

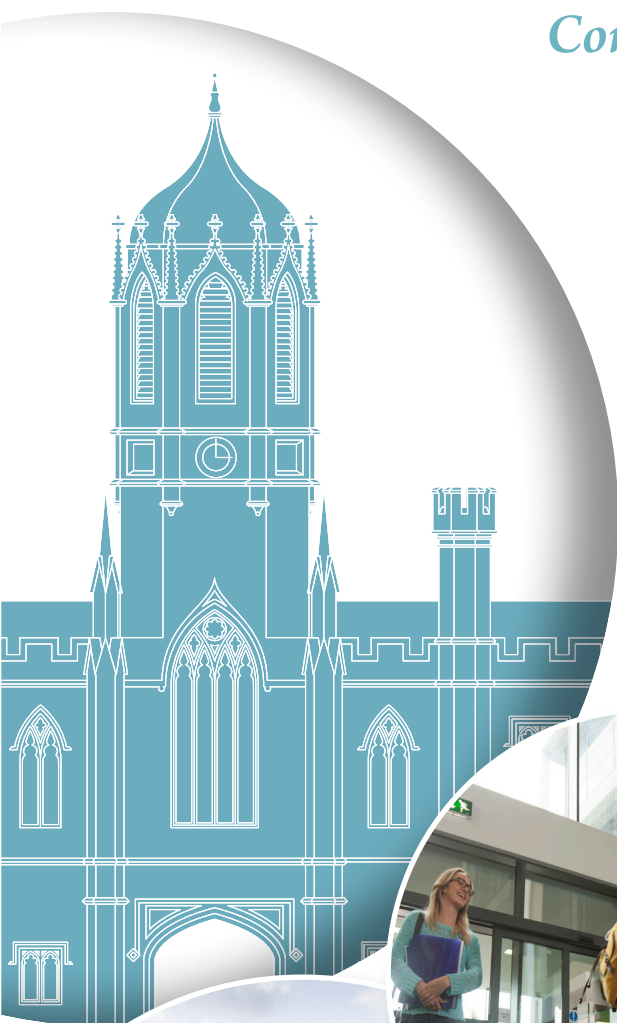


NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

Congratulations on your offer!

Your Postgraduate Offer Pack 2017

All you need
to know
about
accepting
your offer
and joining
us as a
postgraduate
student



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Read why *The Irish Times* thinks
we are tops for postgraduate
study:

 www.nuigalway.ie/irishtimesarticle



Congratulations on receiving your offer to study at NUI Galway

Welcome to NUI Galway and congratulations on being offered a place in one of Ireland's leading research universities. We hope that you decide to accept our offer and choose to study at a university that offers you a student experience that is second-to-none in an exciting, vibrant and diverse city.

Every year, over 3,500 postgraduate students study at NUI Galway, travelling from all corners of the world, ensuring our students experience a cosmopolitan and diverse teaching environment. We are proud of the fact that NUI Galway was awarded the Excellent International Student Satisfaction Award 2015.

In recent years, NUI Galway has consistently climbed in global university rankings, and we are now among the top 200 institutions in the world, a reflection of the ambition, drive, and innovation that NUI Galway aims for and is very much evident in its teaching and research.

We value the contribution our postgraduate community makes to the academic and cultural life of the University, and are committed to developing your postgraduate experience and career further. This includes providing the appropriate skills and training to ensure that you are ready to enter a competitive job market on graduation.

Our graduates go on to leadership positions in Ireland and all over the world in academia, medicine, engineering, the arts, sports and politics. Our postgraduates are in high demand by employers; and our courses have an excellent employability rate.

This Postgraduate Offer Pack has been prepared to make your transition to NUI Galway as seamless as possible. This guide provides you with information about the admissions process and what you must do next in order to accept your offer, as well as information about our University and Galway City as a location.

We are proud to invite you to join our global postgraduate community. I look forward to welcoming you to Galway.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Browne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".



NUI Galway

will give you the competitive edge

95%
postgrads are in employment or further study within 6 months

In top **2%** of universities in the world

Global recognition in university rankings

Generous scholarships

Our merit-based postgraduate scholarships reward excellence

170 years
of tradition and innovation

Inspirational teaching and research since 1845

105-hectare riverside campus,

Spectacular location, close to the city

165+
programmes

Wide range of award-winning relevant courses

€64.7 MILLION ANNUAL RESEARCH INCOME

In the latest financial year, we received €64.7 million in competitive funding across a range of dynamic, innovative research projects.

A TOP UNIVERSITY FOR GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY

NUI Galway continues to outperform other universities in terms of graduate employment. 95% of our postgraduates are employed or in further studies six months after graduating.

€400 MILLION CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

NUI Galway is investing €0.75 million per week in a ten-year campus development programme to provide the very best learning environment for you.

IMPORTANT NATIONAL FACILITIES

Our campus hosts major national facilities, such as the National Centre for Biomedical Engineering and Science, the Irish Centre for Human Rights and the unique Centre for Cell Manufacturing Ireland, the only stem cell manufacturing facility in Ireland.

INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED UNIQUE PROGRAMMES

NUI Galway has a global reputation in key areas of expertise, and we offer postgraduate programmes in these fields: Biomedical Science and Engineering; Human Rights; Applied Social Science and Public Policy; Energy, Environment and Marine Research; Data Analytics, Physical and Computational Sciences; and Digital Humanities.

Galway is an affordable city in which to live

Rent prices 64.59%
cheaper in Galway than Dublin

Restaurant prices 18.22%
cheaper in Galway than Dublin

Consumer prices 12.75%
cheaper in Galway than Dublin

Grocery prices 9.5%
cheaper in Galway than Dublin

*Source: www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living (February 2016)

The City on your Doorstep

Galway is an exciting place to be for a postgraduate student. It is one of the largest cities in Ireland, and is one of the fastest growing cities in Europe. *fDi Magazine*—a *Financial Times* publication—has given Galway a winning “European City and Region of the Future” title and ranked it as “Best Overall Micro City in Europe.” In March 2016 Galway was awarded a “European Region of Gastronomy” Award. Galway has officially been designated European Capital of Culture for 2020 and NUI Galway contributes to the cultural dynamism through a diverse range of programmes focused on the creative arts. The University is in the heart of the city centre, with all amenities within walking distance—and a bridge that connects the campus to the city makes the journey even shorter.

Galway really is a ‘university city’—students make up 20% of the population of the city, which is why it is such a youthful, energetic place.

A vibrant city

Galway has everything—shopping facilities, theatres, restaurants, music venues, culture and sports facilities—but it is also small enough to get to know people easily and to keep in touch with your friends. This sense of community is one of the features of Galway life that our students love most. A medieval city, Galway is also steeped in history and culture and is a beautiful, vibrant place to live and study in.



The new pedestrian bridge that links the University and the city



NUI Galway students enjoying Quay Street’s “café culture”



Eyre Square, at the heart of the city

What you need to do now

Accepting your offer, and other useful information

Offer types

A **Conditional Offer** means that you will be accepted if you meet certain additional requirements.

An **Unconditional Offer (Firm Offer)** means that you have met all the entry requirements for the course.

How to accept your offer

In order to accept and secure your programme place, you must confirm your acceptance and pay a **non-refundable** deposit via the Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC) online system. Offers should be accepted and deposit paid within 10 working days of offer date, unless otherwise stated.

An offer acceptance will not be recorded unless the requested deposit has been paid.

If you are offered a place on a programme and accept it, and subsequently are offered a place on another programme choice, you may transfer your acceptance from one to the other. You will be required to record your acceptance via the online PAC system and your deposit paid on a previous acceptance will automatically be transferred to the subsequent course acceptance.

Note: it is not possible to transfer an acceptance or deposit to/from the Professional Masters in Education/Oideachas (Máistir Gairmiúil) programmes.

Meeting the conditions of your offer

You may have been made an offer of a place on a programme conditional on certain criteria being met. For example, for final year undergraduates applying to a postgraduate programme, you may not have your final exam results available. In this example, an offer would be based on you attaining a particular grade in your final exams. When you have met the conditions specified in your conditional offer, and have sent to PAC details of same (e.g., your transcript) you have automatically secured a place.

Registering for your course

You will be required to register **online** with the University from mid-August. You should refer to the Registration Office website for updates/details on how to formally register for your programme: www.nuigalway.ie/registration. **Also see** See Page 8 of this Offer Pack for more information.

Please note that if you have received a conditional offer, you will not be permitted to register for your course until you have met the conditions of your offer. You must ensure to submit the requested documents pertaining to your conditional offer.

Commencing your course

The academic year will commence on Monday, 4th September 2017 for most postgraduate taught courses.

Disciplines/Programme Directors will be in contact with you prior to commencement of the course with your timetable. Please check with relevant Programme Director should you have any queries regarding your schedule.

www.nuigalway.ie/academic_dates/academic_term_dates.html

Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC)
www.pac.ie/nuigalway

T: +353 91 549 260 | E: pachelp@pac.ie

Postgraduate Admissions Office, NUI Galway

www.nuigalway.ie/postgrad

T: +353 91 495 999 | E: postgradadmissions@nuigalway.ie



Registration information



General information

Welcome to NUI Galway. Before you begin your academic year you will need to be fully registered with the University. Registration allows you to obtain your student ID card and gain access to University facilities. Registration takes place from **24 August** onwards and is completed online.

For orientation schedule for non-EU international full-time students, please visit www.nuigalway.ie/international-students/afteryouarrive

Register online (from 24 August)

Online Registration will be available at www.nuigalway.ie/reg via the “Register or View Registration” tab, then select “New Postgrads” and follow instructions thereafter.

