

The Ivan Villax Traineeship

Ivan Villax trained and graduated in 1948 from the Technical University of Budapest, known as The Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME) as from 2000, as a chemical engineer; he later moved to Portugal and founded Hovione. In 1992 the BME awarded him a doctorate in recognition of his life-long scientific achievement. To celebrate this relationship and pay tribute Hovione has instituted a bursary for up to two traineeships, annually, for MSc students. Ivan Villax believed in merit and competition, these traineeships will be awarded along the same criteria.

The Ivan Villax traineeship aims to create the conditions for an MSc organic chemistry (or other related areas) student to work for a period of 4 to 6 months in an industrial R&D environment. The traineeship will include exposure to the preparation of the active ingredient / drug product under Good Manufacturing Practices or to its related analytical chemistry requirements. Such work will be performed under confidentiality obligations but - should the university wish and permit - this could be an element of the MSc program.

Application: Applications can only be made via the Internet to bolsas@hovione.com, through a single PDF file with a Curriculum Vita with photo, the Application Letter (see below), a Recommendation Letter and data evidencing items listed under Eligibility. Every application will be acknowledged by email.

Application Letter: The applicant must write an Application Letter in English indicating:

- 1) Why he/she finds chemistry interesting;
- 2) What he/she thinks is the most fascinating achievement of chemistry in the last decade, or what chemical innovation of the last decade has had/will have an impact he/she deems particularly relevant to the 21st century;
- 3) What will his/her role be as a chemist/ chemical engineer in his/her chosen career;
- 4) What he/she thinks he/she will benefit from this traineeship.

Eligibility: Applicants must provide evidence that:

1. They are full time MSc students of organic chemistry or of chemical engineering at BME (under the Bologna principles) – by the date of the start of the traineeship they will have completed successfully their BSc course as well as the entrance examination to MSc course,
2. They have performed positively during their university studies,
3. They have taken an unusual interest in chemistry or the chemical industry,
4. Applicants must be fluent in English and must provide evidence of such a qualification (i.e. as the 1st Certificate in English, the Certificate of Proficiency in English or the Hungarian medium level of English),
5. Applicants must be no more than 25 years of age by the time the application reaches Hovione,
6. The application for the traineeship must be sent to Hovione prior to the conclusion of the MSc, until the 30th April of each year,
7. Applicants must be EU nationals,
8. The successful candidate can opt, in agreement with the University, to undertake the traineeship under one of the following conditions:
 - I. The 4-6 months traineeship will be carried out in addition to the normal 4 semester MSc course duration.
 - II. The 4-6 months traineeship will be an integral part of the diploma work, whereby the experimental work carried out during the traineeship at Hovione will be the subject matter of the diploma thesis and will be recognized by the University with 30 credits.

III. The 4-6 months traineeship will be recognized as a part of a special curriculum for outstanding students and will account to between 12-24 credits. This implies that the student will need to postpone several exams for the next semester or should pass the exams before.

When applying, the candidate should indicate under which of these options he/she wishes to carry out the traineeship, having discussed the matter and obtained approval from the University.

Short listed candidates will be interviewed, and may be asked to prepare additional material to support a merit based selection process. The jury will be appointed by the board members of Hovione. The jury's decision shall be final and will be published by June. The Traineeship should then start either in September or February or at any other date convenient to both parties.

Bursary: Each trainee shall receive the following:

- All travel expenses, duly documented, will be reimbursed.
- €500/month will be provided for each complete month of traineeship.
- Simple university style accommodation will be provided at no charge.

Tutorship: A tutor will be appointed internally at Hovione who will supervise the trainee's work and take care of any liaison which may be necessary with his/her education institution.

Report: At the end of the traineeship, the student will draw up and submit a report on his/her work during the period at Hovione, giving conclusions that were reached as a result. This report must be sent to the University that will then forward it to Hovione, after acknowledging its receipt. The report will be marked confidential and no publication during or after the traineeship can be done without Hovione prior review and written authorization.

In the event of the quality of the applications from the BME students not being high enough, the jury will welcome applications from MSc students from other Hungarian education institutions – as such applications from other Hungarian institutions are welcome but applicants need to realize that their probability of success is lower.

For any other information you can contact us at bolsas@hovione.com.