

# N.U.in Ireland Visa Guide 2026

## University College Dublin

*This visa guide was developed in collaboration with University College Dublin and Northeastern University.*

Additional information can be found at [University College Dublin's Student Immigration website](#).

### Do I need a visa?

Use the "[Check if you need an Irish visa](#)" tool to determine if you need to apply for a study visa before traveling to Ireland. In general,

- EU, EEA, Swiss and UK nationals do **not** require an entry visa.
- Citizens of certain countries, including the **United States** and **Canada**, may enter Ireland without a visa.
- Citizens of other countries are required to apply for a long stay Study Visa (also called a Type D) before arrival. We recommend applying for a multi-entry visa to allow for travel outside of and re-entry into Ireland.

**Note:** All non-EU/EEA, non-Swiss, or non-UK nationals will need to register for a residence permit after arrival in order to extend their stay beyond 90 days. More information on the Irish Residence Permit (IRP) is below.

### If you require a visa

Students who require a study visa may use the "[Check if you need an Irish visa](#)" tool to find additional information regarding the requirements and application process for an Irish study visa.

### Timeline

Students can apply for a study visa up to three months before their date of travel to Ireland. Immigration Service Delivery (ISD) recommends that students start the study visa

application process **at least two to three months prior to the planned arrival** in Ireland. Processing times can vary and are at the sole discretion of the ISD. However, students can generally expect a decision within eight weeks from the date an application is lodged at the Embassy, Consulate, or designated third-party processing company (such as VFS).

*Please note that this timeline is subject to change at any time and is at the sole discretion of ISD.*

### ***How to apply***

Students must apply for the visa online on the **ISD website**. Once students have completed the online application, they must follow the instructions on the summary application form that is created by the online system which will contain information on which Embassy/Consulate/VFS Office students should submit their supporting documentation to. Original documents must be submitted, which include official translations of any non-English documents. If a visa has ever been refused in the past in any country, students must provide the original refusal letter.

## **Required visa documents**

Please note that this list is non-exhaustive and represents the documents typically required. **Students should confirm any documentation requirements with the appropriate Embassy/Consulate/VFS Office.** Additional details on document requirements are available on the **ISD website**.

### **1. Current passport and a full copy of any previous passports**

Your current passport must be valid for at least 12 months after your proposed date of arrival in Ireland.

### **2. Letter of enrollment from university partner (University College Dublin)**

The letter must state your full name, start date, end date, and confirmation of enrollment in full-time education (minimum 15 hours daytime tuition) with an Irish institution and provide details of the course the student will be studying, confirmation of UCD's fees stating the fee amount and that they have been paid in full, and confirmation that medical insurance has been taken out by UCD on your behalf. **UCD will email this letter to visa-required students' Northeastern email addresses in early July 2026, once the student has completed the UCD registration process** (instructions on the UCD registration process will be sent to students' Northeastern email addresses in early June).

### 3. N.U.in Program Enrollment letter

Found in your Application Status Check portal

### 4. A signed letter of application including your full contact details:

- a. outlining your reason for wanting to come to Ireland,
- b. giving details of any members of your family who are currently in Ireland or any other EU Member State,
- c. undertaking that you will observe the conditions of your Visa, that you will not become a burden on the State, and that you will leave the State on the expiry of your permission to remain, and
- d. where the course you now wish to study does not naturally follow on or relate to your educational/employment history, giving valid reasons, supported by documentary evidence (where available), for this change

### 5. Proof of health insurance

Coverage is provided by MediCover Student Private Medical Expenses Insurance, which will be arranged by UCD. The letter of enrolment from UCD (see #2 above) will indicate that the MediCover insurance has been taken out by UCD on your behalf.

(**Note:** this emergency coverage is in addition to your personal health insurance policy in your home country, which you must maintain throughout your N.U.in enrollment.)

### 6. Proof of sufficient finances

Students who are coming to Ireland for less than eight months will be required to demonstrate that they have access during the course of their studies to a minimum of **€833 per month or €6,665 (in total)** for courses of 8 months or less. Further information on this required evidence is provided on the **ISD website**.

### 7. Fee

You will be required to pay a fee of €60 for a single-entry visa or, if you will be traveling in and out of Ireland, a fee of €100 for a multi-entry visa. We recommend

applying for a multi-entry visa. Please check the **ISD website** to confirm if your nationality is exempt from visa application fees.

## **8. Evidence of fees paid to college**

The **ISD website** lists the following as evidence:

- a. A copy of an Electric Transfer of Funds (ETF) to the Irish Bank of the college, showing details of the beneficiary's and sender's name, address, and bank details
- b. A valid receipt showing that the course fees have been lodged to an approved student fees payment service (e.g. the electronic fee payment service offered by Pay to Study).

As an N.U.in student, you pay the tuition and fees for your semester at UCD to Northeastern. You can access billing statements and receipt confirmation showing full payment has been received in your **Northeastern Student Hub**.

## **9. English language requirements**

You must show that you have the ability to do your chosen course through the English language, regardless of your native language or language of instruction at your high school. Further information on this required evidence is available on the **ISD website**.

## **10. Two color passport-sized photographs**

The photos must not be more than **six months old**. They must have your name and visa application reference number printed clearly on the back.

