



# Hacettepe Medicine

## 2025-26

# Freshmen Guide

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*Everything (we think) you need to know before you begin*

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## 1.1 - INTRODUCTION - A word from the authors

Congratulations and welcome to Hacettepe Medicine!

Getting accepted is not easy, but you made it. We're so happy to welcome you to our international family.

You certainly have a challenging journey ahead of you. There will be lots of ups and downs (mostly downs, if we're being honest ;) and definitely a lot of sleepless nights, but at the end of the day it will all be more than worth it.

We're Ayesha and Aya, 3rd year medical students, and it might comfort you to know that we were in your exact position two years ago. We have cried over studies (literally), struggled with the language barrier (well, Ayesha did; Aya already knew Turkish), and figured things out along the way.

This guide is here to help you start the year on the right track and answer most of your questions. Keep reading for a detailed breakdown on how to manage accommodation, governmental paperwork, academics, social life, and much more. Basically all the stuff we wish someone had told us back then.

You can always contact us if you have any questions left. Our phone numbers will be somewhere on this page :D


P.S. The background in Aya's picture below is the library. You are going to see it a lot (if you are the boring kind to study in the library all the time like her).

Ayesha and Aya



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## 1.2 - Who are we? - TEÖK

### What is TEÖK?

TEÖK (Tıp Eğitimi Öğrenci Kurulu / Medical Education Student Board) is a 12-member board selected from each term of the Turkish and English medical programs at Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine. It works directly under the Dean's Office to:

- Ensure that undergraduate medical students actively participate in the planning, management, and evaluation of their education,
- Strengthen communication and collaboration among stakeholders in medical education,
- Support the continuous improvement of medical education at the faculty.

### Who makes up TEÖK?

The Medical Education Student Board consists of 12 members, one elected from each class group. Among them, a President, Vice President, and Secretary are chosen to form the Executive Board.

**TEÖK President:** Zeynep Tuba Doğantürk, 3rd year

Each member represents their class group in TEÖK. New ideas are first discussed within the board, and ongoing projects are supervised. Both the board members and the Executive Board coordinate with the Dean's Office.

TEÖK carries out its projects through "Working Groups." Membership in these groups is based on applications. Members of these groups contribute to ongoing projects and can also propose and lead new ideas. Applications open throughout the academic term.

### Current working groups include:

- Peer Mentorship Working Group
- Elective Courses Working Group
- Social and Scientific Activities Working Group
- Social Media and Design Working Group
- International Students Working Group

### What is TEÖK's Purpose?

TEÖK was established to support the faculty's accreditation process and functions under the Dean's Office. It presents reports during accreditation meetings and plays an active role in medical education.

When necessary, TEÖK conducts surveys to gather student opinions and provides feedback to the Dean's Office in the form of reports

<https://teok.hacettepe.edu.tr/>

## 2.1 - University dorms (Yurt)

Sihhiye dormitories are located on campus. There are two blocks (buildings) for girls and one for boys, with six floors in each. Here are some reasons you should (and shouldn't) consider applying for them.



Pros:

1. Loads of friends around you all the time.
2. Really close to the lecture halls.
3. Cheap compared to other accommodations.
4. Nice location/ multiple restaurants and cafes in Hamamönü.
5. Don't have to worry about bills etc.

Cons:

1. Small room (18m<sup>2</sup>) and as first years you're more likely to get a 4 person room.
2. Shared bathrooms/ toilets and kitchen.
3. No completely private space.
4. Never alone.

For the incoming international students, the dorm applications are likely going to start mid August but since most of you won't have a Turkish ID yet you might need to contact the following email for a temporary ID to be able to apply for the dorms.

Application site:

<http://www.yurt2.hacettepe.edu.tr/yurtx/home.faces>

Information sites:

[https://cge.hacettepe.edu.tr/en/menu/dormitory\\_-136](https://cge.hacettepe.edu.tr/en/menu/dormitory_-136)

<https://universitem.hacettepe.edu.tr/barinma-olanaklari-en/>

Temporary ID: [hureg@hacettepe.edu.tr](mailto:hureg@hacettepe.edu.tr)

Fees: 1625 tl/month for a 4 person room for the year 2024-25

If you have a medical condition you can request, when registering for the room, to get one on the lower floors or to get a 2 person room but the decision is case-dependent.

Syeda Jaweria Ali  
3rd year

## 2.2 - University student houses

Here's what you should know about the housing options (other than the dorms) in our campus: Öğrenci Evi, Konukevi 1, and Konukevi 2. This is based on personal experience and what I've heard from other students.



### Öğrenci Evi (Apartment-Style Dorms)

Application made through:

<https://www.yurt2.hacettepe.edu.tr>

It's very competitive, especially because Turkish students are prioritized. Despite that, some international students do get placed, so it's definitely worth applying.

The evi is located inside the Yurt complex in Hamamönü, a historical area that gets very crowded on weekends. But it's super convenient: you're close to supermarkets, cafes, and the metro.

