



## HEALTH POLICY, PLANNING AND FINANCING MASTER'S PROGRAM

**Valid:** For students starting their studies in the 2020/2021/1 semester

### General Informations:

**Person responsible for the major:** Dr. Valentin Brodszky, professor

**Place of the training:** Budapest

**Training schedule:** full-time

**Language of the training:** English

**Is it offered as dual training:** no

### Specializations:

1. **Name of specialisation:** Health Economics

**Person responsible for the specialisation:** Dr. Fanni Rencz, associate professor

### Training and outcome requirements

1. **Master's degree title:** Health Policy, Planning and Financing

2. **The level of qualification attainable in the Master's programme, and the title of the certification**

- qualification level: master- (magister, abbreviation: MSc)
- qualification in Hungarian: okleveles egészségpolitikai szakértő
- qualification in English: Expert in Health Policy, Planning and Financing
- optional specialisations: Health Policy and Analysis, Health Economics

3. **Training area:** social sciences

4. **Degrees accepted for admittance into the Master's programme**

4.1. Accepted with full credit value: from the field of social sciences: social studies, sociology; from the field of medical and health sciences: healthcare and prevention, nursing and patient care, health care management; from the field of economic sciences applied economics, business and management undergraduate degrees as well as public service undergraduate degrees.

4.2. May also be considered if the number of credits defined in section 9.4 are completed: undergraduate and Master's courses as well as courses defined in Act LXXX of 1993 on higher education that are accepted by the higher education institution's credit transfer committee based on a comparison of the studies that serve as the basis of the credits.

5. **Training duration in semesters:** 4 semesters

6. **Number of credits to be completed for the Master's degree:** 120 credits

- degree orientation: theory-oriented: 60-70 percent
- thesis credit value: 12 credits
- minimum credit value of the comprehensive extra-institution practical training: 4 credits
- minimum credit value of optional courses: 12 credits



**7. International Standard Classification of Education field of education code: 314/0311**

**8. Master's degree training objectives and professional competences**

The objective of the program is the training of health policy experts who are capable of autonomously performing tasks in the areas of health policy, planning and financing (analysis, planning and development, project management) and thereby contributing to improving the performance and efficiency of the institution or regional (national, regional or subregional) system representing the level of their activities. They are prepared to continue their training at the PhD level.

**8.1. Professional competences to be attained**

**8.1.1. The Health Policy Expert's**

**a) knowledge**

- Has mastered the methodology required for analysing and planning the macro- and meso-level systems, institutions and services of healthcare.
- Understands the potential role of the government, municipalities, the private sector, professional and civil organisations in attaining health policy objectives.
- Has a thorough knowledge of the theoretical issues of fundraising, the financing of healthcare services as well as the relevant international and Hungarian experiences.
- Has mastered the methods of analysing healthcare expenses.

**b) skills**

- Is capable of analysing the effects of international healthcare processes on Hungarian healthcare.
- Is capable of evaluating the performance of healthcare systems, of analysing their processes and potential future alternatives in their social, economic and international contexts.
- Is capable of using a diverse, interdisciplinary approach in analysing the performance and problems of the meso-level systems of healthcare, of defining decision options and conducting impact assessments.
- Is capable of analysing the management, performance and operational problems of institutions active in the financing of healthcare and in providing such services, of defining decision alternatives and participating in elaborating the strategy and the short-term plans of the relevant institutions.
- Is capable of participating in managing meso- and institutional level healthcare programs.
- Is capable of using the internationally recognized knowledge obtained in healthcare economics to design various analyses with regard to the quality of services, the cost effectiveness of healthcare technologies, therapies and medicinal products as well as to manage the relevant programs.
- Is capable of presenting his findings in both a written and oral form to an expert audience in a professional and convincing manner.

**c) attitudes**

- Is open and receptive to participation in interdisciplinary working groups, organisations, international co-operations to which he seeks to contribute in a positive, constructive and proactive manner.
- Makes efforts at rational analysis, problem solving and argumentation.
- Is open to new phenomena, new scientific findings.