## **11. Evidence accounting for any gaps in your educational history**

You must provide information to account for any gaps between your last period of full-time education and your application to study in Ireland. If any such gap in education has been filled by periods of employment, you must give full details of your employment history.

## **12. Evidence that you have the academic ability to follow your chosen course**

E.g. exam results and qualifications, etc.

### 13. Previous visa refusals, if applicable

If you have been refused a visa in the past for any country, you must provide the details and the original letter issued to you by the authorities of that country.

## Irish Residence Permit (IRP) Card

Students will receive additional information on the IRP process after arriving in Ireland.

### *Who needs an Irish Residence Permit (IRP) Card?*

If you are a non-EU/EEA, non-UK, and non-Swiss citizen who wishes to stay in Ireland for longer than 90 days, you must register with ISD by booking an appointment for your first time registration on the **Digital Contact Centre**.

If your registration is successful, you will then be issued with an Irish Residence Permit (IRP) card.

### *Registration Process*

To register, you must:

- Be a non-EU/EEA, non-UK, and non-Swiss national;
- Be aged 18 or older in order to attend your appointment without the presence of a guardian in Ireland; and
- By appointment only, go to a registration office in person (unless you have previously registered in Dublin in which case, you may be able to use the Irish Immigration Service online system).

If you wish to stay in Ireland past the expiry date on your IRP card, you must apply to extend your immigration permission and renew your registration in advance of it expiring. If successful, you will be given a new IRP card.

An IRP card costs **€300 per person** every time you register and renew.

To facilitate this registration process, **students must schedule an appointment at the Burgh Quay Registration Office using the Digital Contact Centre.**

Appointments are offered in a series of 1-hour slots each day. Students must select the date and time that suits their schedule and make the appointment. If possible, appointments should be booked as soon as possible starting from 7 September 2026.

Please note that it is sometimes difficult to obtain an appointment, but students are urged to continue to try registering. You can find further information on the Digital Contact Centre and how to navigate it on the [ISD website](#).

### ***Required Documents***

Once the appointment has been made, students will receive a confirmation email. The **student must bring a copy of this email with them on the day of their appointment**, along with any documentation requested in the email confirmation. These documents typically include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Original passport**

Your current passport must be valid for at least 12 months after your proposed date of arrival in Ireland. Please check [The N.U.in Program website](#) for arrival date.

- 2. University College Dublin acceptance letter**

The letter must state your full name, start date, end date, confirm that you have been accepted and enrolled on a course of full-time education, the degree of which the semester is a part of and the awarding University, and confirming your enrollment. **This letter will be available to download from your UCD application portal once the student has completed the UCD registration process** (instructions on the UCD registration process will be sent to students' Northeastern email addresses in early June).

- 3. Proof of payment of university fees**

Receipt confirmation from Northeastern showing full payment has been received. Billing statements can be accessed in your [Northeastern Student Hub](#).

- 4. Proof of sufficient finances**

Students who are coming to Ireland for less than eight months will be required to demonstrate in the required form that they have access during the course of their studies to a minimum of **€833 per month or €6,665 (in total)** for courses of 8 months or less.

**5. €300 fee**

Payment can only be made by credit/debit card, Visa or MasterCard only (cash and checks not accepted).

**6. Proof of health insurance**

Coverage is provided by MediCover Student Private Medical Expenses Insurance. Your MediCover Statement/Confirmation/Policy Summary will be emailed to your Northeastern email address in August.

**(Note:** this emergency coverage is in addition to your personal health insurance policy in your home country, which you must maintain throughout your N.U.in enrollment.)

**7. Cert of Attendance Letter and UCD Student Card**

After arriving in Dublin, you will be able to print out a “Cert of Attendance” letter from your UCD SIS Student Web Account. You will also receive a UCD student card. You should bring both of these documents to your IRP card appointment.

Please note that immigration officers are entitled to ask for further documentation at any time, and the above list may not include all required documentation. Please refer to the confirmation email for further information related to the required documentation for your appointment.

You should arrive to the appointment 10 minutes early; if you are late, your appointment may be forfeited. Once you have successfully registered, you will receive an IRP card in the mail, which you should carry with you at all times. You must also bring your IRP card with you if you are traveling outside Ireland during the duration of your studies, as it will be required by airport immigration officials upon re-entry. The IRP card will include your name, address, photograph, and residence details. You are discouraged from booking travel outside of Ireland until you have received your IRP. Re-entry into the country is at the sole discretion of immigration authorities until which time an IRP (Irish Residence Permit) has been issued.

## Important Reminders for All Students

This document has been prepared based on information provided by the Irish Immigration Service. Northeastern University and University College Dublin (UCD) have no influence on the outcome of immigration applications and no ability to contact the ISD to inquire about an individual visa application or residence permit application or expedite the process for an individual student. In addition, N.U.in employees are unable to provide advice to students or families concerning visa requirements and/or application processes.

Students are responsible for completing their visa application correctly and in an effective manner and for obtaining a valid visa prior to the program start date. If the student cannot obtain a valid visa in time for the program start date, please refer to the N.U.in Withdrawal Policy and contact the N.U.in office to discuss next steps.