Setup:

- 2 buildings: One for females, one for males
- 5 floors in each building (no elevators)
- Most apartments have 3 rooms with 2 people per room (1- and 3-person rooms also exist)
- Shared kitchen, toilet, and a separate bathroom
- Common study area (can be noisy depending on your flatmates)
- Spacious wardrobes and dedicated kitchen shelves for each student

Things to keep in mind:

- No air conditioning, but heating works well
- No storage available over summer
- You can leave your belongings in the room during summer only if you continue paying full rent (no discounted summer fee)
- Avoid the top floor if you'll be moving your stuff on your own (no elevator means lots of stairs)

If you successfully get a room in the öğrenci evi:

If it ever gets difficult to study in the shared study room in the apartment you can always go to the study halls at the yurt. There is also the university library which is a 7 minute walk and is open 24/7.

Outside of campus, there are tons of great places to study too. One amazing option is the largest Library in Ankara (Millet Kütüphanesi) inside the Presidential Complex (Cumhurbaşkanlığı Külliyesi). There are also plenty of study cafés around the city if you prefer a more relaxed vibe.

So even if your dorm setup isn't ideal, don't worry you'll definitely find a study space that works for you.

### **Konukevi 1 (Closest to the Hospital and Faculty)**

Konukevi 1 is the most convenient in terms of location. It's right next to the hospital and medical faculty, making it ideal if you have early classes or hospital shifts. However the rooms are very small, and some are shared between 2 to 3 people, which can feel tight if you have a lot of stuff.

Facilities:

- Each floor has a shared kitchen
- You get a mini fridge in your room + a shared fridge in the kitchen
- Laundry is done in the basement
- Floors are organized by gender: Girls-only, boys-only, and mixed-gender options
- Shared study room on the ground floor
- Closest supermarket is BIM

### **Konukevi 2 (More Spacious but Slightly Farther)**

Konukevi 2 is a bit farther from the faculty than the Yurt and Konukevi 1, but it's still very walkable. The rooms are much more spacious, even the shared ones. If you want comfort and don't mind walking a little extra, this is a solid choice.

Facilities:

- Each floor has its own kitchen and laundry room
- Shared rooms (2–3 people), but not cramped like Konukevi 1
- Also includes girls-only, boys-only, and mixed-gender floors

Things to keep in mind:

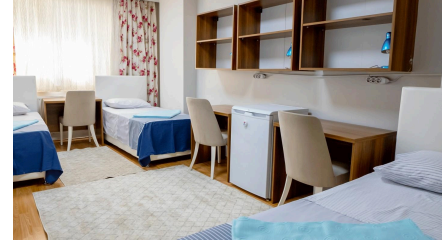
- No air conditioning – bring a fan if you're staying on upper floors
- Spacious rooms make it easier to settle in long-term
- Slightly longer walk to class, but manageable

Sara Abudoreg  
3rd year

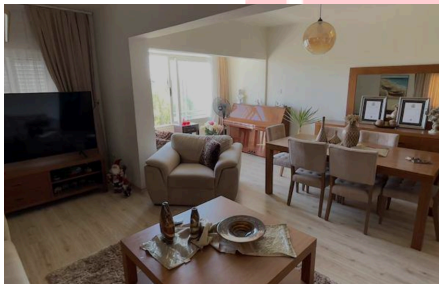
## 2.3 - Private dorms

Private dorms provide you with more options and comfort compared to the university's and public dorms but they're definitely on the more expensive side. Most dorms have room options ranging from 1-person rooms to 6-person rooms. Usually you will have the bathroom inside your room but some dorms can have a couple shared bathrooms for the whole floor. Almost all dorms have a dining hall, with expenses included in the rent and their quality is better than the university's dining hall on average. You can occasionally find some dorms that have a small shared kitchen that you can cook in but they're harder to find. The prices are very variable and usually start from 15k-20k a month and can reach 50k-60k, with one person rooms being the most expensive. Some dorms might also require you to pay a deposit. You can find empty rooms up until September usually but might want to hurry if you want a one person room cause they're booked faster. You can search for private dorms from this website:

<https://www.yurtlarburada.com/>



## 2.4 - Apartments



Apartments are the best option if you want a private room without having to pay an excessive amount. While 2+1 or 3+1 are easy to find, a 1+1 is rare, especially near the university. The issue with 2+1 or 3+1 is finding flatmates. Otherwise, even living alone in a 3+1 costs less than a private dorm room. However, with apartments you will have to arrange and pay for electricity, water and gas services. You might also have to deal with maintenance issues, but normally, the landlord or agent helps with that. The easiest

way to look for apartments is using the 2 websites listed below or through an agent (look for places named 'xyz emlak' in Ankara). Some agents might not rent the apartment without a guarantor working in Türkiye so keep that in mind. Additionally, be ready to pay a deposit and an agent fee the first month, both usually equal to the rent. You will get the deposit back when you move out. You can check out apartments in Cebeci, Dikimevi and Kolej, which are within walking distance from the university. Alternatively, Dikmen and Dışkapı are also good options, both one bus away from Sıhhiye, where the university is located.

