



USER'S GUIDE to Hungary



2023



Welcome!

Whether you are a prospective student, an applicant or already a scholarship holder – whether you are about to graduate or already our devoted alumnus: this guide is the perfect companion on your journey with the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship!

On the following pages, we collected the most important information on studying in Hungary: you can read interesting facts and stories about the country, learn more about applying for the scholarship and gain an in-depth understanding of the everyday life in Hungary.

We wish you professional development and plentiful new skills, but most importantly: a wonderful journey!

Study in Hungary Team



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**AT A
GLANCE**



**What is the
Stipendium Hungaricum
Scholarship?**

**10 Years of
Stipendium Hungaricum**

Why Hungary?

Why study here?





WHAT IS THE STIPENDIUM HUNGARICUM SCHOLARSHIP?

In a nutshell

The Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship is the most prestigious higher education scholarship programme of the Hungarian Government that offers a wide range of courses for international students with an excellent academic track record.

The scholarship is already available in more than 90 countries and territories, attracting nearly 5000 international students each year. Applicants are offered around 800 full degree programmes, covering all higher education fields at all degree levels, including part-time and doctoral programmes.

93% of our scholarship holders would choose Hungary again, which we see as an inspiration to further broaden the scope of the scholarship in the future.

Our mission

The Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship programme was established by the Hungarian Government to promote the internationalisation of Hungarian higher education and to attract top foreign students from all around the world who can establish personal and professional attachments to Hungary while enjoying high-quality education in the heart of Europe.

When the graduates return to their home countries with marketable skills and knowledge, they can build civil, political and economic relationships, contributing to Hungary's image and recognition abroad.



10 YEARS OF STIPENDIUM HUNGARICUM

In 2023 the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme celebrates its 10th anniversary. During the past decade, the programme has become a brand in its own right, demonstrating Hungary's commitment to supporting international education and cultural exchange.

The programme's success is a testament to the excellence and competitiveness of Hungarian higher education as well as the country's contribution to knowledge diplomacy.





10 STIPENDIUM HUNGARICUM

The scholarship programme plays a crucial role in strengthening bilateral relations between Hungary and the SH partner countries as well as higher education institutions. Additionally, the programme allows students to showcase Hungary's rich cultural heritage and promote cultural exchange between nations. The expanding alumni network serves as a strong pillar for bilateral relations and further fosters Hungary's cultural and educational diplomacy.



WHY HUNGARY?

In the centre

Located in the heart of Europe, from Hungary you can easily reach the most iconic places of the continent: Vienna, Berlin, Rome or the Adriatic Sea are all within your reach. Immerse yourself in the thousand-years old cultural heritage of the region and discover its marvellous treasures while studying in Hungary.

As a hub, Hungary is also in the unique position of having an exceptionally vibrant international scene: thousands of students from all around the world gather here every year to improve their professional skills and knowledge while acquiring international experience that they can rely on later during their careers.





Opportunity

While situated in the centre of Europe, Hungary has the unique feature of being a highly accessible and affordable country. While studying in the country you won't need a substantial budget to reach the most exciting places or enjoy the vibrant culture with longstanding traditions that are worth discovering. Hungary also has an exceptional youth life: world-famous festivals and exhibitions are all around the corner for you to enjoy.

At the same time Hungary is also one of the safest countries in Europe: according to the Global Peace Index of 2023, Hungary is the 18th safest country in the world allowing you to fully focus on your studies and leisure activities.







SIZE:	93,000 square kilometres
DIMENSIONS:	250 km (North-South) and 524 km (East-West)
POPULATION:	9.8 million
CAPITAL:	Budapest (1.7 million)
LARGEST OTHER CITIES:	Debrecen, Szeged, Miskolc, Pécs, Győr
CLIMATE:	dry continental with four seasons
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:	Hungarian
NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES:	Austria, Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Romania, Ukraine
GOVERNMENT:	parliamentary constitutional republic
CURRENCY:	Hungarian forint (HUF)
TIME ZONE:	CET (GMT +1)

WHY STUDY HERE?

Excellence in higher education

Hungarian higher education represents academic excellence with more than 650 years of experience.

Currently there are 28 Hungarian higher education institutions engaged in the Stipendium Hungaricum Programme offering more than 800 study programmes conducted primarily in English.

Since Hungary has always been an integral member of the European higher education community, studying here means that you have the opportunity to obtain an internationally recognised and widely renowned European degree. The high international quality of the Hungarian diplomas also grants you the global perspective, indispensable for advancing in today's labour market.

At the same time, studying in Hungary also means that you can learn in modern university facilities from open-minded professors with extensive international experience.





Boundless research opportunities

Hungarian research and innovation have an exceptional international reputation – there are around 150 university research groups in all fields of study. Most of these operate within a university faculty or department but they are also connected with larger independent research centres, with state-of-the-art laboratories and infrastructure.

Thanks to the internationally highly integrated research community in Hungary, you may also have the opportunity to work in cooperation with other university research groups from all parts of the world, publish in national and international journals and present your results at various scientific conferences and events.

At the same time, multiple Hungarian universities have Colleges for Advanced Studies to further expand your knowledge in a specific field of study and you can also participate in the Students' Scientific Association, the most important talent management organisation in Hungary.





**A
GUIDE
TO YOUR
JOURNEY**



**Are you interested?
Learn more!**



**Are you applying?
Follow these steps!**



**Are you a scholarship
holder? Prepare!**



**Have you arrived to
Hungary? Discover!**



**Are you graduating?
Stay in touch!**

Brief history



9th century

The conquest of the Carpathian Basin and the foundation of Hungary

The Hungarian tribes from the mountains of the Urals arrived in the Carpathian Basin in 895–896, then conquered the territory and settled down. One hundred years later our first king, Stephen I, founded and established the Kingdom of Hungary as a Christian European country.



15th century

Matthias Corvinus and the Hunyadi era

One of Hungary's most glorious eras was the time of the Hunyadi family in the 15th century, during which Matthias Corvinus the Righteous reigned as the greatest king in the Hungarian history and transformed the country into one of the most important European nations.



16th century

Ottoman rule

Following the battle of Mohács in 1526, the country was divided into three parts due to the Ottoman occupation in Hungary: the Habsburgs controlled the western and northern parts; the Turkish the central area; and as the successor and stronghold of Hungarian culture, the independent Principality of Transylvania held the south-east.



19th century

The Hungarian Revolution of 1848

Following the period of the Spring of Nations across Europe, the Hungarians revolted against the Habsburgs of Austria. As a result of this turbulent era, a compromise was reached with the Habsburgs in 1867 which resulted in the foundation of the Austro-Hungarian Empire – one of the most significant political and economic powerhouses in Europe.



Did you know?

People in Hungary wear a red, white and green circular badge called a 'kokárda' on 15th March in commemoration of the revolt in 1848.



World War I

After 4 years of war and as a result of the peace treaty in 1919, the Austro-Hungarian Empire was dismantled and the independent state of Hungary assumed its final geographic size and spread. Even today more than 2 million Hungarians live in the surrounding countries, such as Romania, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine, Austria and Slovenia.



World War II and the Soviet occupation

By the end of World War II, the Soviets drove the German troops out of the country in 1945 and occupied Hungary for the next four and a half decades.

The Hungarian revolution of 1956

As part of the revolutionary wave in the Eastern Bloc, the Hungarian revolution of 1956 is considered as one of the symbols of resistance against the Soviets during the cold war era. Although the revolution was eventually suppressed, it marked the beginning of a new era. Commemorating the heroes of the revolution, 23 October is a national holiday in Hungary.



The fall of the Soviet rule and the democratic transformation of Hungary

By the end of the 1980s, the swift changes in the Soviet bloc and in the Soviet Union itself led to the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9th November 1989, which affected the entire eastern part of Europe. Countries became free from Soviet rule and Hungary became an independent republic for the third time. The first democratic, multi-party elections were held in 1990.



Joining the European Union

After joining NATO in 1999, Hungary became a member of the European Union in 2004 along with 9 other countries. In 2011 Hungary held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first time.



20th century

21st century

National holidays

There will be some days when you don't have to go to university and some stores, cinemas etc. will be closed or their working hours and services will be reduced. These happen on national holidays that are the following throughout the year:

- 1st January: New Year's Day
- 15th March: the anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution in 1848
- Good Friday: different every year – the Friday before Easter
- Easter: its exact days are different every year but usually in March or April, from Good Friday through Easter Monday
- Pentecost Monday: 50 days after Easter, usually in May or June
- 1st May: Labour Day
- 20th August: Saint Stephen's Day, who was the founder of Hungary
- 23rd October: National Day in memory of the 1956 revolution
- 1st November: All Saints' Day
- 24–26th December: Christmas





There will be some days that are not holidays but regardless, are widely celebrated in Hungary and you should know about:

- 1st Sunday of May: Mothers' Day
- 6th December: Saint Nicholas' Day
- 31st December: New Year's Eve

Did you know?

Hungarians not only celebrate their birthday but their name day as well and it is sometimes just as important as their birthday. You can follow every name day if you buy a calendar in Hungary!



Language

The official language of the country is Hungarian ("magyar"), which is among the 24 official languages of the European Union. Hungarian is a unique language being one of the only Finno-Ugric languages in Europe. It is spoken by about 10 million people in Hungary, but there are major populations of Hungarian speakers across the border as well. The Hungarian alphabet consists of 44 letters in total, including 14 vowels and as Hungarian is an agglutinative language, some words can be more than 20 letters long. Although learning Hungarian seems to be quite challenging at first, this unique and exotic language is worth a try. As a Stipendium Hungaricum student, you will take part in Hungarian language courses in the first two semesters of your studies, so get ready to discover the beauty of this thousand-year-old language.

