

# Handbook for International Students



***Dear International Student!***

***Welcome to the “Victor Babes” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania!***

***This handbook provides you with important information about procedures to be completed before and after your arrival in Romania and practical information for your stay at our university and in Timisoara. Please read the information carefully and keep the handbook available during your stay as a reference.***



***Issued by the International Students Office  
Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy  
Timisoara***

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**TIMISOARA**

Coat of arms



**Timișoara** (Romanian pronunciation: [timiʃo̯ara], German: *Temeschburg*, also *Temeswar* or *Temeschwar*, Hungarian: *Temesvár*, Serbian: Темишвар, *Temišvar*, Turkish: *Tamişvar* or *Temeşvar*), is a city in the Banat region of western Romania. It is the capital of Timiș County.

With 311,586 inhabitants (2009), Timișoara, the second largest Romanian city, is the main economic and cultural center in Banat in the west of the country.

The ethnic makeup, as of 2009, is as follows: 85.52% Romanian, 7.5% Hungarian, 2.25% German, 4.73% other. The Ukrainian community is currently growing, partly due to the presence of Ukrainian language educational facilities. In recent years, local investment by Italian companies has spurred the creation of an Italian community, even leading to calls for an Italian Cultural Center.

# The Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy

## Short presentation



The “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, was initially established as one of the faculties of the Western University, following the Law-Decree 660, signed by King Michael I on 30 December 1944. The opening ceremony of the faculty took place on 15 July 1945.

Since then, more than 20,000 students have graduated from the Timisoara medical school, including a fair number of foreign students from all over the world.

The “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara has three faculties, which in turn have several sub-specialisations: the Faculty of Medicine (Medicine, Midwives, Registered nurses, Balneo-physio-kinetotherapy and recuperation, Radiology and imaging, Nutrition), the Faculty of Dental Medicine (Dental Medicine, Dental Technique, Registered nurses in dentistry), the Faculty of Pharmacy (Pharmacy, Pharmacy assistants).

The “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara has several student hostels, providing accommodation for all our students, first-year students included.

The university has its own library, an IT study centre, a department of computer sciences and two laboratories of medical informatics.

The university has expanded its Erasmus cooperation with several European HEIs, focusing on study and placement mobility. Students may participate in summer programmes funded by the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt-am-Main and by Lions Wien, Austria, as well as in various summer schools and programmes promoted by the students’ association.

Applicants have the possibility to acquire a booklet containing the multiple choice tests required from them at the entrance exam.

For detailed information, please access our website [www.umft.ro](http://www.umft.ro)



## The International Students Office

The International Students Office is in charge of processing all the documentation of first-year students who study on a self-supported fee-based form, as well as of incoming and outgoing mobility programmes. Together with the Institutional International Coordinator and the administration at faculty level, we are responsible for the foreign students who come to VBUMPT. You can contact us by telephone or e-mail, or come by our office if you need assistance.

Office address:

Post address: Piata E. Murgu 2  
300041 Timisoara  
Romania

Tel/Fax: +40 256 220482

e-mail: [relint@umft.ro](mailto:relint@umft.ro)

Office hours: 10:00 – 14:00 Monday to Friday

### Contact information:

First-year students - submission of documents:

Agnes Balint, [relint@umft.ro](mailto:relint@umft.ro)

Cristina Irimia, [samecris@gmail.com](mailto:samecris@gmail.com)

Tel : +40 256 220482

Questions about visa and residence permits, post-graduate studies :

Mariana Sbarna, [specializare\\_straini@umft.ro](mailto:specializare_straini@umft.ro)

Tel: +40 256 204250, extension 1474

Financial matters, bank transfers, study fees:

Bianca Fara, [fara.bianca@yahoo.com](mailto:fara.bianca@yahoo.com)

Tel: +40 256 204250, extension 1468

# ADMISSION TO THE SELF-SUPPORTED FEE-BASED FORM

## WHO CAN APPLY

Applicants who did not apply for the budgeted places or who did not succeed at the entrance exam in July, **can study in the self-supported fee-based form, in the limit of the places approved by the Ministry of Education, Research Youth and Sports**, provided that they have submitted a formal request to that end.

**THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS 15 SEPTEMBER (current year). NO FILE WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.**

**THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS 20 NOVEMBER (current year). NO APPLICANT WILL BE REGISTERED AFTER THIS DATE.**

The following applicants may enroll in the self supported fee-based form:

- Romanian citizens, citizens of European Union, of the European Economic Area and of the Swiss Confederation who did not take the entrance exam in July, but have their **high-school diplomas recognized and validated** by the Romanian National Centre for the Recognition and Validation of Diplomas, which is a department of the Romanian Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports (M. E. R. Y. S.);
- citizens of non-EU countries who have a **Letter of Acceptance issued by the M. E. R. Y. S.**

All applicants have to submit their documents (see **Documents needed for pre-registration**) to the International Office of the university, no later than September 15 (current year). The requested documents have to be sent by post to:

Mrs. Agnes Balint  
Head of the International Students Office  
Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara  
P-ta E. Murgu 2  
300041 Timisoara, Romania  
Tel/Fax: +40 256 22 04 82  
e-mail: [relint@umft.ro](mailto:relint@umft.ro)  
[www.umft.ro](http://www.umft.ro)

Applicants who wish to pursue a second faculty (long-term higher education), as well as applicants who pursue a second specialization (short term higher education) **can study only in the self-supported fee-based form**, without taking an entrance exam,

## **Documents for pre-registration**

1. Application form (non\_EU countries)/ Request for the validation of the high-school diploma (EU, EEA countries, Swiss Confederation).
2. 2 authenticated copies of the high-school diploma (authenticated by a public notary for EU countries and by the Romanian Embassy in the country of issue for non-EU countries );
3. 2 translations into Romanian of the high-school diploma, (authenticated by a public notary for EU countries and by the Romanian Embassy in the country of issue for non-EU countries );
4. 2 authenticated copies of the bachelor diploma (for graduates wishing to pursue post-graduate or doctoral studies);
5. 2 authenticated translations of the bachelor diploma (for graduates wishing to pursue post-graduate or doctoral studies);
6. Birth certificate – 2 authenticated copies and 2 authenticated Romanian translations;
7. Marriage licence - 2 authenticated copies and 2 authenticated Romanian translations (if applicable);
8. 2 photocopies of the passport, including of the page containing the study visa;
9. 6 Photographs
10. Health Certificate issued by the candidates' general practitioner, stating that the candidate is physically and mentally fit to pursue academic studies
11. 2 plastic folders and 12 transparent plastic folders
12. Processing fee of 150 Euro (non-refundable), paid into our bank account:

**Name of bank: AGENTIA BANC POST TIMISOARA**

**IBAN: RO35 BPOS 3630 3299 166E UR02**

**SWIFT (BIC) CODE: BPOSROBU**

## **Recognition and Validation of Diplomas**

**CANDIDATES WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN ROMANIA SHOULD HAVE THEIR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS (OR ANY EQUIVALENT SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATES) ENDORSED BY THE M. E. R. Y. S.**

**BEFORE SUBMITTING THEIR DOCUMENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY**

Candidates from EU countries, the Swiss Confederation or the EEA should have their study documents endorsed by the National Centre for the Recognition and Validation of Diplomas (C.N.R.E.D) **PRIOR** to registration. The International Office of the university will forward the documents to the National Centre for the Recognition and Validation of Diplomas.

### **Special provisions:**

- High-school diplomas obtained in **Portugal** should be accompanied by a Certificate issued by [Direçcao Geral de Ensino Superior](#) stating that the holder of the diploma has the right to pursue higher education studies;
- High-school diplomas obtained in **Spain** should be accompanied by a Certificate "*Pruebas de Aptitud para el Acceso a la Universidad, calificación Apto*" stating that the holder of the diploma has the right to pursue higher education studies;
- High-school diplomas obtained in **Sweden** should be accompanied by a Certificate issued by [Hogskoleverket](#) (Swedish National Agency for Higher Education) stating that the respective *Slutbetyg* grants access to higher education studies.