<https://www.hepsiemlak.com/en>

<https://www.sahibinden.com>

Usual total rent for 2+1 or 3+1 : 20k - 40k TL

## 2.5 - KYK (Government dorms)

KYK are governmental dorms with 4-8 beds in one room and they are much cheaper compared to other housing options. The monthly rent is below 1000 TL, including both breakfast and dinner. However, it is very difficult to get into KYK since they have a huge number of people applying. They give priority to applicants from lower income families.



## 3.1 - Residence Permit



The university's website provides detailed information in English about the residence permit process (link is below). Something additional that we want to mention is that it is important to get your address registered at the immigration office. Whether you need to do this before or after receiving your permit depends on the rules in effect at that time.

If you live in dormitories, it is quite simple; you just need to get a residence certificate from your dorms. If you live in an apartment, then you have a longer process to go through.

You have to take your notarized rental agreement and a utility bill under your name to the office. However, if you live with someone whose address is already registered at that apartment, you only need the notarized rental agreement and that person to accompany you to the office to get your address registered.

Also, while not guaranteed, the duration of your residence permit is generally as long as your health insurance, though it will never exceed 2 years. So your chances to get the permit for 2 years increases if you have the health insurance for 2 years as well.

[https://internationalstudent.hacettepe.edu.tr/en/menu/general\\_information-73](https://internationalstudent.hacettepe.edu.tr/en/menu/general_information-73)

## 3.2 - Governmental Health Insurance

First of all, congratulations on your acceptance to this university! We all know it wasn't easy — and I'm sorry to say, it won't get much easier. But there are things you can do to make your life more manageable as an international student in Türkiye. One of the most important is having reliable health insurance.



In this short note, I'd like to tell you about a government-provided insurance plan that, although a bit costly, is extremely valuable. The name of this insurance is Sosyal Güvenlik, and it is provided by the SGK (Sosyal Güvenlik Kurumu).

Let me highlight a few key points:

There is a strict deadline for applying. Based on what SGK employees have told me, you only have 60 days after your official university registration to apply. If you miss this window, you may lose the chance to enroll forever.

Health insurance is mandatory for your student residence permit (ikamet izni) in Türkiye. So regardless of which type you choose, you'll need insurance to complete your residency process. SGK insurance gives you direct access to hospitals. You won't need to make separate trips to the payment desks (vezne) before each treatment or exam — which is usually required if you have private or low-coverage insurance. With SGK, your visits are more straightforward.

Speaking from personal experience — I graduated in 2025 and used SGK insurance throughout my time at Hacettepe — I believe it was worth every lira. Yes, it is more expensive upfront, but being able to access healthcare easily when you're sick is invaluable. In fact, getting sick with cheaper insurance can end up costing even more in the long run.

That's why I strongly recommend that all of you apply for SGK insurance as soon as you can.

Wishing you all the best during your time here in Türkiye and Hacettepe!

Dr. Amir Bakhshandehpour  
Graduated 2025

## 3.3 - Private Health Insurance

Private health insurance is extremely variable, prices usually start from 4k a year and can go all the way up to 50k. The price depends on what the package offers you; which hospitals it works with, what tests it covers, the percentage of the physical examination it pays etc. You can find them by simply searching the internet for private health insurances in Türkiye for foreigners. While talking to the company, make sure to negotiate the prices to get a better deal and also make sure to check whether this insurance can be used while applying for the residence permit.

## 3.4 - Equivalence Certificate



e-Denklik

Note before you start reading: ***Please bear with our friend and her love for writing, but the actual info begins with these bullet points if you want to save time.***

Congrats! You've made it through the tedious application process and have probably received your application letter by now. You can finally kick back and start living your youthful dreams of frolicking amid the campus parks (or whatever else those brochures seem to think we do at uni).

Well, uh, not really.

Hate to break it to ya, but there's one more thing you gotta take care of: obtaining your Equivalence Certificate (aka Denklik in Turkish).

What's that, you ask?

It's an official document that confirms your foreign diploma, degree, or transcript is equivalent to the Turkish education system (ha! — totally did not ChatGPT that).

But don't you worry. As long as your documents are complete and error-free (e.g. no name mismatches, nothing missing from your school), the process should go relatively smoothly.

Here's how:

1. Visit [edenklik.meb.gov.tr](http://edenklik.meb.gov.tr) (yes, there's an English version).
2. Check the list of required documents.
3. Fill out and upload the Application Form.
4. Click "Online Application" on the homepage, enter your info, upload docs, and select the nearest equivalence center.
5. Once submitted, the relevant authorities will review it within a few business days — but keep checking the site as you might not get a notification.
6. You'll be told if changes are needed or if you can book your appointment.
7. At your appointment, bring originals + attested copies + passport/kimlik.
8. The application goes to the Ministry for final approval (can take days to weeks).
9. Once approved — congrats, you're official! Submit it to Student Affairs.

Quick disclaimer before you embark on this magical quest to attain your knighthood Equivalence:

- You'll need your residence permit first
- Bonus tip: Some countries allow Denklik via Turkish embassies — check with yours.

