

HEAR

Higher Education Access Route

School Presentation
2024

HEAR | HIGHER
EDUCATION
ACCESS
ROUTE

Would
YOU
like to
go to
college?

Where
would
YOU
like to go?

How do
I
get there?

How do
I
apply?

Have you
heard of
HEAR?

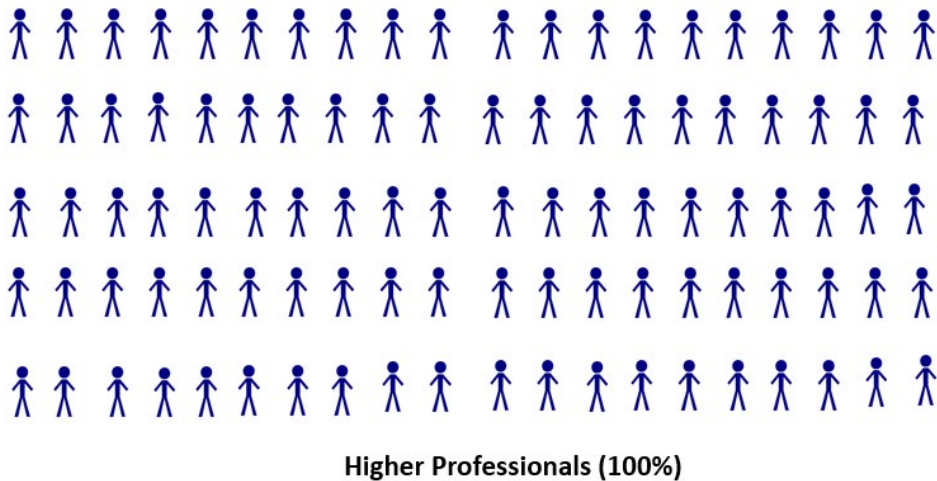
What is HEAR?

The **Higher Education Access Route** is an admissions route for school leavers who for **social, financial or cultural** reasons are **under-represented** in **third level education**.

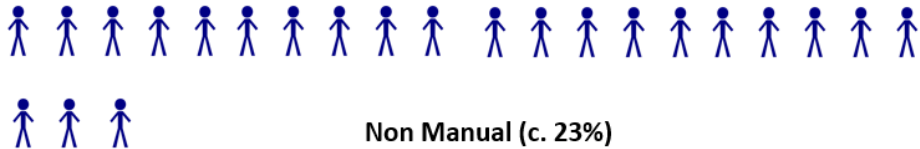
It was set up to ensure that all Leaving Certificate students have a fair and equal opportunity to progress to third level education.

Understanding Socio Economic Group (SEG)

In a typical Leaving Cert Class, the children of Higher Professionals are significantly more likely to go to college than other socio economic groups.



Higher Professionals (100%)



Non Manual Workers (c. 23%)

Understanding Area Profile



Dublin 6 (99%)



Dublin 17 (15%)

99% of Students in **Dublin 6**
go to College compared to
15% in **Dublin 17**

Where can I go to college?

- ATU, Donegal
- ATU, Sligo
- St. Angela's College, Sligo

TUS, Athlone

- ATU, Galway
- University of Galway

- SETU, Carlow and Wexford

- TUS, Limerick
- Mary Immaculate College
- University of Limerick

- MTU, Kerry Campus

- Maynooth University
- Pontifical University

- Dublin City University
- Dundalk Institute of Technology
- Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dún Laoghaire
- Marino Institute of Education
- National College of Ireland
- NCAD
- RCSI
- Trinity College, Dublin
- TU Dublin
- University College, Dublin

- SETU, Waterford

- MTU Cork Campus
- University College Cork

Where can I go to college?

www.accesscollege.ie/hear/participating-colleges/



There is
something for
YOU
in college.



Arts...
Science...
Business...
Engineering...
Health Sciences...
Medicine...
IT...

Clubs & Societies...

Athletics...Gaelic Football...

Mountaineering...Drama...

Film...Dance...

Volunteer...Make a difference.