## **The Hague Apostille**

The apostille is a stamp or printed form consisting of 10 numbered standard fields which certifies the signature (and the capacity of who placed it) and correctness of the seal/stamp on the document which must be certified.

Apostilles are affixed by *Competent Authorities* designated by the government of a state which is party to the convention.

Documents issued by states that are not signatories of the Hague Apostille Convention must be certified twice: first by the ministry of foreign affairs of the issuing country and subsequently by the consulate of the receiving state (in this case Romania).

### **The following countries need the Hague Apostille on their study documents:**

South Africa, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Belarus, Bosnia-Hertzeogovina, Botswana, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Colombia, Croatia, Estonia, Switzerland, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Serbia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Lichtenstein, Luxemburg, F.Y.R. Macedonia, Malawi, Malta, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Marshal Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Norway, Niue, New Zealand, Panama, Portugal, St. Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovenia, Spain, Surinam, Swaziland, Sweden, Tonga, Trinidad Tobago, Turkey, Venezuela

## **CITIZENS OF THE STATES THAT ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, EEA OR THE SWISS CONFEDERATION**

Acceptance to studies for these citizens will be granted only on the basis of a **Letter of Acceptance** issued by the Romanian Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports.

In order to obtain a Letter of Acceptance, applicants should follow the same pre-registration procedures as EU citizens, and submit their documents as specified above to the address of the International Office of the university (see above; the university will process their documents and apply for the letter of acceptance.

### **Language certificates**

If candidates do not have a language certificate issued by an accredited language institute (**level B2**, minimum), they will have to take a language test organised by the Language Department of the university. If candidates pass this exam they can be enrolled in the first year of study. If they don't pass the language test, they will have to follow a preparatory year, during which they learn Romanian.

Applicants who can formally prove that they have studied for a period of **4 consecutive years IN Romanian/English**, are exempt from the language test and the preparatory year.

The cost of the language test is 230 Euro.

### **Original documents**

The VBUMPT reserves the right to require that you submit originals of all your certificates and diplomas after your arrival in Romania. The original documents shall remain with the respective faculty until graduation.

Actual registration and enrollment depend strictly on the applicant's submission of the original study documents. Should any of the documents submitted by the applicants be found incorrect, admission to VBUMPT will be cancelled.

## **Tuition fees**

Tuition fees are established in Euro. The amount of the fee may vary depending on the applicant's country of origin and may be subject to change (currently, the tuition fee for EU citizens is 4,000 Euro/year, and for non-EU citizens is 3200 Euro/year, for undergraduate studies).

Regardless of the amount of the tuition fee, all foreign citizens who wish to enroll in the self-supported fee-based form must pay the fee in full, by bank transfer, prior to enrollment, in the following account:

**Name of bank: AGENTIA BANC POST TIMISOARA**

**IBAN: RO35 BPOS 3630 3299 166E UR02**

**SWIFT (BIC) CODE: BPOSROBU**

## **Student Visa/Residence Permit**

**All students** who are going to stay in Romania for more than **1 month** must apply for a student residence permit.

Students from the EU, EEA and the Swiss Confederation can apply for a student residence permit after their arrival in Romania.

In addition to the residence permit, you may also need a visa to enter Romania, depending on your country of citizenship.

Students from countries covered by the Romanian visa regulations and who come to Romania without the necessary permits will not be allowed to remain in Romania. These students must have a valid student visa (**D visa**), issued by the Romanian diplomatic mission in their country of origin, upon their arrival in Romania. Enrollment of these students is conditioned by the possession of a student visa.

The VBUMPT is in no position to assist students who arrive in Romania without their necessary permits.

The processing time of applications for residence permits may take several weeks, therefore it is essential that you present your application at the Timis County Immigration Service immediately after registration.

For additional information regarding student visa and residence permits, please see the homepages of the Romanian Foreign Ministry (MAE), <http://www.mae.ro> / Visas and Consular Services.

