

Maynooth University Careers Development Centre
 Information Sheet:
Social Work: Graduate Route (Entry 2018)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: National Qualification in Social Work (NQSW) – **Courses listed below - Students are advised to check each college website for full details about course, application and entry requirements. Contact details overleaf.**

Courses/Entry Requirements:

UCD – (2 years full-time, 4 years part time) [Master of Social Science \(Social Work\)](#)

- Minimum entry requirement is a 2.2 degree including a Social Policy content. Graduates who don't have a 2.2 standard degree but have completed a Higher Diploma in Social Policy or equivalent can also apply.
- Candidates who have not previously studied the required Social Policy content will be required to take a programme such as the Higher Diploma in Social Policy course or equivalent and pass at the required level before being allowed to apply for the MSocSc (Social Work) programme.
- Applicants will be expected to have completed at least 250 hours of relevant paid or voluntary employment experience at time of application and 420 hours in total completed by the time they begin the course in September

UCC - (2 years, full time) [Master of Social Work \(MSW\)](#) / [Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies \(PDSWS\)](#)

- MSW: Minimum 2.2 in B.Soc.Sc. degree or equivalent plus relevant experience. It is not necessary to have 2.2 degree for entry to the PostgradDip.
- Relevant practice experience in a social work related area – minimum 470 hours.

TCD - (2 years full time) [Master in Social Work](#)

- 2.1 in a social science degree or equivalent (students need to have completed foundation courses in Politics and Economics and substantial courses in Sociology and Social Policy); In situations where there is a shortfall in the area of Social Policy, Economics or Politics, a compensatory learning package will be offered to potential candidates who have been successful at interview
- Candidates will be required to demonstrate at least 850 hours practice experience. This will be assessed in terms of quality, relevance of work (can be either paid or voluntary) and what the applicant has gained from it.
- When assessing the quality of previous practice experience, the factors taken into consideration include: nature of the tasks undertaken; quantity and quality of supervision and training available to and availed of by the candidate; connections the candidate can make between practice experience and wider social issues
- Examples of relevant practice experience include employment as: residential child care or social care workers, social work assistants, family access or family support workers. Voluntary work covers a wide range of activities such as phone-line counselling, volunteer support and befriending work, and community activism.

NUI, Galway - (2 years) [Masters in Social Work](#)

- Minimum 2.2 degree in BA with a major in Social Work, Sociology, Psychology, Social Policy, Public and Social Policy, Youth and Family Studies or BSocSc or hold other qualifications deemed acceptable (**contact college for details**).
- A minimum of 6 months (approx. 960 hours) experience in a social work or social care setting is compulsory to be eligible to apply

IT Sligo - (2 years) [Masters in Social Work](#)

- Grade of 2.1 or above in Social Sciences i.e. B.Soc.Sc, Community Development, Early Childhood Care and Education, Psychology, Social Policy, Social Science, Social Care Practice, Sociology, Social Policy, Youth and Family Studies. If an applicant has a level 8 award in a discipline that is not social sciences, they must hold a postgraduate award in social sciences (minimum 2.1 grade).
- Accumulated non-study related relevant and certified work experience with service users of 800 hours. Supervision must have been available to the applicant during the experience. Examples of relevant direct work experience include working directly with service users in health and social care settings, youth and community, care of the elderly, residential care, voluntary activities.

Maynooth University BSocSc Students/graduates are advised to contact individual colleges for specific queries. UCD – Eligibility depends on modules/subjects selected; NUI, Galway – Any BSocSc Degree accepted, experience and application very important; UCC – Social Policy must be major part of primary degree; TCD - Social Science degree acceptable, relevant experience also important.

Fees : (EU f/t)

UCD: €6,800 (tbc) UCC: €6,835 TCD: €8,575 NUIG: €6,500, IT Sligo: €4,750

Grants:

Higher Education Grants may apply - Contact: <http://www.studentfinance.ie>

Online Application:

UCD www.ucd.ie; TCD <http://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply/>; [IT Sligo](#); NUIG and UCC through www.pac.ie

Application Fee:

€50 (approx). Fees may be subject to change

Selection:

On-line Application and Interview (may include group interview)

Number of Places:

UCD: 50 (Masters) tbc UCC: 50 - 60 (MSW & PDSWS) tbc TCD: 25 tbc NUIG: 20 IT Sligo: 20

Closing Date (Entry 2018)

UCD: early January 2018, UCC: mid-January 2018, TCD: 16th January 2018, NUIG: 9th February 2018 IT Sligo: 27th April 2018

(continued overleaf) → → →

CONVERSION COURSES

Graduates with degrees other than Social Science can complete a conversion course in Social Policy before applying for NQSW Courses.