- Has a critical attitude towards his own work and behaviour as well as those of his subordinates, is committed to correcting errors and to developing colleagues.
- Strives to improve his own knowledge.
- Deems it important to publish his ideas, professional results, proposals at professional forums in the form of presentations and professional papers, publications in both Hungarian and foreign languages.
- Is ready to share his knowledge with non-professional audiences as well.
- Respects and observes professional, ethical norms.
- Is committed to professional attempts at solving global issues, especially by supporting scientific and practical measures against tendencies that endanger sustainability.

**d) autonomy and responsibilities**

- Works autonomously in the process of analysing health policy planning and health economics.
- Formulates independent professional views during decision support.
- Assesses, takes, and manages responsibility for the fact that results received from analyses and practical methods partially depend on the chosen method .
- Autonomously and responsibly participates in the creation and management of work organisational units.
- Assumes responsibility for colleagues, subordinates, supports the professional career and the health of subordinates.
- Takes initiative in social and public matters.

**8.1.2. The Health Policy and Planning Specialist's and the Health Policy Expert's**

**a) knowledge**

- Has a thorough understanding of the performance assessment theories of healthcare systems.
- Has a thorough understanding of developments, institutional capacities aimed at reaching health policy objectives, of the instruments affecting the quantity and quality of workforce, the offer of and demand for services, their price, the quality of services as well as the conditions of and limits to applying them.
- Has a thorough understanding of the theoretical issues, international and Hungarian experience with regard to regional and subregional multisectoral health policy, healthcare development, strategic planning.
- Has a thorough understanding of the theoretical issues, international and Hungarian experiences with regard to regional healthcare organisation.
- Has a thorough understanding of the analysis and management of human resources in healthcare at a regional and institutional level.
- Has a thorough understanding of the theories and methods of the strategic planning and quality management to be realized in healthcare institutions.

**b) skills**

- Is capable of analysing the impact of economic, social and demographic processes at the level of regional and subregional systems, healthcare institutions.
- Is capable of presenting and interpreting the problems arising from the deficiencies of the methods used for evaluating the performance of healthcare.

- Is capable of critically assessing the health policy instruments targeting the improvement of the health of the population, the efficiency and quality of the healthcare system, the reduction of inequalities and the financial sustainability as well as to adapting it to the specific conditions of the relevant region, subregion or institution.
- Is capable of analysing the potential role of the government, municipalities, the private sector, professional and civil organisations in attaining health policy goals as well as of formulating relevant recommendations.
- Is capable of analysing the application of the funding methods of healthcare services, of preparing analyses with the help of the funding database.
- Is capable of analysing the situation of the financing of institutions in a particular region, subregion, of formulating proposals.
- Is capable of drafting regional and subregional strategic plans and action plans.
- Is capable of analysing, devising and managing programs aiming at healthcare organisation.
- Is capable of applying knowledge and attitudes that facilitate the strategic planning of healthcare institutions as well as the harmonisation of medical-professional and economic interests.
- Is capable of devising and analysing international co-operations at the national, regional, subregional and institutional levels of healthcare.

### **8.1.3. The Health Economic Specialist's and the Health Policy Expert's**

#### **a) knowledge**

- Has a thorough understanding of the fundamental principles of evidence-based medicine.
- Has mastered the methods of measuring health gain.
- Has a thorough understanding of the methods of economic analyses used internationally.
- Has mastered the basic types of modelling applied in economic analyses.
- Has a thorough understanding of the theory and methodology of healthcare technology evaluation.
- Has mastered the methodology of the development decisions, pricing, financing and marketing of healthcare technologies.

#### **b) skills**

- Is capable of applying the methods measuring the quality of life.
- Is capable of devising and executing a comprehensive economic analysis.
- Is capable of critically evaluating the professional literature with regard to the cost effectiveness of healthcare technologies.
- Is capable of applying modelling methods in health economics.
- Is capable of evaluating healthcare technologies.
- Is capable of analysing the potential effects of the pricing, financing and marketing methods of healthcare technologies and services on quality, access and efficiency.
- Is capable of analysing the support system of healthcare technologies on the basis of economic and social policy criteria.