## Funding requirements

To apply for a residence permit, you must be able to show proof of funds. Besides the tuition fee, all students must document that they have sufficient funds to cover their stay in Romania (the equivalent of the minimum salary/economy for the entire period for which you request the residence permit). It is not acceptable for subsistence to be ensured by a financial guarantee from a third party, regardless whether the guarantor is in Romania or abroad.

The general rule is that you must transfer the required amount to an account in a Romanian bank in your own name.

The amounts required by the Romanian Immigration Office in order to grant a student residence permit are:

For 1 academic year : RON 230.00

Consular fee: 120 Euro

Application fee: RON 4.00

Please note: If you have been admitted to a course with duration of a year or more, you must transfer the full amount of one academic year in order to be granted a student residence permit.

The residence permit will be given for **one** year at a time.

## Accommodation

VBUMPT can offer housing in one of the student hostels. Due to the limited number of available places in the hostels, students will be accommodated on a first-come-first-served basis.

First-year students have to register with the Student Housing Office between 25<sup>th</sup> September – 3<sup>rd</sup> October. When applying for a place in the student hostel, the student must present a copy of the Letter of Admission for Studies at the VBUMPT.

A place in the student hostels may cost approximately RON 170 – 280 per month, depending on how many beds are in the room and extra facilities. These prices include heating and warm water. Each room has its own electrical meter and students have to pay for the electricity they use.

## ON ARRIVAL

Timisoara International Airport is located 12 kilometres from Timisoara City Centre. From the airport you can take the E4 Express Bus that connects the airport with the city centre. The approximate duration of the journey from the airport to the city centre is 20 minutes. Busses run every hour between 5:30 – 23:00.



**Figure.** The route of E4 Express Bus from Timisoara International Airport to the City Centre (Bastion). From there it's a 5 minutes walk to the VBUMPT.

The complete Network System of Public Transportation can be visualized by accessing the homepage of System of Public Transportation (RATT) <http://www.ratt.ro>

The first thing you should do after you have arrived is to come to the International Office with all the documents for registration and start your actual enrollment procedures.

## **Documents for REGISTRATION**

Basically documents are the same for EU and non-EU countries, with some slight differences. Your admission documents consist of:

1. Letter of Acceptance issued by the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports (for non-EU countries);
2. Recognition of the high-school diploma issued by the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports (for EU-countries);
3. Application form (you get an application form here at the International Office)
4. Study certificate (baccalaureate or school graduation diploma), in the original form
5. 2 translations into Romanian of the high-school diploma, authenticated and endorsed by the Romanian Embassy in the country of issue;
6. 2 authenticated copies of the high-school diploma;
7. 2 authenticated copies of the bachelor diploma (for graduates wishing to pursue post-graduate or doctoral studies);
8. Birth certificate – 2 authenticated copies and 2 authenticated Romanian translations;
9. Marriage licence - 2 authenticated copies and 2 authenticated Romanian translations (if applicable);
10. 2 photocopies of the passport (including the page containing the study visa for non-EU countries);
11. 6 Photographs
12. Language certificate
13. Upon registration students have to submit the receipt for payment of tuition fees for the whole academic year (original + 3 photocopies);
14. Health Certificate issued by the candidates' general practitioner, stating that the candidate is physically and mentally fit to pursue academic studies
15. 2 plastic folders and 12 transparent plastic folders

## THE UNIVERSITY – FACULTIES AND SPECIALISATIONS

### I. The Faculty of Medicine has the following specialisations:

- *Bachelor in Medicine* – 6 years, full-time attendance (courses in Romanian, English and French)
- *Bachelor in Midwifery* – 4 years, full-time attendance
- *Bachelor in Nursing* – 4 years, full-time attendance
- *Bachelor in Nursing for Imaging and Radiology* – 3 years, full-time attendance
- *Bachelor in Clinical Laboratory Nursing* – 3 years, full-time attendance
- *Bachelor in Nursing for Balneo-physiotherapy and Recuperation* – 3 years, full-time attendance
- *Bachelor in Nursing for Nutrition and Dietetics* - 3 years, full-time attendance

