Global Mobility

Pre-Arrival Guide 2025/26

Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

www.tcd.ie/global/mobility/**inbound**

www.tcd.ie/global/mobility

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you to Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin. As Ireland's leading university, ranked 75th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2026) and 35th most international university in the world (Times Higher Education Rankings 2025), we pride ourselves on being a global research intensive university with a diverse and vibrant university community.

This Global Mobility Pre-Arrival Guide includes information for incoming international visiting (fee-paying and exchange) students to Trinity. Please review this guide as you prepare for your time abroad, and make sure to consult the links within this guide to the Trinity website for the relevant general information for incoming international students to Trinity. Find out more at www.tcd.ie/study/international/welcome.

We hope you find this guide useful as you prepare for your time abroad and look forward to welcoming you on campus.

Global Mobility Team – Trinity Global
global.mobility@tcd.ie

Calendar
Academic Year 2025–2026

Semester 1: Autumn Semester 2025
(Michaelmas Term)

EVENT	DATE
Semester Start-Up Programme (for students enrolled in SSP)	Monday 25 August - Friday 12th September*
Visiting Students Orientation Week (required)	Monday 8th September - Friday 12th September
First date of Teaching Term	Monday 15th September
Reading Week (no teaching)	Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October
Bank Holiday	Monday 27th October
Assessment Week	11th December - 22nd December (inclusive)

Semester 2: Spring Semester 2026
(Hilary Term)

EVENT	DATE
Arrival Date for Semester Start-Up Programme (for students enrolled in January SSP)	Sunday 11th January
Semester Start-Up Programme (for students enrolled in January SSP)	Monday 12th January - Friday 16th January
Visiting Students Orientation Week (required for all new Spring Semester students)	TBC
First date of Teaching Term	Monday 19th January
Reading Week (no teaching)	Monday 2nd March - Friday 6th March
Bank Holiday	Tuesday 17th March
Assessment Week	Tuesday 21st April - Friday 1st May (inclusive) ***
Trinity Week	Monday 28 April – Friday 2 May **

Departure Dates

Please note: that move in and move out dates will be provided by your Accommodation location after you finalise your housing lease/contract, and that the above dates are programme dates, not move in dates.

Please note: calendar dates are subject to change, and the latest dates can be found here: www.tcd.ie/calendar/academic-year-structure.

* If you are enrolled in SSP, it will be included in your offer letter. If you have questions about SSP, reach out to SSP Programme Administrator Dr. Patricia Stapleton at pstaple@tcd.ie.

** Some assignments may be due during Revision Week and Trinity Week

*** Additional/contingency days may be required outside of the formal assessment/reassessment weeks. Semester 1 assessment session: December 11 to 22, 2025 inclusive (No assessment after Dec 22nd). Semester 2 assessment session: April 21 to May 1, 2026 inclusive