## **9. About the Master's program**

### **9.1. Professional properties**

#### **9.1.1. The scientific fields and areas that the training is based on are:**

Professional expertise in Health Policy 56-66 credits of which:

- Epidemiology and Biostatistics (8-12 credits),
- Health Policy and Public Health (8-16 credits),
- Healthcare Informatics (2-4 credits),
- Healthcare Law and Ethics (3-6 credits),
- Healthcare Systems and Their Financing (6-12 credits),
- Basic Economics (6-12 credits),
- Health Economics (4-8 credits),
- Public Healthcare Strategies, Projects and Analyses (4-8 credits).

#### **9.1.2. Themes and credit ratios of optional specialisations resulting in specific competences**

The credit ratio of the optional specialisation is a further 28-36 credits:

##### **a) Health Policy Planning and Analysis:**

- regional development and medical care organisation in healthcare (4-8 credits),
- healthcare management (6-12 credits),
- quality management (4-8 credits),
- strategic planning and management (7-9 credits),
- social work and healthcare (3-6 credits), public administration (3-6 credits);

##### **b) Health Economics:**

- methodology of health economic analyses (8-12 credits),
- measurement of health gain (4-6 credits),
- financing, marketing of healthcare technologies (8-12 credits),
- evaluation of healthcare technologies (4-6 credits).

### **9.2. Foreign language requirements**

Earning the Master's degree requires at least one state-recognized intermediate (B2) complex language examination in one of the official languages of the European Union and one state-recognized intermediate (B2) complex language examination or an equivalent high school graduation certificate or diploma.

### **9.3. Internship requirements**

Internship is a minimum of 120 hours of training fulfilled during the term time of the third semester. Professional training may only be performed when the student has obtained the maximum of 57 credits by completing the compulsory and compulsory professional subjects. The internship may not be fulfilled during a passive semester. The professional training may be honoured with 4 credit points. The major goal of internship is to deepen and develop the knowledge and skills acquired in the program in a real economic environment as well as to develop the students' professional skills and increase their attractiveness on the job market. Internships may take place in: healthcare providing institutions (mostly hospitals), at the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management, government offices' Policy Administration Services of Public Health, Ministry of Human Capacities, National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition, insurance companies, voluntary health funds, research institutes, organisations dealing with the assessment of healthcare technology, developers and suppliers of healthcare technologies, distributors of medicinal products and specialist medical accessories. A business owned by the student or university student organisations may not host internships.

#### **9.4. For persons with degrees defined in Section 4.2, the minimal requirements of admittance to the Master's program training cycle**

The minimum number of credits needed to enter the Master's training is 30 from the areas of Economics, Social Policy, Statistics, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, Communication, Computing, Epidemiology, Public Health Medicine, Healthcare Informatics, Healthcare Management.

#### **9.5. Choice of Specialisation**

There is one specialisation in the Health Policy, Planning and Financing Master's program (MSc) which should be completed by each student. The name of the specialisation available at the Master's level in English and in Hungarian is: Health Economics: egészségügyi közgazdaságtan. The Health Economics Specialisation is launched in each year, irrespective of the number of students. It is not possible to opt for another specialization.

#### **9.6. Comprehensive exam**

The comprehensive exam is composed of the compulsory professional subjects and the subjects of the specialisation in the Health Policy, Planning and Financing Master's program (MSc). A student may be admitted to the comprehensive exam when he has completed the compulsory professional subjects, the subjects of the specialisation as well as the two-semester thesis seminar.

The comprehensive exam may be oral and/or written. The department in charge of the program shall publish the form of the comprehensive exam (written or oral) and information on the exam (in the case of an oral exam the exam queveningons, in case of a written exam the possible exercise types and themes) by the end of the first week of the term time of the semester in which the comprehensive exam is due.

The rules on retaking the comprehensive exam are laid down in Section 38 of the Study and Exam Regulations.

