

MASARYK UNIVERSITY



FACULTY OF MEDICINE



Information for foreign students

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE MASARYK UNIVERSITY

Dear students,

if you decide to study medicine in Brno, you will get not only top-quality professional education at all facilities of the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, but also a possibility of enjoying a rich cultural life. Brno is a highly interesting mediaeval city transformed into a comfortable and modern metropolis of southern Moravia. It lies in the central part of Europe, in the territory of the Czech Republic, and it is the second largest city of the country. At the same time it is the centre of Moravia, which is one of the historical countries of the Czech Crown. Being situated in a picturesque landscape, it has an area of 230 square kilometres, on hills of 190 to 425 metres above sea level.



Brno is the second largest centre of education in the Czech Republic. At the present time there are 6 universities in Brno with 27 faculties and about 60 000 students in the regular full-time form of study. Masaryk University, whose part is the Faculty of Medicine, was founded in 1919. It has altogether 9 faculties and there are some 30 000 students, both Czech and foreign, studying there. (see too <http://www.muni.cz/to.en/misc/about.html>)

The Faculty of Medicine was founded in 1919 as one the first faculties of Masaryk University. A highly favourable circumstance for the foundation of the faculty was the existence of a large National Hospital

in Pekařská Street, founded in 1786, in which the first clinical facilities could be built. Good conditions for this were also provided by the other hospitals, in particular the National Maternity Hospital (opened November 1888) and the specialised National Černovice Hospital for the Insane whose main buildings were newly erected in 1863. Presently the Faculty of Medicine includes 66 institutes and clinics, employing 1077 personnel, out of whom 80 are professors and 94 associate professors. In the two faculty hospitals (Faculty Hospital of Brno, St. Anne's Faculty Hospital) there are 3100 beds accessible for teaching. The total number of students is about 4500.



The centre of events at the Faculty of Medicine is the building in Komenského náměstí 2 (No. 2 Komenský Square). The two-floor four-wing building in Komenský Square was reconstructed in 2000 (see the title page). It is an axially composed neo-Renaissance building from the year 1860 with an interesting plastic decoration. The Dean's Office and administrative offices including the Department of Study Affairs are situated there.

On the ground floor there is an All-university Computer Self-access Centre open 24 hours a day. Here are 129 personal computers with modern software equipment.



The patio between the buildings has been adjusted as a relaxation atrium decorated by a plastic artefact named "Two Waves" by academic sculptor Lukáš Rittstein.



In the basement there is a comfortable canteen and a student club. The building also houses the Department of Biochemistry and the Department of Pathological Physiology.



Practical courses in the Department of Biochemistry

Further theoretical institutes of the Faculty of Medicine are situated in the locality of Kamenice, which is found in close vicinity of the Faculty Hospital of Bohunice.



There is, first of all, the new building of the Department of Anatomy, which was put into operation in autumn 2001. It is the most modern institute of the type in Europe.



The autopsy rooms are equipped with 20 dissecting tables with odour suction devices securing the top hygiene; there are also video circuits, an embalming hall, cooling and freezing boxes, laboratories with up-to-date equipment, an operating theatre. An anatomical museum is part of the building. It bears the name of Professor Karel Žlábek, post-war head of the Department of Anatomy.



Situated next to the Department of Anatomy is another 4-floor building which houses the Department of Histology and Embryology, the

Department of Biophysics, the Centre for Biostatistics and Analyses, and the Department of Nursing Care.



As a continuation of the already standing buildings, a University Campus started to be built in this

area in 2004. The first part of the campus was opened in September 2005. The three new pavilions incorporate the Integrated Laboratories



of Biomedicine Technology (ILBIT) and are destined mainly for the top research.



The building-up of the Academic center for teaching and research started in spring 2006 and its first part will be opened in spring 2007.



After the completion in 2008 a complex will arise interconnecting and integrating the area of the largest Faculty Hospital in Brno and the research and teaching institutions of related disciplines of the Faculties of Science and Medicine. The future campus will also include sports grounds and buildings of the Faculty of Sport Studies.

Hospitals are component parts of the faculty. St. Anne's Faculty Hospital is situated at the premises of the oldest hospital of Brno; it originated from monastic buildings in 1786. In 1866 its reconstruction from the side of Pekařská Street was finished by T. Hansen. Nowadays it belongs to Brno's architectural treasures.

Since the 1990s, St. Anne's Faculty Hospital has been gradually finished and reconstructed to the appearance of a health-service institution meeting the requirements of therapeutical needs of current medicine.



The individual departments and clinics of St. Anne's Faculty Hospital provide tuition and practical training for medical students.

The Faculty Hospital in Bohunice has been located strategically in the suburbs of Brno in the neighbourhood of a newly built university campus. Its new part was gradually opened and being finished in the course of the 1980s.



In numerous buildings of the hospital situated in a well-groomed park there are 17 clinics educating and preparing students for medical profession.



The Faculty Hospital also involves the Children's Hospital in Černá Pole and the maternity hospital in Obilní trh.