International students: in compliance with University Policy and immigration control, international students **must pay their fees in full** (fees@nuigalway.ie) before they are permitted to complete formal registration for their NUI Galway course. Once you have paid your fees the registration team (reghelp@nuigalway.ie) will be able to register you, and you will receive an email notifying you when your registration has been completed.

New to NUI Galway?

If you are a new student to NUI Galway, your PAC application number will be your student ID number. Enter your User Name

(PAC application number) and password. Password is *galway* followed by the first four digits of your date of birth in the format DDMM, e.g., 16 January—*galway1601*.

Past NUI Galway students

You are required to register using your **existing NUI Galway student number** and should not register using your PAC application number. If your new and old numbers have not been merged, please email postgradadmissions@nuigalway.ie for assistance.

If you cannot remember your old password, you will need to reset it by following the instructions on www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-services/services-for-students/ or emailing servicedesk@nuigalway.ie for assistance.

All fee queries should be addressed to the Fees Office (fees@nuigalway.ie or www.nuigalway.ie/fees). If you have any queries with regards to subject/module choices please address these to the relevant College/School/Discipline, or to your Programme Director (www.nuigalway.ie/registration/useful_info.html).

Contact

Registration Office

T: +353 91 495 999 | **E:** reghelp@nuigalway.ie

www.nuigalway.ie/registration | www.nuigalway.ie/registration/frequently_asked_ques/1st_postgrad_faqs.html

www.nuigalway.ie/registration/frequently_asked_ques/1st_postgrad_faqs.html

Postgraduate Fees

Postgraduate tuition fees

The fee, either EU or non-EU*, for your programme is listed on your relevant course website, see www.nuigalway.ie/courses/taught-postgraduate-courses. You can also find fees information on the Fees Office website: www.nuigalway.ie/fees.

*An EU student is defined as an EU national (i.e., holding an EU passport /or birth certificate) who has been ordinarily resident in an EU member state for at least three of the five years immediately preceding their entry to the third-level course. This excludes residency for educational purposes. For more information, please see www.nuigalway.ie/fees

Methods of payment

EU fees can be paid securely online when registering using a debit or credit card. Alternatively, you can request a bank giro online by logging into your student portal at www.nuigalway.ie/fees and clicking on the "Pay your fees" link. Bank giros can only be used in any bank within the Republic of Ireland. Please retain your receipt for proof of payment. EU fees may be paid in full on registration, or in two equal instalments—50% on registration and 50% by 31 January (of the following year). If you are being funded by a SUSI grant or private source, you must provide written evidence of this funding to the Fees Office by 31 October annually.

Deposit

To secure a taught postgraduate place at NUI Galway, a deposit is now payable at offer/acceptance stage. The deposit is usually €500 but can be €1,000 for some courses. The deposit payment is deducted from your course fee at registration. If you do not register at NUI Galway, then this deposit is not refundable. However, if you did not attain the stipulated conditions of your offer when a conditional offer was originally made, the deposit will be refunded to you, with the exception of the Professional Master of Education and Máistir Gairmiúil san Oideachas programmes.



Grants

Comprehensive information is available online at www.studentfinance.ie. Grant applications can also be made online at www.susi.ie. Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI), the grants authority in Ireland, usually opens to accept grant applications in April annually. If you are awarded an F4 grant by SUSI this means they will make a €2,000 contribution towards your fees. If you are awarded an F5 rate, this means SUSI will cover your tuition fees to a maximum of €6,270. Please note SUSI does not cover the cost of the student levy (€224).

Tax relief

Full- and part-time students may be entitled to tax relief on tuition fees. Applications for tax relief on course fees paid must be made using an application form available from the Revenue Commissioners, Ireland. See www.revenue.ie. The maximum amount of tax relief on tuition fees is €7,000 per annum.

Fees payment for international students

IMPORTANT: non-EU students must pay fees in full before registration. Once you have been allocated a pre-registration 8-digit student ID number, this number must be quoted on all fee transactions and correspondence.

Option 1: PaytoStudy (recommended for non-EU students)

- Non-European Union (EU) students are strongly advised to pay their tuition fee through the PaytoStudy website <https://nuigalway.studentfees.ie/>
- PaytoStudy payments usually take less than 48 hours and the receipt is accepted as proof of payment of tuition fees by the Irish National Immigration Service (INIS) for study visa applications and at the point of entry to Ireland.
- PaytoStudy avoids international bank charges and because you pay in your own currency, the University receives the exact amount owed.

Option 2: bank transfer

Alternatively, international students can also pay their tuition fee by international bank transfer using the following details:

Bank of Ireland, 43 Eyre Square, Galway
A/C No: 28454143 | A/C Name: National University of Ireland, Galway | IBAN: IE43 BOFI 9038 1628 4541 43
Sort Code: 90-38-16 | Swift Code/BIC: BOF IIE2D

Please quote your 8-digit application number on all wire transactions. Processing time and the fee for sending international wire transfers may vary from bank to bank. Allow for up to 10 working days for processing, if paying by bank transfer.