Applying for a grant

HEAR is **NOT**
the SUSI grant.

If you apply to HEAR,
you should also apply to SUSI
if you think you may be eligible.

SUSI: Key Eligibility Criteria



- **Nationality:** Irish, EU, EEA, Swiss nationals or have specific leave to remain in the State.
- **Residency:** 3 of last 5 years in Ireland, EU, EEA or Switzerland.
- **Progression** in education – NFQ levels 5-10.
- **Approved College/Course**
- **'Reckonable' Income** (Class - Dependent/Independent)

www.susi.ie/undergraduate-income-threshold-and-grant-award-rates/

SUSI: Key Eligibility Criteria



- **Check the website:** www.susi.ie
(Use Eligibility Reckoner)
- **CAO form:** Tick the SUSI option to share your college acceptance
- **Apply early:** April 2024
- **Return requested documentation:** complete and on time

Contact SUSI

- **Website:** www.susi.ie
- **Email:** support@susi.ie
- **Facebook:** [facebook.com/susisupport](https://www.facebook.com/susisupport)
- **Twitter:** twitter.com/susihelpdesk
- **Telephone helpdesk:** 0818 888 777

Why apply to HEAR?

- **Reduced points CAO offers** in the participating colleges provided you meet the minimum entry requirements.
- **Post-entry supports** such as financial, academic, social and personal.

Benefits of HEAR

Reduced Points

- An example: If the Leaving Certificate points for a course are 366 points, an eligible HEAR applicant could be offered a place with a lower points score e.g. 356 points.
- Applicants need to **meet entry** and **programme requirements** to be **considered for a HEAR reduced points offer**.
- The amount of points a particular course is reduced by is dependent on:
 - The overall number of places on the course
 - The number of reserved HEAR places on the course
 - The number of HEAR eligible applicants competing for these reserved places.
- The reduction in points for HEAR places can vary every year.

Should I apply?

HEAR Indicators

1. Was your household income on or below €46,790 in 2022?
2. Do you or your family have a **Medical Card/GP Visit Card**?
3. Did your parents/guardians receive a **means-tested social welfare** payment for at least 26 weeks in 2022?
4. Is your parents' or guardians' **employment status under-represented** in Higher Education?
5. Have you attended a **DEIS** second level school for five years?
6. Do you live in an **area** of concentrated disadvantage?

