General Information about the Stipendium Hungaricum Program (MoU 2024-2026)

We are delighted to announce the commencement of the application process for the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Program.

Through the collaboration between the Kosovo Government and the Hungarian Government, the latter extends an annual offering of 75 scholarships to citizens of the Republic of Kosovo. These scholarships facilitate the pursuit of studies in Hungary, either in the Hungarian language or in English.

It is our pleasure to inform you that Kosovo and Hungary have, in principle, approved the extension of the agreement for the Stipendium Hungaricum, covering the period from 2024 to 2026. To ensure you do not miss the application deadline set by the Stipendium Hungaricum, we would like to notify you that the memorandum of understanding is currently in the finalization process between the two countries. However, applicants are encouraged to commence the application process and submit all required documents by no later than January 15, 2024.

The educational cooperation agreements between Hungary and Kosovo as the Sending Partner determine which fields of study and scholarship types applicants are eligible to apply for. Under no circumstances may applicants apply for a programme that is not available for their country. Before selecting a study programme, please check the available study programmes.

Scholarships may be provided according to the following framework:

• Up to 60 scholarships for undergraduate (BA/BSc), and graduate (MA/MSc) studies in the fields of Agriculture, Social Science (especially for majors such as Library and Information Sciences, Communication and Media Science, etc.), Natural Sciences (especially for majors such as Mathematics, Astronomy, Meteorology, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Cartography, Computer & Engineering, Production, and Construction), Arts and Humanities (especially for majors such as Archaeology, Hungarian Language and Literature, Culture Heritage Studies, Archival Sciences, Social Integration, etc.), Art and Design (especially for majors such as Musical Creative Arts, Classical Musical Instrumental Performance).

• Up to 5 scholarships for one-tier Master's (OTM) studies in any available field of study, excluding Medicine and Health Science.

• Up to 10 scholarships for full doctoral (PhD/DLA) studies in any field of interest.

The list of available study programs at different study levels will be published by the Tempus Public Foundation (www.tpf.hu) in the given year's call for applications.

Application Requirements *(Please note):*

Online application form (Mandatory)- the applicants must fill out and save all requested information on the online application form in English language - a recent photo of the applicant (taken not earlier than 2 years before the submission of the application)

Available Scholarship Types: For Kosovo: **Only full Degree programmes**

According to the requirements set by the Ministry, the Stipendium Hungaricum application guidelines and regulations, as well as the requirements of the host institutions in Hungary, the following documents must be submitted at the time of application:

(Please read carefully)

All listed documents are mandatory for all students applying. The application process is online: Apply online! - Stipendium Hungaricum. We require that all original documents be submitted along with their official translations. In cases where official documents are originally written and issued in English by your school/university institutions or in the Hungarian language of the selected study program, they are accepted.

- **Copy of Identification Document:** If the applicant has a passport, a scanned copy of the passport's data page should be uploaded. If the applicant does not have a passport, a scanned copy of their national ID card should be uploaded. The page must contain both personal data and a photograph of the applicant.
- **Proof of Language Proficiency (English language test, e.g., IELTS, TOEFL, etc.):** Students with valid international English language certificates receive certain points during evaluation and have priority in nomination if they meet additional criteria.
- **Motivation Letter (minimum 1 page, typed in Times New Roman 12-point font):** Written in the language of the selected study program. Check the selected University's criteria for any specific requirements.
- **CV:** Check the selected University's requirements for a specific CV format.
- **Applying for Bachelor or Integrated studies:** Upload original documents, including High school Diploma, certificates/transcripts of records (Matura Exam), and their official translations.
- **Applying for Master studies:** Upload original documents, including University/College diploma, transcripts of record with GPA-average grade, and their official translations.
- **Applying for PhD studies:** Upload University/College Diploma (Master), transcripts of record with GPA-average grade, and their official translations.
- **Note for diploma requirements:** Check if Host Universities or Stipendium call/guidelines require all previous diplomas to be uploaded.

