



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF FARRIERS ASSOCIATIONS EFFA

In 2009, EFFA asked its member associations a range of questions about farriery training, regulation and the numbers of horses and farriers. EFFA plans to put the results on its website, but in the meantime the following summary makes interesting reading, and will be especially useful to any farrier thinking of working abroad. There is information from Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland. Ireland and Spain were asked to respond but did not do so.

Training

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

- Age 15: Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland
Age 16: Austria, France, GB, Holland
Age 18: Hungary
Age 19: Sweden
Not answered: Finland

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

- No: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, GB, Hungary and Switzerland
Not answered: Finland, Holland and Sweden

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

- Austria: Currently 1 year, which will increase to 3 years
Czech Republic: (a) 3 years; (b) unlimited
Denmark: 4 years
Finland: not answered
France: 2 or 3 years (no limit for mature students)
Germany: 3.5 years experience plus 4 months at college for those with no previous training. The experience can be reduced to 2 or even 1 year for mature students who have completed training in another discipline.
GB: 4 years, 2 months

- Holland: (a) 3 years, (b) 2 years
Hungary: 2 years/4 semesters
Sweden: 1 or 2 years depending on college
Switzerland: 4 years

How many students are in training at any one time?

- Austria: 20 to 25 per year
Czech Republic: 10
Denmark: 20 to 25
Finland: not answered
France: not answered
Germany: About 80 per year
GB: 450
Holland: 30 students per study year
Hungary: 15
Sweden: 90
Switzerland: 80

Are there any limits on number of students?

- No: Austria, Denmark, Holland and Sweden.
Yes: Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, GB, Hungary and Switzerland.
No answer: France

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

(a) Full time college:

France (option)

(b) With master farrier:

None

(c) Combination of college and master:

Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France (option), Germany, GB, Holland, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland.

How many colleges teach farriery?

- 0: Czech Republic: None until new qualification implemented.
1: Denmark and Hungary
2: Austria
3: GB and Holland
4: Sweden
3: Switzerland
10: France and Germany



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

- No: Austria, Czech Republic (school leavers), Denmark, GB (if grant available), Sweden and Switzerland
- Yes: Czech Republic mature students (900 Euros), Finland, Germany (4500 euros), GB (12000 Euros where no grant available), Holland school leavers (1000 Euros, mature students 21 Euros), Hungary (3000 Euros).
- Not answered: France

Is the student in paid employment while training?

- Yes: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, GB, Hungary and Switzerland
- No: Czech Republic, Holland and Sweden

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

- Yes, EFFA standard: Austria and Czech Republic.
- Yes: Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, GB, Holland, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland

Does the examination include (a) shoemaking, (b) shoeing, (c) oral, (d) written paper?

- (a) shoemaking, (b) shoeing and (c) oral:**
Austria
- (a) shoemaking, (b) shoeing, (c) oral and (d) written:**
Czech republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, GB, Holland and Hungary
- (a) shoemaking, (b) shoeing and (d) written paper:**
Sweden

Are EFFA standards incorporated into the national training scheme?

- Yes: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Holland and Hungary
- No: France, Sweden and Switzerland

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

- Yes: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, GB, Holland and Switzerland
- No: France, Germany (approval pending final endorsement), Hungary and Sweden

If not yet accredited, is this planned in the next five years?

- Yes: France, Germany, Hungary and Sweden

Is your training and examination system recognised by Government?

- Yes: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, GB, Holland, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland

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

- Yes: Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, GB, Holland, Sweden and Switzerland
- No: Austria, Finland, France and Hungary

Is there a list of master farriers and how many it be obtained?

- Yes: Austria (info@hufschmiederverband.at); Czech Republic (Czech Farriery Association website); Denmark (from the Government); Finland; Germany (www.edhv.de); GB (www.farrierytraining.co.uk); Holland (Aequor); Sweden (Swedish Farrier) and Switzerland (Schweizerische Metall-Union)



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Regulation

Is there any restriction on who may carry out foot trimming?

No: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, GB, Holland, Sweden and Switzerland

Yes: Germany and Hungary

Is there any restriction on who may practise farriery?

No: Austria, Denmark, Finland, Holland and Sweden

Yes: Czech Republic, France, Germany, GB, Hungary and Switzerland

Is there a difference in the requirements between EU farriers and those from elsewhere?

No: Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary and Sweden

Yes: GB and Switzerland

Is the responsible Government department (a) animal welfare or (b) metalworking?

Animal welfare: Czech Republic, France, Germany, GB, Holland and Sweden

Metalworking: Austria, Denmark, Hungary and Switzerland

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

Yes: Austria and Hungary

No: Switzerland

In Denmark, the move is being considered.

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

Yes: Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, GB, Holland and Switzerland

No: Denmark, Hungary and Sweden

Has relevant national legislation been introduced?

Yes: Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, GB, Holland and Switzerland

No: Hungary and Sweden

Numbers

What is the best estimate of the number of (a) horses, (b) ponies, (c) donkeys?

Austria: total 105'000

Czech Republic: total 65'000

Denmark: total 212'000 (160'000 horses; 50'000 ponies and 2'000 donkeys)

Finland: not answered

France: total 1m

Germany: 1.1m horses and ponies, 12'000 donkeys

GB: total 940'000

Holland: total 405'000 (350'000 horses, 50'000 ponies and 5'000 donkeys)

Hungary: total 8'575 (5'800 horses, 475 ponies and 2'300 donkeys)

Sweden: total 300'000

Switzerland: total 94'800 (70'000 horses, 22'000 ponies 2'800 donkeys)



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How many full-time farriers are there?

Austria:	240 full-time, 32 part-time
Czech Republic:	50 full-time, 300 part-time
Denmark:	250 full-time, 100-150 part-time
Finland:	not answered
France:	1000 full-time; 500 part-time
Germany:	total 3500
GB:	total 2500
Holland:	200 full-time; 500 part-time
Hungary:	100-120 full-time; 50-60 part-time
Sweden:	400 full-time; 600 part-time
Switzerland:	200 full-time; 100 part-time

Further information on which national bodies are responsible for setting standards of training, which bodies set the requirements for practising farriers and what those requirements are can be obtained from the national farriery associations listed on the EFFA website (www.eurofarrier.org).

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