

# Welcome to Debrecen, Hungary!

With these pages we would like to help you, guide you how to find us, how to register to the University easier, how to use our city's public transportation and everything that might ease your first steps in Debrecen, Hungary.

After getting admission to the Medical University we would like to be the first to say ***congratulations*** to you! The very first thing you should do is to pay the fee indicated on your Letter of Acceptance. Fax or e-mail the scanned version of the transfer notice/receipt to the University (Fax: +36-52-255-013, e-mail: [info@edu.unideb.hu](mailto:info@edu.unideb.hu)). After receiving the notice we will send the Hungarian visa letter in case a visa is needed for you to come to Hungary. You can obtain the visa entitling for residence permit at the nearest Hungarian Embassy. (More information about the visa process: [www.kulugyminiszterium.hu](http://www.kulugyminiszterium.hu)).

## VISA

International students from certain countries are required to have a visa entitles for residence permit to study in Hungary. You can get it from the local Hungarian Embassy or Consulate in your country. From certain countries (e.g.: students from EU and EEA countries, citizens of the USA, Israel, Canada, Japan, South - Korea etc. – for the complete list of these countries please visit [www.kulugyminiszterium.hu](http://www.kulugyminiszterium.hu)) you can come without a visa and apply for the residence permit in Debrecen. During registration we will provide the necessary documents and information.



## Getting to University of Debrecen, MHSC

From your country you arrive to Budapest-Ferihegy by airplane (probably). From there you have to go to one of the Railway Stations where you can catch a train from Budapest to Debrecen (or if you wish we can organize a taxi for you. To do so please send us an e-mail a few days before your arrival that contains the flight details to [info@edu.unideb.hu](mailto:info@edu.unideb.hu)).

The 'Airport Minibusz' offers you its service at very reasonable prices. It takes you to any address with its comfortable 8-seaters. Tickets: [www.airportshuttle.hu](http://www.airportshuttle.hu)

**Preorder by phone +36 1 296 8555**

Please order one day before your flight.



When you reach one of the Railway Stations (it is better to go to the Keleti Pályaudvar, but you can start your way from the Nyugati Pályaudvar as well) – it depends on what the station name on the timetable – then catch the right train and come to Debrecen, which takes you about 2.30 hours.

You will find the timetable about the trains on [www.elvira.hu](http://www.elvira.hu) which looks like this: (sample)

**BUDAPEST – Debrecen**    **1.**  
15.12. 2004, Wednesday    **2.**

	leave	arrive	chg.	dur.	Full fare		[R] compulsory seat reservation [P] compulsory supplement	class
					1.	2.		
1	Budapest-Nyugati pu. 00:25	07:12	2	6:47	221 km	2.130 Ft	-	2.
2	Budapest-Nyugati pu. 04:25	08:13	1	3:48	221 km	2.130 Ft	-	2.
3	Budapest-Nyugati pu. 05:25	09:23	1	3:58	221 km	2.130 Ft	-	2.

3.
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- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. The station of departure and destination.<br/>2. The exact date when you want to travel.<br/>3. Name of the Railway Station.<br/>4. The exact time when the train leaves.<br/>5. The exact time when the train arrives.</p> | <p>6. Shows how many times you have to change.<br/>7. Duration of the journey.<br/>8. The fare.<br/>9. "R" means intercity which is the quickest and more advisable.<br/>10. Class of the train.</p> |
|---|--|

When you get from Budapest to Debrecen, you can find a taxi-park next to the Railway Station or call one on 52-444-444. First you probably want to rest a bit in our Student Hostel – if you have reserved a room there before your arrival. Please visit their website for further details at [www.augusztahotel.hu](http://www.augusztahotel.hu), or phone them on 52/513-100 or 513-158, fax: 52/513-220, e-mail: [augusztahotel@hunep.hu](mailto:augusztahotel@hunep.hu).

The very first thing you should do after your arrival is to come to the **International Education Center**. Do not forget to bring your passport, letter of acceptance, high school diploma or transcript, 4 passport size photos and – if you have it – the Hepatitis B certification. Before registration you have to pay/transfer your tuition fee to our bank account – and we need the bank certification about it.

