

DARE

Disability Access Route to Education

School Presentation
2022

Where can I go to college?

- Institute of Technology, Sligo
- St. Angela's College, Sligo.
- Letterkenny Institute of Technology

- Athlone Institute of Technology

- Galway Mayo Institute of Technology
- NUI Galway

- Limerick Institute of Technology
- Mary Immaculate College
- University of Limerick

- Munster Technological University, Kerry campus

- Carlow Institute of Technology

- Waterford Institute of Technology

- Dundalk Institute of Technology

- Maynooth University
- Pontifical University

- Dublin City University
- Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dún Laoghaire
- Marino Institute of Education
- National College of Ireland
- RCSI
- Trinity College, Dublin
- TU Dublin
- University College Dublin

- Munster Technological University, Cork campus
- University College Cork

What is DARE?

The **Disability Access Route to Education (DARE)** is a third level alternative admissions scheme for school-leavers whose disabilities have had a negative impact on their second level education.

DARE offers reduced points places to school leavers who as a result of having a disability have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.

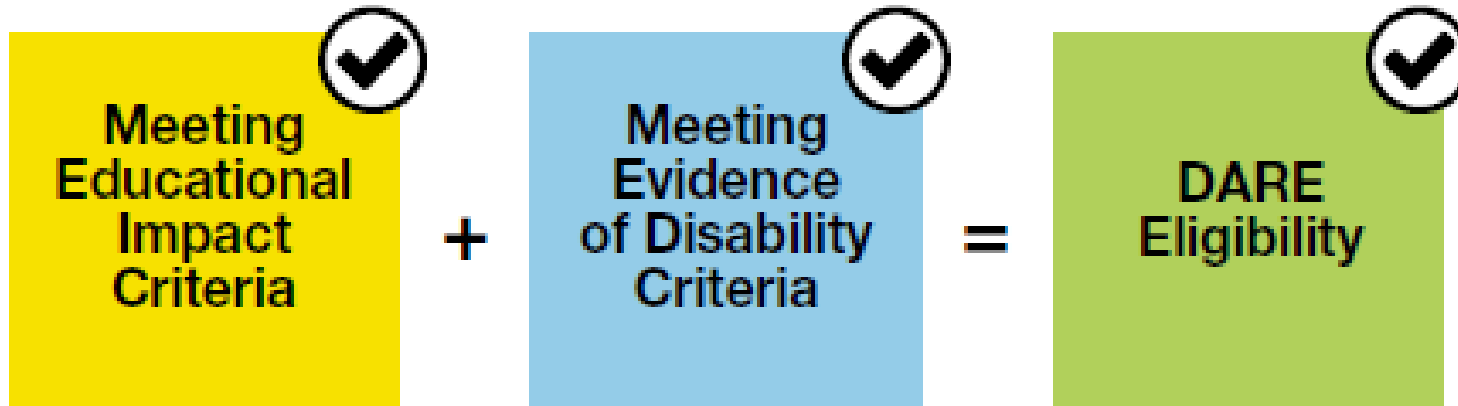
Should I apply?

- If your disability has had a negative impact on your educational performance in school.
- You may not be able to meet the points for your preferred course due to the impact of your disability.
- You are under 23 years of age as at **1 January 2022**.

Disabilities eligible for consideration

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

DARE Eligibility Criteria



- To be eligible for DARE you must meet **both** the DARE **educational impact** criteria and **DARE evidence of disability criteria**.

Applicants must provide the required evidence of their disability and provide an Educational Impact Statement from their school to be considered for DARE.

Educational Impact

Has your disability impacted on a combination of the following?

1. Have you received **intervention or supports** in post-primary school?
2. Has it **impacted on your attendance** or regularly disrupted your school day?
3. Has it affected your **school experience and well-being**?
4. Has it impacted on **your learning or exam results**?
5. Has it caused any **other educational impact**?
6. Required for applicants with a Specific Learning Difficulty: is it severely impacting on your **literacy or numeracy skills**?