Good luck, and may the odds be ever in your favor.

Mehad Ali  
3rd year

## 4.1 - Understanding the Academic System



Year one might be the easiest year content-wise, but getting the hang of how things work and adapting to the system will take you some time. Hacettepe medicine has a committee system, you can think of it as blocks. Each committee has a different schedule, different subjects and lecturers, different labs etc. At the end of each committee, you will have a theoretical exam and maybe a lab exam depending on the committee. At the end of the year, you will have a final exam (both theoretical and lab) that includes everything you have learned in all committees. Each committee has a different weight on your GPA (check the table).

DÖNEM I 2023-2024 DERS YILI AĞIRLIKLILIK ORTALAMALARI										
Ağırlıklı DKS Ortalaması	TFT137 DKS-1 %22	TFT138 DKS-2 %22	Hekimliği Öğreniyorum %2	SEÇMELİ GÜZ %5	TFT139 DKS-3 %22	TFT140 DKS-4 %19	Tıpta Sosyal Sorumluluk %3	SEÇMELİ BAHAR %5		
Ağırlıklı LAB Ortalaması	TFT137 LAB -1 %16 Biyokimya %100	TFT138 LAB -2 %24 Biyokimya %33 Histoloji %67			TFT139 LAB-3 %29 T.Biyokimya %14 T.Mikrobiyoloji %57 Fizyoloji %29	TFT140 LAB-4 %31 T.Biyokimya %27 T.Biyoloji %73				
Ağırlıklı IHU Ortalaması	IHU-1 %30			IHU-2 %30					IHU-3 %40	
Dönem İçi Notu	AĞIRLIKLILIK DKS ORTALAMASI %85		AĞIRLIKLILIK LAB ORTALAMASI %10			AĞIRLIKLILIK IHU ORTALAMASI %5				
Dönem Sonu Notu En az 50	DERS KURULLARI FİNAL SINAVI %85		LAB FİNAL SINAVI %10			YOKS %5				
Dönem Notu En az 60	Dönem İçi Notu %60		Dönem Sonu Notu %40							

In first year you only learn basic sciences, so the subjects you will have are mainly Biochemistry, Organic Chemistry, Medical Biology, Public health, Medical history and ethics etc. You have four committees in year one, two per semester.

All labs have attendance and you can only miss at most 20% of a subject's lab in each committee with the condition of attending the make-up lab at the end of the committee. If you miss more than that, you have to submit an application to the dean's office to be able to attend the make-up. You should provide a health report or at least a very convincing excuse to have the application accepted, otherwise, you can't attend the lab exam of that committee. Theoretical lectures don't have attendance; a lot of people graduate without attending a single lecture ;)

In addition to the committee lectures, you also have elective courses, two subjects per semester. At the beginning of the year, a list of available elective courses will be sent to you by email. A guide made by students that explains each subject, if it has exams, assignments etc. will also be shared in the WhatsApp groups. It is usually advised to choose the least demanding electives, (preferably the ones without attendance or exams), so the time you had to spend attending and preparing for those electives can be used to focus on more important things. However, if you don't know Turkish, there are very few English electives available, and unfortunately, there's not much you can do about it.

## 4.2 - Note groups

Note groups are definitely one of the best things in Hacettepe and it is very beneficial to join them, especially if you don't plan on attending the lectures. Here's how they work:

At the beginning of each committee, the representative of the note group releases a list and the program of the lectures like in the image below (at least that's how our year does it). Each code you see in the list indicates a specific lecture hour in a specific committee. The list here belongs to the fourth committee so all codes start with 4. Each subject also has a number, for example, anatomy will be 41, histology 42 etc. The last two digits are for the timing. The first hour of anatomy, for example, is 4101, second is 4202 etc. Each lecture hour has a note taker and a controller.

TIME	23/12	24/12	25/12	26/12	27/12
8:40:00 AM					4402 - Medical Biochemistry • Regulation an
9:40:00 AM	4304 - Physiology • Gastric Digestion • Okan				4403 - Medical Biochemistry • Regulation an
10:40:00 AM	4105 - Anatomy • The Peritoneum, the Less	4203 - Histology Embryology • Histology of Lo	4305 - Physiology • Exocrine Function of the Pa		4114 - Anatomy • The Pancreas and the Spl
11:40:00 AM	4106 - Anatomy • The Peritoneum, the Less	4204 - Histology Embryology • Histology of Lo	4306 - Physiology • Exocrine Function of the Pa		4307 - Physiology • Gastric Digestion • Okan
12:40:00 PM					
1:40:00 PM	4107 - Anatomy • The Abdominal Part of the	4109 - Anatomy • The Jejunum and Ileum • Bu	4112 - Anatomy • The Liver and the Biliary Duct		4115 - Anatomy • Vessels and Nerves of the
2:40:00 PM	4108 - Anatomy • The Duodenum • Burcu Er	4110 - Anatomy • The Large Intestines • Cere	4113 - Anatomy • The Liver and the Biliary Duct		4116 - Anatomy • Vessels and Nerves of the
3:40:00 PM	4401 - Medical Biochemistry • Regulation ar	4111 - Anatomy • The Large Intestines • Cere			
4:40:00 PM					