Option 3: online debit/credit card payment

Contact International Admissions for information on how to pay online: internationaladmissions@nuigalway.ie

Postgraduate Funding

Funding

There are several sources of funding available to students who fall within certain eligibility criteria, including student grants. A comprehensive list is available online at www.studentfinance.ie. Family and/or personal income is a key factor that will be assessed when you apply for a grant, but there are other criteria. Visit our Funding website at: www.nuigalway.ie/courses/fees-and-funding/funding.html.

Scholarships

At NUI Galway, we are keen to ensure that the brightest and most committed students progress to postgraduate study. Our generous Postgraduate Scholarships (valued at **€1,500 per student**) are designed to reward excellent students who have performed exceptionally well in their undergraduate studies. Details of the *Taught Masters Scholarship Scheme*, and all other course-specific scholarships and bursaries available, are online at www.nuigalway.ie/postgraduate/scholarships

NUI Galway is committed to attracting high calibre students from around the world. The University offers a number of international scholarships on a competitive basis to high calibre international students. For more information about eligibility criteria and how to apply, see www.nuigalway.ie/international-students/feesfinance/internationalscholarships

The Graduate Skills Conversion Programme

The Graduate Skills Conversion Programme (GSCP) is a joint initiative with the Department of Education and Science and the Higher Education Authority, formed in response to the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills needs. It is funded under the National Development Plan, and involves a fee reduction for some courses. It is envisaged these NUI Galway programmes will again be available at this reduced fee in the 2016–17 cycle:

- MSc (Information Systems Management)
- HDip (ApplSc [Software Design and Development])
- MSc (Software Design and Development)
- MBS (Electronic Commerce)

More information is available online at: www.hei.ie/en/skills+funding

Training places for unemployed/low income groups

Springboard courses are free educational courses, offered as part of a Government/Higher Education Authority initiative, aimed at job seekers. All courses are part-time, enabling students to keep social protection supports. All courses lead to qualifications in enterprise sectors which are growing and need skilled personnel, including information and communications technology (ICT); the medical devices sector; biopharma-pharmachem; green energy; international financial services; and the food and beverage sector. Qualifications are also available in cross-enterprise skills such as Six Sigma, Lean and Quality Systems, Technology Commercialisation and Innovation Management.

NUI Galway has received funding from the national *Springboard* scheme for courses over the last four years. For further information, including details on eligibility, on making an application and to see what courses NUI Galway has on offer, visit www.springboardcourses.ie

As a further effort to enhance access and participation opportunities for unemployed and low income groups, NUI Galway has approved a **Scholarship Scheme** to reduce fees for applicants in receipt of Job Seekers Benefit, Job Seekers Allowance, One-Parent Family Payment, Disability Allowance, Community Employment Scheme, or Social Insurance Contribution Credits, who wish to enrol for part-time degree, Diploma and Masters courses provided by the University, and who meet Department of Social Protection income thresholds.

The following postgraduate programmes are currently covered under this scheme:

- Master of Science in Technology Management
- Master of Science in Software Engineering and Database Technologies
- Masters in Adult Learning and Development
- Diploma in Software Engineering
- Diploma in Innovation Management
- Diploma in Technology Commercialisation
- Diploma in Adult Learning & Development

For further information and a full list of Adult Learning and Professional Development Programmes, visit www.nuigalway.ie/adultlearning

Accommodation

Accommodation

Before you start searching, it is important to know what type of accommodation you are looking for:

- Student Residence (e.g., Corrib Village, as pictured here)
- Owner-occupied self-catering/food included
- House Sharing
- Flats/Apartments (as well as Accommodation Office website, below, other sites such as www.daft.ie or www.findahome.ie should prove useful).

Whatever you choose, the Accommodation Office is available to help you in your search, advise you on housing issues, provide information on tenants' rights and responsibilities and provide assistance in dispute resolution.

Accommodation Office, NUI Galway

T: +353 91 493 540 | +353 91 492 364

E: teresa.kelly@nuigalway.ie | angela.walsh@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/accommodation



Key tips for renting

- Always view a property before paying a deposit
- Bring someone with you when meeting a landlord
- Ensure you have a Rental Agreement; read and understand it before signing
- Get a receipt for the deposit paid and rent in advance
- Make a list of furniture and appliances with the landlord: damage or loss of property is a regular reason for losing a deposit
- If there are any outstanding repairs, ask the landlord to state in writing that they will be repaired—take photos if necessary

Student residences

Corrib Village is NUI Galway's only on-campus student accommodation (see photos below), consisting of self-catering modern apartments. This river-side student residence is a five-minute walk from the main campus, or a two-minute shuttle bus away. On-site facilities include a shop/deli/café, a coin-operated laundrette, a study room, parking, and even sports facilities!

