



Disability Access Route to Education

**DARE
APPLICATION
ADVICE CLINICS**

**Nationwide Saturday
January 10th 2015**

See www.accesscollege.ie
for locations and times

APPLICATION INFORMATION

FOR ENTRY **AUTUMN 2015**



What is the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE)?

The Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) is a college and university admissions scheme which offers places on reduced points to school leavers with disabilities.

DARE has been set up by a number of colleges and universities as evidence shows that disability can have a negative impact on how well a student does at school and whether they go on to college.



Who should apply to DARE?

DARE is for school leavers under the age of 23 as of 1 January, 2015 who have completed an Irish Leaving Certificate and who have the ability to benefit from and succeed in higher education but who may not be able to meet the points for their preferred course due to the impact of a disability.



Why should I apply to DARE?

If you apply to DARE and meet the application criteria (that is, are deemed eligible for DARE) you may be offered a place even if you do not have enough Leaving Certificate points for your preferred course. Each participating college and university has a number of reserved places to offer eligible DARE applicants at lower Leaving Certificate points or reduced points.

An example of a reduced points offer is that the Leaving Certificate points for a particular course is 360 points. An eligible DARE applicant could be offered a place with a lower points score e.g. 350 points. This applicant would also, like all other applicants applying to college on the basis of their Leaving Certificate results, need to meet the **minimum entry requirements** and any **specific programme requirements** before being considered for a DARE reduced points offer.

The amount of points a particular course is reduced by is dependent on a number of factors, such as:

- The overall number of places on the course.
- The number of reserved DARE places on the course.
- The number of DARE eligible applicants competing for these places.

The reduction in points for DARE places can vary every year.

Further details can be found at www.accesscollege.ie.

You don't have to be eligible for DARE to get support in college. All students with a verified disability, regardless of whether they come through DARE or not, can avail of a variety of academic, personal and social supports while studying at third level. Further information on the support available in college can be found at accesscollege.ie.



How do I apply to DARE?

| | |
|--|--|
| By 1 February 2015 | You must apply to the CAO at www.cao.ie . CAO applications open 5 November 2014 at 12 noon. |
| By 1 March 2015 | You must indicate your wish to be considered for DARE by ticking 'Yes' to Question 1. You must complete Section A (Questions 1-5) of the Supplementary Information Form. |
| By 1 April 2015 | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You must return the fully completed, signed and stamped, Second Level Academic Reference (Section B) to the CAO.2. You must return the fully completed, signed and stamped, Evidence of Disability (Section C) to the CAO. |
| April-June 2015 | Screening of DARE applications. |
| June 2015 (after Leaving Certificate exams) | You will be notified of the outcome of your DARE application. Recheck process opens. |
| Late July: | Recheck applicants will be notified of the outcome of the Recheck application. |
| August | Leaving Certificate Exam Results. CAO Offers to eligible DARE applicants. Course offers are made and should be accepted through the CAO. |



Where can I find more information on DARE?

To find out more on how DARE determines eligibility for your disability/disabilities, click on **accesscollege.ie**.

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

All participating colleges have a staff member who can advise you on how to apply to DARE. If you wish to speak to someone about your DARE application, contact any member of the DARE team. Their contact details are available overleaf.

DARE also organise Application Advice Clinics each year. Application Advice Clinics provide an opportunity for you or your parent(s)/ guardian(s) to drop in to meet with a member of the DARE team to discuss your application. The clinics will take place in a number of venues nationwide on Saturday 10th January 2015. Details on venues and times are available on accesscollege.ie.

CAO HELPDESK

You can also contact the CAO Helpdesk with questions on completing a DARE application. The simplest way to contact the CAO is by clicking on the 'Contact Us' button **www.cao.ie**. Alternatively you can call the helpdesk at **091-509800**.

DARE will only discuss details of your application with you or your parent(s) / guardian(s). This is in the interest of applicant confidentiality.



Guide to providing evidence of your disability

| TYPE OF DISABILITY | TYPE OF DOCUMENTATION | APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL | REQUIRED AGE OF REPORT |
|--|--|--|---|
| Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger's Syndrome). | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Consultant Psychiatrist OR Psychologist OR Neurologist OR Paediatrician. | No age limit. |
| Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) / Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Consultant Psychiatrist OR Psychologist OR Neurologist OR Paediatrician. | Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2012. |
| Blind/Vision Impaired. | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Ophthalmologist OR Ophthalmic Surgeon. | No age limit. |
| Deaf/Hard of Hearing: Students may apply under one of the following categories: (A) Applicants who have an Audiogram (B) Applicants who attend a School for the Deaf (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant. | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. (DARE does not accept reports from high street retailers) | (A) Applicants who have an audiogram: Diagnostic/Clinical Audiologist registered with the Irish Academy of Audiologists (IAA) (B) Applicants who attend a School for the Deaf: Principal of School for the Deaf (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant: Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) Consultant OR Cochlear Implant Programme Co-ordinator. | No age limit. |
| Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD) - Dyspraxia/ Dysgraphia. | Full psycho-educational assessment AND Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Psychologist AND Occupational Therapist OR Neurologist. | Psychologist's Report must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2012. No age limit Occupational Therapist's or Neurologist's report. |
| Mental Health Condition. | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Consultant Psychiatrist on Specialist Register. We will consider your application for DARE once we receive a diagnosis of a significant and enduring mental health condition which impacts on daily function. | Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2012. |

