



**Preliminary guide for international students
at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), Budapest, Hungary**

Dear Student,

Please read the following information carefully to check what you must arrange right after arriving at ELTE. We know it's a bit long, but it is very important that you don't miss anything you need to arrange to have a smooth beginning.

We would like you to give us [feedback on your arrival](#) as in No. 2 below. 

TO-DO'S RIGHT AFTER YOU ARRIVE AT ELTE (AUG-SEPT 2026):

- ✓ Meet your mentor (optional)
- ✓ Enrolment (don't forget to bring the necessary original, physical documents!)
- ✓ Register for your courses in the Neptun system
- ✓ Get your residence permit card
- ✓ Request a student ID
- ✓ Purchase your health insurance: UNION (optional)
- ✓ Attend the Welcome Week's programmes
- ✓ Read more information: University life

AFTER YOUR ARRIVAL (end of August/beginning of September)

1. Meet your mentor (optional)

If you have requested a mentor, keep in touch with them and let them know about your arrival. You can arrange to meet as soon as you've arrived. They can help you with any arrangements if necessary.

More information: <https://www.elte.hu/en/mentor/shmn>

The Student Union also has a so-called "buddy system". You can register and find out more about that here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdzvf_OJtWnP4xXF7VNLwuTG8D8ZKr3gRtXdSpB7jozB0isZw/viewform?usp=dialog

2. Enrolment

Time and location for enrolment and registration:

**26, 27, 28, 29, 31 August and 1 September,
no. 23-27, Kazinczy street, Budapest**

Remember to check the necessary documents to bring along for enrolment on our website, [here](#).

If you cannot enrol at the given time but arrive later **due to visa issues**, please inform our [Registrar's Office](#), so that they can prepare for your late enrolment. Activating your semester in Neptun is still a must even in this case until Sept 6!



Please give us **informal feedback** [on this questionnaire](#) by **Friday morning** (28 August) about your **expected arrival** so that we can plan further enrolment and the events of the faculty welcome accordingly.



3. Semester activation and course registration

- **Activate your semester** until **6 September, 20:00** the latest
- Don't forget to register for your courses! Even if you arrive late, registering for your courses by the deadline is still a must. Also, please consider notifying your teachers about your delay so that they won't expect you at the first class.
- We've attached a PDF that summarises the deadlines and the most important things to know about the course registration period.

4. Get your residence permit card (for non-EEA students)

If you travel to Hungary with a D-visa and/or applied for a residence permit outside of Hungary, at a Hungarian consulate or embassy, your residence permit is prepared by the immigration office and when ready it will be sent to the university. Quaestura Office will send you a Neptun message and/or email once you can go and collect your residence permit from them. Their message will include the exact address as well.

If you come from a visa-waiver country and travelled to Hungary with your passport, you need to apply for a residence permit for the purpose of studies after your arrival. You can apply online, on the Enter Hungary website: <https://enterhungary.gov.hu/eh/?en>. After you submit all the necessary documents on the website, you have 15 days to visit the office of the National Directorate-General for Aliens Policing personally. The processing of your case begins when you appear in person in the office.

We highly recommend contacting our visa coordinator at visa@elte.hu if you have any questions.

More information: <https://www.elte.hu/en/visa-procedure>

Note: If you are a citizen of an EEA member country, you may travel to Hungary without a long-term study visa and don't need a residence permit card, but you need to obtain a registration card for the duration of your studies in Hungary.

More information: <https://www.elte.hu/en/visa-procedure>

5. Request a student ID / Student card

After your arrival and enrolment at the faculty, you must obtain a student ID/card at ELTE.

- First you need a NEK ID which you can arrange at a “Kormányablak” (integrated government customer service) in Budapest (your mentor can help you with this). After taking your photo, you will be registered and given a NEK ID.
- Then you have to upload this NEK ID number into the Neptun system.
- Finally, you will proceed at [Quaestura Office](#) to finalise the procedure and request a Student ID.

You will receive a temporary paper student ID, and later you will receive the regular plastic student card. Please note that you can only request the temporary paper student ID starting from the beginning of the study period, so from 7 September 2026.

Please keep your passport and other personnel documents with you when arranging your student ID.

More information: <https://neptun.elte.hu/qter/gyik/Diakigazolvany>

6. Purchase your health insurance: Union Health Insurance (optional - special insurance for international students)

Especially if you are a non-EEA citizen and don't have a European Health Insurance Card, we highly recommend purchasing private health insurance. You can choose any kind that suits your needs but we recommend a contracted partner of ELTE: Union. Please keep your passport and other personal documents with you when arranging health insurance.

You can purchase it at the Quaestura Office: <https://neptun.elte.hu/Qter>

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

7. Attend the Faculty Welcome Week

We organise the Welcome Week for all international students arriving in September 2026. We strongly advise you to attend the events where you can meet fellow international students and hear about the university and practical matters. **Time: 1-4 September, 2026.**

- The programme of the Faculty (PPK) Welcome Week is attached to this email.
- More information on other, university-organised orientation events is available: <https://www.elte.hu/en/orientation>

8. Read more about our university life

When you are here at the university, you can start exploring university life at ELTE. As a start, check out the information on the university website: <https://www.elte.hu/en/university-life>. This guide can also be useful: https://www.elte.hu/en/dstore/document/335230/guide_2026.pdf

The Student Union organises social events for students and maintains a WhatsApp group. We highly recommend that you join the relevant WhatsApp group here:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GbQm0FHUKCVAWs5c9uB1PY> and that you follow the Student Union's Instagram account (<https://www.instagram.com/studentunionppk>) where they publish details about upcoming social events.

The university also organises a Freshmen Camp. You can find out more about that here: <https://www.elte.hu/en/freshman-camp-2026>

Please keep your passport and other personal documents with you when making all the necessary arrangements including enrolment, residence permit, health insurance, student ID, etc.

We look forward to meeting you at ELTE, Budapest.