TIP!

Find out more about ways to develop your Hungarian language skills in the Learning Hungarian chapter. Use our mini dictionary at the back of this guide as a quick reference guide.

Climate and weather

Hungary has a relatively dry continental climate which, for many international students, can be very different from that of their own country's. Hungary has four different seasons and while summers are warm and sunny, winters can be rather cold. Average temperatures range from -7°C in January to 27°C in July and August.

However, the country is protected from extreme weather conditions by the surrounding mountain ranges, the Alps and the Carpathians.

It is not always easy to find the right clothes to suit the weather, but the beauty of each season definitely makes up for it.



Are you interested? Learn more! 



A GUIDE TO YOUR JOURNEY



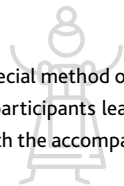


Hungaricums

Hungaricums identify values that are widely cherished and important to Hungarians. Here is a short list that you should know about!

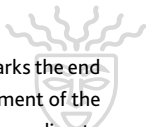
Táncház Method

The Táncház (dance-house) model is a special method of teaching folk dance and preserving intangible cultural heritage: participants learn dances from tradition bearers by observation and imitation, with the accompaniment of live music.



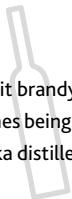
Busó Festivities

This 6-day annual festival in Mohács, located in southern Hungary, marks the end of winter each February. The festival is named 'busó' in acknowledgement of the costumed men wearing wooden masks and large sheepskin coats. According to legend, the roots of the festival date back to the Battle of Mohács in 1526, when villagers dressed up as fearsome monsters to frighten away the occupying Turkish forces.



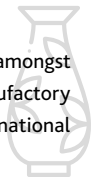
Pálinka

Pálinka is a generic name for the fiery fruit brandy often distilled by farmers from home-grown fruits, the most common ones being plums, apricots, apples, cherries and pears. Hungary's most famous pálinka distilleries can be found in Kecskemét.



Porcelain of Herend

The town of Herend offers luxury hand painted and gilded porcelain. Now amongst the biggest porcelain manufactories in Europe, the Herend Porcelain manufactory was founded in 1826 in a small Hungarian village. In 1855, the international exhibition in Paris brought the highest appreciation for Herend.



A GUIDE TO YOUR JOURNEY





Matyó Embroidery

The Matyó community lives in and around the town of Mezőkövesd. The heritage of the community consists of the ethnographic group's living traditional culture, which is embodied by their characteristic style and cultural identity. This folk art is characterised by special floral embroidery filling on textile and ornamented objects.



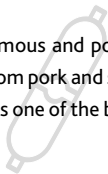
Tokaji Aszú

Described by Louis XIV of France as "the king of wines and the wine of kings", Aszú is in fact even referred to in the Hungarian national anthem. It is one of the world's finest dessert wines.



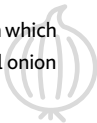
Original Hungarian Wintersalami

The PICK factory in Szeged has been producing this famous and popular salami brand for about 140 years, using a secret recipe. Made from pork and spices, winter salami is cured in cold air and is slowly smoked. Known as one of the best salami in Hungary and in the world.



Makó Onion

The town of Makó, situated in south-eastern Hungary, is famous for its onion which is an important ingredient of traditional Hungarian cuisine. An international onion festival is organised in the region each year, which lasts for three days.



Hungarian Paprika

Paprika powder is one of the most widely used spices in Hungarian cuisine. Due to the favourable climate and geographical conditions, Hungarian paprika has a bright red colour and a distinctively rich flavour. Kalocsa and Szeged in the southern part of Hungary are the heart of paprika production.



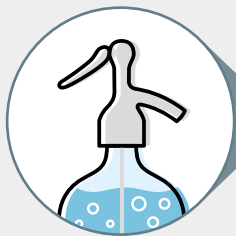
TIP!

Find out more about these Hungaricum's as well as the other **87** on the following list: www.hungarikum.hu/en



Famous Hungarian inventions

Hungarians have always been great at finding innovative ways to solve problems. Here you can find some famous Hungarian scientific and technological inventions that now surround us every day.



CARBONATED WATER

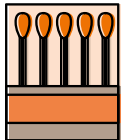
BY ÁNYOS JEDLIK, INVENTOR

The first soda-water machine was invented by Ányos Jedlik in the 1820s, whose name is also linked to the first Hungarian soda manufacturing plant as well. By today, soda water is on the list of Hungaricum.

SAFETY MATCH

BY JÁNOS IRINYI, INVENTOR

The ancestor of the modern safety match was invented by a Hungarian chemist, János Irinyi. He got matches that ignited quietly and smoothly by replacing potassium chlorate with lead oxide.

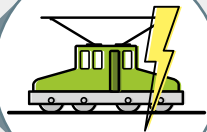




ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE

BY KÁLMÁN KANDÓ, ENGINEER

High-voltage motors and generators were developed by Kálmán Kandó, who was also known as the father of electric locomotives. His work on railway electrification was essential to the birth of today's electric trains.



BALLPOINT PEN

BY LÁSZLÓ BÍRÓ, JOURNALIST, INVENTOR

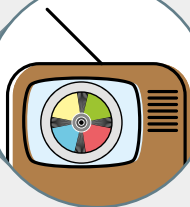
Ball pen, or also called biro after its inventor, is a pen that dispenses ink over a metal ball at its point. Today, it's one of the most widespread writing instruments in the world.

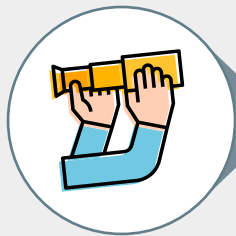


COLOR TELEVISION

BY PÉTER KÁROLY GOLDMARK, PHYSICIST

Field sequential colour technology for colour television was discovered by Péter Károly Goldmark. Among several other inventions, he worked on developing new LP-related technologies as well.





BINOCULARS

BY JÓZSEF PETZVAL

As a mathematician and physicist, József Petzval has unparalleled achievements in optics, developing the binoculars and opera glasses among many other things. His work contributed significantly to modern photography and cinematography.

VITAMIN C

**BY ALBERT SZENTGYÖRGYI,
MEDICAL RESEARCHER**

The importance of vitamins in our health has long been well-known, but it wasn't until the 1930s that Hungarian scientist, Albert Szent-Györgyi discovered the chemical ascorbic acid—also known as vitamin C.



TUNGSTEN LAMP

**BY SÁNDOR JUST AND IMRE BRÓDY,
ENGINEERS**

The Hungarian Sándor Just and Croatian Franjo Hanaman invented a tungsten filament lamp that lasted longer and gave brighter light than its foregoers. Tungsten filament lamps were first sold by the Hungarian company „Tungsram” in 1904.





RUBIK'S CUBE

BY ERNŐ RUBIK, ARCHITECT

Rubik's cube, or also called "Magic Cube", is a 3D combination puzzle, which is still one of the world's best-selling puzzle toys. The World Cube

Association organizes various competitions, where the contestants have to solve the Rubik's cube as fast as possible.



WORD & EXCEL

BY CHARLES SIMONYI,
COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

The softwares, Word and Excel, are surely known by most people in the world. The first versions of these OfficeSuite applications were invented by Charles Simonyi, a Hungarian-born computer programmer.

PREZI BY ZUI LABS

The world-famous presentation software was founded by Zui Labs led by its three Hungarian founders. The word, Prezi is the short form of „presentation" in the Hungarian language



Famous Hungarians

Several Hungarian universities were named after famous Hungarian leaders, inventors or artists, who were great innovators in their work. Check out the list of these famous Hungarians below!



Dénés GÁBOR

Electrical engineer, mechanical engineer, and physicist, who received the Noble Prize in Physics for inventing holography.



Károly ESZTERHÁZY

Eszterházy Károly was the Count Bishop of Eger in the late 18th century. Among others, the construction of the famous Lyceum in Eger can be linked to his name.



Loránd EÖTVÖS

A Hungarian physicist, who is famous for his work on gravitation and surface tension, and the invention of the torsion pendulum. Among others, the Eötvös crater on the moon was named after him.



Ferenc LISZT

Pianist and composer, whose play was fabled throughout the world in the 19th century. His works are essential to understand classical music and his legacy changed music education forever.



Gáspár KÁROLI

The most famous Hungarian Calvinist. He translated the Bible into Hungarian in the 16th century (Vizsoly Bible), which was the first Hungarian translation of the Old and New Testaments.



Ignác SEMMELWEIS

The physician who discovered that the principal reason behind childbed fever was insufficient hand disinfection. He is known as the 'saviour of mothers'.



István SZÉCHENYI

Politician, polyhistor, one of the main figures of the reform era. He is famous for the construction of the Chain Bridge located in Budapest, the founding of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and the opening of the National Theatre.



János NEUMANN

The ancestor of all modern computers was invented by János Neumann, a famous mathematician. His so-called "Neumann Principles" laid down the foundations of modern computers.



László MOHOLY-NAGY

A Hungarian painter and photographer, the professor of the Bauhaus school in Germany. He is famous for his pioneering work by integrating technology and industry into arts.



Péter PÁZMÁNY

The archbishop of Esztergom, a cardinal and a leading figure of the Catholic renewal of Hungary. He played an important role in the creation of the Hungarian literary language.