Prepare:
Know Before You Go

Mandatory Immigration Documents

Please review the Visa and Immigration section of the Trinity website very carefully, especially the Mandatory Documentation section which outlines all documents you are required to bring with you to the airport for the immigration process. Note: in addition to the mandatory documentation required by immigration, we recommend that you make digital and/or hard copies of important documents prior to your departure and keep them with you in a safe place, e.g. Offer Letter, Health Insurance information, cover page of passport, etc.
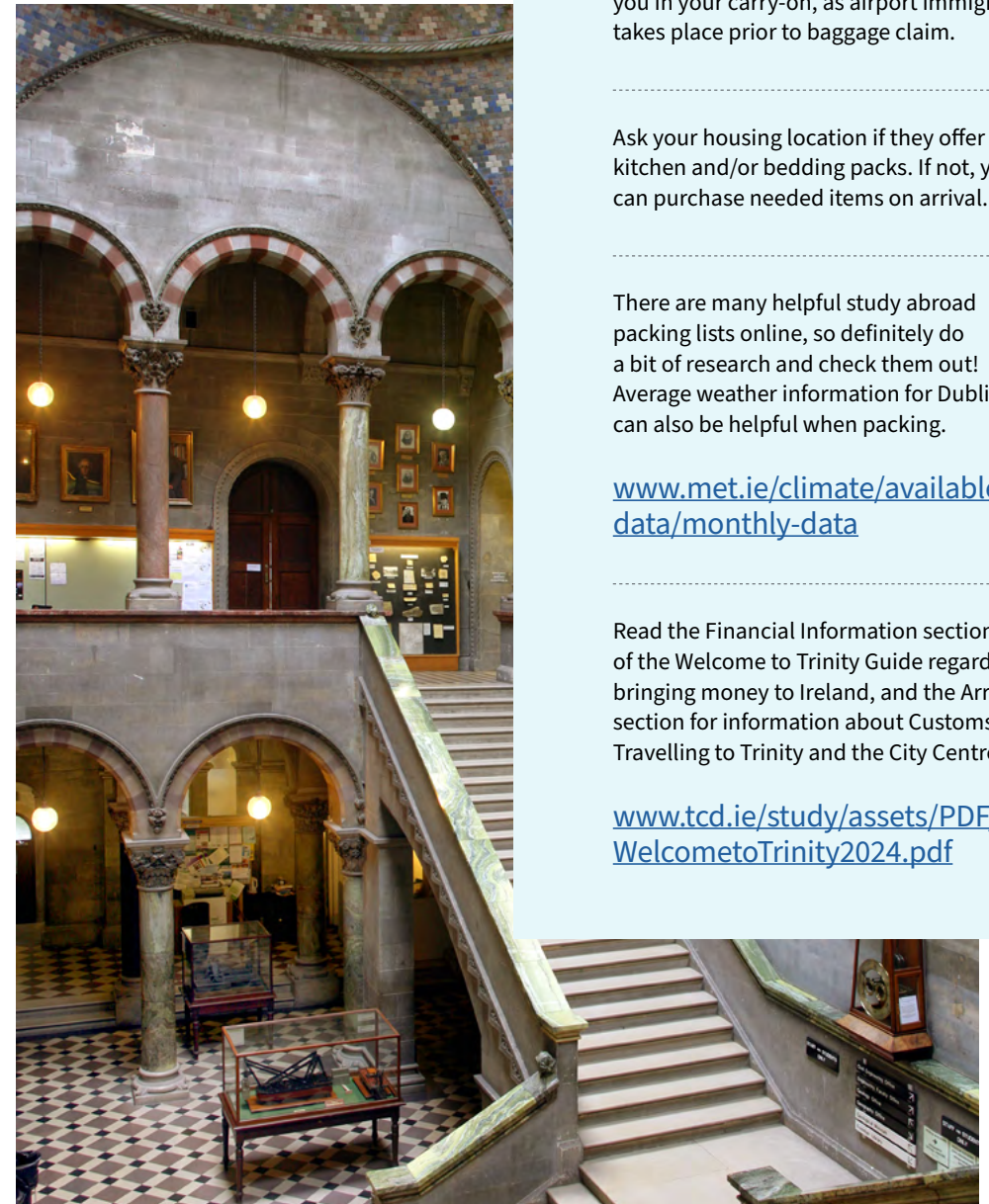
www.tcd.ie/study/international/
arriving-in-ireland/visa-immigration

Health Insurance and Medication

You will also need to review the Health Insurance section of the Trinity website very carefully. As a visiting student, you are required to have health insurance for the duration of your mobility programme, and it must be valid in Ireland. Often, visiting students can use their home university or home insurance plan while abroad, or they can look into a study abroad-specific health insurance plan.

If you need to bring prescribed medication with you, please make sure to discuss this in advance with your health provider. Please note that the maximum amount of imported medication permitted is a 3-month supply, which must be cleared through Customs by the Irish Medicines Board. Customs will only clear medication that is licensed for use in Ireland, so it is important that you plan ahead.

www.tcd.ie/study/international/
arriving-in-ireland/health-insurance

Tips

Make sure to have all of your documents with you in your carry-on, as airport immigration takes place prior to baggage claim.

Ask your housing location if they offer kitchen and/or bedding packs. If not, you can purchase needed items on arrival.

