



SELECTION CRITERIA FOR  
**Undergraduate Entry to Medicine**  
FOR EU APPLICANTS 2020



Trinity College Dublin  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin



# Minimum Entry Requirements:

## EU Applicants:

This brochure provides details of the selection criteria for EU applicants to undergraduate medicine in NUI Galway, RCSI, TCD, UCC and UCD.

## School Leavers:

In order for school leavers to be eligible to compete for entry to undergraduate medicine in 2020, they must:

- 1 achieve a minimum of 480 points and
- 2 meet the minimum entry requirements<sup>1</sup> for each Medical School for which they have applied and
- 3 complete the required admissions test (HPAT-Ireland) in 2020.

Criteria 1 and 2 above must both be met in the same sitting of the Irish Leaving Certificate Examination, or equivalent<sup>2</sup>.

Pre 2020 Leaving Certificate results may be presented but the HPAT must be presented in the year of entry. See Table 1 for details of requirements for each medical programme.

**Table 1: Summary of minimum entry requirements for EU admissions for each Medical School<sup>1</sup>**

Medical programmes			Minimum SUBJECT Requirements <sup>1</sup>						Minimum POINTS Requirement
Institution	CAO Code	Duration	Minimum Entry Requirements	English	Irish	Third Language	Maths	Science	480 points from the same sitting of the Leaving Certificate Examination or equivalent.
National University of Ireland, Galway (NUI GALWAY)	GY501	6 Years	2 x H5 and 4 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 in one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics/Chemistry, Agricultural Science	
		5 Years	2 x H4 and 4 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	H4 in two of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics/Chemistry, Agricultural Science	
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)	RC001	6 Years	2 x H5 and 4 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 in one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics/Chemistry, Agricultural Science	
		5 Years	2 x H4 and 4 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	H4 Chemistry and H4 in either Biology or Physics	
Trinity College Dublin (TCD)	TR051	5 Years	1 x H3 1 x H4 1 x H5 and 3 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 in a language other than English		O6/H7 or O4/H6 if no Physics	H3 and a H4 from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics/Chemistry, Agricultural Science	
University College Cork (UCC)	CK701	5 Years	2 x H4 and 4 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	H4 Chemistry and H4 in either Biology or Physics	
University College Dublin (UCD)	DN400	6 Years	2 x H5 and 4 x O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7	O6/H7 in one of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Physics/Chemistry, Agricultural Science	

In addition all students will be required to satisfy the Garda Vetting, Medical Clearance and Fitness to Practise requirements as required by each institution.<sup>1</sup>

## Mature Applicants (23 years or over by 1 January of 2020):

For those applying for a place on grounds of mature years, the minimum educational requirements and places available for mature students are available from each institution. In all cases the medical admissions test, HPAT-Ireland, is required. As HPAT-Ireland results form part of the selection procedure for mature applicants, results will be sent to the universities for short-listing purposes prior to the official release of results.

- 1 Students are advised to check the website of the relevant institution for full details of all entry requirements and policies and procedures.
- 2 For EU students presenting qualifications other than the Irish Leaving Certificate, equivalent qualifications are required. For details please consult the CAO website at [www2.cao.ie/downloads/documents/Guidelines-EU-EFTA.pdf](http://www2.cao.ie/downloads/documents/Guidelines-EU-EFTA.pdf).

## The Admissions Test: HPAT-Ireland

The admissions test is called HPAT-Ireland (Health Professions Admission Test-Ireland). This test is independently administered by ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research).

The HPAT-Ireland test measures a candidate's logical reasoning and problem-solving skills as well as non-verbal reasoning and the ability to understand the thoughts, behaviour and/or intentions of people. It does not test academic knowledge and candidates do not require special understanding of any academic discipline. However, some familiarity with the question types typically presented in HPAT-Ireland would be an advantage and therefore a practice booklet with worked answers is supplied to all candidates. The test results will complement the Leaving Certificate Examination assessment for selecting applicants for admission to an undergraduate Medical School programme.

### Format of test:

The HPAT-Ireland test is a 2½ hour paper-based test, consisting of three modules or sections:

- (i) Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving
- (ii) Interpersonal Understanding
- (iii) Non-Verbal Reasoning

All questions are in multiple choice format with 4 or 5 possible responses, from which the candidate is asked to choose the most appropriate response. There is only one correct response. Further details regarding the test, including the approximate number of questions in each section, can be found at <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/>. Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with a physical and/or specific learning disability.

