



www.accesscollege.ie

Kieran Houlihan
DIT Access Service

higher education
access route
hear

www.accesscollege.ie

What is HEAR?

- Higher Education Access Route is an admissions route for school leavers who for social, financial or cultural reasons are under-represented at third level education.
- It was established by **16** colleges and universities to ensure that all Leaving Certificate students have a fair and equal opportunity to progress to third level education.

Participating Institutions

Dublin City University
Dublin Institute of Technology
University College, Cork
University College, Dublin
University of Limerick
NUI Galway
NUI Maynooth
Trinity College, Dublin

Coláiste Mhuire, Marino Institute of Education
Church of Ireland, College of Education
Mary Immaculate, College of Education
Mater Dei Institute of Education
National College of Ireland
St. Angela's College, Sligo
St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra
Pontifical University, Maynooth
Froebel College of Education

What HEAR is not

HEAR is **NOT** your VEC maintenance grant.

Why Apply to HEAR?

- **Reduced points CAO offers** in the participating colleges provided you meet the minimum entry requirements.
- **Post-entry supports** such as financial, academic, social and personal.

Should I Apply?

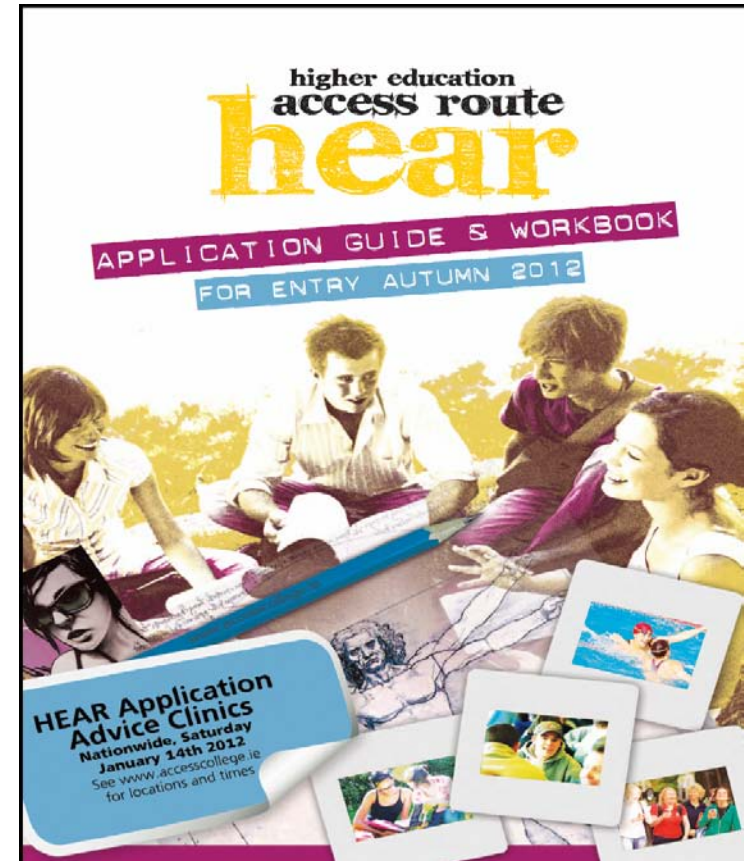
The 6 indicators

| | |
|---|--|
| 1. Was your household income of on or below €48,811.00 in 2010? | 4. Is your parent or guardian's employment status under-represented in Higher Education? |
| 2. Does your family have a medical card? | 5. Have you attended a DEIS school for all of second level? |
| 3. Did your parents/guardian receive a means-tested social welfare payment in 2010? | 6. Do you live in an area with high unemployment, poverty and few community facilities? |

You must meet the HEAR income limit & the **right** combination of 2 other indicators to be eligible

I want to apply to HEAR, what's next?

1. Apply to CAO at www.cao.ie by **1 February 2012**
2. Fill in your HEAR Application Guide & Workbook with your parents or guardians
3. Complete all elements of HEAR on line application by **1 March 2012**
4. Submit copies of supporting documents requested on your checklist to CAO by **1 April 2012**



Your HEAR Checklist

- When you fill in your online HEAR application you will receive a checklist at the end of the application. Your checklist is based on the information you provide in your application.
- Your checklist tells you the supporting documents you need to fully complete your HEAR application.
- Your HEAR application will not be complete unless you send in **all** the requested documents.

