# Ireland - All Programs
## UCEAP Advising Notes



## Objective of the Advising Notes Document

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA website, and reviewed by a student in the Program Self-Assessment. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

## Application Details

**Important note for all fall, year and spring programs in Ireland:**

Qualified applicants are accepted on a first-come, first serve basis. Fall and Year applications open on November 1, 2023 at 9am and the UCEAP application submission is the timestamp for consideration of admission to the program.

The spring 2025 application opens on April 15, 2024 and again, the UCEAP application submission is the timestamp for consideration of admission to the program.

Students may review the UCEAP application instructions and start preparing any required documents for upload prior to the opening date, but cannot start the application until it opens on Nov 1st at 9am. **Be sure to submit the UCEAP application first,** immediately followed by the submission of the BSA application (within 24 hours) for all programs. Students may work on their BSA application in advance, but cannot submit until it opens on Nov 1st.

You can use this website [How to Apply for a UCEAP program](#) to assist you.

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**This document does not reference the Dublin Summer Physics program as this program is not available for Berkeley students.**

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# University of Galway, University College Cork, University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin

There are four outstanding Irish institutions for you to choose from for your fall, spring or year study abroad. Each has ample course selection so be sure to review which courses Irish universities offer via [UCEAP's academic guide](#) to determine which university is the best academic fit for you.

Please check out the [video links](#) at the bottom of this document under Media Resources to see and learn more about each individual university.
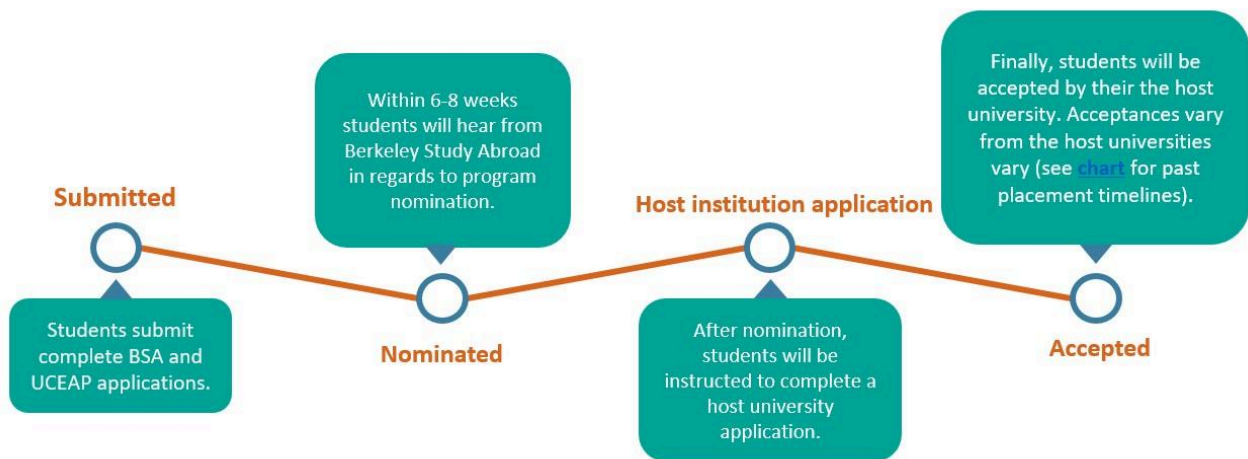
## Additional Application Details
Later on in the process, not at the time of your initial applications, students will also apply directly to their host university. You will be prompted for this application, so don't worry!

## Selection Timeline and Terminology

Nomination to the Irish Universities program happens at the campus level. Your application is then forwarded to UCEAP for further review. After students have applied and been accepted by their host university, their status will be changed to "Accepted." Acceptance at Irish Universities over the last couple years have come in September/October for spring students and May for fall students. You can check this chart to see when students have been placed at your host university in the past.



## Cohort

This program allows students to take courses alongside local Irish students, as well as international and UC system-wide students. To see how big the UCB cohorts were per university, check out this chart.

## Academics

Flexibility is important. Keep in mind that the courses you find in the UCEAP Course Catalog or on the host university's web site may not be offered the semester(s) you will be abroad. Often times you will not have concrete information about what courses will be offered until a couple months before departure or even until upon arrival in Ireland. Be prepared for the possibility that you will have to modify your plans.

