HUNGARY HELPS

Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People

Call for Applications
2026-2027

hungaryhelps.gov.hu/apply

SCYP@hungaryhelps.gov.hu

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1. The Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People

1.1. Mission of the Programme

Hungary provides high quality education in the heart of Europe. Today, there is a growing demand of international students to study in Hungary. Besides the quality of education and degrees recognised throughout Europe and beyond, students are attracted by the affordable living costs with an extremely favourable cost-to-value ratio, a safe and friendly living environment with convenient public transportation, the central location of the country in Europe, and the unspoiled natural beauties combined with a 2000 year-old, rich Hungarian history and several UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Hungary is also within the top countries with the highest number of scientific Nobel Prize Winners per capita, and a numerous scientific inventions from Vitamin C to Rubik's cube and so on.

The core mission of the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People (hereafter: SCYP Program) is to provide the possibility of studying in Hungary for young Christian students living in the crisis regions and developing countries of the world. After completing their studies, the Scholarship Holders will return to help their home community with their gained knowledge, and they will participate in the development of their countries and contribute to improvement of social situation and preservation of culture of Christian communities.

The Programme is managed by the State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade responsible for the Scholarship Programme (hereinafter: State Secretariat) and is implemented by Hungary Helps Agency Non-Profit Private Limited Liability Company (hereinafter: Hungary Helps Agency).

1.2. Available Scholarship Types

1.2.1. Study Levels

Scholarships are available for bachelor's, master's, one-tier master's and doctoral programmes.

Available Scholarship Types		**Duration**	**Qualifications at the end of programme**	**Available study modes**
Degree programmes	**Bachelor programmes**	2-4 years	BA or BSc degree	full degree
	Master programmes	1.5–2 years	MA or MSc degree	full degree
	One-tier master programmes	5–6 years	MA or MSc degree	full degree
	Doctoral programmes	2+2 years	doctoral degree	full degree

Note about one-tier master's programmes:
In the Hungarian education system, one-tier master's programmes cover both the bachelor and the master level of studies; therefore it is an undivided master programme that results in a master degree. These one-tier programmes are offered in specific study fields such as general medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, architecture, law, veterinary surgery, forestry engineering, etc.

Note about doctoral programmes:
In Hungary, the duration of doctoral programmes is 8 semesters. Doctoral programmes are divided into two different phases: the first phase (4 semesters) is for professional training and research, while the second phase (4 semesters) is for research and dissertation. At the end of the first 4 semesters, doctoral students are obliged to take a complex exam, where the educational and research progress of the student is evaluated. Doctoral students can only continue with the second phase of their studies upon the successful completion of the complex exam. The amount of the monthly stipend is different in the two phases of doctoral programmes. Please see section 1.3 about financial details and section 3.2.2. about the details of application for doctoral programmes.

1.3. Provisions Covered by the Scholarship

- **Tuition-free education**
  - exemption from the payment of tuition fee
- **Monthly stipend**
  - **bachelor's, master's and one-tier master's level:** monthly amount of HUF 166,600 (cca. EUR 450) *contribution to the living expenses* in Hungary, for 12 months a year, until the completion of studies
  - **doctoral level:** the monthly amount of scholarship is HUF 140,000 (cca EUR 380) for the first phase of education (4 semesters) and HUF 180,000 (cca EUR 490) for the second phase (4 semesters) - for 12 months a year, until completion of studies.
- **Accommodation contribution**
  - free dormitory place *or a contribution* of HUF 40,000 to accommodation costs for the whole duration of the scholarship period. Please note that the HUF 40 000/month (cca. EUR 110) is only a contribution to rental costs if the student does not live in the dormitory. In bigger cities – especially in the capital city – this contribution would not cover the full amount of rental costs.
- **Travel allowence**
  - HUF 200,000 /academic year (cca. EUR 500/academic year)
- **Medical insurance**
  - health care services according to the relevant Hungarian legislation (Act LXXX of 1997, national health insurance card) and supplementary medical insurance for up to HUF 65,000 (cca. EUR 180) a year/person

Please, bear in mind that these provisions are **only a contribution** to the living expenses of the Scholarship Holders. It means that the monthly stipend **does not fully cover all the costs of living,** and therefore, Scholarship Holders might need to add their own financial resources in order to cover all living expenses in Hungary. All applicants are highly advised to check the

expected living expenses both in Hungary and in the city that they wish to live in before applying. Please, check the Cost of Living Calculator by clicking here: http://www.studyinhungary.hu/living-in-hungary/menu/your-costs-of-living.html

In the first year of their studies, Scholarship Holders are required to attend the course of „Hungarian as foreign language" offered by the Host University. Scholarship Holders who do not attend the course will not be able to receive the monthly stipend (mentioned at 1.3.).

