
FOUNDATION PROGRAMMES IN CZECHIA

Path to high-quality European education for Turkish students

Looking to enroll in a European university but don't know where to start, or need guidance throughout the process?

UJOP foundation programmes offer a comprehensive solution. As a part of Charles University, one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Central Europe, every year, we help international students prepare for successful admission to Czech universities.

The range of programmes covers **Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy, Engineering & IT, Economics, Business and Global affairs**, those you can choose to study **in English or in Czech**. If you plan to study in Czech, additionally we can also help you gain admission **in Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Art & Architecture**. You will receive dedicated guidance every step of the way—from applying for your visa to submitting your university applications. Our experienced teachers will help you prepare for university admission process through both intensive language and specialized subject-focused teaching.

Below, we'll explain exactly what is included in the programme.

TOP 8 REASONS WHY TURKISH STUDENTS CHOOSE TO STUDY IN CZECHIA AND AT UJOP CHARLES UNIVERSITY

1. **Safe and welcoming environment** – Czechia consistently ranks among the 15 world's safest countries (World Peace Index).
2. **World-class university** – Charles University ranks #265 among the world's leading universities and comfortably meets the Turkish top 400 requirement. A further seven Czech universities feature in the top 1,000 of the [QS World University Rankings](#)
3. **Gateway to high quality European university degree** – Czechia is located in Central Europe and its universities offer diploma recognized not just in Europe but also internationally (US, Canada, Japan,...)
4. **No YKS examination required** – decision whether students will be accepted to UJOP foundation programmes is not based on results of the YKS examination. Also for admission process to Czech universities YKS is not crucial. If you do not plan to have your degree recognized in Turkey, you do not need to take the YKS exam to apply to any Czech university. The only admission requirement on our side is a secondary school leaving certificate (high school diploma) confirming the completion of full secondary education.

This means you can focus on preparing for your future studies in the Czech Republic without the additional burden of the Turkish university entrance examination. **Affordable European education** – Czech universities offer very affordable studies in English in comparison with other European destinations. If you choose to study in Czech, you can study with no tuition-fee once you pass the Czech language foundation (one or two years of Czech foundation programme).

5. **Excellent opportunities for future doctors** – Charles University combines international prestige with lower tuition fees than many leading private universities in Turkey.
6. **Affordable living costs** – students can live, eat, study, shop and call for 7000 - 8000 Eur per year.
7. **Strong international student community** – It is usual that Czech universities have 15-20% international students on their programmes.

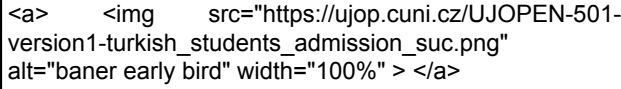
STUDY IN ENGLISH OR IN CZECH?

Studying in English is an excellent option for students seeking international careers. Compared with many European countries, Czech universities provide high-quality English-taught education at a very affordable price.

Studying in Czech is a smart long-term investment because public university education in Czech is free of charge. Students with no knowledge of Slavic language can take one or two years to master the Czech language depending on their intensity of work and talent for languages.

UJOP FOUNDATION PROGRAMMES

For more than 50 years, UJOP has prepared international students for admission to Czech universities. The programme helps students bridge academic differences, prepare for entrance examinations and successfully adapt to university life in Czechia.

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PROGRAMMES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

Students can start their studies with a minimum B1 level of English (IELTS 4.0–5.0 or equivalent). Exception is Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy foundation programme starting in November that requires minimum B2 level of English (IELTS 4.5-5.5 or equivalent). Do you have A2 level of English only? Check the [English for Foundation](#) online course.

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PROGRAMMES TAUGHT IN CZECH

Students can start with 0 level of Czech language.

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STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

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HOW TO START YOUR STUDIES

1. Choose your programme in English (one year programme) or in Czech (one or two year programme for non-Slavic speakers depending on your talent for languages and effort).
2. Submit an online application using the APPLY now button on the programme page
3. Complete the payment process.
4. Receive admission documents from UJOP.
5. Apply for visa.
6. Prepare your documents for nostrification (recognition of your high school diploma).

TIP: Double check you have the required high school knowledge as this is a key factor that will influence your university success after foundation.

7. Start your studies in Czechia.

FAQ

Is Czech Republic safe for Turkish students?