www.campusaccommodation.ie

There are other (self-catered) student residences, located off campus. While you might find this a little unusual if you're used to a residential college system in your home country, it's worth bearing in mind that Galway is a relatively small, compact city, which means most of the residences are located within a 10–20 minute walk from the campus. Residences vary by size, with smaller residences such as Donegan Court (54 students), and Menlo Park (140 students) and larger residences such as Cúirt na Coiribe (389 students), Dúnáras (409 students) and Gort na Coiribe (657 students). *Please contact the Accommodation Office for a full list of residences.*



Student Support & Resources

Sports Clubs

Our Sports Clubs are fun, friendly and supportive. We endeavour to provide you with opportunities to train, play and compete in sport; we have a wide range of traditional sports complimented by innovative club and recreational activity. We cater for a wide range of interests and levels of abilities—no matter what your passion. Our Sports Clubs are a valuable part of your academic life, encouraging social interaction with your fellow students and a balance to your studies. The friends you will meet through being a member of NUI Galway sports clubs are truly your friends for life.

www.nuigalway.ie/sports

Societies

With 115 active societies at NUI Galway, there is something for everyone. As part of a society, you can learn new skills, explore your interests, create a community of friends with similar interests and goals and, of course, have great fun. Over 3,000 society events are held annually, including social, educational and cultural elements, all of which add to the vibrancy of University life.

www.socs.nuigalway.ie

Students' Union

At the centre of campus, the student experience is amplified by the Students' Union (SU). The SU aims to take your voice to the University at every level. Student representatives are in each College, ensuring that all students can have their say via their rep. Your Students' Union complements NUI Galway's provision of welfare services, and can offer advice and support to students. On the social side, the SU has a shop, restaurant venues and a buzzing student bar on campus. The SU also provides part-time employment opportunities for students.

www.su.nuigalway.ie/

Student services

We offer support to help you before, during, and after studying at NUI Galway. Our student support services include accommodation, career development, chaplaincy, counselling, disability support, student health and wellbeing, and childcare assistance. We also offer financial advice and assistance, study skills and mentoring.

www.nuigalway.ie/student-services

Childcare

Spraioi Early Learning Centre operates the University Crèche, located at 50 Upper Newcastle. At Spraoi the focus is on learning through play. They implement the Aistear curriculum and incorporate elements of Steiner and Montessori. The Centre has been refurbished to meet the needs of children between six months and 12 years. Their software app keeps parents updated in real time about their children's day, thereby including parents, as the primary educator, in the care of their child. The balanced and varied menu is prepared in-house to meet the nutritional needs of the child and the new garden growing project links in with this. For smaller children the focus is on sensory play and Spraoi are working to develop the sensory experience both internally and externally in the crèche garden. Student parents pay a reduced fee to use the University Crèche.

www.nuigalway.ie/creche

Alumni

Your relationship with NUI Galway does not stop after you have completed your studies. You are an NUI Galway graduate for life and we encourage you to take full advantage of this support. You can avail of career advice and alumni discounts, attend events, receive our newsletters and publications, and participate in reunions. Make sure to keep in touch after you've left. We want to hear from you and keep you up-to-date with what's happening at your alma mater.

www.nuigalway.ie/alumni-friends



The pool at our on-campus Kingfisher Club/Gym.

International Postgraduates

NUI Galway has more degree-level international students than any other university in Ireland

NUI Galway is now in the Top 200 list of most international universities in the world, and is currently ranked in the top 2% of all universities in the world. NUI Galway has particular expertise in Biomedical Science and Engineering, Web Science, Human Rights, Marine Science, Energy and Environmental Science, Applied Social Sciences, and Public Policy and Humanities. You have made the right decision in choosing to apply to us for your graduate studies: a postgraduate qualification from NUI Galway can give you the competitive edge for your career.

International students make up 20% of full-time students at NUI Galway, and we also have a large number of international faculty and researchers from around the world. The University campus is a 10-minute walk from the centre of Galway, one of Ireland's most popular destinations for international visitors and students alike, and a place that offers a safe and culturally vibrant environment where you can easily feel at home.



English language requirements

All applicants whose first language is not English, or who have not been educated through the medium of English during their two most recent years of study, must present one of the following qualifications in the English language:

ALL COLLEGES	IELTS*	TOEFL	Pearson PTE
All programmes*	6.5	88	61
*All programmes (except Medicine): No less than IELTS 5.5 in any component. Medicine: No less than IELTS 6.5 in any component.			
Language tests must be undertaken no more than two years prior to commencement of your programme at the University.			

English language courses on campus

NUI Galway provides pre-sessional English language courses for students who fall below our English language requirements. There are a range of courses available designed to help students develop the academic skills required to perform to the best of their ability on their chosen university course.

