

Stipendium Hungaricum Sport Scholarship Programme Operational Regulations

Effective from: 26 February 2026

**Approved by:
Board of Trustees
of the Tempus Public Foundation**

Budapest, 19 February 2026

**Approved by:
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of
Hungary**

Budapest, 26 February 2026

Introduction

1. The Stipendium Hungaricum Sports Scholarship Programme was established by the Government of Hungary by Government Decree 690/2021 (XII. 8.) on the Stipendium Hungaricum Sports Scholarship Programme and on the amendment of certain Government Decrees related to the operation of the Stipendium Hungaricum Sports Scholarship Programme.
2. The purpose of the Stipendium Hungaricum Sport Scholarship Programme (hereinafter: SHS) is to provide priority support for the studies of foreign students with internationally recognised sporting achievements in Hungarian higher education institutions, and to their participation in competitive sport of the Hungarian higher education and non-university competitive sports, as well as to assist the development of sports life of the Hungarian higher education.
3. The provisions of the Operational Regulations of the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme apply to the SHS programme with the exceptions contained in these regulations. The details of implementation are further regulated in the Implementation Guide.

I. Collaborating partners and their main tasks

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (hereinafter also the “MFA”)
 - a. is responsible for the operation of the programme, provides professional management of the SHS, validating Hungary’s medium- and long-term foreign policy and sports diplomacy objectives,
 - b. enters into cooperation agreements with international sports federations,
 - c. has the right to create a body that participates in the selection procedure,
 - d. provides the costs related to the SHS—concerning the sports career of the scholarship holders—for those national sports associations with scholarship holders in the programme.
2. Acting on behalf of the Hungarian government,
 - a. with regard to the performance of higher education tasks, the minister responsible for higher education, and
 - b. with regard to the coordination of the sports-related implementation of the scholarship programme and the participation of national sports associations, the minister responsible for sports policy,contribute to the development and implementation of the strategy concerning the SHS programme by ensuring the prevalence of educational policy and sports policy considerations.
3. The government partner responsible for the sports-related implementation of the scholarship programme
 - a. coordinates the sports-related implementation of the scholarship programme, including the participation of national sports associations in the scholarship programme, and monitors its sports-related implementation, and
 - b. based on a preliminary assessment, in consultation with the national sports federations, and in cooperation with the Tempus Public Foundation, examines the range of possible Hungarian sports organisations that could host the applicant.
4. The Tempus Public Foundation
 - a. coordinates the SHS programme,
 - b. in cooperation with the national sports association, the relevant higher education institution, and with the National Conference of Student Unions (HÖÖK), promotes the integration of the scholarship holder into the sports community,

- c. on the basis of the preliminary assessment, in cooperation with the ministry responsible for sports policy, examines the applicant's professional fitness for sports, the applicant's training options, and the range of possible Hungarian sports organisations accepting the applicant,
 - d. examines and keeps an annually updated register—by eligible sports—of the higher education institutions with a higher education sports life that enable applicants to participate in sporting activities,
 - e. with the cooperation of the ministry responsible for sports policy, and involving the relevant national sports association, develops the sport-specific parts of the call for student applications, the Operational Regulations and the Implementation Guide of the SHS programme,
 - f. may ask the institution to terminate the scholarship contract if the scholarship holder does not comply with the conditions set in the scholarship contract, the coach's instructions regarding training and competition, as well as other sports-related obligations.
5. The participating international sports federation or regional sports federation operating as an international organisation with a membership consisting of national Olympic committees (hereinafter collectively, the "international sports federation"), based on the cooperation agreement concluded with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade,
 - a. contributes to the international promotion of the SHS programme,
 - b. makes a proposal for the group of participants in the SHS, selects candidates for participation in the SHS from among the applicants, and informs the Tempus Public Foundation about this by notifying the relevant national sports association,
 - c. provides professional human resources support related sport activities for the national sports association and the Hungarian sports organisation receiving the scholarship holder,
 - d. can take part in financing the sports related professional tasks of the Scholarship Programme,
 - e. provides financial support to their nominated scholarship holders who established student status.
6. The professional sports federation of the country of the applicant's nationality qualifies the applicant as suitable or not suitable from a sports professional point of view in their statement that is necessary to be attached to the application submitted by the applicant.
7. The Hungarian national sports federation
 - a. in cooperation with the relevant higher education institution, the Tempus Public Foundation, and the National Conference of Student Unions (HÖÖK), facilitates the integration of the scholarship holder into the sports community,
 - b. participates in examination by the Tempus Public Foundation concerning the applicant's suitability from a sports professional point of view, the available training opportunities of the applicant, and regarding the range of possible Hungarian sports organisations hosting the applicant,
 - c. participates in the examination by the Tempus Public Foundation concerning the range of higher education institutions that undertake to conduct the applicant's higher education admission procedure and have a higher education sports life that enables the applicant's sports activities,
 - d. participates in the development of the sport-specific parts of the call for student applications, as well as the SHS Operational Regulations and the Implementation Guide,
 - e. can conclude a contract with the scholarship holder in order to ensure financial and sports professional support,
 - f. enters into a contract with the ministry responsible for sports policy, in the framework of which it provides data on request on the status of the competition license of the scholarship holders.