2. Eligibility

2.1. Eligible Participating Countries, available study levels, preferred study fields

The SCYP Programme is based on the cooperation between the State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians and Churches that pursue humanitarian activities in crisis regions. For the 2026/2027 academic year, the scholarship is announced for the citizens of the following countries: Lebanese Republic, Republic of Ghana, Republic of Nicaragua, Republic of Niger, Republic of Chad, Republic of Iraq, State of Israel, Palestine, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Kenya, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Republic of Armenia and Nigeria.

List of the ecclesiastical Christian denomination and rite groups can be found in Annex 1. Please note that only letters of recommendation issued by those ecclesiastical Christian denomination and rite groups listed in the Annex 1. will be accepted.

Degree programmes at bachelor level, one tier master's and master programmes are open to all applicants, while doctoral programmes are open to those applicants who have completed their master studies in the frame of the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People in Hungary or are registered for the last semester of their master's level studies in the 2025/2026 academic year as Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People Scholarship Holders.

Local Churches are to verify and prove that the applicant belongs to their religious community. Only those applicants can be awarded with the scholarship who have the recommendation from the Local Church, and their recommendation is approved by the State Secretariat.

As part of the selection procedure Partner Churches of eligible sending countries have the right to rank applicants.

The State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians may give preference to the candidates of the partner churches with which the Hungary Helps Agency is currently carrying out or in the future will carry out support projects, thereby also helping that, on the recommendation of the churches, the most appropriate and committed students can participate in the SCYP Programme, thus helping the prosperity of the Christian communities remaining in their home country to the greatest extent.

Please bear in mind that recommendation letter from the Local Church is not equal with the ranking list of the Partner Churches of eligible sending countries.

In the selection procedure applications will be ranked according to the following priority order of available study fields:

1: agriculture, economic studies, medical and health sciences, technology
2: computer science, law and administration, political science, teacher training
3: natural sciences
4: humanities, social sciences

Scholarship Holders must have the relevant language and education certificates, degrees requested by the Host University of the selected degree programme. The Scholarship Holders commit themselves in the scholarship agreement that after the scholarship agreement ends, they will return to their home countries, if the local security and political conditions allow it so. The scholarship agreement is signed by the Host Institution and the Scholarship Holder for the duration of the scholarship period after the arrival of the Scholarship Holder.

2.2. Non-eligibility

Applications will not be considered in the following cases:

a.) Hungarian citizens (including those with dual citizenships), persons granted a refugee status (“menekült”), persons enjoying temporary protection (“menedékes”), persons admitted for subsidiary protection (“oltalmazott”) and persons granted humanitarian protection (“befogadott”), stateless persons (“hontalan”), asylum seeker persons (“menedékkérő”) and persons who are already settled in Hungary.
Please note: this requirement is not only for applicants but for Scholarship Holders as well; it means that, e.g., if you obtain a Hungarian citizenship or a refugee status during your studies in Hungary, your Scholarship Holder status will be terminated automatically.

b.) Those applicants who apply for the SCYP Programme for the first cycle of education who are not resident or domiciled in the same country of their nationality or in an Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient country. This requirement does not apply to Scholarship Holders applying for the SCYP Programme for the next cycle of education, e.g. bachelor Scholarship Holders applying for master’s studies, master’s Scholarship Holders applying for doctoral programmes.

c.) Applicants born after 31st August 2008 (= applicants under 18 years old as of 31st August 2026).

d.) Those applicants who are registered self-financed/fee-paying students of a Hungarian higher education institution at the time of the application deadline.

e.) Those former SCYP Scholarship Holders who were awarded scholarships for full degree studies and who:

- are now re-applying for full degree in the same cycle of education (non-degree studies, bachelor’s, master’s, one-tier master’s), therefore, SCYP Scholarship Holders can apply for the programme to continue

their studies at a different cycle of education, e.g. bachelor Scholarship Holders can apply for master studies;

- or who have postponed the starting date of their scholarship studies and did not withdraw their scholarship before the current application deadline.

f.) Former Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Holders except if they apply for the programme for the next cycle of education while they still have a scholarship status at the time of application if they receive their degree until 31st August 2026 (eg. a bachelor student may apply for master studies if they gets the bachelor degree by 31st August, 2026).

Doctoral scholarships are available only for those who have completed their master's studies in the frame of the SCYP Programme in Hungary or are registered for the last semester of their studies in the 2025/2026 academic year as Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People Scholarship Holders.

2.3. Available Host Institutions and Study Programmes

The lists of available study programmes and Host Institutions are accessible in the online application system (https://apply.scyp.hu/). **Please note that only these study programmes can be applied for.**

The full list of available study programmes is accessible in Annex 2.

2.4. Selected Study Programmes

Each applicant can apply for **ONE study programme.**

During the application process, the selection and examination process will be conducted for the study programme selected by the applicants.

Please note that after submitting the application, the selected programme cannot be changed by the applicant. We strongly advise all applicants to carefully check the minimum entry requirements of the study programme. Please note that for the same study level, the scholarship can only be awarded once.