## Transportation, location

The University is located in the middle of the Great Forrest (*the most beautiful area of Debrecen*). There are several ways of reaching the University or the International Education Center. In Debrecen there is only one tram line, so it is the easiest way. You get on the tram anywhere and sooner or later you will reach the University's Main Entrance.

You can also go to the University by bus (buses no. 10, 12, 13, 24 or 26). The best and the most comfortable way to use public transportation is to buy a season ticket. You can buy it at the Railway Station (at the end of the tram line). You will need your student card, so that it will be cheaper.

Every time you use public transportation you should have your season ticket with you or at least a ticket (it is valid for one way only) that you can get from the driver or from markets and stores. (Please note that you have to write your student card number on your season ticket!)

Certainly the most comfortable way is to travel by taxi, but it is much more expensive than a ticket or a season ticket.



## Accommodation

The Augusztá Hotel\*\*\* and Student Hostel, situated in the area of the Medical University of Debrecen, is capable to room 300 guests and is an excellent accommodation opportunity for conferences and courses. Presently we are able to room groups of 60-100 people, but we can also offer an accommodation for every guest arriving to Debrecen.

There are five, 3-storey building complex which form an individual living-park in the area of the Debrecen Medical University Center. They are primarily occupied by foreign students studying in Debrecen. The blocks were made by traditional building technology, in which there are mainly one room, and a few two room and three room apartments.

All of them are facilitated with fridge, microwave oven, electric cooker, kitchen with pans, learning room, bathroom, hall and balcony. All the rooms are fully furnished, and there are also telephones, TV sets and available internet connections as well. In the basement there is a computer room, fitness room, sauna, and other services to please the needs of the students.

### The process of room reservation (For the 2009/2010 academic year)

#### 1. The student sends us a written reservation

1.1. The student either personally or through an agent sends us a reservation from our website ([www.augusztahotel.hu](http://www.augusztahotel.hu)) or directly to our e-mail address ([augusztá@hunep.hu](mailto:augusztá@hunep.hu))

#### 2. The Hostel confirms the availability of apartments

2.1. If we have available apartments, we confirm the request of reservation, inform the student about the further steps, put the reservation into our records *as optional*, and send a code to the student for our online reservation information system

2.2. If we do not have available apartments, we offer alternatives and upon request we put the student on our waiting list

#### 3. The student transfers the deposit and the rent for the semester

3.1. The student transfers to the Hostel's bank account the 475 EUR deposit and the appropriate rent for the semester based on the room type

3.2. Reservations are only possible for at least 1 semester

#### 4. The Hostel confirms receiving the transferred amount

4.1. After receiving and processing the transfer we confirm receiving the transferred amount and change the reservation *from optional to guaranteed*

4.2. The priority of reservations is the order of receiving the transfer

4.3. The confirmation usually takes place in 3-4 weeks after the transfer is made

#### 5. Arrival and moving in

5.1. The transferred deposit is handled as reservation deposit until the student arrives, and if the student does not fulfill the reservation, *the reservation deposit is not refundable*

5.2. Upon arrival the student comes to the reception and after filling out the appropriate forms (s)he can move in into his/her apartment, provided that his/her payment obligations have fully been met

5.3. The student bears the financial responsibility for all the equipments in his/her apartment, therefore we would like to ask all the students to check the room inventory list thoroughly and report all problems at the reception within 24 hours after moving in! (we cannot accept any complaints later)

5.4. The student has to sign the actual contract at the office within 3 days after moving in

5.5. If the student would like to have internet connection in his/her room, please inform us during the reservation process so that we might provide the connection before moving in



## Contract and Payment Rules (For the 2009/2010 academic year)

About the fees you can get information from the Student Hostel ([auguszt@hunep.hu](mailto:auguszt@hunep.hu))

### 6. Rules concerning the Contract with the Student Hostel

#### 6.1. We only sign the contract for one or two semesters

6.1.1. The students have the opportunity to decide if they would like to sign a contract only for one semester or for the whole school year

