



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
OF IRELAND GALWAY



Guide for International Students

www.nuigalway.ie/international





Welcome

to the National University
of Ireland, Galway!



We are delighted that you have chosen
NUI Galway as your choice of study.
Selecting a study destination is not
easy and there is a lot to consider.
Rest assured that you have made the
right decision, and we are here to
support you every step of the way.





This international student booklet will provide you with the information you might need as you plan your arrival, to Galway, when you arrive and settling in Galway city. It is designed not only to help you in your first few weeks in Galway but also to act as a point of reference throughout your time at University.



Be sure to **download** and refer to this booklet whenever you might need it!

Irish Culture

Before we get into the serious stuff, why not prepare yourself for settling into Irish culture.

NUI Galway is a bilingual university, so you'll notice Irish being spoken around campus. Connemara, which is Ireland's largest speaking Irish region is located in Galway!

Some key Irish phrases:

Dia Dhuit
"Dee-ya Gwit"
Hello

Dia is Muire dhuit
"Dee-ya iss mura gwit"
Hello (in response)

Go raibh maith agat
"Guh rev mah ogot"
Thank you

Slainte
"Slawn che"
Cheers

Slan "Slawn"
Good bye



Vocabulary you might hear often:

"Sound"
Thanks

"Grand"
Good/Fine

"What's the craic?"
Hello, how are you?

"Yoke"
That thing

"No bother"
That's ok

"Your man"
That man

"Go Away"
I don't believe you

"Goodluck"
Goodbye

"That's gas"
That's funny

"I'm after"
I'm looking for

"Sure look, You know yourself"
Filler sentence/
no meaning

"Your one"
That woman

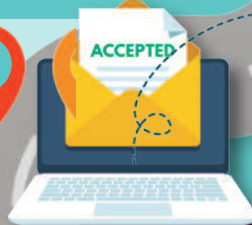


Timeline of Events



Receive your Offer

Accept your Offer



Apply for Visa & Health Insurance



Pay your Fees



Book Accommodation, engage with pre departure events



September: Orientation & Registration



August: Travel to Ireland, Open Bank Account



October: GNIB Registration



So you've accepted your offer and started your planning, here's what you need to know...

1.

Pre-arrival

Before you leave home



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1.1

Visa



SEE
HERE

To check if you
are from a visa
required country

Do you need a visa?

It's important to be aware if you are required to obtain a visa before planning your trip.

www.inis.gov.ie Or

www.nuigalway.ie/international-students



Applicants from VISA Required Countries
(except India) **will need to pay €6,000**
towards their Tuition Fees in order to
obtain VISA approval.



Applicants from India are required to
pay 50% of their tuition fees in order
to obtain VISA approval.



You will need health insurance before applying for a visa.

DID YOU KNOW? All students who don't hold a European Passport are required to have medical cover for the purposes of registration with immigration. Policies from your home country are acceptable but must include hospitalization

Study and Protect is a medical expenses policy available to students travelling to Ireland from overseas at an approved Irish education establishment.

Find out more



The Irish Health Authority provides extensive comparisons of health insurance providers.

Click here

Other Health Insurance Suppliers:



Voluntary Health Insurance Company



Laya Health Care



Aviva



Halligan Insurance



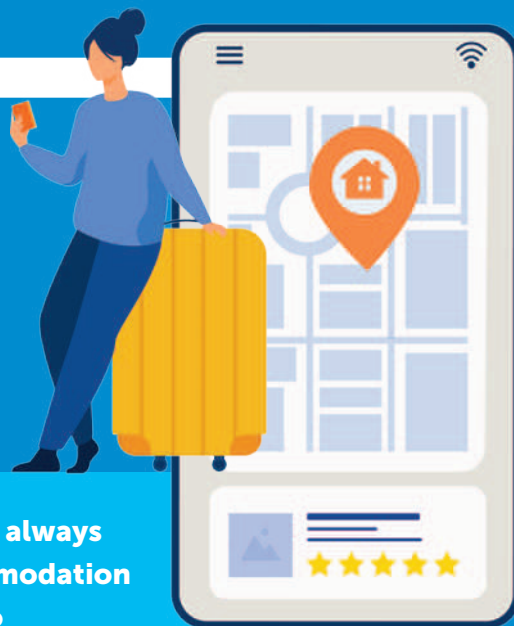
Irish Life Health

1.3

Accommodation



Upon paying your fees and confirming your place, your first step should be finding accommodation.



Securing accommodation in Galway is not always easy. However, there is a variety of accommodation types available and we suggest taking into consideration which type of housing is best suited to your individual needs. It is best to contact our accommodation office directly as they will have the most up to date information.

Options include:

University Student Residences (self- catering, off and on campus)

Private Rented Accommodation

Self-catering Accommodation with Owner or "Digs"



TOP TIPS

Many private landlords may request a reference. In this instance, we suggest showing a copy of your student registration to prove you're going to be here for the year/semester!



You can email the accommodation office directly at accommodation@nuigalway.ie or phone + 353 91 492364. or [Click here](#) to visit the accommodation office.

1.3

University Student Residences

The two housing residences on campus are **Corrib Village** and **Goldcrest Village**, both which are university owned.



Goldcrest Village, is comprised of 429 en suite bedrooms across 76 non-smoking apartments.

and

Corrib Village, is a gated complex which consists of 176 non-smoking apartments and accommodates 764 students.



TOP TIPS

Corrib is typically for undergraduate students, you'll find more postgraduate students in Goldcrest!

We suggest renting bikes, it makes it easier to get around! Always wear your helmet.



1.3

University Student Residences

These are
privately
owned and
managed!

There are also 8 off campus residences.

Click below on each to visit



Dunuras

- 27 minute walk to campus (shuttle bus available to all students)
- 35 minute walk to city centre
- 15 minute walk to Aldi



Atlantis Apartments

- 10/15 minute walk to campus
- 15 minute walk to city centre
- 3 minute walk to Aldi

Gort na Coirbe

- 20 minute walk to campus
- 19 minute walk to city centre
- 9 minute walk to Aldi

Swuite

- 25/27 minute walk to campus
- 15 minute walk to city centre
- 13 minute walk to Aldi

The Student Village at Menlo Park Apartments.

