

STIPENDIUM **HUNGARICUM AND** **DIASZPÓRA** **SCHOLARSHIPS**

What you need to know

- *Stipendium Hungaricum (SH)*: Hungary's flagship scholarship for international students from partner countries.
- *Hungarian Diaspora Scholarship (HDS)*: For students of Hungarian origin living abroad, strengthening cultural ties with Hungary.
- **Purpose:** To support internationalization, build professional/cultural bridges,
 - and give students access to high-quality education in Hungary.

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WHAT THE SCHOLARSHIP COVERS

Tuition fee → fully covered.

Monthly stipend → currently ~**HUF 43,700** for BA/MA

Accommodation support → monthly housing allowance (~HUF 40,000).

Health insurance → medical insurance + supplementary health services in Hungary.

(+ Diaszpóra: cost of Country Pass, 1890 HUF)

HEALTH INSURANCE

1. What They Get

Social Security Coverage (TAJ card):

- Scholarship holders are entitled to Hungarian state health insurance.
- The **TAJ card** is the proof of this insurance.
- With it, students can access public healthcare services (family doctor, specialists, hospitals).

Supplementary Private Health Insurance:

- Provided by the scholarship for extra coverage.
- Arranged through **Generali**.
- Covers things like private doctor visits, diagnostic tests, sometimes faster access than public hospitals

2. What It Covers

Basic medical treatment (doctor's visits, hospital care, prescriptions if prescribed by a Hungarian doctor).

Emergency care.

Some specialist treatments (dermatology, gynecology, ENT, etc., usually via referral).

Certain medicines (with partial state subsidy).

3. What It Does *Not* Cover

Full reimbursement of **all medications** (students often pay part of the price).

Dental care beyond emergencies.

Eyeglasses, contact lenses, cosmetic procedures.

Some private clinics that don't accept TAJ.

4. How to Get Access

Students must **register for a TAJ card** after arrival (through the National Health Insurance Fund, with help from the university or scholarship coordinator).

Carry the TAJ card when visiting doctors/hospitals.

For private supplementary insurance, they usually get a **policy card** from the provider.

5. Practical Tips for Students

Always register for your TAJ card early (can take weeks).

Keep a copy of your **health insurance certificate** with you.

For non-emergencies, always go to your **assigned GP (házi orvos)** first – they'll give referrals to specialists.

In emergencies, call **112** or go to the hospital ER.

Use the **supplementary private insurance** for faster service (but check which clinics accept it).

HUNGARIAN LESSONS

SH Hungarian – Choose „group” 01 – there is only one group this year.
You do not need to register to Hungarian Veterinary Communication: you will be exempted from this subject.

STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

Credits

- Usually required to complete at least **36 credits per academic year**.

Residency

- Must live in Hungary during studies (long absences need permission). If you are away for more than 10 days, you must let me know!

Reporting

- Address registration, Neptun system updates, insurance renewal, visa/residency card extension.

MEDICAL SCREENING

Mandatory medical screening is required at the beginning of studies,

especially at medical/veterinary universities.

Purpose: to protect the student community and check vaccination/immunity status.

It often includes:

- General physical check-up
- Blood test, chest X-ray (for TB screening)
- Vaccination record check (some students may need extra vaccinations if missing)

SCHOLARSHIP SURVEY (OBLIGATORY)

1. What It Is

An **online survey** run by the **Tempus Public Foundation (TPF)**, which manages the scholarships. It collects feedback about:

- Studies (courses, teachers, workload)
- Living conditions (dormitory, housing, stipend)
- Administrative support (university & TPF communication)
- General student satisfaction

2. Why It's Important

It's **mandatory** → students who don't fill it out may risk issues with their **scholarship status**. Results help the Hungarian government and universities improve the program. Data is also used for **reporting to sending countries** (in case of SH).

3. When and How

Usually once a year (spring semester, often April–May).

Students get an **email from TPF** with a personal survey link.

Takes about **10–15 minutes** to complete.

Questions are available in English and sometimes Hungarian.

COMMON PITFALLS TO

Missing deadlines for visa renewal or residence permit.

Not meeting minimum credits.

Expecting scholarship money to cover all living costs (it helps but usually not enough).

Forgetting to update personal data in Neptun (can block stipend payments).

You are having a difficult, but don't communicate

TIPS FOR SAVING MONEY

Food and Groceries:

Cook at home: Avoid eating out daily, which costs significantly more than preparing your own meals.

Use supermarket apps: Download store apps and loyalty programs for Lidl, Aldi, Tesco, and Spar to clip coupons and track weekly sales.

Transport and Student Perks

Get your student ID fast: Request your official student card immediately upon arrival to unlock national rail, bus, and local transit discounts. Cheapest travel pass is: Monthly **Pest County Pass** – 945 HUF (2 EUR). Valid in Budapest and surrounding areas. Cheapest than Budapest pass! (3450 HUF)

Ask for student rates: Always show your student ID at museums, cinemas, cafes, and swimming pools for reduced entry.

Accommodation:

Flat sharing is usually cheaper

Some areas (especially outside the center) are cheaper. Most expensive districts: 5,6,7 and 1, 2, 11

Banking

Wise account: no monthly fee and good exchange rate (similar to Revolut)

Student accounts usually don't have fees or low fees

