

# EXEMPTIONS



## EXEMPTIONS- GENERAL INFORMATION

Before Applying for any course, it is important to check the minimum entry requirements.

If you intend seeking exemption from a minimum entry requirement such as Irish or a third or modern language you must contact, without delay, the admissions office of the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) you are applying to.

If you wish to apply for an NUI exemption, you must contact the NUI (see [www.nui.ie](http://www.nui.ie) for details). You must also indicate this on your CAO online application. Apply to the NUI without delay and no later than 21 days after opening your CAO account. Please note: CAO plays no role in processing exemption applications.

Applicants must make arrangements for exemptions each year they apply.

You will receive a Statement of Application Record in May. You must check this document carefully and inform CAO immediately if there is any error or omission. If you have been granted exemption from the NUI Irish (and/or third language) requirement and there is no reference to it on the Statement of Application Record you must notify CAO immediately.

It is important to note that exemptions are a separate matter to supplying CAO and HEIs with information about a disability and/or specific learning difficulty.

[http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs\\_2021\\_2022\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs_2021_2022_ENG.pdf)

## WHEN YOU NEED NOT TO APPLY

**If you satisfy ALL the criteria below:**

1. Were born outside of Ireland
2. Were fully educated outside of Ireland AND
3. Are resident outside of Ireland

(ie: provide a non-Irish, European address, as part of your application)

**The CAO will pick up this information automatically and you do not need to apply for an exemption.**

## WHEN TO CONSULT / APPLY

If you were born in Ireland / partly educated in Ireland / provide an Irish address to the CAO, you will likely still be entitled to an exemption.

HOWEVER it is wise not to assume this.

**Contact the NUI / Individual HEI directly to check.**

If you need further reassurance, then you tick the box for exemption on the CAO application and apply to the NUI directly to be sure.

*(Checked with NUI - Nov 2019)*

## PLEASE SEE EXEMPTION FORM BELOW

Exemption form:

<http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/exemption.pdf>

## LIST OF NUI COLLEGES

### National University Of Ireland *Ollscoil na hÉireann*

The National University of Ireland was established by the Irish Universities Act, 1908. It was restructured under the Universities Act, 1997, and now comprises four Constituent Universities, two Recognised Colleges and other Colleges linked with the Constituent Universities.

- **NUI Constituent Universities**

- > University College Dublin
- > University College Cork
- > National University of Ireland, Galway
- > Maynooth University

- **NUI Recognised Colleges**

- > Institute of Public Administration
- > Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

• **Colleges linked with the Constituent Universities**

- > Burren College of Art
- > National College of Art and Design, Dublin
- > Shannon College of Hotel Management (now a School in the College of Business, Public Policy and Law at NUI Galway)
- > St. Angela’s College, Sligo

**Age at Entry to a Constituent University, Recognised or other Associated College**

Students must normally have attained the age of seventeen years by 15th January following entry to a Constituent University, Recognised or other Associated College of the University. Where a candidate below that age seeks to enter an institution within NUI, special application - must be made to the President/Director of the institution concerned.

Source [http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs\\_2021\\_2022\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs_2021_2022_ENG.pdf), Pg 3

**THE IRISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT**

**The basic requirement with regard to Irish**

Candidates born in the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) must pass Irish, unless exempt. This requirement applies whether the candidate is presenting the Leaving Certificate or another examination for Matriculation.

**Exemption from Irish for candidates educated outside the Republic of Ireland**

Candidates born and fully educated outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) who are presenting qualifications other than the Leaving Certificate for matriculation are automatically exempt from Irish and do not need to make application to NUI.

**Exemption from Irish for candidates educated in the Republic of Ireland**

(i) **Candidates born outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties)**

Candidates born outside the Republic of Ireland, and who are being educated within the Republic of Ireland, must complete Sections A and B of the Exemption Application Form and send this to NUI with a copy of their birth certificate.

(ii) **Candidates born in the Republic of Ireland (26 counties)**

- Whose primary education up to the age of eleven years was outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) or
- Who in the course of their primary and post-primary education combined, spent at least three continuous years outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) must complete Section A of the Exemption Application Form, have Section C of the Form completed and signed by the Principal/Head of their school and send the completed form to NUI.

Source: [http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs\\_2021\\_2022\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs_2021_2022_ENG.pdf)

**USEFUL DOCUMENTS**



- **NUI List:**  
<http://www.nui.ie/links/>
- **NUI Matriculation requirements:**  
[http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs\\_2021\\_2022\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/matricRegs/matricRegs_2021_2022_ENG.pdf)
- **NUI Exemptions:**  
<http://www.nui.ie/college/docs/exemption.pdf>  
<http://www.nui.ie/college/entry-requirements-faqs.asp>