2.5. Language of Study Programmes

The SCYP Programme offers study programmes available in English language. Applicants are eligible to apply only if they meet the minimum language criteria set by the chosen Host Higher Education Institution. Please visit the online application system (https://apply.scyp.hu/) to see the exact language criteria for each study programme. In general: applicants are required to have a level of English proficiency required by the Host Institution.

2.6. Preparatory Courses

Besides full degree programmes, full-time non-degree programmes are also available within the programme in certain cases, for up to one year. **Please read this section if you are applying for study programmes in the field of Engineering or Computer Science and Technology.**

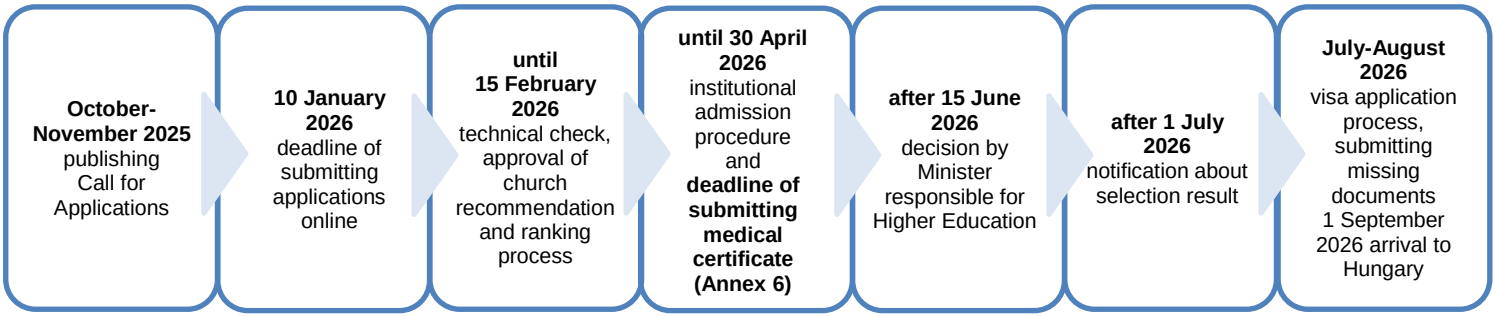
Preparatory courses are non-degree programmes before starting a bachelor's or master's level degree programme at a Host Institution (both with the scholarship).

Only in case of full degree study programmes in the field of Engineering and Computer Science and Technology during the institutional entrance examination process, and based on the professional evaluation of the applicant, the Host Institutions have the right to make the decision to admit the applicant for a preparatory course (up to 1 year) before they can actually start their full degree programmes. The preparatory course is only available before bachelor and master level programmes in the field of Engineering and Computer Science and Technology. Applicants, therefore, cannot directly apply for preparatory courses; it is always the Host Institutions' decision whether a professional preparation year is necessary or not.

3. The Application Process

Please note that the following dates are indicative only.

3.1. Application Timeline



3.2. Application Documents to be submitted to Hungary Helps Agency

No hard copies of any of these documents are required from by Hungary Helps Agency at the time of application.

3.2.1. Basic Application Documents

All of the following application documents are compulsory and must be submitted via the online application system by **all applicants** until **10th January, 2026 (23:59 Budapest time).**

Please note that only files with a total maximum size of 4 MB can be uploaded in the system.

The following documents are compulsory and must be submitted to the online application system by all applicants:

Application Documents	Detailed Requirements
Online application form	- the applicants must fill out and save all requested information on the online application form in English - a recent photo of the applicant (taken not earlier than 6 months prior to the submission of the application)
Motivation Letter	- minimum 1 page, typed in Times New Roman 12-point letters written in English language describing why the applicant had chosen the specific studies and how their studies will contribute to the greater benefit of their local community in their homeland. Please note, that the letter of motivation must be typed in to the online application system to the designated section.
Approved recommendation	- Recommendation of the local Christian Church **issued not earlier than 1st November 2025** to be approved by the State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians. The Letter of Recommendation must be issued by the highest possible level, i.e: by the Bishop in the Church in English language. In those Churches, where there are no Bishops, the Letter of Recommendation must be signed at the highest episcopal level. - **Formal criteria for the Letter of Recommendation:** **1. must be signed and stamped by the Bishop of the relevant Church (or by the highest relevant episcopal authority, if the Church has no Bishop)** **2. must be typed and printed on the official letterhead of the relevant Church** **3. must have the name of the bishop printed on it** **4. must state all the personal details of the applicant (i.e: full name, country of residence, date and place of birth) and the date of issuance (according to Gregorian-calendar)** **5. cannot be handwritten** **6. must be issued in English language** - For the list of the ecclesiastical Christian denomination and rite groups see Annex 1.
Proof of language proficiency <u>and</u> their translations in the language of the selected study programme or in Hungarian	- scanned copy of the original proof of language proficiency, with a minimum level determined by the Host Institution AND its translation - see section 2.5. for further details - in case the student has completed his/her previous level of studies in English language (i.e. graduated from a high school or university where the language of education was officially English), a proof can be uploaded about the fact that the language of education was English. - translations only have to be attached if the copy of the original document is not in English or in Hungarian
School certificates <u>and</u> their translations	- bachelor level full time programmes: scanned copy of the original secondary school graduation certificate or equivalent AND its translation