Name	Note 1	Note 2	Control 1	Control 2
Student 1	4205		4415	
Student 2	4206		4413	
Student 3	4207		4106	
Student 4	4208		4101	
Student 5	4210		4207	
Student 6	4301		4304	
Student 7	4302	4419	4303	4417
Student 8	4303		4302	
Student 9	4304		4301	
Student 10	4305		4405	
Student 11	4306			
Student 12	4307			
Student 13	4308		4404	
Student 14	4309		4203	
Student 15	4310	4209		
Student 16	4311			
Student 17	4312	4417		
Student 18	4313		4110	
Student 19	4314		4102	
Student 20	4315		4104	

The note taker's responsibility is to attend the lecture and to write down whatever the lecturer says and explains on the provided slides. The controller also has to attend the lecture, but they only make sure that the note taker's notes are correct and complete. After the note is done, it gets added to a drive shared with everyone in the note group. So as a result, you get access to

everything explained in the lectures by attending only a few lectures per committee. Reach out to your year's or note group's representative for more details.

You can only access your year's notes if you are a member of the note group, but you can always access the note groups of previous year through the link below. Most professors usually don't change their slides, but the places they focus on and their explanations might change.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-B7oum7J2npRhu6ZL\\_6M7YBlnjBt\\_ljJ](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-B7oum7J2npRhu6ZL_6M7YBlnjBt_ljJ)

Also, some professors might give some hints regarding the exams, so I would advise you to join the note group, especially if you are someone who doesn't attend the lectures (no, the fact that I'm the representative of my year's note group is not related to this advice ;) - Aya)

## 4.3 - GMP and HSS

In addition to theoretical lectures, labs, and electives, there's a course called 'Good Medical Practice' (GMP), known as İHU in Turkish (İyi hekimlik uygulamalari) and 'Becoming a Physician/ Medicine and Social Responsibility known as HÖ/ HSS in Turkish (Hekimliği Öğreniyorum/ Hekimlik ve Sosyal Sorumluluk). You will have GMP in all preclinical years, but you have HSS in year 1 only. There's an online website with their programs and details called Tip moodle, but this website might be replaced by a new platform, so keep an eye out for updates.

<https://tipmoodle.hacettepe.edu.tr/>

In GMP, you will be separated into small groups, around 10-15 students per group. In the first year, international students are usually together in the same group, assigned with a supervisor that can speak English. In GMP each session will have a different topic of discussion. You will also have patient interviews where you meet with (fake) patients and learn how to take history, ask questions, etc. Luckily in the first year you have the option to do these interviews in English when you request. You can find the booklet on the website below for more information.

[https://medinfo.hacettepe.edu.tr/tr/menu/ogrenciler\\_icin-10](https://medinfo.hacettepe.edu.tr/tr/menu/ogrenciler_icin-10)

HSS also has a similar structure. You are separated into groups and assigned a supervisor, and again, international students are usually together with an English speaking supervisor. In HSS, you're expected to create a project that benefits society in a way or another; you should also try to make it connected to medicine. For example, our year's international students decided to raise awareness about cancer, opening an instagram account where we shared videos and posts about skin, breast and prostate cancer. You can take a look here:

[https://www.instagram.com/cancerawareness\\_hut/](https://www.instagram.com/cancerawareness_hut/)



## 4.4 - Clubs and societies

### HACETTEPE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY (HIC)



The Hacettepe University International Community aims to create a safe, inclusive, and supportive space for international students studying at both the Beytepe and Sıhhiye campuses. The community supports students from diverse cultural backgrounds in adapting to academic and social life at our university, while fostering mutual understanding, respect, and a strong sense of belonging.

Through activities such as cultural events, social gatherings, and mentoring programs, we aim to support individual development and contribute to a more globally minded and informed campus environment. The International Community was established to offer its members a sense of belonging and a social network where they can grow and thrive together.

Some of the events we've hosted in recent years include Trivia Night, International Day, Iftar Nights, Picnics, Go-Kart Tournaments, and more. We are excited to keep building on this energy with new events, fresh ideas, and even more shared memories.

<https://www.instagram.com/hacettepe.hic/>

### INTERNATIONAL DAY

Here comes our favorite and the most anticipated part:  
THE INTERNATIONAL DAY!!!

So the international day is organized by TEÖK and it's held each year in Sıhhiye campus around the beginning of May. There's a separate one in Beytepe Campus too hosted by HIC.

Students come together to represent their countries with stands, posters, dance, music, food, games, henna, traditional clothes, and much more fun activities. You are encouraged to be as creative as you want. It's your chance to proudly showcase your culture. You can also contact your embassies or



other organizations for collaboration (The enthusiastic Palestinian in Aya starts planning for the event months ahead!)

Whether you're setting up your country's stand or just enjoying the day, make sure not to miss it. It's a beautiful celebration of diversity, community, and cultural pride.



