

YOUR FIRST STEPS IN PRAGUE **STUDENT**

PRAGUE FOR EXPATS

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WHY PRAGUE?

We think **Prague is a great place to live** (and you should too!)

We are very excited to hear that your life journey has led you to Prague and that you've decided to stay here with us — even if it's just for a little while. We would like to present to you Prague, one of the **most beautiful cities in the world**. It is a city with unique characteristics that millions of visitors travel here to see every year.

Prague is a modern and dynamic Central European metropolis that is certainly worthy of the attention that it receives.

Our city **offers a wide variety of opportunities** for everyone.



#1

MANY DIFFERENT PLACES TO STUDY

In addition to the 8 public universities in Prague, there are also 20 private universities and 1 state college.

This means that there's a wide variety of study programmes, and that you will very likely find an opportunity to study whatever you are interested in.

#2

THE OLDEST UNIVERSITY IN CENTRAL EUROPE

Charles University is the oldest university in the central European region.

It was founded in 1348, which means that Prague's tradition of high-quality education goes back a long way.

#5

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO

Prague offers many different ways to spend your free time:

- various museums
- galleries
- theatres
- concert halls
- sporting events

#3

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE

Prague offers a wide range of programmes for foreign students that is growing every year.

Most of the programmes are taught in English, and they are suitable for students coming from both inside and outside the EU.

#4

HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED SPECIALISTS

Universities in Prague have high-quality equipment at their disposal and employ top-notch professors who are highly respected both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Due to the cooperation with numerous foreign universities, Prague also attracts many different guest specialists from top rated universities around the world, further enhancing the quality of education in Prague.

#6

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

If you are an accredited day-programme student, you are legally able to work while you are here studying, giving you the option to make some extra money during your time here.

You can also stay in Prague to work even after obtaining your degree, you just need to extend your residence permit inside the Czech Republic.

#7

PRAGUE MAKES TRAVEL EASY

Another reason to study in Prague is that it's easy to travel anywhere from here. There is both an international airport as well as a train station connected to almost all of the major European cities.

Also, Prague's public transportation is rated 5th best in the entire world! This makes it super easy to go anywhere in Prague without a car, even in the middle of the night.

START YOUR LIFE IN PRAGUE STEP BY STEP

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Read up on the universities

There are 37 public or private universities and higher education institutions located in the City of Prague, all there is left to do is to choose one! Have a look at one of the lists of the universities and courses available or do your own Google research. Be careful to choose an English program, especially if your Czech language skills are just not there yet.

Check the admission requirements and apply

Every university and, in most cases, each of the faculties has different admission conditions. Generally, they will require all documents which are not originally issued in the Czech, English, or Slovak languages to be officially translated into the Czech or English languages.

Arrange health insurance

It is the responsibility of a student to have health insurance that meets all the legal conditions arranged for the entire time of your stay in the Czech Republic.

Search for a scholarship

There are many governmental or private funding programs available designed especially for foreign nationals studying in the Czech Republic. If you are looking for additional financial funding for your studies, check the section "Scholarships".

Choose a program

Make sure to choose a programme you are interested in and you're going to love. Do not forget to check the application guidelines and deadlines and see if you can provide all the required documentation for the application.

File for residence permits or visa

Depending on the type of your study stay, you will have to obtain a short-term or long-term visa to ensure your residence in the Czech Republic is legal. To determine which type of visa or residence permit is the right one for you or whether you actually need one, check the section "Residence Permits and Visas".

Look for accommodation

Find an apartment or other accommodation and contact the owner. You can choose from a variety of long-term and short-term student accommodation in Prague, depending on your criteria and budget.

UPON ARRIVAL

Register at your dormitory and, if needed, with the Foreign police

You have an obligation to register at the Foreign police within three days of entering the Czech Republic unless you live in dormitories or your accommodation provider does it for you.

Enrol at your university

At most universities, you will have to check in with the Student Office ("Studijní oddělení"). Keep in mind to bring all necessary documents with you.

Pick up a residence card at the Immigration office

This falls under the Ministry of the Interior. Addresses can be found [click here](#).

Open a bank account

Get a Lítačka card to use public transport

Get a phone with a Czech plan

Stay updated and sign up for the Expat Centre Prague newsletter - [click here](#)

YOUR FIRST MONTH IN PRAGUE

Read up on Prague - your new city

Look for things to do and experience in your new home! You will find a lot of links for useful websites throughout this guide. We also highly recommend the YouTube channel Honest Guide.

Connect with fellow students

There is a number of international student organizations and clubs where you can make new friends and participate in all kinds of activities, excursions or trips. Most of the universities run their own clubs and Prague is a home for several international organizations and institutes with various social activities for expats.

Start learning Czech

Although not a strict necessity anymore, it is helpful to learn at least the basics of this difficult language because it'll help you deal with office clerks and others who may not speak English. Popular ways to learn Czech are the Duolingo app, podcasts such as One minute Czech, and signing up for language courses.

Find your local doctor, dentist and pharmacy for your medical needs

There are many medical professionals who offer their services in English or other foreign languages.

A BASIC GUIDE TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Thousands of international students come to Prague for one semester or more every year.

To enjoy all opportunities which the Czech metropolis has to offer, read our guide carefully. **We've got you covered!**

PRAGUE FOR EXPATS



A BASIC GUIDE TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



Prague has become **one of the best global cities for studying** abroad due to its beauty, low cost of living, and its many different study opportunities.



Czech universities offer a wide range of highprofile accredited programmes at three different levels:
bachelor's, master's and doctoral (PhD) degrees.



Most of the faculties provide study programmes and courses in **English, French and German** for international students. University studies can be completed via either a **full-time**, internal programme or a **part-time**, external programme.

DEGREE STRUCTURE

Again, the three levels of degree programmes in the Czech Republic are **bachelor's, master's, and doctoral (PhD)**.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

A bachelor's degree programme normally lasts 3 to 4 years and can be either a self-contained degree orientated to future employment, or taken as a first step towards a master's degree.

Bachelor's degrees are completed with a final state examination that usually includes the defence of a bachelor's thesis. Successful graduates will be awarded the Bc. title for completing a bachelor's degree.

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

A master's programme lasts an additional 2 to 3 years after you complete your bachelor's degree. Some master's programmes skip the bachelor's degree and last a total of 4 to 6 years. These programmes are typically only for medicine, psychology, or law.

Master's degree programmes are broader and more academically demanding than bachelors' studies. Degrees are completed with a final state examination which usually includes the defence of a diploma thesis. In most cases, the successful graduate will be awarded the title of Mgr. for completing their master's degree. Some fields (e.g. technical, economical or agricultural fields) award their graduate an engineering title: Ing. Other types of master's degree programmes include Doctor of Medicine (MUDr.), Doctor of Dental Medicine (MDDr.), Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (MVDr.), and a Master of Arts (MgA.).

DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMME

Postgraduate doctoral degree programmes usually last 3 years. The study is focused on scientific research and independent creative activity. They provide students with the appropriate qualifications for their given academic discipline. A doctoral degree programme is completed with the state doctoral examination and the defence of a dissertation thesis. A successful graduate will be awarded with the title of PhD.

CREDIT SYSTEM & GRADING SYSTEM

As part of university studies, students earn a certain number of credits for completing individual courses. The Czech universities use the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), which is a workload-based system for measuring and comparing study results. The ECTS credit system is implemented in all universities across Europe. The advantage of the international system is that it allows students to complete their study obligations abroad without losing any necessary credits.

Each module awards a certain number of credits, which indicates the degree of difficulty of the subject. One ECTS credit is equal to approximately 25-30 hours of work per semester, and you can earn up to 10 credits for even a single course. The workload indicates the time students typically need to complete all of their learning activities, such as lectures, seminars, projects, practical work, self-study, and examinations.

Students obtain these credits by fulfilling all conditions that are required for completion of that module. All students are graded on an A-F scale according to the Local Grade Scheme.

The standard rate of study is 30 ECTS credits per semester, which equals 60 ECTS credits for a full academic year. Students need 180 credits to complete a bachelor's degree, and an additional 120 credits to complete their master's degree. Obtaining a certain number of credits is required to either enroll for the next study year or to successfully complete your programme.

ECTS GRADING SCALE:

ECTS GRADE	% OF STUDENTS WHO TYPICALLY ACHIEVE THIS GRADE	DEFINITION
A	10	EXCELLENT — outstanding performance with only minor errors
B	25	VERY GOOD — above-average performance, but with some errors
C	30	SATISFACTORY — generally sound work with some notable errors
D	25	SATISFACTORY — fair, but with significant shortcomings
E	10	SUFFICIENT — performance meets the minimum criteria
FX	-	FAIL — some work required before the credit can be awarded
F	-	FAIL — considerable further work is required

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT:

(NOTE: PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SEND IN CERTIFIED COPIES OF DOCUMENTS, NOT THE ORIGINALS)

- A completed application form, which can be downloaded here:
[*Studies Recognition - Study in Prague*](#)
- A certified copy of your secondary school leaving certificate — this must be prepared by a Czech notary and be legalized or apostilled in your country of origin with an official
- Czech translation from a Czech court translator attached. The type of translation that you need is called “soudní překlad” in Czech.
- A certified copy of your transcript of all secondary school subjects that you’ve studied, with the total number of hours studied — again, this must be prepared by a Czech notary, legalized or apostilled in the country of origin, and have an official Czech translation from a Czech court interpreter attached.
- Proof that the school which issued the school leaving certificate is integrated into the education system of your country of origin (if it is unclear from the leaving certificate and transcript issued by the school).
- Proof of payment of an administrative fee (CZK 1,000).
- Copy of a valid identity document (passport or ID).
- Proof of accommodation (further information can be found on the Ministry of Interior websites: [*Proof of Accommodation - Ministry of Interior*](#)).