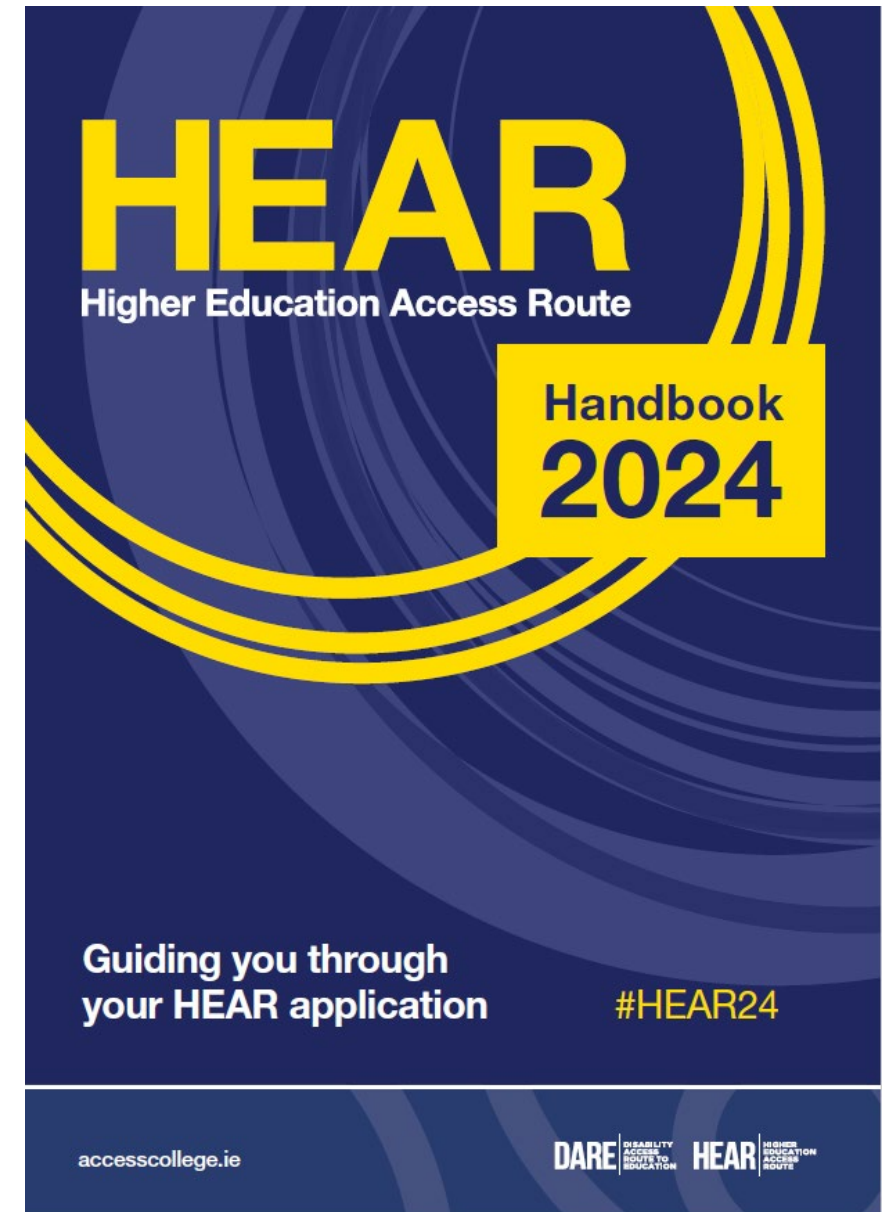


Talk to your
Parent/
Guardian.

You must meet the
HEAR income limit
plus
the **right combination**
of **2 other indicators to be eligible**

How do I apply?

1. Apply to CAO at www.cao.ie by **1 February 2024**.
2. Review your HEAR Handbook with your parents or guardians.
3. Complete all elements of the online HEAR application form by **17:00** on **1 March 2024**.
4. Submit clear copies of supporting documents requested on your checklist to CAO by **15 March 2024**.



How do I know what documents I need?

1. When you fill in your online HEAR application you will receive a **checklist** at the end. This is based on the information you provided.
2. The **checklist** tells you what **documents** you need to submit to fully complete your HEAR application.
3. You should start gathering your documentation in a timely fashion, i.e. **before 15 February.**
4. Send in **all** documents requested on the checklist to make a complete application before **15 March 2024.**

How do I know what documents I need?

- You can start your application as soon as the CAO opens on 6 November 2023.
- Do not leave it too late to start looking for the documents you need for your application –
 - **you should start gathering the documents you need before 15 February 2024**

Sample Supporting Documents

- **Statement of Liability** or **Self Assessment Letter – Chapter 4** for **2022**
- **Social Welfare Form/Statement** for **2022** Signed and Stamped by Social Welfare Official
- **RP50 Notification of Redundancy** or
- **Retirement Lump Sum Letter** for **2022**
- **Letter from TUSLA** for Children in Care

Helpful Tips

- Study the HEAR Handbook carefully with your parents/guardians.
- Complete the online application accurately.
- Accurate description of Parental Occupation.
 - Request the required supporting documentation early.
 - Send good quality copies of all pages of the correct documents.
 - Submit all supporting documents requested.
 - **Submit correct Revenue documents – eg Statement of Liability**
- Keep proof of postage.
- Deadlines!



Did you know?

The most common reason for ineligible applications to HEAR in 2023 was because the applicant submit the wrong Revenue document.

HEAR seeks financial documents for 2022

- Statement of Liability or Self Assessment
Letter or Notice of Assessment

DARE

**DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
EDUCATION**

What is DARE?

The **Disability Access Route to Education (DARE)** is a third level alternative admissions scheme for school-leavers whose disabilities have had a negative impact on their second level education.

