



Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
Trinity College Dublin

Ollscoil Átha Cliath | The University of Dublin

### **Application for the exemption from the language and/or mathematics requirement for TCD Matriculation**

Students applying for admission to Trinity College Dublin are required to present six Leaving Certificate subjects including English, mathematics and a language other than English.

However, students may apply for a waiver of the language requirement if they:

1. function intellectually at average or above average level and have a specific learning difficulty of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic language skills in English. Students do not qualify for exemption on the basis of poor standards of literacy;  
**OR**
2. have a sensory, or speech, language and communication disability of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic language skills in English.

*Documents to accompany the Language Waiver Application Form:*

- 1) A **certified** copy of a **Certificate of Exemption Irish** confirming that the exemption has been granted on the basis of specific learning difficulties, sensory or communication disabilities (DES Circular 0053/2019, Para. 2.2(C)). The Certificate of Exemption from Irish must have the official school stamp on it.

If you are unable to provide a Certificate of Exemption from Irish, you must provide:

- 1) Evidence of disability:
  - (i) An Educational Psychology report (assessment within the last 3 years of date of application) clearly stating applicant has a specific learning disability; OR
  - (ii) A medical report from a consultant/specialist clearly stating the severity and prognosis of a sensory, or speech, language, and communication disability.

Students may apply for a waiver of the mathematics requirement if they:

1. function intellectually at average or above average level and have a specific learning difficulty (dyscalculia) of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic skills in mathematics, **OR**
2. have a sensory disability (visual or hearing) of such a degree of severity that they fail to achieve expected levels of attainment in basic skills in mathematics.

*The evidence of dyscalculia must be furnished by a qualified psychologist in the case of (1) and by a report from an appropriate medical specialist in the case of (2) above.*

## Criteria for granting a waiver of the modern language requirement

Applications will be considered where a student has been diagnosed with a disability in primary or secondary school and has obtained a Certificate of Exemption from Irish.

Applicants should note that a language waiver is only applicable where a student has applied for, or intends to pursue, a course that does not require study of a foreign language and is not a subject specific requirement for any course. **Also, as Trinity requires only one modern language, applicants taking any modern language in the Leaving Certificate will not be granted a language waiver.**

Students will be granted a waiver of the modern language requirement if they provide the following:

1. **A completed application form**

The form can be downloaded at <https://www.tcd.ie/study/assets/pdf/tcd-language-waiver-application-form.pdf>; **AND**

2. **A Certificate of Exemption from Irish**

A **certified** copy of a **Certificate of Exemption from Irish** confirming that the exemption has been granted on the basis of specific learning difficulties, sensory or communication disabilities (DES Circular 0053/2019, Para. 2.2(C)). The Certificate of Exemption from Irish must have the official school stamp on it.

Students who do not have a Certificate of Exemption from Irish as above must submit the following:

1. **A completed application form**

The form can be downloaded at <https://www.tcd.ie/study/assets/PDF/tcd-language-waiver-application-form.pdf>; **AND**

2. **Evidence of disability**

- (i) An Educational Psychology Report (assessment within the **last 3 years**) clearly stating the student has a specific learning disability. Please ensure this report meets the standards set down in the [College Guidelines for diagnostic assessment of a specific learning difficulty](#) and contains standard scores and percentile points describing intellectual functioning and literacy attainment; **OR**
- (ii) A medical report from a Consultant/Specialist clearly stating the severity and prognosis of sensory, or speech, language and communication disability.

## Criteria for granting a waiver in mathematics

Students will be granted a waiver of the mathematics requirement if they provide the following:

### Evidence of disability:

- (i) An Educational Psychology Report (assessment within the **last 3 years**) clearly stating the student has a specific learning disability - dyscalculia. Please ensure this report meets the standards set down in the [College Guidelines for diagnostic assessment of a specific learning difficulty](#) and contains standard scores and percentile points describing intellectual functioning and numerical/arithmetical attainment; age equivalencies are not sufficient; **OR**
- (ii) A medical report from a Consultant/Specialist clearly stating the degree of sensory disability. Applicants should note that the mathematics waiver is only applicable where a student has applied for or intends to pursue a course that does not contain any mathematical or statistical component and is not a subject specific requirement for any course.

## How do I apply to Trinity College for a modern language and/or mathematics waiver?

Students can apply for a waiver at any time during the senior cycle of 2nd level education; however, applications must be received in the Academic Registry **no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> July** of year of entry. It is not the responsibility of College to pre-identify students who may be eligible for waivers.

Please note the granting of a language waiver is not connected to the DARE supplementary admissions procedure; full details of the DARE scheme may be found at [www.accesscollege.ie](http://www.accesscollege.ie).

Applications for an exemption from the language or mathematics requirements should be made directly to the Academic Registry, Watts Building, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2. The envelope should be marked "Language/Mathematics waiver" and all the supporting documentation as listed above should be included.