Documents which are not originally issued in the Czech, English, or Slovak languages must be officially translated into Czech or English.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR (TWO SEMESTERS)

The academic year is divided into two semesters: autumn/winter and spring/summer. Each semester consists of teaching periods, examination periods, and vacations. The number of teaching weeks and the length of the examination period are individually determined by the universities. The first semester (fall/winter) usually starts at the end of September or the beginning of October. The second semester (spring/summer) starts in the middle of February.

RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIPLOMAS & DEGREES

To utilize any qualifications or education attained in a foreign country, it is necessary to have that education recognized by the Czech educational system.

RECOGNITION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

A notarized copy of a secondary school leaving certificate is very commonly required to apply for a bachelor's degree programme at Czech universities. A graduate of a foreign school who has completed primary, secondary, or higher vocational education — not university education — needs to go to the Department of Education at Prague City Hall to apply for nostrification of their foreign education documents.

THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION:

#1

IN PERSON

YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION IN PERSON AT PRAGUE CITY HALL. THE APPLICATION FEE OF CZK 1,000 MUST BE PAID AT THE MHMP CASH DESK IN THE SAME BUILDING.

[Opening Hours - Praha.eu](#)



#2

THROUGH A REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS AN OFFICIAL AUTHORIZATION (POWER OF ATTORNEY) TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF

#3

VIA THE POSTAL SERVICES (NOT RECOMMENDED)

YOU CAN FIND FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE NOSTRIFICATION OF PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND HIGHER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION HERE:

- Nostrification - [nostrifikace.mkc.cz](#)
- Studies Recognition - [Study in Prague](#)
- Recognition of Foreign Education - [Praha.eu](#)


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STUDY IN PRAGUE

The Study in Prague project launched in 2015 as an initiative of five elite universities in Prague **to make studying in the heart of Europe as easy and accessible as possible**. Since then the number of universities has grown to seven.



 These seven universities cooperate in the consortium to collectively promote the Study in Prague project at study fairs and expositions.

- **Charles University**
- **Czech Technical University**
- **Czech University of Life Sciences Prague**
- **Prague University of Economics and Business**
- **University of Chemistry and Technology Prague**
- **Academy of Arts**
- **Architecture and Design in Prague**
- **Academy of Performing Arts in Prague**

All seven universities offer a wide selection of **top quality undergraduate and graduate study programmes** taught entirely in English



social sciences



environment protection



chemistry or physics



mathematics



food



agriculture



film directing



architecture



informatics or journalism

And while the academic quality is on par with respected institutions in Great Britain, Germany or France, **the tuition fees of Prague universities are considerably lower.**

Joining the broad academic community of Study in Prague brings the possibility to meet thousands of students from all over the world, **collaborate with leading Czech experts**, highly praised international teams of scientists and world-renowned companies.

Study in Prague offers an **unique experience of the multi-cultural, friendly and nourishing academic** atmosphere in one of the most beautiful cities in the world.



SCHOLARSHIPS

There are several institutions, both government and private ones, which offer scholarships for prospective students who are willing to participate in a study or research in Prague and need help with **covering the study costs**.

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY THE UNIVERSITIES

CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE

Financial support for international students studying at Charles University is coordinated by individual faculties and departments. At this moment, three faculties offer scholarships for studies in the English language:



FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS

offers the following scholarships to highly qualified applicants:

- Computer Science Tuition Fee Scholarships for the BA Computer Science
[Computer Science Tuition Fee Scholarships - Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University](#)
- Computer Science Tuition Fee Scholarship for the MA Computer Science
[Computer Science Tuition Fee Scholarships - Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University](#)
- Computational Linguistics Scholarships for the MA Computer Science, study branch Computational *Linguistics*
[Computational Linguistics Scholarship - Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University](#)

For more information on the scholarships provided by the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics visit:

[Costs and Dates - Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University](#)



FACULTY OF SCIENCE offers:

- STARS Program: fully-funded PhD positions at the faculty
[Become a Star at Science in Prague - Stars Natur](#)



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES offers:

- Development Scholarships for students from developing and transitional countries
[Development Scholarships - Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University](#)
- Merit-Based Scholarships
[Rules for Awarding Scholarships and Bursaries - Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University](#)
- Relief For Fulfilment Of Most Study Obligations
[Relief for Fulfilment of Most Study Obligations - Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University](#)
- European Politics and Society: Vaclav Havel Joint Master Programme- 18 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Scholarships each year
[Scholarships - EPS](#)

Each faculty also offers merit-based scholarships for students who have outstanding study results. Students will be considered for this scholarship after their first year of study. The exact amount of financial support is prescribed by the internal regulations of each respective faculty.



PhD SCHOLARSHIP:

- The doctoral scholarship is awarded to all students enrolled in a full-time PhD program during the standard length of study (usually 4 years). The scholarship ranges from CZK 10,500 to CZK 25,000 per month. The specific amount within this range varies for the individual faculties.



ACCOMMODATION SCHOLARSHIP:

- The Accommodation Scholarship is intended to help cover the costs of students who study a full-time program in the Czech language.

For further information about scholarships for the students of the Charles University visit:

[Tuition Fees and Scholarships - Charles University](#)

CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE



MASTER'S STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP

- The scholarship is intended for international students who want to undertake a master's study programme at CTU and the scholarship is awarded for a period of 1 or 2 semesters, up to an amount of CZK 10,000 per month.
- In the case of outstanding study results, the scholarship can be extended to the standard length of the master's study programme.



PhD STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP

- The scholarship is intended for international doctoral students who are conducting scientific work and studying in a doctoral programme in the English language at CTU in Prague.
- The scholarship is awarded for a period of 6 to 12 months and can be for up to CZK 16,000 per month. In the case of outstanding work performance, it can be extended for the standard length of the study programme.

The scholarships **are not applicable** for Erasmus students at CTU, Erasmus Mundus students at CTU, Exchange students at CTU, CTU foreign students receiving a government scholarship, and other scholarship holders.

For application forms and for more information about scholarships available to students at the Czech Technical University, visit:

Scholarships - Czech Technical University in Prague

CZECH UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES PRAGUE

THE CZECH UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES OFFERS FIVE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS:



MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIP

- The Merit-Based Scholarship is intended for students enrolled in a bachelor's and master's study programme (either full-time or a combined form of study), as long as they fulfil the required criteria.
- The Merit Scholarship is awarded for excellent study results in the previous study period, or periods, in an academic year or semester.
- A special form of the Merit Scholarship is a scholarship associated with the awarding of the Rector's award or laudatory recognition by the Dean for excellent study results during the entire study programme.



EXTRAORDINARY SCHOLARSHIP

- The Extraordinary Scholarship is intended for students enrolled in a bachelor's, master's or PhD study programme (either full-time or a combined form of study).
- This scholarship is awarded for various reasons, including: excellent results contributing to the deepening of knowledge in the field of study; research, development and innovation activities; supporting studies at CULS; supporting the participation of students in professional and promotional events, contests and other activities; important activities carried out for the benefit of CULS, a faculty and the academic community; etc.



DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

- The Doctoral Scholarship is intended for students enrolled in a full-time PhD study programme.



ACCOMMODATION SCHOLARSHIP

- An Accommodation Scholarship is intended for students enrolled in a full-time bachelor's, master's or PhD study programme, and who are studying only at the CULS, have not exceeded the standard length of studies, and do not have permanent residence in Prague.
- The Accommodation Scholarship is paid retroactively through three instalments covering the previous three months: in January (for the period from October to December), in April (for the period from January to March) and in July (for the period from April to June).



SOCIAL SCHOLARSHIP

- The Social Scholarship is intended for students enrolled in a bachelor's, master's, or PhD study programme (either full-time or a combined form of study), and is granted on the basis of financial and personal need.
- An obligatory attachment to the application is a written confirmation for the purposes of awarding scholarships that will be issued by the relevant state social support authority upon request.

Social and accommodation scholarships are handled by the university's management; **other scholarships** are managed by the individual faculties of the university.

For further information about scholarships
for the students of the Czech University of Life Sciences visit:

Scholarships - Czech University of Life Sciences Prague

Scholarship Rules - Czech University of Life Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY, PRAGUE

The scholarships are intended for students enrolled in bachelor's, master's, or PhD study programmes. There are six types of scholarships offered by the University of Chemistry and Technology:



SCHOLARSHIP GRANTED TO A STUDENT STUDYING IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE TO SUPPORT STUDY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

- The Scholarship to Support Study in the Czech Republic may be granted, upon request, to a student studying full-time in a foreign language as part of a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral study programme.