## HACETTEPE ÜNİVERSİTESİ TIP FAKÜLTESİ BİLİM VE ARAŞTIRMA TOPLULUĞU (HÜTBAT)

The aim of HÜTBAT is to conduct scientific research and provide a platform for students to participate in scientific studies and discussions, while gaining the necessary skills and attitudes for this process. Supported by our faculty's professors, our community has organized countless national/international congresses, symposiums, domestic and international internships, courses, and article sessions; and has taken part in many scientific studies.

Our biggest event is "Science Days," which gathers participants from all over the country. In addition to this, we also host various symposiums and congresses.

Additionally, we open applications for our sub-teams every year, which we eagerly await you to join. Our activities are organized by six main sub-teams:

**Courses and Internships Sub-Team:** This team is responsible for organizing courses that play a big role in developing our practical skills during the preclinical period and for organizing preclinical summer and winter internships that provide a chance to closely observe the hospital environment.

**HIMEC Sub-Team:** This team is responsible for organizing amphitheater events and online meetings where our professors and fellow students with experience in internships and specialization abroad share their experiences.

**Scientific Research and Meetings Sub-Team:** This team is responsible for organizing amphitheater events where we have the opportunity to discuss the most current topics and



approaches in the medical world with expert professors in their fields, and for organizing training series that help us develop ourselves in different areas.

**Interest Clubs and Article Sessions Sub-Team:** This team is responsible for organizing meetings where we regularly gather in small groups with many professors from different disciplines to discuss cases and articles, and for coordinating studies carried out with student study groups.

**Finance Sub-Team:** This team plays an active role in the operational processes of our community, such as sponsorship, permissions, and application processes, and is responsible for the sustainability of the organization.

**Social Media and Design Sub-Team:** This team is the architect of the eye-catching designs for all the events organized by our community. It is also responsible for HÜTBAT's social media visibility and for shaping its communication style.

We believe that everyone can find something that belongs to them at HÜTBAT, and we can't wait to see you in our sub-teams and at our events. We look forward to seeing all of you at our introductory meeting at the beginning of the term!

[https://www.instagram.com/hutbat\\_official/](https://www.instagram.com/hutbat_official/)

Stay with HÜTBAT ♥

## MEDICAL STUDENTS' EXCHANGE AND PROJECTS (MEDISEP)

MEDISEP (Medical Students' Exchange and Projects) is a dynamic student organization at Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, officially recognized by the university's Health, Culture, and Sports Department in 2003. As associates of the Turkish Medical Students' Association (Türk Tıp Öğrencileri Birliği) and EMSA (European Medical Students' Association), we are committed to empowering medical students through education, advocacy, and international collaboration.



Our work is organized into three main branches:

- **Thematic Pillars:** We focus on critical areas such as Medical Ethics and Human Rights, Medical Education, Sexual Health and Gender, and Public Health, hosting discussions, workshops, and awareness campaigns.
- **Projects:** We bring meaningful impact through initiatives like Çerez, where we visit hospitalized children; Ayırıcı Tanı, a campaign to raise awareness on child abuse and neglect; and Teddy Bear Hospital, which helps school children overcome their fear of doctors through interactive play.

- **Exchanges:** As part of a global network, we facilitate both research and clinical internship exchange programs, connecting Hacettepe medical students with peers around the world.

Through our interdisciplinary approach and international perspective, MEDISEP continues to be a leading voice in shaping the future of medicine from a medical student's perspective.

## HACETTEPE ÜNİVERSİTESİ TIPTA SES ARAŞTIRMALARI VE MÜZİK TOPLULUĞU (HÜTSAT)

HÜTSAT is a vibrant and welcoming student society at Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine that brings together students with passion for music and the arts. While we are mainly known for our musical activities, we also organize a variety of entertaining events throughout the academic year — from open-air movie nights to lively parties. One of our unique features is our amphitheater events, where we invite professors who have a strong connection to music to share their musical journeys and insights with us. Whether you're a performer, a music enthusiast, or simply looking for a creative outlet and community, HÜTSAT is a great place to connect, express yourself, and unwind from the intensity of medical school. We warmly welcome all international students who want to explore music, make friends, and enjoy art in a supportive environment.

<https://www.instagram.com/hutsat.official/>

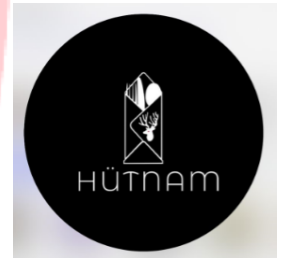


## HACETTEPE ÜNİVERSİTESİ YEMEK VE TADIM TOPLULUĞU (HÜTNAM)

Welcome to HÜTNAM, Hacettepe University's Food and Tasting Community! If you love discovering new cuisines and sharing delicious moments with friends, this is the place for you.

At HÜTNAM, we organize tasting events featuring dishes from different cultures around the world. From spicy Asian flavors to rich European classics, our events are a true celebration of global cuisine. But we don't just taste, we also create! Join our workshops where we make everyone's favorites like pizza, burgers, and pasta from scratch. Beyond food, HÜTNAM is also about community and celebration. Each year, we host a lively Halloween party with creative costumes. We can't wait to meet you and share all these exciting experiences together.