### II. The Faculty of Dental Medicine has the following specialisations:

- *Bachelor of Dental Surgery* – 6 years, full-time attendance
- *Dental technique* – 3 years, full-time attendance
- *Dental surgery nurses* – 3 years, full-time attendance

### III. The Faculty of Pharmacy has the following specialisations:

- *Bachelor of Pharmacy* – 5 years, full-time attendance (courses in Romanian and French)
- *Assistant pharmacists* – 3 years, full-time attendance

## THE UNIVERSITY (getting around)

Most of the teaching, especially in the preclinical years, takes place in the two main buildings of the university: Medicine I and Medicine II.

- **Medicine I**, which is located at 2 Eftimie Murgu Square, contains the following offices and departments:
  - **Basement:** printing shop, retail point for textbooks;
  - **Ground floor:** the Rector's Office, the Vice-Rectors' Offices, the Registrar's Office, the research department, the office for doctoral studies, the administrative offices of the Faculty of Medicine and Dental Medicine, the financial department, part of the Department of Anatomy and Embryology;
  - **First floor:** the Department of Anatomy and Embryology, the Department of Biochemistry, the Senate Hall, the university library, copy centre;
  - **Second floor:** the Department of Genetics, IT centre (internet access), cashier, histology lecture hall, genetics lecture hall;
  - **Third floor:** the Department of Histology, the Department of Morphopathology, the Department of Languages, the Victor Babes printing house;
  - **Fourth floor:** anatomy lecture hall.



*Medicine I*

- ***Medicine II***, located at 14 Tudor Vladimirescu Street, contains the following offices and departments:
  - **Ground floor:** the Department of Informatics, the Department of Welfare Medicine, the Department of Behavioural psychology, the Department of Biophysics, amphitheatres I, II and III;
  - **First floor:** the Department of Pathophysiology, the Department of Cellular biology;
  - **Second floor:** the Department of Physiology, the Department of Parasitology.



***Medicine II***

The **Faculty of Dental Medicine** is located at 9 Revolution Boulevard



*The Faculty of Dental Medicine*

The **Faculty of Pharmacy**, located at 3 Eftimie Murgu Square.



*The Faculty of Pharmacy*

The clinical study is concentrated in **nine teaching hospitals**:

- **The First County Clinical Hospital**  
Bd. Iosif Bulbuca 156, Timisoara  
Tel: +40 256 463 001  
Fax: +40 256 465 397
- **The City Hospital**  
Str. Gh. Dima 5, Timisoara  
Tel: +40 256 495 474
- **The Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases**  
Str. Gheorghe Adam 13A, Timisoara  
Tel: +40 256 207 355
- **The “Louis Turcanu” Third Pediatrics Clinical Hospital**  
Str. Iosif Nemoianu 2, Timisoara  
Tel: +40 256 201 976  
Fax: +40 256 201 975
- **The “Victor Babes” Hospital for Infectious and Lung Diseases**  
Str. Gheorghe Adam 13A, Timisoara
- **The “Dumitru Popescu” Clinical Hospital of Obstetrics and Gynaecology**  
Bd. 16 Decembrie 1989, nr.22-24  
Tel: +40 256 491 708
- **The “Bega” Clinical Hospital of Obstetrics and Gynaecology**  
Bd. Victor Babes 12, Timisoara  
Tel: +40 256 491 748
- **The Clinical Hospital of Orthopaedics-Traumatology**  
Bd. Iosif Bulbuca 156, Timisoara
- **The Clinical Hospital of the Romanian Railways Company**  
Str. Tudor Vladimirescu 13-15, Timisoara  
Tel: +40 256 493 088

## **Registration with the Police on arrival**

All foreign students must register Police within 7 days after arrival.