There are many helpful study abroad packing lists online, so definitely do a bit of research and check them out! Average weather information for Dublin can also be helpful when packing.

www.met.ie/climate/available-
data/monthly-data

Read the Financial Information section of the Welcome to Trinity Guide regarding bringing money to Ireland, and the Arrival section for information about Customs and Travelling to Trinity and the City Centre.

www.tcd.ie/study/assets/PDF/
WelcometoTrinity2024.pdf

Getting Started: At Trinity

Trinity Registration

My TCD

Make sure you have logged in to my.tcd.ie with your Trinity Student ID.

Registration

An invitation to formally register online will be sent to you by email shortly before your arrival. This will activate your registration as a Trinity student, and does not refer to signing up for classes, which is a separate process that will occur after your arrival at Trinity. You will need to register as a Trinity student in order to get your ID, gain access to the library, college wifi and computer access, and the sports centre.

www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/
student-registration

Fees

Make sure you have paid your fees, paid any study abroad fees to your home institution (if applicable), or paid your home institution's fees if they will pay Trinity directly. If you are coming on exchange, you will not be charged tuition fees, but you will be responsible for student services and accommodation fees. If paying fees directly to Trinity and not to your home university, please see the information listed in the Welcome Guide for more information, and contact academic.registry@tcd.ie with any questions.

www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/fees-
and-payments/how-do-I-pay

Signing Up for Classes

The process for signing up for classes is called Module Enrolment at Trinity and takes place online. More information will be sent to you by the Global Mobility Team and the Academic Registry.

Home Institution Registration

Check in with your home institution to make sure you have completed all necessary information in order to study abroad (e.g. course pre-approvals, health and safety requirements, orientations, etc.)

Orientation

Orientation is offered each semester to help introduce students to Trinity and is required. Orientation is a mixture of introductions to the University, course specific meetings, campus tours, student mentor meetings and social events. As part of orientation, you will complete the module enrolment process to sign up for your modules (classes) at Trinity. We will also hold a special session for visiting students to walk you through everything you need to know about studying abroad at Trinity. The orientation for visiting students (fee-paying and exchange students) will be updated here:

www.tcd.ie/students/orientation/
visiting-exchange/index.php

Virtual Tour

In the meantime, view a virtual student-led campus tour here:

youtu.be/HjEfFvMjUkk

Clubs and Societies

To get involved in Trinity social life and make friends while abroad, make sure to sign up and participate in Trinity's Clubs, Societies and Sports Groups. See Clubs and Societies and Sports Centre information in the Welcome to Trinity Guide for more information.

www.tcd.ie/study/international/
student-experience/supports-
services

Library Facilities

The Library is the largest in Ireland, and has been a Legal Deposit library since 1801, and receives a copy of every book published in Ireland and the United Kingdom. There are librarians who can assist you with research questions in every subject taught at the university. The Library has two on-campus locations, the Berkeley-Lecky-Ussher (Arts, Humanities and the Social Sciences) and the Hamilton (STEM). During Orientation week, tours of libraries are offered, as well as introductions to the facilities and resources offered.

www.tcd.ie/library

Computer Facilities and Printing

Trinity has computer and printing facilities all across campus. To set up your TCD computer account, see:
www.tcd.ie/itservices/students/orientation/getting-your-computer-account-and-email

To set up your Trinity WiFi, see:
www.tcd.ie/itservices/students/orientation/connecting-to-the-student-wi-fi

To see a list of all of the Computer Rooms where you can use computers on campus with your TCD ID, see:
www.tcd.ie/itservices/our-services/it-services-computer-rooms

To sign up for Trinity Printing (via a service called Datapac) and to see prices, instructions and locations of printing facilities on campus, see:
www.tcdprint.ie

Setting up your Phone

Students have the option of buying an Irish SIM for their current phones (check with your provider first if they permit this) to use a cheap 'pay as you go' plan, buying a cheap mobile phone while in Ireland, or paying for international service on their home country phone plan. See Mobile Phones section of the Welcome to Trinity Guide for pay as you go plan options.