- **Proof of NARIC Verified Documents:** Upload Apostil Stamp from the NARIC office in the Ministry in transcripts and diplomas. For more information, refer to the section below "Explanation of which documents are required to be verified by the MESTI/NARIC Center".
- **References (Recommendation Letters):** Check selected Universities and Stipendium call for the number of recommendations required.
- **Research Plan (Ph.D., minimum 2 pages):** Typed in Times New Roman 12-point font, written in the language of the selected study program. The work plan must indicate the resources used and be checked by universities for plagiarism.
- **Statement of the Supervisor (PhD):** If required by the proposed Doctoral School, upload the supervisor's statement by 15 March 2024. Check if the doctoral program requires a statement of acceptance.
- **Check university requirements** for any published papers (Master-PhD).
- **Admission Letter by a university** in Hungary (for individual applications sent directly to the university).
- **Signed Declaration/Statement** by the applicant for missing documents: Commit to obtaining and uploading missing documents by 1 August 2024. If multiple missing documents exist, upload separate declarations for each (for more information refer to the section below "Information on personal declaration requirements"
- **Additional documents for art applicants:** Portfolio: Photographs of three works of art/sketches (indicating the date of creation).
- **Applicants in the field of Music:** Upload an Audio Portfolio, an audio track of three works (indicating the date of creation).
- **Acceptance of Statement for Application** in the online system.
- **Medical Certificate** (Mandatory only for applicants nominated by Sending Partners): Scanned copy of a medical certificate of satisfactory health condition. Certificates must be issued and signed by a physician, declaring the medical condition of the applicant (according to the diseases listed on the form). The certificate must be recently issued, not earlier than 1 November 2023. Must be submitted by 15 April (applicants can upload it from the beginning of the application period).
- **Scholarship holders** will undergo medical examinations organized by universities upon arrival.
- **Additional documents for self-financed applicants** continuing studies with the scholarship: Refer to the Stipendium Hungaricum guide call for specific instructions.

Please note that each applicant can submit only one application per application round. Those who apply with more than one account will be automatically rejected during the technical check.

Be extra cautious when selecting your preferred study programs in the online application system. Ensure that you choose the program marked with the study mode you desire, as it is impossible to change the study mode after the application deadline.

Apply only for full-degree programs.

Additionally, carefully read the documents' call for Non-eligibility.

Applications are based on nationality; only nationals of Kosovo may apply. Residence in a partner country (Kosovo) does not entitle applicants to apply.

Scholarship holders must be at least eighteen (18) years old when they commence their studies

Please be aware that these provisions are intended as a contribution to the living expenses of the scholarship holders. It means that they do not fully cover all living costs, and students need to supplement them with their own financial resources to cover all living expenses in Hungary. We strongly advise all applicants to check the expected living expenses in both Hungary and the city they wish to live in before applying. You can use our Cost of Living Calculator by clicking here: http://www.studyinhungary.hu/living-in-hungary/menu/your-costs-of-living.html

We would like to strongly recommend you to visit Stipendium Hungaricum website and Ministry of Education in Kosovo for later possible new updates and all information regarding this call and application.
The website for the call and application:
You can find the annexes of the Call for Applications for bachelor's, master's, one-tier master's, and doctoral programmes here:
https://stipendiumhungaricum.hu/
https://stipendiumhungaricum.hu/apply/
(please check and read a specific call for your study level and annexes in the homepage of the Stipendium)

Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting the complete application is 15th January 2024 – 14:00 (Central European Time).

Explanation of which documents are required to be verified by the MESTI/NARIC Center

- All applicants who have completed their studies in Kosovo must obtain verification for the original copies of their transcripts and diplomas from the NARIC Center at the Ministry of Education in Kosovo. The verified copies, which must bear the official stamp of the Ministry, should be submitted along with other required documents enclosed in the application. The NARIC Office is located at the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation, Office nr. 9, Ground Floor, str. Agim Ramadani, Prishtinë.

- For students applying for Bachelor's studies, the verification requirements are as follows:
    1. For students who have already graduated from high school:
        - Transcript of records for Classes 10, 11, and 12.
        - Diploma and Matura Exam.
    2. For students still in the process of graduating from secondary school:
        - Transcripts of records for Classes 10 and 11.