A GUIDE TO YOUR JOURNEY



Debrecen



Budapest



Szeged



University towns

BUDAPEST

Budapest is the capital of Hungary, located in the heart of the country. As lying on the banks of the Danube River, Budapest is divided into two main parts: the romantic Buda side with its beautiful hilly surroundings, and the vibrant Pest full of culture and life. The city offers a fusion of various cultural and historic values preserved by its architecture, cosy streets, and numerous exciting events. Budapest, including the Banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle Quarter and the Andrassy Avenue were selected among the UNESCO world heritage sites. The city is not only a cultural, but an educational hub as well – half of Hungary's university students study here, so you will meet a diverse student community coming from all parts of the world.

DEBRECEN

Debrecen is the regional centre of the Northern Great Plain and the seat of Hajdú-Bihar County. The city has a unique balance of centuries-old traditions, where you can find several excellent art exhibitions, various folk programmes as well as many sports and leisure events. One of the most famous of all is the Flower Carnival, which takes place each year on 20th August, and offers amazing cultural experience with parades and numerous concerts. Debrecen is home to the **University of Debrecen**, located in the beautiful "Great Forest" area. With a student body of about 28,500, the University is one of the largest higher education institutions in Hungary offering more than 80 programmes in almost every study field.

SZEGED

Szeged is the regional centre of South-Eastern Hungary and the seat of Csongrád-Csanád County. The city lies at the bank of the Tisza River, which gives a picturesque view to the entire area nearby. Szeged gives home to numerous cultural programmes and festivals, such as the famous Szeged Open-Air Festival at the marvellous Cathedral Square or the annually organised SZIN (Youth Days of Szeged), which won the Greener Festival Awards in 2009. With its 12 faculties,

19 doctoral schools and a Teacher Training Centre, the **University of Szeged** is among the largest and most prestigious higher education institutions in Hungary. The institution has about 22,000 students with a 14% international student ratio, and offers a wide range of academic programmes from humanities to business studies and even health sciences.

MISKOLC

Miskolc is the seat of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County and the regional centre of Northern Hungary. The city is located at the foothills of the Bükk Mountains, near the UNESCO heritage site of Aggtelek and the world famous Tokaj wine region. Miskolc is full of hidden treasures like the Benedictine Monastery Ruins or the Cave Bath of Miskolctapolca, and it is also famous for the Castle of Diósgyőr with its authentic historic plays. Nowadays, Miskolc is one of the most popular choices for students who come to study in Hungary. Founded in 1735, the **University of Miskolc** became the scientific centre of the region offering programmes in the fields of technical and social sciences as well as humanities.



Miskolc



Pécs



PÉCS

Pécs is located in the south-west of the country and serves as the administrative and economic centre of Baranya County. The city hosts many cultural scenes and historic buildings, such as the Basilica of St. Peter constructed in the 11th century, or the Turkish buildings from the ages of the Ottoman Empire. The city also gives home to the Early Christian Necropolis, an UNESCO World Heritage Site. Thanks to its rich multicultural atmosphere, Pécs was nominated to be the European Capital of Culture in 2010 and received the UNESCO Learning City Award in 2017. The **University of Pécs** was founded in 1367, making it the oldest university in Hungary. It offers a wide scale of degree programmes for more than 20,000 students at 10 faculties, covering nearly every possible field of study.

GYŐR

Győr is located in the north-western part of Hungary. The seat of Győr-Moson-Sopron County lies on one of the most important roads of Central Europe, halfway between Budapest, Vienna and Bratislava. The city has a charming downtown with thousands year-old Christian monasteries, beautiful baroque buildings and romantic riverside boardwalks. The university of Győr, **Széchenyi István University** has an excellent reputation in engineering education, transportation, and telecommunications. For its more than 12,000 students, the university offers first-hand, practice-oriented knowledge and excellent training opportunities through its industrial partners.

NYÍREGYHÁZA

Nyíregyháza is a dynamically developing city located in the northern corner of Hungary. The town is situated next to the holiday resort area of the lake Sóstó ("Salty Lake Bath") with natural thermal water, an open-air museum, a great forest and one of the most famous zoos in Hungary keeping over 500 different species in a natural environment. The **University of Nyíregyháza** is the professional and cultural centre of the region. The university is one of the youngest higher education institutions in Hungary, offering a wide range of educational programmes focusing on applied sciences, like teacher-training, economics, or engineering.



Győr



Nyíregyháza



Veszprém



Eger



The **University of Nyiregyháza** is one of the youngest universities in Hungary, offering a wide range of educational programmes focused on applied sciences like teacher-training or engineering.

VESZPRÉM

Veszprém is one of the most charming cities of Hungary surrounded by the hills of Bakony and the Balaton Uplands. There are many things to see and do in this mountainous, historical town like several festivals (Streetmusic Festival and the VeszprémFest), the famous Castle District or the popular Veszprém Zoo. **University of Pannonia** was founded here in 1949 and offers multiple programmes at three university campuses in Veszprém, Kőszeg and Nagykanizsa. Its programmes cover almost all fields of study from engineering, media studies to economics and various social sciences, with nearly 60 majors at all degree levels. Thanks to its rich cultural and historic heritage, Veszprém held the title of European Capitals of Culture in 2023.

EGER

Eger is located in the northeastern part of Hungary at the feet of the North Hungarian Mountains. The town tells the stories of the Mongol invasion and the Ottoman occupation: the historically significant Castle of Eger, the Turkish Bath, or the Minaret all shape the unique landscape of the region. As being the centre of the Eger wine region, the town gives home to numerous wine cellars and festivals, offering a lot of possibilities to immerse in its culture. It is also known for the famous Bull's Blood wine, the traditional red wine of the region. **Eszterházy Károly Catholic University**, with its seat in Eger, offers available courses ranging from economics and social sciences to pedagogy. Beside Eger, the university has campuses in two other towns as well: Gyöngyös and Sárospatak.



Dunaújváros



Gödöllő

DUNAÚJVÁROS

Dunaújváros is situated in the centre of Hungary, quite near – only 67 km – to Budapest. The town has been mainly known by its industry, as it was built related to the Danube Iron Works, the largest metallurgical-mechanical complex of Hungary. It lies only 50 km from the city of Paks, the seat of the Paks Nuclear Power Plant as well. Dunaújváros has many economic values and excellent infrastructural facilities. The **University of Dunaújváros** is located in the heart of the city with a very modern campus of more than 2000 students enrolled. The university offers a wide range of courses from metallurgical and mechanical engineering to communication and media studies.

GÖDÖLLŐ

Proud of its green, panoramic areas, Gödöllő is a university town located very close to Budapest. The town's most famous sight is the Grassalkovich castle: the 18th-century building is one of the largest Baroque castles in Hungary. With the establishment of the Agrarian University, Gödöllő became an agrarian centre of the country in 1950. Today it gives home to the **Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences** (the former Szent István University), which currently operates not just in Gödöllő, but with one campus in the town of Budapest, Gyöngyös, Kaposvár and Keszthely. With a wide range of study programmes, the university became the agricultural education hub of the country.



Available study programmes

The Stipendium Hungaricum programme is based on bilateral educational cooperation agreements signed between the ministries responsible for education in the sending partners and Hungary. Currently there are more than 90 Sending Partners in the programme on 5 different continents, and their number increases each year.

Today, 28 Hungarian higher education institutions offer academic programmes for the scholarship holders, who can choose from more than 600 full degree and non-degree programmes conducted primarily in English. Study programmes cover nearly all study fields at all degree levels from Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral, so you can definitely find the one you are most interested in.

Available study fields in the Stipendium Hungaricum programme:



AGRICULTURE SCIENCE

NATURAL SCIENCES

ARTS EDUCATION

THEOLOGY

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE**

**COMPUTER SCIENCE AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

ECONOMIC SCIENCE

SOCIAL SCIENCES

ENGINEERING SCIENCE

SPORT SCIENCE

LEGAL SCIENCE

TEACHER TRAINING

MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCE



Study Finder

Our Study Finder database provides information about the available study programmes offered by the Hungarian higher education institutions. Browse through around 800 full degree programmes here: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/study-finder/

If you are interested in the study fields available in your country or territory, check out the list of the Sending Partners here: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/partners/

The Hungarian higher education system

Higher education studies are offered at two types of higher education institutions, university (egyetem) and college (főiskola). Programmes are offered at three levels – bachelor's (6-8 semesters), master's (2-4 semesters) and doctoral (4+4 semesters) – which are usually referred to as the three-cycle system according to the European Bologna system. Besides these integrated and cyclic programmes there are one-tier master's programmes (10-12 semesters), where the bachelor's level and the master's level is undivided for example: veterinary medicine, architecture, dentistry, pharmaceuticals, law and medicine. The one-tier master's (undivided) programmes are equivalent to the master's level, so you will obtain a master's degree at the end of your studies.





Entry and admission requirements in Hungary also follow the standards of the European Bologna Process. This means that a bachelor's degree must be obtained to have access to master's and doctoral programmes. In order to become admitted to a Hungarian higher education institution, prospective students must prove that they meet certain requirements.

Although there is a general system of entrance exams, the entry requirements may differ at certain higher education institutions, so always check the conditions at each institution before applying.

