10 Inspirational Graphics About Apply For Hungarian Driving License

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

Moving to a new country features a mountain of documents, and if you are living in Hungary, among the most useful investments you can make is protecting a regional driving license. Whether you are exchanging a foreign license, transferring an EU file, or starting completely from scratch, navigating the Hungarian governmental landscape can feel overwhelming.

Nevertheless, with the right preparation, the process ends up being straightforward. This comprehensive guide details everything one needs to understand about how to make an application for a Hungarian driving license, covering EU and non-EU people, needed files, and detailed procedures.

## Comprehending Your Status: Who Needs a Hungarian License?

Before beginning the application, it is necessary to identify which classification you fall under. Hungary's policies concerning driving licenses depend heavily on your nationality and where your existing license was provided.

- **EU/EEA Citizens:** If you hold a driving license released by an EU or EEA member state, you can lawfully drive in Hungary utilizing your current license till it expires. However, you have the option-- and sometimes, the obligation-- to exchange it for a Hungarian license if you develop irreversible residency.
- **Non-EU/EEA Citizens:** If your license was released outside the EU, you can normally utilize it together with an International Driving Permit (IDP) for as much as one year from the date you develop residency in Hungary. After that one-year mark, you need to get 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 normally the fastest route, offered Hungary has a mutual arrangement with the releasing nation.

### Step-by-Step Exchange Process:

1. **Obtain a Medical Certificate:** A medical fitness test from a regional Hungarian medical professional ( *Háziorvos*) is mandatory. The medical professional will examine your vision, general health, and reflexes.
2. **Validate Legal Residency:** Ensure your Hungarian Residence Permit ( *Lakcímkártya*) is up to date and valid.
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 a consultation or walk into your city government Window to submit the application.
5. **Give Up the Old License:** When requesting the Hungarian card, the releasing workplace will retain your initial foreign license.

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

*Note: If your home country does not have a license exchange contract with Hungary, you will unfortunately need to go through the whole process of getting a license from scratch.*

## Path 2: Getting a Hungarian Driving License from Scratch

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

### The 5 Steps to Getting a License:

#### 1. Medical checkup

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

#### 2. Theory Course and Exam

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

#### 3. First Aid Certificate Course

In Hungary, completing a certified Red Cross First Aid course ( *Vöröskereszt*) is a rigorous legal requirement for all newbie chauffeurs.

- The course takes about one weekend.
- It concludes with an easy useful and theoretical test.
- *Exemption:* Those with particular medical or health care degrees are exempt from this requirement.

#### 4. Practical Driving Lessons and Exam

When the theory examination is passed, practical training starts.

- **Obligatory Hours:** Students should complete a minimum of **29 driving hours** (each lasting 50 minutes), plus pass a minimum distance requirement (typically 580 kilometers).
- **Trainer:** You will be coupled with a driving trainer. Finding an English-speaking trainer is completely possible, though they might reserve up quickly.
- **The Practical Exam:** Once your trainer agrees you are ready, you will take a road test accompanied by a main examiner from the government transport authority.

#### 5. Last Application at the Government Office

Upon passing both examinations and completing the First Aid course, you will get a completion certificate ( *Igazolás*). Take this file, in addition to your passport, home authorization, and medical certificate, to the *Kormányablak* to use for your physical card.

## Required Documents Checklist

Regardless of whether you are exchanging a license or beginning fresh, make certain you bring the following files to your appointments:

- **Valid Passport or National ID Card**
- **Hungarian Residence Permit and Address Card ( *Lakcímkártya*)**
- **Valid Medical Certificate**
- **Present Driving License** (if relevant)
- **Official Translations** (if appropriate)
- **First Aid Certificate** (for first-time applicants)
- **Proof of Legal Stay** (Non-EU people must show they have actually lived in Hungary for a minimum of 185 days of the fiscal year).

## Costs and Processing Times

Budgeting for a Hungarian driving license requires preparing for numerous charges, which can fluctuate. Below is an estimated breakdown of expenditures *Gyors Vezetői Engedély Beszerzése* 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

**Total Estimated Cost:** 350,000 to 500,000 HUF (approximately 900 to 1,300 EUR), depending on the driving school and the number 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 mailed to your Hungarian address.
- **Complete Process (From Scratch):** Depending on your availability, the responsiveness of the driving school, and examination wait times, the whole process normally takes **3 to 6 months**.

## Final Tips for Success

1. **Language Barriers:** When looking for a driving school or medical examiner, clearly ask if they provide services in English. Significant cities like Budapest have plenty of English-friendly choices, but smaller sized towns might require additional browsing.
2. **Book Exams Early:** Demand for English-language theory and useful exams can be high. Coordinate with your driving school to book exam slots well beforehand.
3. **Keep Your Residence Current:** Your Hungarian address card must be entirely approximately date. The authorities will reject applications if there is any inconsistency in your residency status.

Browsing the process to make an application for a Hungarian driving license needs perseverance and adherence to procedure, once finished, you will have the liberty to explore the stunning landscapes of Hungary and the larger European Union with total self-confidence.