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Double click on video image and arrow below to play:

DARE & HEAR
Helping students get to
and through college

DARE | DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
EDUCATION


HEAR | HIGHER
EDUCATION
ACCESS
ROUTE

0:06 / 6:42

HEAR DARE Promotional Video January 2019
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZudmaB5qk0> (6.49mins)

DARE | DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
EDUCATION

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How to apply to DARE 2020

How to apply to DARE 2020 (14.5mins)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gprWHzQvnRc>

DARE | DISABILITY ACCESS ROUTE TO EDUCATION

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DARE

Disability Access Route to Education



Applying to DARE 2020

**Ruth Murphy /
Fiona Downey - CIT DSS**

4th December 2019
dare@cit.ie

CIT CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
 INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICE

DARE | DISABILITY ACCESS ROUTE TO EDUCATION

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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 learning difference, health condition or disability have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.



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Should I apply?

- ✓ If your learning difference, health condition or 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 learning difference, health condition or disability.
- ✓ You are under 23 years of age as at **1 January 2020**.



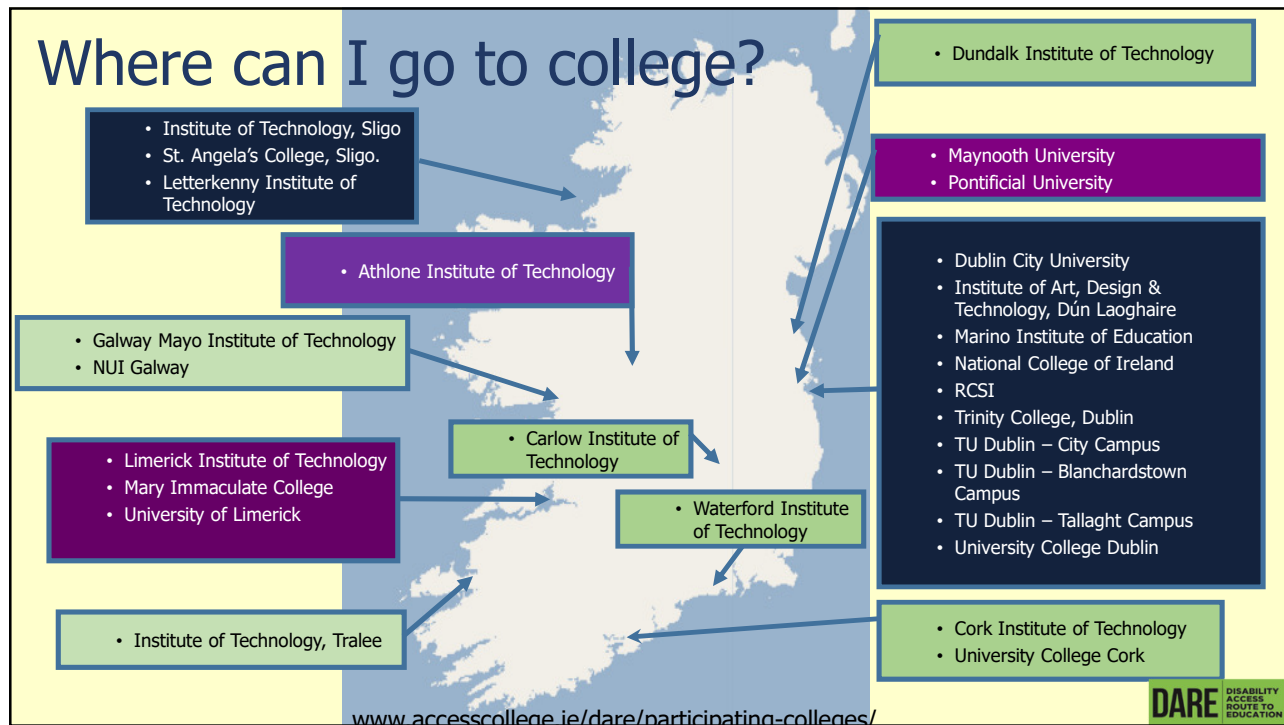
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Categories eligible for consideration