6.1.2. Those students, who make a contract for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester only, but would like stay for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester have to *sign the contract for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester by December 1*, otherwise we cannot provide the accommodation after the expiration of the contract

#### 6.2. The reservations are charged from September irrespectively of the date of arrival

6.2.1. The reservations are valid from September 1, and the students have to pay for the room starting September 1 even if they arrive later

### 7. Rules concerning the payments

#### 7.1. The rent must be paid for the whole semester in advance

7.1.1. To make the reservation valid, every student has to pay the deposit and the rent for the semester in advance

7.1.2. Those students, who sign the contract for the whole school year, can pay the rent for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester on monthly basis, keeping the appropriate deadlines of payment

#### 7.2. The deposit is 475 EUR

7.2.1. The deposit is 475 EUR for all students uniformly, which is paid back at the end of the contract, when the student moves out, after deducting the current debts

7.2.2. Terminating the contract before its date of expiry means that the security deposit is handled as reservation deposit, which *in this case is not refundable*, on the basis that the reserved apartment cannot be realized during the school term

#### 7.3. The nights extending the monthly contract period are charged with the daily price

7.3.1. The monthly contract prices correspond to the calendar months and cannot be divided, thus the nights before and after the monthly contract period are charged with the daily price.

#### 7.4. The deadline of payment is always the last week of the previous month

7.4.1. During the last week of every month, the students have to pay the phone charges of the actual month and the charges of services for the next month (rent, etc.)

### The necessary information for transferring money for accommodation:

Bank name: CIB Közép-Európai Nemzetközi Bank ZRT., Debreceni fiók  
Bank address: 4025, Debrecen, Simonffy u. 2/a.  
Swift Code: CIBHHUHB  
Account owner: HUNÉP AUGUSZTA HOTEL ZRT.  
IBAN# (for EUR account): HU09 1070 0141 4345 0707 5000 0005



## Important telephone numbers:

### Internal numbers (no charges applied):

- Reception: 400
- Office: 158
- The apartments may be accessed by their extension numbers directly. List available at the reception.

### External numbers:

- Reception: (52) 513-100
- Fax: (52) 513-215
- Office: (52) 513-158
- To call from the rooms, dial 0 and then the phone number
- Each apartment has its own direct number (513 or 529 + extension number). List available at the reception.  
*Extension numbers starting with 3 are prefixed by 529, all other extension numbers are prefixed by 513*

### Other services:

- Sauna in Building #2
- Fitness room in Building #2
- Internet room in the basement of building #3
- Laundry room in the basement of each building
- Shop and pharmacy by the gate coming from the Móricz Zs. street
- Cafeteria halfway from the gate (before the sports grounds)
- To call a taxi dial \*444 (free call)
- To go downtown or to the Railway Station take Bus #10

## Other useful telephone numbers

Call code of Hungary	+36
Call code of Debrecen	+52
Emergency	112
Ambulance	104
Police	107
Fire Department	105
Office of Migration	503-840
City Taxi	555-555
Főnix Taxi	444-444
Főtáxi Debrecen	444-555
Fan Taxi	888-444

Those who prefer to live in a private accommodation or are unsuccessful in their application for the student hostel can contact one of the Housing Agencies that will help them to find an apartment. If you contact a Housing Agency, you have to pay them a fee around 10000-15000 HUF. This fee includes all of the paper work and they will take you to see the pre-selected apartments. If you want an Agent to help you finding an apartment please contact the International Education Center.

## Health Insurance

Hungarian authorities require you to have a valid health insurance to study in Hungary. You can use your own health insurance or you can buy the insurance offered by the University. You cannot register without a valid health insurance! If you wish to use your own health insurance you need to obtain a certificate from your insurance company certifying that:

- You are insured at the given company,
- Your insurance is valid for Hungary,
- costs that are covered by the insurance in Hungary.

If you wish to buy the insurance offered by the University, all expenses of any type of hospitalization are covered by it.