- 28 minute walk to campus
- 23 minute to city centre
- 16 minute walk to Aldi

The West Wood

- 9 minute walk to campus
- 34 minute to city centre
- 21 minute walk to Aldi

Donegan Court

- 12 minute walk to campus
- 10 minute walk to city centre
- 17 minute walk to Aldi

Galway Centre

- 15 minute walk to campus
- 2 minute walk to City Centre
- 12 minute walk to Aldi

Contact the accommodation office

www.nuigalway.ie/student-life/accommodation



1.3

Private Housing

Private housing is usually cheaper, but there are more risks involved and they might not come fully furnished. Check this!

Rent is typically paid monthly and in advance. At the start of a letting period it is standard to pay one months rent, which is refunded provided you don't break any of the terms in the lease. The standard lease term is normally 9-12 months.



TOP TIPS

We strongly suggest checking out the NUI Galway Student Pad Page.

It is a portal that connects students and landlords.

See here



Private housing can be found via the following websites:

www.daft.ie

www.let.ie

www.myhome.ie

findahome.ie



Students also find their accommodation through Facebook Groups such as:

Galway House Hunting for Sound People

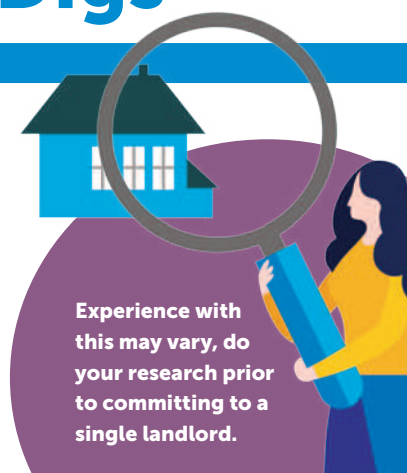
Remember that **"sound"** is slang for **"nice"** or friendly people. This page is for working professionals and students too.



1.3

Self-catering accommodation with owner or "Digs"

Students might post their requirements on the Galway House Hunting for Sound People Facebook Page and landlords reach out directly.



Experience with this may vary, do your research prior to committing to a single landlord.

TOP TIPS IN LOOKING FOR A HOUSE

- 1 Do not go to house viewings alone, always bring a friend.
- 5 If you have any connections in Galway ask them for recommendations.



- 2 Do not book long term accommodation in the private sector without viewing it, meeting with the landlord and receiving the keys.



- 3 Be very mindful of posts of Facebook; there are subtle signs of fraud posts.



- 4 Check the location of the apartment, is it near campus?

Grocery stores?

Is there a bus stop nearby?

How long will you have to travel to get to campus?

What will be the cost of travel?

Investigate amenities in the area.



- 6 Don't rush into making a decision if it doesn't feel right. If it feels too good to be true, it probably is.

- 7 **IMPORTANT; Be Aware of Scams!** Across Ireland every year there are scams reported. International students have unique challenges and are likely to face fraudulent behaviour. Please refer to the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission advice on how to spot scammers.

[View here](#)

Check out Threshold www.threshold.ie, a registered charity who provide advice to students and can inform you on your tenant rights. See their guide to renting for students.

[See here](#)



Common areas for students to live

- Westside
- Ragoon
- Shantella
- Knocknacarra
- Salthill
- Renmore
- Salthill
- City Centre
- New Castle
- Greenfields
- Laurel Park, New Castle
- Foster Court, City Centre
- Bohermore, City
- Castle Lawn Heights, Headford Road

1.3

Hostels

Many students stay in hostels when they arrive in Galway. This way, you can attend accommodation viewings and make the right decision.

There are 14/15 student friendly hostels located in Galway City. Prices of hostels will vary. However, at that time of the year you might expect to pay between €40-€120 per night. A lot of hostels will cater for different needs, so we suggest doing your research prior to booking.



Some websites to help your hostel research:



www.thebrokebackpacker.com

www.hostelz.com

www.budgetyourtrip.com

www.hostelworld.com

www.theirishroadtrip.com



Important to know: Please check the health requirements for checking into the hostel.



1.4

Opening a Bank Account

Your next step should involve opening a bank account as you will need this when registering with GNIB. There are two banks located on campus, the Bank of Ireland and AIB Bank.



When opening a bank account, you will need the following documents:

1



Passport

2



Registration Statement with your Galway address. You will be able to print this off from your student account once you register.



There may be additional documentation required, but the bank will discuss this with you in person.



1.5

Registration with Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB)

All Non-EU/EEA nationals who have entered the country and who plan on residing in Ireland for more than 3 months must register with their local registration office.



When you enter the country your passport will be stamped stating exactly how many days you have to register with GNIB.



Documents Required for Immigration Registration:

- **Passport.**
- **Current NUI Galway student identity card.**
- **NUI Galway registration statement with current Galway address.**
- **Proof of access to sufficient funds to support yourself for the duration of your studies only applicable to students who do not require a visa to enter Ireland.**
- **Proof of Medical Insurance.**



New students, don't worry the International Office will book your appointment with GNIB typically in the last two weeks of October. The International Office will be in touch with you directly about this on your NUI Galway email address.



It's important to check your NUI Galway email for this, you don't want to miss this email.

An immigration ID card known as the Irish



Residents Permit (IRP) is issued to all Non-Eu/EEA students who register with Garda National Immigration Bureau. This card is valid for one year or for visiting students, until the end of their course.



Original documents are preferable but will accept photocopies.

1.6

Cost of Living

This is just a guide, the cost of living will vary depending on the individual and their needs.



