Non-Resident (Distance) Ph.D. Information Sheet

The option to study by distance is available to students who are interested in undertaking a structured Ph.D. programme under the supervision of our world class research talent and to access our unrivalled academic resources, but who are not in a position to be resident in Dublin for the duration of their studies.

As part of this programme, you will be a fully registered student of Trinity College Dublin with access to our libraries and services whether you are on or off campus. A programme of online seminars and discussion groups will be made available to enable connection with fellow Trinity researchers within and across disciplines.

Tuition fees for non-resident students are the same as those for students who attend the campus and a student who begins their studies on the Non-Resident register cannot transfer to the ordinary PhD register during their studies. Students on the Non-Resident register are not eligible for any university studentship awards and are not normally eligible for other funding schemes that require residency within Ireland.

In order to be admitted to the research register, candidates should normally have a minimum 2.1 honours degree or GPA of 3.2; other general Admissions requirements can be found on the Trinity Study website. Individual participating Schools may have a further minimum set of requirements and expectations for studying on this programme. Additionally, your Supervisor and you may establish further agreements in this regard.

**Students must physically attend the Trinity campus in Dublin for two mandatory components of their PhD over the course of their studies.** They must attend for their Confirmation Interview approximately halfway through their studies and their Viva Voce examination at the end of their studies. In addition, students are encouraged to come to the campus early in their programme of study, to get a sense of connection to the university as well as to meet their supervision team and thesis committee in person.
Our Ph.D. programme follows a structured model and those studying from a distance will need to achieve at least 20 ECTS of taught credits to meet those requirements. Five of these credits are fulfilled by completing the Research Integrity and Impact in an Open Scholarship Era module, which is mandatory for all Ph.D. students. A further 5ECTS can be fulfilled by completing an Induction and Orientation module (to commence September 2025) and remaining credits must be achieved by completing modules with the agreement of your Supervisor. A full list of these modules can be found here. Before selecting a module, students should check that the module can be taken online i.e., that lectures and assessment can be undertaken remotely. Non-Resident PhD students are advised to consider taking the Planning and Managing Your Research Process (PMRP1001) module when agreeing module options with their Supervisor.

There are opportunities to study for a Ph.D. full-time taking approximately 4 years or part-time taking 6 years. Normally, students can commence their programme of study from September or March each academic year although some Schools do not permit a March registration. Visa requirements for non-EU students should be carefully considered to ensure there are no barriers to attending campus as required for the three mandatory components - the minimum requirements associated with the programme. These visa requirements are outside the control of the university and may affect non-EU students differently depending on their country of origin.

From September 2023, the following Schools will be taking applications from suitable and qualified candidates for Non-Resident Ph.D. programmes:

School of Creative Arts (Dept. of Music only)
School of English
School of Engineering
School of History and Humanities
School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies
School of Law
School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences
School of Psychology
School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies
School of Natural Sciences
School of Dental Science
School of Medicine
School of Nursing and Midwifery
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

For general queries, please contact the Graduate Studies Office genadgso@tcd.ie or individual School contacts.