

# HUNGARY STUDY VISA INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS- *THE ULTIMATE GUIDE*

The following questions are examples for the ones you can expect during a visa interview. The possible questions are relatively easy. The Embassy's aim is to make sure that you want to come to study here. The officers look for confidence in your plans and you need to be clear and honest about your aims and reasons why you want to study in Hungary.

Please note that these answers here are only examples that help you gather your thoughts. **Do not learn these answers!** It's best to answer naturally on your own, because if you learn the answers, your sentences might come across as dishonest. So just be polite, kind, and natural.

Also, don't worry, though this guide is super long- in reality they will ask probably a couple of questions, so don't get scared from the number of questions here.

**Before you start, make sure to know *JÓ NAPOT KÍVÁNOK!* in Hungarian, which is a polite way to say Good Day. If this is how you greet the officer, you are already giving a great first impression!**

## Can you please introduce yourself?

My name is [Your Name], and I am [Your Age] years old. I recently completed my [latest qualification] from [Institution], and I am looking forward to pursuing higher studies in Hungary. I am passionate about [field of study] and believe that studying in Hungary will advance my career and enrich me personally.

TIP: This is a great question for personal information. Make sure your introduction is sincere and you also include some fun facts about yourself.

It's been my dream to study abroad for a long time. I wish to experience the World, become more independent and make memories for a lifetime. I chose Hungary because while it offers high-quality education with internationally recognized degrees, it is also famously student-friendly. The country is known for its rich cultural heritage and welcoming atmosphere for international students. Hungarian universities have a strong reputation in [your field of study], which aligns perfectly with my academic and career goals.

TIP: Be honest and candid here! Interviewers usually don't like listening to the exact same template answer here hundreds of times. Make sure your answer is unique to you.

## Why did you choose Hungary for your higher education?

## Which university and program are you applying to?

I am applying to [University Name] for the [Program Name]. This program stands out to me because of its comprehensive curriculum and the faculty's expertise in [specific area of interest]. I am particularly excited about the opportunities for research and practical experience that this program offers. I am looking forward to [name of subject] the most, since that is my main area of interest.

TIP: Check the curriculum and program description of your program. Make sure you know at least some of the subjects you'll study. Also, know some facts about your university as well.

I first learned about [University Name] and the [Program Name] through online research, where I found the university's website in Google. After this, I wanted to know more about the institution so I visited education fairs, and got recommendations from my professors and peers. The university's website and various educational forums provided detailed information about the program, which helped me make an informed decision.

**How did you learn about this university and program?**

TIP: It's good to show that you made a thorough check on the university and the study program

**What is the difference between the European/Hungarian and your home country's education system?**

TIP: There are several key differences that can be mentioned, make sure you tailor your answers to your own home country.

There are several key differences.

For example the **structure and duration of higher education**: In Hungary, the higher education system is aligned with the Bologna Process, which standardizes higher education across Europe. This typically involves a three-cycle structure: Bachelor's (3-4 years), Master's (2 years), and Doctorate (4 years). In my home country, [Your Home Country], the structure may vary. For instance, a Bachelor's degree might take 4 years, a Master's 2 years, and a Doctorate could be longer or shorter depending on the field of study.

**The Credit System** is also different: the Hungarian universities use the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), which facilitates the transfer of credits between European institutions and ensures that qualifications are recognized across Europe. In my home country, credits are not always directly transferable internationally, and the criteria for earning credits could vary in terms of contact hours and workload.

**The teaching methods** are different as well: In Hungary, the education system emphasizes a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical application. Many programs include internships, research projects, and collaboration with industries. In my home country, there might be less emphasis on practical experience within the curriculum.

**Grades** are also different in Hungary, I know that it goes from 1 to 5, where 5 is the highest grade (excellent) and 1 is the lowest (fail).

I still have not decided on my main focus, but as of now, I'm most interested in [this area] and [this area]. I hope that during my university years my interest will shift to one direction or the other, I'm hoping for impulses and experiences that can help me decide. Ideally, after graduation I'd start with an internship in a [name/type of company] and my ultimate goal, my dream job is [name of position and/or company or field].

**What kind of job would you want after graduation?**

TIP: Make sure to actually have a good, credible answer to this question. The interviewers will want to see if you are serious about your future and career. It's good to demonstrate that you are actively thinking about your possible career and academic options.