..... Monthly

-  Accommodation:€500 - €750
-  Food: €290
-  Electricity and Oil: €90
-  Books and Study Materials: €60
-  Clothes and Laundry: €60
-  Recreation:€130
-  Other:€130

..... Everyday Items

- Litre of Milk: €1.26
- Can of Coke: €1.44
- Cappuccino:.....€3.46
- Loaf of fresh bread: €1.24
- Rice: €1.50
- 12 Eggs: €2.92
- Chicken Fillets : €9.21
- Fruit and Veg: €0.90- €2.52
- Lunch from Campus:.....€8
- Meal in an expensive restaurant: €55
- Meal in an inexpensive restaurant: ... €15
- City bus ticket: €2.60

Source www.numbeo.com





Proof of funding requirements for Non- EU/EEA students at first registration;

- Non-EU/EEA Students from a visa required country = If you have already provided proof of funding at the Irish Embassy there's no need to provide proof again.
- Non-EU/EEA not from a visa required country = €3,000 if you're staying for longer than 3 months or €500 or a total of €3,000 if you're staying for 6 months or less.
- All Non-EU/EEA returning students = returning students are not generally required to show proof of funding, unless requested by GNIB.



What constitutes an acceptable proof of finances?

An original bank statement showing the students name and bank balance.
No older than a month.

NEED TO KNOW:

All Non-EU students must inform GNIB of any changes in their registration details. For example, change of address, change or withdrawal from a course within 7 days!

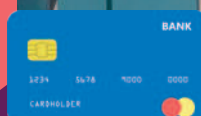


The GNIB office is located at:

Garda National Immigration Bureau (Galway)
Western Regional Headquarters
Dublin Road
Renmore
Galway
H91 F62K
Tel: +353 (0)91 337140



Those who don't register might be prosecuted, so it's important you're aware of this.



Registration costs €300 which is payable by Credit/Debit card ONLY.

GARDA

Pack for the Irish Weather

Four Seasons in One Day

Ireland has a temperate climate, but our weather likes to keep you guessing. Behind the dark clouds are often bright blue skies, behind the sun is a mist of cold and a looming shower of snow. To get an idea of the weather and help your planning, check out Met Éireann www.met.ie or RTE News www.rte.ie

It is best to categorize your packing into light, heavy and rain gear. That way, you're prepared for every season!



Layers

LAYERS!



TOP TIPS

Don't be surprised when you find that all of the Irish love to talk about the weather. It's probably our favourite conversation starter! The weather has not only played a huge role in shaping our landscape, but also our culture!



You might find the weather a lot more dramatic than your home country. It can sometimes be quite windy here in Galway.

Remember Galway is small and compact, so you will be doing a lot of walking!



Check list!

- Durable Tennis shoes
- Water-proof boots
- Lightweight jacket with a hood
- Raincoat with a warm lining ski jacket
- Easily layered clothing:
 - Shorts and long-sleeved tops
 - Leggings and long pants
 - Button down shirts
 - Sweaters and cardigans
 - Socks, scarves and gloves
 - Tank tops
- Activewear
- Pyjamas
- Underwear and socks
- Swimsuit
- Adapters



Swimming is a popular activity in Galway, even in the winter! Check here swimireland.ie for sea safety tips.



There are lots of retail clothing stores such as

DUNNES
STORES

Dunnes
dunnesstores.com or

PENNEYS

Primark primark.com

where you can buy affordable clothes, so there is no need to overpack!



Three pin plugs are used in Ireland so you may require a three-pin plug adaptor, which can be bought at any electrical shop e.g. Currys Electrical currys.co.uk Galway Retail Park, Headford Road, or Argos argos.ie on the Headford Rd.



Currys  PCWorld

Argos

An illustration of a person with dark hair in a bun, wearing an orange shirt and blue pants, standing next to a large orange suitcase. To the right is a stylized blue and white illustration of a church with a tall spire. A red location pin is placed on the church. Dashed orange lines form a path from the person, around the church, and up towards an airplane in the top right corner. The background is a solid orange color with a white vertical line on the left.

2.

Arrival

When you
get here

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2.1

Arriving into Ireland



Arriving in Dublin or Shannon Airport

Now that you've made the journey over, you're probably wondering what arriving at the airport will look like. Arriving to a new country beginning a new chapter in your life is both exciting and nerve wrecking and there's so much to consider. In this section, we'll discuss what you might be faced with upon arrival into Ireland as an international student.

There are two main airports in Ireland, Dublin Airport and Shannon Airport.

✈ ARRIVALS ✈

DUBLIN

Dublin Airport receives around 32 million passengers a year, making it the 12th largest airport in Europe, offering flights to more than 222 destinations in 44 countries.

If possible, try to organise flights into Dublin Airport as the flights and onward travel to Galway are generally cheaper and more frequent.

2.2

What to Expect on Arrival into Ireland



At the port of entry, immigration officers will want to ensure you meet the entry requirements as an international student.

Despite being already granted your visa, you need the following documents in your hand luggage

- Photocopies of your passport.
- Plane tickets.
- Two copies of your offer and acceptance letters.
- Copy of medical insurance policy.



The key to having a smooth transition into Ireland is having all of your paperwork in order.



The Irish Government covid travel guidelines may vary at the time of your departure. Please ensure you are up to date on required documents at the time of travel.

www.inis.gov.ie



2.2



Dublin Airport direct to Galway by bus

Getting to Galway from Dublin Airport is relatively easy. Buses depart from Dublin Airport to Galway every hour. The journey is approximately 3 hours long and costs usually €13 - €25. The main service providers are



City Link Bus - citylink.ie,



Go Bus - gobus.ie and



Bus Éireann - buseireann.ie

All buses depart from Terminal One outside of Dublin Airport.

Dublin Airport to Dublin City by bus



In case you are interested in visiting Dublin before Galway, you can take a Airlink bus, which departs directly from Terminal One Airport every 10 -15 minutes. See here for information on Dublin buses - dublinbus.ie

Dublin City to Galway by train



There is a train service that departs from Heuston Train Station located in Dublin City. Prices range from €17 - €25. The journey takes 2hr and 25 minutes. See here for more information - irishrail.ie

Arriving in Galway

Upon arriving to Galway, we suggest taking a taxi to your accommodation. You will be able to order a taxi from the bus station.

Many taxi companies will charge a call out charge if it is ordered.



