

**Call for scholarship application of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
for the Hungarian Language and Cultural Studies Programme
in the academic year of 2021/2022**

Note: This document has been prepared in English as a complementary material to the official Hungarian language call-for-application. In case of doubt, please refer to the original version and/or contact us.

Based on the 241/2016. (VIII.16.) Government Regulation and the 4/2019. (III. 13.) Order of the **Organizational and Operational Rules of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFA) of Hungary**, within the Balassi Scholarship Programme the Ministry announces application **in the academic year of 2021/2022 for the**

HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL STUDIES PROGRAMME

for individuals of Hungarian descent living in the Diaspora outside the Carpathian Basin
who wish to strengthen their language knowledge and cultural identity.

1. THE GOAL OF THE APPLICATION

The objective of the Hungarian Language and Cultural Studies scholarship is to improve, broaden and strengthen the Hungarian language skills and cultural knowledge of young people of Hungarian descent, who are citizens and residents of other countries (the so-called “Diaspora”). The two-semester course takes place in the MFA in Budapest with the cooperation of the KKM Magyar Diplomáciai Akadémia Kft. (KKM MDA Kft., a background institution of the MFA). In order to successfully achieve the goals of the scholarship program, the MFA cooperates with the member organizations of the Hungarian Diaspora Council, especially with the organizations promoting youth community building, such as the Hungarian Scout Association in Exteris.

2. THE OBJECT OF THE APPLICATION

The programme consists of language and cultural studies and provides a great opportunity for participants to actively explore Hungary and contemporary Hungarian culture. In the framework of cultural studies students learn about history, literature, geography, folklore, art history, and social issues. At the end of the programme students take a final exam in the above subjects, defend their final essay, and take a Hungarian language exam officially recognized by the Hungarian state. (The level and type of the language exam is decided by the language skills examination board.)

Participants of the programme will receive a certification at the end of their studies.

Class attendance is compulsory. Should a participant miss classes without cause, or violate the Study and Exam rules or Disciplinary Guidelines, he/she will lose the right to continue the programme and the right to dormitory placement. Any individual who has been expelled from the programme will have to repay all stipend (monthly allowance) received up to that date.

3. THE LENGTH AND THE CONTENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

Duration of the programme is 10 months (September 2021 – June 2022).

The scholarship includes:

- full tuition fee
- HUF 45,000/month allowance (to be paid monthly)
- free accommodation in the dormitory
- student card (offering discounts)
- basic health services

Maximum number of scholarships to be awarded: 20

4. CONDITIONS OF THE APPLICATION

Individuals between the age of 18 and 35 years are invited to apply. All applicants should have **foreign citizenship**, those with dual citizenship (Hungarian and other) are also encouraged to apply. Volunteer work, references from post-secondary institutions, and any other activities related to Hungary or Hungarian culture are all taken into consideration in the selection of the applicants. Scholarship application for the 2021/2022 academic year was mainly for the northern hemisphere countries applicants.

We inform our applicants that the training is currently taking place in a different location than before (1107 Budapest, Zágrábi utca 1.). Dormitory accommodation is provided.

5. DEADLINE OF APPLICATIONS

Deadline of applications: 5 May 2021, 24.00 (UTC+1)

6. INFORMATION ON THE SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION OF THE APPLICATION

Steps of application:

The call for application is published in Hungarian at

<https://balassischolarship.kormany.hu>

in English at

<https://balassischolarship.kormany.hu/call-for-application-hungarian-cultural-studies>

1. Application website

Applications are to be submitted via the application website <https://spjelentkezes.mdakft.hu>
Please visit the site and prepare and submit your application according to the information provided there.

2. Required documents

Required documentation and references for the application:

- signed, printed statement (required format: .pdf)
- CV (required format: Word document)
- an approx. 300-word essay on why you would like to study in Hungary (required format: Word document)
- copy of passport (required format: .pdf)
- copy of transcripts and diplomas signed or certified by the appropriate authorities (required format: .pdf)
- reference letter from a volunteer organization (eg. scouts, school, foundation, church, etc.) or a recognized individual (required format: .pdf)

- the excel document named *Health Screening Questionnaire* filled in electronically (required format: Excel document) and the accompanying word document named *Health Screening Questionnaire Declaration*, signed and scanned (required format: .pdf),
- copy of document certifying vaccination obtained so far/vaccination booklet, if any (required format: .pdf)

Evaluation of the Application

Decisions on the applications are made by the Evaluation Committee set up by MFA. All decisions are binding. **MFA will not consider applications submitted after deadline and/or incorrectly and/or incompletely and/or illegibly.**

Publication of the results

Applications will be evaluated by 19 May 2021 and applicants will be notified about the results within 3 workdays afterwards via e-mail.

