



**Second Semester of the 2025-2026 Academic Year**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**SOE Doctoral Student Excellence Scholarship**

The Foundation for the University of Sopron awards doctoral excellence scholarships on a competitive basis to support doctoral students receiving state scholarships who demonstrate outstanding academic performance (as well as students receiving the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship).

The primary purpose of the scholarship is to support doctoral students receiving state scholarships who demonstrate outstanding academic performance (as well as students receiving the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship), thereby improving their living conditions and bringing the total scholarship amount closer to the net salary of a teaching assistant. Another objective of the scholarship is to ensure that doctoral students, as far as possible, do not take on full-time work alongside their doctoral studies, as the time constraints resulting from such work make it more difficult for them to progress in their studies, thereby reducing the effectiveness of their doctoral training.

**Eligibility:**

Full-time doctoral students with active student status who are recipients of a state scholarship (or the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship), regardless of nationality.

**The amount of financial aid:**

Scholarship amount: 100,000 HUF per person per month (5 months in the fall semester and 7 months in the spring semester annually).

**Requirements for a valid application:**

- a) The doctoral student agrees to
  - participate in the University's educational activities, including, but not limited to, preparing for classes, occasionally conducting practical, laboratory, or fieldwork sessions, and supervising thesis projects (in addition to the mandatory teaching duties required by the doctoral program);
  - as part of preparation for future teaching activities, regularly attend undergraduate, master's, and integrated degree classes in the doctoral school's field of study;
  - regularly discusses the experience gained during their teaching activities with their supervisor;
  - actively participates in the institute's research activities, administrative and protocol duties, or in the University's alumni activities, internationalization efforts, and student recruitment activities.

**Special requirements for the semesters preceding the comprehensive exam:**

- a) The comprehensive exam must be completed by the end of the 4th active semester (by August 31 for the spring semester, by January 31 for the fall semester);
- b) By the time of the comprehensive exam, a full-length scientific paper in English (not an abstract) must be published with the student listed as the first or last author, or the student must provide proof that the paper has been accepted for publication or is pending publication.

**Special requirements for semesters following the comprehensive exam:**

- a) Commitment to obtaining the final certificate (absolutorium) by the end of the 8th semester (by August 31 for the spring semester, by January 31 for the fall semester);

- b) Following the comprehensive examination, publication as first author of at least one full-length scientific paper (not an abstract) in English at the Q1/Q2/Q3 level or a level deemed equivalent in the given field of study, or proof of the scientific paper's "in press" status or acceptance.

In the case of a multi-authored publication, a statement regarding the doctoral student's contribution is required from all authors. The statement must specify only the doctoral student's contribution.

When evaluating applications, preference shall be given to students who

- a) do not have an 8-hour employment relationship in addition to their doctoral studies,
  - b) or whose employment relationship—or 8-hour employment relationship—does not require a higher education degree or professional qualifications, or who are engaged in student work.
- Applicants will be given advantage if they have not yet reached the age of 40 at the start of their doctoral studies.

When submitting an application, the applicant must declare whether they are employed on an 8-hour basis or have any other employment relationship, including contracts for services or work-study programs. When making this declaration, the applicant must also provide proof of the nature of the work performed and the level of education required for it.

Applications may be submitted for one academic semester; the scholarship is awarded for one semester, but applicants may apply for multiple semesters

Applications may be submitted after completing one semester of doctoral study.

Applications must be submitted via the Neptun academic system (application code: SOE\_12\_08)

Application deadline: **April 26 (Sunday), 2026, 11:59 p.m.**

Attachments must be submitted in **PDF** format only.

In the event of an incomplete application, the Office of the Vice Rector for Education will send a single request to remedy the deficiencies via email; the deadline for remedying the deficiencies is 5 business days from the date the notification is sent. The date the notification is sent does not count toward the deadline. Failure to meet the deadline results in disqualification; the evaluation committee will not consider late or incomplete applications.

Bodies involved in the evaluation of the application:

- A five-member committee comprising the Vice Rector for Research and International Affairs, the Vice Rector for Education, the Chair of the EDHT, and the directors of the doctoral schools (advisory role)
- The Board of Trustees of the Foundation for the University of Sopron (decision-making body)

**Further information:**

The relevant committee is expected to make a decision on the scholarship applications by May 16, 2026. Applicants will be notified of the decision via the Neptun academic system. For inquiries regarding the application, please contact the following email address: soea-osztondij@uni-sopron.hu.

A maximum of 15 students university-wide are expected to be awarded the scholarship.

If the application is successful, the applicant must submit the following after the end of the semester, but no later than September 5, 2026:

- a research report (a summary of the current status of the research topic, 3–5 pages)

- a certificate of completion from the institute director (detailing teaching activities performed and participation in the institute's research and other activities)
- a list of scientific publications (in addition to those required in the application guidelines)

If a doctoral student fails to pass the comprehensive exam or meet any of the scholarship requirements by the end of the fourth active semester of the program, or if their student status is terminated at their own request, they must repay the scholarship received for each semester.

If a doctoral student fails to meet the requirements for the final degree certificate or any of the scholarship conditions by the end of the 8th active semester of the program, or if their student status is terminated at their own request, they must repay the scholarship awarded for semesters 5 through 8 for each semester.

Sopron, April 17, 2026.

Prof. Dr. Fábíán Attila  
Rector