Masaryk Oncological Institute closely co-operates with the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University through the University Oncological



Centre. This institute belongs to the top-ranking oncological workplaces in the Czech Republic.

The professional qualifications of the teaching staff at the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, as well as hospital facilities built up conceptually and in a modern style including their equipment with medical outfit, guarantee a high-quality preparation of future physicians. Besides the principal health and therapeutical programmes, the clinics in Brno are also involved in highly specialised projects. Many faculty teachers are outstanding in their research work, their results being well-known even outside our country. They guide students interested in this field to these investigatory activities. Every year competitions for the best student scientific work are held.





STUDY AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Degree Programmes

The Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno offers several curricula. The Master's study programme of General medicine takes six years. This programme is taught in Czech and, for international students who are self-payers, also in English. About 350–400 Czech-speaking students are admitted yearly into this programme and, additionally to them, about 80 foreign self-paying students. After passing the state examinations at the end of their study, students are awarded the degree of MUDr. (*Medicinae Universae Doctor*). The graduates are qualified to practise in all fields of therapeutical and prophylactic care of adults, as well as in the fields of paediatrics, public health, and epidemiology. The degree is recognised fully in EU and in most countries for a limited registration and/or for locally required licensing examinations such as the USMLE for the United States and the PLAB test for Great Britain.

The specialists in oral medicine have so far been educated in a six-year programme of Stomatology. Beginning from the academic year 2004/05, this programme was replaced by a new study programme of Dentistry, which is better comparable with current European standards. After five years of study students will be awarded the corresponding degree of MDDr. (*Medicinae Dentalis Doctor*). They will be qualified to practise in all fields of dental care. About 60 students are admitted yearly.

There are also three-year programmes available in Health Care and Nursing, which lead to the degree of Bachelor (abbreviated as Bc.). These programmes are more practically focused and include specialisation in Human Nutrition, Nursing, Therapeutical Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy, Optics – Optometry, Midwifery and Laboratory Assistant. Graduated bachelor students may continue in two-year advanced studies leading to the Master's degree (abbreviated as Mgr.).

Study programmes at the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University

<i>Programme</i>	<i>Specialisation</i>	<i>Duration (years)</i>	<i>Degree</i>
General Medicine	General Medicine	6	MUDr.
Dentistry	Dentistry	5	MDDr.
Health Sciences	Optics – Optometry	3	Bc.
	Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy	3	Bc.
	Human Nutrition	3	Bc.
	Laboratory Assistant	3	Bc.
Nursing	Nursing	3	Bc.
	Midwifery	3	Bc.
Health Sciences	Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy	2	Mgr.
(advanced studies)	Paedagogical branch	2	Mgr.

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE MEDICAL CURRICULUM

Courses

The medical curriculum consists of 6 years of study. It is “subject-oriented”. The first two years involve courses in the fundamental theoretical subjects (Medical Terminology, First Aid, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Biology, Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Neurosciences, and Physiology). The 3rd year includes subjects of pre-clinical education (courses of Pathological Anatomy, Pathological Physiology, Immunology, Microbiology, Community Medicine); however, courses providing practical skill training prior to the clinical phase are also included (Clinical Examination in Internal Medicine and Clinical Examination in Surgery). Pharmacology is taught in the 6th and 7th semester. The following 2 years involve studies of clinical subjects (Internal Medicine, Surgery, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Paediatrics, Neurology, Psychiatry, Dermatovenereology, Ophthalmology, Otorhinolaryngology, Orthopaedics, Forensic Medicine, Preventive Medicine, Oncology, and Intensive Care Medicine). The 6th year is an internship in Internal Medicine (7 weeks), Surgery (5 weeks), and Family Medicine (3 weeks of work with a general practitioner for adults and one week of work with a general practitioner for children). The tuition in the pre-clinical part is organised weekly and examinations are only taken during the examination period at the end of the semester. Beginning from the 7th semester, tuition in the individual subjects is organised in one- or two-week blocks. The seminars, practical training and bedside teaching are concentrated in morning blocks of a daily duration of six hours. Obligatory lectures are held in the afternoons, eligible lectures are usually held in late afternoons or in the evenings.

The curriculum also contains obligatory summer vacation practical trainings after the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th years.

Admissions of students

Every applicant must have completed successfully at least 4 years of studies at a secondary school closed by a school-leaving examination (maturity examination). Students are admitted on the basis of an entrance examination which includes written multiple-choice tests in Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. The number of Czech applicants in the last three years was about 2 000, the number of accepted applicants ranged between 350 – 400.

Examinations, grading system

To complete a course means to fulfil its requirements in one of the following ways: course-unit credit, colloquium, examination, state doctoral examination.



Oral examinations and written tests are used for the evaluation of knowledge. Examinations are discipline based and are held by departments. There is usually an examination at the end of each course. The examination often consists of a written and an oral part; sometimes the written part has an elimination character. A component of some clinical examinations is also a practical exam involving patient cases. In addition, the student knowledge and practical skills are constantly evaluated during seminars and practical work, mainly using shorter tests or essays.

The final evaluation – State Doctoral Examination – consists of four exams (Public Health, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Internal Medicine and Surgery) that the student has to pass during the 11th and 12th semesters.

