

Supplementary Application Form for Elite Sportspersons

DCU has put in place a special academic entry scheme for elite sportspersons across a number of undergraduate degree courses. A number of academic places are reserved for outstanding candidates who have achieved a very high level of performance, competing at one or a combination of international, national, inter-provincial and inter-county level. Under this scheme, applications are not assessed solely on the basis of academic performance, but sporting achievements are also taken into consideration.

Admission Criteria

The following criteria must be met:

Applicants must satisfy the general minimum entry requirements for admission to the university which can be found using the following link: <http://www4.dcu.ie/registry/entry.shtml>

In addition applicants must satisfy the specific course requirements for the course(s) to which they are applying. Applicants must provide evidence of reaching an extremely high level of sporting achievement.

Application Process

To be eligible, applicants must apply through the Central Applications Office before the normal closing date for applications, 1st February at 5.15pm, or before the late closing date for applications, 1st May at 5.15pm. See www.cao.ie for further information. In addition, applicants must submit the online Elite Sportspersons Form before 1st May.

Initial Assessment Process

Applicants who have applied through CAO and have submitted the online Elite Sportsperson form will initially be assessed based on the Elite Sportsperson criteria outlined below:

- Gaelic Games – played/coached at county level
- Soccer or Rugby – played/coached at inter-provincial level
- Other games/sports – played/coached at International level

Those deemed eligible will progress in the assessment process. Ineligible Elite Sportsperson applicants are communicated to directly by DCU before 1st July so that they may avail of the CAO change of mind facility.

Interviews

For very competitive programmes, applicants must attend an interview as part of the assessment process. Interviews are usually held at the end of June. As part of the interview process, you may be required to present a portfolio of sporting achievements.

Points Reduction

Depending on competition for places, there is a possible points reduction of no more than 50 CAO points for applicants who have been deemed eligible based on 1) elite sport criteria and 2) entry requirements.

To be considered for this entry scheme, applicants must achieve a minimum of 300 points in their best six Leaving Certificate subjects.

CAO Offers

Official notification of offers are made through the CAO in mid August.