English or in Hungarian	- master level full time programmes: scanned copy of the original bachelor degree certificate or equivalent AND its translation - one-tier master level full time programmes: scanned copy of the original secondary school graduation certificate or equivalent AND its translation - doctoral level: scanned copy of the original master degree certificate or equivalent AND its translations - translations only have to be attached if the copy of the original document is not in English or in Hungarian
Transcript of Records and its translation in English or in Hungarian	- copy of the original transcript of records regarding all academic semesters or school years completed during previous studies (in the highest level of education that the student has participated in) AND its translation - translations only have to be attached if the copy of the original document is not in English or in Hungarian
Medical certificate	- **must be submitted until 30th April** (the medical certificate must be submitted by those applicants whose applications are forwarded for entrance examination to the chosen Host Institution, however, it is possible to upload it from the beginning of the application period) - scanned copy of a medical certificate of satisfactory health condition issued not earlier than 1st November 2025 - **please note that there is a form provided by Hungary Helps Agency for this certificate, it cannot be any certificate that the particular hospital uses or the particular physician issues (see Annex 6)** - medical certificates have to be issued and signed by a physician to declare the medical condition of the applicant (according to the diseases listed on the form provided in Annex 6) - certificates has to contain readable stamp and signature of the physician - please note that despite the applicants need to upload this document, the Host Institutions might require the student to take a medical test at the time of enrolment (free of charge for the Scholarship Holders)
Copy of Identification Document	- provided that the applicant already has a passport, the scan of the passport should be uploaded - in case the applicant does not have a passport, the applicant should upload the scanned copy of the valid national ID card AND its translation - the page that displays both the personal data and the photography of the applicant should be uploaded - translations only have to be attached if the copy of the original document is not in the language of the selected study programme
Acceptance of Statement for Application in the online system	- all applicants need to accept the “Statement for Application” (please see Annex 3 for a sample) - the statement **can only be accepted in the online system**, therefore scanned and signed copies should not be uploaded - the statement appears in the online application system after registration – all applicants need to click on accepting it in order to be able to submit their applications

All documents that cannot be obtained in English or in Hungarian, have to be translated into English and the translations have to be submitted together with a copy of the original document.

Please note, that all documents you submit must be valid, intact and official. We cannot accept scanned copies of documents that show visible signs of any damage, repair or handwritten correction. The act of submitting not official documents or documents that show visible signs of damage, repair or handwritten correction may result in disqualification from the application procedure.

Please note that we process your personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union, as specified in the Privacy Policy, in order to submit an application, you must declare that you have familiarized yourself with the Privacy Policy on the processing of personal data. The "Privacy Policy" and the "Statement on Getting to Know the Privacy Policy" will appear in the system after registration (Annex 4).

Please note, that in case of individual ministerial agreement or decision, applicants can be redirected to another scholarship programme. If you are redirected to another scholarship program, based on your consent your personal data will be transferred to the organization that manages the given scholarship program. This consent also appears in the system after registration as well as the Privacy Policy (Annex 4).

3.2.2. Additional Documents for Doctoral Level

Besides the documents listed in Section 3.2.1., applicants applying for studies on a doctoral level need to upload the following documents as well. All of the following documents are compulsory and need to be submitted to the online application system by **doctoral applicants** until 10th January 2026.

Application Documents	Detailed requirements
Research Plan	- minimum 2 pages, typed in Times New Roman 12 point font size letters, written in the language of the selected study programme
Statement of the Supervisor	- Statement by the Supervisor at the proposed Host Institution declaring that the supervisor undertakes to supervise the student's work within the doctoral programme - written in the language of the selected study programme or in Hungarian
Letter of Recommendation	- one signed Letter of Recommendation from the applicant's former or current academic supervisors

All applicants of doctoral programmes are required to visit http://www.doktori.hu before they submit their application. The website provides information about the Hungarian doctoral schools, available research field and research topics as well as the possible supervisors of doctoral students in English and Hungarian Language. Proposed research topics are available at: http://www.doktori.hu/index.php?menuid=115&lang=EN.

Doctoral applicants are also required to contact their chosen Host Institutions and doctoral schools in advance in order to discuss the available research topics in the institution as well as the possible supervisors for those topics. These pieces of information need to be considered when preparing the application materials (e.g. Research Plan) and choosing a matching doctoral school and research area.

3.3. Missing Documents

All documents listed under point 3.2. are **mandatory** application documents. However, certain documents are accepted to be uploaded even after the application deadline, **provided that** the applicant could not possibly obtain the document by the deadline of application.