The study programme types offered in Hungary – highlighted the ones that are supported by the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship:

POSTGRADUATE SPECIALIST TRAINING COURSE <i>2-4 semesters</i>	DOCTORAL PROGRAMME (PHD/DLA) <i>4+4 semesters</i>	
HIGHER-LEVEL VOCATIONAL TRAINING <i>4 semesters</i>	MASTER'S PROGRAMME <i>2-4 semesters</i>	ONE-TIER MASTER'S PROGRAMME <i>10-12 semesters</i>
	BACHELOR'S PROGRAMME <i>6-8 semesters</i>	

If you want to be a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holder, you must go through the application process of the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme. As the application process may have additional rules, you should always check the Stipendium Hungaricum website for the relevant entry requirements!





**Are you applying?
Follow these steps!**



Entry and admission requirements

The scholarship programme is based on bilateral educational cooperation agreements signed between the ministries responsible for education in the sending countries/territories and Hungary, and applicants are eligible to apply for scholarship types and study fields determined in the educational cooperation agreements. Also, applications will be considered eligible only if the applicant is nominated by the responsible authorities of the Sending Partner. An exception to this is the applicant who previously achieved first, second or third place at the National Scientific Student Conference, who – if they are admitted to the supported education of the institution participating in the scholarship program at a higher level – will receive a scholarship with the unique consent of the minister responsible for foreign policy in order to continue their studies. The list of the Sending Partners and available study fields can be found on the website:

stipendiumhungaricum.hu/partners/

The entry and admission requirements as well as the eligibility criteria of the scholarship are always included in the relevant Call for Applications, so read the document carefully before preparing to apply: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/apply/



Application procedure

If you wish to apply for the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship, these are the steps you need to follow:

- 1.** Visit the Stipendium Hungaricum website and check if you are eligible to participate in the scholarship programme. You can find the list of the eligible Sending Partners and the available study fields here: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/partners/ (You should also check the eligibility criteria section of the relevant Call for Applications!)
- 2.** Go to the Apply page on the website, read the relevant Call for Applications and its Annexes carefully, check the Application Timeline and the Useful Documents: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/apply/

3. After reading the relevant Call for Applications and getting familiar with the process, **contact** the responsible authority of your country, and make sure about the exact application deadlines and requirements. You can find the contact details of the responsible authority in your country on the Partners page of the website: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/partners/
4. **Register** at the DreamApply application system: apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu/
Here, you can also browse through all the universities and study programmes available.
5. **Check** which documents must be attached to your application.
6. **Check** if you uploaded all the required documents and submit your application before the application deadline.

Application timeline



1.

October-November: Announcement of the annual call

Tempus Public Foundation announces the annual call for the scholarship programme. Read the Call for Applications and prepare your application documents accordingly.

2.

January: Deadline for submitting the application

Submit your application through the DreamApply application system by the deadline given in the Call for Applications. Make sure that all required documents are attached, and all required fields are filled out properly.

3.

February: First selection point and nomination process

If your application meets the formal requirements, it will be forwarded to your Sending Partner. The Sending Partners will then send back a nomination list to Tempus Public Foundation by the end of February.



4.

March-May: Second selection point – institutional admission procedure

If you become a nominated applicant, your application will be forwarded to your selected Host Institutions (universities). The universities will get in touch with you directly to set a date for the entrance exams.

5.

June: Notification about your selection results

Based on your application preferences, entrance exams and the capacities of the Host Institutions, Tempus Public Foundation will decide on your application. After receiving your admission notification, you must log in to the online application system and accept the scholarship within 1 week.

6.

June-July: Starting the visa process

After receiving a Letter of Acceptance and Letter of Award, you should start your visa application process right away. For arranging a visa to Hungary, you need to contact the relevant consular office. Consular offices in Hungary: www.bmbah.hu/index.php?lang=en

7.

Arrival in Hungary

Get in touch with your university coordinator for more information about your administrative duties. For detailed information about life and education in Hungary, download the Stipendium Hungaricum app or visit our Study in Hungary website: www.studyinhungary.hu.

January
Submitting application

February
First selection point

March – May
Second selection point

June
Notification about selection results


June – July
Visa application process

Sept.
Arrival in Hungary

DreamApply

DreamApply is the online system where international students can apply for the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship and manage administrative duties related to the process. The main purpose of the DreamApply online application platform is to collect the details and documents of the applicant in one place and allow the prospective student to upload and modify their submissions easily and in a timely manner.

DreamApply is also the platform where you can receive notifications about your scholarship application, follow the upcoming application procedure deadlines and communicate with the selected higher education institution or the customer service of the Tempus Public Foundation.

 apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu/





Frequently asked questions

➤ ***Do the Stipendium Hungaricum applicants have to pay for their application?***

No, the online application and the participation in the admission examinations is free of charge. Do not apply through any agencies unknown by the selected Host Institutions (see our website for the list of agencies known by the universities) and do not pay for their services regarding the application because the programme is implemented by direct cooperation with the responsible authorities of the Sending Partners, not agencies.

➤ ***Where can applicants get help for the online application system?***

Please do not forget that you need to submit your Stipendium Hungaricum application on this online platform, starting with a registration: apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu. If you get stuck at any point of the process, contact our office via email, skype or telephone: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/contact/.

➤ ***Do applicants have to be nominated by their country?***

Yes, only the nominated applicants will be forwarded to the universities.

➤ ***Is it possible to submit an application for the scholarship more than once during a year?***

No, there is only one application cycle each year.

➤ ***Can applicants bring their families?***

Yes, it is possible, but the Stipendium Hungaricum office does not provide visa, administrative services (e.g. supporting letters) or any additional contribution (e.g. financial support) to family members or accompanying persons.

➤ ***Why some countries are not eligible to apply?***

Because there is no valid educational cooperation programme between those countries and Hungary.



A young man with dark hair, glasses, and a blue denim shirt is smiling broadly at the camera. He is sitting at a wooden desk in a lecture hall, holding a pen over an open notebook. In the background, another student in a yellow sweater is looking down at his work. The lecture hall has wooden tiered seating and large windows.

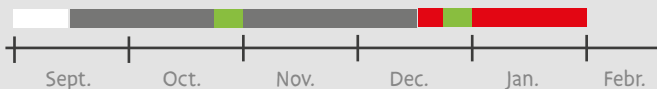
**Are you a scholarship holder?
Prepare!**



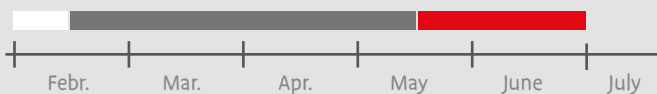
Academic year





The academic year is divided into 2 semesters including 14–15 weeks of lectures and seminars followed by an examination period that lasts for 6–8 weeks.

AUTUMN SEMESTER



SPRING SEMESTER



-  registration and signing up for courses
-  term time (14-15 weeks)
-  exam period
-  holidays

HOLIDAYS

AUTUMN BREAK:	end of October
WINTER BREAK:	end of December
SPRING BREAK:	Easter week



Provisions covered by the scholarship

As a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holder, your university studies in Hungary will be supported in many ways depending on the academic programme you applied for. See how the scholarship contributes to your studies in Hungary.

1. Tuition-free education

Your tuition fee is completely covered by the scholarship.

2. Monthly contribution to your living costs

- ▶ If you are a scholarship holder of non-degree, bachelor's, master's, one-tier master's or postgraduate specialist training courses, you will receive a monthly amount of HUF 43,700 (cca EUR 103) contribution to your living expenses.
- ▶ If you are a scholarship holder of doctoral programmes, you will receive a monthly amount of HUF 140,000 (cca EUR 331) contribution to your living expenses for the first phase of your education (4 semesters), and HUF 180,000 (cca EUR 425) for the second phase of your education (4 semesters).

3. Contribution to your accommodation costs

You will receive a free dormitory place or a contribution of HUF 40,000/month to your accommodation costs. Please note, that if you live in a rented apartment, this contribution may not cover the full amount of your rental costs.

4. Free medical insurance

You will receive free medical insurance and other supplementary medical insurance for up to HUF 65,000 (cca EUR 153) a year.

Please bear in mind, that these provisions are only contributions to your costs. If you want to see the average living costs in Hungary, check out our Cost of Living Calculator in the Stipendium Hungaricum app or the Study in Hungary website:

 www.studyinhungary.hu » [Your costs of living](#)



Legal stay



VISA Process

Depending on which country you are from, you might need a visa to legally enter Hungary. Contact the Embassy of Hungary accredited to your country to check if you need a visa to enter the country. It is important to make the necessary arrangements well ahead of time because it may take up to 30 days until a visa is issued. Start the visa application process right away – within two weeks at the latest – after you have received the Letter of Acceptance and Letter of Award of your scholarship!

For more information regarding visa applications please check the website of the Hungarian Consular Service: konzuliszolgalat.kormany.hu/en

Residence permit



After your arrival, you need to ensure your legal status in Hungary. Depending on your home country, different rules apply. Generally, students outside the EU/EEA member states need to obtain a residence permit. This document is issued by the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing, so check their website for more information: www.bmbah.hu/index.php?lang=en

Your university might also assist you with the visa and residence permit process, so ask your coordinator or your mentor (more information on [Stipendium Hungaricum Mentor Programme](#) – for further guidance).



Accommodation

As a scholarship holder, you will have accommodation contribution as part of the provisions covered by the scholarship. You can choose between free dormitory places or a contribution of HUF 40,000/month to accommodation expenses for the whole duration of the scholarship.

Please note, that if you do not want to live in the dormitory, the HUF 40,000/month is a contribution to the rental costs, and in bigger cities – especially in the capital – this contribution might not cover the full amount of the rental costs.

