



Overview of Health Services Available to Foreign Students

The health care of foreign nationals is a complex area that often requires quick action. We have systematised these external health services, we hope that the following *outline* will help to make it more transparent.

On the ELTE website, detailed information pages are available in the Education / Practical matters menu:

- <https://www.elte.hu/en/health-insurance>
- <https://www.elte.hu/en/immunity-certificate>

The organizational unit responsible for external health services is the ELTE Quaestura Office of Student Services (quaestura@elte.hu).

Both the social security card and health insurance can be applied for at Quaestura.

We would like to emphasize that within the framework of the following public and private care systems, **it is also possible to prescribe medication and provide psychological and psychiatric care.**

I. Emergency medical care, ambulance

Of course, all persons are entitled to ambulances and emergency patient care. However, their costs are determined by the following entitlements. The uninsured person will be invoiced for the full cost of the care!

The emergency phone number is 112, it is free to call.

II. Social security card

The Hungarian state general practitioner and specialist care system can only be used free of charge with a social security card. The range of services and the method of use are the same as those of Hungarian citizens.

Eligible persons:

- a) Hungarians from beyond the borders participating in state-supported or state-funded studies (from neighbouring countries),
- b) ministerial scholarship holders,

- c) Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship holders,
- d) Hungarian Diaspora (DFP) and Young Christians (SCYP) scholarship holders.

Difficulties:

- Language barriers: In public health care, English (or another foreign language) is often not spoken.
- Area-based care system: Although the free choice of doctor allows passage in principle, it is still often required that the student has a residence or permanent residence in the given district.
- According to our experience, 2-3 months can pass between the application for a social security card and the issuance of the social security card. (The social security number is ready within days, but it is invalid until the social security card is issued based on the registration procedure of the Bureau of Education.)

Further details: <https://www.elte.hu/en/health-insurance/non-private>

Below the forms, at the bottom of the page, there is a separate information for each scholarship.

III. European Health Insurance Card (blue "EU social security card")

It provides citizens of EEA Member States and Switzerland with access to the care that becomes medically necessary during their temporary stay. Emergency services are mutually available in relation to Hungary and Serbia.

So basically,

- a) outgoing Hungarian citizens,
- b) Hungarians from abroad with Slovakian, Romanian, Croatian, Slovenian + Serbian citizenship,
- c) Incoming EEA nationals (e.g. Erasmus students)

can use it.

They must apply in the country of their own citizenship, in Hungary at government offices.

Further details:

https://magyarorszag.hu/szuf_ugyleiras?id=8a523149-1ef3-4270-8462-c12585cafb9

IV. Supplementary private insurance for SH, DFP and SCYP scholarship holders

Temporary insurance until the social security card is ready.

It is free of charge for eligible students but is subject to application. Valid for one semester (from 1st September until 31st January, and from 1st February until 31st August).

Both general practitioner and specialist care are available through a central dispatch service available 24/7, from where the student is directed to the appropriate clinic. English-language care is provided in all cases.

Further details:

<https://www.elte.hu/en/content/private-insurance-for-scholarship-holders.t.1113?m=436>

V. Health insurance for self-financed students

Health insurance, which can be used by any self-financed or scholarship student, is provided by Union Insurance.

From 1st February 2026, the monthly fee is HUF 9,370 / person / month. This must be paid in one amount every semester, and there is no refund to the student if they leave during the semester. The completed payment of the fee is a condition of the benefit!

Also from February 2026, a HUF 10,000 sum was introduced for outpatient specialist care and diagnostic tests.

Further details:

<https://www.elte.hu/en/health-insurance/private>

If you have any further questions or specific matters, please contact Quaestura!