Successful applicants must confirm the acceptance of the scholarship via e-mail by 26 May 2021. The winning applicant upon arrival in Hungary must undertake to pay HUF 180.000 for KKM MDA Kft. involved in the implementation of the training as a contribution to the cost of excursions included in the program – in case the planned excursions can be carried out.

Depending on the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the MFA reserves the right to postpone or cancel the excursions announced as part of the program, or to change the conditions of participation in them.

The scholarship does not cover the following expenses:

- travel to and from Hungary
- language exam fee (ECL exam of level B2 or C1: approx. HUF 25,000)
- cost of two compulsory field trips (HUF 180.000)
- food and personal expenses (the recommended monthly amount for food and personal expenses is approximately USD 250)
- public transport season ticket
- fee of type “Other” visa, if necessary

7. CONDITIONS OF WINNING AND OBTAINING THE SCHOLARSHIP

- Any applicant providing unreal, false information on the data sheet, and/or make such a statement when submitting the application, and/or withhold any fact or data concerning the assessment of the application may be excluded from the application procedure.
- Participation in the application or winning the scholarship does not preclude the applicant from participating in the application of the Hungarian Diaspora Scholarship Program (DFP) in November 2021.
- By submitting their application, applicants consent to the processing of their personal data in the application form by the MFA, by the decision-shaping bodies and decision-makers defined above for the time necessary for the decision - but not later than 15 September 2021. By submitting their application, the winning applicants also consent to the processing of their personal data in the application form by MFA and KKM MDA Kft. during their scholarship period. Failure to comply with this reporting obligation will result in termination of the scholarship holder status.
- The list of Scholarship Winners is public. By participating in the application, the applicant agrees that his/her name will be published on the website of the MFA if s/he is awarded a scholarship by the MFA.
- The applicant acknowledges that, in view of the epidemiological situation, the MFA may postpone the pre-planned start date of the Hungarian Language and Cultural Studies Programme (6 September, 2021) and/or

apply distance learning methods in the training, or in a serious situation may refuse to start the training, may decide to suspend the training and continue it after the suspension has been lifted, and may decide to apply a training period shorter than it is determined in this call for application. The Applicant undertakes that in the event of the occurrence of any of the above circumstances s/he does not file a claim for damages against the MFA or KKM MDA Kft. regarding to this circumstance.

- A mandatory element of the application dossier is the health screening questionnaire and the accompanying declaration, which must be completed, signed and attached to the submitted application as an indispensable part of it. The applicant undertakes to fill in the health screening questionnaire according to his/her best knowledge, and that s/he does not state unreal and/or false data, and does not withhold true facts and/or real data. He also undertakes to carry out the missing health examinations established on the basis of the questionnaire and that as a necessary condition for living in Hungary s/he will take the mandatory vaccination (measles, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, tetanus) at his own expense, preferably before the start of the training. In case of winning the scholarship the applicant undertakes to take part in the health screening test organised by the MFA and/or KKM MDA Kft. after enrolling in the training. If, as a result of this screening test or any additional medical examination prescribed by the doctor performing the screening test, the applicant receives „medically not recommended for training” result, or the applicant refuses to carry out the previous screening test or examination, then no scholarship contract and training contract will be concluded with the applicant. If the previous contract or contracts have already been concluded, they will be terminated with immediate effect, and the scholarship holder will no longer be able to participate in the training and have to move out of the dormitory within 3 days. If, during the period of the Programme, the scholarship holder’s health status changes from “medically recommended for training” to “medically not recommended for training”, his/her Scholarship Agreement may be terminated with immediate effect.
- The applicant undertakes to carry out the tests regarding to Covid-19 epidemic at his/her own expense, in his/her home country and/or Hungary, due to entry to Hungary and/or entry into the dormitory and/or participation in training.
- The applicant undertakes to state in the health screening questionnaire whether he/she has been vaccinated against the coronavirus. The applicant acknowledges that if uniform rules on COVID vaccinations are introduced in Hungarian higher education in the future, KKM and KKM MDA Kft. will apply it to the scholarship holders.
- The applicant consents to the use and storage of the health data provided by him/her in the application dossiers by the KKM, KKM MDA Kft., and as well as by the individuals involved in medical screening.
- Upon arrival in Hungary, the winning applicant must undertake to pay HUF 180.000 to KKM MDA Kft. as a contribution to the costs of the excursions included in the programme – in case the planned excursions can be carried out.
- Signing Scholarship Agreement and a training agreement with the KKM MDA Kft.

8. CONTACT

For further information please contact:

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For application process please contact:

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The official call-for-application and the application form can be found at the Balassi Scholarship Programme webpage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

(in Hungarian: <https://balassischolarship.kormany.hu>,

in English: <https://balassischolarship.kormany.hu/call-for-application-hungarian-cultural-studies>),

*as well as at the webpage of the **Hungarian Scouts Association in Exteris** (www.kmcssz.org).*

All Hungarian speakers should fill in the Hungarian-language application form. Use the English-language form only if you do not speak Hungarian.