In the city centres, the average rental of private flats is between HUF 95,000–200,000, while shared flats are about HUF 45,000–110,000 per month/person. Landlords usually require you to pay a deposit in advance, which usually equals to a minimum of 2 months' rental fee (this will be paid back when you move out). Remember that to acquire a residence permit, you will need to sign a contract with your landlord to have a registered address.

If you need help, contact your international coordinator or mentor at your university, who will guide you in the right direction. There are usually dedicated Facebook pages and some students also find agencies useful in the process.

Wherever you live, the most important thing is to find a place where you can study comfortably, and it is a plus if you can share it with your new friends.





Currency

The forint (HUF) has been the local currency in Hungary since 1946. Here is a little help to see the differences between different currencies (valid as of July 2023) but you should always check the actual exchange rate.

1.0 USD = 362 HUF

1.0 EUR = 388 HUF

1.0 GBP = 455 HUF

1.0 CNY = 50 HUF

1.0 JPY = 2.40 HUF

1.0 RUB = 3.9 HUF

Banknotes come in denominations of 500; 1,000; 2,000; 5,000; 10,000 and 20,000 and six different coins are in use: the 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200 coins.

Major bank cards (Visa, Mastercard) are accepted in most places but at some places you can only pay with cash. ATMs and currency exchange offices are widely available.

You can also open a bank account as the non-residential account service is designed especially for foreign nationals. Before opening an account, it is advisable to ask the chosen bank about the documents required. Banks are usually open between 8.00–16.00 on weekdays.

You can check the daily exchange rates here: www.mnb.hu/en/arfolyamok

Cost of living



Dormitory

HUF 20–30,000
(EUR 50–80)



Private flat

HUF 95–200,000
(EUR 240–520)



Shared flat

HUF 45–110,000
(EUR 115–285)



Monthly student pass for local transport

HUF 3,450
(EUR 9)



Cinema ticket

HUF 2,900
(EUR 8)



Haircut men/women

HUF 5,000 Ft / 15,000
(EUR 12.5–37.5)



One litre of bottled water

HUF 150–300
(EUR 0.5–0.8)



One litre of milk

HUF 300–600
(EUR 0.8–1.6)



One bottle of beer

HUF 400–1,200
(EUR 0.9–3.3)



Bread

HUF 500–1000
(EUR 1.3–2.7)



Coffee in café

HUF 800–1500
(EUR 2.2–4)



Lunch at canteen

HUF 1,500–2,500
(EUR 4–6.5)



Kakaós csiga (popular Hungarian pastry):

HUF 250–600
(EUR 0.5–1.6)



Túró Rudi (iconic Hungarian dessert):

HUF 200–250
(EUR 0.5–0.7)



Medve Sajt (Hungarian cream cheese):

HUF 700–800
(EUR 2–2.2)

Visit the Cost Calculator on the Study in Hungary page to easily calculate your costs in the biggest Hungarian cities:

 www.studyinhungary.hu » Your Costs of Living



Working while studying

Since you are a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holder, you are arriving from a non-EEA country, which means you can be employed during your studies with a residence permit for study purposes and either work 30 hours a week during your study period, or 90 days or 66 workdays outside your study period in full-time.

As a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holder however, you are also entitled and often even required to participate in an internship opportunity as a prerequisite of the completion of your studies. You can read more about the internship opportunities for the Stipendium Hungaricum students in the last chapter.

Health care and insurance



First aid and emergency treatment is free for every international student. Besides, the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holders are entitled to free medical care during their stay in Hungary and supplementary medical insurance for up to HUF 65,000 (cca EUR 153) a year.

For free medical care in Hungary, you will need a social security card ("TAJ" card), with which you can access the public healthcare anytime, not just in emergencies.

Follow these steps to apply for a TAJ card:

- › After arrival, contact your Stipendium Hungaricum coordinator at your university.
- › Your university will request you a TAJ number from the office of National Health Insurance Fund, and notify you when your TAJ number is ready.
- › After receiving your TAJ number, you should start arranging your TAJ card application personally in the office of the National Health Insurance Fund.

For the TAJ card application, you will need the following documents:

- › Residence permit
- › Passport
- › Accommodation confirmation (or address card)
- › Letter of Award (you can download this from the administrative system of your university)
- › Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship agreement
- › Student status certificate



After you arrive in Hungary, you shall also take part in a free medical examination organized by your university. For more information about the medical care at your university, please contact the Stipendium Hungaricum coordinator of your university.

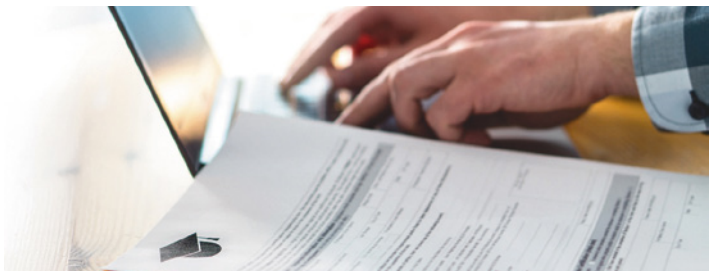


Medications

The Hungarian word for pharmacy is 'gyógyszertár' or 'patika'. These are located all over the cities, usually close to the city centres, supermarkets and, in some cases, nearby universities as well. Opening hours may vary from pharmacy to pharmacy but usually they are open till 7 pm or 8 pm on weekdays. Drug stores carry a minimum amount of light medicine, for example pain killers.

➤ Hungarian emergency number for ambulance and medical services: **104**

European emergency number: **112**





Frequently asked questions

> *How do I sign my scholarship contract?*

Signing the contract with your host institution must be arranged between the scholarship holder and the institution. Regarding the agreement and its content, please contact your institutional SH coordinator, find their contacts here: stipendiumhungaricum.hu/study-finder/.

> *Do I have to reside in Hungary?*

You must habitually reside in Hungary during your study period and must inform your higher education institution in case of leaving for more than 10 working days. If you fail to inform your university about your stay abroad prior to the travel, the higher education institution may decide to terminate your scholarship status.

> *Can I apply for other grants?*

Regarding the fact that the SH scholarship covers studies in Hungary, the scholarship holder is not entitled to use financial support for taking part in programmes or partial studies outside Hungary or other scholarship programs. However, for a short stay (not longer than 30 working days), you are allowed to participate at a conference related to research or studies funded by institutional sources or other scholarship programmes (e.g. Erasmus+, CEEPUS) and a stay that does not affect the requirement of the habitual residency principle.

> *How do I get my scholarship allowances?*

The monthly stipend and accommodation contribution must be arranged between the scholarship holder and the university. For more information please contact your institutional SH coordinator.





**Have you arrived in Hungary?
Discover!**





Public transportation

Hungary has a well-connected and integrated public transport network, and each city has its own ticketing system and services. Buses run in all cities, trolleybuses, trams, and night buses in bigger cities, and you can also find metro services, suburban railway lines (called HÉV), and boat services in Budapest. For Budapest Public Transportation (BKK) you can buy tickets from newspaper kiosks, stations, or vending machines. If you prefer online solutions, you can also buy mobile tickets through apps, such as the BudapestGO mobile app, which is also suitable for journey planning in Budapest, and you can also find updates on scheduled departure times!

Single tickets are only valid for one journey without transfer, so if you need to change, you will need to validate multiple tickets. However if you travel by metro you can change between the various metro lines with a single ticket too. If you regularly use public transportation, it is worth buying a monthly or yearly pass.

If you like to travel within the country, you can either opt for coaches or take a train. Public transport coaches are operated by the bus company, Volánbusz and the trains are run by the Hungarian public railway network called MÁV. You can buy coach tickets at the bus station or from the driver upon boarding. Train tickets can be bought at the train station or online through the MÁV app. Students with a valid student card are entitled to discounted fare rates for all kinds of public transport.



TAXI



When taking a taxi, you should avoid hailing unmarked taxi cabs. You can hail a taxi on the streets, order by phone, or an app. In Budapest, licensed taxis appear in distinct yellow.

BICYCLE

There are more and more bike roads throughout Hungary, so you can easily get to many destinations within Budapest and in the countryside too by bike. You can buy a bicycle in many big stores or even a good quality old one in some second-hand bike shops. Larger cities have their own bike-share service, such as MOL BuBi in Budapest or CityBike in Szeged, and you can also rent a bike from various companies.



AIRPORT SHUTTLE



From Liszt Ferenc International Airport you have more options to get to the city center of Budapest. The cheapest solution is using public transportation, the Airport shuttle bus 100E will take you to the center in around 30 minutes. From the airport, you can also take a taxi or choose the shuttle services of various private companies.

Budapest public transportation www.bkk.hu/en



Coach nationwide www.volanbusz.hu/en

Hungarian state railways www.mavcsopot.hu/en

MOL BuBi: molbubi.hu/en/





Student ID card

After you arrive in Hungary, it is obligatory to request a student ID card (an orange-brown plastic card) that will certify your student status. The student card is free of charge, and it displays your personal data (name, place and date of birth, address, type of student status), the name of your university and the period of validity. With a student ID card, you can access a number of services and receive discounts not only at your university, but also in several commercial places, so it will surely bring you many benefits during your academic studies.



To obtain a student ID card, you should take the following steps:

STEP 1:

Go to a Government Window (in Hungarian: Kormányablak) and apply for a student card. The officers will take a photo of you and register your personal data, so don't forget to take your passport and residence permit with you! You can find Government Windows in every city and district in Hungary, so don't worry, there will always be one within easy reach.