<https://www.instagram.com/hutnamhacettepe/>



## 5.1 - Sıhhiye and Beytepe Campuses

Hacettepe university has 2 campuses; Sıhhiye and Beytepe.

Sıhhiye campus is the campus located in Sıhhiye and linked with all the health related departments. Since the university hospital is also present in this campus, this is where you are going to spend your next 6 years. It's a fairly large campus and you will probably agree unless you visit the Beytepe campus, but well, we have to deal with what we got.



*Sıhhiye Campus*

Still, don't underestimate our campus (trying to keep this as positive as possible). We have 3 different gates to get into our main faculty building, but you have to show your student card every time you enter. Entering from the M gate, you come across Kafe Tıp where you will probably spend a lot of your time between lectures. It's hard to find a spot there later in the day, but early in the morning, you can almost always get a table.

Don't miss out on their poğaças, they're the freshest, but they sell out quickly so you need to be there early to grab one. Also, keep in mind that you cannot pay with cash. For the first few months. Either tag along with a friend who has a card, use an online wallet or just wait patiently for your own bank card to arrive.

Inside the main faculty building, you will also find the dean's office, preclinical departments, computer lab, book store, multidisciplinary laboratories, several lecture halls and plenty of study desks and benches.

Just across from the H gate of the main building is the cafeteria and the lecture halls building for the first years. Enjoy those lecture halls while you can. They're definitely more comfortable than the smaller ones you will use in later years back in the main building. The stationary shop and the student's office is also present in that same area.

As for hangout spots, top of the list is of course Kafe Tıp, followed by the rest including a grass area in front of H gate and another in front of the library. There's an area behind the library too that leads you to Hamamönü (technically not included in the university's boundaries, but nonetheless unofficially claimed by the Sıhhiye students).

And of course, let's not forget BIM; our quick solution whenever the cafeteria food disappoints.

As for the Beytepe, let's just say, if you want a bigger and more vibrant taste of university life, make sure to pay it a visit. It's a beautiful campus, and the skyline there is truly something to admire.

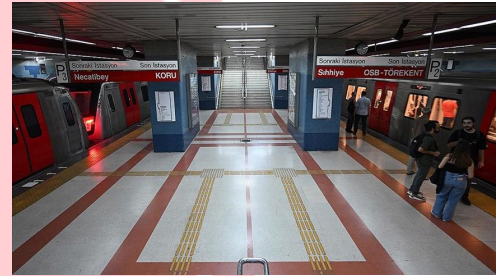
## 5.2 - Transportation

Getting to Sıhhiye campus becomes quite easy once you know that the simplest way is to take Ankaray (name of an underground metro line) to Kurtuluş station.

If you live a bit far, you can go to Kızılay (city center) via bus or metro and then transfer to Ankaray which will take you to Kurtuluş, just 2 stops away from Kızılay. Then it's a 5-10 mins walk to the main campus building.

However, another option is to go to the Sıhhiye stations (where both metro (M2) and buses stop at) and walk 10 mins to the campus from there.

To go to Beytepe campus from the Sıhhiye campus, take Ankaray from Kurtuluş to Kızılay and then change to the other metro line (M2) in Kızılay, which goes directly to Beytepe station. When you get off at Beytepe station, just follow the crowd to the bus that will take you into the campus.



There is a regular transport card you can buy in the first few weeks when you don't have your residence permit. Once you get your residence permit, you can get a student card from Kızılay underground metro station. After you get your student card, if you use public transport often, it's best to buy a monthly pass called 'Abonman', which gives you around 500 rides per month (which are a lot more than enough).

The best way to navigate the public transport system in Ankara is to:

1. Search your location on google maps to check the train and bus lines you would be using and following those.
2. Through downloading the application called 'EGO CEPTE', which shows bus schedules and routes. You can also use it to top up your transport card.

## 6 - Other tips and useful links

- Call 157 for any questions about governmental issues; they have English, Arabic, Persian, Russian and German speakers. The number works only on weekdays.
- Submit a dilekçe (application) to the dean's office if you have any problems with elective course registration, lab attendance, etc.
- The university will provide you with a free white coat the day before your white coat ceremony. White coat ceremony happens in the first week of university.
- Make sure to get your @hacettepe email address to follow announcements, create library account, access research papers, and open all university related websites.
- Try not to lose your student card because you have to go through the hard process of publishing an advertisement in the local newspaper and then applying for it in the student affair's office to get your new card.
- If you lose anything on campus, give it a few days and you will probably find it in the security's office. It is next to the H gate of the faculty building.
- The computer lab is open to all till 5:00 pm in the evening, so it's another place to study if you want a change from the library. There's a study room next to the computer lab as well.
- You can buy your lab books from the book shop inside the main faculty building.
- You can buy past papers from 2 shops; Öztürk and Arzu, both at walking distance from the university.
- The cafeteria provides the same meal in the afternoon and the evenings.
- Every student is assigned a teacher from the faculty who acts as an advisor. If your advisor does not contact you themselves, you can find their name on the bilsis portal (<https://bilsis.hacettepe.edu.tr/>) and contact them yourselves if need be.
- We have various WhatsApp groups for announcements etc. These include groups for international students in the Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe International Community (both Sıhhiye and Beytepe students) and amfi/class groups. You can contact us if you have not been added to these groups yet and we will guide you to the relevant people.

