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THE IRISH DIASPORA EDUCATION ALLIANCE WELCOMES APPLICATIONS FOR IRISH UNIVERSITY STUDY

*Dublin City University and Irish Diaspora Center Expand **Postgraduate** Scholarship Opportunities for U.S. Students of Irish Heritage*

Philadelphia, PA / Dublin, Ireland – The Irish Diaspora Education Alliance (IDEA), an initiative of the Irish Diaspora Center (IDC) in Philadelphia, is proud to announce a new Postgraduate Scholarship Agreement with Dublin City University (DCU), offering expanded opportunities for U.S. students of Irish heritage to pursue full-time, one-year postgraduate degrees beginning in September 2026.

Under this new Agreement for Educational Cooperation, signed by Fiona Reynolds, Director of Student Recruitment at DCU, and Una McDaid, Executive Director of the Irish Diaspora Center, qualified students referred through IDEA will receive a 15 percent reduction in Non-EU tuition fees for their postgraduate studies.

Empowering the Next Generation of Irish-American Scholars

The partnership builds on the success of IDEA's undergraduate scholarship programs and reflects a shared commitment to academic excellence, cultural connection, and transatlantic collaboration.

"This is another important bridge between Ireland and its global diaspora," said Dr. Joseph Donaher, member of the board of directors of the IDC and IDEA representative . "It opens a direct path for talented U.S. students, especially those with Irish roots, to deepen their education and global perspective at one of Ireland's most innovative universities."

Scholarship Highlights

- **Benefit:** 15% reduction on Non-EU postgraduate tuition for one academic year
- **Annual Awards:** Up to **five** IDEA Postgraduate Scholarships each year
- **Eligible Faculties:**
    1. Engineering & Computing
    2. DCU Business School
    3. Science & Health
    4. Humanities & Social Sciences
    5. Institute of Education

Eligibility Requirements

- Minimum 2.1 Honours (3.0 GPA) undergraduate degree
- Personal statement demonstrating Irish heritage or cultural engagement (e.g., GAA, Irish dance, cultural centers)

- Full-time enrollment and acceptance through DCU's application portal with deposit paid by the published deadline

Key Conditions

- Scholarship applies to second-semester fees only
- Not combinable with other DCU scholarships
- Non-deferrable; limited to full-time one-year programs

Applications for the 2026 intake are now open and close July 1, 2026. Each applicant must be referred by IDEA through the Irish Diaspora Center or another recognized Irish Diaspora organization in the United States.

A Shared Commitment to Global Education

Scholarship recipients will serve as **DCU Ambassadors**, engaging with campus events, social media, and alumni initiatives to promote the University and the broader Study in Ireland experience.

"For U.S. students who may already have enjoyed an undergraduate semester studying in Ireland, this is a perfect way to return for a transformative postgraduate year," said Dr. Donaher. "It's an ideal opportunity to gain world-class credentials and connect with the many U.S. and global companies headquartered in Ireland."

A recent IDEA Scholar, **Sarah Maloney**, shares her journey in a short video at
▸ https://youtu.be/XSDtpwjv7fk.

Learn More / Apply

Visit www.icphila.org/study-in-ireland for eligibility details, referral forms, and application guidance.

Apply today: **Irish Diaspora Education Alliance Application and Information Sheet**

About the Irish Diaspora Education Alliance (IDEA)

IDEA is an initiative of the Irish Diaspora Center (IDC), based in Philadelphia, connecting U.S. students of Irish heritage with higher education opportunities across Ireland. Through partnerships with leading universities, including DCU, University of Galway, and American College Dublin, IDEA fosters educational, cultural, and professional pathways that strengthen transatlantic community ties.

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