# THE UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY IN KOŠICE

Komenského 73, 041 81 Košice, Slovak Republic

## PRACTICAL STUDENT GUIDE

(for students beginning their studies at the UVMP in Košice)



# THE UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY IN KOŠICE

Komenského 73, 041 81 Košice, Slovak Republic

## PRACTICAL STUDENT GUIDE

(for students beginning their studies at the UVMP in Košice)

**Title:** Practical student guide (for students beginning their studies at

the UVMP in Košice)

**Prepared by:** Association of Pharmacy Students in Košice

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# 1 UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY IN KOŠICE

Dear student,

Welcome to the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice (UVMP in Košice). We believe that your study years will be written down in your memory as one of the best years of your life.

#### 1.1 Košice

Košice (Slovak pronunciation: ['koʃitse]) is the biggest city in eastern Slovakia and with a population of more than 240,000, Košice is the second largest city in Slovakia after the capital Bratislava.

Being the economic and cultural centre of eastern Slovakia, Košice is the seat of the Košice Region and Košice Self-governing Region, the Slovak Constitutional Court, three universities, various

Coat of arms Region, the Slovak Constitutional Court, three universities, various dioceses, and many museums, galleries, and theatres. Košice is also an important industrial centre of Slovakia and the town has extensive railway connections and an international airport.

The city has a well-preserved historical centre, which is the largest among Slovak towns. There are many heritage protected buildings in Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, and Art Nouveau styles with Slovakia's largest church: the St. Elisabeth Cathedral. The long main street, rimmed with aristocratic palaces, Catholic churches, and townsfolk's houses, is a thriving pedestrian zone with many boutiques, cafés, and restaurants. The city is well known as the first settlement in Europe to be granted its own coat-of-arms.

In 2013, Košice was awarded the title of European Capital of Culture, in 2016 it received the title of European Capital of Sport, since 2016 it hosts prestigious international film festival Art Film Fest and in 2019 Košice has become European Capital of Volunteering. There is no time to be bored, as the cultural scene is always very exciting, with exhibitions, concerts, street entertainment, and arts to suit every season.

## 1.2 History of UVMP in Košice

Origins of the UVMP in Košice were quite difficult. Here you can find the most significant dates related to its history:

- ► Ending of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War suggestion for Veterinary College establishment
- ➤ <u>May 17, 1949</u> Ladislav Novomeský's order for the Bureau of the Communist Party in which he advocated Veterinary College establishment in Slovakia

- ➤ May 21, 1949 meeting of the Government Commission for Agriculture and Education representatives about suitable placement of the college in Bratislava or in Košice
- ➤ <u>June 27, 1949</u> request to start with preparation for enactment of Veterinary College in Slovakia
- ➤ August 16, 1949 initiation of preparation to open the new college
- ➤ September 24, 1949 daily press release for applicants (Slovak high school graduates), who applied for veterinary medicine either to Košice or to Brno, that on September 30, 1949 entrance examination will be held at a rector's office of the Veterinary College in Košice, registration to the first year took place on October 3, 1949
- > School started its activities in humble conditions and actually with no equipment; deficiencies were compensated with enthusiasm and hard work of students, employees and teachers
- October 12, 1949 the first rector, prof. Ján Hovorka, DVM, was appointed by Laco Novomeský, the commissioner of education
- ➤ The Veterinary College in Košice was officially established from the school year 1949/1950 by the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 1/16.12.1949 of the Civil Code, part 1, published on January 6, 1950
- ➤ <u>September 1, 1952</u> merger of the Veterinary College in Košice and Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry in Košice led to establishment of the College of Agriculture in Nitra
- > year 1968 effort to return autonomy to the both universities
- ➤ <u>December 19, 1968</u> approval of the government bill at the soil of National Assembly about establishment of Veterinary College in Brno and Košice
- year 1992 the name was changed to the University of Veterinary Medicine in Košice
- ➤ <u>December 1, 2009</u> the National Council of the Slovak Republic approved a new name, **the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice**, coming into force from January 15, 2010

Changes of the university name were connected with changes of its logo but the logo kept the form and colours used for the Veterinary College in Košice. It was made of a bevelled letter "V" and Esculap's stick with a wrapped snake. In 2008, its redesign was done into the circle shape and the name was written around the circle's circumference. The change of the university name in 2010 took the new study programme into consideration resulting in adding the pharmaceutical scales and name's complementation into the existing logo.



Insignia, university logo

#### 1.3 About UVMP in Košice

The UVMP in Košice is the only institution of its kind in the Slovak Republic. It is a mono-faculty university which provides education for more than 2,000 Slovak and 400 foreign students in accredited study programmes. The university provides veterinary education in English language for more than 30 years.

Study programmes in English language:

- General Veterinary Medicine 6 years of study, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree
- ➤ <u>Veterinary Nurse</u> 3 years of study, Bachelor degree
- ➤ <u>Animal Science</u> (together with Nord University, Bodø, Norway) 3 years of study, Bachelor degree

The UVMP in Košice is fully approved and accredited by European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) and degrees obtained at the UVMP in Košice are automatically accepted in countries of the European Union and in several other countries of the world. The university is ranked among the best veterinary universities in Europe due to its unique orientation on the field of veterinary medicine and pharmacy, high level of qualification of academic personnel, research activities, practical preparation, employability of its graduates as well as the success in evaluation by external ranking and rating agencies.

More information on www.uvlf.sk/en or www.facebook.com/uvlf.sk

#### 1.4 Management and Academic Senate of UVMP in Košice

The UVMP in Košice has its organizational structure which is similar to other institutions. Management of the university is led by a Rector and Vice-Rectors who, along with a Bursar and an Academic Senate, are responsible for running the university.

TIP: Look at the photos of the UVMP Management carefully to be able to recognize them and in case of casual meeting around the campus, don't forget to show your respect by greeting them.



Prof. Jozef Nagy, DVM, PhD Rector



Martin Tomko, DVM, PhD Vice-Rector for Education



Assoc. prof. Jana Koščová, DVM, PhD Vice-Rector for Science, Research, PhD Study and International Relations



Assoc. prof. Zuzana Kostecká, DVM, PhD Vice-Rector for University Development and Quality Assurance



Boris Vojtek, DVM, PhD Vice-Rector for Clinical Activities and Professional Relations



Ing. Róbert Schréter, PhD Bursar



Prof. Slavomír Marcinčák, DVM, PhD Chairman of the Academic Senate

Academic Senate of the UVMP in Košice consists of elected representatives from academia (university teachers, scientists and UVMP students) with deliberative vote. It is the highest autonomous (initiative, controlling, coordinating and normative) representative body of the university. There are 27 members; 18 employees and 9 students, including PhD students. One Senate's tenure lasts for four years.

Every student has a right to become a member of the Academic Senate to represent needs of students or control running the university. You can contact the student members in case of any problem, each of them will try to help. You may find the contacts at <a href="https://www.uvlf.sk/en/university-authorities/academic-senate">https://www.uvlf.sk/en/university-authorities/academic-senate</a>

#### Students Chamber members

- 1. Dominik Borčík
- 2. Nikol Brázdovičová
- 3. Timotej Drábek
- 4. Dávid Frandel
- 5. Adam Körosi
- 6. Jaroslav Bučan, DVM
- 7. Miloš Marcinčák
- 8. Svetlana Bačiaková
- 9. Jana Morochovičová

#### 1.5 Study Office

Study Office for Study Programmes in English Language is situated in the pavilion 14, in the building above canteen. Staff of the office is there to help you deal with any study related questions, concerns or problems and also advise you in any situations that may occur during your stay at the university.

