Routes into Teacher Education in Ireland:
Primary & Post-Primary

Natasha Marron
Careers Advisor
Career Development Centre

Every effort is made to ensure that information is correct however it is essential to check all details at source before making decisions.
At Maynooth University, the Career Development Centre provides a service that is student-focused, professional and informative. Whether you are visiting the help-desk to ask questions, attending our Career Talks or Employer presentations, helping yourself to Free take-away literature, using the computers in the Career Development Centre Information Room for assessment tests/careers work or talking with us in a one-to-one meeting, we are happy to assist you and work with you as you progress through the steps in discovering your career.
Part of making good decisions is having the information you need to make an informed decision.

- In our Explore Careers in section you will find useful links and information on many career areas.
- Our Information Sheets provide information on careers about which we are often asked e.g. Graduate Entry Medicine, Social Work, Accounting, Law, Teaching, TEF etc.
- You canaccess handouts from previous Career Presentations given by the Career Development Centre and visiting speakers.
- You will also find Sample CVs helpful in designing your CV.
- Our Career Videos will assist in considering options with your degree, preparing for interviews and for assessment centres.
Post-Primary Teaching - Ireland

- 4 NUI Universities
  - Maynooth University, UCC, UCD, NUI, Galway,
- Dublin City University
- Trinity College Dublin
- University of Limerick
- Hibernia College
NUI / PAC Applications

• Apply in final year to start course September after graduation

• Closing Date – 1\textsuperscript{st} December 2017
• Application Fee - €80

• Late Applications – 16\textsuperscript{th} February 2018
• Late Application Fee €120
Dublin City University

- Professional Master of Education (PME)
- Closing Date: 2\textsuperscript{nd} February 2018
- Application Fee: €80

- Application to DCU through [www.pac.ie](http://www.pac.ie)
Welcome to the Postgraduate Applications Centre

On this website you can make applications for postgraduate programmes at higher level education institutions around Ireland.

Choose an institution below

Choose a National Qualification Programme below

PME (formerly PDE)
Professional Master of Education (NUI)

MGO (DGO roimhe seo)
Máistir Gairmiúil san Oldeachas (NUI)

PME (DCU - DC905)
Post-primary Teaching

PHN
Public Health Nursing

HDM
Higher Diploma in Midwifery
How are places allocated?

All the NUI Universities AND DCU

• Points System
  – Points awarded based on most recent exam results
  – If applying in 3rd year Arts, points based on your 2nd year results, if applying 4th year Science, points based on 3rd year results etc.
NUI Applications: Business degree- Quotas

• Business related Subjects
  – Each of the four NUI Universities will allow a maximum of 10% of available places for applicants holding business related degrees

• You are in this category if you have 2 of the following subjects in your degree - Business, Commerce, Economics, Accounting and Finance
# Points Required for 2017 Entry

## University College Cork

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offer Round</th>
<th>NBBS¹</th>
<th>BBS²</th>
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## University College Dublin

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## NUI Galway

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## Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh (Gaeilge)

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## Maynooth University

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Sample Calculations based on the above points table
NUI Points (contd.)

• Points required varies each year – not possible to predict points required for 2018 entry or subsequent years

• Average grades required for 2017 Entry

  Varies depending on university

  42% - 56% (for non-business related degrees)
  40% - 66% (for business related degrees)
What if I don’t get a place this year?

• How can I increase my points?
  – Re-apply the following year with final year results
  – Additional Qualifications (only eligible if completed at time of application)
    • Undergraduate
    • Postgraduate
    • Course must be completed by 1\textsuperscript{st} December in year of application
  – Relevant \textbf{Paid} Professional Experience

• Other options...Apply to other universities
Increasing Points – PAID Professional Experience

• Examples: In education / With young people
  – Full-time Teaching in another country – using your degree subject
  – TEFL Teaching to groups
  – Working full-time as a special needs assistant or classroom assistant
  – Full-time employment as a sports coach, youth organiser or in a nursery/care setting with children
PAID Professional Experience

• Related to teaching subject (normally at graduate level)
  – Employment as
    • Accountant (Business Studies teacher)
    • Translator (Languages teachers)
    • Laboratory Technician (Science teachers)