STEP 2:

Register your application electronically in the administrative system of your university.



STEP 3:

If your application was successful, your student ID card is issued by the responsible governmental office. When ready, it will be mailed to your university where you can receive it in person.



Until your student ID card arrives, you can request a temporary card from the registrar's office of your university. The temporary student ID card is valid for 60 days and entitles you to the same discounts as the permanent card.

The student ID card entitles you to many discounts during your Hungarian stay: from public transportation tickets, museum entrance fees, youth hostel accommodation, library memberships to various commercial places. As a member of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA), the Hungarian student ID card is accepted not only in Hungary, but in most EU countries as well.



Hungarian cuisine

Food is a vital part of both life and culture, so to make the best out of discovering Hungary, we suggest you try the delicious and diverse flavours of Hungarian cuisine too.

Hungarian cuisine is well-known for paprika, black pepper, onion, and garlic. Although traditional Hungarian dishes are primarily based on meats and dairy products, the country offers a wide selection of seasonal fruits and vegetables throughout the year thanks to its excellent geographical location. To discover the hidden culinary treasures of the country, let us invite you to a day of eating traditional Hungarian meals.

A typical Hungarian **breakfast** starts with fresh white bread (popular alternatives are bread rolls called "**zsemle**", or the crescent moon-shaped "**kifli**"), top it with cold cuts ("**kolbász**" or "**szalámi**") and add fresh vegetables: tomatoes, onion, or pepper. Hungarians tend to like their breakfasts on the savoury side, but if you have a sweet tooth, you can also choose milk bread ("**kalács**") with fresh fruits.

For **lunch**, which is the main meal of the day, get ready for a three-course menu: soup is usually followed by a main dish and a dessert. You may have heard of the famous Hungarian Goulash ("**gulyás**") soup that was accredited as a Hungaricum in 2017. Traditional Goulash is made from root vegetables and beef, but you can opt for a vegetarian version too. Another famous soup is fisherman's soup ("**halászlé**");

a velvety, paprika-infused broth with thick cuts of river fish in it. Since Hungary is rich in water resources as it has the river Tisza, river Danube and several lakes, it is easy to try special types of local fish.

As for the main dish, stews and meat cuts tend to dominate the traditional scene (such as Hungarian chicken stew, "**rostélyos**" or "**vadas**") but vegetable stews called "**főzelék**" are also widely served. Pasta dishes, both sweet (such as plum dumplings – "**szilvás gombóc**") and savoury (as cottage cheese – "**túrós tészta**") are a popular choice too.

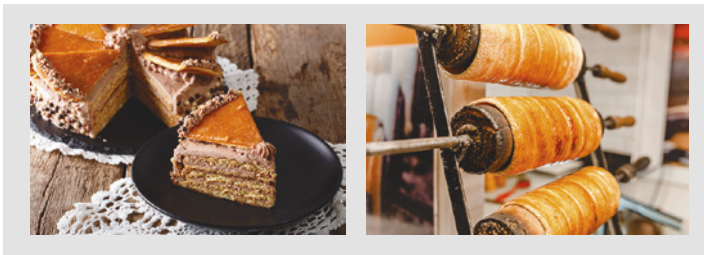
Dinner is usually served cold, including cold cuts, fresh cheese, and dairy products (try the Hungarian cottage cheese "**túró**", or sour cream "**tejföl**" or the seasoned mixture of these two "**körözött**") with vegetables.

If you feel like having a drink after a good meal, taste one of the exceptional **Hungarian wines**. Hungary has 22 wine regions, the most well-known among foreigners are the Tokaj, Villány, Balaton Highland and Eger regions, but it is also worth visiting other regions for their special local wines. On the stronger side, two unique drinks to Hungary are **Unicum** (herb infusion) and **Pálinka** (fruit brandy) that are often consumed as a digestive after a hearty meal.

There are some more options which are not part of the main list, but we could not leave out.

Savoury must-tries include "**lángos**" which is a plate-sized sheet of deep-fried dough, usually smothered with sour cream and topped with grated cheese. Stuffed cabbage called "**töltött káposzta**" is a popular dish too: large leaves of fermented cabbage, stuffed with meat and rice, cooked and then topped with sour cream; or





the well-known "**lecsó**", the paprika-based vegetable stew of onions, tomatoes and peppers with variations including sausage and egg.

Sweet must-tries: don't miss out on the **Dobos cake**, a chocolate butter-cream-layered sponge cake, topped with crystallized caramel and covered with nuts on the edges, neither the chimney cake ("**kürtös kalács**") or the incredibly popular **Túró Rudi**, a dark chocolate bar filled with sweetened cottage cheese ("**túró**"), available in different flavours or with jam fillings as well. Desserts often contain different fruits or jams since Hungary has internationally famous vineyards and orchards full of apples, pears, plums and other fruits.



Special food options in Hungary

› SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Hungary offers a wide range of healthy food options, you can buy gluten- and lactose-free products in most supermarkets. For instance, a wide range of milk substitute products are available in stores. In addition, whole grain products have become ever so popular nationwide.

› KOSHER AND HALAL FOOD

Numerous restaurants and supermarkets are selling kosher and halal food in the country. Due to its size, Budapest has the largest number of places where religious dietary options are available. However, bigger university towns, such as Debrecen or Szeged, also provide access to these food options.

› VEGAN, VEGETARIAN OPTIONS

Although Hungarian cuisine is famous for its meat-based dishes, you would be surprised how easy it is to find places to eat well without meat or animal products. There are numerous Hungarian dishes prepared with potato, cauliflower, cheese, mushroom or zucchini. Salads are also well-known in Hungarian cuisine and are popular. There are several restaurants which specialise in vegan or vegetarian dishes. If you want to cook at home, you can find more and more alternatives in shops to substitute meat with other options.



HUNGARIAN CHICKEN STEW RECIPE

- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 large tomato, peeled, seeds removed, and chopped
- 1 1/4 pounds (600 grams) boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into bite-size pieces
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 cup water
- 1-2 teaspoons sea salt



In a deep pan, heat the oil over medium heat. Once heated, add the onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened. Stir in the garlic and cook until just fragrant, for about 30 seconds.

Remove the pot from the heat and stir in the paprika. Add the chicken pieces and return the pot to medium heat. Cook, stirring occasionally until the edges of the chicken are browned. Mix in the tomato, bell pepper, and 1/2 cup water. Season with salt. Once the liquid begins to boil, reduce the heat to a simmer, cover, and cook for an hour until the chicken is cooked through and tender. Season with additional salt if needed.

Serve hot with Nokedli or pasta.



Campus life

Beyond focusing on your studies, it is also important to take care of your mental and physical health. Most Hungarian higher education institutions have their own swimming pools and sports centres and provide various sporting opportunities. Universities also ensure counselling services for international students too, so do not hesitate to contact their team, if you need any help or advice.

Universities in Hungary also have their own libraries which provide a calm environment for your studies and research. Many university libraries date back to more than a hundred years, and have a truly special atmosphere and architecture.

Most universities offer a wide range of cultural activities and events as well, which are the perfect way to find new friends. Become a member of a university choir, dance or drama group, or even an orchestra! By joining these classes, you can improve your collaborative skills and gain experience of what "team spirit" really is. Contact your international coordinator to know more about what your university can offer.




Stipendium Hungaricum Mentor Programme

Once you start your new life in Hungary, you will have many questions either about your university programme or about everyday practicalities. It comes very handy, especially at the beginning of your stay, when someone with substantial experience can help you to find your way around in a new environment and culture.

The Stipendium Hungaricum Mentor Network organized by the HÖOK (National Union of Students in Hungary) will guide you during your university years offering a mentor programme, different trainings and courses. The various events and the dedicated mentors can help you with almost every problem during your stay in Hungary. The mentors assist with the administrative and educational tasks of their mentees and help them to become familiar with Hungarian culture and routine. The mentors always attend the same university as their mentees, and you can always turn to them when you need personal support or guidance with your studies or everyday life.

The Mentor Network organizes several cultural and touristic programmes for its members to make the students' stay in Hungary pleasant and to show them the values of the country. All events are free for the members. Joining the Network is also a good way to find new friends and to extend your social network, so it is worth participating in the events of this international community.

For more information and to register as a mentee, visit the Network's website or find out more on their Facebook page.

 shmentor.hu/en/
www.facebook.com/HOOK.SHMH/
www.instagram.com/hook_shmh/





Research opportunities

Have you heard of HandInScan, the medical device that revolutionized hand hygiene protocol thereby reducing the risk of spreading infectious diseases, or the iKnife that finds cancer during an operation? These are only some of the inventions that have been developed at Hungarian universities.

Research groups and centres

As a Stipendium Hungaricum student, you have many opportunities to carry out research activities in Hungary. Today, there are more than 150 research groups at Hungarian universities in all fields of science. Research groups may work within the faculties or departments, but some universities have their own – or are in connection with larger independent – research centres, with the most cutting-edge laboratories and infrastructure. Thanks to the rich international relations of the universities, you will have the opportunity to work in cooperation with other university research groups from all parts of the world, publish in national and international journals and present your results at various scientific conferences and events.

Colleges for Advanced Studies

Many universities offer Colleges for Advanced Studies ('szakkollégium' in Hungarian), which are based on self-governed education and research activities with students who wish to expand their knowledge in a specific study field.