8. The host sports organisation
 - a. ensures that the scholarship holder has a competition license issued by the Hungarian national sports federation or sports association for the duration of the scholarship contract,
 - b. contracts the scholarship holder,
 - c. takes care of the scholarship holder's sports health examinations,
 - d. takes out extra insurance, if necessary,
 - e. is obliged to regularly inform the ministry responsible for sports policy, the Tempus Public Foundation and the Hungarian national sports federation about the main events of the scholarship holder's sports career.
9. The Hungarian University Sports Federation (MEFS)
 - a. supports the ministry responsible for sports policy and the Tempus Public Foundation with up-to-date information on the sports opportunities (infrastructure, divisions) available in higher education institutions, on the basis of which the Tempus Public Foundation, in cooperation with the ministry responsible for sports policy, prepares the sports register as per point I.4.d that forms the basis of institutional participation,
 - b. creates the opportunity for the scholarship holder to participate in the Hungarian National Championship for University and College Students (MEFOB), including making the competition notices available in English language,
 - c. informs the Public Foundation 30 days prior to the publication of the calls for applications about the prevailing age limits affecting university sports.
10. National Conference of Student Unions (HÖOK), in cooperation with the Hungarian national sports association, the relevant higher education institution and the Tempus Public Foundation, assists the integration of the scholarship holder into the sports community.
11. The higher education institution
 - a. in the interest of participating in the SHS—in the framework agreement concluded with the Tempus Public Foundation in connection with the SH license—agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of participation in the SHS programme,
 - b. ensures the conduct of the applicant's higher education admission procedure,
 - c. ensures the establishment of the student legal relationship,
 - d. maintains, according to the register mentioned in I.4.d of this regulation, a higher education sports life that enables the applicant's sports activities (this criterion is fulfilled according to point e) below, but in the case of team sports, it presumes the existence of a department or association operating in the institution),
 - e. ensures the scholarship holder's participation in higher education competitive sports on behalf of the institution (in sports that have a championship, by participating in those that do not, by participating in MEFOB competitions),
 - f. in cooperation with the Hungarian national sports federation, the National Conference of Student Unions (HÖOK), and the Tempus Public Foundation, it promotes the integration of the scholarship holder into the sports community,
 - g. undertakes to support the dual career of scholarship holders with an individual, flexible study and exam schedule,
 - h. terminates the scholarship contract at the initiative of the Public Foundation if the scholarship recipient does not comply with the conditions contained in the scholarship contract, with the coach's instructions regarding training and competition or fails to meet other sports-related obligations,
 - i. provides a mentor employed by the institution, who effectively assists the studies of the scholarship holder,
 - j. in coordination with the MFA, the ministry responsible for sports policy, and the national sports association, may contribute in kind or with finances to the scholarship holder's training and participation in competitions.

II. Training courses available to select

1. In the SHS programme, it is possible to apply to participate in the bachelor, master, one-tier master and doctoral courses of higher education institutions, Hungarian language preparatory training courses, postgraduate specialist training courses related to sports, as well as Hungarian language preparatory training courses organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the background institution entrusted with the performance of this public task.
2. After completing a Hungarian language preparatory training course, scholarship holders are entitled to apply only for Hungarian bachelor or one-tier master programmes.
3. The Board of Trustees of the Tempus Public Foundation can group/limit the courses offered in the call for applications based on sports, in accordance with the framework agreement concluded with the higher education institutions, in which the institutions can indicate whether they are able to support the participation of scholarship holders in competitive higher education sports.
4. The call for applications makes the courses available to applicants representing individual sports on the basis of the register mentioned in I.4.d of this regulation.
5. Within the framework of the SHS programme application is only possible for full-time training courses.
6. When offering courses, institutions carefully consider whether their study and exam regulations are compatible with the requirements necessary to ensure a dual career path in the institution.