## 7.1 - Country Diversity



## 7.2 - Words of Wisdom

There is a lot to figure out during your first year, so I will focus on the general things. During the first year, especially at the beginning, it's important that you get comfortable with being confused. A lot. You will be confused during lectures, while navigating the school and the city. But you'll learn that everyone else is also often confused. Learn to ask for help, and find your people and stick with them. You've heard that the first year is easy, but don't be anxious if that doesn't hold true for you. Put in as much effort as you can, learn what works for you and what doesn't, and try to learn what gives you the best results early-on. Finally, and most importantly, don't blindly follow all advice. Use it when it's necessary, use it to gain perspective, but don't let it stop you from feeling things out for yourself.

Nawal Haroun  
2nd year



In the time I've been at Hacettepe I have gone from feeling completely out of place in year 1 to feeling thrilled to be starting year 3 next month. Within a short span of 2 years, I have experienced a rollercoaster of emotions here at the Faculty of Medicine from having to endure long hours of lectures to seeing an operation in person for the first time. Although I can now reminisce on my first experiences with fondness, going through a never-ending routine of studying, then taking committee exams, and then back to studying for the next committee isn't always the easiest. However, I must admit, with immense gratefulness, that I was never alone in these trying moments, because it was also here at Hacettepe that I formed a tight-knit group of friends, and that our professors are ever ready to offer their aid. I am also deeply grateful for the active student body and faculty, both of which offer those eager to go beyond the curriculum with a unique surplus of opportunities.

Zeynep Yağmur  
3rd year



My name is Rania and I'm from Iraq. I finished A.levels in Malaysia and came to Türkiye in 2022 and am in Phase 4 now. Being an international student here definitely has its ups and downs. I've met many amazing people from different backgrounds and learned alot from them, but I've also made many Turkish friends who have helped me throughout the years. I suggest to all international students to not only befriend other international students, but to also try to talk to and make connections with Turkish people as well. Many of them have good intentions and want to be friends too. The language barrier is, of course, a challenge, but you will slowly learn and the best way to learn is to practice in real life. As for learning Turkish, I definitely suggest focusing on it as much as possible in the first year of medicine as it is not a heavy year in terms of exams and classes. However, in year 2 and onwards the academic stress gets too much to find free time for language learning. Learning during the summer break is also a good idea. Be willing to learn and be nice to people - it will make your life easier anywhere you go.



Rania Nawaf Hazim  
4th year



Hacettepe can feel overwhelming at first—between the classes, the system, and the environment. It's not the easiest start, but you'll get the hang of it with time. The academic side is challenging, but it teaches you to rely on yourself and learn how to navigate obstacles along the way. Things might not fall into place immediately, and that's perfectly fine. You don't need to have everything figured out from day one. Just take it step by step—it gets easier, and you'll become better at handling it all.

Abdallah Alrwaidi  
5th year

I believe this university shines in its clinical years the most (4th, 5th and 6th years). Preclinical, in my opinion, is hell on earth; harder than most other unis in Türkiye. But after year 3, it's more or less smooth sailing. The students you will be surrounded with will be some of the smartest in the country, so don't let the imposter syndrome set in. Year 1 is the year you adapt to the system, year 2 and 3 are the hardest. I do think Hacettepe produces one of the best doctors in the country, though the system is far from perfect. If you form a good support circle, are willing to work hard, are ready to learn most things through rote memorization, and have good coping skills, this uni could be for you.



Anonymous  
6th year

Congratulations on making it this far—seriously, take a moment and be proud of yourself! I'm a recent international graduate of Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, and trust me when I



say: you've just entered the right place that will shape you into a strong, skilled, and compassionate doctor you have always dreamt of becoming. You're lucky to be part of this prestigious institution—but let me be real with you: it's going to be a rollercoaster. So keep your expectations low, and your determination high. Most of you probably got in through SATs or A-levels, but the exams here? Whole different game. They're going to be tough, but not unbeatable.

Never lose hope. Consistency is your best friend. Çıkış soruları (past questions) are absolute gold—use them! Focus on truly learning, not just

chasing grades. The good news? Even if theoretical exams aren't your strong suit, it is proven international students often shine brilliantly in the clinical years and that's what really counts.

Make meaningful friendships. They'll carry you through the hardest times. Grab every opportunity this place offers. And don't fear the infamous intern year—it's actually the most fulfilling chapter of all.

So hang in there. It's tough, it's wild, but it's absolutely worth it. You've got this. Welcome to Hacettepe! ♥

Dr. Malaika Anwaari  
Graduated 2025





**THANK YOU!**

*Contact us if you need to ask anything!*

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