WHY STUDY IN IRELAND?

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE
Ireland offers the warmest of welcomes to students from all over the world. With one of the best education systems in the world, offering over 5,000 programmes, all internationally recognised and quality assured.

The only English speaking country in the Eurozone, Ireland is globally connected and home to many of the worlds' top companies. You will be able to work part time, if you want to, and avail of a 12 month stay back option – providing you career enhancing opportunities and differentiation for the future.

Ireland produces unique graduates, creative, innovative and ready for tomorrows world.

Being educated in a Western culture, in Ireland, in a friendly and safe environment is a life changing experience … it’s an investment for life.

Head of Education in Ireland: Giles O’Neill
WHY STUDY IN IRELAND?

HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION, LEADING TO INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED QUALIFICATIONS

Ireland has one of the best education systems in the world, renowned internationally for academic quality. This longstanding reputation for high quality education is built on a strong commitment to excellence:

- Ireland is the only English speaking country in the Eurozone.
- Ireland offers the highest quality education, an investment for life.
- Ireland produces unique graduates; creative, innovative and ready to work.
- Ireland is globally connected, and is home to many of the world’s top high-performance companies.
- Ireland offers a fun and active student life in a friendly, safe and welcoming environment.
- Ireland offers international students the ability to work part time while studying, and has a 12 month stay back option.

Each year in China, many junior students are considering their study abroad options. Students weigh up the pros and cons, and once they have made the choice often wonder whether their decision is right or wrong right up until they arrive at their destination. I know because I was one of these students and now, from my personal experience, I can say Ireland is a great place to study abroad and a choice I don’t regret!

Baoxin Lin, China
Ireland’s thirty-four higher education institutions offer a remarkable 5000+ programmes! Covering a huge and diverse range, these courses lead to internationally recognized, quality assured qualifications. So whether you want a strong, focused business school, a centre of scientific and technology excellence, or a world-renowned English language, humanities and arts faculty... you’ll find it in Ireland.

“The study abroad decision-making process for me included choosing a country which was safe and friendly with a multicultural people, and English as a preferred language for communication. I wanted a university with a global reputation and interesting course options to build my career prospects.”

Dheeraj Singh Rathore (India)
Irish universities are global research leaders. In nineteen different fields, Irish universities are in the top 1% of research institutions in the world in terms of research impact. For example, Ireland is rated 14th overall for science, and holds these impressive rankings:

2nd for Chemistry

2nd for Nanotechnology

2nd for Immunology

3rd for Animal & Diary

3rd for Agricultural Sciences

4th for Mathematics

In 2015 alone, we had 2,081 academic collaborations with international partners. In the 2016 Global Innovation Index, Ireland was ranked seventh. From natural sciences through to social sciences and the humanities, our research programmes drive innovation and change lives. Why not join us?
These international companies all have one thing in common: they require a skilled, educated and highly capable workforce to drive their success. Thousands of Ireland’s graduates are already innovators in their fields and leaders in their companies. Post-qualification, you could be part of that success!

**IRELAND IS HOME TO THE WORLD**

Some of the world’s leading multinational companies – such as Google, Facebook, Twitter, Apple, Intel, Genzyme and EA Games - have international, European, or EMEA headquarters in Ireland. In fact, it has become the European hub for more than 1,000 leading multinational companies. Courses can often include work placement and intern opportunities so studying here can also kickstart a successful career!

**In fact...**

- Nine of the top ten global ICT companies;
- Eight of the top ten gaming companies;
- Eight of the top ten global pharmaceutical companies;
- Six of the top seven diagnostics companies;
- 15 of the top 20 medical device companies;
- 50% of the world’s leading financial services firms; and
- Five of the top 10 companies on Forbes’ list of The World’s Most Innovative Companies ... **have Irish operations.**

(Source: IDA Ireland)
There are seven steps to take in order to begin your new life studying in Ireland!

1. **CHOOSE YOUR COLLEGE AND PROGRAMME**
   Get as much information as possible about the college and the course you’re interested in. Once you have narrowed down your choices, contact the college to which you wish to apply and ask them to send you detailed information on the course and on application procedures. (These may vary across different institutions, so if you’re interested in more than one college, ask each one for its procedures).

2. **APPLYING FOR A COURSE**
   Carefully consider all the information you have been sent. Before you apply ensure that your academic and English language standards meet those required. Again, selection criteria can vary. It is important that you provide everything that has been requested.

3. **CONFIRMING A PLACE**
   If you are offered a place, congratulations! Now, you will be asked to send the admission fee. It is important that you do this as soon as possible in order to secure your place.

4. **BOOKING ACCOMMODATION**
   Once you have been offered and have accepted your place, think about the practical aspects of living in Ireland. Generally, three types of accommodation are on offer: rented apartments, student accommodation, and home stays. Most universities and colleges have accommodation officers to help you decide which type is best for you. It’s really important to organise your accommodation well in advance of your arrival.

5. **GOT YOUR PASSPORT?**
   Be sure to get your passport as soon as possible. If you already have one, check it is valid for a sufficient amount of time. If it’s due to expire in less than twelve months, apply for a new one.

6. **CHECK THE IMMIGRATION AND VISA REGULATIONS**
   Apply for your student visa (see FAQs for more information).

7. **YOU’RE HERE!**
   Welcome! When you arrive in Ireland, it’s very important that all your documents are in order and that you have fulfilled all the requirements of your visa approval. If you are staying in Ireland for more than 90 days you will be required to register with the Gardaí (the Irish police service). Make sure you do this within three months of arrival.
WHY STUDY IN IRELAND?