• See [www.pac.ie](http://www.pac.ie) for further details of acceptable / unacceptable experience

• 1 point awarded for each year of experience
PAID Professional Experience

• Must provide detailed documentation e.g. job description, tax records

• Full-time /Part-time paid professional experience
  – In education
  – Working with young people
  – Related to teaching subject
Increasing your points

• Paid Professional Experience
  – 1 point for each year of experience

• Qualifications
  – Another undergraduate Degree = 4 points
  – Postgraduate Diploma = 3 points
  – Masters = 6 points

  – Undergraduate Diploma = 2 points
  – Undergraduate Certificate = 1 point
Course Application

Before applying, you must acknowledge that you have read the instructions and additional information relevant to your application.

☐ I have read and understood the instructions relevant to my application.

☐ I have read and understood the section on Eligible Level 8 Degrees and have contacted the Teaching Council for clarification of any issues of which I am not certain, and affirm that the information given is true. The Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC), or the Teaching Council cannot accept any responsibility for mistakes made by candidates when completing their application, in relation to degree eligibility.

☐ I have read and understood the Supporting Documentation which is required to be uploaded onto the PAC system to support my application.

Click on 'Start Application' below, to start your application.
Documentation required with NUI application to PAC

- Teaching Council Subject Declaration form is included as part of the application
- Results Transcripts (from Records Office)
- Evidence of EU status e.g. birth cert/passport/P60 etc

Additional documentation can be uploaded before or after you submit your application
- Evidence of additional qualifications
- Evidence of relevant experience (Employer form – link to download on application form)
Dublin City University

- Professional Master of Education (PME)
- Closing Date: 2\textsuperscript{nd} February 2018
- Apply in final year
- Application Fee: €80

- Applications open 20\textsuperscript{th} November 2017
- Application to DCU through www.pac.ie
Choose an institution below

Choose a National Qualification Programme below

PME (DCU - DC905)
Post-primary Teaching
Dublin City University

- Part-time course (2 years)
- Currently 4pm – 8pm Tuesday & Wednesday
- Selection: Application Form & Interview

- When applying to DCU you must have arranged your teaching practice before you send in your application
Application Instructions for DCU Professional Master of Education (Post-Primary Teaching – DC905)

General Statement
Applications for admission to the Professional Master of Education (Post-Primary Teaching) in DCU will be processed in accordance with the regulations, procedures and timetable described in the Postgraduate Applications Centre’s Website. No applicant should attempt to complete the Form without first reading those instructions.

Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC) is agent for and acts on behalf of the universities participating in the Application System. The application regulations, procedures and timetable are agreed annually by DCU. The Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC) has no discretion to set them aside so as to afford special treatment to any applicant over another or to deprive any applicant of his/her entitlement in favour of another.

PAC is purely an administrative facility and does not endorse or recommend this programme. It is the responsibility of each applicant to determine the status and the suitability of any programme chosen.

Instructions for Applicants
Applicants for admission to the Professional Master of Education (Post-Primary Teaching) beginning in Autumn 2018 at Dublin City University are required to complete an application by Friday 2nd February 2018. The application fee is €80 and must be paid with a visa card via the PAC system. All supporting documentation must be uploaded by Friday 16th February 2018 onto the PAC System. Applicants will be assessed on the basis of information supplied in the online form together with accompanying documentation. Offers will be made in April 2018.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to supply complete and accurate information.

Each offer of a place on the Professional Master of Education (Post-Primary teaching) programme will be PROVISIONAL pending verification of information supplied by the applicant and fulfilment of other offer conditions including securing of a School Placement. In all cases, applicants must hold an eligible
Dublin City University

• Subject declaration forms are completed online as part of the application form

• Before completing your form you must upload
  – Transcripts of results
  – Passport

• Other documentation must be uploaded within 2 weeks of submitting your application
  – Evidence of other qualifications/relevant PAID experience (if you have any)
  – Teaching Placement Form
  – Reference forms (2 forms: Academic or employer)
documentation must be uploaded by Friday 16th February 2018 onto the PAC System. Applicants will be assessed on the basis of information supplied in the online form together with accompanying documentation. Offers will be made in April 2018.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to supply complete and accurate information.