TOP TIPS

FREE NOW

We suggest downloading Free Now - free-now.com in Galway for taxis. It is a similar service to Uber. Also download TFI Driver Check App - transportforireland.ie

This app lets you verify that the driver of the vehicle you have ordered is fully registered. Additionally, you can forward the details of the journey to a friend.



If you are staying in a hostel, most of the hostels are located throughout the City Centre and are walking distance from the station. You can expect to pay €10 - €30 for a taxi to the surrounding suburbs.

Some other popular taxi companies are:

Big O taxi (+353 91 585 858)

Pro Cabs (+353 91 535 353)

Claddagh Hackneys (+353 91 588 434)

Galway Taxis (+353 91 561 111)

3.

Living & Settling in Ireland



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3.1

Registration

You will need to register as a student once you arrive in Galway. Information on student registration dates, instructions and venues can be found on the NUI Galway website at

You can register manually or online!



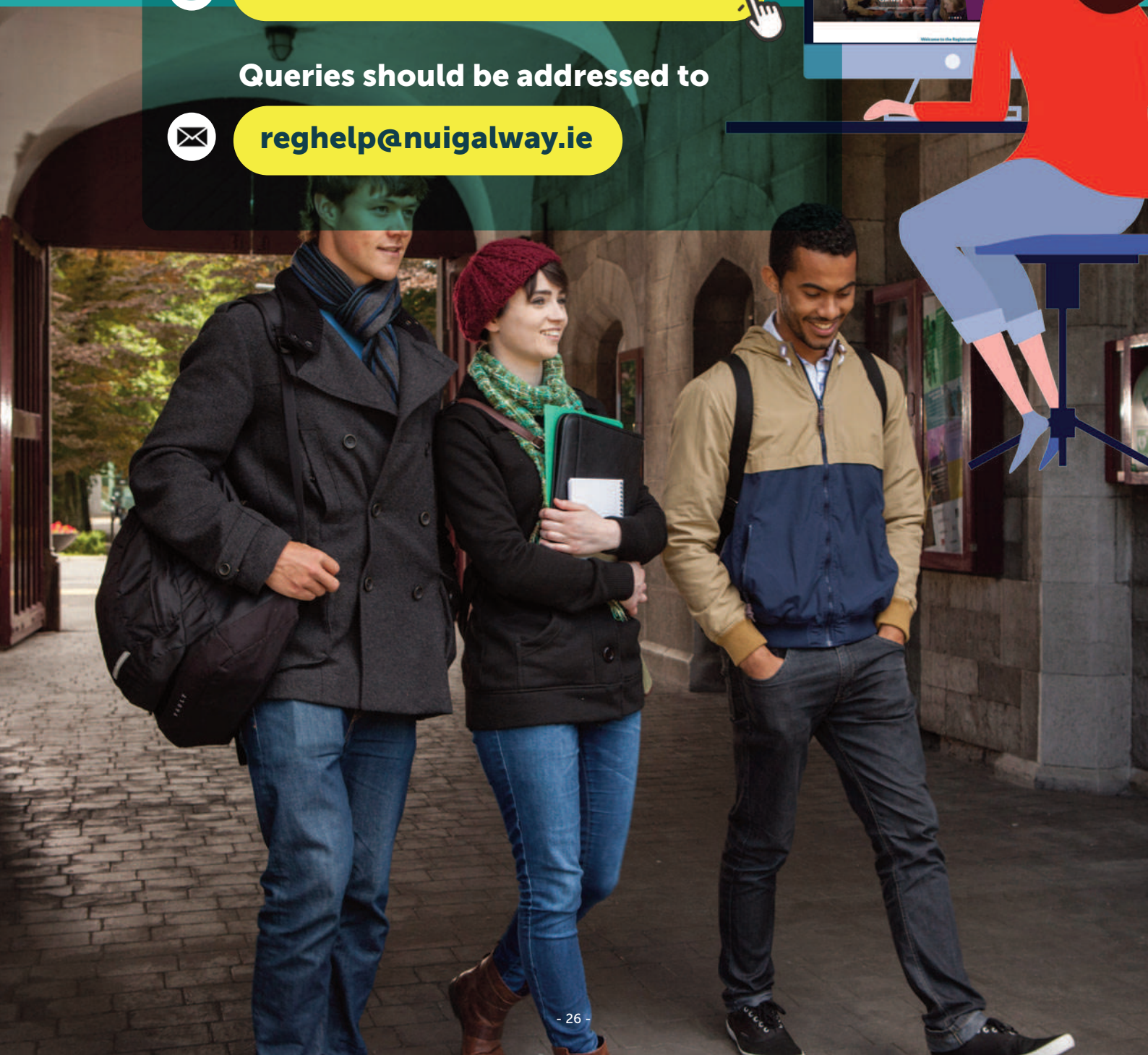
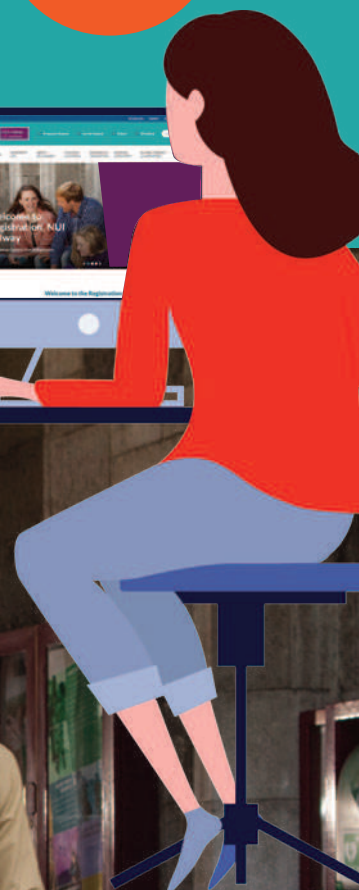
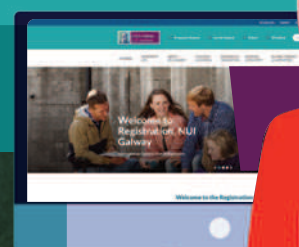
www.nuigalway.ie/registration



Queries should be addressed to



reghelp@nuigalway.ie



3.2

Shopping in Galway

Affordable Food Shopping

The 5 main grocery stores in Galway are Aldi, Lidl, Dunnes, Tesco and SuperValu. Here you will find the basic groceries you might need. These supermarkets are located across the city centre but also in most suburbs.