## **Long-term student residence permit**

- 1) The long-term student residence permit can be granted, on request, to foreign students who wish to enter Romania.
- 2) A student is a person who has been accepted by an accredited public or private higher education institution, including doctoral studies.
- 3) Documents to bring for the application:

### **EU/EEA/SWISS students:**

- Certified copy of the Letter of Admission from the VBUMPT;
- Proof of payment of study fees for at least one academic year;
- Certified copy of the passport or ID-card with picture and the original document;
- Certified copy of the European Health Insurance Card valid for the whole study period;
- 2 recent passport photographs;
- Declaration of sufficient subsistence (minimum net salary/month/economy) for the entire period covered by the residence permit;
- Police record or any other document with the similar legal value;
- Receipt of paid application fee (RON 4)

### **Non-EU/EEA/Swiss students**

- Certified copy of the Letter of Acceptance to studies issued by the Romanian Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports;
- Certified copy of the Letter of Admission from the VBUMPT;
- Proof of payment of study fees for at least one academic year;
- Health insurance for the entire period covered by the residence permit;
- Passport;
- 2 recent passport photos;
- Documentation of subsistence (minimum net salary/month/economy) for the entire period covered by the residence permit;
- Police record or any other document with the similar legal value;
- Housing contract;
- Receipt of paid application fee (RON 4).

## **Medical exams**

Romanian law requires that foreign nationals who will be residing in Romania for more than three months must have a chest X-ray and a standard blood test upon registration.

The check-ups can be completed in your country of origin but they must not be older than 6 months.

Those students who have not done the check-ups in their country of origin, can do them here at any medical facility (dispensary, polyclinic) in Timisoara.

All medical certificates must subsequently be signed and stamped by the physician of our university.

## **DURING YOUR STAY**

### **Erasmus students**

Incoming Erasmus students have to report at the International Office and present all their study documents in the original.

The International Office will help incoming Erasmus students with their study plan by contacting the respective departments and drawing up all necessary support documents.

After their exam sessions, incoming students should submit their Record Books to the International Office to be endorsed by the Erasmus Institutional Coordinator and the Dean of the faculty.

At the end of their stay, incoming Erasmus students will receive an Erasmus certificate confirming the period of the exchange and the number of credit points received.

### **Health Insurance**

#### **EU/EEA/Swiss Students**

Students from the EU/EEA/Swiss Confederation must have social security coverage from their home country. They must obtain the European Health Insurance Card in their home country, which entitles them to medical treatment in accordance with the Romanian National Insurance Scheme.

For further information about the card, please contact the nearest insurance office in your home country.

Students from the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland will have to show their passport in order to receive free medical treatment as the UK has not implemented the European Health Insurance Card.

## **Non-EU/EEA/Swiss students**

If the duration of your stay in Romania is **more than 12 months**, you automatically become insured under the National Health Insurance Scheme when you register as a resident in Romania and as a student at VBUMPT.

If the duration of your stay is **between 3 and 12 months**, you should fill in a form “National Insurance Scheme – Application for insurance during stay in Romania” entitling you to social security coverage with regard to health services in accordance with the National Insurance Scheme. You can get a form at the County Health Insurance Office.

The form should be sent to the insurance office together with the following documentation:

- Certified copy of your passport and the residence permit stamp;
- Certified copy of the admission letter from the VBUMPT.

Students who stay in Romania **less than 3 months** must have social security coverage from their home country.

The National Health Insurance Scheme does not cover students before they register at the VBUMPT, after they have completed their studies in Timisoara, or during any travel abroad in the course of the semester. These periods must be covered by a private insurance policy. Furthermore, the National Health Insurance Scheme does not cover dental care or illness contracted before arrival in Romania.

### **Address of the County Health Insurance Office:**

Str. Corbului 4, Room 40, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

Tel: 0256 201772

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday 9:00 – 12:00

Tuesday, Thursday 13:00 – 15:00

You can find all relevant information regarding the European Council’s application of social security schemes by accessing the following link

<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/consleg/1971/R/01971R1408-20060428-en.pdf>

## **Property/Travel Insurance**

You are strongly advised to insure all valuables (cameras, music equipment, computers, etc) against theft. If you do not have this type of insurance, you may purchase one at a reasonable rate in Romania. You should never leave large amounts of cash in your student dormitory.

