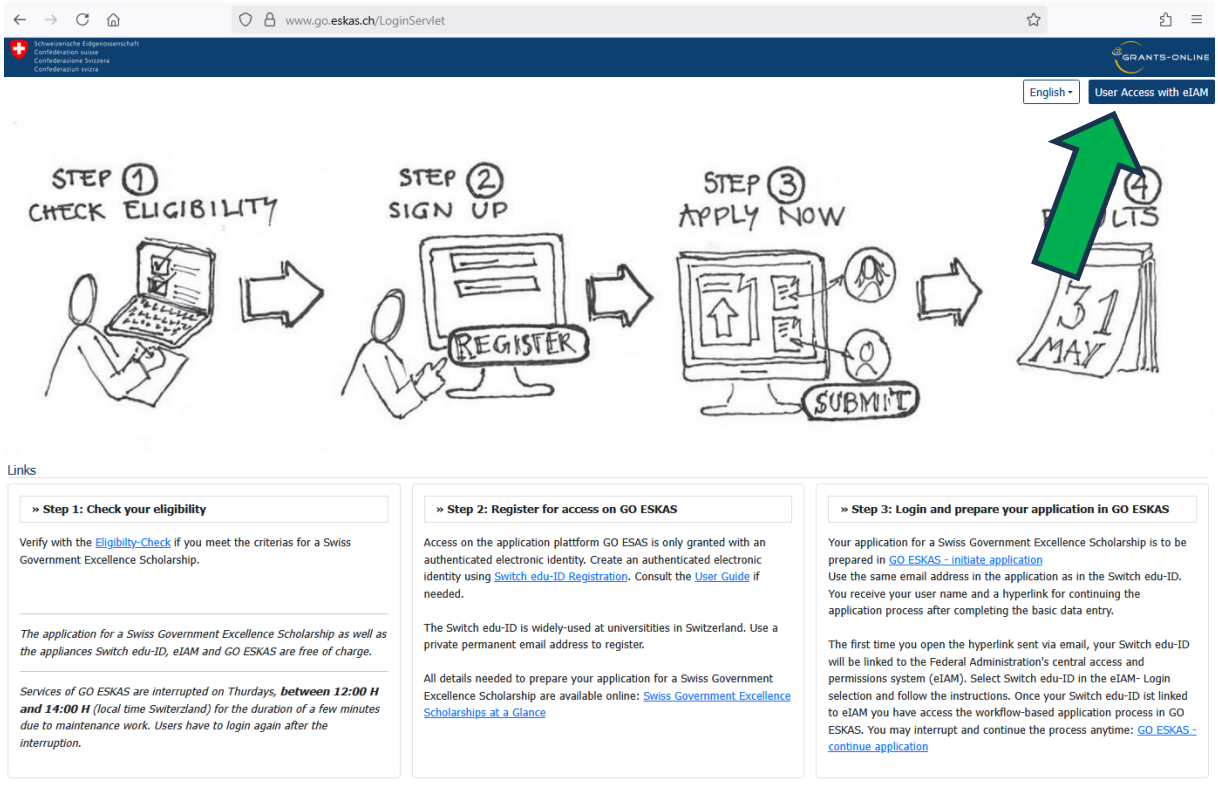
3 Login to GO ESKAS

3.1 Prerequisites

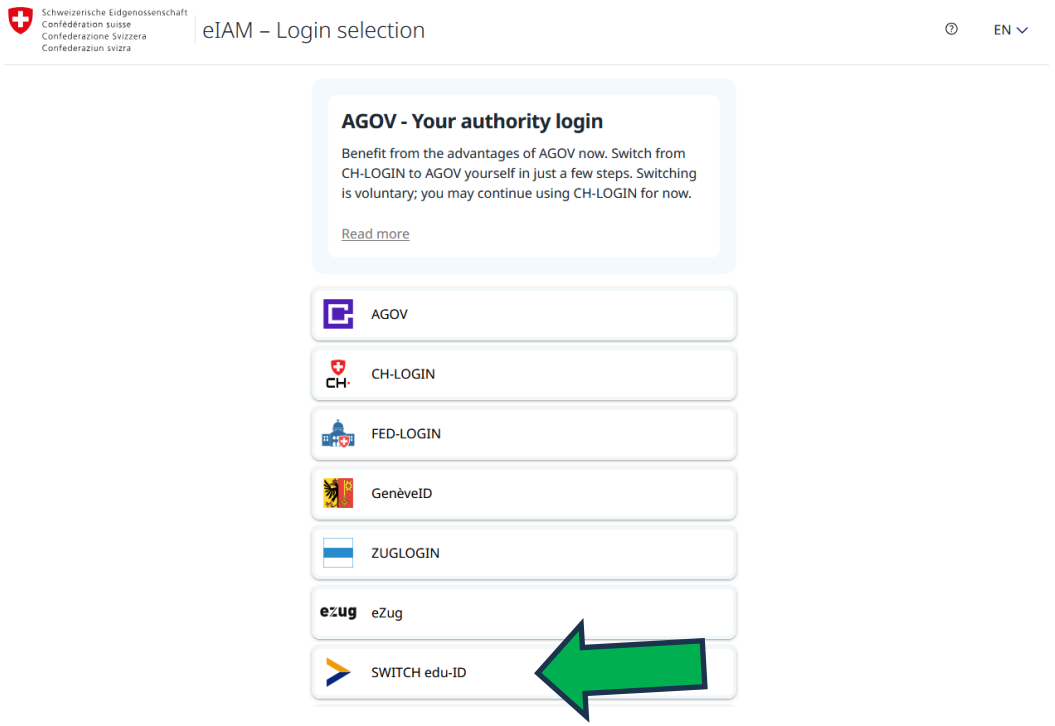
You have a SWITCH edu-ID (see chapter *1 Create a new SWITCH edu-ID*) and you have initiated your GO ESKAS Scholarship application (see chapter *2 Initiate your scholarship application in GO ESKAS*). As a result, you have a user account in GO ESKAS.