In this case, the applicants need to upload a **signed statement** that they will obtain and upload the missing document(s) until **31st July 2026** the latest (**30th April 2026** in case of the Medical Certificate). No missing document will be accepted if the statement is not uploaded until 10th January 2026 and/or if the missing documents are not uploaded until **31st July 2026**, thus such applications will automatically be rejected.

Please note that there is a form provided by Hungary Helps Agency for this statement (Annex 7).

The following missing documents can be submitted after the application deadline, **but no later than 31st July 2026** (23:59 Budapest Time):

Which missing documents can be uploaded after 10th January 2026?		**Who can be exempted to upload these missing documents by 10th January 2026?**	**What has to be uploaded instead until 10th January 2026?**	**What has to be uploaded until the extended deadline?**	**Extended deadline**
Medical Certificate		only applicants awaiting their medical certificate to be issued	statement signed by the applicant	medical certificate	**30th of April 2026**
School certificates and their translations	**high school certificate**	only applicants registered for the last semester of their secondary school studies	statement signed by the applicant	high school graduation certificate	**31st of July 2026**
	bachelor degree certificate	only applicants registered for the last semester of their bachelor programme	statement signed by the applicant AND high school certificate and translation if the original document is not in the language of the selected study programme	bachelor degree certificate	
	master degree certificate	only applicants registered for the last semester of their master programme	declaration signed by the applicant AND bachelor degree with translation if the original document is not in the language of the selected study programme	master degree certificate	
Certificate of language proficiency		only applicants awaiting their language test results at the time of application	statement signed by the applicant	certificate of language proficiency	

Copy of Passport	only applicants awaiting their passport to be issued	declaration signed by the applicant AND a copy of valid national ID with translation if the original document is not in the language of the selected study programme	copy of passport	

3.4. Submitting the Application

3.4.1. Application to Hungary Helps Agency

All applications shall be submitted through the online application system of the Programme. After registration, the applicants will be able to access the application system and upload the required documents.

It is strongly recommended to register with an e-mail address that works properly and that the applicant reads frequently. In case there is a change in the e-mail address – including during the study period in Hungary – the Host Institution and the Hungary Helps Agency should be immediately informed and be provided with the new e-mail address by the Applicant/Scholarship Holder. It is always the responsibility of the applicant and the student to manage his/her own email account and to read the letters regularly. The Hungary Helps Agency is not responsible for the malfunctioning of the registered e-mail account. Please, avoid using a Hotmail or a Yahoo account because in case of these accounts e-mails from the Hungary helps Agency usually go to the Spam folder.

Applications should be submitted; only saved applications will not be considered. Applications can only be submitted by clicking on the "submit" button in the application system.

Please note that no applications will be accepted out of the online submission and after the deadline. No hard copies are required.

The deadline for submitting the complete application package:
10th January 2026, 23:59 (Central European Time)

The online application system can be reached here
https://apply.scyp.hu/

The information provided on the application – including the study programmes– cannot be changed after the application is submitted. By submitting the application, the applicant declares that all information provided through the online application system of the programme – including the content of all uploaded documents – are true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

3.4.2. Application "Dos and Don'ts"

Please make sure that

- you read and understand all parts of the Call for Applications,

- you visit the website of the programme and your chosen Host Institutions for details about the entrance requirements of study programmes, curriculum and so on,
- you provide precise contact details and make sure your e-mail address (or any other information) is not mistyped on your application form because all information – including the selection results – will be sent there,
- you do not accidentally apply for the wrong study levels (e.g. master studies while you are a bachelor student) and do not apply to different study levels in one application
- you upload the documents with the correct file formats and the files can be opened,
- you submit your application in the online application system until the deadline,
- you click on the “submit” button to submit your application because the “save” button will only save your system but the application will not be submitted,
- you write down and remember your login name, password and your e-mail address used when you submitted your application because you will need these information later (e.g. for accepting the scholarship offer), and
- you write down and remember your application registration number because this is how we will be able to identify your application later and this is the number that Scholarship Holders will need to use.

We strongly suggest you

- not to use a Hotmail or Yahoo account when submitting your application in order to avoid any technical problems.

The information provided by the application – including the study programme – cannot be changed after the application is submitted!

3.4.3. Flow chart of application process

Please note that the dates are indicative.

3.5. Selection Procedure

3.5.1. First round of selection: technical check and the approval of Letter of Recommendation (until 15 February 2026)

Applications that are only saved in the online system but not submitted, will be automatically rejected. Only the applications successfully submitted to Hungary Helps Agency's online application system are checked. This is called a technical check and it is done by Hungary Helps Agency. In this step, we check some of the eligibility criteria; for example the age, citizenship, the previous scholarships, and check if the applicant has applied for a scholarship type and/or study programme that is available within the framework of the programme. Also, we will formally check if the required documents are uploaded in the application system or not, and check if the Statement for Application (Annex 3) is accepted in the system. However, it is the Host Institution that checks whether the uploaded files and their quality can be accepted and whether these documents meet their entry requirements or not.