#### **9.7. Requirements of issuing the completion certificate**

- Successfully completing the subjects required for obtaining the diploma in addition to the 120 credits as specified in the credit recognition decision.
- Fulfilling the required credit points (120 credits) in the structure prescribed in the operative curriculum during the maximum duration of the training (the total number of active and passive semesters may not exceed 8). At least 2/3 of the prescribed amount of credit points must be completed at the University.
- Fulfilling the required internship
- Passing the comprehensive exam.

#### **9.8. Content-related and formal requirements of the thesis**

The length of the ideal thesis (without attachments) is between 50–70 pages. More detailed information on content-related and formal requirements is available at the end of the Information Sheet.

#### **9.9. Requirements of the final exam**

##### **9.9.1. Requirements for being admitted to the final exam**

The student may only be admitted to the final exam if he has obtained the certificate of completion (absolutorium), submitted his thesis which was accepted by both evaluators.

##### **9.9.2. Parts of the final exam**

The final exam consists of the defence of the thesis.

### 9.9.3. Result of the final exam

The grade of the final exam is the arithmetical average of the grade awarded for the thesis by the two evaluators and the grade received for the oral defence.

### 9.10. Components of the qualification of the diploma, calculation method

Conditions of issuing the diploma:

- obtaining the certificate of completion (absolutorium),
- passing the final examination,
- meeting the relevant foreign language requirements.

The qualification of the diploma is calculated as the weighted average of the following:

- the grades obtained in compulsory and compulsory professional subjects as well as in the specialisation subjects weighted by the relevant number of credits,
- the grade of the comprehensive exam,
- the grade of the final examination with double weight.

Based on the resulting average, the qualification of the diploma shall be established as follows:

- |                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| – excellent if the average is between | 4.81–5.00 |
| – very good if the average is between | 4.51–4.80 |
| – good if the average is between      | 3.51–4.50 |
| – fair if the average is between      | 2.51–3.50 |
| – pass if the average is between      | 2.00–2.50 |

**Health Policy, Planning and Financing master programme in Budapest, in English, full time training Curriculum for 2020/2021. (1.) fall semester for beginning students**

Subject Code	Subject Name	Type	Number of hours per semester hours		Credits	Evaluation	Fall or Spring Semester	2020/21 Academic year		2021/22 Academic year		Credit	Subject responsible	Institute	Requirement		Equivalent subject		Remarks
			Lecture	Seminar				1	2	3	4				Code	Name	Code	Name	
								Fall semester	Spring semester	Fall semester	Spring semester								
<b>Catch-up courses</b>																			
								24	0	0	0	24							
KOZNXV4KZ63	Economic Foundations for Public Policy	E	0	2	12	ex	fall	12					Németh András Olivér	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
4KO03NBK91M	Methodological Foundations of Public Policy	E	0	2	12	ex	fall	12					Csengődi Sándor	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
<b>Core courses</b>																			
								30	27	3	9	69							
<b>Core courses</b>																			
								30	0	0	0	30							
4ST14NAK32M	Applied Statistics	C	2	2	6	ex	fall	6					Sugár András	Institute of Mathematics and Statistical Modelling					
4MI25NAK70M	Microeconomics and Applications	C	2	2	6	ex	fall	6					Habis helga	Institute of Economics					
7SO30NHKBM	Sociology of Health	C	0	2	3	ex	fall	3					Elekes Zsuzsanna	Institute of Communication and Sociology					
KOZNXV4KZ61	Introduction to Health Economics	C	2	2	6	ex	fall	6					Baji Petra	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
2JO11NAK04M	Healthcare Law and Ethics	C	0	2	3	ex	fall	3					Csöndes Mónika	Institute of Finance, Accounting and Business Law					
KOZNXV4KZ72	Health Policy and Public Health	C	2	2	6	ex	fall	6					Gulácsi László	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
<b>Professional Core courses</b>																			
								0	27	3	9	39							
4MA23NAK48M	Health Care Financing	C	2	2	6	ex	spring		6				Mihályi Péter	Institute of Economics					
2VE81NAK06M	Controlling in Non-Business Organizations	C	2	2	6	ex	spring		6				Bodnár Viktória	Institute of Management					
4EG59NAK07M	Statistical Methods in Healthcare Analyses	C	2	2	6	ex	spring		6				Rencz Fanni	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
2IR32NAK03M	Health Informatics	C	0	2	3	pg	spring		3				Fodor Szabina	Institute of Information Technology					
4EG59NAK08M	Public Health Strategy, Projects and Assessment	C	2	2	6	ex	spring		6				Gulácsi László	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
4EG59NAK12M	Thesis Seminar I.	C	0	2	3	pg	fall			3				Department of Health Economics					