Each offer of a place on the Professional Master of Education (Post-Primary teaching) programme will be PROVISIONAL pending verification of information supplied by the applicant and fulfilment of other offer conditions including securing of a School Placement. In all cases, applicants must hold an eligible Level 8 degree (or equivalent) on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) which meet the Teaching Council requirements for at least one post-primary curricular subject. Applicants must also secure a school placement. If information supplied is found to be false or incomplete the absolute right is reserved to cancel the offer and the university will NOT accept any responsibility for arrangements, commitments or liabilities undertaken by the applicant on foot of the offer.

Application Timeline and Supporting Documentation
At time of application, you must upload supporting documentation to PAC by Friday 16th February 2018. These documents include:

- Certified copies of Transcripts
- References (Academic and/or Employer) (minimum of two)
- School Placement Form
- A copy of a valid Passport

Note: Teaching Council Subject Self-Declaration Forms are entered online as part of the application process.

Transcripts
Undergraduate (Final Year) Applicants are required to give the results in an
Trinity College: Professional Master of Education

• 2 year Course
• Applications now open
• Closing Date: 24th November 2017

• Application fee: €55

• Apply online to TCD through www.tcd.ie at http://www.tcd.ie/Education/courses/pme/index.php
Professional Master in Education

The Professional Master of Education (PME) is a required qualification for persons wishing to work as post-primary school teachers in the Republic of Ireland and a recognised teaching qualification within the EU.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must be university graduates, normally with an honors Bachelor degree that includes, as a substantial component, at least one subject from the list of those taught at Leaving Certificate level in Ireland. Applicants are short listed for interview on the basis of our Application Scoring System (PDF) including what qualifies as relevant professional or voluntary experience. Applicants must provide two academic references or one academic reference and one professional reference from relevant professional experience. All academic references must be from a third-level institution. Interviews are held in February / March and offers are made to successful applicants directly following this.

Applicants should be aware of specific entry criteria to the teaching profession which are set and regulated by the DES in association with the Teaching Council of Ireland, and which must be satisfied independently of the School of Education's entry requirements. Therefore, as part of the application process, applicants are required to complete a self-declaration form regarding their eligibility to teach specific curricular subjects.

http://www.tcd.ie/Education/courses/pme/index.php
Trinity College

• Apply for a PME in a specific subject
• Places awarded on basis of
  – On-line application Form on www.tcd.ie
  – Interview
• Grades and teaching Experience or other work with young people important
Trinity College

Documentation usually required along with application form

- Results Transcripts (from Records Office)
- Copies of degree (if graduated)
- Teaching Council Subject Declaration Form
- Passport/P60/Birth Cert
- CV
- TCD Permission Form (to download in application form)
University of Limerick – Professional Master of Education

• Two-year courses
  – Mathematics
  – Business
  – Music
  – Languages

• French, German, Gaelige, Spanish, Japanese, English as a foreign language
Closing dates

- Music – 8\textsuperscript{th} January 2018
- Business – 31\textsuperscript{st} January 2018
- Languages – 17\textsuperscript{th} February 2018
- Mathematics – 4\textsuperscript{th} March 2018
University of Limerick – Professional Master of Education

• Need 2.2 Honours in your degree results but don’t need to have completed your degree to apply
• Apply online [www.ul.ie](http://www.ul.ie)
  – Application Form / Interview
  – Languages: Oral
  – Music: Audition
• Additional Documentation with your application
  Transcripts of results (from Records Office)
  Completed Teaching Council Subject Declaration Form
  Passport photo
  Birth Certificate (long format) or Passport
  Additional Information Form (some courses)
Hibernia College: Professional Master of Education

- 2 intakes per year – October and February
- 2 year course
- 24 weeks teaching practice (3 blocks)
- Contact Hibernia College for application form
- Application fee €95
Hibernia College

- Personal statement important
- Interview
  - Must demonstrate awareness of teaching as a career
  - Classroom observation and other experience with young people important
- Online application form
Teaching Council: Registration