Students' Scientific Association (TDK)

As an international student, you can also take part in the research activity of the prestigious Students' Scientific Association – TDK (which stands for 'Tudományos Diákkör' in Hungarian). TDK is a Hungarian speciality of university talent management that has a history of more than half a century, offering in-depth individual research under the supervision of top Hungarian professors.

If you want to know more about the research opportunities at your institution, you should inquire at your faculty or department once you are enrolled. If you are interested in the latest research results and inventions, we advise you to visit the Researchers' Night events organised at many universities all over the country each year.





Learning Hungarian

As a Stipendium Hungaricum student, you have many opportunities to learn Hungarian both face-to-face and online. To help you get the most out of your Hungarian stay, every scholarship holder participating in full-time bachelor's, master's and one-tier master's programmes (except those who learn in a Hungarian language programme) will study Hungarian as a foreign language for two semesters. The courses are offered by the host universities with an exam at the end. Bear in mind, that if you do not attend the language course and do not pass the exam, you will lose all or part of your monthly stipend.

Although learning Hungarian is mandatory only in the first two semesters, you may go on with your Hungarian studies in the following years as well. Many universities offer Hungarian language courses each semester, so contact the Stipendium Hungaricum coordinator of your university for more information. You can also turn to a Stipendium Hungaricum mentor at your university to help you find the best learning opportunities but if you wish to practice alone, you should try our ["Practice your Hungarian" online course](#).



Even if Hungarian seems to be different from other languages at first, there is no reason to worry: with perseverance and a little practice, you will soon be able to learn this unique language. Be active during the Hungarian language courses and take every opportunity to talk to native speakers and Hungarian students. This is your chance to become a member of an exclusive and wonderful language community!



Dictionary

ENGLISH	HUNGARIAN	PRONUNCIATION
Hello!	Szervusz / Szia! Sziasztok!	Ser-wus / See yah! Seeyuz-towk!
How are you?	Hogy vagy? Hogy van?	Hodj vadj? Hodj one?
I'm fine, thanks.	Köszönöm, jól.	Ko-suh-num, yohl.
What's your name?	Hogy hívnak?	Hodj heev-nahk?
My name is...	A nevem...	A nevem...
Pleased to meet you	Örülök, hogy megismer- tettek /megismertem	Urr-ooh-luk, hodj meg-ish- mer-te-lek / meg-ish-mer-tem
Good morning!	Jó reggelt!	Yo reh-g-gehlt!
Good afternoon!	Jó napot!	Yo nah-powt!
Good evening!	Jó estét!	Yo esh-tayt!
Good night!	Jó éjszakát!	Yo ay-suh-kaht!
Goodbye!	Viszontlátásra!	Vee-sohnt-la-tash-ruh!
Have a nice day!	Szép napot!	Sayp nah-powt!
I don't understand.	Nem értem.	Nem air-tem.
Please say that again.	Megismételne(d)?	Meg-ish-may-tel-naid?
Do you speak English / German / French?	Beszél(sz) angolul / németül / franciául?	Beh-sayls ahn-gow-lool / nay-met-ool / fran-see-ya-ool?
How much is this?	Mennyibe kerül ez?	Menyibe kerool ez?
Sorry	Bocsánat	Bow-cha-nut
Thank you	Köszönöm	Ko-suh-num
Yes	Igen	Ee-ghen
No	Nem	Nem
Please	Kérem	Kay-rem
I love you	Szeretlek	Seh-ret-lack

For everyday use



ENGLISH	HUNGARIAN	PRONUNCIATION
car	autó	<i>auto</i>
bus	busz	<i>boos</i>
tram	villamos	<i>vee-luhm-osh</i>
train	vonat	<i>wo-nat</i>
underground	metró	<i>metroo</i>
When does it leave?	Mikor indul?	<i>Mee-kohr een-dool?</i>
Can I get a ticket to...?	Kérek egy jegyet!	<i>Kay-rek edj yedj-et!</i>
railway station	vasútállomás	<i>vosh-oot-ahl-lom-ahs</i>
bus stop	büszmegálló	<i>bus-meg-ahl-low</i>
airport	repülőtér	<i>rep-ool-oh-tayr</i>
ticket office	jegypénztár	<i>yedj painz-tar</i>
ticket	jegy	<i>yedj</i>
Where can I buy a ticket?	Hol tudok venni egy jegyet?	<i>Hohl two-dock van-nee edj yedj-et?</i>
east	kelet	<i>cal-at</i>
west	nyugat	<i>new-got</i>
north	észak	<i>ay-suck</i>
south	dél	<i>del</i>
street	utca	<i>oot-sa</i>
square	tér	<i>tare</i>

Transport and travelling



A GUIDE TO YOUR JOURNEY





ENGLISH	HUNGARIAN	PRONUNCIATION
restaurant	étterem	ay-ter-em
café	kávézó	kah-vez-ow
menu	étlap	ayt-lap
Can I have the bill please?	A számlát szeretném kérni.	A sam-laat sehr-et-name kay-r-ni.
appetiser	előétel	el-o-ate-el
soup	leves	le-esh
salad	saláta	sha-laatah
pastry	sütemény	shoo-tem-aint
cake	torta	tor-ta
juice	gyümölcslé	djew-mulch-lay
water	víz	veez
beer	sör	shure
wine	bor	bohr

At the restaurant

classroom test	zárthelyi vizsga (ZH)	zahrt-hey-yi weesh-ga
credit	kredit	credit
course	tantárgy	than-taardj
department	tanszék	than-sake
exam (oral, written)	vizsga (szóbeli, írásbeli)	weesh-ga (saw-bell-ee, ee-rush-bell-ee)
ECTS credits	ECTS kreditek	ECTS credit-ek
diploma	diploma, oklevél	dip-lohm-a
higher education	felsőoktatás	fel-shea-owk-tat-awsh
pre-degree certificate	abszolutórium	absolut-ow-ree-um
academic year	tanulmányi év	tan-ool-mahnj-ee ayv
tuition fees	tandj	tan-deey
university	egyetem	edj-e-tem

University life

Hungary today

Hungary has a lot to offer when it comes to culture and social activities. Either you are an art lover, or you prefer discovering the hidden cultural treasures of the countryside, you will surely find a bunch of exciting programs for your free time all year round.

VISIT

The **Buda Castle District** is surely one of the main symbols of Budapest. From the **Royal Palace** and the **Hungarian National Gallery** to the Matthias Church, or the Fishermen's Bastion, this historic district offers so much to discover with a breathtaking panoramic view of the river Danube.





The capital also has a vibrant contemporary art and design scene with hotspots such as the **Bartók Béla Boulevard** in the 11. district where you can find a bunch of independent galleries, antique shops, or art cafes. **Szentendre**, "the city of arts" also has plenty of art galleries and museums on the Danube riverbank in the neighbourhood of Budapest. Szentendre is also the home of the biggest open-air folk museum, **Skanzen**, where you can learn about the traditional folk architecture and way of life of various regions of Hungary in the past centuries.

The countryside has a lot to offer too: the **Zsolnay Cultural Quarter** in Pécs or the **MODEM Center for Modern and Contemporary Art** in Debrecen are internationally acclaimed cultural hubs with numerous exhibitions. During the summer it is worth visiting the very first all-art festival in Kapolcs, the **Valley of Arts (Művészetek Völgye)**, which offers more than 500 programs with theatre, literature, concerts, new circus, and workshops in the beautiful landscape of the Balaton Uplands.

TIP!

Museums are good starting points to learn more about Hungarian culture. The Night of Museums is a great one-night event where more than 250 cultural institutions all around Hungary are open to visitors all night long. Keep in mind that most museums are closed on Mondays.



LISTEN

Whether you prefer classics or contemporary music, in Hungary, you always find concerts and festivals. Every year there are plenty of symphonic concerts and choirs performing all over the country, and there are many outdoor events, street music festivals and celebrations with live music. As a music lover, you should definitely visit the **House of Music Hungary (Magyar Zene Háza)**, which is a concert venue, educational centre, and museum in one with iconic, award-winning architecture in the **City Park (Városliget)**.

We must mention the huge festival scene Hungary has. Sziget Festival in Budapest, Campus Festival in Debrecen or SZIN festival in Szeged attracts thousands of students from all parts of the country.



WATCH

With two Academy Awards in the last decade ("Son of Saul" in 2015 and "Sing" in 2016) and several significant international prizes, the Hungarian film industry has a great international reputation. You can watch several classical Hungarian movies in the Film Archive of the National Film Institute Hungary, and for the latest Hungarian films, visit local film festivals, such as the CineFest Miskolc International Film Festival in Miskolc!



Each year more and more international blockbusters are shot in Hungary. If you are a movie fan, visit the Korda Film Park Visitor Center in Etyek, near Budapest, where there are guided tours among the film sets and you can learn more about Hungarian film history and film production.

There is a very rich and active theatre life throughout the country. The season starts in September and ends in May, but there are some theatre festivals and open-air performances during summer-time as well.

For dance-performance lovers, we also have classical ballet and contemporary dance. Keep an eye out for the Ballets of Győr (Győri Balett) and Pécs (Pécsi Balett), or the dance and art performances of the **Trafó House of Contemporary Arts** in Budapest. Going to the **Opera House** at least once is a must. Not just because of the imposing building itself, but also for the high-quality performances.



GET INSPIRED

The Hungarian design and fashion scene has a lot to offer from trendy local fashion brands to design fairs, workshops, and creative studios. Check out the latest design trends at the annual Budapest Design Week and the collections of Hungarian fashion designers at the Budapest Central European Fashion Week.



