

Some information on visa application, residence permit, legal staying in Hungary

Prior to travel to Hungary from abroad for non-Hungarians, you need to **apply for a visa** at the Hungarian embassy or consulate in your country.

If you come from a visa-free country then you do not need to arrange a visa for this purpose. You can travel in with your passport. You can stay in Hungary for maximum 3 months and before the 3 months expire, you need to apply for a residence permit.

If you receive a new visa then you have to travel physically to Hungary within 3 months since the visa is valid for max. 3 months.

With the visa you will also obtain an accommodation certificate with a QR-code.

Then you need to **apply for a residence permit**.

Application for the residence permit is possible:

- at your embassy or consulate back home
- in the Immigration Office in Budapest

Prior to this, you need to use the www.enterhungary.com website.

Prolongation of the residence permit is also available on www.enterhungary.com site for a special fee (except the scholarship students like Stipendium Hungaricum to whom it is free of charge).

If your residence permit has been lost or stolen, you also need to take care of a new one online on www.enterhungary.com (or at your embassy).

The ready-made residence permits will be posted to the educational institute in Hungary where students can pick them up in person. The institute can NOT post it further to the student. Within 3 months after approving the permit it needs to be picked up in person.

If the students does not travel to Hungary within 3 months, the residence permit will become invalid.

With the visa you will also obtain an **accommodation certificate** with a QR-code electronically (via email) from the immigration office.

If you **change address** then you also need to apply for a new QR-code certificate on www.enterhungary.com.

The residence permit application involves a fee of HUF 24000,- .

It can be given minimum for 1 or max 3 years.

If your student status lasts for less than a year (e.g. graduation) then it is given till the end of your student status.

What you need for applying a residence permit:

-valid passport

-enrollment paper from your university (official, signed and stamped, not older than 30 days, issued by the students secretariat of your university, certifying also the proof of tuition fee payment)

-bank account statement (not older than 30 days, own account or your parent's account)

-accommodation residency form

-health insurance

If you work beside the studies, (daily 8-hour work) then you will get no residence permit for study purpose.

If you start working after graduation, you have 15 days to apply for another residence permit for work purpose. It should be the same direction as the qualification you have just finished.

There is no more option to apply for residence permit for 'other' purpose, as it used to be.

If the residence permit or the visa have expired, you have to leave the country immediately. The Schengen area needs to be left in a certain set timeframe and there is no appeal against it.

If you are from a visa-free country then you have 14 days.

If you still have few weeks till graduation or need to stay in Hungary for few weeks after graduation to arrange the paperwork for example, you can apply for a temporary residence certificate (but apply BEFORE the residence permit expires) and that can be given for maximum 90 days.