

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE SZENT-GYÖRGYI STUDENT PROGRAMME 2026

Open to 1st and 2nd year students of the University of Debrecen, Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Faculty of Health Sciences or Faculty of Science and Technology at the University of Debrecen

Dear 1st and 2nd year students, Future Szent-Györgyi Students,

The **National Academy of Scientist Education (NASE)** was established on September 1, 2021, with the support of the Ministry of Innovation and Technology, to provide financial and educational assistance to outstanding Hungarian students in biomedical sciences throughout their university studies. The University of Debrecen (UD) is proud to support top students in these fields. As part of this commitment, University of Debrecen joined the NASE programme in November 2021 and are now welcoming applications from international students during the current recruitment period.

Students are admitted to the NASE training programme through a competitive application process. Those accepted will become Szent-Györgyi Students, gaining valuable support for their academic careers. The **key components of this programme include:**

- ✓ The opportunity to work with a top-tier biomedical research team
- ✓ Intensive mentoring from Hungarian professionals throughout the research process (a mentoring contract with the student's supervisor will be established to ensure high-quality guidance)
- ✓ Support in preparing posters, presentations, and scientific publications
- ✓ Assistance in building international scientific connections
- ✓ The chance to create a personalized academic timetable
- ✓ Regular English language training focused on conversation and public speaking

Main expectations for Szent-Györgyi Students (full details will be outlined in an agreement):

- ✓ Consistently participate in the work of their chosen research group at the UD (a weekly average of at least 10 hours dedicated to **laboratory work**)
- ✓ Regularly review literature relevant to their research area
- ✓ Actively contribute to the preparation of scientific publications, posters, and presentations
- ✓ Participate in professional events related to the NASE programme
- ✓ Publication requirements: By the end of their third year, Szent-Györgyi students must have submitted a co-authored **original scientific manuscript**. By the end of their final academic year, Szent-Györgyi Students are required to first-author an original scientific manuscript¹, accepted/published in a Scimago Q1-ranked journal with an impact factor of preferably at least 3. *Alternatively, this first-author requirement can be fulfilled by co-authoring a manuscript in a journal with an impact factor above 10.*
- ✓ **Payment of a tuition fee** of EUR 10,000 for the first year and EUR 12,000 per academic year thereafter

¹ Successful completion of the program requires that the first-author paper be at least accepted for publication..



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Application Criteria:

- ✓ Applicants must be 1st or 2nd-year full-time students at the UD, actively enrolled in one of the following faculties:
 - ✓ o Faculty of Medicine
 - ✓ o Faculty of Dentistry
 - ✓ o Faculty of Pharmacy
 - ✓ o Faculty of Health Sciences
 - ✓ o Faculty of Science and Technology
- ✓ Interest in research related to any branch of human life sciences or medical biology
- ✓ At least an intermediate level of English proficiency (no formal language certification required)
- ✓ Payment of the EUR 75 application fee
 - o Beneficiary: Nemzeti Orvosbiológiai Alapítvány
 - o IBAN: HU45 1030 0002 1058 9992 4902 0028
 - o SWIFT (BIC) code: MKKBHUHB
 - o Reference: Applicant's full name, Application Fee
- ✓ Commitment to paying the tuition fee (we do not offer scholarships for foreign students)

Preferred but Not Required for Successful Application:

- ✓ High school competition achievements in biology and/or chemistry
- ✓ Experience in biological, chemical, or medical research

How to Apply:

- ✓ Fill out the application form at:
<https://forms.gle/Vt71hJ7xR6rZhDjA9> (the application form will be made available starting September 1, 2026)
- ✓ Upload the following documents in PDF format (max. 1 MB per file; reduce the file size if necessary)*:
 - o **Personal Statement** (max. 4000 characters)
 - File name format: PS + your surname + your first name.pdf (e.g., PSSzentGyorgyiAlbert.pdf)
 - o **Europass CV** (<https://europass.europa.eu/en>)
 - File name format: CV + your surname + your first name.pdf (e.g., CVSzentGyorgyiAlbert.pdf)
 - o **Proof of high school competition achievements in biology and/or chemistry** (optional, merge into one PDF):
 - File name format: IG + your surname + your first name.pdf (e.g., IGSzentGyorgyiAlbert.pdf)
 - o **Proof of application fee payment**
 - File name format: AF + your surname + your first name.pdf (e.g., AFSzentGyorgyiAlbert.pdf)
 - o **English Language Certificate (optional)**



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- File name format: LC + your surname + your first name.pdf (e.g., LCSzentGyorgyiAlbert.pdf)

* Please note: file names **must not contain accented letters!**

Selection Criteria:

- ✓ Research interest
- ✓ High school competition achievements in biology and/or chemistry
- ✓ Experience in biological, chemical, or medical research
- ✓ Results of the written test
- ✓ English proficiency: language skills will be assessed during the admission process

Deadlines:

- ✓ **Submission of application: 20st September, 2026** (Sunday)
- ✓ **The written stage of the admission process will take place on Thursday, 24 September 2026, from 18:00 to 19:00 at the Educational Center room 005.** *(The written test must be completed individually on the applicant's own laptop with internet access. Each applicant will receive a unique access code by email to activate the test.)*
- ✓ Applicants will be informed of the **results of the written test no later than Friday, 2 October 2026.**
- ✓ **Oral interviews** will be held between **5th and 29th October, 2026.** Exact details and the schedule will be sent via email
- ✓ Please note that scheduled times cannot be changed for technical reasons
- ✓ The application will be evaluated no later than **Friday, 30th October 2026**

This training programme is coordinated by the **National Biomedical Foundation** and supported by the Hungarian Government.

For further details about the NASE training programme, please visit: <http://www.edu-sci.org>.

If you have a strong interest in biomedical or life sciences research and meet the eligibility criteria, we encourage you to apply!

For more information about the programme and application process, please contact the NASE Training Office at: de@edu-sci.org

Debrecen, 7th August, 2026

Dr. András Varró
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Péter Hegyi
Programme Director



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Dr. Zoltán Rakonczay
Director of University Education

Dr. Zoltán Papp
NASE Scientific Supervisor at the UD