U.S. Citizens

Ireland and the United States have a visa waiver agreement in place, which does not require American citizens to obtain an Irish visa before they travel to Ireland. However, as students will be in Ireland for a period longer than 90 days, they must register their presence in Ireland with An Garda Síochana after their arrival. By registering with the Gardai, students can legally live, study, and participate in Service-Learning in Ireland until the end of the N.U.in Program.

Students must register with the Gardai in person no later than one month after their arrival to Ireland. The Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) Office is located in the city center near O’Connell Bridge (13-14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2), and is open from 8.00 am – 9.00 pm from Monday to Thursday, and from 8.00 am – 6.00 pm on Friday. Please note that student registrations are not processed between 8.00 am – 9.00 am. Registration with the GNIB may take between four and fourteen hours. In circumstances where the GNIB office is particular busy, students may be required to return to the office in the days following the registration process to collect their Certificate of Registration.

What do I need to lodge my student visa?
1. Passport: Valid for at least 12 months after the student’s proposed date of arrival in Ireland. Please check N.U.in website for arrival date.
2. Welcome letter from university partner: see page 2 for more details
3. Proof of health insurance: see page 2 for more details
4. Financial requirements: see page 2 for more details
5. GNIB fee: see page 2 for more details

Please refer to page 2 for more information.

Did you know?

Dublin’s O’Connell Bridge is the only bridge in Europe which has the same width as its length!
Students need the following items to successfully register with the GNIB:

1. Passport (must be valid for at least 12 months after the student’s proposed date of arrival in Ireland).

2. Welcome letter from university partner (University College Dublin), stating the student’s full name, start date, end date, what the semester entails and how it fits into the overall programme, whether UCD is providing the students with accommodation, the degree of which the semester is a part of and the awarding University and confirming the student’s enrollment with UCD. UCD are also asked to bring their UCD student card and their “Cert of Attendance” letter, which can be printed from their SIS Student Web account.

3. Proof of private health insurance: The letter of enrollment from UCD will be regarded as sufficient proof of private medical insurance cover where it indicates that the student is part of the college group insurance scheme, that the student has paid the fees associated with such a scheme and where it provides a brief outline of the name of the insurance provider, level of coverage etc. Coverage is provided by MediCover Student Private Medical Expenses Insurance. The student can also provide evidence of their own private health insurance policy if they choose to have additional coverage.

4. Students 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 €500 per month of stay or €3,000, whichever is the lesser.

5. Fee of €300 which must be paid by credit/debit card or Bank Giro (obtainable from the GNIB office).

Students should be prepared to present items one to four above at immigration control at the airport in Ireland and should be able to also show evidence of a return ticket to their home country. After students register with the GNIB, they will receive a Certificate of Registration (GNIB card), which includes their name, address, a photograph, and residence details. Students will also receive a stamp in their passport that specifies the duration and conditions of their permission to remain in Ireland.

**Please note:** Students are responsible for obtaining a valid visa prior to the program start date. If they cannot obtain a valid visa in time, then please refer to the N.U.in Withdrawal Policy and contact the N.U.in office to discuss next steps.