Applicants will be automatically rejected during the technical check if they:

- do not successfully submit their application in the online system until the 10th January 2026;
- do not successfully submit a Letter of Recommendation issued by their respective Church;
- Letter of Recommendation issued by their respective Church does not meet the formal criteria described in 3.2.1. of this Call;
- are Hungarian citizens, hold a Hungarian dual citizenship or they are persons granted a refugee status, enjoying temporary protection, admitted for subsidiary protection or granted humanitarian protection;
- have a citizenship that is different from the sending country/territory they apply through/ and who are not resident or domiciled in the same country of their nationality or in an Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient country. This requirement does not apply to Scholarship Holders applying for the SCYP Programme for the next cycle of education, e.g. bachelor Scholarship Holders applying for master's studies, master's Scholarship Holders applying for doctoral programmes;
- were born after 31st August 2008 (= applicants under 18 years old as of 31st August 2026);
- do not accept the Statement for Application (please see Annex 3 for sample) in the online system; or
- they are former SCYP or Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Holders or self-financed students at a Hungarian higher education institution, except in cases described in Section 2.2. about non-eligibility.

Only applicants whose Letter of Recommendation meet the formal criteria described in 3.2.1. of this Call can be sent to Partner Churches for review and ranking.

As part of the selection procedure Partner Churches of eligible sending countries have the right to rank applicants.

The State Secretariat may give preference to the candidates of the partner churches with which the Hungary Helps Agency is currently carrying out or in the future will carry

out support projects, thereby also helping that, on the recommendation of the churches, the most appropriate and committed students can participate in the SCYP Programme, thus helping the prosperity of the Christian communities remaining in their home country to the greatest extent.

Please bear in mind that recommendation letter from the Local Church is not equal with the ranking list of the Partner Churches of eligible sending countries.

After the selection decision of the Partner Churches a nomination list, including a reserve list will be issued and forwarded to Hungary Helps Agency until 15th February 2026. Only applications nominated by Partner Churches will be sent to the Host Institutions for institutional evaluation and admission procedure.

3.5.2. Second round of selection: the institutional evaluation (until 30 April 2026)

The professional evaluation of the applications is done by the Host Institutions before the entrance examinations. The institution will also run a formal check first to see if all the documents submitted by the applicants meet the requirements of the call for application and the minimum entry requirements of the selected study programme.

Applicants with eligible, valid, formally correct application that meets the minimum entry requirements can proceed to the institutional entrance examinations. Each applicant can participate in one institutional entrance examination – in accordance with their submitted application.

The exact date and method of the entrance examination varies by institutions. **Each applicant will be individually informed about further details (e.g. date of examination) directly by their selected Host Institution(s).**

Applicants are evaluated on a 100 point scale. The final examination results and the examination points given by the Host Institution are then forwarded to Hungary Helps Agency. Important note: the required minimum to be achieved is 56 points (on a 100 point scale). No applicants shall receive a scholarship offer with an examination result below 56 points.

3.5.3. Final decision on Scholarship Holders (until 15 June 2026)

Hungary Helps Agency is responsible for the allocation of the admitted applicants. The principles are in the following priority order:

1. quotas defined by State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians based upon the cooperation with the responsible Partner Churches,
2. the capacity (minimum and maximum number of available places) of the university's specific study programme,
3. the selected study programmes on the application form (please carefully read Section 2.4. about this),
4. the examination results (maximum 100 points) given by the Host Institutions and the ranking order of the applicants on the Local Church partners' nomination lists
5. priority of study fields and ranking of nomination.

Based on the above mentioned criteria, a list of recommended Scholarship Holders will be compiled by Hungary Helps Agency and sent to the State Secretariat. As the next step, the State Secretariat will issue the complete list of recommended Scholarship Holders, and forward it for final decision to the Minister responsible for Higher Education in Hungary.

The final decision on Scholarship Holders is made by the Minister responsible for Higher Education in Hungary.

Based on individual ministerial agreement or decision, applicants can be redirected to another scholarship programme. In this case data will be transferred to the organization that manages the given scholarship program with the prior written consent of the data subject which is included in the Statement for Application.

Applicants can expect to be informed about the final result of application after 1st July 2026.

3.6. Acceptance of the Scholarship

Those who do not accept their scholarship until the deadlines below are automatically considered withdrawn from the scholarship.

Applicants who are awarded the scholarship shall not receive a Scholarship Holder status if they:

- withdraw from the scholarship in writing (sent to both Hungary Helps Agency and the Host Institution) or via the application system;
- fail to upload their missing application documents until 31st July 2026;
- fail to accept their scholarship until the deadline given via the online system;
- do not hold a secondary school graduation certificate until 31st July 2026;
- withdraw their data protection (GDPR) consents
- provided false information during the application process

3.6.1. Acceptance of Scholarship for Approved Scholarship Holders

In order to gain a Scholarship Holder status, approved applicants must accept their scholarship and consent to the Operational Regulations (Annex 5) of the programme in the online application system **within two weeks after receiving the notification e-mail about the application decision, but no later than 31st July 2026!**

3.6.2. Acceptance of Scholarship for Conditionally Approved Scholarship Holders

If the applicant is conditionally approved because they have any missing documents that can be uploaded after the application deadline, all these missing documents need to be uploaded via the online system immediately after receiving all documents (and after receiving the notification about the conditional status), and no later than 31st July 2026.