www.tcd.ie/study/assets/PDF/
WelcometoTrinity2024.pdf

Bank Accounts

Single-semester and academic year visiting students are not required to open an Irish bank account, but some students opt to do so. See the Financial Information section of the Welcome to Trinity Guide for details on opening an Irish bank account.

www.tcd.ie/study/international/
after-you-arrive/life-admin

Emergency Information

It is important to take note of the emergency numbers listed in the Welcome to Trinity Guide. Please make sure to also complete any emergency information required through your home universities, register with your home country's embassy in Ireland, always have your health insurance information handy in case of emergency, and make sure to have an ICE (In Case of Emergency) contact number saved in your mobile phone. Please reach out to the Global Mobility Team (global.mobility@tcd.ie) right away with any issues or concerns.

www.tcd.ie/contacts

Getting Started: In Dublin

Welcome to Trinity Guide

See the Living In Dublin section of the Welcome to Trinity Guide for information on:

— **Cost of Living**

— **Dining**

— **Groceries**

— **Shopping**

— **Mobile Phones**

— **Student Travelcards**

— **Public Transport**

www.tcd.ie/study/international/welcome

Where to Eat

All housing options in Ireland are self-catered, which means you will be preparing your own meals in your kitchen. You may be coming from a country where you lived at home while attending university, or from a university with a meal plan and dining halls. There are several options for eating on campus, and there are many places to grab inexpensive and filling food on the go throughout Dublin. Remember to show your Student ID for discounts.

What's Happening in Dublin

From the best places to eat, to all the cultural events and upcoming activities Dublin has to offer, check out these Dublin-focused social and entertainment sites: Lovin Dublin, Eventbrite, Dublin Town, What's On, Totally Dublin and Visit Dublin.

Working in Ireland

Single-semester study abroad students from non-EU countries are not allowed to earn income in Ireland, but full-year study abroad students are eligible to work up to a maximum of 20 hours per week during term and up to 40 hours per week during University holidays. Full year students who wish to seek employment should refer to the Employment section of the Welcome to Trinity Guide for details on how to do so.

www.tcd.ie/Careers/students/find-a-job/international.php
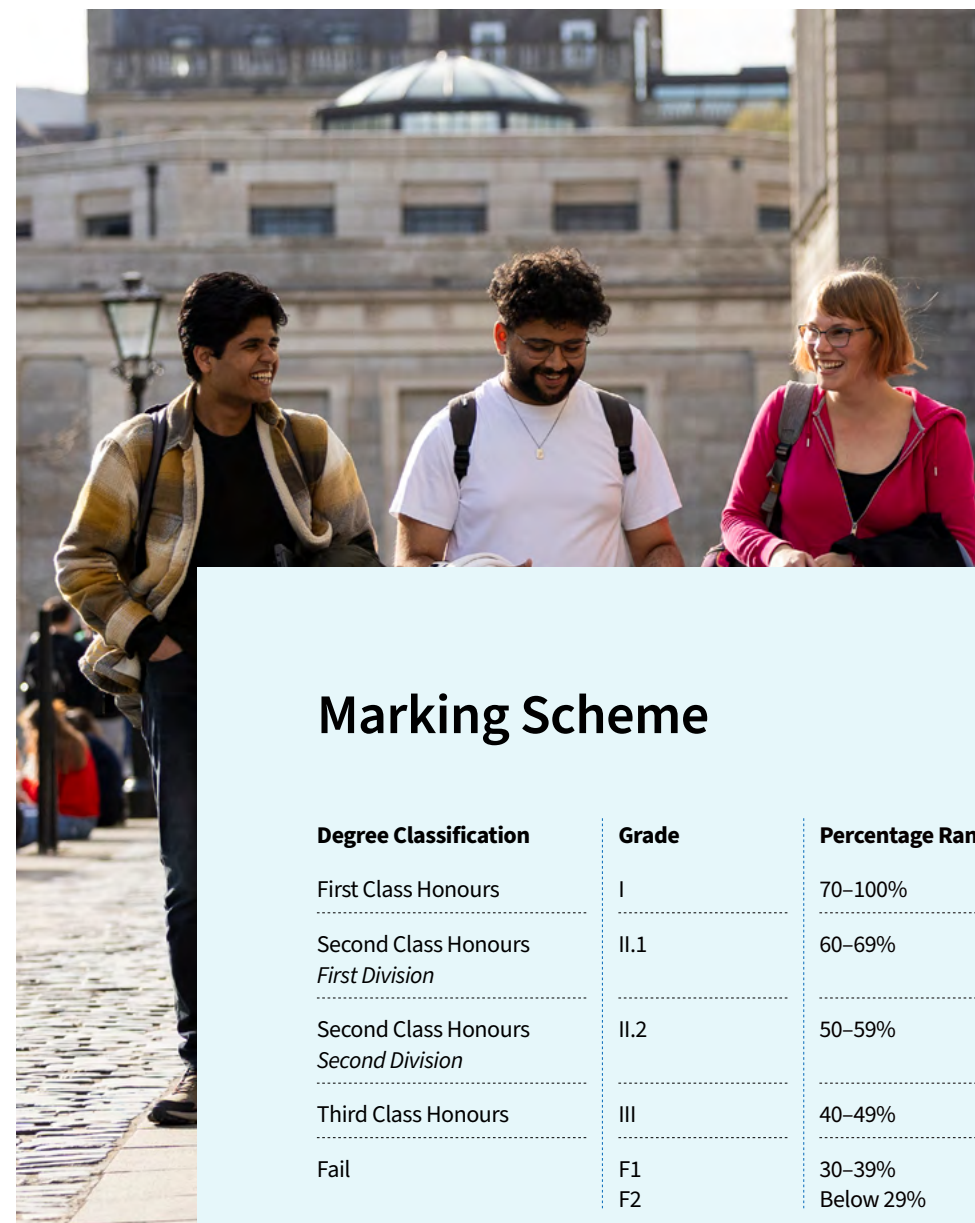
Academic Adjustment