### Scoring of test:

The maximum score a candidate can achieve is 300. The weighting of the three sections will be Section 1 (40%); Section 2 (40%); Section 3 (20%). In addition to their overall HPAT score, HPAT-Ireland candidates will also receive an overall percentile rank to give them an indication of how well they performed against other HPAT-Ireland candidates.

### Application procedure and cost:

In addition to their application to the CAO ([www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)), students must also apply directly to ACER to complete the HPAT-Ireland test. Applicants for the test will apply online to ACER at <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/> (see Table 2 for details). The cost of applying to the HPAT-Ireland test in 2020 will be approximately €140 per candidate. This fee covers:

- online registration for the test
- reduced rate for Practice Test e-books with worked solutions
- access to a video package including 80 sample questions with commentary on solutions
- access to 3 videos regarding the test experience (pre-registration, post-registration and test day)
- materials required for the paper test
- provision of test results to the candidate
- transfer of results to the CAO

Only bona-fide applicants may apply to sit the test i.e. current or past school-leavers. A more detailed definition of a bona-fide candidate is available on the HPAT-Ireland website.

### Test date:

The only sitting of the HPAT-Ireland test in 2020 will take place on Saturday 22nd February, 2020. There will be no alternative test date for HPAT-Ireland. HPAT-Ireland results are only valid for one year, i.e. a HPAT result from 2020 will only be valid for entry in 2020.

### Test centres:

Test centres will be located in Cork, Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Sligo and Waterford. Every effort will be made to accommodate applicants in their preferred test centre. However, as capacity in some test centres may be limited, early application for the test is advised.

**Table 2: Important Dates**

CAO application <a href="http://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a>	From 5 November 2019 but no later than 1 February 2020 at 17:15
Normal HPAT-Ireland test registration period <a href="https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/">https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/</a>	Early November 2019 until 20 January 2020 at 17:15 <b>You will require a 2020 CAO application number to apply for HPAT-Ireland</b> Fee: €140
Late HPAT-Ireland test registration period. Supplementary fee payable.	1 February, 2020 at 17:15 Fee: €210
Exceptional Late HPAT-Ireland test registration period. Late fee payable	3 February, 2020 at 17:15 Fee: €245
Date of HPAT-Ireland test	<b>Saturday 22 February, 2020</b>
HPAT-Ireland test result to candidates	Mid to late April, 2020 (mature applicants) June 2020 (standard applicants)
Round 1 CAO offers	Mid August 2020

## Combination of Leaving Certificate Examination results and the HPAT-Ireland score

For school-leaving applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements and the 480 points criterion in the same sitting of the Leaving Certificate, allocation of places for medicine will be determined on the basis of a combination of the Leaving Certificate and HPAT-Ireland scores. Before the scores are combined, Leaving Certificate Examination points above 550 will be moderated as per Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Moderated Leaving Certificate points from 550 points**

Normal LCE points	Moderated LCE points	Normal LCE points	Moderated LCE points	Normal LCE points	Moderated LCE points
551-555	551	576-580	556	601-605	561
556-560	552	581-585	557	606-610	562
561-565	553	586-590	558	611-615	563
566-570	554	591-595	559	616-620	564
571-575	555	596-600	560	621-625	565



## Combination of Leaving Certificate Examination results and the HPAT-Ireland score

For CAO applicants to medicine the maximum achievable score will be 865:

565 as the maximum score based on the Leaving Certificate Examination (after adjustment)

and

300 as the maximum score based on the HPAT-Ireland test.

For example:

- If you achieve 621 points in the LCE this will become 565 moderated LCE points and if you achieve a score of 160 in the HPAT-Ireland test, your overall score will be 725.

The combined score will then be used to offer a place to an applicant for the highest of their programme choices to which they are entitled (if any), in line with standard CAO procedures [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie).

Applicants with the same combined score will be ranked in order of their Leaving Certificate (or equivalent) pre-moderated points.

Table 4 provides a sample of scores that eligible applicants would receive when the Leaving Certificate Examination points and HPAT-Ireland scores are combined. Leaving Cert scores over 550 have been moderated.