| TYPE OF DISABILITY | TYPE OF DOCUMENTATION | APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL | REQUIRED AGE OF REPORT |
|---|---|--|--|
| Neurological Conditions (including Epilepsy, Brain Injury, Speech and Language Disabilities). | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Neurological Conditions: Neurologist OR Other relevant Consultant. Speech & Language Disabilities: Speech and Language Therapist. | No age limit. |
| Physical Disability. | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Orthopaedic Consultant OR Other relevant consultant appropriate to the disability/condition. | No age limit. |
| Significant On-going Illness. | Evidence of Disability Form 2015 OR Existing report. | Diabetes Type 1: Endocrinologist OR Paediatrician. Cystic Fibrosis (CF): Consultant Respiratory Physician OR Paediatrician Gastroenterology Conditions: Gastroenterologist Other Conditions: Relevant Consultant/Specialist in area of condition. | Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2012. |
| Specific Learning Difficulty (including Dyslexia & Dyscalculia). | Full psycho-educational assessment. | Psychologist. | Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2012. |

DARE and HEAR

**APPLICATION
ADVICE CLINICS**

Talk to **DARE and HEAR** advisors about your application

**SATURDAY
10th JANUARY
2015**

10am - 2pm

**VENUES NATIONWIDE
10am - 2pm**

Cork University College Cork, Devere Hall, Student Centre

Donegal Villa Rose Hotel, Anvil Suite, Ballybofey, Co Donegal

Dublin Dublin Institute of Technology, Courtyard Café, DIT Aungier Street, Dublin 2

Galway NUI Galway, Bailey Allen Hall

Kildare Maynooth University, The Phoenix

Kilkenny Maynooth University Kilkenny Campus

Limerick University of Limerick, Kemmy Business School

Midlands Athlone Institute of Technology, Coffee Dock, Main Building

Monaghan Glencarn Hotel, Castleblaney

Sligo The Glass House Hotel, Sligo

ADDITIONAL CLINICS

Kerry The Fels Point Hotel, Tralee, County Kerry

Date 15th January 2015 **Time** 7-9pm

Waterford Woodlands Hotel, Dunmore Road, Waterford

Date 12th January 2015 **Time** 7-9pm

Wexford Ferrycarrig Hotel, Wexford

Date 15th January 2015 **Time** 2-7.30pm

Contact Details for Colleges taking part in DARE 2015

| Contact | Email | Website |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Athlone Institute of Technology | dare@ait.ie | www.ait.ie |
| Cork Institute of Technology | dare@cit.ie | www.cit.ie |
| Church of Ireland College of Education | info@cice.ie | www.cice.ie |
| Dublin City University (incorporating St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra and Mater Dei Institute of Education) | dare@dcu.ie | www.dcu.ie |
| Dublin Institute of Technology | dare@dit.ie | www.dit.ie/disability |
| Institute of Technology, Sligo | dare@itsligo.ie | www.itsligo.ie |
| Maynooth University | dare@nuim.ie | www.maynoothuniversity.ie |
| National College of Ireland | dare@ncirl.ie | www.ncirl.ie |
| NUI Galway | dare@nuigalway.ie | www.nuigalway.ie |
| Pontifical University, Maynooth | dare@nuim.ie | www.maynoothcollege.ie |
| Trinity College Dublin | dare@tcd.ie | www.tcd.ie |
| University College Cork | dare@ucc.ie | www.ucc.ie |
| University College Dublin | dare@ucd.ie | www.ucd.ie/openingworlds |
| University of Limerick | dare@ul.ie | www.ul.ie |
| Mary Immaculate College, Limerick | dare@mic.ul.ie | www.mic.ul.ie |
| Marino Institute of Education | dare@mie.ie | www.mie.ie |
| Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland | dare@rcsi.ie | www.rcsi.ie/admissions_access |
| St. Angela's College, Sligo | dare@stangelas.nuigalway.ie | www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie |

HEA | HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY
AN GÚDARAS um ARD-OIDEACHAS