Credit

Trinity uses the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), which is a student-centred system based on student workload. Unlike what you may be used to at your home institution, student workload is determined based on the number of credits you take, rather than number of modules. Credit values for modules at Trinity will vary, but usually will have a 5, 10 or 15 ECTS value depending on the workload required. The standard credit load is 30 ECTS per semester. 20 is the minimum number of ECTS in order to be a full-time registered student at Trinity and have access to campus resources, as well as to be considered a full time student for visa and immigration purposes. All full year Erasmus/Visiting students are required to take a minimum of 45 ECTS. View the Module Directory for available modules and their ECTS values. Please note that the Module Directory offers an idea of what students may take but is subject to change.

www.tcd.ie/students/orientation/
visiting-exchange/module-
enrolment.php

Please note that you must check in with your home university or study abroad programme about the number of credits you enrol in at Trinity. Many universities have strict credit transfer policies, so you need to ensure that you follow them carefully in order to receive the full transfer credit for your term abroad.

Grading

The below marking scheme applies in Trinity. Make sure to discuss grade and credit transfer with your home institution prior to studying abroad. Please note that marks can vary among faculties at Trinity, and it is important to recognise that the grades may be very different from those at your home institution.

Marking Scheme

Degree Classification	Grade	Percentage Range
First Class Honours	I	70–100%
Second Class Honours *First Division*	II.1	60–69%
Second Class Honours *Second Division*	II.2	50–59%
Third Class Honours	III	40–49%
Fail	F1	30–39%
	F2	Below 29%

Benefits of Studying Abroad

A few slang words in Ireland...

— **Craic** (Fun)

— **Grand** (Good, fine, ok, alright)

— **Deadly** (Fantastic)

— **Wee** (Little, small)

— **Gas** (Funny)

— **Class** (Great)

— **Banjaxed** (Broken)

— **Savage** (Can be very good or bad)

— **Lift** (Elevator)

— **Chips** (American Fries are Chips in Ireland, and American Chips are Crisps)

Getting out of your comfort zone

Study Abroad is a rewarding experience that pushes you out of your comfort zone and helps you develop flexibility when adjusting to new and different surroundings, cultures, customs, classes, and friends. You may experience a phrase we call in the field of Study Abroad "culture shock", which can be accompanied by homesickness, anxiety, sadness, and more. Everyone experiences culture shock differently, and to different degrees. It can even present as re-entry culture shock when you return home! If you're feeling down or overwhelmed, there are many resources available to you on campus. And as always, reach out to the Study Abroad Team. We are here to help!