III. Differences in individual student application eligibility

1. A foreign citizen may submit a valid application in the SHS—excluding citizens of a member state of the European Union or of another state party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, as well as based on the international treaty concluded between the European Community and its member states and a state that is not a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, persons with the same legal status as a citizen of a state that is a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area in terms of the right to free movement and residence—who
 - a. was nominated by the international sports federation, or
 - b. when applying, was declared suitable from a sports professional point of view by the professional sports association of the country of his/her nationality, provided that the call for applications offers this opportunity.
2. Nomination according to point III.1.a of this regulation also means the certification and acknowledgement of sports performance at a level recognised by the international sports federation. The call for applications specifies the sports for which an application can be submitted according to III.1.a. Those applicants who are not nominated according to III.1.a are considered applicants according to point III.1.b in the further parts of the procedure, provided that the call for applications offers this opportunity.
3. The applicant is required to comply with the Hungarian sports health regulations, which is to be confirmed by a sports medical examination after arrival.
4. The applicant is required to attach a copy of his/her competition license when applying.
5. In case of applicants admitted according to point III.1.a. of this regulation, the total score is 200 points, of which maximum 100 points are given by the higher education institution as part

of the admission procedure, and another 100 points are formed based on the nomination shortlist rankings of the international sports federation.

6. In case of applicants admitted according to point III.1.b of this regulation, the total score is 200 points, which can be obtained by doubling the maximum of 100 points that is the institutional admission result, and within the 200-point limit, a maximum of 40 additional points can be obtained based on the prioritisation of the Advisory Body that assists the selection procedure.
7. The call for applications may contain sport-specific age limits.

IV. Sports participating

1. The SHS programme is open to applications from sports that have participated in at least three consecutive Olympic Games immediately preceding the date of the scholarship contract in the year in question.
2. The actual list as referred to in point IV.1 is set out in the call for application.

V. The student application and selection process

1. Details of the student application process are set out in the call for application.
2. The preliminary technical inspection of the Tempus Public Foundation shall also cover the fulfilment of the conditions set out in Chapter III of this regulation.
3. The ranking of applicants under III.1.a. will be determined by the results of the admission tests, and the ranking of applicants with the same results will be determined by the position on the nomination shortlist.
4. The selection process may be assisted by an Advisory Body, which is operated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
5. In team sports, due to the professional quotas of the university championships, the number of applicants per institution may be limited.

VI. Allowances and benefits of scholarship holders

1. In the SHS programme, in addition to the benefits of the scholarship programme, any of the organisations listed in Chapter I of this regulation may support the scholarship holder
 - a. with the preparation for sports competitions, with services that assist his/her academic progress in higher education or with further allowances,
 - b. with additional support concerning travels for sport or study purposes.

VII. Rights and obligations of scholarship holders

1. The requirement of staying habitually in Hungary must be applied in such a way that trips related to an athlete's career (competitions, training camps, medical treatment, rehabilitation, etc.) are automatically permitted by the higher education institution, based on the certification of the host sports organisation. Absences must not cause a breach of academic obligations and will not result in the withdrawal of a scholarship.
2. The Tempus Public Foundation may terminate the scholarship contract with the institution if the scholarship holder fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the scholarship contract, with the coaching instructions for trainings and competitions or with any other

obligations related to the sport. If the scholarship holder is unable to comply with the sports related requirements for more than 3 months for health reasons, based on a sports doctor's opinion, he/she is entitled to finish the academic year started as a scholarship holder. Scholarship status will be continued if the student is considered medically fit to resume his/her sporting activity at the start of the new academic year.

3. The scholarship contract is concluded between the host institution and the scholarship holder. The host sports organisation shall conclude a separate contract with the scholarship holder. The international sports federation or the Hungarian national sports federation may conclude a separate contract with the scholarship holder.
4. The scholarship contract shall contain the identification number of the competition licence and the name of the Hungarian national sports federation which shall ensure the scholarship holder's registration, the validity of his/her sports contract and transfers to other sports organisations, as well as the specific conditions and obligations laid down in this regulation.
5. During the period of his/her student status, the scholarship holder shall, for the period specified in the call for applications, assist the development of Hungarian sport as a competitor, and shall participate as an amateur or professional athlete in competitions or competition systems organised or authorised by the relevant sports federation.
6. For the purposes of point 5, the scholarship holder shall maintain his/her competition licence issued by the Hungarian national sports federation or sports association at the host sports organisation as per point I.8, for the duration of the scholarship contract.
7. A scholarship contract can be concluded with a person who meets the Hungarian sports medical eligibility requirements.
8. The scholarship holder is obliged to study Hungarian as a foreign language in accordance with the Operational Regulations of the Stipendium Hungaricum programme, with the provision that failure to participate or to take the exam shall not be sanctioned.
9. The scholarship holder undertakes to represent the host higher education institution in the MEFS championship or MEFOB and to fulfil the obligations imposed by the professional sports organisation, such as participation in training sessions, competitions and other official events.
10. The scholarship holder undertakes to enter into a contract with the host sports organisation.
11. The scholarship holder undertakes to certify the fulfilment of his/her sports obligations towards the host higher education institution every month with the document issued by the host sports organisation.
12. Based on the provisions of point 2, the student's scholarship contract is automatically terminated with the termination of the athlete contract.
13. If the interests of university sports and competitive sports conflict over time, the interests of competitive sports take priority.