**Table 4: Sample combination scores**

L Cert score moderated	HPAT scored to a maximum of 300										
	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	230	240	250
524	674	684	694	704	714	724	734	744	754	764	774
530	680	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780
536	686	696	706	716	726	736	746	756	766	776	786
538	688	698	708	718	728	738	748	758	768	778	788
540	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790
542	692	702	712	722	732	742	752	762	772	782	792
548	698	708	718	728	738	748	758	768	778	788	798
553	703	713	723	733	743	753	763	773	783	793	803
555	705	715	725	735	745	755	765	775	785	795	805
559	709	719	729	739	749	759	769	779	789	799	809
565	715	725	735	745	755	765	775	785	795	805	815

In 2019, applicants receiving an offer achieved LCE scores ranging from 520 to 625 and HPAT-Ireland scores ranging from 162 to 226. Table 5 outlines the minimum combined points per programme in 2020. Please note that changes to the Leaving Certificate grading and points scales came into effect in 2017. For more information on these changes, please see <http://www.transition.ie>.

**Table 5: 2019 Minimum Entry Points**

2019 Minimum Entry Requirements	
CAO Code	Minimum Entry Level
CK701	729
DN400	735
GY501	726*
RC001	729*
TR051	730

\* Not all on this score were offered a place

## Tips from ACER for the Day of the Test

- 1. Admission Ticket:** This will tell you exactly where, and at what time, to report on the day of the test. Notification will be sent to your registered email address when the Admission Ticket is available through your online account, approximately two weeks before the test date. Candidates should note that there may be more than one examination room at the venue. It is important to check the ticket carefully so that you know exactly where you should be. No latecomers will be admitted once the test has started. If you present without an Admission Ticket you will be refused entry.
- 2. Arrival at the Test Centre:** Reporting time is indicated on the Admission Ticket and the test will commence as soon as the check-in process is complete. Please ensure that you give yourself plenty of time to check in and find your desk before the test begins. Keep in mind that at large Test Centres it may take some time before all IDs and Admission Tickets are checked and candidates are seated.
- 3. Identification:** On the day of the test you will be required to present an original photo-bearing identification document. Candidates should note that the name on the identification document must match the name on your CAO and HPAT applications. The only acceptable identification documents are:
  - a. a valid passport, or
  - b. a current driver's licence (if this includes an embedded photograph), or
  - c. a Current EU/EEA National Identity Card, or
  - d. Current Irish Public Services Card, or
  - e. a certified letter of identification. This letter must be on official institution (school or workplace) letterhead and contain your name, date of birth, a passport photo glued to the letter with the institution stamp overlapping and the signature, printed name and title of the official verifying the identification as well as your signature. Examples of the appropriate ID can be found on the HPAT-Ireland website.

If you do not present one of the above approved identification documents, in addition to your Admission Ticket, you will not be able to sit HPAT-Ireland and will be turned away from the Test Centre.
- 4. Duration of the test:** The duration of the test is 2.5 hours. However, candidates should note when making transport arrangements that they will be in the Test Centre until approximately 13.30. Candidates may not leave the Test Centre before the test has finished.
- 5. Dress comfortably:** Some Test Centres are warmer or cooler on weekends than during the week. Consider dressing in layers, so you will be comfortable irrespective of the room conditions.
- 6. Food:** As you will be in the Test Centre for a number of hours it is important that you are aware that food is not permitted in the test room (unless permission has been granted by the HPAT-Ireland Office prior to the test e.g. in the case of diabetes, etc.). All students are permitted to take bottled water into the test room.

Further information is available from the HPAT-Ireland website <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org>.

## Further Information and Contact Details

**National University of Ireland, Galway**  
Admissions Office  
Tel. 091 495 999  
Email: [admissions@nuigalway.ie](mailto:admissions@nuigalway.ie)  
[www.nuigalway.ie](http://www.nuigalway.ie)

**University College Cork**  
Admissions Office  
Tel. 021 490 3571  
Email: [admissions@ucc.ie](mailto:admissions@ucc.ie)  
[www.ucc.ie/study](http://www.ucc.ie/study)

**Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland**  
Admissions Office  
Dublin 2  
Tel. 01 402 2228  
Email: [admissions@rcsi.ie](mailto:admissions@rcsi.ie)  
[www.rcsi.ie/study](http://www.rcsi.ie/study)

**University College Dublin**  
Registry Admissions  
Dublin 4  
Tel. 01 716 1608  
Email: [admissions@ucd.ie](mailto:admissions@ucd.ie)  
[www.ucd.ie](http://www.ucd.ie)

**Trinity College Dublin**  
Admissions Office  
Dublin 2  
Tel. 01 896 4500  
Email: [academic.registry@tcd.ie](mailto:academic.registry@tcd.ie)  
[www.tcd.ie/study](http://www.tcd.ie/study)

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