

Useful Information

Irish Association of Social Workers - <https://www.iasw.ie/iasw-career-in-social-work>

Gradireland - <https://gradireland.com/careers-advice/job-descriptions/social-worker>

CORU - <https://www.coru.ie/about-us/registration-boards/social-workers-registration-board/>

Courses/Entry Requirements – Entry 2025

Students are advised to check with course providers for full details on course application & entry requirements.

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

Selection: On-line Application and Interview (may include group interview and written test) Funding Higher Education

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

Maynooth University – (2 years) [Master of Social Science \(Social Work\)](#)

- Minimum Second-Class Honours (2H2) primary degree (NFQ Level 8) in social science or equivalent, with social policy as a major component
- Minimum of 420 hours of relevant and verified social work/social service experience, paid or voluntary, by the time they commence the programme.
- Suitability and readiness for entry to the social work degree programme. Applicants will be required to provide a minimum of two references including an academic reference and a practice experience-related reference.
- Fees: (EU f/t) €8,500 tbc
- Closing Date **11th February 2025**
- Online Application: through [MU Apply](#)

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 do not 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.
- 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.
 - The following are suggested, but not exclusive, types of relevant paid or voluntary work experiences:
 - Working in social care settings with adults or children in day care, residential or community-based setting
 - Working with people in health care settings.
 - Working with people in criminal justice settings.
 - Working with young people in educational and youth service.
 - Working with voluntary sector organisations that are involved in advocacy services for disadvantaged groups.
 - Working with voluntary sector organisations involved in online helping.
- Applicants will be shortlisted for interview based on academic results and relevant work experience. There will be a short, written piece included as part of application process, on the same day as the group interview. This will involve writing a short reflection on your participation in the group selection process.
- Fees: (EU f/t) €11,020
- Closing Date **Check website for details** Online Application: [UCD](#)

UCC - (2 years, full time) [Master of Social Work \(MSW\)](#)

- Minimum second-class honours grade 1 (2H1) Bachelor of Social Science (BSocSc) level 8 degree or equivalent (e.g., Level 8 BA in Social Care/H. Dip. in Social Policy/Early Years and Childhood Studies). If your course is not listed here, you need a minimum of 20 credits in social policy and have ideally studied modules in at least one of the following (psychology, sociology, economics, social work) in your primary degree. Students with a 3H or 2H2 standard degree can apply for the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work Studies. PGDSWS students who achieve an aggregate grade of 50% in year one and pass their placement, can proceed to year two of the Master of Social Work programme.
- Selection decisions are based on the following combined criteria: academic performance and research capacity; certified social work-related experience and initiative; knowledge of social work and motivation, commitment, and suitability.
- Relevant practice experience in a social work-related area – min 420 hours by interview
- Fees: (EU f/t) €9,100 per year Closing Date **10th February 2025** Online Application: [UCC Apply](#)

University of 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 UoG for details**).
- Minimum of 3 months (approx. 480 hours) experience in a social work or social care setting is compulsory to be eligible to apply.
- Fees: (EU f/t) €8,500
- Closing Date **31st January 2025**

Online Application: [University of Galway](#)

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

- Successful completion (minimum 2.1 grade) of a Level 8 degree in the social sciences is required prior to acceptance on the course. Candidates holding a primary degree in a discipline outside the social sciences must hold a postgraduate award in social sciences (minimum 2.1 grade)
- 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 childcare 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.
- Fees: (EU f/t) €9,800

Closing date: **12th February 2025**

Online Application: [TCD](#)

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

- Grade of 2.1 or above in Social Sciences i.e., BSocSc, 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).
- Work experience of 420 hours (200 hours at time of interview). 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.
- Fees: (EU f/t) €9,000

Closing Date: **30th April 2025**

Online Application - [ATU](#)

CONVERSION COURSES

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

It is advised to contact individual colleges for specific requirements.

Courses

[Maynooth University – Higher Diploma in Social Policy](#)

[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)

MU: €7,150. UCD: €7,890 UCC: €6,300/€5,100

TCD: €6,800 (Fees may be subject to change.)

Further details <http://www.studentfinance.ie/>

Application:

Applications to MU through [MU Apply](#)

For other universities applications are online on individual university websites.

Application fees – vary between universities (€50 - €80) see individual university websites for details

Closing Date (Entry 2025):

MU - 30th June 2025

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

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

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

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

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