DARE offers reduced points places to school leavers who as a result of having a disability have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.

Should I apply?

- If your disability has had a negative impact on your educational performance in school.
- You may not be able to meet the points for your preferred course due to the impact of your disability.
- You are under 23 years of age as at **1 January 2024**.

Disabilities eligible for consideration

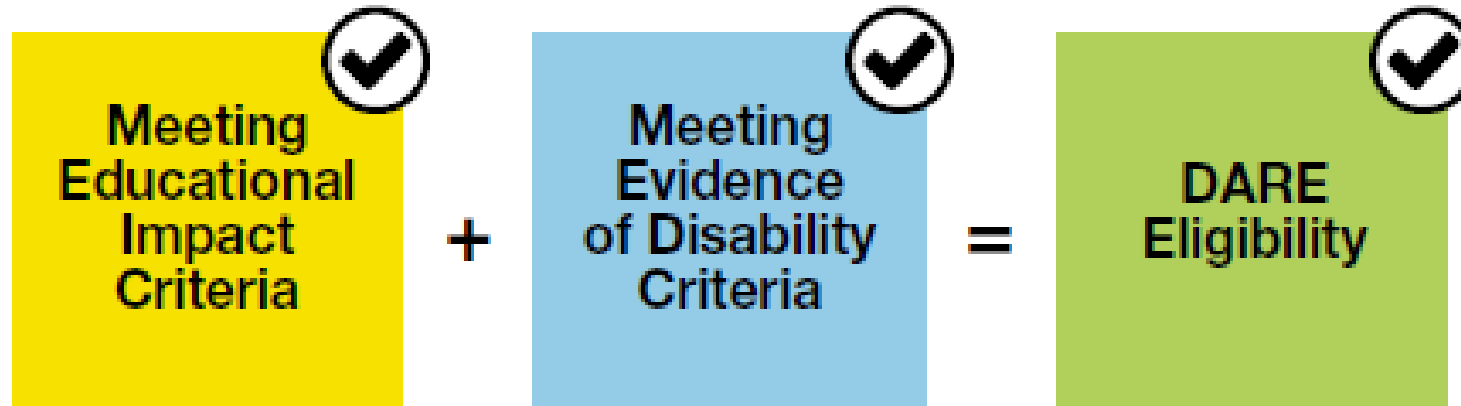
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger's Syndrome)
- ADD/ADHD
- Blind/Vision Impaired
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- DCD – Dyspraxia
- Dyslexia/Significant Literacy Difficulties
- Dyscalculia/Significant Numeracy Difficulties
- Mental Health Condition
- Neurological Condition (Incl. Brain Injury & Epilepsy)
- Speech & Language Communication Disorder
- Significant Ongoing Illness
- Physical Disability

Educational Impact

Has your disability impacted on a combination of the following?

1. Have you received **intervention or supports** in post-primary school?
2. Has it **impacted on your attendance** or regularly disrupted your school day?
3. Has it affected your **school experience and well-being**?
4. Has it impacted on **your learning or exam results**?
5. Has it caused any **other educational impact**?
6. Required for applicants with Dyslexia/ Significant Literacy Difficulties or Dyscalculia/
Significant Numeracy Difficulties: is it severely impacting on your **literacy or numeracy skills**?

DARE Eligibility Criteria



- To be eligible for DARE you must meet **both** the DARE **educational impact** criteria and **DARE evidence of disability criteria**.

Applicants must provide the required evidence of their disability and provide an Educational Impact Statement from their school to be considered for DARE.

How do I apply?



1. Apply to CAO at www.cao.ie by 17:00 on **1 February 2024**.
2. Review your DARE Handbook with your parents or guardians.
3. Complete Section A of the Supplementary Information Form(SIF) **online** and apply to DARE by answering **Yes** to **Question 1** by 17:00 on **1 March 2024**.
4. Submit the Educational Impact Statement and Evidence of Disability to CAO by **15 March 2024**.

