

RETROACTIVE PASSIVATION

It is possible to passivate a semester until February 28th in case of the spring semester and until September 30th in case of the autumn semester. In this case the scholarship holder is entitled to receive the scholarship benefits for 1 month.

- a) Retroactive passivation after the above mentioned deadlines is only possible in particularly exceptional cases (e.g. the scholarship holder's unexpected, exceptionally serious illness involving hospitalization which is confirmed by a specialist doctor's opinion and findings in Hungarian or English; serious illness or sudden death of a close relative, which is certified by an original and English or Hungarian medical opinion and findings or a death certificate in Hungarian or English; a natural disaster that occurred in the scholarship holder's home country immediately before the date of retroactive passivation, e.g. a devastating earthquake, tsunami, tornado, flood or an armed or ethnic conflict that escalated immediately before the date of passivation, an outbreak of civil war, an epidemic). In the listed cases, the scholarship holder must notify the host higher education institution in writing, and the institution must notify the Hungary Helps Agency immediately after the event justifying the retroactive passivation, but within 8 working days at the latest.
- b) At the same time of the above-mentioned written notification of the scholarship holder, the scholarship holder has to request retroactive passivation with justification and the submission of related documents and medical records. The host institution has to forward the request to the Hungary Helps Agency immediately upon receipt. The director general of the Hungary Helps Agency decides on the acceptance or rejection of the retroactive passivation request.
- c) In case of the absence of documents justifying the retroactive passivation and lack of adequate justification, the request of the scholarship holder will be automatically rejected and scholarship holder status will be terminated. (The scholarship holder will lose their scholarship immediately.)

Example: in the case of a spring semester, if a scholarship holder wishes to put their active semester passive on May 5th, but they do not submit the documents in Hungarian or in English justifying the retroactive passivation along with their written request, the retroactive passivation is not permitted for them, and their scholarship holder status will be terminated.

- d) If the submitted documents do not justify the retroactive passivation of the semester (they do not prove the unexpectedly serious cases mentioned in the list above), the scholarship holder's request will be rejected. In this case, the scholarship holder can either continue their studies with active student status, or they can suspend their studies at their own risk. In the latter case, the scholarship holder is obliged to pay back to the host institution the benefits and allowances paid for the given semester until the date of the submission of request. If the

scholarship holder fails to fulfil this obligation, their scholarship holder status will be terminated. (The scholarship holder will lose their scholarship immediately.)

In case the request of the scholarship holder is rejected and if the scholarship holder decides to continue their studies with an active student status, they must appear in person at the international office of the host institution within 10 working days after the rejection. In this case, the scholarship holder will continue to receive benefits and allowances.

- e) If the retroactive passivation of the academic semester is permitted by the director general of the Hungary Helps Agency, the semester is not considered a used, funded semester, and is not deducted from the number of eligible academic semesters, but the condition for this is submitting the request of the scholarship holder with the justification described in point b) within 8 working days.

Example: a scholarship holder participating in a 4-semester master's program put the 3rd semester of their studies passive with the permission of the director general of the Hungary Helps Agency after February 28th (in case of the spring semester) or after September 30th (in case of the autumn semester). In this case the scholarship holder does not have to pay back the benefits and allowances paid up to the date of retroactive passivation, the semester is considered a subsidized semester, and the scholarship holder has 2 more semesters financed by the Scholarship Program. So, in this case, if the scholarship holder needs two more semesters to complete their studies, those 2 semesters will be financed by the Scholarship Program.