3.2 Login routine

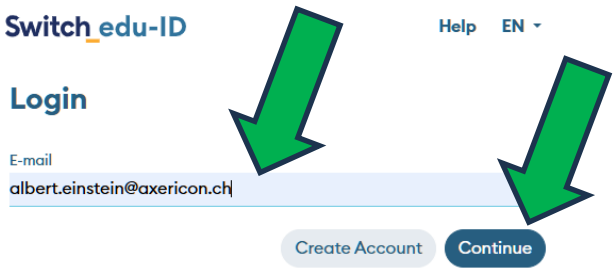
1. Open **https://www.go.eskas.ch** in your browser
2. Click “User Access with eIAM”



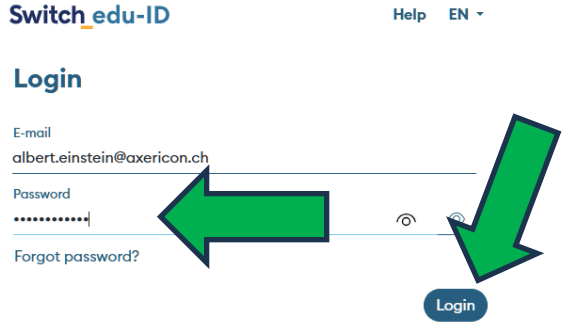
3. You are prompted to select your login method. Click on “SWITCH edu-ID”. You might need to scroll down to see the SWITCH edu-ID login method in the list.