Please see details in Section 3.3. on missing documents.

The conditional Scholarship Holders are only able to accept their scholarship in the online system if all missing documents are uploaded first!

After uploading all missing documents, conditionally approved Scholarship Holders must accept their scholarship and consent to the Operational Regulations (Annex 5) of the programme in the online application system **within two weeks after uploading the missing documents, but no later than 31st July 2026!**

3.6.3. Acceptance of Scholarship for Approved Scholarship Holders

In order to gain a Scholarship Holder status, approved applicants must accept their scholarship and consent to the Operational Regulations of the programme (**see Annex 5** for the Operational Regulations) in the online application system within the time frame written in the notification e-mail page (usually this is within two weeks after receiving the notification e-mail about the application decision, but it can be a shorter period) but no later than **31st July 2026**.

4. Studying in Hungary

4.1. Visa Applications

You are requested to **start your visa application process immediately** after receiving the positive decision about the scholarship. Officially, it may take 30 days until a visa is issued. In order to apply for visa to Hungary, you need to contact the competent consular office. For more information please, contact the website of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (http://konzuliszolgalat.kormany.hu/en) and the National Directorate-general for Aliens Policing (http://oif.gov.hu/index.php?lang=en).

Please note that the citizens of some countries do not need a visa to enter Hungary due **to the Visa Waiver Agreements, a**t the time of writing, these countries include: Israel **from the list of eligible countries only.** Please make sure to visit the Consular Services website for up to date information about your country: http://konzuliszolgalat.kormany.hu/visa-waiver-agreements.

The visa administration and extension of the residence permit are **free of charge for the Scholarship Holders**.

Please note that the Scholarship Holder status does not automatically guarantee a visa.

4.2. Arrival and Enrolment

Scholarship Holders are required to inform the coordinator of the Hungarian higher education institution about their expected date of arrival 30 – but not less than 15 days before arrival.

Successful applicants are expected to make their own travel arrangements to Hungary. The scholarship covers maximum HUF 200 000/ academic year as travel allowance, which is provided by the Host Institution in two instalments after the student has enrolled and signed

the Scholarship Holder agreement. No visa, administrative services or additional contribution to family members or accompanying persons is provided by the scholarship programme.

Scholarship Holders are expected to obtain their visa and arrive to Hungary no later than 30th September 2026 (for study programmes starting in the Autumn Semester) – or the date set by the Host Institutions.

The applicant who is granted the scholarship must enrol to the Host Institution in the semester in which he was granted admission. If s/he does not enrol within one month after the beginning of the academic year/semester or the deadline provided by the Host Institution, s/he will be automatically excluded from the scholarship programme.

In principle, it is **not possible to postpone the start of the scholarship studies** to another semester or academic year – except for very special, unforeseeable, vis maior cases described in the Operational Regulations of the programme (Annex 5), with the special approval of Hungary Helps Agency. Therefore, in principle if the Scholarship Holder does not enrol until 30th September 2026 – or the date set by the Host Institutions, they will be automatically excluded from the scholarship programme.

Please note that the Host Institutions have the right to require the students to take a medical test at the time of enrolment, however it is free of charge for the Scholarship Holders.

Please read the Operational Regulations of the programme (Annex 5) for details about the acceptance of the scholarship, enrolment and postponement procedures.

4.3. Rights and Obligations

4.3.1 Operational Regulations, GDPR and Scholarship Agreement

All Scholarship Holders are bound by the Operational Regulations of the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People. Please make sure to read it carefully (see Annex 5).

Scholarship Holders are required to sign a **Scholarship Agreement** with the Host Institution including study-related details and the rights and obligations of the Scholarship Holders.

Scholarship Holders are required to **credible proof of the use of the travel allowance for each semester (e.g. air tickets)**. They must report on the use of the financial support no later than the end of the academic year. They will not be entitled to receive the financial support for the following academic year in the absence of such an account.

The Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People stipendium is a contribution to the living costs of the Scholarship Holder only, therefore – within the framework of the programme – visa-related assistance, additional allowance and administrative services are not provided for any accompanying people or family members. The legal entity of the Scholarship Agreement is exclusively the Scholarship Holder and the Host Institution.

The Scholarship Holders are expected to follow the regulations of the Host Institution and the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People and continue their studies in good faith, to the best of their abilities, in order to meet the academic requirements of the study programme and thus finish the programme successfully. By accepting the scholarship offer, the Scholarship Holders agree to participate in the annual events (opening and closing ceremonies) organised by the Hungary Helps Agency twice a year, in the alumni system of the programme that supports the maintenance of relationships with the Scholarship Holders and facilitates the flow of information – such as the alumni website, alumni events and surveys about the satisfaction of students, career monitoring and the evaluation of research activities.

