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To Whom It May Concern (especially airline officers)

lately it was drawn to our attention that some US airline officers have doubt about entering our students on the board of the aircrafts heading to Hungary (possibly via another European, Schengen region ports of entry) without a so-called D-type visa, claiming that they are entitled to stay within the Schengen region free of visa only 90 days, but their return ticket is booked for a date over this period or they have no return ticket.

Indeed, these students are obliged to get a residence permit in Hungary for the duration of their stay. However, according to Hungarian regulations, the residence permit can be (in fact, according to the policy of the Hungarian Consulates in the US, should be) obtained within Hungary, after their arrival. The Hungarian Immigration Office does not require a return airplane ticket in order to issue the residence permit (since, in particular, a residence permit can be extended if needed, the return date might not be foreseen at the beginning).

For a reconfirmation of this information, you may visit, e.g., the WEB site of the Hungarian Consulate in New York (http://www.mfa.gov.hu/kulkepvisolet/US/en/en_Konzuliinfo/entry_for_long_stay.htm), which states that

"A residence permit application can be submitted directly to a regional directorate of the Office of Immigration and Nationality, if

c) the applicant concerned is a national of one of the countries listed on Annex II (which includes the United States of America) of Council Regulation EC no 539/2001 (visa free countries)."

or may call the consulate ((212) 752-0661, <http://www.mfa.gov.hu/kulkepvisolet/US/en/>).

with best regards,



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