



# SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

## UNDERGRADUATE IRISH APPLICANT FAQ'S

### ELIGIBILITY

#### **CAN I STUDY IN WALES AS AN IRISH STUDENT?**

Whilst the UK is no longer part of the EU, Irish and UK governments have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which reaffirms the Common Travel Area (CTA).

The CTA gives Irish and UK citizens the right to access all levels of education and training, and associated student support, in each other's state.

You must be resident in Ireland or the UK for 3 years before the start of your course to be eligible under the CTA.

#### **WILL I RECIEVE FUNDING IF I STUDY IN THE UK?**

If you are an Irish citizen student and meet the residency criteria, you can study in the UK for the same rate of fees as British students in the UK. Tuition fees are not the only expense when studying in the

UK you also need to consider accommodation and living costs.  
Guidance on student finance for Irish students can be found [here!](#)

### Republic of Ireland

If you are an Irish citizen and meet the residency criteria, you can study in the UK for the same rate of fees as British students in the UK and may be eligible for a maintenance grant under the Irish [Student Grant Scheme](#).

### Northern Ireland

If you're from Northern Ireland but studying elsewhere in the UK, you can apply for a student loan from [Student Finance Northern Ireland](#).

# APPLICATION PROCESS

## HOW DO I APPLY TO UNIVERSITIES IN THE UK?

Irish students apply to UK universities through UCAS as they are classified as 'home' students.

UCAS is the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service and is the organisation responsible for processing applications to UK universities for undergraduate courses.

UCAS is a resource for parents, advisers, teachers as well as students and can be used to:

- Search for courses and institutions
- Apply to various courses
- Track your progress
- Respond to offers

## HOW IS UCAS DIFFERENT TO THE CAO APPLICATION PROCESS?

The UCAS application process is more detailed than the CAO process and requires:

- A short personal statement (4,000 characters)
- An academic reference
- Predicted grades for ILC

You can apply to up to five different choices for universities/colleges and course choices. It is important to keep in mind that your

personal statement is received by all your choices so it should be applicable to all.

Guidance on the UCAS application can be found [here!](#)

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

Most UK universities require six Irish Leaving Certificate grades at Higher Level as an alternative to three GCE A levels.

UCAS uses a tariff system: You can use the [UCAS Tariff Calculator](#) to work out your total points.

Example: 120 UCAS Points is a standard offer for Nursing in the UK.  
This is equivalent to 360 COA points.

## IRISH LEAVING CERTIFICATE VS A LEVELS

The Leaving Certificate (higher) subject is worth two-thirds of an A-level (UK, except Scotland). This is because Leaving Certificate students undertake several more subjects (often a total of six to eight) than a typical A level student, but as a result study them in a narrower fashion.

## USEFUL LINKS

[Irish Student Guidance](#)

[Undergraduate Courses](#)

[Scholarships and Bursaries](#)

[Undergraduate Open Days](#)

[Masterclass Webinar Series](#)

# NHS WALES BURSARY

## WHAT IS THE NHS WALES BURSARY?

If you are choosing to study Nursing, Midwifery, Paramedic Science, Occupational Therapy, Operating Department Practitioner, Healthcare Science, you can choose to fund your studies the NHS Wales Bursary Scheme. Tuition Fees are fully funded by the NHS so no tuition fee payment is required, unless you choose to self fund.

Find out more about our tuition fees [here](#).

NHS Funding is also available in the form of a non-means tested NHS grant of £1,000 and a means-tested NHS bursary up to £4491. The actual amount of bursary you will receive will be dependent on the length of your course and your household income.

## WHAT ARE THE CONDITIONS OF THE NHS WALES BURSARY?

To receive funding from the NHS Wales Bursary Scheme, students will have to commit to working in Wales for 2 years following the completion of their course. (different timescales apply for courses longer or shorter than 3 years). We advise all students opting for The NHS Wales Bursary Scheme to check the [NHS Wales Terms and Conditions](#).

## AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE NHS WALES BURSARY AS AN IRISH STUDENT?

Irish nationals and those with settlement status (by the Common Travel Area arrangement) are eligible for the NHS Bursary. This is inclusive of both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

## WHAT COURSES AT SWANSEA UNIVERSITY ARE FUNDED BY THE NHS WALES BURSARY?

- Healthcare Sciences (Audiology, Cardiac Physiology, Nuclear Medicine, Neurophysiology, Radiotherapy Physics, Respiratory and Sleep Physiology, Rehabilitation Engineering, Medical Engineering)
- Nursing (Adult Swansea, Adult Carmarthen, Child, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities, Dispersed Learning)
- Midwifery
- Occupational Therapy
- Operating Department Practice
- Paramedic Science

### USEFUL LINKS

[NHS Funding](#)

[NHS Careers](#)

For general finance enquiries, please contact [Money@CampusLife](mailto:Money@CampusLife)

For NHS Wales Bursary enquiries, please email  
[studyFMHLS@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:studyFMHLS@swansea.ac.uk).

## STUDENT STORIES

You can find more student stories [here](#)!



### **Evangeline O'Dowd**

Country: Ireland  
Course: LLB Law

"Studying in Swansea University was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I cannot thank my lecturers and every single member of staff enough for the support, kindness and care that they surrounded me with throughout my studies. I am now working as a paralegal in a leading matrimonial and personal injury law firm in Manhattan NYC and plan to sit the New York Bar at the end of this year."