How to Obtain a Hungarian Driving License: A Comprehensive Step-by-Step Guide

Getting a driver's license in Hungary is a structured process that welcomes both EU/EEA citizens and third-country nationals. Whether somebody is a resident needing to commute, a digital wanderer calming down in Budapest, or a trainee wanting the freedom to explore the countryside, having a Hungarian driving license opens many possibilities.

Browsing the regional bureaucracy can initially appear challenging, specifically with language barriers. Nevertheless, the course to supporting the wheel in Hungary is uncomplicated when broken down into manageable actions. This thorough guide describes whatever required to effectively obtain a Hungarian driving license (Category B for cars and trucks).

Requirements: Who Can Apply?

Before beginning the procedure, applicants need to fulfill particular legal and residency requirements set by the Hungarian federal government.

- **Residency:** Applicants must have a legitimate Hungarian address card (*lakcímkártya*) proving they have actually been homeowners in Hungary for at least 185 days.
- **Age:** The minimum age for a Category B (cars and truck) driving license in Hungary is 17 years of ages.
- **Medical Fitness:** Every applicant must pass a standard medical checkup to prove physical and psychological fitness for driving.

Step-by-Step Guide to Getting a Hungarian Driving License

The journey from a complete beginner to a certified motorist in Hungary involves numerous unique milestones.

Action 1: Obtain a Medical Certificate

The really first document required is a medical certificate of physical fitness.

1. Go to a family doctor (GP) or a designated occupational health medical professional.
2. The doctor will perform standard tests (vision, hearing, general health history, and high blood pressure).
3. Those who use glasses or contact lenses must bring them along; the resulting license will keep in mind the requirement for corrective lenses.
4. As soon as passed, the doctor issues an official medical certificate (*Orvosi Alkalmassági Vélemény*).

Step 2: Complete the First-Aid Course

In Hungary, completing a certified first-aid course and passing its exam is obligatory before requesting a full driving license.

- The Hungarian Red Cross (*Magyar Vöröskereszt*) organizes these courses.
- Lots of driving schools (*autósiskola*) bundle this course into their bundles.

- The test includes a multiple-choice survey and a useful demonstration of CPR and bandaging methods. *(Medical experts, nurses, and those with particular medical degrees might be exempt from this step).*

Step 3: Enroll in a Driving School (*Autósiskola*)

Selecting the best driving school is vital, particularly for non-Hungarian speakers. Many schools in Budapest and major cities provide courses and books completely in English.

The training is divided into two primary phases:

1. **Theoretical Training (Kresz):**
    - Typically includes at least 28 hours of classes (or an equivalent online self-study website).
    - Covers Hungarian traffic rules, roadway indications, and regulations.
2. **Practical Training (Vezetés):**
    - Can just begin after passing the theory exam.
    - Needs a minimum of 29 driving hours plus 1 useful exam hour (totaling 30 hours), covering an obligatory range of at least 580 kilometers.

Step 4: Pass the Theory Exam (KRESZ Vizsga)

Once the theoretical classes are completed, trainees need to take the main computer-based theory test at a designated government screening center.

- **Format:** 55 multiple-choice questions.
- **Time frame:** 30 minutes.
- **Scoring:** The exam is out of 75 points (some questions deserve 3 points, others 1 or 2). A minimum of **65 points** is needed to pass.
- **Language:** Available in Hungarian, English, and German at many city centers.

Step 5: Complete Practical Lessons and the Road Exam

After passing the KRESZ examination, students are assigned a driving instructor (*oktató*) to start practical lessons behind the wheel.

- Students find out fundamental automobile control, maneuvering, city driving, and rural/highway driving.
- As soon as the instructor concurs that the trainee is all set-- and the minimum hour/kilometer requirements are satisfied-- the practical road exam (*forgalmi vizsga*) is arranged.
- The roadway examination lasts roughly 50 minutes and happens on public roadways with a main inspector being in the back seat and the trainer in the front guest seat.

Summary of Costs and Timeframes

The time and monetary investment required to get a Hungarian driving license can vary based on private knowing pace and school costs.

Phase Approximated Time Approximate Cost (HUF) **Medical Certificate** 1 day 7,000-- 15,000 HUF **First-Aid Course & & Exam** 1-- 2 weeks 15,000-- 25,000 HUF **Theory Course (KRESZ)** 2-- 4 weeks 40,000-- 70,000 HUF **Theory Exam Fee** 1 day 4,600 HUF **Practical Lessons (per hour)** 4-- 12 weeks 7,000-- 12,000 HUF per hour **Practical Road Exam Fee** 1 day 11,000 HUF **License Issuance Fee** 1 week (processing) 6,250 HUF

Keep in mind: Prices are price quotes and subject to inflation, school rates policies, and the variety of extra driving lessons a specific may Gyors Vezetői Engedély Beszerzése need.

Converting a Foreign License vs. Getting a New One

For expats who already hold a driving license from their home country, the procedure may vary considerably based on nationality:

- **EU/EEA License Holders:** Generally, an EU/EEA license is legitimate in Hungary up until its expiration date. Holders can choose to convert it to a Hungarian license voluntarily without taking tests, provided they are regular citizens.
- **Non-EU/EEA License Holders:** Third-country licenses are typically valid for only one year after developing residency in Hungary. To continue driving legally beyond that period, motorists should typically go through the conversion process, which typically needs passing the Hungarian KRESZ (theory) exam and a useful driving test, though some nations have bilateral arrangements that waive these requirements.

Important Documents Checklist

When checking out government offices (*Kormányablak*) for administrative tasks connected to the license, constantly guarantee you bring the following:

- Valid Passport or National ID card.
- Hungarian Address Card (*Lakcímkártya*).
- House Permit (*Tartózkodási Engedély*) if relevant.
- Medical Certificate of Fitness.
- First-Aid Certificate.
- Certificate of finished primary education (typically needed by driving schools to show compliance with Hungarian instructional prerequisites-- usually an 8-grade school certificate or higher, equated if required).
- Proof of passing the theory and useful examinations.

Last Thoughts

Obtaining a Hungarian driving license needs perseverance, studying, and financial preparation, however the benefit is lifelong movement within Hungary and throughout the European Union. By choosing an English-friendly driving school, studying the traffic rules vigilantly, and keeping all documentation arranged, new drivers will discover themselves navigating the beautiful streets of Budapest and beyond with self-confidence and overall legality.