

## DARE Applications

For school leavers whose disabilities have had a negative impact on their second level education.

## DARE Applications 2019-20

The 2020 CAO On-line Application Facility is now open.

Online applications to both DARE and HEAR can be made on [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie) until 17:15 on 1 March.

### DARE Participating Colleges:

<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">Making an Application +</a>	<a href="#">About DARE +</a>	<a href="#">Participating Colleges –</a>	<a href="#">Contact</a>	<a href="#">Q</a>
Athlone Institute of Technology	Institute of Technology Carlow	Pontifical University Maynooth			
Cork Institute of Technology	Institute of Technology Tralee	Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland			
Dublin City University	IT Sligo	St Angela's College, Sligo			
Technological University Dublin City Campus	Limerick Institute of Technology	Trinity College Dublin			
Dundalk Institute of Technology	Letterkenny Institute of Technology	Technological University Dublin Tallaght Campus			
Galway Mayo Institute of Technology	Marino Institute of Education	University College Cork			
Institute of Art, Design and Technology Dun Laoghaire	Mary Immaculate College	University College Dublin			
Technological University Dublin Blanchardstown Campus	Maynooth University	University of Limerick			
	National College of Ireland	Waterford Institute of Technology			
	National University of Ireland, Galway				

## Meeting DARE's Evidence of Disability Criteria

Please see the Guide to Providing Evidence of Your Disability below to view what documentation you are required to submit. Detailed information on the evidence of disability criteria which is used to assess your evidence of disability documentation is available on [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie). If your type of disability does not appear in the list below, please go to the Providing Evidence of Your Disability section on [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie) or contact a member of the DARE Team for guidance.

### What types of disabilities does DARE consider?

- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)/ Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger's Syndrome)
- Blind/ Vision Impaired
- Deaf/ Hard of Hearing
- Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD) – Dyspraxia
- Mental Health Condition
- Neurological Condition (including Brain Injury and Epilepsy)
- Physical Disability
- Significant Ongoing Illness
- Speech and Language Communication Disorder
- Specific Learning Difficulty (including Dyslexia and Dyscalculia)

Type of disability	Appropriate documentation	Type of professional	Required age of report
Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)/ Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist <b>OR</b> Psychologist <b>OR</b> Neurologist <b>OR</b> Paediatrician.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after <b>1 February 2017</b> .
Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger's Syndrome).	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist <b>OR</b> Psychologist <b>OR</b> Neurologist <b>OR</b> Paediatrician.	No age limit.
Blind/ Vision Impaired.	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Ophthalmologist <b>OR</b> Ophthalmic Surgeon.	No age limit.
Deaf/ Hard of Hearing: Students may apply under ONE of the following categories: (A) Applicants who have an audiogram (B) Applicants who attend a School for the Deaf (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant.	(A) Applicants who have an audiogram: Audiogram (B) Applicants who attend a School for the Deaf: Letter confirming attendance from Principal of School for the Deaf <b>OR</b> Evidence of Disability Form 2020 (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant: Existing report confirming cochlear implant <b>OR</b> Evidence of Disability Form 2020 (DARE does not accept reports from high street retailers).	(A) Applicants who have an audiogram: Diagnostic/ Clinical Audiologist registered with the Irish Academy of Audiologists (IAA) or HSE Audiologist (B) School for the Deaf: Principal of School for the Deaf (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant: Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Consultant <b>OR</b> Cochlear Implant Programme Coordinator.	No age limit.
Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD) – Dyspraxia.	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Occupational Therapist <b>OR</b> Neurologist <b>OR</b> Physiotherapist <b>OR</b> Paediatrician.	No age limit on either document.

Type of disability	Appropriate documentation	Type of professional	Required age of report
Mental Health condition.	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist on specialist register.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after <b>1 February 2017</b> .
Neurological Condition (incl. Epilepsy and Brain Injury).	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Neurologist <b>OR</b> Other relevant Consultant.	No age limit.
Physical Disability.	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Orthopaedic Consultant <b>OR</b> Other relevant Consultant appropriate to the disability/ condition.	No age limit.
Significant Ongoing Illness.	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Relevant Consultant/ Specialist appropriate to the disability/ condition.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after <b>1 February 2017</b> .
Speech and Language Communication Disorder.	Evidence of Disability Form 2020 <b>OR</b> Existing report.	Speech and Language Therapist.	No age limit.
Specific Learning Difficulty* (incl. Dyslexia & Dyscalculia).	Psychological Assessment Report	Psychologist	No age limit.

\* **Applicants with a specific learning difficulty must provide literacy and numeracy attainment scores from tests carried out on or after 1 February 2018 as part of the DARE educational impact criteria. These can be from school based testing or from a psychologist.**

## General Practitioner (GP) Verification

If you have an existing diagnosis but have difficulty accessing the appropriate professional to get confirmation of the existing diagnosis or an updated report, you may ask your general practitioner (GP) to complete the Section C Evidence of Disability form. Your GP may do this if they have a clear diagnosis on file from the appropriate professional listed above and this was received within the given timeframe if a time limit applies. **A copy of the document in which your diagnosis is confirmed must be included in your application when using this GP verification.** Your GP does not need to give you copies of your entire file – a single document which confirms your diagnosis and is within the time limit (if one applies) is sufficient.

