

Professional Master of Education (Primary Teaching)

Entry Requirements and Procedure for 2019

1. This is a postgraduate teacher education programme for primary teaching (2019 – 2021) for persons who possess an honours Bachelor Degree at Level 8 or those who expect to have successfully completed final examinations before Monday, 1st July, 2019.

This is a full-time programme, commencing in September 2019 and concluding in summer 2021 and will be delivered in the following Higher Education Institutions:

- DCU Institute of Education, DCU St Patrick's Campus, Drumcondra, Dublin 9. (ioe@dcu.ie), Telephone: (01) 884 2212.
- Mary Immaculate College, South Circular Road, Limerick. (admissions@mic.ul.ie), Telephone: (061) 204348.
- Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co Kildare. froebel.department@mu.ie; Telephone: (01) 4747400.
- Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9. (admissions@mie.ie). Telephone: (01) 8057742.

A limited number of places will be available on these programmes and successful applicants will be selected by way of competition. Applicants are advised that shortlisting may apply.

Persons who successfully complete this programme are eligible to be registered by the Teaching Council under Route 1: Primary and will thereby be eligible for appointment in primary schools.

2. Application Procedure & Closing Date

The **closing date** for receipt of completed applications to the four institutions named above is **5p.m. on Monday, 25 March 2019**.

Prior to application, prospective applicants **are required to take the oral component of the Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) Meánleibhéal 1 (B1) Irish examination**. Applicants must achieve 65% or higher prior to the closing date for applications (i.e. 25 March 2019) to satisfy the entry requirements.

If you have not already registered for the Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) (ORAL) examination, you will need to register for this examination at www.teg.ie. Registration will be open between Monday 18 February and 5pm on Friday 22 February 2019.

The oral Irish examination will be administered by the Centre for Irish Language Research, Teaching and Testing in Maynooth University and candidates must apply

separately to do this oral Irish exam. More information, including examination guidelines, is available here: <http://www.teg.ie/about-exams/teg-pme-primary-teaching.860.html>

Applications to **Mary Immaculate College, Limerick** should be returned directly to the Admissions Office in the College at the address above. Application material is available on the College's website: www.mic.ul.ie.

Applications to the **DCU Institute of Education** should be made through the Postgraduate Applications Centre www.pac.ie/dcu . (Course code DC970). All supporting documentation must be submitted via Pac.ie by the closing date of the course.

Applications to **Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University** and **Marino Institute of Education, Dublin** should be completed online at maestro.mie.ie/appcentre.

All applicants should note the selection procedure detailed in section 4 below.

3. Conditions of Eligibility

Applicants must have the following academic qualifications:

- (a) **Minimum H2.2 Honours Bachelor Degree** (Major Award at Level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications) **or** a major award at Level 9 or a major award at Level 10 on the National Framework of Qualifications,

AND

- (b) one of the following sets of second level qualifications:

- (i) in the Leaving Certificate Examination

Subject	Irish	Mathematics	English
Minimum Grade (new 2017 Scheme)	H5	H7 or O6	H7 or O5
% Mark	50% - 59%	30%-39% 40%-49%	30% -39% or 50% - 59%

H – Higher Level

O – Ordinary Level

The grades and % marks in the 1992-2016 grading scheme and the new 2017 scheme are set out at Appendix 1

- (ii) in the Northern Ireland GCSE and GCE A Level Examinations: a Grade C at GCE A Level Irish; a Grade C at GCSE Level in both English and English Literature

or Grade B at GCSE Level in either; and a Grade D at GCSE Level in Additional Mathematics or a Grade C at GCSE Level in Mathematics.

Applicants must provide evidence to the Higher Education Institution that their degree is placed as a major award at the appropriate level on the National Framework of Qualifications. **Applicants must meet entry requirements (a) and (b) by Monday, 1 July 2019 and must provide documentary evidence of meeting these requirements.**

Alternatives to second-level qualifications in Irish, English or Maths

A Pass in a University *First Arts* Examination in Irish, English or Mathematics will be accepted in lieu of the Leaving Certificate Examination GCE/GCSE requirement for the relevant subject.

In the case of Irish, a Grade C in the Matriculation Examination (which existed up to 1992) will also be accepted in lieu of the Leaving Certificate Examination/GCE/GCSE requirement. In addition, the following are accepted as satisfying the Leaving Certificate Examination/GCE/GCSE requirement:

- Diplóma sa Ghaeilge, Level C1, NUIG
- Diplóma sa Ghaeilge, Level B2, NUIG
- Diplóma sa Ghaeilge, Maynooth University
- Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) at Level B2, Maynooth University
- Diploma in Arts (Applied Irish), University College Cork
- Diplóma sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach, UCD
- Diplóma sa Ghaeilge (An Ghaeilge sa Saol Comhaimseartha), University of Limerick
- Diploma in Irish at the University of Ulster

In the case of Mathematics, a Pass in that subject in the Matriculation Examination will also be accepted in lieu of the Leaving Certificate Examination/GCSE requirement.

AND ALSO

(c) Oral Irish Examination

Applicants must achieve 65% or higher on the oral component of the Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) Meánleibhéal 1 (B1) Irish examination, prior to the closing date for applications (i.e. 25 March 2019) to satisfy the entry requirements.