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



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Benefits of DARE

Reduced Points

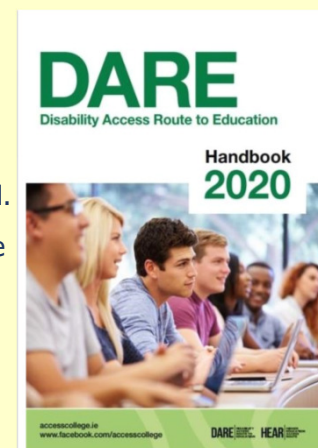
- An example: If the Leaving Certificate points for a course are 366 points, an eligible DARE applicant could be offered a place with a lower points score e.g. 356 points.
- Applicants need to **meet entry** and **programme requirements** to be **considered for a DARE reduced points offer**.
- The amount 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.



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How do I apply?

1. **Apply to CAO at www.cao.ie by 1 February 2020.**
2. Review DARE Handbook.
3. You should start gathering your documents as soon as possible – look at documents at home /speak to your guidance counsellor/medical professional.
4. You **complete Section A** of the **Supplementary Info Form online** in the CAO. Apply to DARE by answering **Yes to Question 1 by 1 March 2020.**
5. **Send copies to the CAO of the Educational Impact Statement (Section B)** completed by your school **by 15 March 2020.**
6. **Send copies to the CAO of your Evidence of Disability (documents/ Section C)** completed by the appropriate professional **by 15 March 2020.**



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Section A: Your information



Section A is through the online CAO Supplementary Information Form.

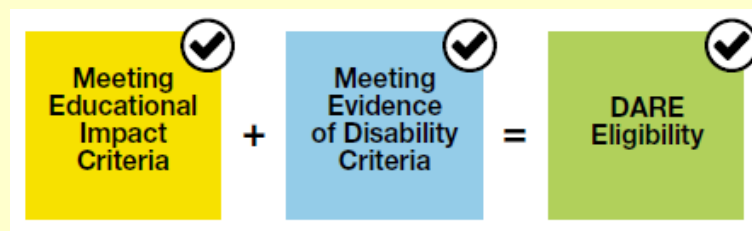
You must opt into DARE (Q1) and answer all the questions by 1 March 2020.

- ✓ This information you provide here is confidential and does not affect your CAO application.
- ✓ Fill out your **personal statement** – short paragraph on your experience of school and the challenges you have faced.
- ✓ You can **carry forward DARE eligibility** from last year using your 2019 CAO number.
- ✓ You can go in and out of your online application and save the information as you go.



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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.



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Section B: Educational Impact Statement

Provides information on how your learning difference, health condition or disability has impacted on your second level education.

- Download form and complete the Applicant Checklist with your school.
- Your school will complete the rest – it can be your Guidance Counsellor / Learning Support Teacher/ Year Head / Visiting Teacher / Principal or Deputy Principal (someone who knows your situation/supports).
- The form **MUST BE** signed and stamped by school Principal/Deputy Principal.
- **Make sure you get the form back from the school and keep a copy for your records. You must return to the CAO by 15 March 2020.**



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Section B: Educational Impact

Has your learning difference, health condition or 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**?

You must meet 2 indicators. Students with specific learning differences must meet Indicator 6 and 1 other indicator

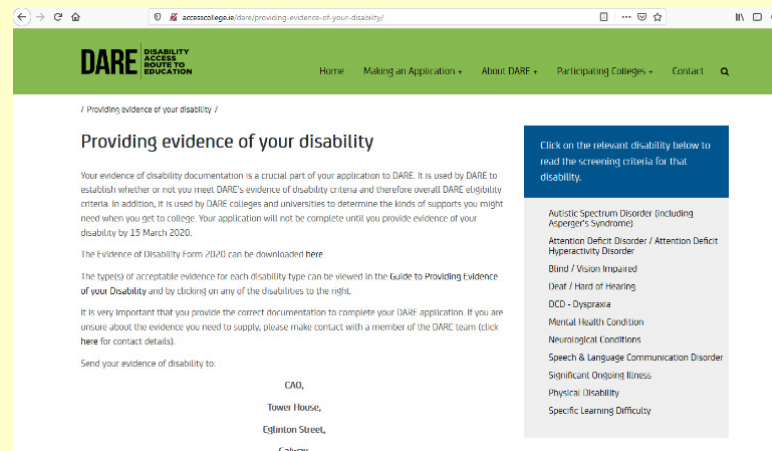


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Section C: Evidence of Disability

DARE looks for a diagnosis and evidence of impact

More details at: www.accesscollege.ie/dare/providing-evidence-of-your-disability



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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 2020**.