Aldi

- Western Distributor Rd, Knocknacarra, Galway, H91 K8W8, Ireland
- West City Centre, Park Old Seamus Quirke Rd, Galway, H91 TK5R, Ireland
- Galway Retail Park, Galway, H91 R704, Ireland



Dunnes

- Eyre Square, Galway, H91 PPY1, Ireland
- Terryland Shopping Centre, Headford Rd, Galway, H91 WYF9, Ireland
- Gateway Retail Park, Bóthar Stiofáin, Knocknacarra, Galway, H91 A00V, Ireland
- 14 Westside Shopping Centre, Seamus Quirke Rd, Galway, H91 C791, Ireland



Lidl

- Headford Rd, Galway, Ireland
- Doughiska Rd, Galway, Ireland
- Unit 5 & 6, Wellpark Retail Park, Wellpark Rd, Gaillimh, Ireland



Tesco

- Tesco Super Store, Galway Shopping Centre, Headford Rd, Galway, Ireland
- Tesco Express, 21 University Rd, Galway, H91 DX52, Ireland
- Tesco Express, Tornóg, Ballinfoile, Galway, Ireland



SuperValu

- 7, 9 Forster St, Galway, H91 TX67, Ireland

Most supermarkets have their own brand products which are cheaper and complement a student budget.



3.2



Most stores offer ethnic ranges, however we suggest checking out the below for small ethnic food stores:

- **Eurasian Foods**, 3 Market St
- **Jasmine Asian Grocery**, 8 Mary St
- **Aroma Foods (Asian) (Halal)**, Unit 8, West City Centre, Old Seamus Quirke Rd
- **Kalinka (Russian)**, U6 Cathedral Buildings Lower Abbeygate St
- **Ivory Market**, 29 Forster St
- **Terryland Asian Foodmarket (Halal)**, 6a, Terryland Retail Park, Headford Rd
- **Mafrego African Store**, Unit 4 Kilkenny pk Lisbon Ind est Tuam Rd
- **Super Ketones Ltd (African)**, 76 Prospect Hill
- **Asiatic Manila (Asian)**, 50 Abbeygate Street Upper
- **Polonez Foodland (Polish)** Liosbaun Ind Est, Tuam Rd



A must see is The Galway Food Market, opened on Saturdays and Bank Holidays 8.00 am to 6.00 pm and Sundays 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

The market is located on Church Lane by St Nicholas' Church. The market is filled with stalls selling fresh and local produce.

You'll find a wide variety of cuisines such as Madras curry, crepes, Japanese Sushi, vegetarian Indian food, doughnuts and handmade chocolate, to name a few.



You will find small corner shops regularly. These normally have longer opening hours but are more expensive.



3.2



Clothes and Utilities Shopping

For affordable clothing, rain clothes and general household items we suggest checking out **Dunnes** or **Primark**. In both of these, you will find almost everything you might need during your stay.

There are two Penney's located in Galway at:

Galway Shopping Centre,
Headford Rd
Or
36 Eyre Square Shopping
Centre



OUTDOOR GEAR

Regatta Great Outdoors - www.regatta.com
Eyre Square Shopping Centre

Booleys, - booley.ie
Eglinton St,

River Deep Mountain High - rdmh.ie
6 Middle St

Portwest Ireland - The Outdoor Shop -
theoutdoorshop.ie
20 High St

Trespass - www.trespass.com
30 Eglinton St

Sports clothing
Life Style Sports - lifestylesports.com
Galway Retail Park, 5 Headford Rd
Or
2 - 3 Shop St

Intersport Elverys - elverys.ie
Galway Retail Park, Headford Rd
Or
Eyre Square Centre

JD Sports,
Eyre Square Centre - sportsdirect.com
Eyre Square, Corrib Shopping centre, Galway

DISCOUNT STORES

Dealz - dealz.ie
Galway Shopping Centre
Or
Hibernian House, Eyre Square

Euro General - eurogeneral.ie
Eglinton St

Mr Price - mrprice.ie
Terryland

DISCOUNT



SECOND-HAND SHOPS

As Good As New Second Hand Shop,
Liosban Industrial Estate

Galway Simon Furniture & Fashion Shop
- galwaysimon.ie
Unit 11/13 Mulvoy Commerical Centre

St. Vincent De Pauls Curiosity Shop - svp.ie
17 Merchants Rd

NO.8 - no8.ie
The Cornstore, 8A, Cross St



TOP TIPS



Always ask if there are **student discounts** available. An International Student Identity Card (ISIC) offers 150,000 student discounts and can be used worldwide.

isic.org



3.3

Setting up a Mobile Phone

Ireland has 9 mobile phone providers. Sim Only plans are generally the cheapest options for students.

The main service providers are:

Vodafone - vodafone.ie

Three Ireland - three.ie

Tesco Mobile - tescomobile.ie

Eir Mobile - eir.ie

GoMO - omo.ie

48 - 48.ie

Clear Mobile - clearmobile.ie

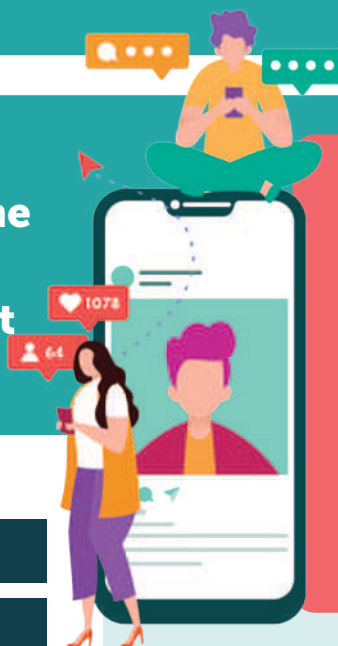
Lyca Mobile - lycamobile.es

Virgin Mobile - virginmedia.ie

CHECK OUT

bqnk^{ers}.ie

for a cost
comparison of
providers.