#### Head of the office

Martin Tomko, DVM, PhD. (Vice-Rector for Education)

Contact: +421 918 413 553; martin.tomko@uvlf.sk

There are three members of the office staff and besides dealing with general study issues, each one has her specific responsibilities:

#### Study Office for Study Programmes in English Language

#### Michaela Paulíková, Ing.

Contact: +421 915 742 534; <u>zas@uvlf.sk</u>

Main responsibilities: organisation of academic year, timetables, student records and registration, AIS

#### Lenka Onda, Mgr.

Contact: +421 915 984 004; <u>zas@uvlf.sk</u>

Main responsibilities: application process, nostrification process, accommodation

## Diana Sokoliová, Mgr.

Contact: +421 917 841 426; <u>zas@uvlf.sk</u>

Main responsibilities: payment of fees, organisation of state exams, theses

submission and defences

#### Opening hours

	During academic year	Between July 15 and August 15
Monday:	08:30 - 11:00	08:30 - 11:00
Tuesday:	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wednesday:	12:30 - 14:30	08:30 - 11:00
Thursday:	12:30 - 14:30	CLOSED
Friday:	08:30 - 11:00	08:30 - 11:00



Study Office for Study Programmes in English Language, Pavilion 14

## 1.6 Study advisor (year tutor)

If you need help with something, you may contact also a study advisor (year tutor) appointed for your particular class and study programme. He/she is there to assist students in their adaptation to new studies at UVMP and to a stay in the Slovak Republic, with particular emphasis on the first weeks of their stay. Study advisor provides advice, support and consultation in solving student's study-related problems, cooperates with the Study Office and performs professional supervision throughout the whole study.

## 1st year of General Veterinary Medicine study programme, class 2024

## Assoc. prof. Lenka Krešáková, DVM, PhD

Department of Morphological Disciplines

Contact: +421 907 796 772; <a href="mailto:lenka.kresakova@uvlf.sk">lenka.kresakova@uvlf.sk</a>

2<sup>nd</sup> year of Animal Science study programme, class 2023

## Assoc. prof. Gabriela Štrkolcová, DVM, PhD

Department of Epizootology, Parasitology and Protection of One Health

Contact: +421 907 798 819; gabriela.strkolcova@uvlf.sk

#### 1.7 Information and Communication Technologies

Information and Communication Technologies (IT department) can be found in the pavilion 5 on the second floor.

You need to contact IT department in case you want to get university Wi-Fi internet access or there are problems with it, then when you have issues with your university e-mail account and you have issues with your student ISIC card.

#### Opening hours

Monday:	09:00 - 11:00
Tuesday:	CLOSED
Wednesday:	13:00 - 15:00
Thursday:	09:00 - 11:00
Friday:	09:00 - 11:00

## 1.8 University Library and Editorial Centre

Library can be found in the pavilion 7 on the second floor. It is multifunctional building, where you can find all available information, answers to "everything" concerning the study and other useful information. On the first floor you can find lending room and editorial centre and bookshop, on the second floor there is computer room and videoconferencing room and on the third floor multifunctional and multimedia study room is located.



Library, Editorial Centre and Bookshop, Pavilion 7

"Membership" at the Library, which costs 7 EUR, is paid every year. If you follow library and lending regulations you will avoid paying fines. Membership fee is a single payment for all available services.

In the study room on the third floor there are available all titles of recommended study literature, which you can study during the opening hours. In addition, a collection of professional literature is available arranged according to the subject keywords and you can find also specialized journals in different languages from all over the world. In the higher years you will use reference services for writing your seminar, yearly, scientific or final works. Reference services are entries into the databases, excerpts of acquired data and their processing according to the given topic. Entry into the online database is connected to the IP addresses of the university, therefore there are PCs available in the study room serving for this purpose. Login is the same as to the AIS.

You can borrow the books for one semester (180 days) and you can extend the lending period twice, if your study requires it. Be careful to return exactly the same title, according to the registration number, in a preserved state. You have to bring a new book in case the borrowed one is lost or destroyed. If you return book with different number than borrowed, you will return the book of your colleague while your lending period is still running.

In the section "Library" at the university website you can find online catalogue of books. If you are registered, you can send messages, extend your lending periods, search for books you need and find out if they are available or borrowed. In the virtual library section you will find a list of available electronic information sources (databases), which you will use in higher years of study.

TIP: In Košice there are many other professional libraries situated, you can find them easily with Google. However, in the university library, you will find everything necessary to study. Use your time effectively and note that study room is open even on Saturday!

On the first floor there is Editorial Centre where you can buy scripts and other required study literature.

### Opening hours

	-		
	Study room	Library lending room	Editorial Centre
Monday:	09:00 - 16:00	13:00-15:30	09:00-12:00; 13:00-
Tuesday:	08:00 - 18:00	08:30-12:00	15:00
Wednesday:	08:00 - 18:00	08:30-12:00;13:00-15:30	09:00-12:00; 13:00-
Thursday:	08:00 - 18:00	08:30-12:00	15:00
Friday:	08:00 - 15:00	CLOSED	09:00-12:00; 13:00-
Saturday:	09:00 - 17:00		15:00
			09:00-12:00; 13:00-
			15:00
			09:00-12:00

#### 1.9 Special interest clubs

Your skills and knowledge can be improved within extracurricular activities, such as student clubs with different focus. All you need to do is choose a club and apply. Clubs help you to gain a lot of new information, study in a different way and you get to know new people with similar interests.

#### **AQUA TERRA club**

Students working in Aqua Terra (AT) club are dedicated to breeding exotic fish, reptiles and amphibians. In addition to aquariums and terrariums with many rare species, there is also breeding of mice, guinea pigs and crickets. Membership in AT club brings students unique opportunity to learn many things about breeding and fixation, but also about diseases of exotic animals.

Tutors: Vladimír Petrilla, DVM, PhD; Miloš Halán, DVM, PhD; aquaterra@uvlf.sk

#### Cynological club UVMP

Cynological club brings together students who are dedicated to training staff dogs. They actively participate in competitions and prepare their dogs for performance tests. Many are also dedicated to dog breeding and successfully represent UVMP at exhibitions. Every year they organize a race for the Rector's cup. Training is conducted at the training area Anička or at the UVMP cynological complex Za hat'ou.

Tutor: Renáta Karolová, Ing.; kk@uvlf.sk

## **Hunting cynology club**

Club brings together students who are dedicated to training hunting dog breeds. Training is conducted at the UVMP cynological complex Za hat'ou. They cooperate with University Facility for Breeding and Diseases of Game, Fish and Bees in Rozhanovce.

Tutor: Assoc. prof. Peter Lazár, DVM, PhD; <u>kpk@uvlf.sk</u>

### **Cynological club DARCO**

DARCO is a club of dog trainers, breeders and owners of various breeds and crossbreeds, with a focus on training in agility, dogdancing, obedience, canistherapy and rescue work.

Tutor: Ján Čurlík, DVM, PhD; kkdarco@uvlf.sk

#### **Breeders club**

Breeders club brings together people interested in husbandry, breeding and exhibiting of rabbits, pigeons, fowls and small rodents with a certificate of origin. Its mission is to create and enhance relationship to husbandry, breeding and knowledge of breeds of rabbits, pigeons, fowls and small rodents.

Tutor: František Zigo, DVM, PhD; chk@uvlf.sk

#### Flora club

Members of Flora club are dedicated to cultivation of medicinal, decorative and exotic plants.

Tutor: Miriam Bačkorová, RNDr., PhD; Jozef Tóth, Ing.; fk@uvlf.sk

#### Small mammal and exotic bird breeders club

Club is a club of breeders and owners of small mammals and exotic birds. Club fulfils its mission by developing and improving relationship to breeding, animal ethology or anatomy knowledge, by supporting professional development of its members through contact with common diseases of small animals and their therapy, by cooperation with experts in the field, and by implementation of temporary care for homeless animals.

Tutor: Edina Sesztáková, DVM, PhD; kchmcev@uvlf.sk

#### Falconry and raptor rehabilitation club

Falconry and raptor rehabilitation club is a club of breeders and trainers of birds of prey. The primary objective of the club is to create conditions and provide care for disabled and rehabilitated birds of prey that come to clinics and chain of rehabilitation stations in Slovak Republic. Clinical treatment is carried out as a part of practical clinical experience, which increases its attractiveness; students participate in national and international activities.

Tutor: Ladislav Molnár, DVM, PhD; ksrd@uvlf.sk

#### Mineralogy club

Mineralogy club is a club of students interested in mineralogy, paleontology, geology, collecting of minerals and fossils in the field and subsequent cleaning, archiving and exhibiting minerals in the UVMP collection.

