PRESS RELEASE: December 5, 2025

THE IRISH DIASPORA EDUCATION ALLIANCE WELCOMES APPLICATIONS FOR IRISH UNIVERSITY STUDY

*Dublin City University and IDEA Expand **Undergraduate** Scholarship Pathways for U.S. Students of Irish Heritage*

Philadelphia, PA / Dublin, Ireland – The Irish Diaspora Education Alliance (IDEA), a program of the Irish Diaspora Center (IDC), is pleased to announce an enhanced partnership with Dublin City University (DCU) that will expand undergraduate scholarship opportunities for U.S. students beginning in Fall 2026.

The new DCU–IDEA Undergraduate Scholarship Agreement strengthens the academic and cultural bridge between Ireland and the United States, offering up to five annual tuition scholarships for qualified students of Irish heritage or those referred by members of the Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers across the U.S.

"Renewing these scholarships reflect DCU's ongoing commitment to the Irish diaspora and to widening access for U.S. students who share a strong connection to Ireland's culture, values, and global community," said Una McDaid, Executive Director of the Irish Diaspora Center and committee member of IDEA.

What's New in 2026

Enhancement	Impact for U.S. Students & IDEA
Expanded Eligibility	Now explicitly open to students of Irish heritage and referrals from the Coalition of Irish Immigration Centers, ensuring inclusion of Irish-American families across the U.S.
Transparent Academic Standards	Awards based on GPA: 3.0+ earns 15% tuition reduction, 3.7+ earns up to 20%, reinforcing IDEA's focus on merit and opportunity.
Continuity Protection	Students retain their scholarship benefits for the duration of study, even if institutional agreements change.
Ambassador Engagement	Recipients serve as **DCU and IDEA ambassadors**, participating in cultural, academic, and community events — strengthening shared transatlantic ties.

IRISH DIASPORA CENTER

A Stronger Pathway to Study in Ireland

Under the new agreement, students will apply directly through DCU's portal and be referred by IDEA and IDC partner centers. Scholarships are available across DCU's leading faculties, including Engineering & Computing, Business, Science & Health, Humanities & Social Sciences, and the Institute of Education.

To hear directly from a current IDEA scholar studying at DCU, watch Sarah Maloney's video reflection on her Irish university experience: 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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