Sim Only is a contract that includes an allocation of minutes, texts and data which vary depending on the plan you choose. The difference between a sim only contract is that you receive the sim and no mobile phone.



If you want to use your phone from home, it will need to be unlocked to ensure its compatible with an international sim card.



To check if your phone is already unlocked simply insert another sim card and see if the network works on your phone.

To get your phone unlocked you can either:

- Bring your phone to a phone shop that will charge a service fee.
- Simply contact your network and ask them to unlock it.



Depending on the plan you will go with, you might need to buy a new phone. There are plenty of shops around Galway city where you can purchase one.

Vodafone Store, Eyre Square

Three Phone Store, Shop St

Fonez, Corbett Court Shopping Centre

CeX, Williamsgate St

Tesco Mobile, Galway Shopping Centre

Eir, William St

3.4

Setting up a Leap Card in Galway

A Student Leap Card offers discounts to students of up to 32% on Bus Éireann, City Link Galway, Irish Rail, Luas and Dublin Bus.

You can either apply online through here

studentleapcard.ie

or simply visit our Students' Union on campus with photo ID, student card or letter and payment of €10.

su.nuigalway.ie



You can also get exclusive discounts in selected stores nationwide with the card.



3.5

Transport in Galway



You will do a lot of walking around Galway, most students opt for a bike to get around.

BIKE SHOP

- **Europa Bicycles**, Unit 1, Bridgewater Court, Fairhill Rd Lower, The Claddagh, Galway - westirelandcycling.com Bicycles can be hired or purchased second-hand. Europa will also buy back the bicycle when you have finished with it.
- **Kearney's Bicycle Sales & Hire**, Terryland Retail Pk, Galway - kearneycycles.com
- Richard Walsh's Cycles Galway, Headford Rd, Woodquay,
- **Westside Cycles**, Unit 4, West Side Business Centre, West Side, Galway. westsidecyclesgalway.com provide a student bike hire service.
- **Halfords**, Unit 6, Galway Retail Park
- Keep an eye for advertisements in the Galway Advertiser - advertiser.ie/galway

Coca-Cola zero  **bike**

Alternatively, you can rent a bike from the Coca-Cola Zero bike stations. There are 22 stations with 195 bikes around Galway City. See here bikeshare.ie/cities for more information.



BUS



There are two main bus services around Galway



City, Bus Éireann
buseireann.ie

and



City Direct
citydirectgalway.myshopify.com

Both companies offer multiple bus routes. Check out - transportforireland.ie for a full map of bus routes and stops.

3.6

Student Friendly Restaurants

BREAKFAST

University Restaurant “**Bialann**” located on campus. You can get an Irish breakfast here from €2.50 – €5.

Revive: Busy little café located in Eyre Square. Delicious and affordable breakfast/lunch options.

Offers a 10% student discount.

Mr Waffle: Located directly across from campus which is perfect if you're looking for hearty pancakes and waffles.



LUNCH

Matt's Sandwiches: Located on Newcastle Rd, a 2-minute walk from campus. One of the best sandwich spots in Galway, it is a must visit.

Wards Corner Shop: Located on University Rd, do the most amazing gourmet sandwiches.

Boojum: Famous Mexican fast food located in Spanish Arch. Student meal deal, €6.95 for standard burrito or bowl and €1 additional for a drink, in store only.

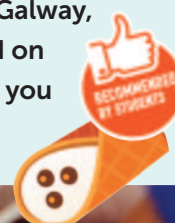
Vochos: Mexican restaurant located in Eyre Square. Student deal available, standard burrito/bowl or meal €7.50 for burrito and a drink.

Gourmet Tart: Perfect for a quick bite to eat, affordable sandwiches and coffee.

TGO Falafel Bar: Middle Eastern vegan and vegetarian spot. Located near campus and perfect for a quick healthy bite to eat.

McCambridges: Located on shop street. Gourmet sandwiches and great place to sit outside and watch the bustling city go by.

Java's Café: French restaurant which offer some of the best crepes in Galway, both sweet and savoury. Located on Abbeygate St, offers a 10% when you order online and collect food.



3.6



DINNER

High Café: This place serves delicious Mediterranean and Moroccan dishes. You can get a hearty meal here for €10 - €15 and it's BYOB. Offers an attractive student discount of 15%.

Dough Bros: This is a Galway favourite amongst locals and tourists. There is a student special of a 12" Pizza + 2 Toppings + Soft Drink all for €11.

The Chilli Shack: Here you can get delicious burgers, wings or chilli bowls. They also have good vegan and vegetarian options and student deals.

The Cellular: If you're looking for affordable pub grub this is your spot. They offer generous portion sizes.

Handsome Burger: Famous burger place, voted Best Burger in Ireland for National Burger Day 2019. Meals from €8 - €15.

Botown Burgers: Affordable burger and chips. Generous portion sizes.

Pizza Napoli: A must visit pizza place. The pizzas are sold per slice allowing you to eat as much or as little as you like.

**McDonaghs Seafood House:**

If you're looking for a fresh fish and chips.

Pasta Factory: For when you're craving fresh pasta. Dishes range from €5 - €9. There are vegan and vegetarian options.

Seven Bar: Traditional bar food with large portions from €3 - €17.

Scotty's Famous Burgers & Wings:

American Style diner that offers huge portion sizes. Located in Cúirt na Coiribe.

Fibber Magees: Popular student bar with ongoing deals during the week.

Busker Brownes: Traditional bar food, check in restaurant for student discount.

O'Reilly's Bar and Rooftop in Salthill:

Best spot in Salthill for views of the sea and Cliffs of Moher. Offers a student discount of 10% on all food and drink.

**Pomegranate Turkish open buffet restaurants:**

Turkish Buffet located on Eglington St in City Centre. Offers Halal food and Mediterranean pizza. Meals starting at €9.50.



3.6

ASIAN

Papa Rich: Budget friendly spot with a few locations around Galway. Price ranges from €9 – €11 for a dish.

