

College Programmes for Students with Intellectual Disabilities



Some colleges and universities in Ireland have courses for students with intellectual disabilities.



These courses give students the chance to learn and take part in college life.



What is an intellectual disability?

The World Health Organization (WHO) says that a person with an intellectual disability can have difficulties with learning and understanding.



They can also have difficulties with some everyday life skills.



These difficulties start when the person is growing up.



Every student with an intellectual disability is different.



Every student has their own strengths.



Every student has their own support needs.



What are the college courses like?

Most courses are one or two years long.



Many courses give students a qualification.



These qualifications are often between Level 3 and Level 6.



Some courses offer Level 2 qualifications through a partnership with a disability organisation.



Each college course is different.

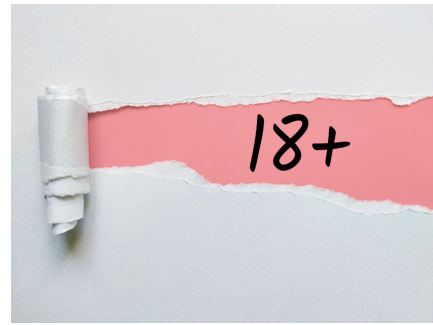


Who can apply?

Each course has its own rules about who can apply.



Students usually need to be 18 years old or older.



Students usually need to show that they have an intellectual disability.



Some colleges ask students to travel to college by themselves.



Some colleges ask students to manage their day at college with some independence.



Students should check the rules for the course before they apply.



What can students learn?

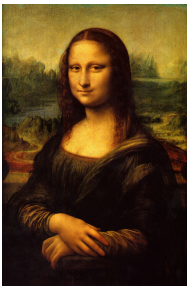
Students can learn about many different subjects.



The subjects depend on the college and the course.



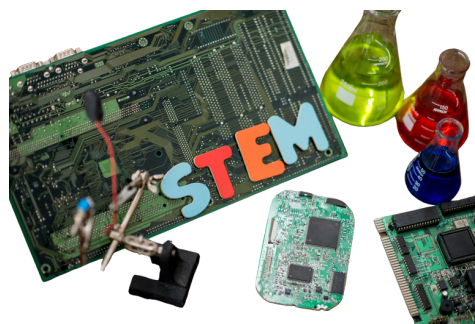
Students might learn about art or drama.



Students might learn about sport.



Students might learn about science, technology or maths.



Students might learn about business.



Students can also learn skills that will help them at work.



Students can learn skills that will help them in everyday life.



How do students learn?

Students learn in different ways.



Courses give students different ways to learn.



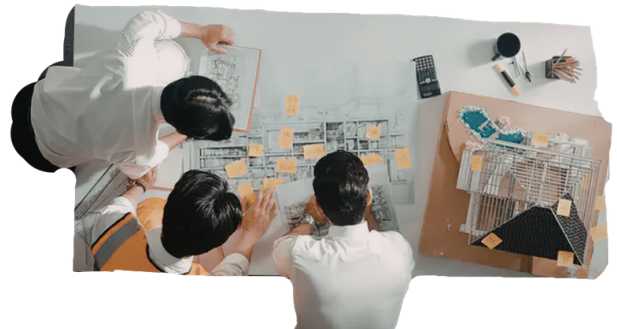
Students may learn by listening.



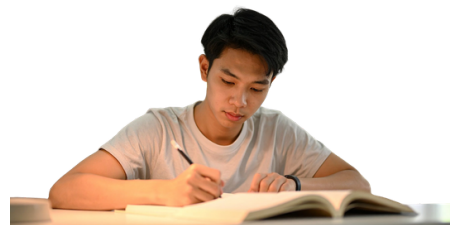
Students may learn by watching.



Students may learn by doing practical activities.



Students may work on their own.



Students may also work with other students.



Some courses give students the chance to learn alongside students on other college courses.



What about work?

Some courses include work experience.



Work experience gives students the chance to learn in a workplace.



Some students may also have the chance to do an internship after their course.

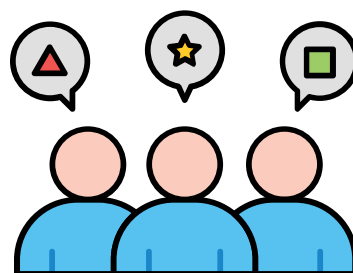


Choosing a course

There are different courses available in Ireland.



Each course offers something different.



Students should think about what they enjoy.

Students should think about what they want to learn.

Students should think about their goals for the future.

Students should also think about the support they need.



Students can then choose a course that is right for them.