## **Work permit**

According to Romanian law (OUG 56/2007; Law 134/2008), students can get a part-time work permit (4 hours/day), but the work permit does not automatically grant a residence permit.

As long as they have a student residence permit, international students cannot apply for a permanent residence permit in Romania.

## **Tax deduction**

The parents of some of the students get a tax deduction if they can prove that their children pursue undergraduate studies.

All the students who need a certificate proving their status of undergraduate student should apply for such a certificate at the International Office.

In order to receive such a certificate, students should be able to prove that they have paid their tuition fee for the respective academic year.

## **Renewal of the residence permit**

The application for renewal must be submitted to the Police Foreign Section at least one month before the current permit expires.

1. International students may apply for a renewal of their residence permit as follows:
  - a) in the case of undergraduate or postgraduate students, for successive periods of up to one year, if:
    - (i) they are enrolled in a public or private higher education institution, accredited according to Romanian law, full-time attendance, including doctoral studies;
    - (ii) they can prove that they have paid their tuition fee;

- (iii) they can show documentation of subsistence (the amount required is the net minimum salary per economy), covering the entire validity of the residence permit;
- b) in the case of exchange students, for a period no longer than one year, if:
  - (i) they are enrolled in a public or private higher education institution, accredited according to Romanian law, full-time attendance;
  - (ii) participate in an exchange programme initiated by a legally established organisation and having the right to carry out such exchanges;
  - (iii) if the organising institution that initiates the exchange takes responsibility for ensuring their accommodation, means of subsistence and possible costs incurred by the returning to the home country.
- 2. Foreign citizens of Romanian origin may get their temporary student residence permit renewed, without observing the stipulations under paragraph (1) a) (iii).
- 3. The temporary student residence permit may be renewed for maximum **90 days** after graduation, until they settle their academic situation and they get their study documents endorsed.

### **Changing your field of study**

1. An international student who has been granted, or renewed, a student residence permit in Romania may change his/her field of study or vocational training, according to Romanian law, provided the total length of the stay foreseen for the initial studies is not exceeded.
2. If the total length of the stay foreseen for the initial studies is exceeded as a consequence of the change of the study or vocational training field, the student has to apply for a new long-term student permit.

### **Family reunification**

Requests for family reunification can be submitted only by those students who were already married when they obtained their Letter of Acceptance to studies from the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports.

## **STUDENT ISSUES**

The structure of the academic year is roughly as follows:

1. The winter semester starts on 1<sup>st</sup> October and ends approximately in mid-February, after the mid-term exams. Students have a week Christmas holiday and a week mid-term holiday.
2. The spring semester starts in late February and ends approximately at the beginning of July, after the summer exams. Students are entitled to **three days** Easter holiday, according to their faith.
3. Summer hospital practice and preparation of dissertation for terminal students (20 working days, in July, for the Faculties of Medicine and Dental Medicine, and approximately two months for the Faculty of Pharmacy).

### **Student card**

All our students receive a student ID-card once they have completed their registration. The student ID-card is issued at the respective secretariats.

Students from the **EU/EEA/the Swiss Confederation** have the right to discounts on public transportation, based on their student ID-card.

**Non-EU students** do not benefit from any discount on public transportation.

### **Internet access**

Student hostels have Internet connection and the conditions permitting access to the Internet are regulated by the Students' League.

### **Notify the International Office about your new address**

Always remember to inform the International Office about any change of address if you move.

The Police Foreign Section must also be notified with regard to any change of address.

## **HEALTH ISSUES**

### **How do I find a doctor?**

Our university has its own General Practitioner who can be contacted whenever you need a health check or a consultation. The GP will further refer you to a specialist or a hospital if necessary.

Please, keep in mind that according to Romanian law, medical treatment is **free** only until the age of 26. Above that age, you will have to pay for medical treatment.

### **Emergency ward**

If your condition is serious or you need a doctor outside of office hours, you have to contact the emergency services. The number of the emergency services is **112**.

## **STUDENT WELFARE SERVICES AT VBUMPT**

### **Religious issues**

The VBUMPT has students from all over the world, belonging to different cultures and religious beliefs. We are a secular university and students are free to practice their individual faith.