Benefits of DARE

Reduced Points

- An example: If the Leaving Certificate points for a course are 366 points, an eligible DARE applicant could be offered a place with a lower points score e.g. 356 points.
- Applicants need to **meet entry** and **programme requirements** to be **considered for a DARE reduced points offer**.
- The amount of points a particular course is reduced by is dependent on:
 - The overall number of places on the course
 - The number of reserved DARE places on the course
 - The number of DARE eligible applicants competing for these reserved places.
- The reduction in points for DARE places can vary every year.

Benefits of DARE

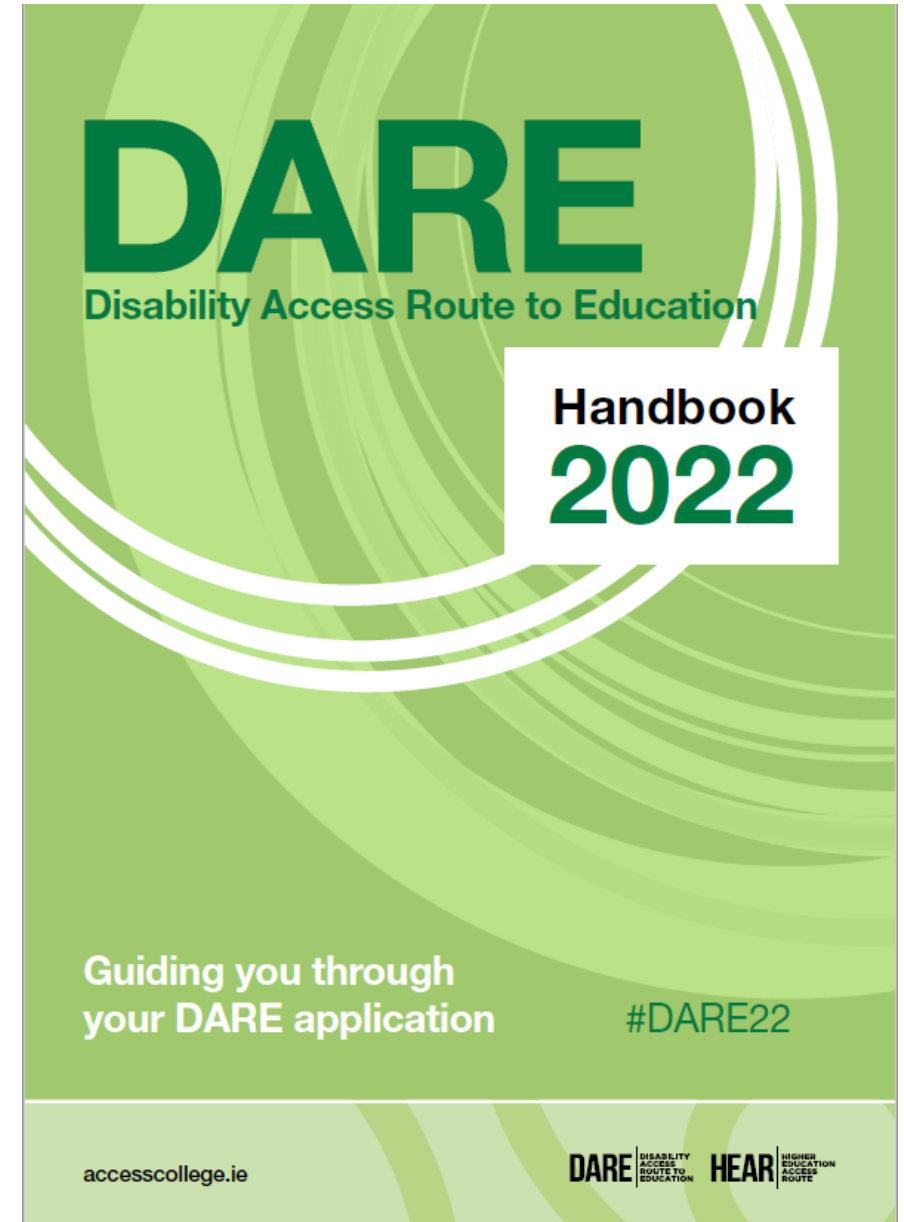
- Orientation Programmes
- Learning Support
- Assistive Technology
- Library Support
- Exam Accommodations
- Educational Support Worker
- Academic Tuition



- You don't have to be eligible for DARE to get support in college.
- A needs assessment is conducted to identify your specific support requirements.

