The first medical school in Romania was created in Iasi, in 1879, within the first modern university in the country. Since 1965, the University comprises the faculty of medicine, the faculty of dentistry and the faculty of pharmacy whilst the faculty of bioengineering was founded in 1994. Since 1990, the institution operates as the University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMF) and bears the name of one of its faculty members, Grigore T. Popa, a world renowned scientist.

The number of students registered for undergraduate degrees, Masters, PhDs and residency studies is currently over 11,100. Our institution has proved to be successful in attracting international students and has large cohorts of English and French speaking students. There are almost 2000 foreign students from almost 70 nationalities who bring a rich vein of international experience so that the University can be considered as one of the most opened and cosmopolitan higher education institutions in the Eastern Europe.

Recently (2013), our University participated at the “European University Association’s Institutional Evaluation Programme (EUA – IEP)”. According to the EUA, Grigore T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy is “a well-established institution of high national and international reputation, with highly motivated academic and administrative staff, committed student and supportive stakeholders.” External reviews have confirmed its “leading position in the region and the country”. The team pointed out “that UMF will fulfil its mission adding value to the welfare of the Romanian society, strengthen its position as global player as a university of medicine and pharmacy and contribute to the international scientific progress in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and bioengineering.”

The University has developed over the years extensive international cooperation partnerships through European programmes like Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig, with almost 45 universities. Incoming and outgoing students on exchange programmes report positively on their experiences and identify positive benefits to their student experience.

UMF is a member of some of the most important university networks and associations like: Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE), Organisation for Ph.D. Education in
Biomedicine and Health Sciences in the European System (ORPHEUS) and Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF).

Palace of Culture

Iaşi is considered to be an affordable city, where prices can be lower than in other Romanian cities. Many students choose to stay in apartments as it offers privacy and a feeling of your own “home”. Accommodation for Erasmus students can be obtained also from other university hostels on request. The University’s main campus is located in the city centre, while several other buildings for research and education, as well as student housing are located in the Iasi urban area, within walking distance from the main campus. The University has a Sports Centre, a Central Library, publishing house, printing office, student social services (housing and cafeteria services - one close to the main building and the other in Copou Hill).

If you ever want to send a postcard or a package to your home country, you can find a number of post offices just near the university.

Transportation is cheap and efficient. A one-way ticket for a bus, minibus or a tram will cost you approx. 2 lei (0.45€). They usually run from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Taxi is another fast and quite reasonably priced option.

**Health**
In Iasi, healthcare is provided by 16 hospitals and 2 polyclinics. The existence our University, an institution with tradition and specialists with international reputation contributed to Iasi’s recognition in the field of healthcare system. - [http://iasi365.com/sanatate/spitale-iasi](http://iasi365.com/sanatate/spitale-iasi)

**Recreation**
There are many advantages to being a student in Iaşi; the city is well geared up for students: theatres (The National Theatre, The Iaşi Philharmonics), cinemas, museums, clubs, bars, restaurants, malls and sports clubs.

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