



## DCU supplemental admissions route for students with a disability or specific learning difficulty

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Dublin City University operates clearly defined supplementary admissions procedure for applicants with disabilities/specific learning difficulties who believe that because of the impact of their disability they will not achieve the required competitive points for the course of their choice. This procedure has developed in recognition of the difficulties experienced by some students with disabilities in reaching their academic potential in second level education and also to address the under-representation of learners with disabilities in higher education in Ireland.

Several Higher Education Institutions, including Dublin City University, have operated supplementary admission procedures since 2005. In 2009 these routes were nationalised and relaunched as the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE).

DARE is a supplementary admissions scheme for school leavers who because of the impact of their disability may not meet the competitive CAO points for the programme of their choice.

DARE is the new name for the previous Supplementary Admissions Route for Applicants with a Disability which has been in existence since 2005.

## What criteria must DARE applicants satisfy to obtain a DCU place?

- Applicants must be deemed eligible for DARE ( see “how to apply”)
  - Applicants must achieve the University’s general entry requirements (Grade C3 in two higher level subjects and Grade D3 in four ordinary or higher level subjects including Maths and English or Irish)
  - Applicants must achieve any relevant specific programme requirements.
  - **Applicants must achieve a minimum of 300 points in addition to the University Minimum Entry Requirements**
  - Applicants must also meet any specific point’s threshold set by individual Faculties.
  - It should be noted that applicants cannot always be guaranteed entry at this level for programmes in high demand.
  - A number of programme places are available – up to, but not exceeding 5% of individual programme places – for DARE applicants. Where demand for places exceeds the number of places available, places are awarded on merit.
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### How to apply for DARE

School leavers who wish to be considered for DARE must apply via the Central Applications Office (CAO) **by 1 February**, indicating their wish to be considered for DARE. They must submit relevant evidence related to the disability or specific learning difficulty to the **CAO by 15<sup>th</sup> March**

### Offer of Places

Students applying through the Supplementary Admission Route are offered places on the same date as all other applicants through the CAO.

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