Once you have provided your Evidence of Disability documentation and Educational Impact Statement your application will be assessed and the outcome of your application determined.

The outcome of your application i.e. if you are eligible or ineligible for DARE, is established by seeing whether or not you meet DARE's eligibility criteria. To find out more about the DARE criteria which applies to your disability see [www.accesscollege.ie/dare](http://www.accesscollege.ie/dare).

# DARE Application Timeline

<p><b>From November 2019</b></p>		<p>CAO applications open from <b>5 November 2019 at 12 noon</b>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the DARE Handbook with your parent(s)/guardian(s).</li> <li>2. Make a CAO application at <a href="http://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a>.</li> <li>3. Fill in the online Supplementary Information Form (SIF) at <a href="http://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a>.</li> <li>4. Complete your Educational Impact Statement with your school.</li> <li>5. Gather your Evidence of Disability documentation.</li> </ol>
<p><b>By 1 February 2020</b></p>		<p>Apply to CAO by 17:15 on 1 February.</p>
<p><b>By 1 March 2020</b></p>		<p>You must indicate your wish <b>to be considered for DARE by ticking 'Yes' to Question 1</b> and complete Section A (Questions 1-5) of the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) on <a href="http://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a>.</p>
<p><b>By 15 March 2020</b></p>		<p>You must return the completed, signed AND stamped</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Educational Impact Statement (Section B)</li> <li>2. Evidence of Disability (Section C) or other evidence of Disability to the CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway by 17:15. Make sure your documents are clear and can be easily read. Please number each page and write your CAO application number, name and the date on the front of each page.</li> </ol> <p>Faxed/ emailed documents are not accepted.</p>
<p><b>April – June 2020</b></p>		<p>Assessment of DARE applications.</p>
<p><b>In late June 2020</b></p>		<p>You will be notified of the outcome of your DARE application.</p> <p>DARE Review and Appeals Application.</p>
<p><b>Early August 2020</b></p>		<p>Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the Review and Appeals application.</p>
<p><b>August 2020</b></p>		<p>Leaving Certificate Exam Results. Eligible DARE applicants compete for reduced points places. CAO Offers to eligible DARE applicants. Course offers are made and should be accepted through the CAO.</p>
<p><b>Late August / Early Sept. 2020</b></p>		<p>Attend Orientation and register with Disability Support Services.</p>

## HEAR APPLICATIONS

Reduced entry points based on disadvantaged socio economic background.

### HEAR Participating Colleges

<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">Making an Application +</a>	<a href="#">About HEAR +</a>	<a href="#">Participating Colleges –</a>	<a href="#">Contact</a>	
Athlone Institute of Technology	Technological University Dublin Blanchardstown Campus	National College of Ireland			
Cork Institute of Technology	Technological University Dublin Tallaght Campus	National University of Ireland, Galway			
Dublin City University	Institute of Technology Tralee	Pontifical University Maynooth			
Technological University Dublin City Campus	IT Sligo	Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland			
Dundalk Institute of Technology	Letterkenny Institute of Technology	St Angela's College, Sligo			
Galway Mayo Institute of Technology	Limerick Institute of Technology	Trinity College Dublin			
Institute of Art, Design and Technology Dun Laoghaire	Marino Institute of Education	University College Cork			
	Mary Immaculate College	University College Dublin			
	Maynooth University	University of Limerick			

## How do I know if I'm eligible to apply to HEAR – what criteria are used?

### Indicator 1 - Low Income

Is the household income below the HEAR Income threshold in 2018?

### Indicator 2 - Medical Card

Is the applicant or his/her mother/father/guardian in receipt of a medical card (in date on 31st December 2019)?

### Indicator 3 - Social Welfare

Is the applicant's mother/father/guardian in receipt of a means-tested social welfare payment (for a minimum of 26 weeks in the relevant year) 2018?

### Indicator 4 - Socio-Economic Grouping (based on occupation and employment status)

Is the applicant a member of a group underrepresented in higher education?

### Indicator 5 - DEIS School

Did the applicant attend a school part of the Department of Education & Science "DEIS" scheme (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) for the duration of their second level education?

### Indicator 6 - Geographical Area

Does the applicant live in an area of concentrated disadvantage?

The combinations for eligibility are:

INDICATOR 1 plus 2 plus 4 or 5 or 6

INDICATOR 1 plus 3 plus 4 or 5 or 6

INDICATOR 1 plus 4 plus 5 or 6

INDICATOR 1 plus 5 plus 6

You can apply online on the CAO website from 5th November 2019. As part of the application process, and depending on individual circumstances, you will be asked to submit documentation relating to your parent(s)/guardian(s) or to yourself to support your application. You must be able to clearly document household income in the year specified.

