How do I apply for an Entrance Exhibition?

You don’t have to apply for an Entrance Exhibition. Instead we contact you if you are the student accepted into first year who achieves the highest points among Trinity entrants from your secondary school with a minimum of 500 points, including bonus points for mathematics. If there are other students from your school with the same highest points score, you will all be awarded an Entrance Exhibition. Your score must be based on a single sitting from the same academic year.

The above criteria are applicable to students from the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

For full details on criteria for the award and for further information on criteria applicable to students from other EU/EEA countries please check www.tcd.ie/study/undergraduate/entrance-exhibition

What is a Sizarship?

If you are an Entrance Exhibitioner, you might also be eligible to be a ‘Sizar’ and to have your evening meal in Trinity free of charge during your first and second year. Sizarships have been a part of the College’s history for much longer than Entrance Exhibitions, dating back to the 17th century. Oliver Goldsmith, novelist and playwright, was a Sizar, along with a number of past Provosts of the College.

Ten Sizarships are available annually to Entrance Exhibitioners whose family income is below a set threshold (gross income less than €40,000).

Applications for Sizarships are made to our Academic Registry before 15th October each year (please email academic.registry@tcd.ie for more information).

Further scholarships and awards are available if you take special exams, as are other financial supports to students. You can check these out at www.tcd.ie/study/undergraduate/scholarships-funding

Any questions?

To find out more about Entrance Exhibitions please don’t hesitate to contact us at academic.registry@tcd.ie

More information about studying at Trinity can be found at www.tcd.ie/study/undergraduate/
What do our current Entrance Exhibitioners say?

"I was really proud to receive an Entrance Exhibition. I felt it was a recognition of all the hard work I had put into my studies in order to come to Trinity".

Sophie Pickering, studying Classical Civilisation and the History of Art and Architecture. From St Andrew’s College Dublin.

"When starting University for the first time, it’s easy to feel inconspicuous. Receiving this award gave recognition to myself, my school and family for two years of hard work, and helped me to feel valued within the college system".

Amy Monahan, studying Nanoscience. From St Leo’s College, Carlow.

"I was honoured to receive this prestigious award. I felt proud to be granted an award which reflected hard work and valuable contributions of many people like my family, friends and educators who all played a huge role".

Enda Donnellan, studying Pharmacy. From Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co Galway.

Studying at Trinity College Dublin

Do you want to join generations of students who have come to Trinity to enjoy a student experience inspired by world-leading academics and our research-led curriculum?

Trinity delivers world class education and employers worldwide hold Trinity graduates in high esteem. Graduates include Nobel Prize winners in literature, science and medicine; presidents and world leaders; award-winning actors and film makers; internationally renowned poets and playwrights, entrepreneurs and business leaders. Our diverse and international community values, respects and encourages excellence.

You could be your school’s award winning Entrance Exhibitioner!

What is an Entrance Exhibition?

Entrance Exhibitions reward academic achievement of new undergraduate entrants to Trinity College Dublin. They are awarded to the student accepted into the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree programme who achieves the highest points among Trinity entrants from their secondary school.

These awards demonstrate Trinity’s commitment to academic excellence and are a distinctive part of our history. Entrance Exhibitions first came into being in 1870. They were established by Humphrey Lloyd, who was an eminent physicist and Provost of Trinity. They were awarded to just 12 students on the basis of a competitive examination covering a wide range of subjects taken in the first year. Since 1985, Entrance Exhibitions have been awarded on the basis of performance in public examinations such as the Leaving Certificate.

In 2017, Trinity celebrated the achievements of 580 Entrance Exhibitioners who came from 30 counties across the island of Ireland and also from across the EU/EEA.

Why might I want to become an Entrance Exhibitioner?

If you are awarded an Entrance Exhibition you will join a very long list of eminent Entrance Exhibitioners, many of whom have gone on to make a significant contribution to the economic, cultural, and political life of Ireland and beyond. An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, TD was an Entrance Exhibitioner.

The awards are very much part of the life of the University and each year the names of all the new Exhibitioners are read out at a special reception, hosted by the Provost of Trinity, Dr Patrick Prendergast. The names of all the new Exhibitioners are recorded in the College Calendar. Exhibitioners also receive a €150 book token and a certificate.