Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship 2027/2028

Hungarian Government scholarship – Bachelor's, Master's and PhD – with focus on Pakistani applicants (HEC route)

Please note: this guideline was compiled from public scholarship websites (mainly summaries of the 2026/27 call and of HEC's procedure). As of 10 November 2026 the official 2027/28 call had not been published on stipendiumhungaricum.hu, so all dates, amounts and rules marked "expected" or "2026/27 pattern" **must be confirmed** in the official call and the HEC notice before you apply.

1. Overview

Stipendium Hungaricum is the Hungarian government's scholarship programme for students from partner countries. Launched in 2013, it is managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and run day to day by Tempus Public Foundation. It funds bachelor's, master's, one-tier master's and doctoral study at Hungarian universities, mostly in English. Tuition is waived, and a monthly stipend, housing support and health cover are added. Pakistan is on the official sending-partner list, and the **Higher Education Commission (HEC)** nominates Pakistani applicants.

Funding body	Hungarian Government; coordinated by Tempus Public Foundation
Degree levels	Bachelor's, Master's, one-tier Master's and PhD
Language	Mostly English-taught programmes (some in Hungarian)
Application portals (Pakistan)	Two: apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu (Hungarian portal) and scholarship.hec.gov.pk (HEC portal)
Test required by HEC	HAT or USAT with at least 50%
Study start	September 2027 (enrol by 30 September)

2. Important Dates (2027/28 – expected, unconfirmed)

Stage	Expected date
Call published / portal opens	November 2026 (the previous round opened 17 November 2025; some sites say 15 November 2026)
Application deadline	**About 15 January 2027**, 14:00 CET (18:00 Pakistan time). The HEC portal closed earlier last cycle (16:00 PKT), so treat the earlier time as final.
Technical check by Tempus	Late January 2027
HEC nomination and reserve lists	By 28 February 2027
University entrance exams/interviews	Mid-March to end of May 2027 (up to 2 exams; pass mark 56 out of 100)

Stage	Expected date
Results	From end of June 2027
Accept scholarship in portal	By 1 August 2027 (2026/27 pattern)
Arrival and enrolment	By 30 September 2027, or the date set by the host

3. Benefits

- **Tuition:** full exemption for the whole programme.
- **Monthly stipend:** Bachelor's, Master's and one-tier Master's: HUF 43,700 (about €110), paid 12 months a year. PhD: HUF 140,000 (about €355) for the first 4 semesters, then HUF 180,000 (about €460).
- **Housing:** a free dormitory place where capacity allows, or HUF 40,000 (about €100) a month towards rent.
- **Health cover** under Hungarian law, plus supplementary insurance of up to HUF 65,000 a year (subject to each country's bilateral agreement; verify for Pakistan).
- Exemption from admission-related fees; compulsory Hungarian language course and the medical examination on arrival are free.
- **Flight reimbursement from HEC:** up to Rs 200,000 per one-way ticket (outbound after departure, return after finishing studies).

Not covered: international travel by the Hungarian side, living costs beyond the contributions above, and visa, allowance or administrative support for family members. The stipend does not cover all living costs, especially in Budapest, so keep your own funds. Amounts are from the 2026/27 call; 2027/28 amounts are unconfirmed.

4. Eligibility (Pakistan)

- Pakistani or AJ&K citizenship; applications go through HEC only. Afghan nationals cannot use the Pakistan route.
- Hungarian citizens (including dual), stateless persons, refugees and other protected persons are excluded.
- At least 18 years old on 31 August of the intake year; no upper age limit stated by HEC for Master's and PhD.
- Candidates already receiving a scholarship or financial assistance from a university or institution are not eligible.
- Selected candidates sign a bond with HEC (not to change discipline; return to Pakistan after the degree for a period set by HEC).
- No work experience required.

Academic requirements (2026/27 HEC wording; dates will shift)

- **Bachelor's / one-tier Master's:** Intermediate (HSSC) or equivalent, completed by 1 August of the intake year.
- **Master's:** 16-year bachelor's degree or equivalent, completed by 1 August.

- **PhD:** Master's, MS or MPhil or equivalent, completed by 1 August.
- Pending results: you may apply, but final certificates and transcripts must be on the Hungarian portal by 1 August.
- **GPA:** no central minimum; each programme page shows its own entry requirements.
- **HEC test:** HAT or USAT with at least 50%. HAT is valid for 2 years and USAT for 1 year. The 2026/27 call accepted HAT dated on or after 15 January 2024 and USAT on or after 15 January 2025 (the 2027/28 window is not announced). NTS GAT General and GRE are not accepted. Register at etc.hec.gov.pk; last cycle the test was scheduled after the application deadline.

Language requirements

- The host university sets the language level for each programme.
- HEC does not require IELTS. Some universities ask for IELTS or TOEFL, while most accept an English proficiency certificate from your own college or university. Bachelor's applicants must supply that certificate; Master's and PhD applicants must check their programme.
- Hungarian-language programmes need B2 Hungarian or an obligatory one-year preparatory course.