How do I apply?

1. Apply to CAO at www.cao.ie by **1 February 2022**.
2. Review your DARE Handbook with your parents or guardians.
3. Complete Section A of the Supplementary Info Form and apply to DARE by answering **Yes** to **Question 1** by **1 March 2022**.
4. You should start gathering your documentation in a timely fashion, i.e. before 15 February.
5. Submit the Educational Impact Statement and Evidence of Disability to CAO by **15 March 2022**.



Section B: Educational Impact Statement

This form needs to be completed by either your:

- Guidance Counsellor
- Learning Support Teacher
- Year Head
- Visiting Teacher or
- Principal/Deputy Principal
- The form **MUST BE** signed and stamped by school Principal/Deputy Principal.
- You must return to the CAO by **15 March 2022**.

Section C: Evidence of Disability

Provides verification of your disability and helps to determine 3rd level supports.

- You can provide an **existing report** **OR**
- Complete Section C **Evidence of Disability Form 2022**.

Get the form **completed, signed** and **stamped** by the **appropriate professional** or accompanied by their **business card** or **headed paper**.

Applicants with a specific learning difficulty are asked to provide a full psychological assessment of any age completed by an appropriately qualified psychologist instead of the Section C Evidence of Disability form.

GP Verification

Your GP may be in a position to complete Section C Evidence of Disability, if they have the appropriate information on file from the Consultant/Specialist.

Section C: Evidence of Disability

Age of Reports

It is important to note that applicants applying under the following disability categories must **provide a report that is less than 3 years old**, i.e. dated after **1 February 2019**.

- ADD/ADHD
- Mental Health Condition
- Significant Ongoing Illness

Section C: Evidence of Disability

Psychological Assessment

Applicants with a

- **Specific Learning Difficulty** (including dyslexia and dyscalculia) must provide a full **Psychological Assessment Report of any age** completed by a psychologist

AND

MUST also have two literacy or two numeracy attainment scores at or below the 10th percentile (Standard Score of 81 or below).

These attainment scores can be from one (or a combination) of the following sources:

- * 1) Scores from school-based attainment testing
- 2) Scores from attainment tests carried out by a psychologist.

Testing must have been carried out after **1 February 2020** and all applicants must submit an EIS completed by their school.

Section C: Evidence of Disability

Check out the information on providing evidence of your disability on

www.accesscollege.ie/dare/providing-evidence-of-your-disability

Helpful Tips

- Study the DARE Handbook carefully with your parents / guardians.
- Select **Yes to Question 1 on the SIF.**
- Ensure you speak to your Teacher early about the Educational Impact Statement.
 - Request the required supporting documentation early.
 - Send good quality copies of all pages of the correct documents.
 - Submit all supporting documents requested.
- Keep proof of postage.
- Deadlines!

Common Mistakes that affect DARE Eligibility







- Where the Section C form (Evidence of Disability) is completed by GP **BUT** the require copy of report by appropriate professional confirming diagnosis was not provided.
- Reports out of date
- Reports not confirming diagnosis of condition by consultant
- Incorrect professional completing Section C/report
- Test details missing (for example the name of the test, date or who conducted the test)
- Forgetting to complete Question 1 of the Supplementary Information Form by 17:00 on 1 March

Applying for a grant

DARE is **NOT**
the SUSI grant.

If you apply to DARE ,
you should also apply to SUSI
if you think you may be eligible.