Tutor: Prof. Peter Popelka, DVM, PhD; <u>mk@uvlf.sk</u>

#### Bee breeders club

Club brings together breeders of bees and other beneficial insects (solitary bees and bumblebees). Club fulfils its mission by developing and improving relationship to breeding of bees and other beneficial insects, to bee products, by building relationship to the nature and by promoting ecological approach to bee breeding.

Tutor: Rastislav Sabo, DVM, PhD; vk@uvlf.sk

#### Hygiena Alimentorum club

Club brings together students of all study programs interested in fulfilment of the following club mission: to provide practical demonstrations and support of pedagogical process in focusing on food hygiene, to promote the interest about food hygiene and quality, to organize professional lectures, workshops, and the education of food products and their quality, and to help in the development of public life and other forms

of health. Club also cooperates with organizations involved in the food processing and production of animal and plant origin.

Tutor: Boris Semjon, DVM, PhD; kha@uvlf.sk

#### Cat Care Club

The Cat Care Club provides a space for growth of a community of cat welfare advocates. The club fulfils this mission by providing opportunities for club members' complementary education in the field of therapy, management and welfare of domestic cats; communicating knowledge on cat care to UVMP students and staff, and to general public; collaborating with volunteering organisations helping cats; and participating in the university's research activities in the areas of feline medicine and welfare.

Tutor: Noema Gajdoš Kmecová, DVM, PhD; ksm@uvlf.sk

### **Sports**

"Slávia" UVMP club has basketball, volleyball, water polo, karate and canoeing teams. The Riding Club has also a long tradition. Riding and show-jumping are the main activities.

## International Veterinary Student's Association (IVSA)

The International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA) is a non-profit organization run by volunteer veterinary students that was founded in 1953.

The mission of IVSA is "To benefit the animals and people of the world by harnessing the potential and dedication of veterinary students to promote the international application of veterinary skills, education and knowledge." IVSA helps to expand the worldwide collaboration of over thirty thousand students, enriching their student experience and improving their skills as future veterinarians. The way in which this is achieved is by arranging annual meetings (congresses and symposia), facilitating exchanges between our members and many projects and educational opportunities focusing on animal welfare, one health, education, soft skills and wellness.

IVSA allows students of the UVMP to acquire professional experience abroad, organizes group exchanges with foreign veterinary universities, informs about international events in other countries, provides participation of UVMP students at student congresses and symposia, and is involved in organization of social and sporting events at the UVMP campus.

Tutor: Monika Drážovská, DVM, PhD; ivsaslovakia@gmail.com

#### Association of Norwegian Students Abroad (ANSA)

ANSA Košice is a local team of organization ANSA, which is an Association of Norwegian Students Abroad. Here in Košice, members are mostly veterinary students studying at UVMP but also an increasing number of Norwegian medicine students studying in Košice. This organization is here to help its members when needed, for example in case of emergencies, consultations about legal rights or insurance, or just being someone to talk to. The local team, among other social events where students can

come together, also arranges events like celebration of Norway's constitution day or the traditional "julebord".

Contact: kosice@ansa.no

#### ARDO - UVMP student's magazine

Student's magazine was published for the first time in 2010. Behind its origin stands enthusiasm of students who felt an absence of media, which would address students of all study programmes of our university. Paper version of the magazine has proved to be still the most interesting form of communication with the general public readership. The magazine is published twice a semester.

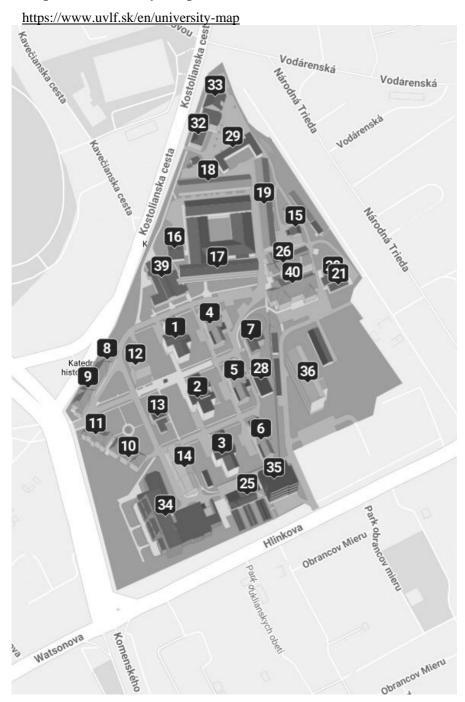
Tutor: Lýdia Mesarčová, DVM, PhD; ardo.redakcia@uvlf.sk

### FX News – Student's magazine of Pharmacy study programme

#### Association of Pharmacy Students in Košice

Tutor: Štefánia Laca Megyesi, PharmD, PhD

## 1.10 Map of the university campus





Aula (P34)



Old Anatomical Auditorium (P39)



Chemical Pavilion (P35)



Clinical Pavilion and University Pharmacy (P17)



Pharmaceutical Pavilion (P36)

#### 2 STUDY LIFE

#### 2.1 Study at UVMP in Košice

#### **Study guidelines**

Study Guidelines of the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice are internal regulation of the university, which specify rules applicable to studies, describe study system and answer various study issues. Following study guidelines is mandatory for all students, teachers and others who participate in the provision of studies (e.g. staff at the Study Office, etc.).

TIP: It is recommended to read the entire study guidelines carefully to get familiar with them and use them for study advice. They are your study "Bible" and are available at the UVMP website in the section University/Documents/Internal rules

#### Academic year

Each year of study is represented by an academic year. Academic year begins on September 1 of current year and ends on August 31 of the following year. Within one academic year, the study is divided into two semesters (winter and spring). Each semester consists of the education period in the duration of 13 weeks and the examination period. Education period is dedicated to attending classes (lectures and practices), examination period is dedicated to completion of exams. Please be aware that spring examination period ends sooner than the academic year.

At the beginning of each academic year student has to complete registration for the study, which is mandatory for all students and its date, place and method is determined by the Rector. Without such registration you will not be able to attend classes or participate in the teaching process.

## Study subjects

There are three types of study subjects included in study plan for each particular year:

- compulsory subjects student has to register for and pass all of them without exception
- compulsory optional subjects student has to register for and pass each year at least two such subjects from a given list
- > optional subjects student may or may not choose such subject

## Attendance of lectures and practices

All practical classes are compulsory to attend. In each subject you can miss up to 3 classes each semester to be still able to complete the subject. If you miss just one class, you don't have to compensate, but if you miss two or three classes, you have to

compensate all, even the first one (usually in the first three weeks after the end of semester). If you can't attend the practical class with your group but you attend it in the same week with another one (after teacher's approval), it is not understood as missed class. Sometimes even lectures are compulsory, but it must be announced by a particular guarantor of a subject at the first lecture of semester, and attending certain percentage of lectures may be required for successful completion of the subject too. Make sure that whatever you do, you always communicate with the assigned teacher for the given class or the guarantor of the subject.

**TIP:** When you miss any class, contact the guarantor of such subject as soon as possible to explain your reasons for not attending and to agree on a specific way of compensation. If it is possible, excuse yourself in advance.

#### **Credits**

A credit (not to be confused with a number of credits) is awarded in each subject after the end of semester education period and completion of certain requirements. If the subject ends also with an exam, you can take the exam only after gaining a credit in such subject. Requirements for gaining a credit are specified by a particular guarantor of a subject and you will be informed about them at the first lecture of a semester (requirements should be published also in a written form). If you don't gain a credit in a regular term, you still have a right for two retake dates, but you have to gain all credits by a specific time (if you don't gain them, you need to repeat the subject next year):

- in winter semester, credits need to be gained one week before beginning of spring semester
- > in spring semester, credits need to be gained by July 14

TIP: More information can be found in Study Guidelines, Article 15.

#### Exams

As mentioned above, if you want to take an exam, you need to gain the credit first. After that, you can choose from examination dates in the Academic information system (AIS) and arrive on time at a specified place. It is adequate, even desirable, to dress decently.