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

GP Verification

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



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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 2017**.

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



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Section C: Evidence of Disability

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

AND

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

The 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 2018** and all applicants must submit an Educational Impact Statement completed by their school (with completed Indicator 6)



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Section C: Evidence of Disability

Applicants with **DCD (Dyspraxia)** must provide a

- Existing report giving diagnosis (No age limit)
OR
- Evidence of Disability Form (Section C) 2020 completed by Occupational Therapist OR Neurologist OR Physiotherapist

Dysgraphia is not accepted as a stand along condition for DARE but will be considered if presenting with DCD or Specific Learning Difficulty



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Before sending documents to the CAO:

Use the **DARE Application Timeline and website.**

- ✓ Send copies of documents (not originals). DARE need good quality copies of all pages of the reports sent to the CAO by the deadlines.
- ✓ Keep proof of postage.
- ✓ Keep copies of everything!

You only need to meet the criteria for one category to be eligible for DARE.
But please put in documents for all categories that you are applying under.

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HEAR









- CIT is also part of the HEAR scheme.
- HEAR is an alternative admission route which offers college places on a reduced points basis and extra supports to eligible school leavers who have experienced socio-economic disadvantage.
- You must meet a number of indicators in order to be eligible- these include financial, social and cultural indicators.
- **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.

<http://accesscollege.ie/hear/>
www.mycit.ie/access_disability.hear2 hear@cit.ie

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DARE and HEAR Timelines

DARE & HEAR closing date		1 March 2020 at 17:15
Supporting documents closing date		15 March 2020
Notification of eligibility		Late June 2020
Review and Appeals Application		July 2020
HEAR/DARE offers through CAO		August 2020
College Orientation		Late Aug /Early Sept 2020



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DARE Application Outcome

From 24 June:

Log into your CAO application
to view your
DARE Application Outcome.



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Being Eligible and not eligible for DARE

DARE Eligible means

- ✓ You are now eligible to be **considered** for a reduced points place for the DARE participating colleges you have chosen (if needed).
- ✓ It is not an automatic reduction in points for CIT.
- ✓ You may get a priority place if you have a physical disability, hearing or visual impairment, or eligible for DARE and HEAR.

Not being eligible for DARE:

- ✓ Doesn't mean that your learning difference, health condition or disability hasn't had some impact.
- ✓ **You can still get supports in college.**



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DARE CIT 2020 Offers

5% of available places on reduced points on all CIT Courses

- ✓ You must matriculate - meet **minimum requirements** of each course (includes minimum score for portfolio or entrance exam etc).
- ✓ Be within a 50 point band below cut off point (but for a popular course the applicant needs to be nearer the cut off point).
- ✓ Reach a minimum of 200 points
- ✓ Priority given to students with sensory /physical disabilities & DARE/HEAR eligible.
- ✓ Can get offers both in level 6/7 and level 8.
- ✓ Often only 1-2 places on most courses (except very large courses such as Business Studies).

Most DARE eligible students get an offer on their own merit



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Do your homework when picking courses...

Guidance
counsellors /
Teachers

Go to open days/
roadshows

CIT OPEN DAY - November
CAO evening - May



Speak to course
contact in
prospectus

Someone who works
in the area

Your parents
/guardians

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Issues that come up every year...

- Not understanding the Maths/language requirement for your course
- Not filling in your level 6/7 choices – reducing options
- Students who wish to carry forward DARE eligibility from previous year – not putting in previous CAO number
- Queries about documents and eligibility in August at CAO offers stage - too late for appeals/review

****If you are not eligible for DARE please declare yourself through the CAO & submit documents –you will be informed about early orientation, DSS support application process, etc. by the different colleges**

and you can still get support in college! **



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CIT DSS Supports



<https://vimeo.com/289044687>

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Graduate Student Speaker



About Ruadhán FitzGerald



- 2019 Graduate of Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Marketing from CIT.
- Currently working as CIT Access Intern
- and much more!