### **Student Card**

All students in Hungary get a student card. With it students can travel cheaper in Hungary, and they also get discount in some restaurants, stores and cinemas. For more information about the Student Card please get in touch with the Department of Education.

### **Foreign Medical Student Association (FMSA)**

The FMSA is the official student union in Debrecen looking after the students' interests, improving both the academic and social aspects during the students' time at UMHSC. The student union consists of volunteering students from different years. The FMSA serves as the tool of connection between the students and the university. The FMSA represents international students in the different committees of the university. The students in the organization are elected for a one year period at the time, make sure to make up an opinion about the school and the students and participate in the annual voting. The FMSA also improves the extra-curricular life by organizing different social events, sport tournaments, parties, International Food Day, and writing and distributing a monthly newspaper for the students.

## Good to Know

### Climate

Hungary has a continental climate. Winters are usually cold, cloudy and humid (sometimes it is -29°C/-20°F). Summers are warm or hot (38°C/100°F). The average annual temperature is 9.7°C (49.5°F). The average temperature in summer is 27 to 32°C (81 to 90°F), in winter it is 0 to -15°C (32 to 5°F). The average yearly rainfall is approximately 600 mm (24 in).

### Currency

The currency of Hungary is the Hungarian Forint (HUF). 1 EUR is approximately 250 Forint and 1 USD approximately 150 Forint) You can change money either in banks or in private exchange bureaus. Most banks charge no commission for changing traveller's cheques. You can also find several Tellers throughout the country. Their service fees can be up to 3%. Credit cards are accepted in an increasing number of places (American Express, MasterCard, EuroCard, Visa, etc.) Look for their stickers in shop windows.

### Cost of living

It is a good idea to bring cash if possible, since the banks ask for 5% commission to change travellers cheques. Unless Western Union Transfer is used, bank transfers take to 2-4 weeks to arrive. It is difficult to use personal cheques also. The banks need at least 1 month (usually 6 weeks) to cash a personal cheque.

Here is a list to give you a rough idea of the living expenses in Debrecen:

Accommodation:	from 70000 HUF
1 kg loaf of bread:	250-300 HUF
1 l of milk:	180-200 HUF
1 bottle of beer:	150-400 HUF
1 bottle of wine:	from 400 HUF
Season ticket for students:	from 3000 HUF
Ticket (bus, tram):	240 HUF
Cinema ticket:	approx. 1000 HUF



### Cellular Telephone

There are three phone companies in Hungary, offering cell phone service:

1. Vodafone ([www.vodafone.hu](http://www.vodafone.hu))
2. T-mobile ([www.tmobile.hu](http://www.tmobile.hu))
3. Pannon ([www.pannon.hu](http://www.pannon.hu))

You can buy cell phones at various stores all around Debrecen, but do not forget to have your passport with you.

### Holidays

There are some holidays in Hungary when all the schools, shops and offices are closed. These days are usually written in red in the Hungarian calendars.

- 1<sup>st</sup> January – New Year's Day
- 15<sup>th</sup> March – National Holiday (anniv.of the 1848 uprising against Austrian rule)
- Easter Monday
- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Labour Day
- Whit Monday (seven weeks after Easter Sunday)
- 20<sup>th</sup> August – National Holiday (St. Stephen's Day, the establishment of the Hungarian State)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October – National Holiday (Proclamation of the Republic)
- 1<sup>st</sup> November – All Saints' Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> –26<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas

### Student life

Students can choose from a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Debrecen universities and colleges have a variety of student clubs. The Medical Athletic Club has up-to-date facilities including tennis and basketball courts, a weight room and an easily accessible swimming pool is nearby.



### Museum, Theatre

Debrecen has strong cultural and artistic traditions. The Déri Museum displays the craftsmanship and life-style unique to Eastern Hungary. The Csokonai Theater ([www.csokonaiszinhaz.hu](http://www.csokonaiszinhaz.hu)) presents professional performances year-round, and there are numerous exhibitions, festivals and cultural attractions that create rich and stimulating opportunities for relaxation and entertainment.