TRY IT YOURSELF

If you want to enjoy Hungarian folk traditions more actively, our best tip is to find your local Community, Cultural or Youth Centres, where you can join workshops, afternoon clubs, presentations, talks, sports events, concerts. A special thing quite popular among foreigners is the dance house movement, where you can learn Hungarian folk dance and music. The Hungarian Heritage House (Hagyományok Háza) regularly organises dance houses, which is a great way to understand another culture without even speaking.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2023 the West-Hungarian city Veszprém and the Bakony-Balaton region held the European Capital of Culture title. Throughout the whole year the region was the most important cultural spot of Europe with an abundance of cultural projects and events.



House of Music: zenehaza.hu/en

Zsolnay Cultural Quarter, Pécs: www.zsolnaynegyed.hu/en

National Film Institute Hungary: nfi.hu/en

Hungarian Heritage House: hagyomanyokhaza.hu/en



Frequently asked questions

➤ How many international students study at Hungarian universities?

About 42,000 international students from all over the world arrive in Hungary for study purposes. International students are welcome to study not only in Budapest, but in the eastern, western and southern parts of Hungary as well. The list of Hungarian universities is available here: studyinhungary.hu » [Universities](#)

➤ Is it easy to travel around the neighbouring countries of Hungary?

Hungary is situated in the heart of Central Europe. Capitals of Central European countries, such as Vienna or Bratislava, are easily accessible by train from Budapest. There are no big distances in Central Europe, therefore your trips should not take too long, only a couple of hours. The website of the Hungarian State Railways is available in English, therefore you can easily plan your journey to the surrounding countries.

➤ Do most people speak fluent English in Hungary?

Students in Hungary start learning English in primary school, so most young people can communicate in English. In a university environment, you should not have any problems in this respect.

➤ How difficult is it to learn Hungarian? Why do people say Hungarian is one of the most difficult languages?

The Hungarian language is often described as one of the most unique and challenging languages in the world with its flexible word order and complex rules. However, with practice and hard work you can understand basic grammatical rules and expressions, which will be especially important during your Hungarian stay. Interestingly, while most European languages belong to the Indo-European language family, Hungarian is in the Uralic language family together with Finnish and Estonian.





**Are you graduating?
Stay in touch!**



Internship opportunities

As a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holder you are entitled and often even required to participate in an internship opportunity as a prerequisite of the completion of your studies. During the academic year Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holders are contacted with internship opportunities via newsletters by Tempus Public Foundation with the contribution of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Open internship positions are available at the Alumni Network Hungary website, published by Hungarian companies that are excited to welcome Stipendium Hungaricum students for a specified period of time. The actual listing is available for registered scholarship holders only. The available opportunities are collected and sent to you via newsletters.



Please note, that while the internship opportunity is available for all Stipendium Hungaricum students, participation is not guaranteed. The selection of students depends on an application procedure where you present your CV, academic and professional background and motivation. The participating companies are responsible for the evaluation of your application.



[Click and join to the Alumni Network Hungary as a scholarship holder here!](#)
[You can find the actual open positions after registration and login here!](#)

Diploma recognition



The recognition of Hungarian degrees by other countries is based on bilateral education agreements between Hungary and the government of the respected country. Your Sending Partner might be a good starting point to receive further information on what recognition procedure you need to go through in order to have your Hungarian diploma recognized in your country.

If you obtain your degree in Hungary and wish to study in another EU country, you need to go through a specific diploma recognition procedure. Before starting, go to the ENIC-NARIC's website (European Network of Information Centres) to receive more information on the process and the required documents. All the national institutions are listed here so you can contact the responsible authorities.



www.enic-naric.net

Student mobility after graduation



As long as you are a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holder, you cannot take part in other scholarship programmes (except implementing professional programs related to studies – conferences, study trips, etc. – within the frames of Erasmus + and CEEPUS for a maximum of 30 days). Once you have graduated, however, and you wish to study further, you are free to apply for various scholarships within the framework of your new study programme.

As a Stipendium Hungaricum doctoral student, you can apply for the Stipendium Hungaricum dissertation scholarship, which gives you a grant for the time you complete your doctoral dissertation. The duration of this scholarship starts in the month following the last month of the semester during which doctoral students obtain their pre-degree certificate (absolutorium) and lasts for the number of awarded months, but no later than the month of the public defense of your thesis. In case the degree is obtained by the dissertation scholarship holder, the dissertation scholarship period ends. The maximum duration of the Stipendium Hungaricum dissertation scholarship is 8 months. In the course of the scholarship period, student status can be established within the frames of partial studies, therefore the students are entitled to health care services while this period.

For further information on the available scholarship opportunities following your Stipendium Hungaricum programme, ask your coordinator at the university or check out the Study in Hungary website.

 www.studyinhungary.hu » [Study in Hungary](#) » [Scholarships](#)

Alumni Network Hungary



Alumni Hungary

The earlier you start preparing for the years after your graduation, the more benefits you will have when you start your career. By joining the Alumni Network Hungary you will be part of an international community and gain access to a wide range of services that will help you to make the most out of your Hungarian studies and to prepare your future early on.



What is in it for you?

- › **Connections:** Be part of a community with more than 10,000 members studying/ graduated at a Hungarian university on Bachelor, Master or PhD levels.
- › **Networking opportunities:** Find collaborators for your projects at offline and online alumni events, and through local alumni chapters organized by our alumni volunteers.
- › **Visibility:** Make your academic and professional path visible to Hungarian higher education institutions and diplomatic missions, who can also approach you with exclusive opportunities through the network.
- › **Exclusive webinars:** Get inspiration from the Alumni Hungary Webinar series where world-famous Hungarian scientists, artists and professionals present their latest research and innovations.
- › **Alumni trainings:** Develop your skills to become more effective in your studies and career.
- › **News and updates:** Stay informed about the latest developments of the Hungarian scientific, cultural and professional scene from our exclusive articles, interviews and our alumni newsletter.

How to join?

To become a member you do not need to wait until you graduate, you can easily join the Alumni Network Hungary already during your studies through registering on the website here: alumninetworkhungary.hu/user/register

Once you have registered, explore the network, use the services, and check out the alumni newsletter to get the latest updates!

Start planning your future now to make the most out of your current studies! Join the Alumni Network Hungary and enjoy the many benefits of this diverse professional and social network.



alumninetworkhungary.hu

facebook.com/alumnihungary



ABOUT US



Our platforms

Social media

Our platforms

Stipendium Hungaricum app



The Stipendium Hungaricum mobile application was launched in 2021 and is especially designed for those students who are interested in studying in Hungary and would like to be up-to-date about the scholarship programme. Stay tuned and download the app from GooglePlay or AppStore!

stipendiumhungaricum.hu

On the official website of the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship programme, you can find up-to-date information and news about the application process, eligible sending partners and Hungarian institutions, or useful documents, while you can also search for your own study field in our Study Finder. Check out the official website of the scholarship for the latest news!



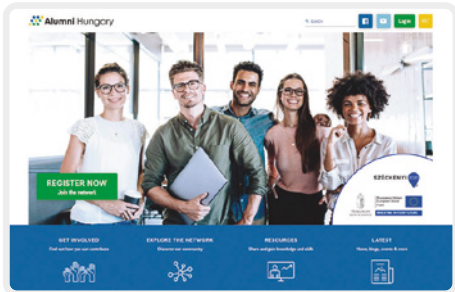
studyinhungary.hu

Study in Hungary aims to provide useful information about Hungary and Hungarian higher education during your stay. If you need information about student life, accommodation, Hungarian culture, currency, public transport, or you just need some tips for your first steps in Hungary, you should visit studyinhungary.hu where you can find practical advice!



alumninetworkhungary.hu

On the website of Alumni Network Hungary, you will have the opportunity for personal and professional development, to stay in touch with Hungary and to find out more about networking within the international alumni community of Hungary. Don't forget to register now!



Social media

Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme



Stipendium Hungaricum
Scholarship Programme

The official social media platform of the Stipendium Hungaricum Programme. Here you can find the latest news of the programme with lots of interesting content connected to Hungarian higher education and culture.



[Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme Facebook page](#)



Study in Hungary Facebook

Study in Hungary provides useful information for international students about studying in Hungary in general and practical knowledge about the everyday life including study programmes, cost of living, scholarships and practical information about Hungarian universities, student life and current events. Participate in our activities, competitions and games to win valuable prizes!



Study in Hungary
[@studyinhungaryofficial](#)



[Study in Hungary Facebook page](#)

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Study in Hungary
2.67K subscribers

Study in Hungary Youtube channel

Study in Hungary Youtube channel is the official infohub and source regarding information about Hungarian higher education, study opportunities, universities and scholarship programmes where you can find interviews and messages from international students. Subscribe to our channel and watch our videos to find out more about studying and living in Hungary!

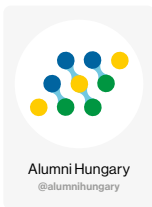


[Study in Hungary Youtube channel](#)



Alumni Hungary Facebook

The official Facebook page of Alumni Network Hungary aims to provide useful information about Hungary for those former foreign students who had attended or graduated from any higher education institutions in Hungary. Like the official page of Alumni Hungary to learn more about Stipendium Hungaricum alumni and to read their personal stories!



[Alumni Hungary Facebook page](#)

[@alumnihungary](#)



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NOTES AND DRAWINGS



NOTES AND DRAWINGS



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