STUDY RESULTS-BASED SCHOLARSHIP

- The Study Results-Based Scholarship is granted based on the academic results of a student obtaining the required number of credits for each year of their studies.



ACCOMMODATION SCHOLARSHIP

- The Accommodation Scholarship is granted upon a student's written request under the condition that the student is studying in their first study programme for that specific degree level. It's also required that the student has not exceeded the standard length of studies and does not have a permanent residence in Prague.



SPECIAL PURPOSE SCHOLARSHIP

- This scholarship is awarded for various reasons, including: excellent results contributing to the deepening of knowledge in the field of study; research, development, and innovation; the participation in the development of pedagogical, scientific, or research activity and international cooperation of UCT Prague; successful sport or other representation of UCT Prague; cooperation in promotional, cultural and educational, ceremonial, career, and other events organized by UCT Prague and others.



SCHOLARSHIP GRANTED TO STUDENTS OF DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMMES

- The Doctoral Scholarship is intended as either a simple doctoral scholarship, a doctoral scholarship for pedagogical activities, or an extraordinary doctoral scholarship.
- The conditions for granting the pedagogical scholarship are active involvement in teaching and other pedagogical work in a bachelor's or master's study programme at UCT Prague.



SOCIAL SCHOLARSHIP

- The Social Scholarship may be granted upon request in cases of precarious financial situations based on documented and relevant facts.
- The monthly amount of a scholarship equals a quarter of the basic rate of the minimum monthly salary in the Czech Republic (the Czech government has approved an increase of the minimum wage for 2021 to CZK 15,200 per month)

For further information about scholarships available to students of the University of Chemistry and Technology visit:

[Financial Support for Students - University of Chemistry and Technology Prague](#)

and download the Scholarship Rules document available at the bottom of the UCT scholarship page.

GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS



THE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The government of the Czech Republic offers scholarships within the framework of its Foreign Development Assistance Programme. The scholarships support students from developing countries who intend to study in the Czech Republic.

Scholarships for the academic year 2021/2022 are offered only to the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Georgia, Cambodia, Moldova, Ukraine, and Zambia.

Each applicant is required to fill in an electronic application form available at ***Registration - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports*** no later than 30 September of the year prior to the given academic year (the calendar year that precedes the academic year for which scholarships are offered).

FOLLOW-UP MASTER'S STUDY PROGRAMMES PLUS A ONE-YEAR-LONG PREPARATORY COURSE OF THE CZECH LANGUAGE (which is combined with other field-specific training):

- Government scholarships of this category are awarded to graduates of bachelor's degree programmes.
- Students can enroll only in study programmes from the selected areas of study in which instruction is given in the Czech language.
- Depending on the subject area, applicants are normally required to complete entrance examinations at the university concerned. Successful passing of entrance examinations constitutes a precondition for a scholarship award.



FOLLOW-UP MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMMES:

- Government scholarships of this category are awarded to graduates from bachelor's or master's study programmes who enroll in study programmes with instruction in the English language.
- List of master's study programs:
Selected Master's Programmes Offered in English - The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- List of doctoral study programs:
Selected Doctoral Programmes Offered in English - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

Further information and details on the terms and conditions of scholarship awards can be found on the websites of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports:

Government Scholarships: Developing Countries - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic (MEYS) annually offers scholarships to foreign nationals within the framework of intergovernmental exchange programmes arranged with the following countries: ***Scholarships Offered by the MEYS - The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports***

The period of scholarship ranges between **2 to 10 months** and can be awarded multiple times to the student, provided they submit the renewed application and are selected by the sending institution.

For the academic year 2021/2022, the scholarship amounts to **CZK 9,000 per month** for those who do not hold a master's degree or equivalent and CZK 9,500 per month for holders of a master's degree or equivalent, unless they enrol in another bachelor's or master's degree programme in the Czech Republic. Scholarship-holders are exempted from tuition fees.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Scholarships under intergovernmental exchange programs are designed for **university/college students or graduates and PhD candidates** who intend to undertake study or research visits at one of Prague's higher education institutions. The categories of eligible candidates are specified separately by each of the exchange programs.

Scholarship-holders usually attend non-degree study courses or pursue an independent research activity, depending on the academic qualifications and preferences. Applicants are required to choose a field of study that is related to the field they are studying at their home university/college.

The terms and conditions of admission and requirements concerning the language of tuition are specified by the host universities which take independent decisions whether or not each applicant can be accepted for the scholarship program.

The Scholarships under intergovernmental exchange programs are not intended for summer language courses; a separate notification of scholarships for participation in the Summer Schools of Slavonic Studies is published at:

Summer Schools of Slavonic Studies - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

APPLICATION PROCESS

LETTER OF INVITATION

It is recommended that the prospective students directly contact their preferred university or respective university department and **request an invitation letter**. Although a letter of invitation is not usually listed among obligatory application attachments, its submission is strongly recommended since it can simplify the admission procedure.

Academic staff members are **required to attach** a letter of invitation to their applications.

APPLICATIONS

Scholarship applications and nominations must be submitted by the appropriate authorities **to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports** of the Czech Republic. Applications sent directly by individual applicants cannot be processed.

The closing dates for applying are set individually by the sending institutions and differ in each country, but they are usually set for the **beginning of the calendar year** for the admission procedure to proceed in time.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

FOR STUDY OR RESEARCH STAYS UP TO 30 DAYS:

- 2 copies of the application forms
Application Form (student)- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- Valid travel document copy (passport or ID)
- Academic CV
- A detailed plan of study/research
- List of publications (if applicable)

FOR STUDY OR RESEARCH STAY LONGER THAN 30 DAYS:

- 2 copies of the application forms
Application Form (student)- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- Valid travel document copy (passport or ID)
- Academic CV
- A detailed plan of study/research
- List of publications (if applicable)
- 2 letters of recommendation
(from academic supervisors or employer)
- Copy of diploma (if applicable)
- Certified transcript(s) of records

FOR ACADEMIC STAFF MEMBERS:

- 2 copies of the application forms
(Application Form (academic staff) - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)
- Valid travel document copy (passport or ID)
- Letter of invitation issued by a public institution of higher education in the Czech Republic
- A detailed plan of study/research
- List of publications

Fine arts or performing arts students and graduates are moreover required to provide a **sample of their artistic work** (e.g. photographs, recording of the performance etc.)

All documents attached to the application must be **in the Czech language or as an official translation**. All documents issued abroad and submitted for official purposes must be properly authenticated (*Verification of Foreign Public Documents - Ministry of Interior*).

Advice and further information can be provided by the Czech Embassies in eligible countries and the appropriate authorities included in the exchange program.

In the case of a successful outcome, the applicants will obtain **a decision issued by the MEYS** which is either delivered by post or collected in person. The scholarship has to be collected in person at the appropriate department of the host university in Prague. Students from Albania, Bulgaria, China, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Russia receive their scholarships from the relevant authorities in their home countries.

You can find **further information** about Scholarships under the intergovernmental exchange programs:

Scholarship Awards Under Intergovernmental Exchange Programmes - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

OTHER CZECH INSTITUTIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS



SUMMER SCHOOLS OF SLAVONIC STUDIES

- *Summer Schools of Slavonic Studies - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports*

WISEGRAD SCHOLARSHIPS AND ARTISTIC RESIDENCIES

The Visegrad Fund, an organization founded by the governments of the Visegrad Group countries (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Hungary) annually launches several scholarships and artistic residency programs and exchange opportunities in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Mobility Finder is a tool for finding the right mobility program, residency or scholarship.

WISEGRAD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The period of the Visegrad Scholarship Program is set for **1–4 semesters** for full-time master's level studies or **1–2 semesters for PhD's** full-time studies or research.

The scholarship amounts to **€2,300 per semester** for students and researchers, **plus additional €1,500 per semester for the host institution** in the Czech Republic. The applicant cannot receive any other governmental scholarship for any of the Visegrad countries or from the European Union.

The country of permanent residence and the country in which the previous level of the applicant's university studies have been completed cannot be the same as the country of the host institution, and the distance between the home university/permanent residence and host institute **must be more than 150 km.**

WHO CAN APPLY?

The scholarship is designed for master's or PhD students, graduates or researchers that are citizens of the:

- Albania
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Bosnia
- Herzegovina
- Georgia
- Kosovo
- Moldova
- Montenegro
- Northern Macedonia
- Serbia
- Ukraine

Applicants must have completed a bachelor's degree, or, in specific cases, completed at **least 3 years (6 semesters) of higher education** studies before starting the scholarship.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The applicants are advised to bear in mind that it **can take relatively long to find a suitable host university**, therefore, it is recommended to start the search well in advance of the deadline. Any accredited higher-education institution in the Czech Republic can host Visegrad scholars.

Please use the official government list of accredited higher-education institutions:

Public Higher Institutions - Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports



APPLICATION PROCESS

The application must be submitted via the online application system *My Visegrad* and the closing date for applications is **March 15, by noon CET**. The system opens approximately 45 days before the deadline. Applications sent by post will not be considered.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

FOR MASTER'S STUDIES:

- Valid travel document copy (passport or ID)
- Transcript of records (for the last 2 semesters)
- Letter of acceptance from the host university

FOR PHD STUDIES:

- Valid travel document copy (passport or ID)
- Letter of acceptance from the host university
- Detailed working plan of the study or research

All documents attached to the application must be in the English language (or officially translated).

LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

The letter of acceptance from the home university shall indicate that the student was accepted for the respective number of semesters within the full-time study program and must not be older than 3 months. It should include:

- Name of the applicant
- The working title of the study program
- Type of study/research (full-time)
- Planned dates of the exchange
- Signature and a stamp of the statutory representative (or of the statutory representative of the international studies department of the host institution)

In the case of a successful outcome, successful applicants will obtain scholarship funding at the beginning of each five months (semester) upon a written confirmation from the host institution.

For further information about the *Visegrad Scholarship Program - Overview*.

FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Fulbright Program provides U.S. citizens with an opportunity to study, teach or conduct research in the Czech Republic. The program is open to all fields (except for MBA, LLM and Clinical Medicine). Proposals in American Studies and Central European Studies, as well as any proposals related to intercultural or interdisciplinary aspects, are welcome.

Applications are a subject to the peer-review process done by experts from universities and research organizations, followed by an interview and in the case of a positive outcome, approved and granted by The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarships Board, nominated by the U.S. President and located in Washington.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should apply through Fulbright Program partner organizations in the United States where they can also find application and program details.



Full list of Fulbright Partner Organizations and further information about the Fulbright Scholarship can be found here: [Fulbright Scholarships - Fulbright.cz](https://www.fulbright.cz)



OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIP PORTAL

The Scholarship Portal finds and compares all available scholarships for college students, college grants, fellowships, federal aid and other forms of student funding to cover expenses for international students on all degree levels.

You can find a comprehensive list of all scholarships available in the Czech Republic here:

[The Scholarship Portal](#)

ERASMUS+ BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Erasmus+ Program is created by the European Union to promote the mobility of university students abroad and cooperation in higher education in Europe. Students and graduates from the EU have the opportunity to study at other universities or receive training and experience abroad. Study stays abroad can last from 3 months (or 1 academic semester or trimester) to 12 months and can be undertaken several times for the duration of the studies.

For more information on Erasmus+, please check whether your home university has an agreement with the universities in Prague. Erasmus coordinators at your university should help you with the application process.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

- ***Science without Borders***
- ***Bolashak International Scholarship***
- ***CEEPUS – Central European Exchange Program for University Studies***
- ***AKTION Czech Republic – Austria***
- ***Novus Biologicals Scholarship Program***
- ***Bavarian-Czech Academic Agency Scholarship***

TUITION FEES AND LIVING EXPENSES

DEGREE STUDIES IN CZECH LANGUAGE

Higher education studies in the Czech language **are free of charge** at public and state institutions.

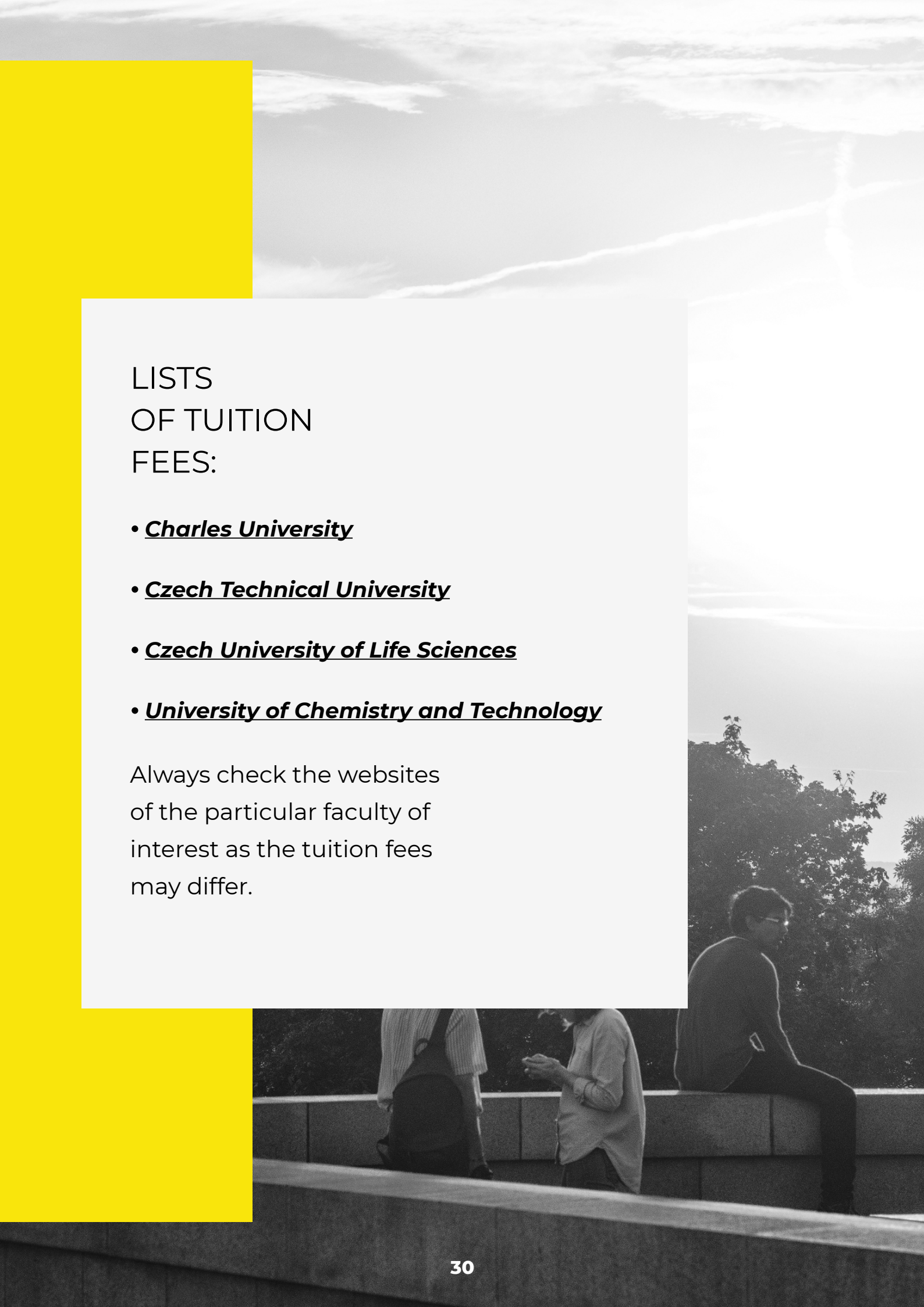
A tuition fee is charged only if the student exceeds the standard length of degree study by more than one year. Private institutions of higher education can set their tuition fees.

DEGREE STUDIES IN OTHER LANGUAGES

Studies in English and other languages are **subject to tuition fees** in the Czech Republic. In general, the exact amount of tuition depends on the level of the studies and the particular faculty of choice.

Tuition fees are usually due by the beginning of the corresponding academic year at most of the universities.

PRAGUE FOR EXPATS



LISTS OF TUITION FEES:

- ***Charles University***
- ***Czech Technical University***
- ***Czech University of Life Sciences***
- ***University of Chemistry and Technology***

Always check the websites of the particular faculty of interest as the tuition fees may differ.

LIVING COSTS

Same as everywhere else, the living costs depend mostly on personal lifestyle and location. Compared to other European cities, living costs in Prague are considerably low.

One such example: the cost of living index in Prague is 56.10% lower than in New York. As one of the top Expat destinations, Prague has one of the most thriving job markets for expats with a significant number of English speaking job positions.



TRANSPORT

One way ticket (Local Transport): CZK 24 – 32

Monthly pass: CZK 130 (students) – CZK 550 (adult)

Taxi 1 km (normal tariff): CZK 24 – 32

ACCOMMODATION

Rent for 1 bedroom apartment (city centre): CZK 17,000–30,000

Rent for 1 bedroom apartment (outside of centre): CZK 12,000–20,000

Rent for 3 bedroom apartment (city centre): CZK 25,000–50,000

Rent for 3 bedroom apartment (outside of centre): CZK 20,000–30,000

Student accommodation – dormitory: CZK 4,500–6,000

UTILITIES (MONTHLY)

Electricity, Heating, Cooling, Water, Garbage for 85m2 Apartment: CZK 3,000 – 6,800

1 min. of Prepaid Mobile Tariff Local (No Discounts or Plans): CZK 2 – 5

Internet (60 Mbps or More, Unlimited Data, Cable/ADSL): CZK 400 - 700

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

Lunch menu: CZK 120 – 180

Lunch at student's canteen = menza: CZK 60 – 80

Meal for two people (mid-range restaurant, three-course): CZK 580 – 1,000

A loaf of fresh white bread (500g): CZK 15 – 33

White rice (1kg): CZK 18 – 60

Regular eggs (12): CZK 30 – 60

Bananas (1kg): CZK 25 – 40

Water (0.33 bottle): CZK 15 – 40

Cappuccino (regular): CZK 40 – 75

Domestic beer: CZK 30 – 50

CULTURAL AND SPORT LIFE

Fitness Club, Monthly Fee for 1 Adult: CZK 550 – 1,300

Cinema ticket: CZK 150 – 250

Theatre ticket: CZK 100 – 500

Museum admission: from CZK 40

SOURCE: [COSTS OF LIVING IN PRAGUE - NUMBEO.COM](https://www.numbeo.com/costs-of-living-in-prague)

SEE MORE COST OF LIVING ESTIMATES:

[COST OF LIVING IN PRAGUE - EXPATISTAN.COM](#)

[COSTS OF LIVING IN PRAGUE - NUMBEO.COM](#)

[LIVING COSTS - STUDY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC](#)

[COST OF LIVING IN PRAGUE - CHECK IN PRICE](#)

[PRICES IN PRAGUE - DORSET RECRUITMENT](#)

[COST OF LIVING - STUDY IN PRAGUE](#)

[LIVING COSTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC - THE INTERNATIONAL
UNION OF YOUTH](#)

[CITY PROFILE: PRAGUE - DELOITTE](#)

TIPS TO SAVE MONEY



USE YOUR STUDENT DISCOUNT

Upon the admission at the university, students usually obtain a student card or ISIC/EURO26 card which provides some discounts at restaurants, shops, phone providers, festivals and other services. For the complete list of discounts in the Czech Republic see:

[Discounts in the Czech Republic - ISIC.cz](#)



TRY TO GET YOUR COURSE LITERATURE SECOND-HAND

Most of the universities require students to acquire a notable amount of course literature. Instead of buying a new one, there are many options for how to get access to it — try a second-hand bookstore where you can buy used course literature or buy it from your older course mates.