DARE and HEAR Timelines

DARE & HEAR closing date		1 March 2022 at 17:00
Supporting documents closing date		15 March 2022
Notification of eligibility		Late June 2022
Review and Appeals Application		July 2022
HEAR/DARE offers		August 2022
College Orientation		Late Aug /Early Sept 2022

Remember



Submit it!



Check it!



Send it!

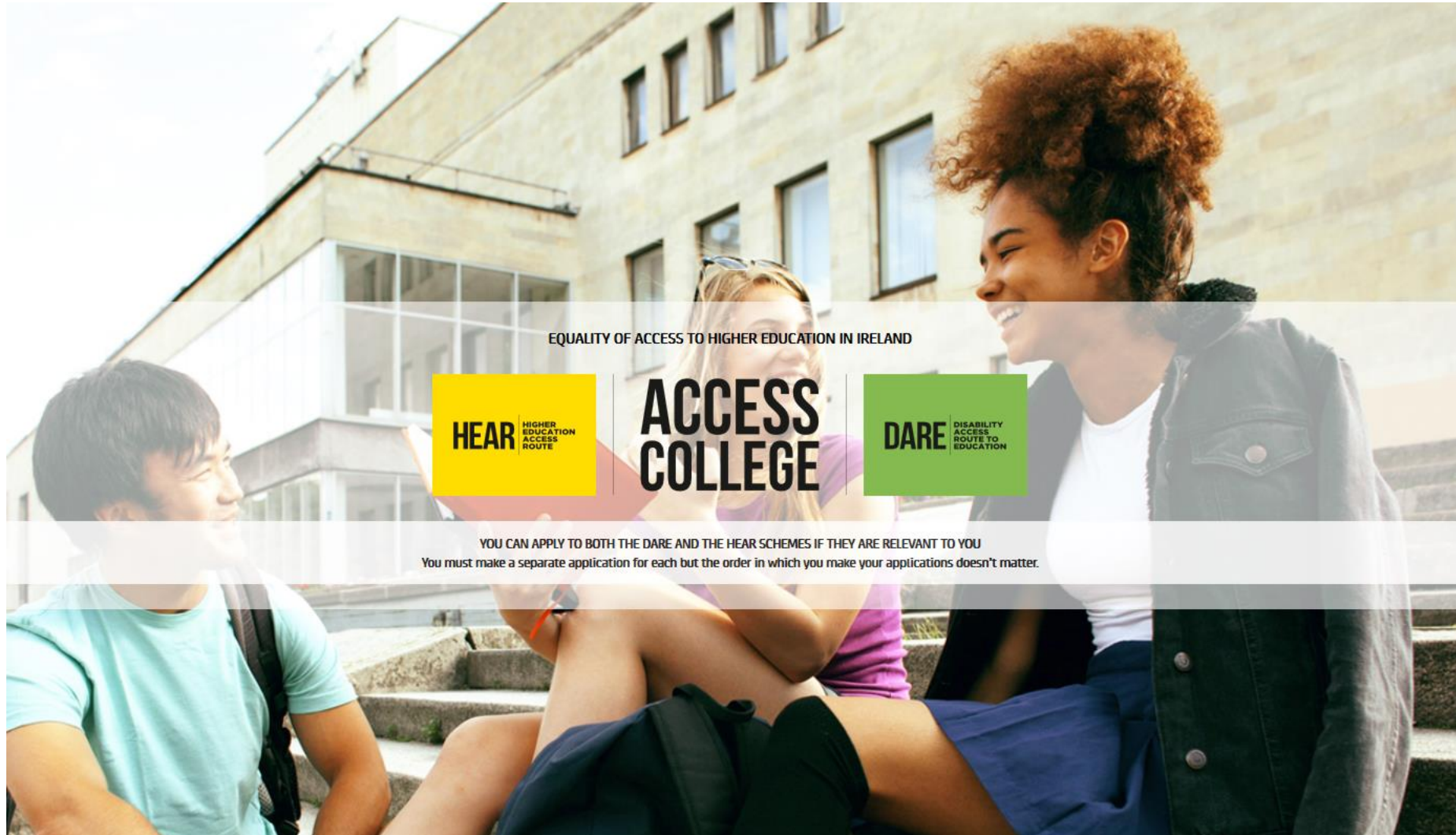
Remember

You can apply to both

DARE & HEAR

Applicants who are both DARE and HEAR eligible will be prioritised by colleges when allocating reduced points places.