Careers

Ultimately, the experience of studying abroad is one that many students find has a formative influence on their lives. Furthermore, studying abroad has been demonstrated to improve career prospects, as employers value the very attributes honed by studying abroad: resilience, international experience and cultural understanding, working with people from other cultures, dealing with ambiguity and adapting to the unexpected. Plus, once you complete your time abroad at Trinity, you will be part of Trinity's worldwide network of alumni. Getting involved in Trinity's alumni network through its clubs and events is a great way to make friends and professional contacts, as well as keep in touch with Trinity and Ireland while you are back home.

Language Benefits

Studying abroad also provides language benefits, especially if you are immersed in a culture with a different language from your own. The Centre for English Language Learning and Teaching offer resources, and so does Student Learning Development.

www.tcd.ie/slscs/english

student-learning.tcd.ie

Regardless of whether English is your mother tongue, you will still have to learn a new vocabulary, whether in Trinity, Dublin, or Ireland as a whole. Trinity offers a Jargon Buster, to help new and international students learn and decode Trinity lingo.

www.tcd.ie/students/orientation/jargon

Support at Trinity

Academic Registry
For information about admissions, registration and record management, offer letters, student finance and fees, examinations, and more, contact the Academic Registry:

www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/service-desk

For application queries, please contact:

noneu.incoming@tcd.ie

International Tutor's Office
The International Tutor's Office is the point of contact for high level academic issues, including: dropping modules after the module enrolment deadline, issues with medical absences, or any academic or personal issues that would impact your time at Trinity. The International Tutor's Office can be reached at:

International.Tutor@tcd.ie

When in doubt, ask the Global Mobility Team and we will help direct you to the correct contact.

Global Mobility Team
The Global Mobility Team is here to advise you throughout your time at Trinity. We are available to help you with any situation that may arise when you are abroad, and to liaise with the necessary contacts at Trinity and your home universities to support you while abroad. When in doubt, feel free to reach out to us to ask any questions you might have. For general mobility questions, please contact:
global.mobility@tcd.ie

Welcome to Trinity Guide
See the Welcome to Trinity Guide for information about supports like the Global Room and its New2Dublin programme, Student2Student Mentor programme, the Students' Union, Disability Service and more.

www.tcd.ie/study/international/welcome

Any Questions? Contact us:
✉ global.mobility@tcd.ie
📷 @tcdglobalmobility

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FAQs

Where can I find EDI resources?
Trinity's excellence relies on its commitment to equality and diversity. Trinity is proud of its equality, diversity and inclusion, and pluralist college community. It is a positive environment in which all can participate, diversity is promoted and celebrated, and all are recognized fully for their contributions. Students can find EDI resources below, and we encourage you to reach out if you need any support.

www.tcd.ie/equality

Where can I find student recommendations?
Peruse our Trinity Global Blog to read student perspectives about everything from favourite modules at Trinity to Dublin on a Budget, the best events in town, favourite weekend trips, a tour of favourite Dublin desserts, and much more.

trinity-experience-blog.com

Can I be connected to my suitemates in advance of arrival?
Due to privacy laws, the Accommodation Office (Housing Office) cannot release suitemate names or information in advance of arrival.

I receive academic accommodations at my home university. How do I get support at Trinity?
Trinity's The Disability Service (DS) is made up of an experienced team of individuals who work to support students and staff with disabilities in Trinity. They empower students to reach their full potential in college by providing them with the supports they need after they have applied for Reasonable Accommodations. More information can be found below.

Please note: Disability policies vary from country to country, so while Trinity will provide as much support as possible, it is important to note that you may not receive the same accommodations as you have at your home university.

www.tcd.ie/disability

What are the policies for independent travel?
If you choose to travel independently during your semester, please follow any of your home university policies regarding independent travel, and you are responsible for following all travel advice and guidelines:

www.dfa.ie/travel/travel-advice