

2020/21 Application for Student Ambassadors



What is the Student Ambassador Programme?

The Student Ambassador Programme is a group of current DCU undergraduate students who are selected to represent DCU to prospective students, their parents and guidance counsellors.

About the Student Recruitment Office

The Student Recruitment Office manage the Student Ambassador Programme. The role of the Student Recruitment Office is to let prospective students know about the opportunities available to them at DCU, whether it is talking directly to a student, or to parents or a guidance counsellor.

What is the role of a Student Ambassador?

The role of a Student Ambassador is to give the real picture about life at DCU. In other words, what it's really like to be a student here from talking about your own experiences, your course, your typical day at DCU to student life, clubs, societies and campus facilities. Student Ambassadors positively promote DCU and the role includes giving presentations, helping at Open Days, conducting campus tours, attending career fairs and school visits. Student ambassadors also contribute to DCU's social media presence by writing student blogs and recording posts for the DCU Snapchat account.

Responsibilities of a Student Ambassador

Under the direction of the Student Recruitment Office, you will:

- Attend higher education career fairs such as higher options in the RDS
- Provide support before, during and after Open Days and other events on-campus. This includes guiding visitors around campus and event set-up
- Conduct guided campus tours

- Attend school visits with a Student Recruitment Officer
- Provide support for student recruitment activities
- Assist the SS&D Team with Orientation week
- Work with other units throughout the University

Skills Required

The skills required to be considered for the Student Ambassador role are:

- Enthusiastic, personable, flexible and motivated
- Good communication skills
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Ability to deal with people from diverse backgrounds
- Positively disposed towards DCU
- Basic knowledge of campus facilities
- Successful in your academic studies
- Ideally an active member clubs and societies at DCU
- Full clean drivers licence is desirable but not essential

Why become a Student Ambassador?

Students participate on the programme for lots of different reasons such as:

- Opportunity to improve communication, presentation, public speaking, networking and leadership skills, which are attractive to employers
- Great addition to your CV
- Making new friends
- Learn about school liaison and student recruitment activities
- Student Ambassadors are paid!

Hours of Work

The hours of work vary and are part-time. It depends on the number of student recruitment events and your availability. Normally hours of work can be between 9am to 5pm Mon-Fri, however some evening and weekend work may be required during busy times.

Remuneration

Student Ambassadors are paid €10.10 per hour

How to apply for the role of Student Ambassador

Submit an excellent application form and supportive C.V. by **31 May 2020**

Interview

Owing to the Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to perform face-to-face interviews. We will review the situation and will correspond with selected applicants on the interview process in due course.

Garda Vetting

Garda vetting is mandatory for students who have unsupervised access to children and vulnerable adults. All successful applicants must pass the Garda vetting process in order to be selected onto the Student Ambassador Programme.

Training

Upon appointment, there will be a one-day training session given by the Student Recruitment Office. It is compulsory that all new student ambassadors attend the training day.

Any Questions?

studentambassadors@dcu.ie

Student Ambassador Testimonials

Cathal Blake BSc Psychology

Why should you apply to become a student ambassador? A very good question. I could tell you about all the people I've met. People such as; Sonia O'Sullivan; President Higgins; former US President Bill Clinton; NASA astronauts; gaelic football stars; Irish rugby stars and on and on. As an ambassador you will get the opportunity to work at various functions across campuses, where you too will get to meet individuals like those outlined above. I have had the opportunity to speak about being a psychology student at open-days; at careers events; and at Higher Options in the RDS. Being a student ambassador gives you these opportunities. It also gives you the opportunity to work as part of the student recruitment team, where you will make friends for life and share all these experiences with your fellow ambassadors, just as I have done over the last three years.

Being an ambassador gave me the chance to expand my horizons beyond my psychology class, beyond the School of Nursing and opened up the wider DCU community to me. The flexibility of the work involved allowed me to pick and choose various jobs, so it didn't interfere with my studies, which was also a bonus. But the one reason as to why I am so proud to have been a DCU student ambassador is the following: I was asked to give a tour of the Glasnevin campus, I think it was about two years ago. Anyway, I was waiting outside the Helix when about a dozen young lads in school uniforms strolled up to me. I asked whether they were there for a tour, and they replied that they were. So, off we went on the tour.

About ten minutes into the tour, I asked the lads where they were from, to which they replied that they were all local. I stopped and asked why they needed a tour of the campus, after all, if they were local, sure they could just have a wander around the campus any day. One of the lads said that people like them didn't usually go to college, and they felt that they would have been out of place if they had just come in

on their own. I told the lads that they had as much business being at a university as anyone else had. We continued on the tour and the lads seemed to enjoy it, and off they went back to school.