• For each teaching subject the Teaching Council have a list of requirements including the modules you must take as part of your degree.
• It is important to refer to this list when making your module selection
• Details of module content requirements can be found at
  ➢ https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Curricular%20Subject%20Requirements%20after%20January%202017.pdf
  and
  ➢ http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/useful-resources/explore-careers/education
Primary Teaching - Ireland

• 2 routes
  – Full-time course
  – Distance/On-line course – Hibernia College

• Both Routes
  – Recognised by Teaching Council / Department of Education
  – Same minimum entry requirements – see CDC Information Sheets for details * subject to change

• [https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Primary%20Ireland%20Entry2018_0.pdf](https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Primary%20Ireland%20Entry2018_0.pdf)
Primary Teacher
Education - Ireland
Honours Leaving Cert Irish?

• At least C3 in honours Irish required

• What if I don’t have this?
  – Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (Level B2) – Contact Maynooth University Centre for Irish for details www.teg.ie
  – Re-sit Leaving Cert Honours Irish
  – Teacher Training in the U.K. *

• See Hibernia College website www.hiberniacollege.com for details of other alternative qualifications accepted by them
What can you do now?

• Contact Centre for Irish about
  – TEG
    • teanga@mu.ie

• Contact State Examinations Commission
  – Re-sitting Leaving Cert
    • www.examinations.ie
    • entries@examinations.ie
Full-time Course

- College based
  - Dublin: Froebel Dept, Maynooth University,
  - DCU formerly St. Patrick’s College (Drumcondra)
  - Colaiste Mhuire (Marino)
  - Limerick: Mary Immaculate

- 2 years

- Cannot guarantee that course will run in future years – course sanctioned on a yearly basis

- Further details of entry requirements on CDC Information Sheets [http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/useful-resources](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/useful-resources) and on various college websites
Applications

- Next intake not yet advertised
- Course usually starts in September
- Online application for Dublin universities on the PAC website [www.pac.ie](http://www.pac.ie) or on their websites – not confirmed yet
- Application process for Mary Immaculate Limerick to be confirmed
- Can apply to multiple courses
When can I apply?

• Full-time course
  – Course starts in September/October
• Apply in final year or after you have completed your studies – depends on when course is advertised

• Hibernia
  – 2 intakes: October & February
  – See www.hiberniacollege.com for details of upcoming intakes
How are places awarded?

• Application Form
• Interview and Irish Oral
• Why do people not get places?
  – Irish not at adequate standard
  – Not sufficient research into teaching –
    • Spend time in a school
    • Classroom observation
    • Talking with teachers
    • Becoming familiar with curriculum and current issues
This is a postgraduate teacher education programme for primary teaching (2 years in duration) for persons who possess an honours Bachelor Degree at Level 8.

A limited number of places will be available on these programmes and successful applicants will be selected by way of competition. Applicants are advised that shortlisting may apply.

Persons who successfully complete this programme are eligible to be registered by the Teaching Council under Route 1: Primary and will thereby be eligible for appointment in primary schools.
Interview Assessment Form

**Ainm an Iarrthóra**
Name of Candidate: ______________________________________

**Síniú an Iarrthóra**
Signature of Candidate: ______________________________________

**Dáta/Date:** ____________________________  **Uimh. an Bhoird/Board No.:** _______

Start time: ____________________________  End time: ____________________________

Please fill in the appropriate mark in each of the right-hand boxes below.
A total mark of less than 40 is considered a fail.

**Suitability: Total marks available (100)**

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What can you do now?

• Practice your Irish

• Get observation in primary schools
  – Variety of schools
  – Variety of classes
  – Gain as much observation experience as possible

• Contact school principal, explain that you need observation (not teaching experience)
Meet with a Careers Adviser

• Call in to the helpdesk in the Careers Centre (Arts Building)

• Book yourself in for a 15 min slot on our booking sheet on a day/time that suits your schedule.
Any Questions?

- [www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers)

- **Careers Centre Help-Desk**
  - Monday – Friday
  - 10am to 12.30pm & 2.30pm to 4.30pm

- [careers@mu.ie](mailto:careers@mu.ie)