To get further information or to book, contact Olivia, telephone +353 91 492 264, or by email englishlanguage@nuigalway.ie

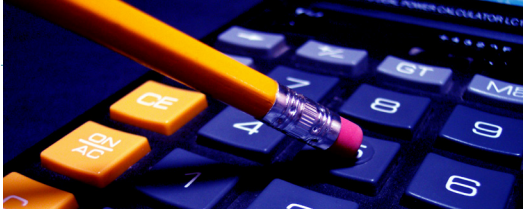
All applicants whose first language is not English, or who have not been educated through the medium of English during their two most recent years of study, must present one of the following qualifications in the English language:

Course	Start Date	Minimum Entry Requirement	Tuition Hours	Tuition Fee
PIAS 25-week course	06/6/17 - 25/8/17	<u>Minimum overall of 5.5.</u> A score of 5.0 is permitted in one component band only and where all other bands must be a minimum of band 5.5 or higher	20 hours Monday - Friday	€6,000
IELTS 10-week course	6/6/17 - 11/8/17	<u>Minimum overall of 6.0.</u> A score of 5.0 is permitted in one component band only .All other bands must be > 5.5	25 hours Monday - Friday	€3,000
IELTS 6-week course	3/7/17 - 11/8/17	<u>Minimum overall of 6.0.</u> A score of > 5.5 in all component bands	25 hours Monday - Friday	€1,800

Before you arrive

Plan your budget

The following table gives an indication of the monthly cost of living in Galway. These costs are an approximation only as monthly costs will depend on each student's individual needs and lifestyle.



Monthly	€
Accommodation	340
Food	260
Books and study materials	60
Clothes, laundry	60
Recreation	180
Utilities (e.g. electricity, oil, refuse, etc.)	80
Other	100
Total per month	€1,140

Source: International Office, NUI Galway

Federal Aid—US students

NUI Galway is approved by the US government to certify financial aid under the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program. US citizens attending NUI Galway as full time degree seeking students can arrange private or Federal Direct Loans to finance their education. Eligible students advised to consult NUI Galway's Federal Aid webpage at www.nuigalway.ie/international-students/feesfinance/federalaid

Health matters

Student Health Unit

A service is available to all NUI Galway students in the Student Health Unit, located in Áras na Mac Léinn, on campus. umbers: 353-91-492604 (9:00-17:00)
353-87-2623997 (24 hour emergency number)

If you have a pre-existing medical condition, it is important for you to contact us prior to your arrival by emailing healthunit@nuigalway.ie to ensure that all your medical needs can be met, as some overseas medications are not licenced for use here in Ireland. Please also ensure that you bring all your relevant medical documentation from home with you, to register with the Student Health Unit.

Health insurance

All Non-EU students are advised to ensure that they have comprehensive health insurance, which includes cover in the event of hospitalisation in Ireland. Students may wish to take out private health insurance in their country of origin or with an Irish health insurance company.

Medicover

Medicover is a medical expenses insurance policy available exclusively to students travelling to Ireland from overseas to undertake a course of study at an approved educational establishment. This can be purchased online before travelling to Ireland at <http://www.odon.ie/nuig.aspx>

Irish health insurance companies

- VHI Healthcare (10% discount for NUI Galway students)—www.vhi.ie
- Aviva—www.aviva.ie
- Laya Healthcare—www.layahealthcare.ie

Irish Health Insurance companies can only provide cover to students once they arrive in the country. Students cannot apply for cover with an Irish company while they are still living abroad. All Non-EU students, including citizens of non-visa-required countries including the United States, Canada and Malaysia, must present proof of comprehensive medical insurance when registering with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) after they arrive in Ireland, and complete their student registration.

Student visas

Visa-exempted countries

Not all international students require a study visa for Ireland but must still register their presence in the Irish State with the Garda National Immigration Bureau after arrival in Ireland. A list of nationalities that do not require a Student Visa to study in Ireland can be found at www.nuigalway.ie/international Citizens from countries not appearing on this list are required to obtain a Study Visa to study in Ireland.

Applying for a visa

You must make your visa application on-line using the AVATS on-line facility www.visas.inis.gov.ie/avats/OnlineHome.aspx Study visa applications should contain the following documents:

- Passport, valid for 12 months
- Signed summary of your on-line application form
- Two passport-sized colour photos
- A signed letter of application
- A Letter of Acceptance from the university
- Submit all exam results obtained, along with your qualification certificates
- If you are currently studying, an original letter from your current place of study
- Provide information about any gaps in your education

Proof of finances

You must provide evidence that you have access to sufficient funds to cover your tuition fees and cost of living expenses:

- A detailed statement of your and/or your sponsors' bank sponsors' bank account(s) covering a six-month period immediately prior to your visa application
- Letters from your sponsor's employer
- You must list each person sponsoring you, and give clear details of their relationship to you
- Letter from the university confirming payment of fees if made by bank transfer

Note: the estimated cost of living in Ireland for a student for one academic year is €7,000.