Ineligibility conditions

- Applying for a bachelor's/master's programme and a doctoral programme in the same round.
- Former Stipendium Hungaricum full-degree scholars re-applying for the same or a lower level (moving up a level is allowed).
- Self-financed students in Hungary applying for a lower level, or for the same level without a host-university recommendation.
- Scholars who accepted an award earlier, did not travel and did not notify Tempus by the stated date.
- Applicants who submit more than one application or use more than one account.

Pakistan-specific notes

- Engineering and medical applicants must confirm recognition themselves with PEC, PMDC or the relevant council.
- Medicine and dentistry are open only at Hungarian institutions approved on the PMDC website.

5. Required Documents

At submission (Hungarian portal; each file up to 4 MB)

- Online application form in English, with a photo taken within the last 2 years.
- Motivation letter of at least 1 page (Times New Roman 12), written in the programme's language.
- Proof of language proficiency, with translation if needed.
- School certificate (bachelor's) or degree certificate (master's/PhD), with translation where needed.
- Transcript of records for all completed semesters or school years, with translation where needed.
- CNIC scan if you do not hold a passport yet, or the passport data page if you do.
- Acceptance of the Statement for Application inside the online system (no scan to upload).
- Portfolio for art and music applicants.

- **PhD only:** research plan of at least 2 pages with sources; signed recommendation letter from an academic with a scientific degree; supervisor statement if the doctoral school requires one (declaration at the deadline, statement later).
- HAT/USAT score, entered through the HEC portal.
- **Missing-document rule:** for the few documents that may arrive late, upload a self-written signed declaration by the deadline and the document itself by 1 August.

If nominated by HEC

- Attestation of certificates, transcripts and degrees through IBCC and HEC; IBCC equivalence for O and A levels (mandatory for bachelor's).
- Passport and police certificate (asked after provisional selection).
- Materials requested by your host university for its entrance exam.

Before starting studies

- Medical certificate on the official template, signed by a physician (bring it to Hungary; do not upload it).
- Signed HEC bond on legal paper, with a guarantor.
- Scholarship acceptance in the online system by 1 August.
- Hungarian visa through the competent consular office; arrival and enrolment by 30 September.

6. How to Apply (Step by Step)

1. **Check eligibility:** read Pakistan's page on the official partners site and confirm your level and field are open.
2. **Confirm your test:** make sure you hold a valid HAT/USAT score of at least 50%; otherwise register at etc.hec.gov.pk.
3. **Read the official 2027/28 call** the day it appears on stipendiumhungaricum.hu/apply.
4. **Choose 2 programmes in order of preference.** The order, study language and study mode (full degree or partial) cannot be changed after the deadline. Many programmes appear twice, as full degree and as partial.
5. **Register on apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu** with a personal email you check daily (Hotmail/Yahoo mail may land in spam; avoid institutional addresses).
6. **Prepare and upload documents** with translations, then press **Submit**; saved applications are rejected.
7. **Apply on scholarship.hec.gov.pk:** complete every field; no edits are possible after submission. The HAT/USAT score is entered here.
8. **Meet the deadline on both portals.** Treat the earlier cut-off (HEC) as final.
9. **Wait for the technical check and HEC nomination** (by about 28 February 2027).
10. **If nominated:** finish IBCC/HEC attestation and obtain your passport, medical and police certificates.
11. **Sit the university entrance exams** (up to 2, one per programme; pass mark 56 out of 100).
12. **Accept and travel:** accept the scholarship by 1 August, sign the HEC bond, apply for your visa and enrol by 30 September.

7. Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Do Pakistani applicants need IELTS or TOEFL?

HEC states that it does not require IELTS. The host university sets the language rule for each programme; most accept an English proficiency certificate from your own college or university.

Q. Which test does HEC require?

HAT or USAT with at least 50%. HAT stays valid for 2 years and USAT for 1 year. NTS GAT General and GRE scores do not count.

Q. How much will I actually receive each month?

Under the 2026/27 call, Bachelor's/Master's scholars get HUF 43,700 plus a free dormitory place or HUF 40,000 housing contribution; PhD scholars get HUF 140,000 then HUF 180,000. Tuition is waived. 2027/28 amounts are unconfirmed.

Q. Can I bring my spouse or children?

No. The programme gives no visa, allowance or administrative support for family members, and a student residence permit does not lead to family reunification under current law. Confirm with the Hungarian consular office.

Q. What if I do not have my final result by the deadline?

You may apply. Upload a signed declaration by the deadline and the final certificate by 1 August; otherwise the application is rejected automatically.

Q. Can I apply if I already studied in Hungary?

It depends on your status. Self-financed students need a host-university recommendation for the same level, and former Stipendium Hungaricum degree scholars cannot re-apply for the same or a lower level.

Q. Is the 2027/28 call open yet?

Not confirmed as of 10 November 2026. The call is expected in November 2026 with a deadline around 15 January 2027.

8. Official Links

- Official call and information: stipendiumhungaricum.hu (apply page)
- Hungarian application portal: apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu
- HEC scholarship portal: scholarship.hec.gov.pk
- HEC test registration: etc.hec.gov.pk

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