### How many courses/units will I take?

Students are required to take a minimum of 14-16 units each semester. The usual course load is about four classes per semester, but this can vary by university and the specific courses selected. Check out the chart below to see how many courses students took in the past and how many semester units they were.

|  | Trinity | UCD | Galway | Cork |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Typical amount of courses students take** | 4-5 | 4-5 | 4-5 | 4-5 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Typical semester unit per course** | 3.3-6.7 | 3.3-6.7 | 3.3 | 3.3-6.7 |
| **Typical total semester unit count for term** | 15-16 | 15-16 | 15-16 | 15-16 |

**Here's how you convert host institution units to UC semester units**

| Host institution | Host institution units | UC semester units |
|---|---|---|
| University of Galway | 5 | 3.3 |
| University College Dublin | 5 | 3.3 |
| Trinity College Dublin | 5/10 | 3.3/6.7 |
| University College Cork | 5/10 | 3.3/6.7 |

## Housing
**Trinity College Dublin**
If Trinity is of interest to you, please be advised that it is quite likely that you will need to find your own housing in Dublin, as university housing is not guaranteed to UCEAP students. A majority of international students stay in Binary Hub, a newly built housing complex that is approximately a thirty minute walk from Trinity and comes recommended by Trinity's Global Affairs Office.

| Accommodation | Known for... | Room type | Proximity to Campus |
|---|---|---|---|
| Binary Hub | Very new, located across from the Guinness factory, this is where almost all U.S.international students stay, this is coordinated through Trinity's international office (the Global Room), really nice front desk staff, gym in the complex, hosts lots of events. Worth the ~239 euro/week price. | Single with attached bathroom, kitchen on floor.<br><br>Each flat has 4-6 rooms. The heaters are amazing. | 1.2 miles (25 min walk) |
| Kavanagh court | Another great place | Single | 0.5 miles (10 min walk) |

| | where students stay, but it seems the Erasmus (European) students stay here more. They don't host events for their residents, but this is a nice place and closer to campus. | | |
|---|---|---|---|

For **University College Cork, University College Dublin** or **University Galway,** click the links to read about Housing options from the UCEAP webpages.

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# Irish Parliament Program

## Additional Application Details
**Letter of Recommendation:** This program requires students to submit a letter of recommendation from a UC Berkeley faculty member, or GSI/GSR who can speak to their academic abilities.

## Placement
To avoid placement delays or rejection, you are encouraged to put the time into developing a strong cover letter and CV with your initial application. The Parliament reserves the right not to accept a student based on the quality of their cover letter and/or CV. The Career Center offers excellent resources and support, which all students are encouraged to take advantage of. You can check this chart to see when students have been placed at your host university in the past.

## Housing
For this program, students are placed in a homestay with an Irish family. Students will live in the small, coastal towns of Dalkey and Killiney. They are still in County Dublin - on the train it's about 30 minutes from the school and about 40 minutes from Parliament. The train system in Dublin is called the DART and is very similar to BART. You may share a homestay with another student on the same program.

Breakfast and dinner will be provided during the week, and on weekends you will receive lunch but not breakfast and dinner. Other meals are your own responsibility. Homestays are included in the UCEAP fees and the arrangements are made by the Institute of Public Administration. Homestays are integral to the program and are required for all participants.

*Student quote: "It's impossible to not make friends almost immediately especially with the homestay aspect of the program!"*

## Academics
Class sizes are usually about 30 students and are taught by lecturers at the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) in the IPA building, which is located in an attractive, tree-lined suburb of Dublin within easy reach of the Parliament and the city center.

## How many courses/units will I take?
Students are required to take 3 academic courses, worth 3 units each. See the UCEAP program website for more information on the courses. Students will then earn an additional 5 units for their internship for a total of 14 total units.

## Cohort
To see how big the UCB cohorts were per university, check out this chart.

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# Dublin Summer Chemistry

**Please note that for any student pursuing a pre-health track that requires organic chemistry (med, dental, pharm, vet, etc), this course will not work due to the very unique chemistry sequence that students take at Berkeley. If you are pre-health, please reach out to the BSA advisor or consider another study abroad program.**

## Additional Application Details
Later on in the process, not at the time of your initial applications, students will also apply directly to University College Dublin. You will be prompted for this application, so don't worry!

