

Checklist for International Students

Visa requirements in Czech Republic

Before Leaving Home

- ☐ Letter of Acceptance from a Czech university
- ☐ Valid Passport (valid at least 6 months beyond intended stay)
- ☐ Completed Long-term Visa / Residence Permit Application
- ☐ Passport-sized Biometric Photo
- ☐ Proof of Accommodation (dormitory, rental contract, private housing)
- ☐ Proof of Financial Means (bank statement or scholarship, approx. 110,000 CZK/year)
- ☐ Comprehensive Health Insurance for Foreigners
 - ➔ Easily arranged online via www.slaviahealthcare.cz
- ☐ Criminal Record Certificate (apostille / superlegalization + translation to Czech)
- ☐ Medical Certificate (if requested)




After Arrival in the Czech Republic

- ☐ Registration at the Foreign Police within 3 working days (passport, visa, accommodation)
- ☐ Submission of Biometric Data (fingerprints, photo) for the residence card

Tip:

Health insurance can be easily arranged online at www.slaviahealthcare.cz using the online calculator. The contract is issued immediately after payment.

Visa Requirement Table

Country / Region	Visa	Required for Study over 90 days?
EU / EEA / Switzerland		 No (just register after arrival)
USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Israel, Singapore		 No (for stays up to 90 days; for long-term study, residence permit required)
India, China, Pakistan, most African & Latin American countries		 Yes (long-term student visa required)

Important Note for Non-EU/EEA Students:

Even if a student from a non-EU country (e.g., the United States, Canada, or the United Kingdom) does not need a visa to enter the Czech Republic for short stays (up to 90 days), they absolutely require a long-term visa or residence permit for the purpose of study for any stay longer than 90 days.

The key difference is the process:

- Students from visa-required countries (e.g., India, China, Russia) must apply for and receive their long-term visa before traveling to the Czech Republic. They cannot enter without it.
- Students from visa-exempt countries (e.g., the U.S., U.K., South Korea) are allowed to enter the Czech Republic with just their passport for a short-term stay. However, they cannot use this privilege to begin their studies. They are expected to have arranged their long-term visa before arrival.

While it is technically possible for a visa-exempt student to enter as a tourist and then apply for the residence permit from inside the Czech Republic, this approach is highly risky and strongly discouraged because:

- The process can take a long time, and their legal tourist status may expire before the permit is issued.
- They may face complications and increased scrutiny from immigration authorities.
- They cannot legally study until the permit is granted.

Therefore, the strong and official recommendation for all non-EU students is to apply for the long-term visa/residence permit for studies at the Czech Embassy or Consulate in their home country before they travel.