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Subject Code	Subject Name	Type	Number of hours per semester hours		Credits	Evaluation	Fall or Spring Semester	2020/21 Academic year		2021/22 Academic year		Credit	Subject responsible	Institute	Requirement		Equivalent subject		Remarks
			Lecture	Seminar				1	2	3	4				Code	Name	Code	Name	
								Fall semester	Spring semester	Fall semester	Spring semester								
4EG59NAK13M	Thesis Seminar II.	C	0	2	9	pg	spring				9		Department of Health Economics	4EG59NAK12M	Thesis Seminar I.				
<b>Core elective courses</b>								0	0	22	15	37							
<b>Specialization</b>								0	0	22	15	15							
<b>Health Economics Specialization</b>																			
KOZNXV4KZ15	Health Economics	C	2	2	6	ex	fall			6			Péntek Márta	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
4EG59NAK10M	Internship	C	0	10	4	pg	fall			4			Rencz Fanni	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
4EG59NAK11M	Survey Research Methods in Healthcare	C	2	2	6	pg	fall			6			Rencz Fanni	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
4KO03NBK24M	Health Economic Modeling	C	0	4	6	pg	spring			6			Valentin Brodszky	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
4EG59NAK09M	Valuation of Health	C	2	2	6	ex	spring				6		Péntek Márta	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
2ME43NAK07M	Healthcare Marketing	C	0	2	3	ex	spring				3		Mitev Ariel Zoltán	Institute of Marketing					
KOZNXV4KZ53	Pharmacoeconomics and Health Technology Assessment	C	2	2	6	ex	spring				6		Valentin Brodszky	Institute of Economic and Public Policy					
<b>Elective courses*</b>								0	3	5	6	14							
	Elective courses	E					fall, spring												
<b>Criterion subjects</b>																			
IOK0001NABB	Hungarian Language SHI I.*	CR	0	4	3	pg	fall	3	3				Dobos Ágota	Centre of Foreign Language Education and Research					
IOK0004NABB	Hungarian Language SHI II.*	CR	0	4	3	ex	spring	3	3				Dobos Ágota	Centre of Foreign Language Education and Research					
<b>Total credits</b>								30	30	30	30	120							



**Remarks:**

Type: C-compulsory courses, CE-core elective courses, E-elective (optional) courses

Methods of assessment: ex-exam (exam at the end of the semester, but other forms of assessment are possible during the semester), pg- grade based on the practical assignments given during the course of the semester, a=signature, ce- Comprehensive examination,

**Criterion subjects:**

\* Hungarian Language is a compulsory subject for the students participating in the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship program in the first two semesters.

**Courses are recommended to be taken according to the prescribed time schedule of the study programme (“sample”). You can plan your own individual programme in respect of the following conditions:**

1. the prerequisite system of their study-programme must be taken into consideration when registering for courses.
2. the availability of courses in the semester (most courses are offered either in the fall or in the spring semesters only)
3. completing an average of 30 credits per semester, as a general rule.

**Conditions for the final exam:**

Students can take a Final Exam on the condition that

- they have fully completed the study programme
- they have submitted their Thesis Work and the assessors have accepted it

**Final Exam:**

The final exam is an integrated assessment necessary for obtaining the higher education qualification. It consists of defending the thesis work and answering thesis-related questions in front of a Thesis Defence Committee.