Yes, a friend of mine is studying at [university]in [country]. They suggested me to apply to Hungary as they had a lot of good opinions to share about the country and the education system.

**Have you got a relative/friend who lives in Hungary/Europe?**

TIP: There are no good or bad answers here, just tell them your answer honestly. If you have friends or relatives in Europe, you might expect additional questions such as why did you not apply to the same country? do you plan to visit them during your studies? etc.

**How often will you see your family, would they come and visit you?**

I hope to visit my family in my home country during longer holidays, at least [once/twice] a year. I also hope they can visit me at least once during my studies. I hope they visit me after some time when I already have enough knowledge of Budapest so I can show them around well.

TIP: Try to give a realistic answer here. You shouldn't to look too eager to leave your home country, but also not too much in a hurry to go back home.

I left my job because I feel like progressing in my career became difficult without further education. I wish to get [name of degree], so I have an opportunity to move up the career ladder. My workplace also promotes study leaves, so once I return after graduation, I have to opportunity for employment at the same company.

**Do you have a job, if so, why did you leave it, can you have your job back after your studies?**

TIP: This question is more common for Master's applicants. Give a straight answer and don't be afraid of getting new experiences. (And don't worry if haven't had a job before, just tell the officer what you have been doing instead.)

**How do you handle stress and homesickness?**

I handle stress and homesickness by maintaining a balanced routine that includes regular exercise, healthy eating, and sufficient sleep. I also stay connected with my family and friends through regular communication. Participating in university activities and making new friends helps me build a support network. Additionally, I practice mindfulness and relaxation techniques, such as meditation, to manage stress effectively.

TIP: The officers ask you this to see if you are strong enough to take on such a huge challenge. Moving abroad, possibly to another continent, is mentally challenging for everyone and it's important to be prepared for it.

I expect to gain a high-quality education with practical experience, learn from expert faculty, and benefit from a multicultural environment. I also look forward to immersing myself in Hungarian culture and enhancing my language skills, which will support my personal and professional growth.

**What do you expect from your studies in Hungary?**

TIP: Make sure to include your desire to study in an excellent academic environment and personal motivations too.

**How do you plan to finance your studies in Hungary?**

My family is going to sponsor my studies in Hungary, more specifically my [father/mother]. My parents always made sure to save up some money for my future education, which I am really grateful for. My father is a [position] and my mother works as a [position], which allowed them to save enough money to cover my fees and expenses.

TIP: Make sure to have all documents ready to support your claims. Don't worry if the officers ask you more detailed questions regarding this (or about your documents), just answer truthfully!

Since my parents saved a good amount of money for my education, I trust I won't face issues. However, if I encounter financial difficulties while studying in Hungary, I will take several steps to manage the situation. First, I will review my budget and expenses to identify areas where I can reduce costs. Additionally, I will explore part-time job opportunities on campus or within the student community, as allowed by my student visa. Furthermore, I will maintain open communication with my family to discuss potential solutions and additional support if needed.

**What steps will you take if you encounter financial difficulties while studying in Hungary?**

TIP: Having a solid financial background is a very important aspect of the visa decision. Make sure to prove that you don't have any issues or uncertainties as much as possible.

**Where will you be living, how much money will you need, how will you get by?**

I checked that the average living costs in Hungary are around [600-700 EUR] per month. My housing will cost [this much], so I'll have [this much] for food, transportation, telecommunication and so on. I checked some prices online, and I believe I can manage. Additionally, my favorite hobby is [going to the cinema]. I checked the price of movie tickets online and I think I'll be able to afford it at least 2 times a month.]

TIP: When we are writing this document, 600-700 EUR per month is a realistic student budget, but please make sure to check some prices online before, so you have a good understanding of your own budget.

**Do you have any work experience related to your field of study?**

Yes, I have gained relevant experience through [internships, part-time jobs, or full-time positions] at [Company Name]. In my role as [your job title], I was responsible for [briefly describe your duties]. This experience has given me practical insights and reinforced my interest in [your field of study], motivating me to further my education in Hungary.

TIP: Don't worry if you don't have work experience. Then just tell them you don't have any, and maybe mention why you are still attracted to this field.

I have arranged accommodation at [specific accommodation, e.g., university dormitory, private rental]. The [university/landlord] has confirmed my booking. The accommodation is located only a short trip away from my campus, which I make by public transport conveniently.