Please note that the Scholarship Holder students generally complete 30 credits in a semester, therefore we suggest to register courses with at least 30 credits in total. Please also note that if the Scholarship Holder do not complete at least 18 credits on the average during the last two semesters with an active student status (in total 36 credits), their scholarship status shall be terminated.

Please note that the Operational Regulations of the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People (Annex 5) can be subject to change, and the Scholarship Holders are always bound by the prevailing regulations at any given time.

Please note that in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in European Union law, all applicants need to give consents regarding data protection and accept the Privacy Policy (see Annex 4) in order to be able to submit an application. These consents appear in the online application system after registration.

4.3.2. Staying in Hungary

Scholarship Holders are obliged to live and study in Hungary, therefore they are not allowed to live habitually in any other country during the study period otherwise their Scholarship Holder status will be terminated. The student must register in person at the international office of the Host Institution at the beginning of each semester. The Scholarship Holders are obliged to inform their Host Institution if they leave Hungary during the study period for more than 10 days in a row.

4.3.3. Other Scholarships and Double Financing

The Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People entitles Scholarship Holders to carry out studies in Hungary, therefore the Scholarship Holders are not entitled to use financial support for getting enrolled in full time or partial (exchange) study programmes outside Hungary (e.g. Erasmus +) except for special cases described in the Operational Regulations of the Programme (Annex 5). Scholarship Holders can only participate in conferences or research activities that are professionally relevant for their studies. These activities should not prevent the student from habitually living in Hungary.

Applicants are also not eligible to receive the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People scholarship in case they have another concurrent scholarship from the Hungarian central budget for studies in Hungary. If the Scholarship Holder was awarded more than one scholarship, they have to choose one of the scholarships and withdraw from the other ones.

However, the Host Institutions are allowed to provide additional financial support for the students on a social, performance-related or other basis.

In accordance with the regulations of Government Decree 51/2007. (III. 26.), Scholarship Holders are entitled to be awarded with the National Higher Education Scholarship (“nemzeti felsőoktatási ösztöndíj”).

At the end of their study period or academic year as Scholarship Holders, students are obliged to submit a Student Report to Hungary Helps Agency until the given deadline.

4.3.4. Termination of Scholarship Status

The details and cases when the scholarship status is terminated are listed in the Operational Regulations of the programme (Annex 5). It is important to highlight that– after the consultation with Hungary Helps Agency and in case the university does not have other interior regulations about this – the Host Institution has the right to terminate the scholarship status of the student **if the student does not complete at least 18 credits on the average during the last two semesters (in total 36 credits)** when they had an active student status.

Besides, the scholarship status of the Scholarship Holder is terminated when:

- their student status is terminated by the Host Institution,
- the Scholarship Holder withdraws the scholarship in a written form (sent to both Hungary Helps Agency and the Host Institution),
- if the Scholarship Holder student does not complete at least 18 credits on the average of the last two semesters with an active student status
- the Scholarship Holder has obtained their degrees (or completed their non-degree studies) at the study programme supported by the scholarship,
- the Scholarship Holder has used up all their scholarship semesters awarded to them and have not handed in an extension request or when they are not entitled for extension,
- the Scholarship Holder does not live in Hungary habitually and the Host Institution terminates their scholarship status for this reason,
- do not arrive and enrol until the registration date specified by the Host Institution (except cases described in the Operational Regulations in Annex 5),
- Hungarian citizens (including those with dual citizenships), persons granted a refugee status (“menekült”), persons enjoying temporary protection (“menedékes”), persons admitted for subsidiary protection (“oltalmazott”) and persons granted humanitarian protection (“befogadott”), stateless persons (“hontalan”), asylum seeker persons (“menedékkérő”) and person who are already settled in Hungary,
- in other cases described in the Operational Regulations of the programme (Annex 5) in effect.

5. Contact Details

General information about applications:

Hungary Helps Agency Non-Profit Private Limited Liability Company
Address: H-1011 Budapest, Szilágyi Dezső tér 1.
E-mail: SCYP@hungaryhelps.gov.hu
Homepage: https://hungaryhelps.gov.hu/apply/

6. Annexes

- Annex 1: List of the ecclesiastical Christian denomination and rite groups
- Annex 2: List of Available Study Programmes
- Annex 3: Sample Statement for Application
- Annex 4: Privacy Policy
- Annex 5: Operational Regulations
- Annex 6: Medical Certificate Form
- Annex 7: Statement Form

All the Annexes can be downloaded from the website (https://hungaryhelps.gov.hu/apply/).

Please note that the Call for Applications of the Scholarship Programme for Christian Young People can be subject to change in the future, therefore we suggest all applicants to follow our website.