A successful result in the TEG oral will be valid for two years before the test needs to be retaken. Candidates who have achieved a minimum of 65% on the TEG oral exam in the last two years are eligible to apply.

The Oral Irish Examination will comprise:-

- conversation on everyday topics, giving information and expressing opinions;

- role play on a given scenario, asking for information, giving information and expressing opinions;
- telling a simple story, describing what is happening in a series of pictures.

Applicants should note that a high standard of fluency is required in the Oral Irish Examination and should prepare for the examination accordingly. See http://www.teg.ie/fileupload/guides/B1_treoir_PME_EN.pdf for further information.

4. Selection Procedure

Interview

Eligible applicants will be required to undergo an interview. This interview will be conducted in English. Up to 100 marks may be awarded for performance in the interview. Applicants who get a "fail" grade in the interview will be eliminated from the competition. The purpose of the interview is to ascertain the suitability of the applicant for participation in a primary teacher education programme.

Additional Marks awarded for students who complete the TEG Oral Examination at a high Level.

- Up to 10 additional marks may be awarded for students who successfully complete the TEG oral examination at a high level and these marks will be added to their interview score. Candidates achieving from 90-100% receive 10 additional marks, candidates achieving from 80-89% receive 5 additional marks.
- Candidates who complete the TEG oral examination and obtain 65-79% receive no additional marks but are deemed to have passed the test and are eligible for the programme.
- Candidates who have passed higher levels of TEG (B2, C1 and C2) receive 10 additional marks.

Interview Locations

Applicants will be advised by the relevant Higher Education Institution of the date, time, venue, *etc.*, of their interview and must attend at their own expense. The location will be Dublin and/or Maynooth and/or Limerick.

5. General Information

Gaeltacht Placement

Attendance and Cost: All students who gain entry to the programme are required to attend two residential placements in the Gaeltacht. Each placement will be of two weeks' duration. It should be noted that this is a **compulsory** part of the programme. The cost of this compulsory placement will not be met by the Department of Education & Skills or the Higher Education Institution.

Student Grants:

Following a change introduced in Budget 2017, the maintenance grant for post-graduate students who meet the qualifying conditions for the special rate of grant has been reintroduced. Prospective students applying for the 2019/20 academic year who meet the qualifying criteria, may receive the special rate of maintenance grant up to the grant limit of €5,915 and have their post-graduate tuition fees paid up to the maximum fee limit of €6,270.

Other postgraduate students who don't meet the qualifying conditions for the special rate of grant, may qualify to have a €2,000 contribution made towards the cost of their fees. The income threshold for this payment is €31,500 for the 2018/19 academic year, increasing relative to the number of family dependents.

UK nationals who meet the qualifying conditions of the scheme will be eligible to avail of postgraduate tuition fees under the Student Grant Scheme for the 2019/20 academic year. Eligible UK nationals resident in Ireland may also qualify for maintenance grant support. These supports will remain in place for eligible students for the duration of their studies. The position will be reviewed in advance of the 2020/21 academic year for prospective applicants applying in 2020.

Students are advised to submit a fully completed online grant application to SUSI so that their eligibility for grant assistance can be assessed. It is anticipated that the 2019/20 Scheme will open for applications in early April. Further information regarding the Student Grant Scheme is available on the SUSI website at www.susi.ie.

Fitness to Practise:

1. *Garda Vetting:* Before a student's registration can be completed, the student must undergo a process of Garda vetting in order to establish whether (s)he has any convictions or criminal charges pending. Where this process confirms the existence of such, the matter is referred to a Vetting Committee within the Higher Education Institution which decides whether the student can continue with his/her programme of study.

2. *Medical Requirements:* Some incoming teacher education students are required to complete a Health Status Information Form, indicating whether they have any significant ongoing illnesses or disabilities which might adversely impact their capacity to meet the requirements of the programme, including School Placement. Entrants who declare significant health conditions, disabilities or psychological conditions will be assessed on an individual basis to evaluate whether, with reasonable accommodations, they would have the ability to undertake the demands of the programme. Individuals will not be excluded on the grounds that they possess a particular condition or disability if it is deemed likely that it would be possible for that person to fulfil the requirements of the programme with reasonable accommodation(s). The Higher Education Institutions will advise students as to the procedure to be followed in this regard.

During this full-time teacher education programme, participants may **not** engage in business or in any other programme of study without the prior permission of the Higher Education Institution's President/Head of Department.

Further information regarding the programme is available from the applicant's Higher Education Institution of choice.

Appendix 1

Leaving Cert Grading Schemes (1992-2016 Scheme and New Scheme 2017)

1992 – 2016 Scheme	% Awarded	New Scheme 2017 onwards	% Awarded
A1	90-100	H1 / O1	90-100
A2	85<90	H2 / O2	80<90
B1	80<85		
B2	75<80	H3 / O3	70<80
B3	70<75		
C1	65<70	H4 / O4	60<70
C2	60<65		
C3	55<60	H5 / O5	50<60
D1	50<55		
D2	45<50	H6 / O6	40<50
D3	40<45		
E	25<40	H7/O7	30<40
F	10<25	H8/O8	0<30