TRAVEL AT DISCOUNTS

Do not forget to apply for your student discount while travelling! Students can acquire a discount on season tickets in Prague up to the age of 26. The discount applies to students that study at a Czech university, are full-time students and provide a confirmation issued by the school (every academic year). The discount is applicable only to season tickets, there are no discounts for students on short-term tickets.

HOW TO STAY AFTER YOUR STUDIES

GETTING A JOB

It is recommended to start the **job hunt in advance** as it might take some time to find the right work related to your future profession.

Most universities offer job opportunities at the faculties as well. **Many universities host job fairs** attended by representatives of big international companies that are located in the Czech Republic where the recruiters are actively looking for potential employees. That puts the students at the local universities in a favoured position on the job market.

Being fluent in English or any other language is another huge advantage that international students have in comparison to the rest of the job market.

EU NATIONALS

Citizens of European Union or EEA (European Economic Area) countries including Switzerland who are planning on staying in the territory of the Czech Republic do not need to obtain a work permit to be employed and are allowed to work as they have the same legal status as the citizens of the Czech Republic.



EURES

network is a database of job vacancies in the countries of the European Union.

You can find further information about job vacancies for foreigners at the [*Labour Office website*](#) and at the [*EURES Vacancies database*](#).

NON-EU NATIONALS

Citizens of the so-called **third countries** are allowed to work while studying and do not need a separate work permit. However, paid work cannot be your primary occupation as the basis of your visa is your studies.

In cases where the student has already obtained university education in the Czech Republic and has finished their studies, citizens **who do not come from EU/EEA countries** are obligated to obtain a work permit and a residence permit or an Employee Card or Blue Card. For more information about different types of residence or work permits see the section “Work in Prague.”

“If you are a third country citizen who has obtained your university education in the Czech Republic and you have already finished your studies, then **you have to apply for an employee card** if you wish to stay in the Czech Republic for working purposes. Foreign nationals who have obtained university education in the Czech Republic have free access to the labour market. In this case, the employee card serves merely as a long-term residence permit where the stated purpose of the foreign national’s stay (longer than 3 months) is employment.”

[Work While or After Studying - Study in the Czech Republic](#)



**You can find
further information
about job vacancies for
foreigners at the
[Labour Office website.](#)**

RESIDENCE PERMITS AND VISA

Thinking about staying in Prague after your studies? We are happy to hear that! But don't forget to check the procedures of getting your visa or other permits first.

PRAGUE FOR EXPATS



If you are planning on staying in the Czech Republic for **more than 30 days**, you are obligated to register your place of residence in this country at the Foreign Police department within 3 days of arriving.

FOREIGNERS RESERVATION SYSTEM

However, in some cases, the registration is done by your accommodation provider. The accommodation provider has the reporting responsibility, which means that if you are staying in dormitories or at a hotel, your accommodation provider will report your place of residence for you.

The administration of visas and residence permits to enter the Czech Republic is handled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), which runs the consular service at the Embassy where you need to apply for the initial visa application.

The Ministry of the Interior (MOI) is responsible for foreign nationals who are already residents in the Czech Republic. If you come to the Czech Republic with a single-entry visa for the purpose of collecting a residence permit or a long-term visa for the stay of over 90 days, you have to go there.

Both ministries have extensive English-language information pages regarding visas and immigration, and we recommend that you read them before starting the whole visa process.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- For general immigration information, visit [***Immigration - Ministry of Interior.***](#)
- For immigration information specific to schools and students, including links for Visa and Residence Permit pages, visit [***Information for Schools and Students - Ministry of Interior.***](#)
- To download Visa Application Forms (MOI), visit [***Application forms - Ministry of Interior.***](#)
- To download Visa Application Forms (MFA), visit [***Visa Forms - Ministry of Foreign Affairs.***](#)
- For the Immigration Portal of the Ministry of the Interior, [***click here.***](#)
- For the entry and residence information from the starting point at the embassy or the consulate, visit [***Entry & Residence - Ministry of Foreign Affairs.***](#)
- For the list of Czech Diplomatic Missions Abroad, including embassies and local consulates, visit [***Missions of the Czech Republic Abroad - Ministry of Foreign Affairs.***](#)

VISA-FREE STAY

Students from the **EU/EEA** countries (including Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland), do NOT require a visa to study in the Czech Republic. The only requirement for entry is a valid passport or national ID card.

If you intend to stay in the Czech Republic **for more than 3 months**, it is optional to request a Certificate of temporary residence or, after 5 years of residence in the Czech Republic, a Permanent residence permit.

For further information about a Certificate of temporary residence, [click here](#).

For further information about a Permanent residence permit, [click here](#).

SHORT-TERM VISA

Short-Term Visas are issued for students outside the EU/EEA countries (so-called “third-country nationals”) who intend to study or take part in other educational activities in the Czech Republic for a period **shorter than 3 months**. If your stay will be shorter than 3 months, you can apply at a Czech consulate in your country of your origin (or your country of residence) for a Schengen (short-term) visa for the purpose of studies or for other purposes.

A LIST OF COUNTRIES WHOSE CITIZENS MUST GET A VISA TO TRAVEL TO THE SCHENGEN AREA:

[States Whose Citizens Need Visas - Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#)

LONG-TERM STAY FOR STUDY PURPOSE

Students from outside the EU/EEA countries (so-called “third-country nationals”) **do require a visa or a residence permit to study** in the Czech Republic. You can apply for a long-term visa for a stay of over 90 days or a long-term residence permit for the purposes of STUDY or OTHER.



The most common procedure is applying for a long-term visa which is issued for a maximum of 1 year. In the case of further studies, it is recommended that the student applies for a long-term residence permit issued for a maximum of 2 years in the Czech Republic.

LONG-TERM VISA

A Long-Term Visa is issued when the stay in the territory of the Czech Republic is **expected to exceed 3 months**.

A Long-term visa is issued for a maximum of 1 year, and you can apply at the Czech consulate in your country of origin (or residence). The visa must be obtained before your arrival to Prague.

Applications cannot be filed in the Czech Republic. Processing times for deciding on an application can take up to 90 days.

Therefore, we strongly recommend contacting the Czech consulate well in advance.

For the list of Czech Diplomatic Missions Abroad, including embassies and local consulates: [click here](#)

NOTE:

if you want to continue your studies after your visa expiration date, you will need to apply for the long term residence permit. **The earliest you can do this is 120 days** before your initial visa expires, but technically you have until the last working day before your initial visa expires.

**LONG-TERM VISA
APPLICATION
REQUIREMENTS**

APPLICATION FORM:

[Download here](#)

YOU WILL ALSO NEED

- [a valid travel document](#)
- [a photograph](#)
- [proof of accommodation](#)
- proof of enrollment in studies
- [proof of funds](#)



The documents in the application **must not be older than 180 days, except for your travel documents and your photographs** (if they still reflect how you currently look). You must either send the originals, or an officially authenticated copy, of all of the above documents.

All documents attached to the application must either be in the Czech language or be officially translated. All documents issued abroad and submitted for official purposes must be properly authenticated (Verification of Foreign Public Documents - Ministry of Interior).

If you hold a long-term residence permit or a long-stay visa for study purposes issued by a different EU member state, you may remain in the territory of the Czech Republic for up to 1 year without the need for a visa. The residence permit or the long-stay visa sticker needs to bear the note “student” and/or the name of the exchange program (if you are a part of one).

UPON REQUEST, IT MAY ALSO REQUIRED
TO ATTACH THE FOLLOWING:

- *a document similar to an extract from the Penal Register record*
- *a medical report proving the fulfilment of requirements to prevent of the spread of infectious diseases*
- (if the application is approved) *a proof of medical travel insurance*
(note: this is not required if the foreign national subscribes to public health insurance, if the costs for health care are covered based on an international agreement, or if the foreign national can demonstrate that health care is covered in another manner.)
- proof of payment for your medical travel insurance.