Lana Street Food: Most main dishes here are under €10 with large portions.

Xi'an Street Food Galway:

Located on Quay St, you can walk straight in and get a tasty fresh meal for under €10



INDIAN

Curry and Spice: Authentic Indian with prices ranging from €4 -15. Located at Laurel Park, New Castle.

Kumar's Taste of Asia: Large portion sizes with reasonable prices. One of the most popular Indian restaurants in Galway. Located at Flood St.

Kashmir Restaurant: Galway's oldest Indian restaurant. Located at Kilderry House, 10 Fairhill Rd Lower (opposite Galway Fire Station), meals range from €18 - €25.

Spiced Barna Asian Fusion: Located outside of the city in Barna. Prices range from €15 - €20 for meal.

Tulsi: Located at Buttermilk Lane, prices range for takeaway from €8 - €15.



Always remember to bring your student discount along with you, most places will insist on seeing it!



STUDENT FRIENDLY CAFES

Mocha Beans

Renzo

Jungle Café Galway

The Secret Garden

Temple Café

Little Lane Coffee Company



Food Delivery Options

There are 3 main food delivery services in Galway. All are relatively similar and often provide meal deals and discounts.



WhatsforDinner.ie



eat.ie



deliveroo.ie



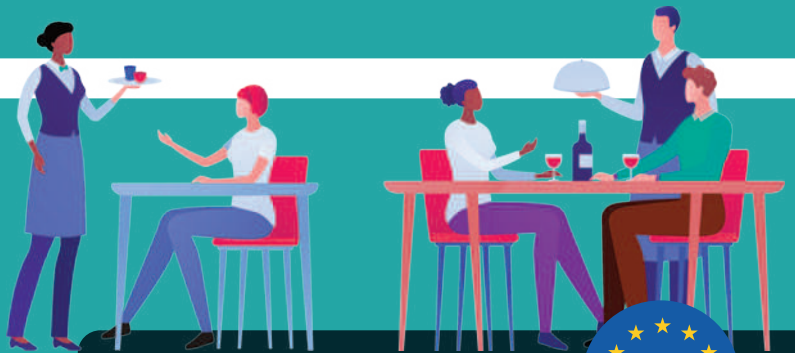
For more information on dining on a student budget in Galway, check out

thisisgalway.ie



3.7

Finding a Job



The best way to find part time jobs is to go around with your curriculum vitae (CV) to shops, cafes, restaurants, pubs.

You can also look at our local newspaper and if you go to the Advertiser Classified pages, in the 'situations vacant' is where casual jobs are advertised.

You can download the e-paper.
There is also a job search section on the website.
www.advertiser.ie

EU/EEA students do not require a work permit to work in Ireland.



Non/Eu students must be enrolled in a full- time course of one year to seek casual employment. Casual employment allows you to work up to 20 hours per week during the term and 40 hours during holiday periods.

One semester students (Non-EU) are not entitled to seek employment.

Some other sites where students find jobs:

jobs.ie

ie.indeed.com

www.irishjobs.ie

www.jobalert.ie




Educate yourself on your employment rights, see here

[See here](#) 



For casual employment in Ireland, employers prefer shorter CVs.

The Career Development Centre on campus have extensive resources on how to build your CV and prepare for interviews.

[See here](#) 



3.8

PPS Number & Tax in Ireland

To work in Ireland, you will need a **Personal Public Number Service Number (PPSN)**.

You are required to obtain a PPSN for tax purposes and any formal interaction with state agencies.

PPS Numbers will only be granted for the following reasons:

- **Stipend Payments.**
- **Starting a job** (hard copy of job offer mandatory before PPS will be issued).

You can apply online through the Department of Social Protection website: services.mywelfare.ie

To apply, you will need the following:

- A copy of your photo identity document (passport, driving licence, ID card etc). If you do not have valid documents, you should provide whatever ID documents that you do have.
- Evidence of why you need a PPS number.
- Student registration with Galway address.



We have created some videos to help you understand and determine your Irish tax position. These videos include practical steps to get your Irish tax affairs in order.

[Check them out here](#)

TAX

The tax system in a new country can be a little bit confusing. If you do not register with the revenue in Ireland, you will pay high amounts of emergency tax.

You will need to register with the Revenue Office and apply for a Tax Certificate.

How to apply for a Tax Certificate?

- You can apply online or in person by completing a 12A form. You can download that form here: www.revenue.ie
- You will need your employer's PAYE Registration number, which your employer will be able to provide.
- In the section titled "Details of Residency" state that you are here as a student on a temporary basis.



3.9

Volunteering in Galway



Volunteering as a student lends itself to many benefits. It provides an opportunity to meet others from diverse backgrounds, develop your professional and personal skills, contribute to positive change and gain some real-life experiences.



Luckily, NUI Galway has its very own **ALIVE** (A Learning Initiative and the Volunteering Experience) programme.

As an NUI Galway student, you have a huge amount of opportunities to volunteer for amazing causes, those such as:

- Children and youth
- Environmental and animals
- Health and well-being
- Art and culture
- Sport and education
- Disability and elderly
- Social Justice.



Contact details for volunteering:

Email: alive@nuigalway.ie

Phone: **+353 91 495346**, Ext 5346

Or visit: www.studentvolunteer.ie

Documents you will need to volunteer:

- Background Police Record.
- Reference from past experience in work, volunteering or education.



3.10

Students' Union



Comhaltas na Mac Léinn
OÉ Gaillimh
NUI Galway
Students' Union

The NUI Galway Students' Union (SU) is the representative body of all students.

Once registered you are automatically a member of the Students' Union.

You have access to advice and representation from the Students' Union officers. See here su.nuigalway.ie for a full list of officers.



Some of the other services offered by the Students' Union include:

Bookstore

SU card

Student Enterprise Award

Skills Register

Smokey's Café

SU on campus lockers

CÉIM

SU cloakroom

SU on campus shop

Travel; Student Leap Card

SULT; College Bar



3.11

Clubs & Societies

No matter your interests, with over 115 clubs and societies on campus you will be sure to find the right fit for you. Joining a club and society is great way to meet others and immerse yourself in university.