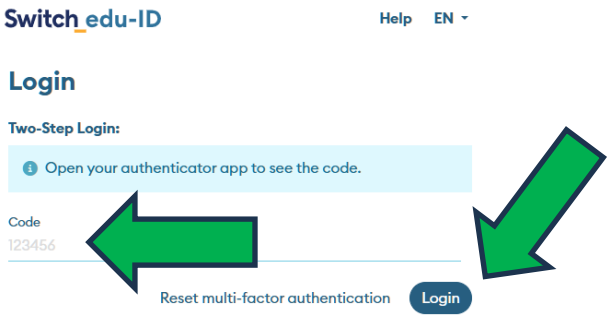
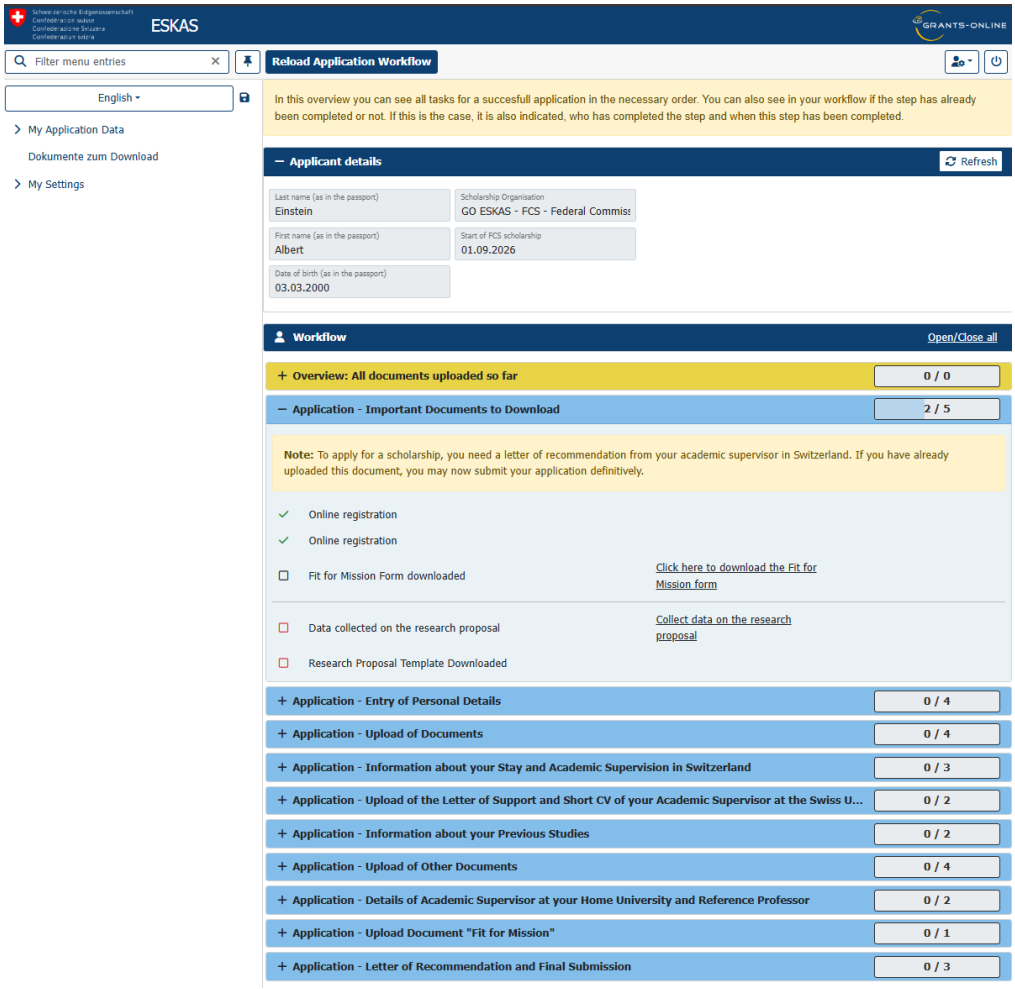
4. You are forwarded to the Switch edu-ID login page. Enter the **email address you used for your SWITCH edu-ID account** and click “**Continue**”



5. Enter your **password** and click “**Login**”.



6. Open your authenticator app, find the 6 digit code, enter it in the field “code” and click “Login”



7. Start / continue working in the application workflow of GO ESKAS