DARE and HEAR Timelines

DARE & HEAR closing date	○	1 March 2024 at 17:00
Supporting documents closing date	○	15 March 2024
Notification of eligibility	○	Late June 2024
Review and Appeals Application	○	Early July 2024
HEAR/DARE offers	○	August 2024
College Orientation	○	Late Aug /Early Sept 2024

Remember



Submit it!



Check it!



Send it!

Remember

You can apply to both

DARE & HEAR

Applicants who are both DARE and HEAR eligible will be prioritised by colleges when allocating reduced points places.

Further Information: www.accesscollege.ie

ACCESS
COLLEGE

HEAR DARE

Find out how you can access Higher Education in Ireland



HEAR | HIGHER
EDUCATION
ACCESS
ROUTE

A higher education admissions scheme for Leaving Certificate students (under 23) whose economic or social background are underrepresented in higher education

[Find out more about HEAR](#)



DARE | DISABILITY
ACCESS
ROUTE TO
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A higher education admissions scheme for Leaving Certificate students (under 23) whose disabilities have had a negative impact on their second level education

[Find out more about DARE](#)

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Virtual Application Information Days

Saturday

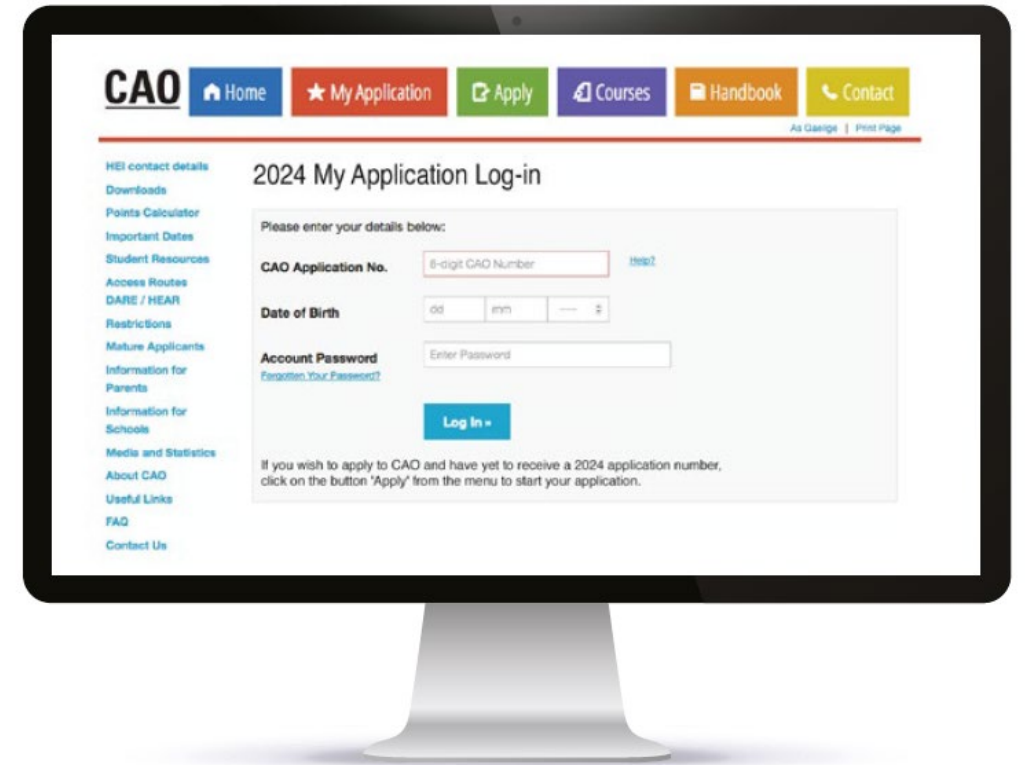
**13 January
2024**

10am -2pm

HEAR Application Outcome

You will receive an **email notification** about your HEAR application outcome once the Leaving Certificate examinations are over **in late June.**

Log into your CAO application to view your **HEAR Application Outcome.**



Further Information



cao.ie



susi.ie



qualifax.ie

Follow us on....

www.accesscollege.ie