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST FOR ME TO STUDY IN IRELAND?

Tuition costs vary depending on the course, the institution and whether you are classified as a European student or non-European student. They also can vary, so check the fees with your chosen institution before you begin an application process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECTS</th>
<th>UNDERGRADUATE</th>
<th>POSTGRADUATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicine &amp; Health Sciences</td>
<td>€45,000 - €52,000</td>
<td>€40,000 - €51,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>€9,750 - €23,000</td>
<td>€9,250 - €24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Technology</td>
<td>€9,750 - €22,000</td>
<td>€9,250 - €45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
<td>€9,750 - €20,000</td>
<td>€9,250 - €22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>€9,750 - €18,000</td>
<td>€9,250 - €34,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average Course Fees:

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST FOR ME TO LIVE IN IRELAND?

Living expenses vary depending upon where the higher education institution you choose is located; on the type of accommodation you prefer; and on the personal expenditure you choose. On average, expect to spend between €7,500 and €12,000 per year (depending on where you are studying and your lifestyle).

DO I NEED A STUDENT VISA?

If you are a European citizen there are no visa requirements when entering Ireland. If you are not a European citizen, your nearest Irish Embassy or Consulate will help you find out if you require an entry visa. If your home country does not have an Irish diplomatic mission, visit http://www.inis.gov.ie to find out if you need a visa and how to apply.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A VISA?

- Make a visa application using AVATS at https://www.visas.inis.gov.ie/avats/OnlineHome.aspx
- Completing the on-line application form is the first step. The application will only be processed when the on-line form is completed AND the required documentation, passport photograph and appropriate fee are received by the relevant office, as indicated by AVATS.
- Read the visa application details very carefully. If you do not provide the documentation required, your visa will be refused.
- Please note! When making an application you must:
  1. Complete your online application.
  2. Check the Irish Embassy details to see where your documentation must be sent.
  3. Provide a passport sized photo.
  4. Pay the application fee.
  5. Provide a signed letter of application to explain why you require the visa.
  6. Have an internationally recognised English proficiency certificate, e.g. IELTS.
  7. Provide evidence that you have been accepted on a full-time course of study from the higher education institution in Ireland.
  8. Show evidence of tuition fees paid. Where the course fees are less than €6,000, fees must be paid in full. Where the course fees are in excess of €6,000, you must pay at least this amount prior to applying for your visa. This minimum amount of €6,000 is an immigration requirement of the Irish Government.
  9. Show evidence of finances. You should be able to demonstrate that you (or your sponsor) have sufficient funds to support your living expenses while in Ireland, and can meet the cost of your programme of study. The INIS (Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service) recommends at least €7,000 per year for living expenses for students.
WHY STUDY IN IRELAND?

WHAT ARE THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS?
To be accepted for a degree programme, students must show a proficiency in English. All English language certificates (as per those listed) must have been issued within two years of the expected start date of your course of study in Ireland.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMINATION</th>
<th>LEVEL REQUIRED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GCSE English Language</td>
<td>Grade C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCE O-Level English Language</td>
<td>Grade C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Cambridge</td>
<td>Pass in Use of English Examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IELTS</td>
<td>Composite score of 6.0-6.5 with not less than 6.0 in any one component</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Proficiency</td>
<td>Grade C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Advanced</td>
<td>Grade A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETAPP</td>
<td>Grade C1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTE Academic</td>
<td>Minimum score of 62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because each higher education institution has its own specific English language requirements, please contact the provider for further details. In certain circumstances, results in examinations other than those listed may be accepted as proof of ability.

CAN I WORK WHILE I’M STUDYING IN IRELAND?
Yes, subject to certain conditions. International students holding a valid Immigration Permission Stamp 2 can work up to 40 hours per week only during the months of June, July, August, and September, and from 15th December to 15th January inclusive. At all other times students holding Immigration Permission Stamp 2 are limited to working up to 20 hours per week. The permission to work will end when your Stamp 2 expires:
- If you are a degree programme student, you are eligible for casual work once you are:
  - Enrolled on a recognised programme leading to a qualification recognised by the Minister for Education & Skills.
  - Attending a full time programme of education at or above NFQ Level 7.
  - Undertaking a minimum of 15 hours day time study per week.
  - Receiving tuition between the hours of 8am and 6pm per week for a minimum of 25 weeks per annum.
- On a programme of at least one year’s duration.

CAN I WORK WHEN I COMPLETE MY STUDIES IN IRELAND?
Yes. Under the Irish Third Level Graduate Scheme, non-European third level graduates can remain in Ireland for 12 months upon completion of studies to look for full time employment.

ARE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE?
Yes. Over a thousand scholarships are available for international students. These come from a wide variety of Irish sources, including the Government, the higher education institutions, and other organisations. These are awarded solely at the discretion of the individual organisations, each of which has its own criteria for eligibility. For further information, go to www.educationinireland.com
A SMALL WORLD...

The location and flight times across the world from Ireland are:

- **ENGLAND**: 1 HOUR
- **EUROPE**: 1.5 - 2 HOUR
- **BEIJING**: 14 HOURS
- **KUALA LUMPUR**: 13 HOURS
- **DUBAI**: 8 HOURS
- **INDIA**: 9 HOURS
- **USA**: 7 HOURS
- **CANADA**: 7 HOURS
- **BRAZIL**: 12 HOURS
- **EUROPE**: 1.5 - 2 HOUR