Applying for Your Residence Permit: Hungary

What is a residence permit?
A residence permit allows you to stay in a foreign country to work, live, or study there for a specific period of time. Non-citizens of Hungary are able to enter the country as a tourist, and then must apply for a residence permit in order to stay for longer than 90 days. Residence permits are issued by immigration offices in the host country.

Do I need a residence permit to go to Hungary?
You must apply for a residence permit if you are going to Hungary to study full time for longer than three months. A US student studying abroad can enter Hungary as a tourist, and then must apply for a residence permit within 30 days of entry.

What do I need to apply for a residence permit?
► Attention: Visa requirements change constantly! Verify this information with the embassy, as the application process can change. This website may be helpful: http://washington.kormany.hu/entry-for-long-stay

You will need the following to apply for your residence permit:
• A **valid passport**. Make sure that your passport is valid for 3 months *past* your program end-date.
  ♦ See page 1 in the Study Abroad Handbook for passport application information.
  ♦ Apply early for your passport! It may take 6-8 weeks to process your application.
• A **completed application for residence permit for the purpose of studies.** This form is available at: http://www.bmbah.hu/nyomtatvany_mintak.php
• Two **recent passport-sized photos** with your full name written on the back taken no longer than six months previously.
• **Letter of acceptance from host university.**
• **Proof of accommodation in Hungary.** This could be a copy of a lease agreement or student housing confirmation.
• **Proof of sufficient funds.** A bank statement or declaration from your parents covering living expenses; if you are paying tuition to UM, receiving financial aid or a scholarship, provide proof.
• **Contact information in the US.** Provide a separate sheet with your US phone, address, and email.
• **Proof of health insurance.** Bring proof of medical insurance coverage and policy information.
• **Residence permit application fee of US$80,** payable in cash (USD only), money order, or cashier’s check.
► In general, the regional directorate processes the application within 30 days.

How do I obtain a residence permit?
A. **In Person**
   You must apply for your residence permit in person at the regional directorate of the Office of Immigration and Nationality in Hungary. In specific cases you may be granted permission to apply by mail.
   • Apply for your residence permit within 30 days of entering Hungary.
   • Take your documents to the appropriate Immigration Office. The Immigration Office in Pécs can be reached by phone at: (72)518-720; and is located at: 7623. Pécs, Csend u. 3 (http://www.bmbah.hu/teruletiszervek.php?city=10&specialization=0&function=0&region=0). Call the office before you visit to verify hours of operation and location.
B. By Mail:
*You must receive special permission from the Embassy or Consulate General to submit your application by mail.*
- Enclose a prepaid and self addressed envelope for certified mail.
- You must assume the risk of sending your passport by mail, and not hold the Hungarian Foreign Ministry responsible for a passport lost in the mail.

If you have any questions about obtaining a residence permit consult the Embassy of Hungary’s website:
http://washington.kormany.hu/index