LONG-TERM RESIDENCE PERMIT

A long-term residence permit for the purpose of studying is intended for foreigners who will study in the Czech Republic for a **period longer than 3 months** as a part of a study programme lasting longer than 1 year. This could be a study programme at a university or higher vocational school, at a high school or conservatory via an exchange program, a specialized language preparation with subsequent university studies, and in certain cases unpaid training or volunteering.

Should the intended duration of study be longer than three months, but shorter than one year, an application for the long-term visa should be submitted. For more information about when to file an application for a long-term visa or a long-term residence permit, please see:

Long-Term Visa vs. Residence Permit - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

You can apply at the Czech consulate in your country of origin (or residence). If the application is successful, the Czech diplomatic mission will issue you a long-term visa for the purpose of collecting your long-term residence permit. You will collect the permit at the Ministry of the Interior after your arrival to the Czech Republic. **The application can be submitted at the Ministry of Interior office** if you hold a long-term visa or residence permit for another purpose and you are already in the Czech Republic. Processing times for deciding on an application can take up to 60 days. **Therefore, we strongly recommend contacting the Czech consulate well in advance.**

For the list of Czech diplomatic missions abroad, including embassies and local consulates:

[click here](#)

LONG-TERM RESIDENCE PERMIT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

APPLICATION FORM:

[click here](#)

- [a valid travel document](#)
- [a photograph](#)
- [proof of accommodation](#)
- [a document confirming the purpose of your stay in the territory](#)
- [parental consent](#)
- [proof of funds](#)

UPON REQUEST, IT IS ALSO REQUIRED TO ATTACH THE FOLLOWING:

- [a document similar to an extract from the Penal Register record](#)
- [a medical report proving the fulfilment of requirements to prevent of the spread of infectious diseases](#)

The documents in the application must not be older than 180 days, except for your travel documents and your photographs (if they still reflect how you currently look). You must either send the originals, or an officially authenticated copy, of all of the above documents. All documents attached to the application must either be in the Czech language or be officially translated. All documents issued abroad and submitted for official purposes must be properly authenticated

(Verification of Foreign Public Documents - Ministry of Interior).

If you hold a long-term residence permit or a long-stay visa for study purposes issued by a different EU member state, **you may remain in the territory of the Czech Republic for up to 1 year without the need for a visa.** The residency permit or the long-stay visa sticker needs to bear the note “student” and/or the name of the exchange program (if you are a part of one).

For further information on the Long-Term Residence Permit for the purpose of studying, visit:

Long-Term Residence: The Purpose of Studies - Ministry of Interior



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

If you are planning to stay in the Czech Republic **for more than 30 days, you are obligated to register** your place of residence in this country at the Foreign Police department within 3 days of arriving.

Foreigners Reservation System

However, in some cases, the registration is done by **your accommodation provider**. The accommodation provider has the reporting responsibility, which means that if you are staying in dormitories or at a hotel, your accommodation provider will report your place of residence for you.

Within 3 working days of entering the Czech Republic, all foreign students arriving to receive a long-term residence permit are required to report to the Ministry of the Interior's office in person to get a biometric residence card. You can also report your arrival at this time.

It is required to report a **change of residential address, name/surname, marital status, and travel document** at the relevant Ministry of Interior's office.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The next couple of pages can **help you to survive the disarray of your first months** in Prague, whether it's travelling around the city, opening a bank account, or a list of essential contacts and apps to download.

PRAGUE FOR EXPATS



TIME ZONE AND DATE FORMATS

The time zone for the Czech Republic is Central European Time (CET) **UTC +01:00**. In the summer, the time used is a Central European **Summer Time UTC +02:00**.

Daylight saving time starts on the last Sunday in March (March 28, 2021) at 02:00 AM. On this day, you have to set your clock ahead 1 hour. Daylight saving time ends on the last Sunday in October (October 31, 2021) at 03:00 AM, when the clock needs to be set back 1 hour.

The common formula for date writing is: **DD.MM.YYYY**

TIME ZONE AND DATE FORMATS

DATE	ENGLISH NAME	CZECH NAME
JANUARY 1	RESTORATION DAY OF THE INDEPENDENT CZECH STATE; NEW YEAR'S DAY JANUARY 1	DEN OBNOVY SAMOSTATNÉHO ČESKÉHO STÁTU; NOVÝ ROK
MARCH, APRIL	EASTER MONDAY	VELIKONOČNÍ PONDĚLÍ
MAY 1	LABOUR DAY	SVÁTEK PRÁCE
MAY 8	LIBERATION DAY	DEN VÍTĚZSTVÍ OR DEN OSVOBOZENÍ
JULY 5	SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS DAY	DEN SLOVANSKÝCH VĚROZVĚSTŮ CYRILA A METODĚJE
JULY 6	JAN HUS DAY	DEN UPÁLENÍ MISTRA JANA HUSA
SEPTEMBER 28	ST. WENCESLAS DAY (CZECH STATEHOOD DAY)	DEN ČESKÉ STÁTNOSTI
OCTOBER 28	INDEPENDENT CZECHOSLOVAK STATE DAY	DEN VZNIKU SAMOSTATNÉHO ČESKOSLOVENSKÉHO STÁTU
NOVEMBER 17	STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY DAY	DEN BOJE ZA SVOBODU A DEMOKRACII
DECEMBER 24	CHRISTMAS EVE	ŠTĚDRÝ DEN
DECEMBER 25	CHRISTMAS DAY	1. SVÁTEK VÁNOČNÍ
DECEMBER 26	ST. STEPHEN'S DAY (CZECH: "THE SECOND CHRISTMAS DAY")	2. SVÁTEK VÁNOČNÍ

Since 2017, a law has been in force that restricts sales in large establishments during selected holidays. Shops larger than 200 square meters have to stay closed, so don't forget to buy supplies ahead of time. You can only shop in shops smaller than 200 square meters or at petrol stations, pharmacies, shops at airports, railway stations, and hospitals.

DURING WHICH HOLIDAYS ARE THE BIG SHOPS CLOSED?

- New Year's
- Easter Monday
- Liberation day
- Czech Statehood Day
- Independent Czechoslovak State Day
- Christmas Eve (from 12:00)
- Christmas Day
- St. Stephen's Day

CURRENCY

The Czech Republic is a member of the European Union, but the currency is the **Czech Crown, not the Euro**. You can exchange your money at a bank or at exchange offices, but you should be careful with the latter as a lot of the exchange offices use unfavourable exchange rates. Alternatively, you can use an international credit card almost everywhere.

For up-to-date exchange rates, visit the [Czech National Bank websites](#).



OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

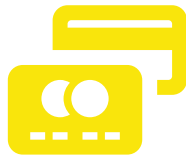
Opening a bank account in the Czech Republic is a relatively straightforward process. There are no special limitations for foreigners and the account should be ready to use within a week. The Czech Republic has plenty of banks with English-speaking staff, making it easy to open a bank account in the country. The Czech Republic hosts national retail banks as well as branches of most of the international banks.

IN GENERAL, YOU WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS TO OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC:

- a valid passport or ID
- another identity document (your driving license, birth certificate, resident card, health insurance card, or employee identification card)
- if you're a student and want to establish a student account, the bank will require a certificate of study or your visa for the Czech Republic.
- a minimum deposit (between CZK 200 and CZK 2,000 — depending on the bank) will serve as the first payment into your account.



We highly recommend calling the **chosen bank in advance of your visit**. You can contact the helpdesk or the specific branch directly and schedule an appointment with a person who speaks English. Some banks also offer an option to open an account online. However, you will still have to go to the bank the next day to sign a contract and finalize the procedure.



As you can start the process of opening a Czech account online, it is possible to get an appointment and **sign the contract within 48 working hours**. If you're applying for a debit card, it might take a few weeks before it gets delivered to your address.

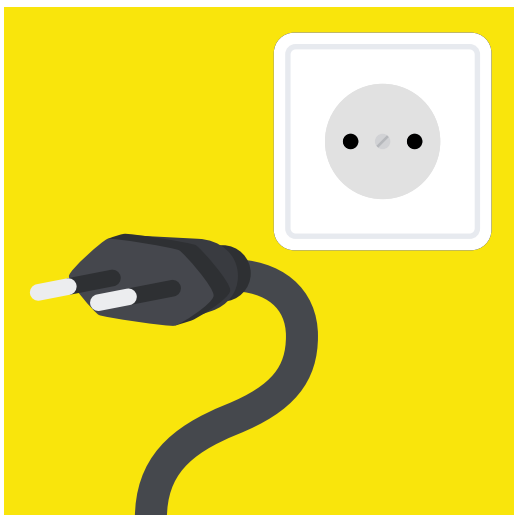
ELECTRICITY

The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in the Czech Republic if the standard voltage in your country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa). If the standard voltage in your country is in the range of 100 V - 127 V (as is in the US, Canada, and most South American countries), you will need to use a voltage converter or transformer while you are in the Czech Republic.