Bachelor graduates applying for Master's programs, etc., must verify the following documents:

- University Diploma
- Transcript of Records

Master graduates applying for Ph.D. programs must verify their:

- Master's studies diploma
- Transcript of Records

Note: Students who are in the process of graduating and have not yet received a diploma should verify their transcripts of records.

We would like to remind you that the document verification process at the NARIC Office is applicable only for studies conducted in Kosovo.

If your previous studies were completed abroad, the verification/nostrification process may be assessed by the NARIC Office in Hungary. We strongly recommend that you upload any official proof of verification/nostrification issued by Kosovo or another country if you already have it.

Upon completing the verification process at the NARIC Office, here's how you can download your verification proof within your application:

Please scan the 'Apostille' stamp of verification located on the back of your diploma or transcripts of records and upload it along with your documents at the time of application.

Information on personal declaration requirements

Applicants who are unable to provide the required documents at the time of applying must upload a signed personal declaration. This declaration should state that they will obtain and upload the missing document(s) by 1 August 2024 at the latest (one declaration for each missing document). The declaration should explain the reason(s) for not obtaining a particular document at the time of application and should affirm that the applicant will submit the document by the application deadline specified in the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Call. It is mandatory to provide a declaration for each missing document, and failure to upload them will result in rejection.

Declaration Form Example:

[Your Name and Surname]
[Email Address]
[Phone Number]
[Date]
To whom it may concern,

I, [Your Full Name], am applying for the [Name of Scholarship Program]. By the time of application, I couldn't upload the transcript of records for grade 12, as I am currently in the process of graduation. I hereby declare that I will upload the missing transcript of records by 1 August 2024 at the latest, by the requirements and deadline set by the Stipendium Hungaricum.

I further declare that I will meet the specified deadlines for uploading each missing document, including my diploma and Matura exam. I understand that failure to comply with the submission deadlines may result in the rejection of my application.

Sincerely,
[Your Full Name]
[Your Signature]

Please note that students who have already graduated should ensure that all necessary documents are submitted. This is because they have already received their school/university diploma and transcripts of records. Failure to upload these documents may result in rejection.

Please note the following information about the Selection Process:

- Priority will be given to applicants who have not benefited from the previous calls of the Stipendium Hungaricum.
- Priority will be given to applicants who have uploaded all the required documents by the application deadline.
- Priority will be given to applicants applying for specific study programs in accordance with the Stipendium Hungaricum Program Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Applicants in the STEM+ fields of study are given priority during the allocation.
- This scholarship is provided and financed by the Stipendium Hungaricum program. The application evaluations/nominations and decisions of all the respective committees are final. The Hungarian timeline set for the whole process cannot be changed.
- The Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation does not provide any financial support within the Stipendium Hungaricum Program Scholarship.

Please note that the program is implemented through direct cooperation with the responsible authorities of the Sending Partner. The application does not have any additional costs, therefore, we highly recommend that you do not apply through any agencies.

In case you have specific questions regarding application and documents, we strongly recommend to contact your sending partner (contact: Shpresa.mehmeti@rks-gov.net)

Before you apply please make sure that:

➢ You read and understand all parts of the Call for Application, especially the eligibility criteria (e.g., age and citizenship requirements), Rights and Obligations, Operational Regulations, GDPR and Student Contract;

➢Applicants must comply with the admission requirements of the Hungarian higher-education institution to which they applied.

➢ You read the guide (available at: www.stipendiumhungaricum.hu website) for the online application system;

➢ You visit the website of Tempus Public Foundation, the Dream Apply online application system, and of the Host Institution of your choice for details about the admission requirements of specific study programs, curricula, etc.;

➢You meet any additional requirements set forth by the sending country – Hungaricum 2024-2025 Application Requirements (General information) from the Ministry of Education in your country, available at: https://masht.rks-gov.net/

Note: We inform you that this document is prepared to help students avoid mistakes during the application. Any missing document will result in rejection.

Best wishes for a successful completion of the application process,

The MESTI Team