Sample Checklist

- P21 or Notice of Assessment for **2010**
- Medical Card Form Signed and Stamped by Local Health Office
- Social Welfare Form for **2010** Signed and Stamped by Local Social Welfare Office
- RP50 Notification of Redundancy or Retirement Lump Sum Payments for **2010**
- Letter from Health Service Executive for Children in Care of HSE

8,322 people applied to the HEAR Scheme
for entry to college in 2011

3,164 were not considered for HEAR
because they didn't send in supporting
documents!

Top 10 Mistakes from 2011

1. Not filling in your HEAR application with your parents or guardians.
2. Giving incorrect answers about your family financial circumstances and parent or guardian's job.
3. Not printing off your checklist. No checklist means you don't know what documents you need and you don't have evidence you submitted an online HEAR application.

Top 10 Mistakes from 2011

4. Not submitting **ANY** supporting documents.
5. Submitting the wrong documents like a P60 instead of a P21.
6. Submitting the right type of document but for the wrong year. We want documents for **2010**.

Top 10 Mistakes from 2011

7. Submitting the right documents but only submitting 1 page of a 3 page document.
8. Submitting all the correct documents but not checking to make sure the Local Hse and/or Social Protection Offices signs and stamps your forms correctly.
9. Submitting all the right documents but not keeping proof of postage or a photocopy of what you sent.
10. Supplying documentation to CAO after the deadline.



Submit it!



Check it!



Send it!

What is DARE?

- The Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) is a supplementary admissions scheme which offers college places on **reduced points** to school leavers with disabilities.
- DARE has been established by a number of higher education institutions as clear evidence shows that disability can have a negative impact on educational attainment at school and progression to higher education.



What Colleges Participate?

- **Athlone Institute of Technology**
- **Cork Institute of Technology**
- **Dublin City University**
- **Dublin Institute of Technology**
- **Mater Dei, Institute of Education**
- **National College of Ireland**
- **NUI Galway**
- **NUI Maynooth**
- **Pontifical University, Maynooth**
- **Trinity College, Dublin**
- **University College, Cork**
- **University College, Dublin**
- **University of Limerick**



Who Should Apply?

- Applicants whose disability had a significant impact on educational performance in school.
- Applicants who may not be able to meet the points for their preferred course due to the impact of disability.
- Applicants under 23 years on 1st January 2012.



Disabilities eligible for consideration

- Asperger's Syndrome/Autism
- ADD/ADHD
- Blind/Vision Impaired
- Deaf/Hearing Impaired
- DCD –Dyspraxia/Dysgraphia
- Mental Health Conditions
- Neurological Conditions (Brain Injury, Speech & Language Disabilities)
- Significant Ongoing Illness
- Physical Disability
- Specific Learning Difficulty (Dyslexia & Dyscalculia)



I want to apply to DARE what's next?

1. Review DARE Application Guide with your parents or guardians.
2. Apply to CAO by **1 February 2012**.
3. Complete Section A of the Supplementary Info Form and apply to DARE by **1 March 2012**.
4. Submit academic reference and evidence of disability to CAO by **1 April 2012**.



Post-entry supports

- If you have a disability you can register with the Disability Support Service whether you come through DARE or not.
- A needs assessment is conducted to identify your specific support requirements.
- Supports may include:
 - Orientation Programmes
 - Learning Support
 - Assistive Technology
 - Library Support
 - Exam Support
 - Note-taking/Support Worker
 - Academic Tuition



| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| DARE & HEAR application advice clinics | 14th January 2012 |
| HEAR closing date | 1 March 2012 |
| DARE closing date | 1 March 2012 |
| Supporting documentation closing date | 1 April 2012 |
| Notification of eligibility | Late June 2012 |
| Application recheck | July 2012 |
| DARE/HEAR offers | August 2012 |
| College Orientation | Late August/September 2012 |

HEAR & DARE Application Advice Clinics

Saturday January 14th 2012

See **accesscollege.ie** for locations and times



www.accesscollege.ie

www.facebook.com/accesscollege

www.twitter.com/accesscollege

www.cao.ie

www.qualifax.ie

www.studentfinance.ie



Kieran Houlihan

087-7983194

www.communitylinks.ie/access