Alternative evidence of finance

Lodge an "Education Bond" with a minimum value of €7,000 with <https://educationbondireland.com>

Proof of medical insurance

Non-EU students from visa-required countries must present proof of medical insurance when applying for a student visa. Please email international@nuigalway.ie or visit www.nuigalway.ie/international for further information

Please note that this is a brief guide and that you should visit www.nuigalway.ie/international and contact your nearest Irish Embassy for more in-depth information: www.dfa.ie/embassies/irish-embassies-abroad

Getting to Galway

Airports

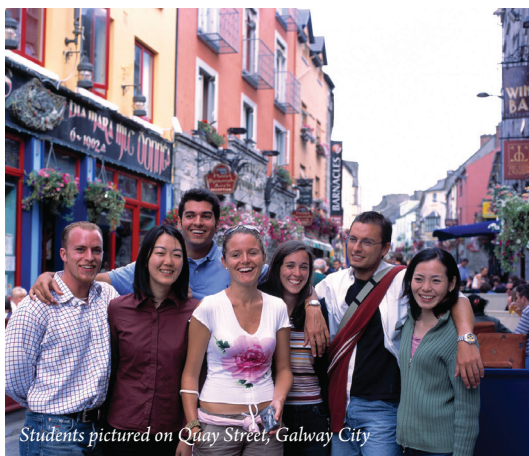
Most international students arrive in Ireland at one of the two main airports: Dublin Airport or Shannon Airport. Citylink, GoBus, and Bus Eireann provide frequent bus departures from outside of Dublin Airport, Terminal 1 direct to Galway. The direct bus journey from Dublin Airport to Galway takes approximately three hours. Bus Eireann operates a regular service, from outside the main airport terminal building, to Galway. The bus journey from Shannon airport takes approximately two hours (check Bus Eireann timetable)

Train

Irish Rail provides a train service from Dublin to Galway. The Galway train station (Ceannt Station) is located in the centre of Galway City, and is a 20-minute walk to the NUI Galway campus.

Bus

Galway is well served by national bus operators including Bus Eireann, City Link, and GoBus. Galway Bus Station is located in the centre of Galway City, and is a 20-minute walk to the NUI Galway campus.



Students pictured on Quay Street, Galway City

After you arrive

See Page 10 for Orientation information for non-EU full-time students.

Immigration in Ireland

Students will be required to demonstrate that they are entering Ireland in order to enrol as a student and the Immigration Officer may ask to see some or all of the following documents: Passport; study visa if applicable; offer letter from NUI Galway; proof of fee payment of at least €6,000; proof of medical insurance; proof that you have funds to support your stay in Ireland: e.g., bank statements, sponsorship letter if applicable.

Register with Garda National Immigration Bureau in Ireland (GNIB)

Your passport details will be recorded and your passport will be stamped with a date by which you must register with the GNIB.

Generally speaking, non-EU students are granted 30 days during which they may register with the GNIB. This time period is at the discretion of the immigration officer at your point of entry to the Irish State. The GNIB office is located at Unit 3, Liosbaun Industrial Estate, Tuam Road, Galway, T: +353 91 768 002. A fee of €300 will be charged to register with the GNIB and you will need to produce the following documents: passport; current NUI Galway student identity card; letter from the university confirming your course of study; proof of your residential address in Galway, e.g. a utility bill with your name and address, or a letter from your landlord/student residence; proof of comprehensive medical insurance; proof that you have funds to support your stay in Ireland, e.g., bank statements, sponsorship letter (if applicable).

About Ireland

- **Population:** 4.6 million
- **A friendly, safe environment:** Ireland is the 13th most peaceful place on Earth (*Global Peace Index, 2014*) and the most friendly country in the world (*Lonely Planet, 2010*).
- **English-speaking country:** while Ireland has its own language and distinct cultural identity, English is the universal spoken language. In fact, Ireland is the only English-speaking country in the Eurozone, and that's one of the reasons why so many multinational businesses locate their European base here.
- **High standard of education:** Ireland is ranked 16th in the world for its higher education system, according to the *IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2015*
- **Leading companies are based in Ireland:** over 1,000 FDI giants in ICT, social media, pharmaceuticals, and finance have made Ireland the hub of their European operations, such as Google, HP, Apple, IBM, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Pfizer, GSK and Genzyme.
- **Weather:** Ireland enjoys a temperate climate, with warm summers and mild winters.

Industries in Ireland: the statistics

9 of the top 10 global ICT companies
 8 of the top 10 gaming companies
 8 of the top 10 global pharmaceutical companies
 6 of the top 7 diagnostics companies
 15 of the top 20 medical device companies
 50% of the leading financial services firms

Outside the classroom

Culture

Ireland's traditions of writing, theatre and art are celebrated in a host of events that include Cork World Book Festival, Kilkenny Arts Festival, Jameson Dublin International Film Festival, Galway International Arts Festival, Lismore Immrama Festival of Travel Writing, and Cúirt International Festival of Literature (Galway).

Over 290 Music festivals

Contemporary music: The Electric Picnic, Castlepalooza, Cork Jazz Festival and Wexford Festival Opera.

Traditional music: Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, TradFest in Dublin and Cork, and a lot more festivals around the country.