Exams differ from each other. The forms are written, oral, oral and written, oral and practical, written and practical. Guarantor of subject defines the form and percentage that has to be achieved by student to pass the exam successfully. Grades are awarded according to a six-point grading scale — A to E passed, FX failed. If you fail on your regular term, you still have a right for two retake dates. If this is still not enough, you can request a third exceptional retake date (also called rector's term), but only two such dates within two years.

If you don't pass all your exams for the winter semester by the end of its examination period, you will have an opportunity to pass them also during examination period of spring semester.

Within specified timeframe you can register and deregister for an exam without loss of a term. Afterwards, if you are not able to take an exam on the registered date, you have to submit an excuse to the examiner in advance or for serious reasons, you can submit adequate excuse document within 5 days after the date.

TIP: More information can be found in Study Guidelines, Article 18, 19, 20. All exams for the entire examination period should be announced by the guarantor at least 3 weeks before the end of education period. You should take time to prepare your "examination strategy" and plan the dates ahead.

#### Requirements for registration for the following year of study

At the beginning of each academic year you register for subjects in such total number of credits and of such type (compulsory, compulsory optional, and optional) so that in each stage of study evaluation you meet requirements for continuation with your studies into the following year. Students advance to the following year of study, if they:

- ➤ gain all credits, pass all exams, and gain the relevant number of credits, specified in their study plan, by the end of spring examination period
- ➤ fail to gain all credits or pass all exams, specified in their study plan, by the end of spring examination period, but they manage to gain the minimum number of credits specified in paragraph 6, Article 21 of Study Guidelines.

Subjects, in which you haven't managed to gain credit or pass exam by the end of spring examination period, can be repeated once more. However, you can't exceed the standard duration of particular study programme for more than two years.

If you fail to gain the minimum number of credits, you will be excluded from the studies.

## Student rights and obligations

All rights and obligations of students are included in Section 69, 70 and 71 of the Act on Universities, in the UVMP Statute and in Study Guidelines. Besides others, they are:

- > students who have to pay tuition and other study related fees are required to pay by the date specified in internal regulation No. 38, Scholarship and Fees Related to Studies at the UVMP in Košice, applicable to a current academic year; otherwise they might get excluded from the studies
  - fees has to be paid by bank transfer, but in certain cases, they can be paid at the UVMP cash desk (pavilion 9), with opening hours:

 $\begin{array}{lll} \mbox{Monday:} & 10:00-11:30; \ 12:30-14:30 \\ \mbox{Tuesday:} & 10:00-11:30; \ 12:30-14:30 \\ \mbox{Wednesday:} & 10:00-11:30; \ 12:30-14:30 \\ \mbox{Thursday:} & 10:00-11:30; \ 12:30-14:30 \\ \mbox{Friday:} & 10:00-11:30 \\ \end{array}$ 

- > students have to inform the Study Office in writing about any changes in their personal data within 8 working days of such change
- > students have to carry with them, during the entire teaching process, including the exams, a student's identity card (student ISIC card)
- > without teacher's consent, students are not allowed to make any audio or audiovisual records of teaching process, nor distribute such records
- > students have a right to inspect their corrected credit tests, exam tests, or any other written tests

### 2.2 Academic Information System (AIS)

AIS is a complex information system used for management of your studies – creating an enrolment list of subjects, registering for an examinations, keeping record of your grades, evaluating subjects and teachers, course information letters, etc.

TIP: Try to get familiar with the AIS as soon as possible because it will be an important part of your study life. If you don't know how to do something in AIS, you can use section Manuals or ask at the Study Office.

#### Log in and password extension

At the beginning of your studies you are given your log in data to AIS (unique username and default password) at registration to the university. You are required to change the default password after your first entry, it is done through section User administration system and such password is active for three years (see expiration period). You have to renew it (change it again) before the end of expiration period, because you will lose access to your account. Access to your account will be also blocked if you use an incorrect password 3 times in a row. In both cases, you need to contact the Study Office.

## **Subject registration**

At the beginning of each academic year, you have to create your own enrolment list of subjects in AIS for that particular academic year. Within specified timeframe, you have to register for all required subjects, which, once registered, will become mandatory for you to attend. You register for subjects from the whole year, not only winter semester. Adding any subject into the enrolment list after registration period is allowed upon fine of 10 EUR.

## Exam registration and deregistration

Guarantors have to announce examination dates in AIS at least three weeks before the end of semester for the entire examination period. Maximal number of students for a particular exam date is limited, but throughout the examination period has to comply with formula for calculating number of dates and students. Registration for exams is available from the beginning of each examination period, and the guarantors set timeframe during which you may register and deregister for a particular date. According to study guidelines, you should be able to register for a particular date at least 5 days before. If you find out that the date you chose is not suitable anymore, you can cancel it not later than 3 days before the date and register for another. However, some guarantors apply less strict rules to the registration and deregistration settings.

TIP: To register for dates you want and not to miss anything important, you need to check AIS regularly during the examination period.

TIP: Also keep in mind that some of the guarantors will require you to register for credit test dates as well.

#### **Study results**

In AIS you can see records of your study results for all your subjects in each year of your studies. You have to check the records regularly to see that all your gained credits, passed exams and earned grades are recorded and that nothing is missing. Evaluation of your study and continuation into the following year depend on the correctness of your records in AIS.

#### 2.3 Official student e-mail account

At the beginning of your studies you are assigned your own official university email account, which you are required to use for communication within the university, e.g. Study Office, teachers, fellow students, etc. The use of this account is mandatory. One of the advantages of this account is that you have access to the university e-mail contact directory (list of UVMP e-mail addresses); you just need to know the surname of a person you want to send an e-mail to. Some teachers send you study results directly from AIS to this account.

## 2.4 Student's identity card (student's ISIC card)

One of the study certifying documents is the student's card. The university issues it to the student as an ISIC card. The card serves for your identification, it ensures your entry through the gates and doors of the university and dormitories. After activating the transport services, you can use it as a public transport card in Košice, for discounts in railway transport, etc., Link your card with the UBIAN app and you have all the current information about the card and public transport in the city at hand. After activating the catering system, you can use it for meals at the university canteen. With the card, you can claim discounts when visiting cultural institutions, cinemas, in various shops, etc.

You have to activate your ISIC card at the university terminal (by placing it onto the terminal reader), which is located on the ground floor in pavilion 17, opposite the pharmacy shop. Activated card is usually valid for one year, until September 30 of the next year. You can extend the validity of your ISIC card upon your registration to the following academic year by obtaining an ISIC extension sticker and placing the card onto the terminal reader again.



#### 2.5 How to study

## Find your system

Regarding uniqueness of every student, there is no universal guide on how to study effectively. Each student prefers something else and it is essential to find out what works for you the best. The first year at the university persuades you that the system is completely different from the one you were used to. There is much more curriculum that must be covered in significantly shorter time. You have to find your own system, which will help you with this amount of study material. Try different study methods and you will see what the best is.

#### Repetition

Because there is too much study material, you will see very soon that things you learned before will be somehow "limited" by things you learned afterwards. This can cause that when examiner asks you something trivial at the exam, you can't remember the answer. It is appropriate to schedule your time for study to allow you enough time for repetition. It is even more efficient to repeat today the facts you have learned yesterday. If you repeat study material at least once, there is higher chance to pass an exam or a credit.

#### Study with your classmates

From time to time, it is better to study in pairs or groups. This way, you can explain study material to each other; because sometimes, the other understands the problem better. Topic discussed in a pair or group is often remembered better. Another advantage is support; so if one doesn't want to continue, the other one can push him. Sometimes, pair or group can achieve more than studying separately on their own.

TIP: You can use time between practical lessons for study. At a ground floor of pharmaceutical pavilion, there is a study room which serves for this goal as well as study room at the library.

#### 2.6 Student code of ethics

Student code of ethics of the UVMP in Košice (Internal regulation no. 68) regulates basic rules of student behaviour, which they are obliged to observe in terms of ethics of social interaction with students, university teachers and other natural and legal persons. The aim of the code of ethics is to contribute to ensuring that UVMP students are dignified representatives of the UVMP. Student code of ethics is available at the UVMP website.

