

N.U.in Ireland Visa Guide 2025

University College Dublin, Dublin



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

General Visa Information for Non-EU/EEA Citizens

If you are not a citizen of the EU/EEA, UK, Switzerland, the U.S., or Canada, please 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. UK nationals remain entitled to travel to and reside in Ireland without any immigration requirements. Additional information can be found at University College Dublin's [**Student Immigration website**](#).

Students who require a study visa may also use the above visa tool to find additional information regarding the requirements and application process for an Irish study visa. 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. Please note that this timeline is subject to change at any time and is at the sole discretion of ISD.

Depending on nationality, some students are required to apply for a visa before they travel to Ireland, namely an Irish study visa from the Irish immigration authorities (ISD). Visa-required students who wish to travel outside Ireland and then re-enter Ireland during their studies will either need to hold a valid multi entry Irish study visa or a valid Irish Residence Permit (IRP) card in order to be entitled to re-enter Ireland.

Students can apply for a study visa up to three months before their date of travel to 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 VFS Office/Embassy/Consulate. 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 where students should submit their supporting documentation. Original documents must be submitted, which include official translations of any non-English documents, and if a visa has ever been refused in the past in any country, students must provide the original refusal letter.

Required Documents

Please note that this list is non-exhaustive and represents the documents typically required. Students should confirm any documentation requirements with the appropriate VFS/Embassy/Consulate. 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 | Welcome letter 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, providing details of the course the student will be studying, confirmation of UCD's fees and that they have been paid in full, stating the fee amount and if medical insurance has been taken out by UCD on your behalf. **The N.U.in Ireland: UCD Program will email this document on a rolling basis starting in July 2025.**

3 | N.U.in Program introduction letter

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

MediCover Statement/Confirmation/Policy Summary (to be acquired after arrival in Dublin). Coverage is provided by MediCover Student Private Medical Expenses Insurance. You can also provide evidence of your own private health insurance policy if you choose to have additional coverage. You will need to provide proof of coverage upon arrival to Irish Immigration Control.

6 | 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 **€585 per month or €4,680 (in total)** for courses of 8 months or less.

7 | Fee

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

- a. You must provide a copy of an Electronic Transfer of Funds (ETF) to the Irish Bank of the college, showing details of the beneficiary's name, address, bank details and the same details for sender, OR
- 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 (formerly International Student Payments Service (ISPS)).

9 | English language requirements

For students whose first language is not English, evidence as to their capability to meet the English language requirement for their course may be required. 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 their 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

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 or GNIB in the local district in which you reside.

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

Registration Process

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 or GNIB in the local district in which you reside.

To register, you must:

- a. be a non-EU/EEA, non-UK, and non-Swiss national;
- b. be aged 16 or older; and
- c. 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 online at the **Burgh Quay Registration Office**.

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, September 8th 2025. Students must first schedule an appointment using the **Digital Contact Centre**.

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**.

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 welcome letter

The letter must state your full name, start date, end date, what the semester entails and how it fits into the overall programme, a statement that explains that accommodations are provided, the degree of which the semester is a part of and the awarding University and confirming your enrollment. **This will be provided you arrive in Dublin.**

3 | Proof of payment of university fees

Receipt confirmation from Northeastern showing full payment has been received.

4 | Proof of sufficient finances

Students who are coming to Ireland for less than six months will be required to demonstrate in the required form that they have access during the course of their studies to a minimum of **€585 per month or €4,680 (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

MediCover Statement/Confirmation/Policy Summary (to be acquired after arrival in Dublin). Coverage is provided by MediCover Student Private Medical Expenses Insurance. You can also provide evidence of your own private health insurance policy if you choose to have additional coverage. You will need to provide proof of coverage upon arrival to Irish Immigration Control.

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 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, a photograph, and residence details. You are discouraged from booking travel outside of Ireland until you have received their 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

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.