Application for the exemption from the modern language and/or mathematics requirement for TCD Matriculation

Students applying for admission to Trinity College Dublin are required to present six Leaving Certificate subjects, including English, Mathematics and one other modern language.

However, students may apply for a waiver of the modern language requirement if they:-

1. function intellectually at average or above average level and have a specific learning difficulty of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic language skills in English. Students do not qualify for exemption on the basis of poor standards of literacy.

OR

2. have a sensory, or speech, language and communication disability of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic language skills in English.

*The evidence of such a disability must be furnished by a qualified psychologist, in the case of (1) and by a report from an appropriate medical specialist in the case of (2) above.*

Students may apply for a waiver of the Mathematics requirement if they:-

1. function intellectually at average or above average level and have a specific learning difficulty (Dyscalculia) of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic skills in Mathematics.

OR

2. have a sensory disability (visual or hearing) of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic skills in Mathematics.

*The evidence of dyscalculia must be furnished by a qualified psychologist in the case of (1) and by a report from an appropriate medical specialist in the case of (2) above.*
Criteria for granting a language waiver of the modern language

Students will be granted a language waiver of the modern language if they provide the following:-

1. Evidence of disability

(i) An Educational Psychology Report (assessment within the last 3 years) clearly stating the student has a specific learning disability. Please ensure this report meets the standards set down in the College Guidelines for diagnostic assessment of a specific learning difficulty and contains standard scores and percentile points describing intellectual functioning and literacy attainment.

OR

(ii) A medical report from a Consultant/Specialist clearly stating the severity and prognosis of sensory, or speech, language and communication disability.

AND

2. A Certificate of Exemption from Irish - A certified copy of the Certificate of exemption from Irish (Revision of Rule 46 Rules and Programme for Secondary Schools in relation to Irish Circular Letter M10/94 Department of Education [link to certificate]). This should be available from the school.

AND

3. A completed application form [link to application form]

Applications will also be considered where a student has been diagnosed only in senior cycle education, and therefore has not received a Certificate of Exemption.

Applicants should note that the language waiver is only applicable where a student has applied for or intends to pursue a course that does not require study of a foreign language, and is not a subject specific requirement for any course.
Criteria for granting a waiver in Mathematics

Students will be granted a waiver of the mathematics requirement if they provide the following:-

Evidence of disability:

(i) An Educational Psychology Report (assessment within the last 3 years) clearly stating the student has a specific learning disability - dyscalculia. Please ensure this report meets the standards set down in the guidelines for diagnostic assessment of a specific learning difficulty and contains standard scores and percentile points describing intellectual functioning and numerical / arithmetical attainment, age equivalencies are not sufficient.

OR

(ii) A medical report from a Consultant/Specialist clearly stating the degree of sensory disability.

Applicants should note that the Mathematics waiver is only applicable where a student has applied for or intends to pursue a course that does not contain any mathematical or statistical component, and is not a subject specific requirement for any course.

How do I apply to Trinity College for a modern language and/or mathematics waiver?

Students can apply for a waiver at any time during the senior cycle of 2nd level education, however applications must be received by the Admissions Office no later than 1 July of year of entry. It is not the responsibility of College to pre-identify students who may be eligible for waivers. Please note the granting of a language waiver is not connected to the DARE supplementary admissions procedure, full details of the DARE scheme may be found at www.accesscollege.ie

Applications for exemption from the Language or Mathematics requirements should be made directly to the Admissions Office, Trinity College, Dublin 2 enclosing all the supporting documentation requested above. All applications are assessed by an in-house Educational Psychologist using these criteria specified here. Students are usually informed within four working weeks of the outcome of their application.

Failure to provide information requested will deem the application for a language and/or mathematics waiver invalid. Please note all reports must be within the three year rule set down in the guideline document listed above.

March 2013