TIP: Make sure that you know your address and/or name of accommodation. (E.g. name of dorm or hostel). This should be the same as the one in your official documents!

**Where will you be staying during your studies?**

**Have you ever traveled abroad before?**

es, I have traveled to [mention countries] for [purposes like tourism, education, etc.]. These experiences have broadened my perspective, taught me how to adapt to new environments, and increased my interest in studying abroad. They have also made me more confident in my ability to live and study in a foreign country.

TIP: It's okay if you haven't traveled abroad yet. You can mention that you haven't, but that doesn't make you any less curious about the World.

While living away from my family will be challenging, I am prepared to embrace this new chapter of my life. Modern technology will allow me to stay in touch with my family regularly. I also plan to build a support network of friends and fellow students in Hungary to help me adjust to my new environment.

TIP: Just be confident here. The interviewer just wants to check that you are not likely get so homesick that you'll discontinue your studies.

**How will you handle living away from your family for an extended period?**

**What do you know about Hungary?**

Hungary is a beautiful country known for its rich history, vibrant culture, and stunning architecture. Budapest, the capital city, is famous for its historic landmarks, thermal baths, and vibrant nightlife. Hungary is also known for its contributions to science, art, and music. I am eager to explore and learn more about Hungary during my stay.

TIP: Be really prepared for this and similar questions. The interviewer will want to make sure that you truly want to study and live in Hungary. If this is the case, you should know some trivia about Hungary. Check the language, currency, neighboring countries, population, most famous landmarks etc.

Hungary has a rich and complex history that dates back over a thousand years. Founded in 896 AD, Hungary became a Christian kingdom under King Saint Stephen in 1000 AD. Over the centuries, Hungary has been influenced by various empires, including the Ottoman Empire and the Habsburg Monarchy, each leaving a lasting impact on its culture, architecture, and traditions. The 19th century was marked by the struggle for independence, leading to the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867, which created the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary. Hungary's history of resilience and cultural richness is a testament to its enduring spirit and significant role in European history.

TIP: You don't need to learn all 1000+ years of history, just make sure to have a vague idea. There are many good Youtube videos out there explaining Hungarian history & culture in a few minutes.

**Can you tell us something about Hungary's history and its significance?**

**Can you name some famous Hungarian figures?**

Albert Szent-Györgyi is renowned for discovering Vitamin C and winning the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Franz Liszt, a 19th-century composer and pianist, is celebrated for his contributions to classical music. László Bíró invented the ballpoint pen, revolutionizing writing tools. Additionally, Ernő Rubik created the Rubik's Cube, which became an iconic puzzle worldwide. Most recently, Katalin Karikó won a Nobel prize in medicine for her work- she is best known for her contributions to mRNA technology and the COVID-19 vaccines.

TIP: Again, just check out a few, it doesn't hurt to know these types of trivia.

I am excited about experiencing Hungarian culture and believe that being open-minded and respectful is key to coping with cultural differences. I have researched Hungarian customs and traditions and plan to participate in cultural exchange activities organized by the university. This will help me integrate better and enrich my overall experience in Hungary.

**How do you intend to cope with cultural differences?**

TIP: Focus on politeness, openness and the importance of open communication and willingness to learn

**What can you do in Budapest/the city you will be living in?**

Budapest is famous for its diverse options for cultural activities, going out options, spas, sport venues and so on. I'd really love to try some of the famous thermal baths once I'm there, and visit green areas as well, like City Park or Normafa. I hope during my time in Budapest I can also attend a play at the Opera House to experience peak culture. Besides this, trying the famous ruin bars and hopefully even Sziget festival is on my list as well.

TIP: If you are not going to study in Budapest, make sure to look up some things that you can do in your town. (E.g.: Dunaújváros: lively campus life and sunset strolls along the Danube, Kecskemét: historic downtown, spa, botanic garden, wildlife park etc.)

There are several reasons why I chose Hungary over these countries. Most of these countries are unattainable for me financially. Though my parents saved up for my education, I also have to consider the living costs, quality of life and so on. Considering this and the quality of education, Hungary is the perfect place, since it's more affordable yet I don't have to compromise the quality. Also, I find Hungary a more unique place to study, so the uniqueness will be also in my favor once I graduate. I also liked that programs are offered in English, so I don't have to learn one more language before admission.