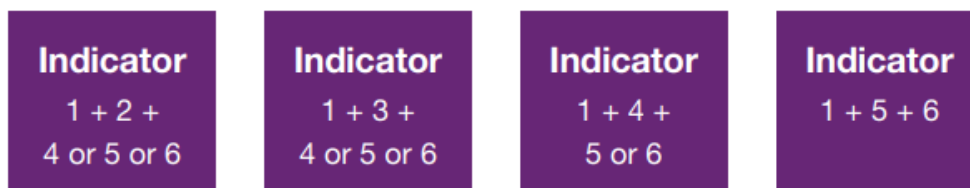
Examples of the documentation required are:

- P21(s) or Self-Assessment Letter – Chapter 4 for 2018.
- Department of Social Protection form or statement for 2018.

Further information on the type of supporting documents required is available on page 19 (the Supporting Document Section) of the HEAR Application Handbook.

All supporting documents must be returned to the CAO no later than 15 March 2020. Late documentation will not be accepted.

**You must meet Indicator 1, the HEAR Income Limit, plus a correct combination of 2 other indicators to be eligible for HEAR. The combinations are:**



Indicator 1, the HEAR Income Limit, is calculated by:

- How many children there are in your family;
- How many people in your family are in full time education;

Use the table to estimate if your family income is equal to or less than the HEAR income limit.

Number of dependent children* in your family	HEAR Income Limit
Fewer than 4	€45,790
4-7	€50,325
8 or more	€54,630

**Add €4,670 to the total family/household income for every sibling/parent enrolled in a full time college, university or post leaving certificate course.**

\*A dependent includes:

- a sibling under the age of 16 years on 1 October 2019.
- a sibling over the age of 16 years on 1 October 2019 who is either:
  - attending post primary education.
  - attending a full time course in FET or higher education.
  - medically certified as permanently unfit for work.
- a parent attending a full time course in FET or higher education.

# HEAR Application Timeline

<p><b>From November 2019</b></p>		<p>Review the HEAR Handbook with your parent(s)/guardian(s).          Make a CAO application at <a href="http://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a>.          Fill in the online HEAR Application at <a href="http://www.cao.ie">www.cao.ie</a>.          Gather your supporting documents.  <b>Remember, they can take several weeks to issue.</b></p>
<p><b>By 1 February 2020</b></p>		<p>Apply to CAO by 17:15 on 1 February.</p>
<p><b>By 1 March 2020</b></p>		<p>Complete all elements of the online HEAR Application Form by 17:15 on 1 March.          Gather all supporting documents relevant to your application.</p>
<p><b>By 15 March 2020</b></p>		<p>Submit copies of supporting documents to CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street Galway by 17:15 on 15 March.          Make sure your copies are clear and can be easily read.          Please number each page and write your CAO application number and the date on the front of each page. Faxed/ emailed documents are not accepted.  <b>Keep the original of all documents and obtain a certificate of posting from An Post every time you post supporting documents to CAO.</b>          For confirmation that the documents you posted arrived safely in CAO, enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard with details of the documents you have submitted.</p>
<p><b>April – June 2020</b></p>		<p>HEAR Application Assessment.</p>
<p><b>In late June 2020</b></p>		<p>Applicants notified of outcome of HEAR Application.</p>
<p><b>End June / Early July 2020</b></p>		<p>HEAR Review and Appeals Application.</p>
<p><b>August 2020</b></p>		<p>Leaving Certificate exam results.          CAO offers.          Successful HEAR Applicants notified.          Accept CAO offer.          Accept HEAR offer of extra college supports.</p>
<p><b>Late August / Early Sept. 2020</b></p>		<p>Attend mandatory HEAR orientation programme.</p>

YOU CAN APPLY TO BOTH THE DARE AND THE HEAR SCHEMES IF THEY ARE RELEVANT TO YOU  
You must make a separate application for each but the order in which you make your applications doesn't matter.



**11 JANUARY** | DARE, HEAR Application Information Days

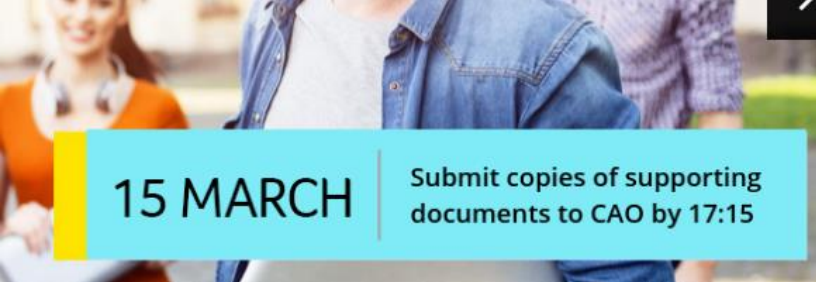
**Dublin**  
TU Dublin,  
Aungier Street,  
Dublin 2  
**10am-2pm**



**1 FEBRUARY** | Make an application to the CAO



**1 MARCH** | Complete your Application Form by 17:15



**15 MARCH** | Submit copies of supporting documents to CAO by 17:15