The clubs and societies organise 3,000 fun and engaging events for their members, see here socs.nuigalway.ie to find the right club for you.

The International Student Society aims to welcome, integrate, and help students adapt to their new adventure in Ireland. Membership is made up by hundreds of international students as well as domestic students in all levels of education. The society aims to immerse international students into the Irish culture through trips around Ireland, social events, and partnering with other societies on events that promote intercultural exchanges.

Events include game nights, tavern tours, potlucks, an annual trip to Belfast, and so much more! The society provides a space to share one's own culture and experiences through social media groups on Facebook, Instagram, and Discord. The society wants to make sure that international students get the most out of their time in Ireland, by providing experiences which ensure that they have fun and meet many new people from all over the world.





DID YOU KNOW?

The Student Health Unit provides on-campus medical, psychiatric and physiotherapy care to all registered NUI Galway students. However, there are charges for certain ancillary services www.nuigalway.ie/health_unit

You can book online appointments [here](#)

Emergency/Out of Office Hours

Weekends are covered by **City Doc** located in Bon Secours Hospital: Daytime Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays 8am-6pm contact **091 758008** Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings - **Galway City GP Rota** from 6pm **087-7744430**



In Ireland if you attend A&E without a referral from a GP you will be charged. Always visit student health unit first, unless it is an emergency.

Pre-existing medical conditions

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions, please let us know by emailing healthunit@nuigalway.ie. You need to ensure that all your medical needs can be met as some overseas medications are not licensed for use here in Ireland.



The Student Health Unit is located in Áras na Mac Léinn, upstairs beside the Students' Union.

Opening hours: Monday -Friday from 9.30-12.30 & 2.30-4.30pm.

Disability Service

The Disability Office provides a professional, confidential, responsive and approachable support service to all students who require assistance. Details of the supports provided by the Disability Service, including dyslexia support can be found here:

www.nuigalway.ie/disability

Students who have a disability/specific learning difficulty and who require particular supports should notify the Disability Support Service in advance of admission to the University.



Student Counselling

There is Student counselling available to all full and part-time students, undergraduate and postgraduate. If you would like to book an appointment, please email: counselling@nuigalway.ie

[See here](#)

for resources available by the student counselling services.



The Student Health Service does not offer a dental service. See here for a comparison of dentists in Galway www.whatclinic.com



3.13

Safety while Living in Galway

Galway is an extremely safe and welcoming city. However, in any city you must be vigilant and follow safety precautions.

SAFETY FIRST

112



TOP TIPS FOR REMAINING SAFE:

- Never walk alone at night. If you must, take the busiest and well lit up route. Always look out for the group you went out with and double check everyone got home ok.
- Never leave a drink unattended.
- If you live in a ground floor apartment do not leave your windows open when you are not in your apartment. Do not give your key to anyone. Don't leave your apartment keys where anyone will find them. Do not leave your door open for a friend. When leaving your apartment, check to ensure that all windows and doors are locked.



- If you think you are being followed, call the Garda (police) at **091 538000** or in an emergency dial **112** for emergency services. **Remember, you don't need phone credit to call 112.**
- You can input "emergency contacts" on your Iphone. In case of an emergency, hold the side button 5 times to activate the alarm and your emergency contacts will be notified.

- Open the **Health app** and tap your **profile picture**.
- Tap **Medical ID**.
- Tap **Edit**, then scroll to **Emergency Contacts**.
- Tap the **add button** to add an emergency contact.
- Tap a **contact**, then add their relationship.
- Tap **Done** to save your changes.



3.13

TAXI

- Always get a taxi with a friend. If for some reason you can't, remember to download the TFI Driver Checker App.
- Never hitch hike.
- Keep your money hidden and never leave your property unattended in libraries, lecture halls, changing rooms, restaurants, bars, anywhere.
- Be very wary of phone scammers. They might ring seeking personal details including residential address, DOB, and email over the phone.



You should never give out your personal details like this in a text or phone call. Even if the phone number looks legit. Should the authorities need to contact you they will do so in a secure manner.



- If you are leaving for a few days, inform a trusted neighbour.
- Use your door chain.
- Don't leave valuables in your car. If you must, then keep them out of sight in the boot.



- Use a good locking device for your bike.
- When you purchase a bicycle, make sure you keep a receipt showing ID details.
- Sea swimming is a popular activity in Galway. Water accidents are common so please be vigilant and educate yourself on the risks.



See here

There is a Campus Watch Service who are here to ensure our campus is a safe one.

If you notice anything suspicious contact security staff at
091 493333 (Ext.3333 or 2198)
or email security@nuigalway.ie.



For further safety information log on to Garda Crime Prevention Advice at www.garda.ie.

The Garda Síochána is the national police force in Ireland.



News

To stay up to date on current events in Ireland, we suggest referring to the following news outlets:

www.rte.ie

www.thejournal.ie

www.irishtimes.com

www.independent.ie

Most have apps that you can download.

Set up alerts so that you are informed of major news and updates.



4.

Key Contacts



HEALTH UNIT

Emergency Queries:
+ 353 91 492604

Emergency Services
Ambulance/Fire/Gardaí:
999/112

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance/Fire/Gardaí:
999/112



REGISTRATION ENQUIRIES

Email: reghelp@nuigalway.ie

FEES ENQUIRIES

Email: fees@nuigalway.ie

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSION QUERIES

Email: internationaladmissions@nuigalway.ie

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Email: international@nuigalway.ie

Email: internationalmarketingrecruitment@nuigalway.ie

INCOMING ERASMUS

Email: incomingerasmus@nuigalway.ie

SHANNON COLLEGE

Sarah O'Mahony

Marketing Manager, Shannon College

Email: sarah.omahony@nuigalway.ie

4.1

Thank you



Many thanks for the contributions from

- Chaosheng Zhang,
Professor of Geography,
NUI Galway
- Dawid Szlaga,
Wild Island Pictures
- Steve Bennet,
Fish Bird Productions