**Why is Hungary more attractive for you than e.g. Germany/Switzerland/the UK?**

TIP: Please make sure to come up with your own answers and reply this question truthfully. Besides the financial factors, make sure to also emphasise some other reasons- personal or academic.

**How do you plan to manage the language barrier, if any?**

Although the program is taught in English, I have also started learning basic Hungarian to help me navigate daily life more easily. Additionally, I believe the university offers language courses for international students, which I plan to utilize to improve my Hungarian language skills. I already know for example *Szia*, which means Hello, or *Köszönöm*, which means Thank you or *Jó napot*, which means Good day.

TIP: Learning a few words or sentences in Hungarian can be super helpful. It shows true dedication and interest in your new home country.

Besides the different culture, I believe probably the technicalities. Things like how to arrange my residence permit, how to register for classes, how to use the public transport, how to look for new apartments and so on. However, once I experience these in real life, I think it's going to be much easier.

**What do you think will be the biggest challenge you will face in Hungary?**

TIP: Any answer is good, also you should include the possible solutions to the challenges

**How do you plan to immerse yourself in Hungarian culture?**

I plan to immerse myself in Hungarian culture by actively participating in cultural events, festivals, and local traditions. I will explore the rich history and heritage of cities like Budapest, visit museums and historical sites, and try Hungarian cuisine. Additionally, I will take part in university-organized cultural exchange programs and join student groups that focus on cultural activities. Learning basic Hungarian and interacting with locals will also help me gain a deeper understanding of the culture.

TIP: this is basically a variation of many other similar questions. Make sure to answer something truthful.

I am very excited for extracurriculars. First of all, I'd like to join my university's [sport, e.g.: basketball] team, since I have been playing this sport for many years now. Besides, I am interested in discovering student clubs, such as [this club, e.g.: debate] or [this club, e.g.: engineering]. Since I didn't find detailed information about these on the website, I would also be interested in launching a [student club] if they don't exist already. Outside of the university, I'd be interested in trying [this, e.g.: adventure sports] and this [e.g.: cooking classes].

**What extracurricular activities are you interested in pursuing while studying in Hungary?**

TIP: You have to change these answers to reflect your own interests. Also, make sure to look around online to see what activities your university offers.

**Have you ever visited Hungary?  
Have you ever had a long-term Schengen visa?  
Have you ever had a visa rejection?**

TIP: There are no good or bad answers here either, just be honest (they'll check it in their system anyway, so you cannot lie!)

TIP: Again, there are no bad answers. If you applied through a company, do mention their name and make sure your consultancy has a good reputation in your country.

**Have you applied through an educational agency / consultancy?**



**Have you had an admission interview at the university? What kind of questions did they ask?**

Yes, I participated both in the admissions interview and test. During the Zoom interview, they asked me about my background, motivations, future plans, experience and so on. Afterwards, I also had to write a test [of Math/ Math & Physics], which I found moderately challenging, but included topics that I mostly also learnt during my highschool years.

TIP: With this question they want to make sure that the admissions office did a thorough enough job. Go ahead, list everything in detail.

TIP: They might ask you generic professional questions from your field to see how much you know about your chosen profession. Of course, before you start your studies, you should ideally have an idea of whatever discipline you chose. Most notable names, most exciting current developments etc.

**Tell us a little bit about your opinion on Artificial Intelligence / the current global economy / the state of Cyber Security etc.**

**Why should you be given a student visa?**

I have always been interested in [field], already participating in elective classes and student clubs in my high school. I am strong academically, with an average grade of [grade]. Besides, I believe I am a rather social person, I intend to be a useful member of any group or society I belong to. I hope my skills and personality would benefit both the university and Hungary as well as later my home country.

TIP: This is not a hard question, just summarize your accomplishments and goals in 2-3 sentences.

If my visa is rejected, I'd try to find out the reasons behind the rejection. In case it's something I can improve on (like certain skills), I'll try to improve them and apply again the next intake. In case it's something I cannot influence or not so quickly, I'd pursue the same university program here in my home country.

TIP: Don't worry, this doesn't mean that you are rejected, they just want to test you in an uncomfortable situation. Answer calmly, and tell them about your plan B.

**What if your visa request is rejected?**

**Besides these questions, the officer might also ask you about your submitted documents, so please familiarize yourself with the contents of your docs before the visa interview.**

For more admission and visa information, please visit <https://budapestcollege.hu/see-whats-new-at-bic>