Applying for Immigration: Ireland

Immigration Requirements for Visiting US and Non-EU Students:
Immigration is permission to reside in a country. It is necessary for any non-Irish citizen, wishing to live in Ireland for more than 90 days to obtain an Immigration Card. US citizens are not required to have a student visa to enter Ireland.

Passport and Immigration Control:
► Attention: Visa regulations change constantly! Verify this information with the consulate, as the application process can change or may even vary by consulate.
At the port of entry into Ireland, all students must pass through immigration. To receive official permission to enter Ireland you will need the following documents:
• A valid US passport. Because you are an American citizen, you are not required to have a visa to enter Ireland. You must have a valid passport confirming your citizenship.
• Letter of acceptance showing your acceptance as a full-time student to a recognized university in Ireland, so carry your acceptance letter from your host university with you.

All non-EU nationals will have their passports computer swiped and date stamped by the Immigration Officer. All non-EU nationals who wish to stay longer than three months in Ireland must register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) or the District Headquarters in other Garda Districts and apply for permission to remain in Ireland.

Please treat Irish Immigration Officers with the respect. Behave in a polite and courteous manner at all times.

Immigration Registration
► Attention: Visa regulations change constantly! Verify this information with the Embassy of Ireland: http://www.embassyoofireland.org/home/index.aspx?id=38464
With the exception of EU students, all international students are required to register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau within one month of arrival in Ireland. Immigration registration takes place at an Garda Síochána (police barracks) in the district in which you reside in Ireland. You will be issued an Immigration Card (green card/residency permit). For this permit you will need:
• Valid Passport
• Student ID card from your host university.
• GNIB Form available from the International Office at your host university.
• Letter of acceptance from your host university, confirming that you have been accepted and enrolled as a full-time student.
• Proof of financial support in the form of a sponsorship letter from home government or home institution stating that ALL expenses are covered OR a bank statement from an Irish bank account showing that you have access to either €500/month or €3,000/year (UCC will assist students to open an Irish bank account at Orientation). Students attending Early Start & Fall Semester should have €2500 in their account. Students attending Fall/Spring Semester only should have €2000 in their account. Students attending for the Full Academic Year must have at least €3000 in their account. Students must print an ATM receipt on the day they go to register with Immigration showing they have the above amounts in their account on that date.
• **Evidence of private medical insurance.** Travel insurance will not be accepted. Students should bring a copy of their private health insurance policy which states that they are covered while in Ireland, including hospital care expenses.

• **Immigration Card Fee of €300** paid by credit card. This fee is subject to change. Please refer to the following website for updated fee rates: [http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/WP07000031](http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/WP07000031)

Please remember that you are a guest in Ireland and the issuing of your Immigration/Residency/Green Card is at the discretion of the Irish government.