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Other Support Services at CIT

- ✓ Academic Learning Centre – free subject classes
- ✓ Student's Union
- ✓ Careers Service
- ✓ Counselling Service
- ✓ Chaplaincy Office
- ✓ Medical Centre / Emergency Response Team
- ✓ Academic Success Coaching
- ✓ Good Start 6 week induction for first years
- ✓ Financial support – Student Assistance Fund and 1916 Bursary
- ✓ Erasmus+ funding for supports when studying abroad



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Before college starts – DSS information

Parents/Guardians Evening - End of August

- ✓ Information about the DSS
- ✓ How to support their son/daughter

Early DSS Orientation

Usually a week before Course registration week.

- ✓ Up to date information
- ✓ Introduction to supports and staff
- ✓ Hear from DSS students
- ✓ Getting to know the campus more
- ✓ How to apply for DSS supports

CAO DARE applicants will be emailed with dates. Dates will also be on DSS website/Facebook.



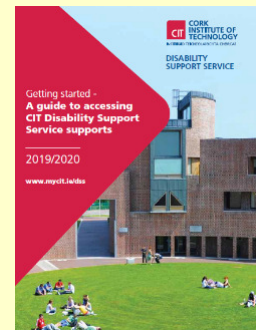
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Where to find DSS information

- **CIT DSS website:** www.mycit.ie/dss
- **DSS Facebook :** www.facebook.com/citdss
- **DSS Twitter:** @CITDSS
- **DSS Student Guide and videos:** www.mycit.ie/dsstudentguide
- **DSS Mailing list** for external events: www.cit.ie/dssmailinglist



For the quickest response to your query - email dss@cit.ie



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2020 DARE/HEAR Advice Sessions

- **National DARE / HEAR Drop in Clinic @ UCC – Saturday 11th January, 10am-2pm**
- CIT staff will be there to answer DARE and HEAR queries
<http://accesscollege.ie/dare/events/>
- Also sessions in Kerry, Waterford and Limerick.
- **CIT CAO Information evening 30 April 2020**

2019-12-05

HEAR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESS ROUTE
DARE DISABILITY ACCESS ROUTE TO EDUCATION

DARE and HEAR Application Information Days

Saturday 11 January 2020 10am – 2pm

- Donegal:** Letterfrink IT 10am-2pm
- Sligo:** IT Sligo, Ash Lane 10am-2pm
- Galway:** Institute for Lifelong and Society (ILS), 10am-2pm
- Limerick:** University of Limerick, 10am-2pm
- Kerry:** IT Tralee 10am-2pm
- Cork:** Dingle Hall, UCC 10am-2pm
- Dublin:** TU Dublin, 10am-2pm
- Waterford:** Woodlands Hotel, 10.30am-2.30pm

Additional:
Waterford: Woodlands Hotel
 Date: 15 January
 Time: 4-8pm

Full details and directions to all venues on www.accesscollege.ie

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MTU (Munster Technological University)

- CIT is applying to become a technological university with IT Tralee.
- At the moment you need to apply to CIT and IT Tralee separately in the CAO.
- Progress being made in the application – it is anticipated that the Minister's final decision will be made on the merger in May 2020.
- Even with Technological University status –all courses will remain in CIT and IT Tralee for the foreseeable future. Students not expected to travel between Tralee and Cork for a course.

MTU BETTER TOGETHER

MTU MUNSTER TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

18,000+ LEARNERS

6 CAMPUSES ACROSS THE SOUTH-WEST REGION

CIT INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

120+ LINKS WITH LEADING COLLEGES WORLDWIDE

2,000+ STAFF DEVELOPING & SUPPORTING LEARNERS

IT TRALEE

140+ COURSES AND PROGRAMMES

100+ CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

DARE DISABILITY ACCESS ROUTE TO EDUCATION

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Further Information

DARE / HEAR website:
www.accesscollege.ie



CIT DARE webpage:
www.cit.ie/dare



Please email dare@cit.ie
 with your questions where possible.

cao.ie



susi.ie



qualifax.ie



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Any questions?

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