Yes. The Czech Republic is one of the safest countries in Europe and an excellent destination for Turkish students. The country consistently ranks among the world's most peaceful nations and was 11th in the Global Peace Index 2025, which evaluates 163 countries based on safety, crime, political stability, and conflict levels.

Do Turkish students need a visa to study in Czechia?

Yes. Turkish students need a long-term student visa or residence permit to study in Czechia.

Apply as early as possible. The visa process may take several weeks or even months, which is why UJOP sets an application deadline of 31 July for visa applicants for November start and 31st May for September start.

What level of English do Turkish students need to start their university studies in Czechia?

The required level of English depends on whether students apply directly to a university degree programme or first join a foundation programme at UJOP Charles University.

English requirements for university degree programmes

Most Bachelor's programmes taught in English in the Czech Republic require **B2+ CEFR (6.0-6.5 IELTS)** level English, Medicine and Dentistry tends to have higher requirements e.g. **C1 (6.5-7.0 IELTS)**.

Typical accepted certificates include:

- IELTS Academic
- TOEFL iBT
- Pearson PTE Academic
- Cambridge English qualifications
- Duolingo English Test (accepted by some universities)

The exact requirements vary by university and programme. See Studycharles.cz for requirements of Charles University faculties.

English requirements for UJOP foundation programmes

One of the advantages of UJOP Foundation Programmes is that students can start preparing for university with a lower level of English.

Programme	Start date	Minimum English level
Medicine, Dentistry & Pharmacy	September	B1 (4,0-5.0 IELTS)
Engineering & IT	November	B1 (4,0-5.0 IELTS)
Economics, Business & Global Affairs	November	B1 (4,0-5.0 IELTS)
Medicine, Dentistry & Pharmacy (Intensive)	November	B2 (5.5-6.5 IELTS)

UJOP Charles University accepts the following English language certificates:

- IELTS Academic
- TOEFL
- Pearson PTE
- Cambridge English qualifications
- Duolingo English Test

Students must submit their language certificate no later than one month before the start of their programme.

What if a student has only A2 level of English?

You can still start your journey to university studies in Czechia.

If your English level is A2, you can join our Online English for Foundation programme, designed to help students progress from A2 to B1 and continue to our English-taught foundation programmes in Engineering & IT or Economics, Business and Global Affairs. [Online English for Foundation](#)

Key facts:

- Online format – study from home before coming to Czechia.
- Goal: reach B1 level required for foundation studies.
- Perfect for non-native English speakers.
- Application deadline for visa applicants: 31 July.

Please note: the programme is only suitable for those who wish to study Economics, business and global affairs or Engineering and IT, that require minimum B1 level of English. Medicine from November requires minimum B2, for this reason it is not achievable.

What is a foundation programme and why is it useful?

A foundation programme is a preparatory course designed to help international students bridge the gap between secondary school and university. At UJOP Charles University, foundation programmes combine:

- Language preparation (English or Czech)
- Academic subjects required for your future degree
- Preparation for entrance exams and interviews
- Guidance on university applications and diploma recognition
- Support with choosing the right university and study programme

Foundation programmes are especially useful for students who want to:

- improve their language skills before starting university,
- understand how the Czech higher education system works,
- strengthen key subjects such as Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics or Economics,
- and increase their chances of admission to top universities.

Is studying medicine or dentistry in Czech Republic cheaper than in Turkey?

Yes — studying Medicine in English in the Czech Republic can be cheaper than studying at leading private medical universities in Turkey.

Charles University QS #273, from €15,600/year

Koç University QS #329, approximately \$59,000/year

Acıbadem University approximately \$36,000/year

For many Turkish families, Czechia offers a strong combination of high-quality European medical education, internationally recognised degrees, and lower tuition fees than many private medical options in Turkey.

Can Turkish students study medicine or dentistry in Europe without YKS?

Yes. Turkish students can study Medicine in Europe without taking the Turkish YKS exam, depending on the country and university.

For Medicine in the Czech Republic, admission is usually based on:

- completed secondary education,
- recognition of previous education,
- English proficiency for English-taught programmes,
- entrance exams set by the medical faculty, usually in **Biology, Chemistry and Physics**,
- sometimes an interview.

This means that Turkish students applying to Czech medical faculties, including faculties of Charles University, generally do not apply through the Turkish YKS/ÖSYM system. They follow the admission process of the selected Czech university.