## Academics
All students are required to take two courses (4 semester UC units each). Each course is four weeks long to total an 8 week program.

The Science and Engineering School at the University College Dublin offers Berkeley students one track option: Organic Chemistry.

This track ran for the first time in summer 2019 and is equivalent to UCB's Organic Chemistry sequence- Chem 3A/3AL and 3B/3BL.

## Cohort
This program allows students to take courses alongside international and UC system-wide students. To see how big the UCB cohorts were per university, check out this chart.

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# Other Important Notes for All Programs

**Delayed Grades from Abroad: <u>Important for Seniors</u>**
Depending on the host institution, UCEAP will transmit your UCEAP courses, units, and grades to Berkeley up to 90 days after your program officially ends. You cannot be administratively graduated until your UCEAP grades are reported to Berkeley, are posted to your transcript, and a degree audit is conducted.
The Berkeley Office of the Registrar only administratively graduates students (a.k.a. degrees are "posted" to transcripts) three times per year: October for students with a summer anticipated graduation date, February for students with a Fall anticipated graduation date, and July for students with a Spring anticipated graduation date. If your EAP grades arrive after degrees are posted for your term of participation, your degree will be processed and posted to your transcript with the next term's degree list.

You can review the bottom of the Academics tab for a given program to see when grades are typically reported. Factoring in a 1 to 4-week delay for grades to appear on your Berkeley transcript, determine when your degree is likely to be posted by the Berkeley Office of the Registrar (October, July or February).

If you determine that your grades are likely to arrive later than the term you need to graduate from Berkeley to stay eligible for your graduate program or another post-graduation opportunity, contact the program/employer you are applying to as early as possible. Ask about their policy on delayed graduation due to study abroad participation. Find out how long they can wait for UCEAP grades to be recorded on your official Berkeley transcript and for your degree to be posted by the Berkeley Office of the Registrar.

Ask your graduate program or employer if you can provide some academic information while waiting for your UCEAP grades or Berkeley diploma. If courses and grades do not yet appear on your Berkeley transcript, ask the program/employer if it will accept an official "Verification of UCEAP Coursework." This is a letter from UCEAP verifying dates of UCEAP attendance and giving the estimated dates of arrival for course titles, units, and grades. You can get this letter from your BSA Campus Adviser or from your UCEAP Academic Specialist for your program. If your UCEAP grades already appear on your Berkeley transcript but you are waiting for your degree to be posted, you can also request a Certificate of Completion. Read more about Transcripts and Diplomas on the Office of the Registrar website.

**EAP Alums**
EAP alumni are one of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums, simply send the BSA Adviser an email with your list of questions and the contact information of returnees who have agreed to be contacted will be shared.

**EAP Alum-Created Resources**
Some of our returnees have created presentations to share with others.  You can look at their work through the <u>Student Created Resource Google folder</u> that we will continually update with tips, example schedules and presentations from students who have participated in this program.

**Making friends with locals**
When students are able to make friends with locals while studying abroad, their experience is enriched. The recent post <u>How to Make Friends with Locals While Abroad</u> by UCEAP student Elizabeth Lemerand (UCLA) offers advice for students to make meaningful connections while they travel.

# Media Resources

In order to aid with your study abroad process, the Study Abroad team has compiled media resources from UCEAP and Universities. These resources include YouTube videos that provide an overview of a location or university, and student blog posts and more. These resources can be used to give you a better understanding of what your study abroad experience may be like!

**UCEAP Resources**
University of Galway Info Session | International Education Week 2021
3-minute Travel Guide: Galway, Ireland
3-minute travel guide: Dublin, Ireland
Philosophy & Education Studies in Ireland

**University College Dublin**
Welcome to UCD! (YouTube)
Your future awaits you at UCD (YouTube)
UCDGlobal - YouTube

**University College Cork**
Welcome to UCC
International Student Experiences: Why I love Cork
UCC - Saint Patrick's Day
UCCIreland - YouTube
So you want to study abroad in Ireland, have you considered Cork? UCEAP alumni blog post

**Trinity College**
Study Abroad Student's Blog
Top Ten Reasons to Study Abroad - Study - Trinity College Dublin
Trinity College Dublin - YouTube

**University Galway**
Welcome to Galway
University of Galway - YouTube