Further Information: www.accesscollege.ie



EQUALITY OF ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN IRELAND

HEAR HIGHER
EDUCATION
ACCESS
ROUTE

**ACCESS
COLLEGE**

DARE DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
EDUCATION

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.

Virtual Application Information Days

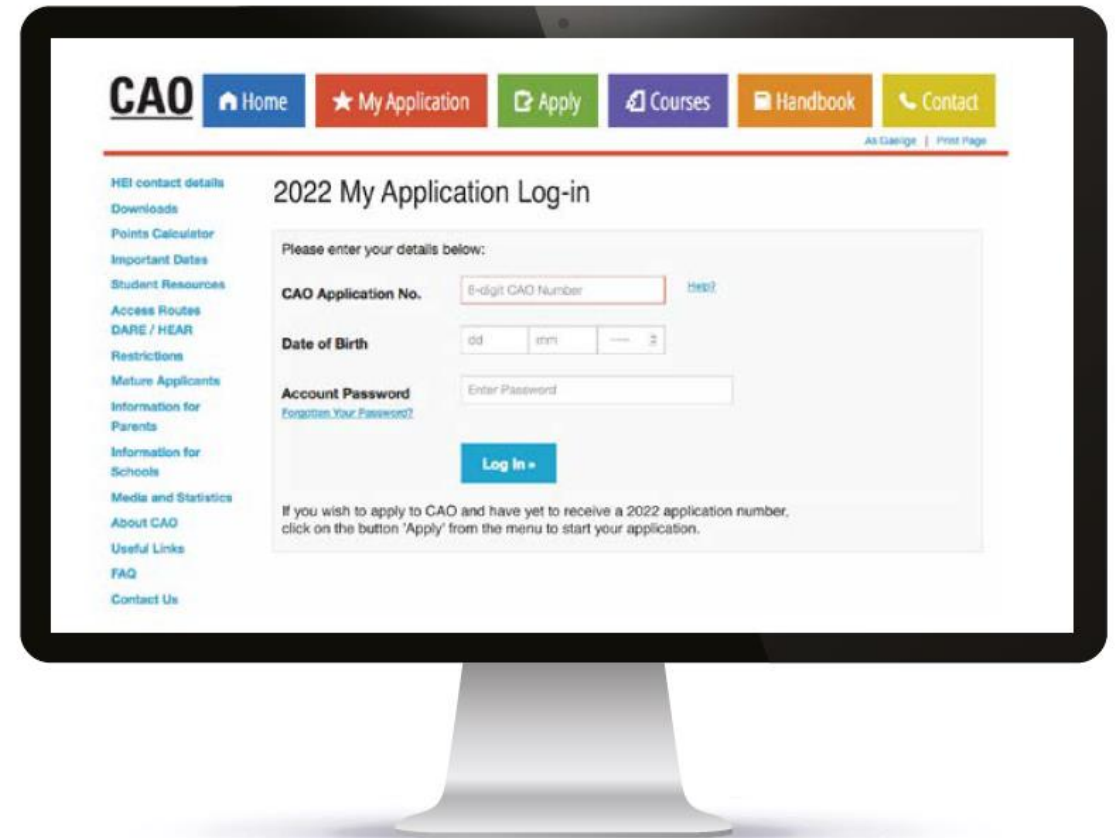
Saturday
8 January
2022
10am -2pm

DARE Application Outcome

From 21 June:

Log into your CAO application
to view your

DARE Application Outcome.



Follow us on....

www.accesscollege.ie