

Introduction

The independent history of the Wesselényi Miklós Technical Secondary School and Student Hostel of Nyíregyháza Vocational Training Centre began in 1969, when the previously merged Industrial Vocational Training Institute No. 110 and Local Industrial School No. 113 split again on September 1, 1968, due to the strong increase in the number of students. The professions taught at the local industrial school were transferred to the 107th Industrial Vocational Training Institute. The school received its economic independence, which meant complete separation, on January 1, 1969. The current name of the institution was formed after several changes of management and name.

It moved to its current location in 1974, which was expanded over the years with a dormitory and a central workshop. In the early 2010s, the main building was completely renovated - through a tender - and a sports hall was also built. Our school, the Wesselényi Miklós Technical Secondary School and Student Hostel - together with nine other vocational training institutions - has been operating as part of the Nyíregyháza Vocational Training Centre since July 1, 2015, and is one of the most dynamically developing institutions, providing vocational training services to approximately 1,000-1,200 people from the settlements of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county (or to a lesser extent from the south-eastern part of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén county and the northern part of Hajdu-Bihar county) with approximately 100 full-time and part-time instructors. The institution's building is located in a busy location, is easily accessible by public transport, and meets the legal requirements for a barrier-free built environment.

In addition to the central building and workshop, vocational training is conducted at two other locations (Univerzum – Beauty sector, Hengersor – Wood industry sector), which currently provides high-quality education to nearly a thousand students. Our school has a unique image, and our training offer is extremely wide. As a result, young people who have completed their compulsory education, as well as adults who wish to learn can choose from a wide range of training offers, according to their knowledge, abilities and opportunities. Students who come to us can currently participate in our training at different levels and at a pace that suits them. They can acquire a profession in the 3-year vocational classes, they can receive a high school diploma and technician qualification in the 5-year technical school classes, but there is also the opportunity to acquire a second profession or participate in post-high school training. We also offer these professional training opportunities in adult education, and we can also provide preparatory training for adults with a profession in our school.

Our diverse vocational training covers 6 sectors: Electronics and Electrical Engineering, Wood and Furniture Industry, Information Technology and Telecommunications, Creative, Beauty and Chemical Industry. In vocational training classes, we provide basic training in the professions of tire manufacturer, carpenter, fashion tailor, electronics technician and electrician, and in technical schools, we provide basic training in the professions of fashion, costume and set designer (with a fashion design specialization), IT system and application operation technician, wood industry technician, hairdresser, beautician technician and rubber industry technician.

Our latest training program, the professional education for photographers (creative photographers), already launched in adult education, is to be introduced in a 5-year technician training program from the 2025/2026 academic year.

A milestone in the life of the school was becoming a [creative technical school](#) from the 2021/2022 academic year, as a result of which creativity permeates the work activities of all employees of our institution, thus having a decisive impact in the medium and long term. With our trainings, we aim to support farmers, industrial and service enterprises, entrepreneurs and private individuals in the region in such a way that the employment opportunities of the participants of our trainings will expand and the quality of their work will improve.

In vocational education, students have several opportunities to acquire up-to-date knowledge in a modern corporate environment operating within the framework of dual training, using state-of-the-art tools. After successfully passing the basic sectoral exam, a vocational training employment contract can be concluded between the student or the person participating in the training and the dual training institution, which creates an employment relationship between them. In addition to our business partners, we have had excellent relationships with several higher education institutions for years. One of our partners is the University of Nyíregyháza, where our students gladly participate in the activities organized by the Experience Centre. Also, we are the base school for the Faculty of Wood Engineering and Creative Industries of the University of Sopron. MOME (Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design) provides assistance to our school in the process of becoming a creative technical school.

Our students are motivated by three different scholarship programs to overcome their learning difficulties, reduce dropout rates, and successfully complete their studies. The Vocational Education Scholarship supports students in the technical school sector and the vocational training sector based on their academic average. The Útravaló and Apáczai Scholarship

programs aim to reduce the number of disadvantaged young people dropping out of school without a degree, foster their talents, and help them succeed. Our institution has a group for disadvantaged students, "[tekerd!](#)", where there is an opportunity for making their own projects, i.e. the implementation of various reimagined works of art (paintings) using Lego bricks. The group collaborates with numerous international organizations, foreign and domestic artists.

Our institution has an [Erasmus](#) Plan, a key element of which is providing international internships for both our students and teachers. Our successful Erasmus+ (VET) accreditation application in the vocational training sector helps to implement this. Our students can appear more effectively on the labour market with the EUROPASS certificate obtained during their internship abroad, which shows that we train professionals who understand and embody European values, have outstanding professional skills, are capable of renewal and adapt to the challenges of the modern age. At the end of the 2023/2024 school year, our school was awarded the Eco-School title. Earning this title reinforces the type of educational work carried out in our institution, through which students learn about the importance of sustainability from an early age, so that responsible environmental behaviour becomes part of their everyday lives.