10 Facebook Pages That Are The Best Of All-Time About Apply For Hungarian Driving License

Your Ultimate Guide: How to Apply for a Hungarian Driving License

Relocating to a new nation features a mountain of paperwork, and if you are living in Hungary, among the most useful financial investments you can make is protecting a local driving license. Whether you are exchanging a foreign license, moving an EU file, or beginning totally from scratch, navigating the Hungarian administrative landscape can feel overwhelming.

However, with the right preparation, the procedure becomes uncomplicated. This comprehensive guide describes everything one needs to understand about how to request a Hungarian driving license, covering EU and non-EU citizens, needed documents, and detailed procedures.

Understanding Your Status: Who Needs a Hungarian License?

Before beginning the application, it is vital to identify which classification you fall under. Hungary's regulations relating to driving licenses depend greatly on your citizenship and where your current license was issued.

- **EU/EEA Citizens:** If you hold a driving license released by an EU or EEA member state, you can lawfully drive in Hungary using your present license until it ends. Nevertheless, you have the option-- and in many cases, the responsibility-- to exchange it for a Hungarian license if you establish long-term residency.
- **Non-EU/EEA Citizens:** If your license was released outside the EU, you can usually use it together with an International Driving Permit (IDP) for as much as one year from the date you establish residency in Hungary. After that 1 year mark, you need to obtain a Hungarian driving license.

Route 1: Exchanging a Foreign Driving License

For expatriates who already hold a legitimate driving license from their home nation, exchanging it for a Hungarian one is generally the fastest path, provided Hungary has a mutual agreement with the issuing nation.

Step-by-Step Exchange Process:

1. **Obtain a Medical Certificate:** A medical physical fitness test from a regional Hungarian physician (*Háziorvos*) is necessary. The medical professional will inspect your vision, general health, and reflexes.
2. **Confirm Legal Residency:** Ensure your Hungarian Residence Permit (*Lakcímkártya*) depends on date and legitimate.
3. **Equate the License (If Necessary):** If the license is not in Hungarian or English, a main translation (typically from *OFFI*, the Hungarian Office for Translation and Attestation) may be needed.
4. **Check Out the Government Office (*Kormányablak*):** Book an appointment or stroll into your city government Window to send the application.
5. **Give Up the Old License:** When applying for the Hungarian card, the issuing workplace will retain your original foreign license.

Requirement EU/ EEA License Non-EU License (Reciprocal) Non-EU License (Non-Reciprocal) **Medical Certificate** Not needed (unless renewing) Required Needed **Theory Exam** Not needed Not required Needed **Practical Exam** Not needed Not needed Required **First Aid Course** Not required Not needed Required **Original License Surrendered** Yes Yes Yes

Keep in mind: If your home nation does not have a license exchange agreement with Hungary, you will regrettably need to go through the whole process of getting a license from scratch.

Route 2: Getting a Hungarian Driving License from Scratch

For those who have never held a license previously-- or whose foreign licenses can not be exchanged-- obtaining a Hungarian driving license involves completing a structured training program handled by licensed driving schools (*Autósiskola*).

The 5 Steps to Getting a License:

1. Medical exam

Before touching a guiding wheel, striving drivers need to visit a family doctor to obtain a **Group 1 Medical Certificate** (Class B license). This certificate confirms that the candidate is physically and psychologically healthy to drive.

2. Theory Course and Exam

- **The Course:** Applicants should complete a 28-hour theoretical training course. Numerous driving schools offer this in English, either online or in a classroom setting.
- **The Exam:** After finishing the course, prospects must pass a computer-based multiple-choice theory exam at a designated testing center. The examination is readily available in English, Hungarian, and numerous other languages.

3. First Aid Certificate Course

In Hungary, completing a licensed Red Cross First Aid course (*Vöröskereszt*) is a stringent legal requirement for all first-time drivers.

- The course takes about one weekend.
- It concludes with a simple useful and theoretical test.
- *Exemption:* Those with certain medical or healthcare degrees are exempt from this requirement.

4. Practical Driving Lessons and Exam

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- **Necessary Hours:** Students must complete a minimum of **29 driving hours** (each lasting 50 minutes), plus pass a minimum range requirement (generally 580 kilometers).
- **Instructor:** You will be paired with a driving trainer. Finding an English-speaking instructor is completely possible, though they may book up quickly.
- **The Practical Exam:** Once your trainer agrees you are all set, you will take a road test accompanied by a main examiner from the federal government transportation authority.

5. Last Application at the Government Office

Upon passing both exams and completing the First Aid *Check out here* course, you will receive a conclusion certificate (*Igazolás*). Take this file, together with your passport, house license, and medical certificate, to the *Kormányablak* to get your physical card.

Needed Documents Checklist

Regardless of whether you are exchanging a license or starting fresh, ensure you bring the following documents to your appointments:

- **Valid Passport or National ID Card**
- **Hungarian Residence Permit and Address Card (*Lakcímkártya*)**
- **Valid Medical Certificate**
- **Existing Driving License** (if appropriate)
- **Official Translations** (if suitable)
- **First Aid Certificate** (for newbie candidates)
- **Proof of Legal Stay** (Non-EU residents must prove they have resided in Hungary for at least 185 days of the calendar year).

Costs and Processing Times

Budgeting for a Hungarian driving license requires preparing for various costs, which can fluctuate. Below is an approximated breakdown of costs for getting a license from scratch:

- **Medical Certificate:** 7,000-- 10,000 HUF
- **Theory Course (Online/Classroom):** 50,000-- 80,000 HUF
- **Theory Exam Fee:** 4,600 HUF
- **First Aid Course & & Exam:** 15,000-- 25,000 HUF
- **Practical Lessons (per hour):** 7,000-- 12,000 HUF (Total for 30+ hours: ~ 250,000-- 350,000 HUF)
- **Practical Exam Fee:** 11,000 HUF
- **Administrative Card Issuance Fee:** ~ 6,000 HUF

Overall Estimated Cost: 350,000 to 500,000 HUF (around 900 to 1,300 EUR), depending on the driving school and how lots of extra driving lessons you may need.

Processing Times

- **License Exchange:** Typically takes **2 to 3 weeks** for the physical card to be printed and sent by mail to your Hungarian address.
- **Complete Process (From Scratch):** Depending on your availability, the responsiveness of the driving school, and test wait times, the whole procedure usually takes **3 to 6 months**.

Last Tips for Success

1. **Language Barriers:** When searching for a driving school or medical examiner, explicitly ask if they provide services in English. Significant cities like Budapest have plenty of English-friendly alternatives, however smaller sized towns might require additional searching.
2. **Schedule Exams Early:** Demand for English-language theory and practical exams can be high. Coordinate with your driving school to book exam slots well in advance.
3. **Keep Your Residence Current:** Your Hungarian address card should be entirely approximately date. The authorities will turn down applications if there is any disparity in your residency status.

Navigating the process to make an application for a Hungarian driving license requires perseverance and adherence to procedure, but as soon as completed, you will have the freedom to explore the stunning landscapes of Hungary and the broader European Union with complete confidence.