Fast forward about six months, and I was walking across campus at the start of another year, when I heard voices calling my name. I turned around, and who comes running up to me only three of the lads that had been on the tour. "Well boys", I said, "What are ye up too"? "We have just started our degrees here in DCU", says they. "We listened to what you said and we applied to come to college, and here we are".

That's what you can do as a student ambassador, you can help change people's lives!!!!

Conor Meyler BEng Mechatronic Engineering

I became a student ambassador at the start of my second year in DCU and it was honestly one of the best decisions I have made during my time here. It opened DCU a lot more to me than just the engineering building. From the program you become friends with people from a range of courses and from working events you also get to know the staff that work in the different departments around DCU. Campus becomes a lot smaller place as you constantly run into people you know. The student recruitment staff who run the student ambassador program are some of the friendliest people in DCU and you'll have no bother settling into a family atmosphere.

After two years in the job I have done things that I never imagined doing. From modelling in a photo shoot, to being on stage in Ireland's got talent, meeting Bill Clinton and being on RTÉ 2fm talking all things DCU there never really is a dull moment in the job! Giving talks to prospective students, attending VIP events and working with a great team of fellow student ambassadors.

People always talk about how amazing it is on the CV and that is true, you will hopefully be one of the selected few to represent all that DCU is. Which is a pretty big responsibility. Going to schools and talking to prospective students about your time in DCU and why you think it is an amazing place to study. You can be the sole reason a student chooses DCU I remember the ambassadors at the higher options event in the RDS when I was in 6th year, talking to them gave me an honest insight into life in DCU not just academic but also the wide range of possibilities that students can achieve while in DCU.

I have made some amazing memories, met incredible people and as a bonus you're getting paid to do all this!

Apply for the program you won't regret it.

Olivia Forde Bachelor of Religious Education with English

Applying to be a student ambassador at the end of my first year has been positively the greatest decision I may have EVER made in my time here in DCU. I am honestly not ready to not be an ambassador anymore but that is where you hopeful people come in to place.

My first experience meeting any student ambassador was while on a tour to DCU when in 5th year and then again during my orientation week in September 2015. I remember thinking the ambassadors were so cool, like IMAGINE getting PICKED to do this out of ALL the people here. They were so friendly and helpful and I still remember to this day those ambassadors who gave myself and many others our tour that day. I applied as a Student Helper for the November Open Day and it was there I got to work alongside some of the Student Ambassadors. From that moment onwards, I knew this was something I could really succeed at because for the most part, you are talking about your experience in college, your course, the different activities you were involved in, clubs and societies, etc, and there is really nothing I love more to do than talk. So when the email came around looking for new Student Ambassadors, I realised that this was my time to SHINE.

I put in my application and was delighted to be offered an interview with the Student Recruitment Team yet ESTACTIC to be offered a role as a Student Ambassador for the coming academic year 2016/17. My enthusiasm did not stop there!!

From Day 1, which is a training day with all the new ambassador team, it has been a fun filled adventure that I would not replace with anything else. No matter what you might think, no two jobs as an ambassador are the exact same. Regardless if it is an Open Day, Graduations, Orientation Weeks, Careers Fair, or the multiple of photo shoots that may pop up (do these and see your faces everywhere !!) every occasion will be very different each and every time and it is up to you to make each of these events as special and amazing as you can!

Some of the jobs that you get asked to do as an Ambassador may even put you out of your comfort zone, for example when this year I had to take some International Students to Na Fianna football club for the Gaelic Games experience, it was worth every moment. I was able to get involved in the Gaelic Games also and I not only learned some vital football tricks but also that if you manage to trip over the ball and fall but look good doing it, then everything is fine. 😊 Other jobs as an Ambassador have left me in positions that I count myself lucky and cannot believe that I had been paid to be there, like the Alumni Achievement Awards evening where I met and took a picture with Jamie Heaslip (former captain of Irish Rugby). Also in my time as an Ambassador, I have met Stephen Cluxton (Dublin footballer), Marty Guilfoyle (Radio DJ), Nicky Byrne (Member of Westlife), Richard Bruton (Minister of Education) and also worked alongside Ross Munnely (Laois footballer) and Jonny Cooper (Dublin footballer) to name but a few.

One thing I have learned in my 3 years as a Student, is that we are held with such high regard among the DCU community and the work that we do is appreciated so much, no matter what department we are doing work for, they are very grateful for everything we do. It really is such an honour to be an Ambassador and is something that I am so proud of and will never EVER forget.

But for all those reasons and for so, so many more, I recommend and encourage everyone who feels that want to expand their college bubble and meet an delightfully rich and diverse group of different people in every shape and form, who will be there for you at any time you need them, even outside the working Ambassador hours, then please do apply to be a Student Ambassador with Team DCU and join the ever growing and ever loving Ambo Fambo!