For UJOP Foundation Programmes, Turkish students also do not need YKS to start their preparation. The foundation year helps them prepare for the entrance exams, academic subjects and university admission process. Do Turkish students need YKS to study Economics, Business, Global Affairs, Engineering, IT or other majors in the Czech Republic?

Turkish students generally do not need the YKS (Yükseköğretim Kurumları Sınavı) to start their university studies in Czechia. Instead, universities evaluate applicants based on their high school education, academic performance, language skills, and, in some cases, their own entrance examinations or interviews.

What matters more than YKS?

For most Czech universities, admissions focus on:

- Your high school diploma and grades
- English proficiency (for English-taught programmes)
- Mathematics preparation (especially for Economics, Engineering, and IT)
- Faculty-specific entrance exams or interviews when applicable

What about UJOP Foundation Programmes?

Students entering UJOP preparation programmes do not need YKS/ÖSYM results. The foundation year helps students:

- strengthen academic subjects,
- improve Czech or English,
- understand the Czech university admission process,
- prepare for faculty entrance examinations,
- complete diploma recognition procedures,
- and choose the right university and major.

Is Studying Economics, Business, Engineering or IT in English cheaper in Czechia than in Türkiye?

For most non-medical degrees, tuition fees are comparable between the two countries:

- Czech public universities typically charge €3,000–€6,000 per year for English-taught Bachelor's and Master's programmes.
- Private universities in Türkiye usually charge \$4,000–\$10,000 per year, depending on the institution and programme.

The key difference is that Czech universities often offer:

- stronger international rankings,
- EU-recognised degrees,
- easier access to the European labour market,
- and the possibility of continuing into tuition-free Czech-language studies after improving language skills.

Can Turkish students work while studying in Czechia?

During the UJOP Foundation Programme, students are not allowed to work.

Students can start working after they enter a Czech university as Bachelor's or Master's students. Even then, their main purpose of stay must remain study.

Is Czechia a good choice for Turkish students who want to stay in Europe after graduation?

Yes. Czechia is a great place in Europe to start an international career.

The country has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the European Union—around 3.1% in 2026, compared with the EU average of 6.0%, Germany (4.0%), France (7.7%), and Spain (10.3%).

After graduating from a Czech university:

- Students have free access to the Czech labour market.
- Graduates have a 9-month period to find a full-time job.
- Many students gain work experience during their degree studies and continue with full-time employment after graduation.
- Czech degrees are recognised throughout the European Union.

In short: Czechia offers Turkish students excellent career opportunities, affordable living costs, and a smooth path from university studies to employment in Europe.

What salaries can Turkish graduates expect in Czechia?

Typical gross annual earnings (approximate, based on national statistics and industry salary surveys, 2025–2026).

Profession	Czechia	Türkiye
Doctor	€62,000	€32,000
IT / Software Specialist	€53,000	€28,000
Engineer	€32,000	€21,000
Economist	€34,000	€20,000
Business Manager	€45,000	€25,000

These are rough averages based on 2026 salary benchmarks and converted using recent ECB exchange rates: €1 = 24.147 CZK / 53.686 TRY.

Resources: Czechia


1. [Czech Statistical Office – Employees and Wages](#)
1. [Czech Statistical Office – Healthcare Personnel and Their Wages](#)
1. [Platy.cz – Salaries by Positions in Czech Republic](#)
1. [Platy.cz – Software Engineer Salary](#)
1. [Levels.fyi – Software Engineer Compensation in Czech Republic](#)

These sources provide official wage statistics and large-scale salary surveys for the Czech labour market.

Resources Türkiye

1. [Turkish Statistical Institute \(TÜİK\)](#)
1. [TÜİK Data Portal – Wages and Earnings](#)
1. [Trading Economics – Turkey Wages \(based on TÜİK data\)](#)
1. [IMF SDDS – Turkey Labour Market: Wages/Earnings](#)
1. [Paylab Turkey – Salary Survey by Profession](#)

What is the proportion of Turkish students studying at UJOP?

<https://ujop.cuni.cz/UJOPEN-457.html>  https://ujop.cuni.cz/UJOPEN-501-version1-25_26_foundation_nationalities.png alt="Banner early bird" width="100%"

USEFUL LINKS

[How to Apply](#)

[Terms of Payment and Cancellation](#)

[Accommodation for Students](#)

[English FAQ](#)

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