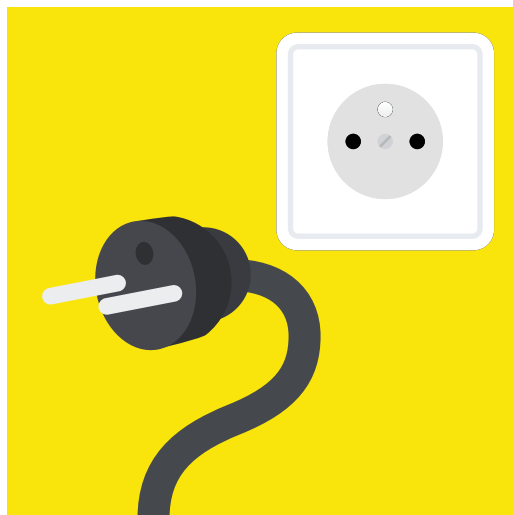
In the Czech Republic, the power plugs and sockets are of

- **type C**
- **and type E.**

Outlets have the standard European socket with two small round holes and a protruding earth (grounding) pin. Make sure to bring an adapter if you have a different plug.



TYPE C



TYPE E

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Prague has one of the best public transport systems in Europe. The trams, buses, and metro cover the majority of the city and outskirts and make getting around town especially easy. Public transport in Prague is cheap, efficient and highly integrated — meaning that a single ticket can be used for the bus, metro, tram, a number of ferries and the Petřín cable car as long as you travel within the given time.



In case you plan on staying in Prague for a longer period of time, the best option is to purchase a **long-term coupon**. There are four types in terms of validity: monthly (CZK 550), quarterly (CZK 1,480), for 5 months (CZK 2,450), or annually (CZK 3,650). If you provide a certificate of study in the Czech Republic, you can get a significant student discount.

For one-off trips, we recommend buying a single, short-term ticket. You can choose from either a 30-minute ticket or 90-minute ticket. The basic transfer ticket for an adult costs CZK 32 and is valid for 90 minutes. Tickets for CZK 24 can be used for shorter distances of up to 30 minutes. All children under six and seniors over 70 years old may use public transportation for free.

You need to **validate your ticket** by using the yellow validation machines inside trams and buses (and right before the escalators at metro stations).

You then have unlimited transfers (during the 30- or 90-minutes that your ticket is valid) between any mode of public transport, which includes the metro system as well as all city trams and buses. These same tickets are also valid for night trams, buses, and even the Petřín funicular.

WHERE TO BUY A TICKET?

- **In the yellow PID ticket machines:** you will find them in every metro station and at some bus/tram stops. The older ticket machines only accept Czech coins (koruna), while tickets from newer machines can be bought using a card.
- **At DPP information centres** and some newsagents or tobacco shops (tabák) around the city.
- **Inside some newer trams:** the contactless terminals are located in the middle section of these newer trams. The printed ticket shows the time of sale, from which its time-validity is based. You therefore don't need to validate the ticket again at the yellow validation machines.
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For long-term coupons, you can purchase a paper coupon in any of the **public transport offices**, get a **Lítačka card** (your coupon will be loaded on the card), or buy the coupons directly from the **PID Lítačka app**.



LOOKING FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT?

You may have noticed a fleet of green electric scooters around Prague, so why not try one?

It's a fast, safe and green way of getting around Prague.

Use our promo code **"PragueForExpats"** and get **30 free minutes** for your first ride.

Just download the BeRider app, create an account and you're ready to go!

ACCOMMODATION

You can choose from a variety of **long-term and short-term student accommodation in Prague**, depending on your criteria and budget. The costs usually depend on the location and quality of the accommodation.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION / DORMITORIES

Most of the students choose to live in student accommodation, **so-called “koleje.”** Each university in Prague offers the possibility to live in their university dormitories. You can expect one/two/three bedrooms units with a shared kitchen and bathroom. Rooms are equipped with basic furniture including a bed, desk, chair and wardrobe. However, it is usually up to the student to add anything else. In the kitchen, you will find again just the necessary equipment such as a cooker and fridge — other amenities such as dishes, kettles, or toasters are not typically included.

Prices vary, but the **average cost is around €120 per month** in a room shared with roommates (usually two people living in one room). The price includes bedding and bed linen, access to a shared kitchen/kitchenette and bathroom facilities, internet connection, and other utility costs.

You may either **reserve a room on your own** (usually online) or you can get more information from a study advisor or programme coordinator from your university.

For more information about university dormitories in Prague, visit **[Study in Prague websites](#)**.

PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION

Another option is to find **private accommodation or to share a flat** with either other expats or your classmates. It is common for international students to share bigger flats, especially in the city centre. Prices depend on the size, location, and equipment of the flat. The rent is about €500–800 per month for a 2–3 bedroom flat. A room in a private flat will cost about €250 per month. Be prepared to pay a deposit as well. It will be returned to you upon your departure, provided that the accommodation is left in acceptable condition.

There are several websites that offer private rooms or apartments, for example **[Bezrealitky.com](#)**, **[Expats.cz](#)**, **[Foreigners.cz](#)**, **[Forstudents.cz](#)**, or **[Sreality.cz](#)**.

You can also try your luck in dedicated Facebook groups or among your classmates.

HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTHCARE

It is the responsibility of a student to have their health insurance that meets all the legal conditions required for foreign nationals, and it must be arranged for the entire time of stay inside the Czech Republic.

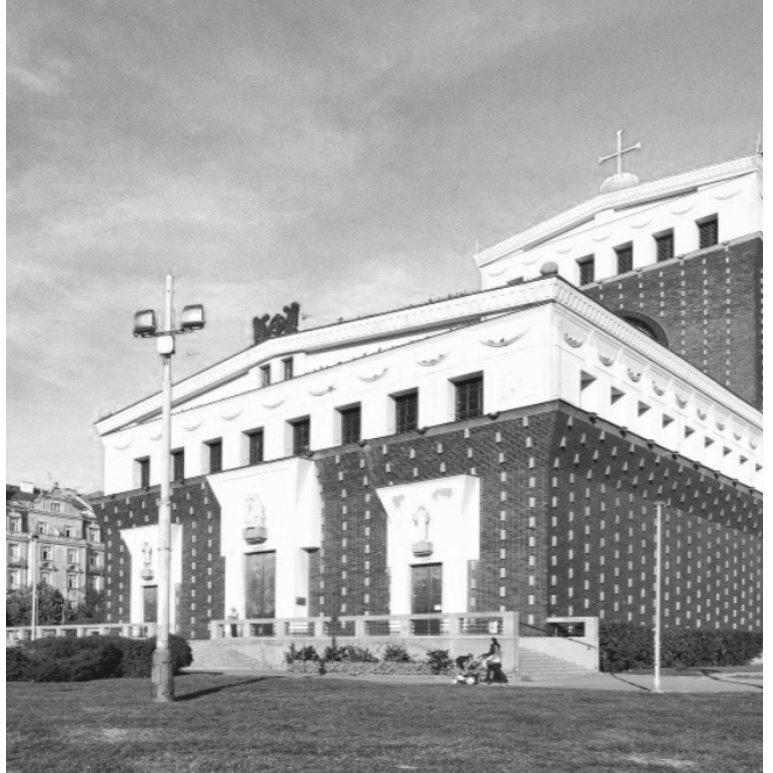
EU NATIONALS

EU students are requested to bring along a 'European Health Insurance Card' (EHIC). The students should apply for the EHIC at a national health insurance provider in their home country before departure. A valid EHIC card will give you access to state-provided health care during your temporary stay in the Czech Republic. Please note that it does not guarantee free services.

For further information visit the [*European Commission website*](#).

NON-EU NATIONALS

International students/non-EU citizens must arrange comprehensive medical insurance for the whole period of their stay inside the Czech Republic. It is recommended to choose the health insurance provider based also on which medical facilities and doctors that it has in its coverage network.



HEALTHCARE

The affordability, availability and coverage of health care in the Czech Republic is one of the highest in the entire OECD. Cheap medicine, price and reimbursement regulations, reasonable salaries, and other elements of the Czech healthcare system mean that you can expect a relatively high quality of healthcare at a very affordable cost. Care is provided to all citizens and foreigners in the Czech Republic.

The healthcare system in the Czech Republic works on the principle of general health insurance. It is paid from the public health insurance, which everyone is obliged to pay. Czech citizens, residents and employers are automatically insured under the public healthcare system and pay a certain percentage of their monthly salary to the state. The state pays for insurance for students, pensioners, and women on maternity leave. Other foreigners with a long-term stay in the Czech Republic are obliged to secure health insurance from a private provider.

The regulatory fee visiting a doctor is CZK 30. This fee is not paid in case of a preventive examination, at a counseling center for pregnant women, when the patient is a child under 18, or if the patient has not been examined by a doctor. The regulatory fee for an emergency room visit is CZK 90.



USEFUL TIPS:

- Every time you go to the hospital or to any other healthcare provider, take your **health insurance card** with you.
- Soon after moving to Prague, **register with a nearby General Practitioner (GP)** who will be your first point of contact in case of any medical issue.
- If you have a specific health issue, your GP will provide you with a written recommendation for you to **visit a specialised doctor**.
- In the case of an emergency, visit an emergency hospital, or **call 155 or 112 immediately**.