It is recommended to contact individual colleges for specific requirements

Colleges: [UCD – Higher Diploma in Social Policy](#) [UCC – Higher Diploma in Social Policy](#) [TCD - Online Postgraduate Diploma in Social Policy & Practice](#)

Entry Requirements: A non-Social Science Degree. Normally 2.2 minimum – can contact college to discuss.

Duration: Normally 1 year, there may be 2 year part-time options

Fees (EU /Non-EU) UCD: €6,315/ €12,200 UCC: €6,000 / €12,200 (approx) TCD: €5,950 / €11,355. Fees may be subject to change.

Grants: Higher Education Grants may apply (usually for one postgraduate course only. For further details contact <http://www.studentfinance.ie/>)

Application: For further details and on-line application form: <http://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/apply.html> . Applications to UCC are made at www.pac.ie

Application Fee: €50 (approx) Application fees may be subject to change.

Selection: UCD: On-line application. At present the University reserves the right to call students for interview if necessary.

UCC: On-line application and Interview

Number of Places: UCD: 35 tbc UCC: 15 tbc TCD: 25tbc

Closing Date (Entry 2018): UCD – Rolling applications - check the [website](#) for full details. N.B. Candidates are advised to apply as early as possible.

UCC: Rolling applications and acceptance dates – see: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/study/postgrad/how/applicationclosingdates/>

TCD: [See: website](#) for details

WHAT'S NEXT?

Research: Course content, application forms and procedures. It is important to complete on-line applications thoroughly and correctly.

Obtain: Relevant work experience.

Supporting Documents: Check with colleges for specific documents required e.g. Personal Statement, Official University Transcripts, Evidence of Work Experience, References, Birth Certificate/passport etc.

Prepare Application Form and Interview Techniques; Talk to practising Social Worker – Become familiar with current issues within profession.

Attend Career Information Sessions– C.V. Preparation, Interview Techniques

Careers Information: IASW & Social Workers Registration Board (Coru) websites – see below for contact details

gradireland sector career guide; www.gradireland.com

Career Development Centre Occupational Information section– <http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/useful-resources/explore-careers/social-guidance-and-community-work>

Irish Association of Social Workers, Social Workers Registration Board – websites and contact details below.

USEFUL ADDRESSES AND CONTACT NUMBERS

Colleges:

✉ School of Applied Social Science,
University College Dublin
Belfield,
Dublin 4.
(01) 716 8419
www: <http://www.ucd.ie/appsoc/>

☎

✉ School of Social Work & Social Policy,
Room 3063, Arts Building,
University of Dublin,
Trinity College,
Dublin 2.
(01) 896 2001
www: <http://www.tcd.ie/swsp>

☎

✉ School of Applied Social Studies,
University College Cork,
William Thompson House,
Donovan's Road,
Cork.
(021) 400 2899
www: <http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/>

☎

✉ School of Political Science & Sociology,
308 Aras Moyola,
National University of Ireland, Galway,
Galway
091 – 492290
www: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/soc/>

☎

✉ Admissions Office
IT Sligo
071 931 8510
E: admissions@itsligo.ie
www: <https://www.itsligo.ie/courses/ma-social-work/>

☎

Professional Organisations:

✉ Irish Association of Social Workers,
114 – 116 Pearse Street, Dublin 2
(01) 6774838
office@iasw.ie
www: <http://www.iasw.ie/>

☎

✉ Social Workers Registration Board,
Coru, Joyce House,
8 -11 Lombard St, D2.
(01) 2933160
info@coru.ie
www: <http://www.coru.ie/>

☎

Every effort is made to ensure that information is correct at time of publication but it is essential to check all details at source before making decisions.

© 25th May 2018 Maynooth University Career Development Centre.
No part of this publication should be reproduced or adapted without acknowledgment of source.