## 2.7 Academic good manners

You should support the fact that you are studying at the university not only with your intelligence and study results, but also with your behaviour and presentation. Principles of politeness are relevant too; therefore don't forget at least the essential ones:

- ➤ <u>greeting</u> it is common that a man greets a woman first, the younger greets the older, a student greets a teacher/university employee (only exception is a person with the highest position, i.e. the rector, who takes priority to all above mentioned principles)
- ➤ <u>use of academic degree</u> don't forget to use an academic degree while greeting a teacher, e.g. "dear professor/associate professor/doctor/etc." (degrees according to their importance Prof. > Assoc. prof. > Dr. with PhD > Dr. > Mgr./Ing. > Bc.)
- ➤ <u>use of position/function</u> "Dear Rector/Vice-Rector/Head of department, etc."
- ➤ <u>mobile phones</u> aren't prohibited, except, of course, during tests and exams, and ringing is disturbing during lectures and practices, therefore <u>silent mode</u> is required
- in case of <u>questions</u> during lectures/practices, just put up your hand you will draw attention to yourself and after calling upon you, you can ask your question; don't be afraid and don't be shy, because your question and following answer can also help your classmates who were not brave enough to put their hand up

- <u>sending e-mails</u> e-mail addresses of all university employees can be found at the university website in the section Contacts, or automatically in you university student e-mail account; don't forget:
  - to write an e-mail subject using key words
  - greeting (Good morning, Dear Sir/Madam, etc.)
  - to briefly, objectively and concisely describe a problem, what is the matter and what you are asking for from the teacher/university employee
  - Kind regards ... (state your full name, year of study and study programme)
- ➤ <u>dress code</u> be careful about what you are wearing on certain occasions:
  - examinations require business or business formal attire suit, appropriate trousers with a suit jacket and tie, dress or costume and formal closed shoes; t-shirts, jeans, shorts, sweaters and trainers are not acceptable
  - official ceremonies require from semiformal or business formal attire at matriculation ceremony to black tie attire at matriculation ball or graduation ceremony formal suit with a jacket and a tie, long dresses or jumpsuits (skirts should not be shorter than 10 cm above knees), formal closed shoes, not too high heels



Graduates of the UVMP at the graduation ceremony

#### 2.8 Solving problems

To solve any issues, concerns or problems with your studies, it is important to talk about them and if needed report them as soon as possible after they occur. Here are basic steps you need to take:

- 1. Read Study Guidelines carefully and try to find the answer inside.
- 2. Contact particular subject teacher, guarantor or head of department/clinic
- 3. Contact the Study Office
- 4. In very serious cases, contact Vice-Rector for Education

TIP: Always read study guidelines and instructions issued by guarantors, the Study Office, Vice-Rector or Rector carefully. Information from your friends and older students are not always complete, up to date or truthful.

For formal requests addressed to the Study Office, the Vice-Rector or the Rector, you should use one of the request forms, which are available on the UVMP website or at the office. The form must be fully completed by pen, legible, signed and dated. Accepted are either e-mailed request forms or their hard copies delivered directly to the office.

Keep in mind that some issues can't be solved immediately and sometimes they need to be submitted to the meeting of UVMP Management for discussion. Such meetings are usually held on Tuesday each week.

## 3 HOW TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION THROUGH STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## 3.1 European legislation

Slovak universities are part of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), the result of the Bologna Process (since 1999), which aims to harmonise higher education in 49 countries so that it is as interconnected and systematised as possible (https://ehea.info/page-how-does-the-bologna-process-work). One of the areas of the Bologna Process is quality assurance in higher education, which is the responsibility of politicians, school leaders – their staff and students, including you. Quality assurance is not just about studying, but in a broader context, it is – from applying, through the admissions process, attending lectures, tutorials, seminars, completing work placements, eating out, accessing library literature, using laboratory, physical and sporting facilities, to passing the national examinations and receiving your diploma – your whole university life. The quality of the processes at the university must be seen in a holistic way, cared for and improved, where there is room for you. European Standards and Guidelines (ESG) on quality assurance can be found at: http://www.ehea.info/media.ehea.info/file/ESG/oo/2/ESG\_2015\_616002.pdf

### 3.2 National legislation

The internal system of quality assurance of education at higher education institutions in the Slovak Republic is enshrined in the Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance of Higher Education, dated September 11, 2018. This Act created a new independent institution, the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (SAAHE). Its role is to carry out quality assurance tasks at the national level, which includes two student representatives (nominated by student representative bodies) on the SAAHE Executive Board.

The main mission of SAAHE is to contribute to quality improvement in higher education institutions according to the principles of the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG), in particular to decide on the granting of authorisations to universities on the basis of their application. The Accreditation Agency is a recognised member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and is subject to external evaluation.

The internal quality assurance system regulates its internal processes, methods, rules and procedures relevant for the quality functioning of education and creative activity (research and development), i.e. it must regulate the rules for the creation, approval and implementation of each study programme. The internal system of each higher education institution must comply with the SAAHE standards, i.e. Standards for Internal Quality Assurance System (<a href="https://qa.uvlf.sk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Standardy-pre-vnutorny-system-zabezpecovania-kvality-">https://qa.uvlf.sk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Standardy-pre-vnutorny-system-zabezpecovania-kvality-</a>

(https://ga.uvlf.sk/wp-2.pdf). Standards for the Study Programme content/uploads/2021/11/Standardy-pre-studijny-program-2.pdf) and Standards for Habilitation and Induction **Procedures** (https://qa.uvlf.sk/wpcontent/uploads/2022/01/Standardy-pre-habilitacne-konanie-a-inauguracne-konanie-1-1.pdf), the implementation of which is personally supervised by the Agency and the internal system is independently assessed by external evaluators (university staff, students, practitioners). The University's role in quality assurance is to:

- > guarantee the involvement of students and external assessors in quality assurance
- > ensure the link between education and creative activity
- guarantee the protection of students, staff and applicants against any form of intolerance or discrimination based on sex, gender, race, colour, age, language, sexual orientation, religion, disability, political or other opinion, national or ethnic origin, descent or property
- ensure that scientific integrity and academic ethics are maintained, and in the event of breaches, ensure that they are detected and that consequences are imposed
- > not burden teachers, students and other creative workers with unjustified bureaucracy in quality assurance
- > ensure regular monitoring, evaluation and revision of the internal system with the participation of all stakeholders

## 3.3 University legislation

The University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice, in accordance with its mission, ensures and is responsible for the quality of the provided higher education (HE) and the quality of research activities or other creative activities by implementing and developing its internal system.

The internal system of UVMP (<a href="https://qa.uvlf.sk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/zabezpecovanie-kvality-vysokoskolskeho-vzdelavania-na-uvlf-v-kosiciach-upr.pdf">https://qa.uvlf.sk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/zabezpecovanie-kvality-vysokoskolskeho-vzdelavania-na-uvlf-v-kosiciach-upr.pdf</a>) is based on the legal regulation defined in Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance of Higher Education and on Amendment and Supplementation of Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendment and Supplementation of Certain Acts, as amended. The internal system of quality assurance of education regulates the way of fulfilling its mission in the field of higher education through the strategy of quality assurance of higher education research activities and through the interconnection of these activities in the respective disciplines.

The quality assessment of education and research activities at UVMP is carried out in accordance with the European Quality Assessment Framework on the basis of the implementation of formal procedures comprising a complete qualitative, so-called PDCA cycle (Planning, Doing, Checking, Acting; https://vsk.uvlf.sk/sk/vsk pdca).

The application of the internal quality assurance system for education at UVMP is binding for all UVMP employees and students.

