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

Obtaining a chauffeur's license in Hungary is a structured process that welcomes both EU/EEA residents and third-country nationals. Whether somebody is a resident needing to commute, a digital **Eredeti Vezetői Engedély Weboldal** nomad settling down in Budapest, or a student wanting the flexibility to check out the countryside, having a Hungarian driving license opens many possibilities.

Navigating the local administration can initially seem challenging, specifically with language barriers. Nevertheless, the path to supporting the wheel in Hungary is uncomplicated when broken down into manageable actions. This extensive guide describes everything needed to effectively get a Hungarian driving license (Category B for cars and trucks).

Requirements: Who Can Apply?

Before starting the procedure, applicants need to satisfy particular legal and residency requirements set by the Hungarian government.

- **Residency:** Applicants should have a legitimate Hungarian address card (*lakcímkártya*) showing they have actually been residents in Hungary for at least 185 days.
- **Age:** The minimum age for a Category B (car) driving license in Hungary is 17 years old.
- **Medical Fitness:** Every candidate needs to pass a standard medical evaluation to prove physical and psychological fitness for driving.

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

The journey from a complete novice to a licensed motorist in Hungary involves several unique turning points.

Action 1: Obtain a Medical Certificate

The extremely first file required is a medical certificate of fitness.

1. Check out a general specialist (GP) or a designated occupational health doctor.
2. The medical professional will conduct standard tests (vision, hearing, basic health history, and high blood pressure).
3. Those who use glasses or contact lenses should bring them along; the resulting license will note the requirement for corrective lenses.
4. As soon as passed, the doctor problems an official medical certificate (*Orvosi Alkalmassági Vélemény*).

Action 2: Complete the First-Aid Course

In Hungary, completing a qualified first-aid course and passing its test is mandatory before getting a full driving license.

- The Hungarian Red Cross (*Magyar Vöröskereszt*) organizes these courses.

- Numerous driving schools (*autósiskola*) package this course into their bundles.
- The test consists of a multiple-choice questionnaire and a useful presentation of CPR and bandaging methods. *(Medical professionals, nurses, and those with particular medical degrees may be exempt from this action).*

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

Selecting the right driving school is important, particularly for non-Hungarian speakers. Lots of schools in Budapest and significant cities provide courses and books completely in English.

The training is divided into two primary phases:

1. **Theoretical Training (Kresz):**
    - Typically consists of a minimum of 28 hours of classes (or an equivalent online self-study portal).
    - Covers Hungarian traffic guidelines, road indications, and regulations.
2. **Practical Training (Vezetés):**
    - Can only begin after passing the theory test.
    - Needs a minimum of 29 driving hours plus 1 practical test hour (totaling 30 hours), covering a mandatory distance of at least 580 kilometers.

Step 4: Pass the Theory Exam (KRESZ Vizsga)

Once the theoretical classes are completed, students need to take the main computer-based theory examination at a designated government Magyar Jogosítvány Gyors Beszerzése testing center.

- **Format:** 55 multiple-choice concerns.
- **Time limit:** 30 minutes.
- **Scoring:** The examination runs out 75 points (some concerns are worth 3 points, others 1 or 2). A minimum of **65 points** is required to pass.
- **Language:** Available in Hungarian, English, and German at most metropolitan centers.

Step 5: Complete Practical Lessons and the Road Exam

After passing the KRESZ test, students are appointed a driving instructor (*oktató*) to begin practical lessons behind the wheel.

- Students discover fundamental car control, maneuvering, city driving, and rural/highway driving.
- Once the instructor agrees that the trainee is prepared-- and the minimum hour/kilometer requirements are fulfilled-- the practical road examination (*forgalmi vizsga*) is scheduled.
- The road examination lasts roughly 50 minutes and occurs on public roads with a main examiner being in the rear seats and the trainer in the front traveler seat.

Summary of Costs and Timeframes

The time and monetary investment required to obtain a Hungarian driving license can vary based upon individual learning pace and school charges.

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 estimates and based on inflation, school prices policies, and the variety of additional driving lessons a private may need.

Converting a Foreign License vs. Getting a New One

For expats who currently hold a driving license from their home nation, the process might vary substantially based on citizenship:

- **EU/EEA License Holders:** Generally, an EU/EEA license stands in Hungary until its expiration date. Holders can pick to convert it to a Hungarian license voluntarily without taking tests, provided they are regular homeowners.
- **Non-EU/EEA License Holders:** Third-country licenses are typically legitimate for just one year after developing residency in Hungary. To continue driving legally beyond that period, drivers should typically go through the conversion procedure, which often requires passing the Hungarian KRESZ (theory) test and a practical driving test, though some countries have bilateral contracts that waive these requirements.

Important Documents Checklist

When going to federal government workplaces (*Kormányablak*) for administrative tasks connected to the license, always ensure you bring the following:

- Valid Passport or National ID card.
- Hungarian Address Card (*Lakcímkártya*).
- Residence Permit (*Tartózkodási Engedély*) if relevant.
- Medical Certificate of Fitness.
- First-Aid Certificate.
- Certificate of finished main education (frequently needed by driving schools to show compliance with Hungarian educational prerequisites-- normally an 8-grade school certificate or higher, equated if necessary).
- Proof of passing the theory and useful assessments.

Final Thoughts

Obtaining a Hungarian driving license requires patience, studying, and monetary planning, however the benefit is lifelong mobility within Hungary and throughout the European Union. By picking an English-friendly driving school, studying the traffic rules vigilantly, and keeping all documentation arranged, brand-new chauffeurs will discover themselves navigating the picturesque streets of Budapest and beyond with confidence and overall legality.