The grading scale consists of the following grades:

<i>Verbal definition</i>	<i>Letter symbol</i>	<i>Grade point value</i>
Excellent	A	1
Very good	B	1.5
Good	C	2
Satisfactory	D	2.5
Sufficient	E	3
Fail	F	4

STUDY OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

English programme

The study programme of General Medicine and Dentistry are offered also in English. Students studying in the English programme are obliged to pay a tuition fee. Students coming to the Faculty of Medicine under the Socrates-Erasmus Programme may join the study in this English programme free of charge.

Conditions of admission for foreign students self-payers:

Every foreign student must have completed successfully at least 4 years of studies at a secondary school (high school) closed by a school-leaving examination. A survey of their secondary school results and a school-leaving certificate are required. The students are accepted on the basis of a written entrance examination in the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

The entrance examination takes place in Brno usually in June and September. The applicants from selected countries can also contact our representatives and do the entrance examination in their home country.

The application forms and more details concerning admission of foreign students may be requested from the Department of Study Affairs or are obtainable on the web pages of the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno at the address [http:// www.med.muni.cz/to.en/studium/zahrstud.php](http://www.med.muni.cz/to.en/studium/zahrstud.php)

The fees

The English study of General Medicine costs 8 500 EU per year. This sum holds for those who pay the tuition fee for the **whole** relevant

academic year only and their money arrives on the account of Masaryk University no later than 31 August. The tuition fee can also be paid **in two parts**. It means that the student can pay extra for each semester. In this case the price is raised by the administration expenses, and thus each semester of General Medicine in English costs 4 500 EU (altogether 9 000 EU for a whole year of General Medicine). The tuition fee in Dentistry is 9 000 EU.

Accommodation

Student hostels providing accommodation and catering for foreign students are situated in Vinařská Street and in Komárov. Having been built in the 1970s, they still belong to the most modern hostels in the Czech Republic. Twin-bedded rooms and rooms with three beds are equipped with a kitchenette containing a refrigerator and a cooker, a separate bathroom, and a toilet.

Cost of living and accommodation

The Czech Republic does not provide any social benefits to foreign citizens in the course of their university studies. Scholarships and subsidies of the Czech Republic for accommodation in the students' halls of residence or for meals in students' refectories cannot be provided to foreign self-paying students. The students have to support themselves totally when studying, including full payments for accommodation and meals.

The Czech currency is "koruna" (Czech crown, CZK, Kč). One Euro (EU) \approx 28–30 Kč, 1 USD \approx 21–23 Kč. Money can be exchanged at any bank or change office. Using credit cards, cash can be obtained from cash machines. Credit cards are accepted in larger shops, hotels, and restaurants.

The expenses of foreign students for accommodation in the students' halls of residence (one room for two or three students) are about 150 EU per month, the amount being subject to change due to economic

situation, while the meals (3 times a day) in an academic refectory cost about 5–6 EU per day.

Faculty of Medicine Masaryk University requested the U.S. Department of Education for eligibility to participate in federal student financial aid programs. Review of the application is in process.

Health insurance

Students are expected to have health insurance arranged in their home country. If they do not have health insurance of this kind, they are required to pay general insurance for foreigners in the Czech Republic.

Clearing a temporary stay in the Czech Republic

According to the Act No. 326/1999 of the Collection of Laws, paragraph 60, article 2, about the stay of foreigners in the Czech Republic, all non-EU foreigners who come to study in the Czech Republic have to get visa. **It is necessary to apply for the Long Term Visa at the Czech Embassy in the home country as soon as possible (it takes about two months), so this Visa should be obtained before travelling to the Czech Republic.** Requests for Czech visa must be written on a special application form which students can get at the Czech embassy in their country. Requests must be handed in personally.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For detailed information on the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, see its website www.med.muni.cz.

Brno has many interesting sights which are carefully preserved. Numerous legends have been woven round these places. In view of its position at the boundary between the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands and the lowlands, the city also has beautiful surroundings and a convenient climate. Near the city there is a large artificial lake for recreation accessible by public transport and the city itself is surrounded by woods on three sides. Nearby you can also find stalactite caves belonging to the famous Moravian Carst area. In winter you can easily go to the Highlands, which is an ideal place for skiing. There are two rivers crossing Brno, Svatka and Svitava. It is a city of many renowned Czech writers, poets, composers, artists, and architects, who create its abundant cultural history. There are large sports centres, racing courses for cars and motorcycles, and a large exhibition ground where many exhibitions and international trade fairs take place every year.

The city is also popular thanks to many historical and reconstructed buildings, shopping, restaurants, pubs, cafes, wine-rooms and wine-



cellars, business and leisure centres, well-kept parks and valuable artefacts placed in public areas. Thanks to its location at very heart of Central Europe, getting to Brno is simple, whether by plane, train, coach, bus or car.

Further interesting information on Brno can be obtained on the address <http://www.brno.cz/index.php?lan=en>.

Students' Halls of Residence, Masaryk University

<http://www.skm.muni.cz>

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