The main objectives of quality assurance at UVMP:

- raising the level of quality of the university at national and international level
- improving the quality of the university's individual activities
- involving student representatives and other stakeholders in the various cycles of curriculum development, modification, approval and periodic evaluation (Article 5 of the Internal Rule <a href="https://qa.uvlf.sk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/zabezpecovanie-kvality-vysokoskolskeho-vzdelavania-na-uvlf-v-kosiciach-upr.pdf">https://qa.uvlf.sk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/zabezpecovanie-kvality-vysokoskolskeho-vzdelavania-na-uvlf-v-kosiciach-upr.pdf</a> and <a href="https://vsk.uvlf.sk/sk/vsk\_csp/">https://vsk.uvlf.sk/sk/vsk\_csp/</a>)
- informing the academic community about the quality assurance of the higher education and research activities on the UVMP quality portal (https://vsk.uvlf.sk/sk)

The organisation of the internal system of quality assurance of education at UVMP is ensured by the bodies of academic self-government and committees:

- ➤ Rector
- Academic Senate
- Board of Trustees
- Scientific Council
- Quality Council
- ➤ Committee for Education
- > Committee for Scientific Research
- ➤ Committee for Clinical Activities
- ➤ Committee for creation, modification and periodical evaluation of study programmes
- ➤ Accreditation Committee

## 3.4 How can you contribute to quality assurance at your university?

- Complete the questionnaire in the Academic Information System (AIS) once a year
  in a responsible manner. This will give you feedback on your satisfaction with the
  teaching process, with the teaching staff, with the way the courses are run
  (evaluation of the guarantor), the quality of support services and the environment of
  the university.
- Actively participate in the development of questionnaire feedback, in the activities
  of interest clubs, organize informal discussion meetings of students on a variety of
  common topics.
- 3. Run for the student section of the Academic Senate of the University and thus decide on important processes, or you can represent students in various representative bodies at national or European level. You will gain experience that will enrich your personality and influence your future.

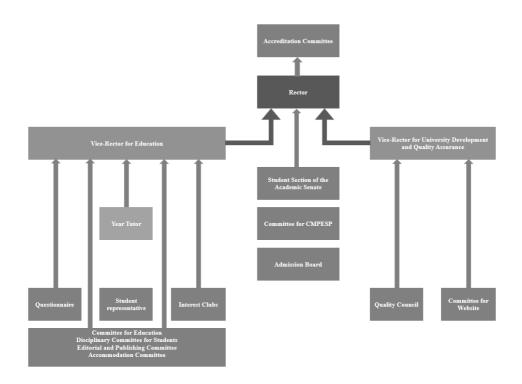
- 4. As a member of the Accreditation Committee, you can be directly involved in the preparation of the proposal, the assessment of the proposal, the final form of the study programme and its approval.
- 5. Present constructive ideas to the university on how to improve the quality of education or communicate concerns that are not conducive to quality. You will then be seen as a respected partner by the university administration, and you will be helping your fellow students and the university.

As a student representative, you can take an active part in the running of the university and quality improvement through these committees:

- ➤ Student Section of the Academic Senate 9 students
- ➤ Accreditation Committee 2 students
- ➤ Disciplinary Committee for Students 3 students
- ➤ Editorial and Publishing Committee 1 student
- ➤ Committee for Creation, Modification and Periodical Evaluation of study programmes:
  - Pharmacy 2 students
  - Animal Science, Veterinary Nurse and General Veterinary Medicine 2 students
  - Safety of Feeds and Foodstuffs, Market and Quality of Foodstuffs and Food Hygiene 2 students
  - Cynology and Man-Animal Relationship and Its Use in Canistherapy and Hippotherapy and Welfare and Protection of Animals 3 students
  - study programmes at the third level (PhD) 3 PhD students
- ➤ Quality Council 4 students and 2 PhD students
- ➤ Committee for Mobility Programmes and Internationalization 1 student
- ➤ Committee for Field Practice and Professional Experience 1 student
- ➤ Committee for Website 1 PhD student
- ➤ Committee for Education 3 students
- ➤ Admission Board 1 student
- ➤ Accommodation Committee 2 students and 1 PhD student

What are you not allowed to do as a student representative?

- > enrich yourself at the expense of others by taking advantage of your position
- ➤ demand a different/better approach from teachers
- > violate the GDPR (e.g. to amplify the problems of specific students)
- > to be an inactive member of a given committee/board and fail to fulfil the responsibilities of your position
- being part of the committee/board for your own benefit (to improve your name or CV)



# Opportunities for student involvement in the UVMP and improving the quality of education:

CCMPESP – Committee for Creation, Modification and Periodical Evaluation of study programmes

#### 4 FORMALITIES AND PREPARATION FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES

#### 4.1 Stay in the Slovak Republic

#### 4.1.1 EU/EEA/Swiss national

If an EU/EEA/Swiss national intends to stay in Slovakia for less than three months, he/she is obliged only to submit the notice of stay to the foreign police office within 10 working days since his/her arrival to Slovakia. This is usually made by the accommodation provider, if the person stays in a hotel, hostel or dormitory. If accommodated in private (e.g. in a private rented flat or at a friends' place), the EU/EEA/Swiss national is obliged to submit the notice of stay in person directly at the respective foreign police office. After this period of three months is over, EU/EEA/Swiss national is obliged to apply for registration of residence in the Slovak Republic within next 30 days.

If an EU/EEA/Swiss national knows or assumes immediately after his/her arrival in the Slovak Republic that he would reside in the Slovak Republic for longer than three months, he/she may apply for the registration of residence immediately and thus fulfil the obligation to submit the notice of stay at the same time (of course only providing he/she does so within the period of 10 working days). It is not necessary to submit the notice of stay first within the period of 10 working days and then apply for the registration of residence.

## What do you need for the report of stay?

If staying in private, come in person to the foreign police office during the office hours and present the following:

- > filled in form "Notice of the stay"
- ➤ valid ID/passport

## What do you need for the registration of residence for EU/EEA/Swiss nationals?

Come in person to the foreign police office during the office hours and present the following:

- > filled in form "Application for registration of right of residence of Union Citizen"
- ➤ valid ID/passport
- ➤ a document proving the purpose of your stay in Slovakia, i.e. confirmation of study or admission to university
- > statutory declaration of sufficient financial resources

If interested in obtaining a Residence card of an EU citizen, you are required to submit the following documents:

- > two recent photographs 3 x 3.5 cm
- ➤ a document in Slovak proving provision of accommodation (e.g. confirmation from your accommodation provider or a rental agreement and the letter of ownership)

Fee for the issue of an EU national residence card

Although the Act on the Residence of Foreigners establishes only a possibility (not an obligation) to apply for the issue of an EU national residence card, you need to know that this document makes a foreigner's life significantly easier, especially when dealing with authorities, such as banks, insurance companies, etc.

#### 4.1.2 Third country national

Students from third countries staying in Slovakia longer than 90 days apply for temporary residence permit for the purpose of study. You have to apply in person abroad at the Slovak embassy or at a respective foreign police office in Slovakia. Your application may be accepted at the foreign police office in Slovakia only if you are staying in Slovakia legitimately. You have to submit a complete application; otherwise it will not be accepted and you will be notified in writing of the documents you need to further enclose. If the temporary residence permit is granted, the police department will send the applicant a written notice, stating the effective and expiry date.

## Complete application consists of the following documents:

- > filled in application form "Application for the temporary residence"
- > two recent full-face photographs 3 x 3.5 cm
- > valid passport
- ➤ a document in Slovak language as a proof of purpose of your stay, i.e. confirmation of study or admission to university
- ➤ a document in Slovak language valid as a proof of sufficient financial resources for the stay (e.g. balance statement of a bank account in the name of the applicant, letter of award stating the amount of your scholarship, confirmation of the statutory body of a legal entity of the financial and material support of the applicant during his/her stay, etc.)
- ➤ extract from your criminal record with apostille or superlegalisation from your country of origin and every country where you have stayed for more than 90 days within the last 3 years during 6 consecutive months (if any) then it has to be translated to Slovak language by an official sworn translator
- > fee for the issue of a residence card
- ➤ a document in Slovak language proving provision of accommodation (e.g. confirmation from your accommodation provider or a rental agreement and the letter of ownership)

None of the documents proving the purpose of stay, financial resources and no criminal record can be older than 90 days on the day of filing the application for temporary residence.

In case of applying for renewal of temporary residence it is not necessary to submit a document proving no criminal record. A third country national files the application for renewal of temporary residence in person on an official form at a foreign police office on the last day when the temporary residence is valid at the latest. Within 30 days from the delivery of the application and all required documents, the foreign police office shall either issue a decision on the received application for a temporary residence permit, or, if the foreign police office grants the application for temporary residence, the decision is not issued but a written notification of granting the temporary residence is sent to the foreigner. The confirmation that they have received the application has to be kept. The residence permit is issued in a form of a residence card. You have to collect the residence permit at the foreign police office in person.