HERE IS A LIST OF ALL EMERGENCY HOSPITALS LOCATED IN THE PRAGUE AREA:

MUNICIPAL POLYCLINIC
(MĚSTSKÁ POLIKLINIKA)
SPÁLENÁ 12
110 00 PRAGUE 1

HOSPITAL NA FRANTIŠKU PRAGUE
(NEMOCNICE NA FRANTIŠKU)
NA FRANTIŠKU 847/8
110 00 PRAHA 1

GENERAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
IN PRAGUE (VŠEOBECNÁ FAKULTNÍ
NEMOCNICE V PRAZE)
U NEMOCNICE 499/2
128 08 PRAGUE 2

THOMAYER HOSPITAL
(THOMAYEROVA NEMOCNICE)
VÍDEŇSKÁ 800
140 59 PRAGUE 4

NA HOMOLCE HOSPITAL
(NEMOCNICE NA HOMOLCE)
ROENTGENOVA 37
150 00 PRAGUE 5

MILITARY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL PRAGUE
(ÚSTŘEDNÍ VOJENSKÁ NEMOCNICE)
U VOJENSKÉ NEMOCNICE 1200,
169 02 PRAGUE 6

AN OVERVIEW OF EMERGENCY PHARMACIES OPERATING NON-STOP:

- **Prague 1** - Palackého Emergency Pharmacy, Palackého 5
- **Prague 2** - Emergency pharmacy U Svaté Ludmily, Belgická 37
- **Prague 4** - Emergency pharmacy - TN pharmacy, Vídeňská 800
- **Prague 5** - Emergency Pharmacy of the University Hospital in Motol, V Úvalu 84
- **Prague 7** - Emergency pharmacy BENU Pharmacy, Františka Křížka22
- **Prague 8** - Emergency pharmacy - Institutional pharmacy Na Bulovce, Budínova 67/2
- **Prague 10** - Pharmacy Poliklinika Malešice, Plaňanská 573/1
- **Prague 11** - Pharmacy Šustova, Šustova 1930/2

BULOVKA HOSPITAL

(NEMOCNICE NA BULOVCE)

BUDÍNOVA 67/2

180 81, PRAGUE 8

POLYCLINIC PROSEK

(POLIKLINIKA PROSEK)

LOVOSICKÁ 440

190 00 PRAGUE 9

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL VINOHRADY

(FAKULTNÍ NEMOCNICE KRÁLOVSKÉ
VINOHRADY)

ŠROBÁROVA 1150/50

100 34 PRAGUE 10

MOTOL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

(FAKULTNÍ NEMOCNICE V MOTOLE)

V ÚVALU 84

150 06 PRAGUE 5

Motol hospital has extensive websites in English
dedicated to health care services for foreigners.

You can find their websites here:

Foreign and Private Patient Department - FN Motol

USEFUL LINKS:

- ***An overview of the Czech health insurance system*** - Palackého Emergency Pharmacy, Palackého 5
- ***Study in the Czech Republic's*** - section on Medical care and insurance
- ***Infocizinci website's*** - overview of health insurance for foreigners
- ***Euraxess Czech Republic's*** - report on health insurance in the Czech Republic

MOBILE PHONE PLANS

There are three main mobile network providers in the Czech Republic: [Vodafone](#), [T-Mobile](#) and [Telefónica O2](#), and they are all comparable in terms of services and prices.

All three offer 4G/LTE coverage on pre-paid plans or a contract which usually run for a minimum of 24 months. The price of a prepaid SIM card differs according to the services and usually costs around CZK 200–500. Part of that money is also your starting credit. Prices for calls within the Czech Republic range from CZK 3–7 per minute, and SMS messages cost between CZK 1–4.

Read [Student Zone Prague's guide](#) on getting a Czech phone number to find out more.

DRIVING

IN ORDER TO DRIVE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, YOU MUST HAVE REACHED THE MINIMUM AGE REQUIRED TO DRIVE/RIDE A VEHICLE AND HOLD A VALID DRIVING LICENCE.

When driving in the Czech Republic the following documents should be carried:

- Full, valid driving licence
- ID or a passport
- Vehicle registration certificate (so-called small technical license)
- Proof of Insurance (so-called green card)

In case your driving license was issued by a Member State of the **EU, or in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland**, your driving license will be valid in the territory of the Czech Republic and there is no need to exchange it for a Czech driving license.

If you are a citizen of a **non-EU country** and your driving license does not meet the conditions of road traffic in the Czech Republic, you may drive in the Czech Republic under the condition that you obtain an International Driving Permit (IDP) to accompany your license. Please note that an IDP does not replace the driving license. You must carry your current driving license together with IDP with you all the time when driving in the Czech Republic.

Short term visitors to the Czech Republic who hold a driving license issued in a country outside of the EU may retain and use their driving license as long as it complies with the conditions of road traffic in the Czech Republic. To drive in the Czech Republic, **both long-term residents who intend to stay in the country for more than 1 year and permanent residents** are required to obtain a Czech driving license. This must be done within 3 months from when you receive your long-term stay or permanent residence.

Czech driving licences are valid for 10 years.

For further information, read [our article on Driving in the Czech Republic](#). More information can be found in the [Driving licence exchange and recognition in the EU – Czechia](#) section on the European Union websites.

WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING

Waste in Prague is collected using container posts, curbside collection, and permanent drop-off centres. About **99% of households** use the system of container posts with recycling stations where you bring and separate your waste. The collection is provided by four specialized companies. The frequency of pick-up ranges from once every 14 days to 7 times a week.



Recycling has increased significantly over the recent years. The residents of Prague have the opportunity to **recycle paper and cardboard, coloured and clear glass, plastics, beverage cartons, sizable waste, hazardous waste, mixed waste, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, electrical and wooden waste, construction debris, tires, green maintenance waste**. A large part of the mixed waste collected in Prague is used for generating energy.

Among most common containers that you can find in Prague are:

- Blue - Paper/Cardboard (papír)
- Yellow - Plastic (plasty)
- Green - Glass (sklo)
- Orange - Beverage Containers (nápojové kartony, tetrapak)

Since 2020, Prague has been expanding its services in the area of biowaste collection with city-wide container collection of **plant biowaste in brown containers**.

How to sort a good way provides a simple overview of what you can or cannot put in the containers.



In most areas of the city, the Prague services take care of the regular collection of containers at street stations of sorted waste. ***Map of recycling stations*** in Prague created by the city of Prague contains all of the locations of Prague's recycling bins, the type and number of containers present and how often they are emptied.

TIPPING

Tipping in the Czech Republic is commonly expected because the tip is usually not included in the bill. If you were satisfied with the service, it is **polite to leave 10–15%** of the amount of your bill as a tip. However, tipping is not mandatory.

The most common way is to hand the tip together with the amount of your bill to the waiter when they come to collect and say thank you which translates as **“děkuji.”** If you want to pay with a credit card, you need to tell the waiter/waitress in advance to add the tip to the bill, as there will be no place to fill it in later.



PRAGUE MULTILINGUAL MEDIAS

- Euronews
- Expats.cz
- PragueLife
- Prague Monitor
- Prague Morning
- Radio Prague International

ESSENTIAL APPS



FIRST AID & HEALTHCARE

- Záchranka



BIKE SHARING SERVICE

- Rekola



MAPS

- Mapy.cz



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- PID Lítačka
- PID info
- IDOS
- CG Transit
- Prague Airport



PARKING

- Parkuj v klidu
- eParkomat
- Citymove
- MPLA



TAXI SERVICE

- Liftago
- Bolt
- Uber



FOOD DELIVERY

- Wolt
- Dáme jídlo
- Bolt Food



ONLINE SUPERMARKETS

- Rohlík
- Košík
- iTesco



LEARNING CZECH

- Duolingo
- DIC-o Czech-English dictionary



APPLICATIONS FOR FOREIGNERS LIVING IN PRAGUE

- Prager
- Moje Praha (Czech only)
- Map of the Škoda Palace



CULTURAL TIPS AND TICKETS (CONCERTS, THEATRES, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.)

- GoOut

ESSENTIAL CONTACT NUMBERS

GENERAL EMERGENCY NUMBER:	112
FIRE BRIGADE:	150
MEDICAL EMERGENCY/AMBULANCE:	155
POLICE:	158
MUNICIPAL POLICE:	156
THE CITY HALL:	12 444
PRAGUE TRUST HELPLINE:	222 580 697
EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE:	1 240
PRAGUE PUBLIC TRANSIT COMPANY HELPLINE:	296 191 817
FREE SAFETY HELPLINE:	800 155 155
LOST & FOUND IN PRAGUE:	224 235 085
EXPAT CENTRE PRAGUE:	778 479 925



OUR MISSION IS TO HELP ALL THE EXPATS IN PRAGUE.

It doesn't matter whether you already live in our city or if you're still thinking about moving. We are ready to assist you with any problem you might face.

We provide information and support with all kinds of situations related to a professional or private start in Prague. Role of the Expat Centre is to **make the process of settling as easy as possible**, whether you want to study, work or do business in Prague.

The Expat Centre Prague offers **free telephone and online consultations**, as well as a possibility of booking an individual consultation in our beautiful office at Škodův palác. Besides, a variety of events and workshops organized by the Expat Centre provide an ideal networking opportunity for all expats living in Prague.

The Expat Centre is your connection to the city administration and a **first step to your effortless start** in Prague. All our services are free of charge.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US



Book your consultation at expat@praha.eu