Beautiful Ireland

Outside Ireland's buzzing cities and towns, miles and miles of unexplored terrain make it the perfect place to get away from it all. We've got magical castles, enchanted ruins, ancient archaeology and thousands of miles of windswept coastline, with some of the most beautiful beaches, highest sea cliffs and biggest waves in Europe all on Galway's doorstep.

Galway, 'Ireland's Cultural Heart'

Young, vibrant and cosmopolitan, Galway is widely regarded as the cultural capital of Ireland and is a 'college town' in every sense, with



Walkway, Cliffs of Moher, Co. Clare

students accounting for approximately 20% of the population of the city during term. This youthful energy is reflected in the many internationally renowned festivals, music sessions, cultural and sporting events that are hosted in the city every year, including:

- St. Patrick's Day Parade (March)
- Cúirt International Festival of Literature (April)
- Galway Early Music Festival (May)
- Galway Traditional Irish Music Sessions (June)
- Galway Film Fleadh (July)
- Galway International Arts Festival (July)
- Galway Races (August)
- Galway International Oyster Festival (September)
- Galway Comedy Festival (October)

FDI Magazine awarded Galway ranked Galway as "Best Overall Micro City in Europe". In 2015 Galway was awarded UNESCO City of Film, and also a Purple Flag for a safe, vibrant and diverse night time economy. See Page 7 for more on Galway City.



Aerial view of NUI Galway and Galway City



Guo Jia, MA (Landscape Archaeology)
 Home country: China

Find Out More

Postgraduate Admissions Office NUI Galway

General queries

T: +353 91 492 844
E: postgrad@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/postgrad

All research programmes

T: +353 91 495 332
E: pgresearch@nuigalway.ie

Taught programmes

T: +353 91 492 844
E: postgrad@nuigalway.ie

College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies

E: pgarts@nuigalway.ie

Cairnes School of Business and Economics

E: pgcomm@nuigalway.ie

College of Engineering and Informatics

E: pgeng@nuigalway.ie

Information Technology

E: pgit@nuigalway.ie

College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

E: pgmed@nuigalway.ie

College of Science

E: pgscience@nuigalway.ie

School of Law

E: pglaw@nuigalway.ie

School of Nursing and Midwifery

E: pgnursing@nuigalway.ie

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Main NUI Galway Switchboard

T: +353 91 524 411
F: +353 91 525 700
www.nuigalway.ie | www.oegaillimh.ie

Accommodation and Welfare Office

Áras Uí Chathail
NUI Galway
T: +353 91 492 364
E: teresa.kelly@nuigalway.ie

Adult Education: Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development

NUI Galway
T: +353 91 492 144
E: maria.mchugh@nuigalway.ie

Alumni Office

NUI Galway
T: +353 91 493 750
E: alumni@nuigalway.ie

Burren College of Art

Ballyvaughan
Co. Clare
T: +353 65 707 7200
F: +353 65 707 7201
E: anna@burrencollege.ie
www.burrencollege.com

Disability Support Service

NUI Galway
T: +353 91 493 541
E: disability@nuigalway.ie

Fees Office

Áras Uí Chathail
NUI Galway
T: +353 91 492 386
F: +353 91 495 553
E: fees@nuigalway.ie



International Affairs Office

NUI Galway
T: +353 91 495 277
E: international@nuigalway.ie

Mature Students Office

Áras Uí Chathail
NUI Galway
T: +353 91 492 695
E: maturestudents@nuigalway.ie

Student Information Desk (SID)

NUI Galway
T: +353 495 999
E: sid@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/sid

Student Services

Including:
Childcare, Chaplains, Counsellors, Societies, Clubs, Student Health Unit
T: +353 91 492 364
www.nuigalway.ie/student_services

PAC

Postgraduate Applications Centre
1 Courthouse Square
Galway
Ireland
T: +353 91 549 260
F: +353 91 563 056
Opening hours: 9.30am–5.00pm

Information Solutions and Services

Room 128, Information Solutions and Services,
Arts and Science Building
Help Desk
T: +353 91 493 777
E: servicedesk@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/information-solutions-and-services/

Career Development Centre

T: +353 493 589
www.nuigalway.ie/careers/

Useful Links

International Affairs Office, NUI Galway
www.nuigalway.ie/international

Postgraduate Applications Centre
www.pac.ie

Fees Office, NUI Galway
www.nuigalway.ie/fees

Accommodation Office, NUI Galway
www.nuigalway.ie/accommodation

Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service
(Study Visa advice)
www.inis.gov.ie

Education in Ireland
(Information about the Irish education system)
www.educationinireland.ie

Discover Ireland
(General information for international visitors)
www.discoverireland.ie

National Bus and Train Companies
www.citylink.ie
www.gobus.ie
www.buseireann.ie
www.irishrail.ie

Airports in Ireland
www.dublinairport.com–2½ hours to Galway
www.shannonairport.com–1½ hours to Galway
www.irelandwestairport.com–1½ hours to Galway
www.corkairport.com–3 hours to Galway