When you get your residence permit, the foreign police office will ask you to submit within 30 days from collecting the residence card a medical certificate that you do not suffer from any exotic disease threatening the public health. The certificate cannot be older than 30 days.

The police department will issue the temporary residence for the purpose of study for the expected time of study, but at the longest for 6 years. With the view of allowing job seeking in the territory of the Slovak Republic, the temporary residence permit for the purpose of study remains valid for 30 days following the duly completion of study at a university or following the successful final examination.

TIP: For more detailed information, visit the Study Office.

#### 4.2 Authentication of documents

Documents issued by foreign courts and other foreign authorities which are considered to be public documents in the country of their issue are deemed to have a status of public documents in Slovakia, provided that they are certified. The certification can be made in a form of an apostille or as a superlegalisation.

The Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents (the Apostille convention or the Apostille treaty) is an international treaty drafted by the Hague Conference on Private International Law. It specifies the modalities through which a document issued in one of the signatory states can be certified for legal purposes in all the other signatory states. Such a certification is called an **apostille** (in French: certification). It is an international certification comparable to a notarisation in domestic law. If a state which is a party to the convention certifies the document with an apostille, no further certification of that document is necessary for its use in other signatory states. Once the document is submitted to a sworn translator and translated into Slovak, it is ready to be presented to Slovak authorities.

In case a foreign document is issued in the state which is not a signatory to the Apostille Convention, it must be legalised by a Slovak foreign mission (embassy) in that state for the use in Slovakia. **Legalisation** of public documents means the certification of the authenticity of signatures and official seals or stamps, which they bear against their specimens that are available to the foreign mission. Slovak foreign missions verify the authenticity of a previous certificate issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the country of origin of the respective document. If no Slovak foreign mission exists in the country, which has issued the document, further procedures are

necessary: the document must be certified in the country of its origin, with the last stamp affixed to it being that of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the respective country, the authenticity of the stamp is then certified by a competent foreign mission of that country accredited for the Slovak Republic, and, subsequently, by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic. Documents in Arabic, Indian, Chinese or Russian languages are translated into English before they are submitted to the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic.

## 4.3 Nostrification and recognition of education

The Slovak Republic is bound by the Directive 2005/36/EC on recognition of professional qualifications. The Directive divided the recognition of documents on previous education according to the purpose of recognition on recognition of previous education for academic purposes (i.e. recognition of previous education in order to continue in education in the Slovak Republic) or for pursuing a so-called non-regulated profession; and recognition of previous education for pursuing a so-called regulated profession in the Slovak Republic (e.g. barrister, dentist, vet, university teacher, psychologist, policeman, carpenter, etc.).

According to the legislation in force, foreign qualifications giving access to higher education in Slovak Republic are recognised by a competent district office seated in one of the regional capitals.

During the process of nostrification, leaving certificates and diplomas issued by foreign schools are examined in terms of equivalence of the scope and content of education obtained abroad with the corresponding study programme in Slovak Republic. Completed application form for recognition of education must be submitted together with copy of the identification document, certified copy of the leaving certificate or diploma, transcript of completed courses and completed exams, in a case of vocational secondary education, a confirmation issued by the secondary school about the scope of practical education. The original educational documentation must be authenticated (apostilled or superlegalised) by a competent body of the state in question and its certified copy must be translated into Slovak.

The department of education of the district office considers the application within 30 days after its receipt. If the application doesn't include all the required documentation, the district authority interrupts the process and prompts the applicant to submit the missing documents or to correct any found deficiencies. After the receipt of a complete application, the district office decides within two months about the recognition of the educational document, its refusal or about a prescription of a differential exam.

In case that the study in a foreign school corresponds to the curricula of secondary schools in Slovakia only partially, the district office could lay down the obligation to take a differential exam. It is meant to verify the knowledge and skills of the applicant in subjects, or in their parts, which were not studied by the applicant in a foreign school and which have a direct relation to the applicant's profile or the field of study pursued.

A graduate, who is not a Slovak national, doesn't have to take a supplementary examination in the Slovak Language and Literature. The district office determines the content, the exact date of examination and the secondary school, where the graduate shall take the differential exam.

TIP: Previous chapter explains why the nostrification process is done and how. But don't worry, you will be guided through the process by the Study Office.

#### 4.4 Health insurance and medical care

Foreign students are obliged to have health insurance coverage (public or individual) during their stay in the Slovak Republic.

An EU/EEA/Swiss national insured in another Member State has to present the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to the health care provider in order to prove his/her entitlement to the medical treatment upon his/her health insurance in another EU/EEA Member State or Switzerland. Third country nationals without a permanent residence in the Slovak Republic have to arrange a commercial health insurance which is necessary and mandatory for any foreign resident.

The healthcare system in Slovakia falls under the competence of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic. An initial medical examination in case of an illness is provided by state or private general practitioners ("všeobecný lekár"). Everybody can choose a general practitioner who usually provides basic health care and can refer a patient to an appropriate specialist for further medical examination or treatment.

In general, you don't need an appointment to see a general practitioner. It is advisable to arrive early in the morning/at the beginning of the doctor's office hours in order to join a waiting list for that particular day. If you need to see a specialist, you have to ask your general practitioner for a referral card first, unless the specialist is a dentist, a gynaecologist, a psychiatrist, a dermatologist or an ophthalmologist (only in case of glasses prescription), otherwise, the specialist won't admit you. The referral card is only necessary for the first consultation.

The use of healthcare services may be covered either by a direct payment or by the health insurance. In case you are covered by the health insurance (you may be asked to demonstrate it by showing your health insurance card or another relevant document to a nurse/doctor), the health care provided will be in full or partially paid for by the insurance company. In case the health insurance company covers the service only partially, you will be required to pay the rest directly to the health care provider.

#### 5 DAILY LIFE

#### 5.1 Accommodation at dormitories



Dormitories, Cesta pod Hradovou 11,13

The UVMP in Košice has two dormitories situated about 10 minutes walk from the university. Typical yellow building (lower one) and blue building (higher one) are located on a street called Cesta pod Hradovou. Capacity of dormitories is over 400 rooms. Dormitory buildings are divided into ten or nine floors, each floor consists of two corridors with 20 rooms in total. Bathrooms and toilets are shared and went through a partial reconstruction. There are also shared kitchens at each floor equipped with microwave and cooker with oven. Available are also common rooms which can be used for study or for fun.

Study rooms for studying without interruption can be found in yellow dormitory on the fifth floor, in blue dormitory on the first floor. Keys from these rooms are available at a reception upon showing your student ISIC card. Washing and ironing are available for a small fee, a vacuum cleaner is available for free. Keys from laundry, flat iron and vacuum cleaner are also available at the reception.

#### Room

Rooms are equipped with beds, wardrobes, tables with chairs, cabinets, fridge, table lamps or bed sheets. The bed sheets are available at a doorkeeper on request and you can change them every month on a day specified ahead, which is always written down on a board at dormitory entrance hall. It is prohibited to have your own electronic equipment in a room (e.g. boiling plate, flat iron, microwave, etc.), only kettle is accepted during room control.

#### Internet

Unlimited internet access is included in a room price using Wi-Fi or LAN cable. You just have to register your computer, notebook or smartphone at IT department (personally or via e-mail), including your first name and surname, e-mail, personal identification number, dormitory you live in (SD1 – yellow, SD2 – blue), floor, room number, device type (notebook/table computer), hardware MAC address of your network.

#### Security and parking

Both dormitories are under protection of own university security. The service is provided 24 hours a day. Personal identification using your student ISIC card is necessary when returning late at night. Visitors are allowed by 10 p.m. and every visitor must register himself to a book of visitors at the entrance and write himself off at departure. If you would like to shelter someone for a night, check additional fees at the university website.

Next to dormitories is a supervised parking lot where places for students are available.

Be careful about receiving "records" that can be given by a doorkeeper for disturbing peace, disorderliness and damaging dormitory facilities. In case of repeated records, disciplinary proceedings at the university can be initiated against you.