Timisoara has been known as a truly ecumenical city where different religions have co-existed peacefully along the centuries.

Besides the various Christian churches and prayer houses, Timisoara also has a mosque and a synagogue.

### **Gyms**

Physical education is an obligatory part of our curriculum and our gym is quite well-equipped.

Besides, there are several health clubs all over town, where students can work out.

## **Student organisations**



The Society of Timisoara Medical Students (STMS) is a non-racist, non profit, non-religious, non-partisan student organization whose aim is to guide all the students studying at our university, to organize various scientific and cultural events. Its primary goal is to promote students' academic and social interests. It does this by working together with the local student branches at the faculties and the various faculty committees, with the faculty leadership boards and councils, administration and staff, as well as with various welfare organizations. The Society also cooperates with similar organisations from universities all over the world. If you wish to contact the Students Society, you can do that by e-mail: [ssmt@umft.ro](mailto:ssmt@umft.ro)

The STMS has its own representatives in the University Senate.

## **PRACTICAL ISSUES**

### **Cellular phones**

As almost everybody in Romania have their own cell phone, payphones are not easily available anymore. If you are going to stay in Romania for a longer period and you don't have a cell phone you may find it useful to get one. There are many different options and offers, and you can get further information in telecommunication stores or stores which sell electronic equipment.

If you bring your own cell phone, you can buy a subscription at a Romanian telephone company or use pre-paid cards. You can buy a subscription when you have a Romanian ID – number. To buy a pre-paid card, you need to show an ID-card.

### **Public transportation**

It is easy to get around Timisoara using the public transportation system, which is comprised of buses, trams, trolley-buses.

### **Language**

The native language in Romania is Romanian. For a person learning the language it may be difficult in the beginning.

The curriculum of our university includes compulsory Romanian classes for international students.

### **Climate**

Romania has four seasons with marked changes in climate: spring, summer, autumn and winter. The weather may also change from day to day from sunny to rainy and from warm to cold.

The climate which defines Timisoara city is the temperate continental moderate climate which characterizes the Southern-Eastern part of The Panonic Depression. The temperate continental climate has some sub-Mediterranean characteristics as well of the Adriatic climate.

Climatic general features consist of various and irregular weather conditions. The dominating temperate air masses during spring and summer are of oceanic origin and come with great precipitations. Frequently, even during winter period, the Atlantic humid air masses bring rainy and snowy weather, rarely cold weather.

You can find information about the weather at the following links:

<http://www.vremea.com/>

<http://vremea.ido.ro/>

### **Clothing**

You should bring both warm and light clothes for your stay, like windproof jackets, sweaters, scarves, gloves and hats if you are going to stay here in winter time. Woolen clothes are recommended when the weather is cold. You can also buy suitable clothes after arrival if needed.

## Recreation

Timisoara offers a broad range of recreational possibilities. The city has a vibrant night life with concerts, clubs, dancing, theater, cinemas and opera. You will find various museums and art galleries and also public parks available for sports activities, walking or relaxing.

The Indian students of our university, together with the Lions and Rotary Clubs of Timisoara have founded *Banat Lions Cricket Club*, encouraging students to take up this non-violent and elegant sport. Those who are interested in joining the Banat Cricket Club or getting more information can contact the representatives of the club by e-mail at [banatcricketclub@gmail.com](mailto:banatcricketclub@gmail.com)

For further information:

<http://www.timisoreni.ro/>

## Check list (what to bring)

- Valid passport / travel document
- Passport photos
- Letter of acceptance form the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports/ Validation of diploma
- Original diplomas/transcripts from previous education (degree students)
- European Health Insurance Card (EEA/EU/SC students)
- Medical certificate from your home GP
- Non EEU/EU/SC students: proof of insurance
- Visa/Master/Card/traveleres cheques
- Cash for the first days
- Adapters for electrical equipment (standard outlets in Romania use 220 volts)
- Necessary medication you use
- Suitable clothes and shoes
- Necessary items for the bedroom, and towels