#### Contact

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#### **5.2** Food

The UVMP offers you an opportunity to eat in a canteen. You can find it at the university campus or in the yellow dormitory. Eight kinds of meals are available each day. Payment is carried out using your ISIC card; its credit can be charged directly in the university canteen. You can choose your meals by using an electronic board, which is located before entrance to the university canteen (or opposite the dormitory reception window). You can choose your meals by 8 a.m. in the morning. To order, you have to place your ISIC card on the board, choose your food, canteen and confirm the order. Alternately, you can use WebKredit website (webkredit.uvlf.sk) to order meals online. Login data are provided by the canteen staff.

You can also visit a buffet where you can find anything you like: baguettes, rolls, yoghurt, sweets, coffee, mineral water, etc. Coffees, teas, mineral waters and sweets can be also bought in food machines located around the university.

For those who demand more, some restaurants are available in area around the university (Hokejka Pub, Loki Pub, Bowling Spot, etc.) or around dormitories (VET bar).

At the dormitory entrance hall you can find a lot of delivery service offers for pizza, pasta or other dishes or you can also choose from variety of food delivery apps: Bolt Food, Bistro, Food panda, Wolt, Foodora, etc.



University canteen, Pavilion 14

## 5.3 Travelling

Public transport is most widely used means of transportation in towns. Schedules can be found at every bus/tram stop. Tickets can be bought at newsstands, ticket machines, some bus stations or public transport kiosks. In several towns, electronic SMS tickets are also available for clients of Slovak mobile operators. However, the possibilities vary from town to town.

Types of tickets differ, in Košice, there are available time-tickets (with them you can change means of transport within a given period), others single-use tickets (every time you change means of transport, you use a new ticket). If travelling with large pieces of luggage and/or animals you will need an extra ticket. Only a night ticket is valid at night lines.

In case of staying in a certain town for a longer period and if you know you'll be using public transport quite frequently, it is advisable to buy a travel pass, usually for 30, 90 or 365 days. Your ISIC card serves for the purpose of a pass. The best and cheapest way to buy tickets or passes is via UBIAN app. First you need to activate your card and register it in the app. Then you can charge a credit on your ISIC card via UBIAN app and buy tickets or passes or use your card for contactless payments in the

buses and trams (yellow card reader in each bus/tram). Children, students and pensioners usually travel for reduced fares.

Schedules of all buses, trams, trolleybuses and night bus lines can be found at website <a href="www.imhd.sk/ke">www.imhd.sk/ke</a>, CP or in the UBIAN app.

If you want to travel by other means, you may choose from several apps: Bolt, Antil, Tier, Antik, Hopin, etc.

TIP: If you don't have a ticket and you urgently need to use public transport, just send blank SMS at 1166. You will receive another SMS that is valid as a ticket (ticket expiration is 60 min.).

#### 6 FREE TIME

Beside exhausting studies, it is very pleasant for everyone to relax from time to time. It can be based on entertainment, culture, shopping or going out for a walk. Following pages give you some tips where to find these free time activities.

#### 6.1 Where to have fun

Different discos and parties can be found in clubs around Košice. Tuesdays and Wednesdays are usually reserved for student's parties. The most famous clubs are Jazz Caffe, Irish Pub, Tabačka, NOISE Club, 2Space, Boba and others. There are also many interesting pubs and clubs at Hlavná Street in the town centre. Don't forget about the legendary F-klub (called Efko) under the stairs at yellow dormitory and there is also VET bar (called Vetko) situated near a parking place. Social events organized at the university are matriculation ball, breaking ball of veterinarians, breaking ball of pharmacists and Banquet (final ball of graduating veterinarians).

TIP: The best tool to orientate in numbers of different parties is: www.kamdomesta.sk/kosice/.

TIP: Look at the noticeboards at dormitory or around university campus to find many interesting tips for parties or events for students.

## 6.2 Where to enjoy cultural events

Košice offers you many opportunities for cultural activities. Not only the State Theatre, but also very good theatre Cassia or Marionette Theatre, many philharmonic performances, concerts and exhibitions at Kunsthalle or Kulturpark. Very popular are also cinemas in Košice and probably the most famous one is CINEMAX that is situated in Košice shopping centre Optima. More information about Košice's cultural life can be found at <a href="https://www.visitkosice.eu">www.visitkosice.eu</a>.

#### **6.3** Where to refresh

After endless studying you sometimes want to run away from all duties. A suitable place for spending time in the fresh air near the university and dormitories is park Anička that provides many activities. Another option is the Zoo Košice which should not be bypassed by anyone. Hlavná Street is also a great "relax zone" because it breaths historical atmosphere combined with modern.

In Košice, there are three parks and you can find a fountain in each of them. The most famous one is so called "singing fountain" that is situated between the St Elizabeth Cathedral and the State Theatre.

In summer you can enjoy sitting in one of many summer terraces, in winter it is worth seeing a Christmas market where you can enjoy almost fairytale atmosphere.

Recommended is also a visit to the Botanical garden, a gazebo that offers you a beautiful overview of Košice and close neighbourhood with small villages. Not far from Košice, you can also visit Jasov cave, an amazing geyser in Herl'any and go hiking in Zádiel valley. Other interesting tips for trips can be found at <a href="https://www.visitkosice.eu">www.visitkosice.eu</a>.

## 6.4 Where to do sport

There are many successful sport teams in Košice. The most famous are hockey team HC Košice and football team MFK Košice, whose home stadium is placed between the university and dormitories, basketball team Good Angels Košice and many others. The sport centre in Košice is Steel Aréna, where many sports and cultural events are carried out.

The university itself offers you some sport activities and physical education classes that are provided at a gymnasium next to dormitories in the afternoon or in the evening. You can choose from many sports for women or for men. Just register at a particular sport and you automatically become a member of TJ Slávia UVMP in Košice. There is a gym at the first floor of blue dormitory and in the yellow one, there is a cardio gym. You can get into these rooms using a membership card of TJ Slávia UVMP in Košice. The sports card can be used for different sports, but there is some preference for those who initially registered for some particular sport (the gym card cannot be used for other sports). The tournaments in football, floorball, volleyball, table tennis, badminton and basketball are regularly organized at Christmas and Easter. If you are interested in aerobic, you don't have to register for the whole semester, but you can come whenever you want and pay 1 EUR per one hour. Students with cards can use a gymnasium beyond a schedule (if it is free). You just have to book visit in advance. The university has a cynological and horseriding areas too. Students can also join University Spartacus hockey club which plays in the Crow Arena just next to the university campus.

**TIP:** Be careful, because once registered for any sport, your attendance should be adequate.

## 6.5 Where to shop

If you live at a dormitory or somewhere around the university campus, and you need to do some shopping, you can go to a supermarket Klas, which is close to a church and bus stop Polianska. The shop is about 5 minutes from dormitories.

On the way from the university you can do some shopping at Billa or Milk Agro. These shops are situated at Mier.

Also you can't miss Lidl at a railway station.

If you look for a hypermarket, the nearest one is Tesco Džungl'a, located in the direction of Ťahanovce. You can get there easily by bus from Mier. If you prefer to do shopping at shopping centres, you can choose from Aupark, Optima, Galéria, or Cassovia.

TIP: The nearest shopping centre is Aupark, bus no. 16; tramcar no. 1, bus stop Námestie osloboditeľov. The biggest shopping centre is Optima.

#### 6.6 What not to miss

And at the end of this chapter you can find actions that you shouldn't miss for sure!

At the beginning of an academic year newly accepted students are invited to Student's welcome picnic where they have opportunity to explore the university, student's interest clubs and meet their older colleagues. In September there is also organized an exchange of teaching materials, books and equipment. At the dormitories, UVMP Treasure is held. It is an event for all competitive residents and non-residents of the UVMP dormitories. Competitive teams complete various tasks, collect points and look for a treasure that is really worth it.

Smell of coming Christmas will be noticed thanks to "Mikuláš grill session". This event is accompanied with different competitions, Christmas or non-Christmas music, and traditional sweets inherently related to Christmas markets.

First weekend in May is always reserved for legendary VT Day (called "vétečka"). They have more than 30-year-old history and offer two days full of sports, music, competitions and endless tranquillity.