

## VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY TO IRELAND – GENERAL INFORMATION

*Current at 12/11/13*

### Do I need an entry visa?

You do not need a visa to land in Ireland if you are a citizen of one of the countries listed below (includes EEA member states). The members of the EEA are the 28 countries of the European Union (EU), together with Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein.

Countries whose citizens are <u>not</u> required to be in possession of a valid Irish visa		
Andorra	Guatemala	<b>Poland</b>
Antigua & Barbuda	Guyana	Portugal
Argentina	Honduras	Romania
Australia	Hong Kong (Special Admin. Region)	Saint Kitts & Nevis
<b>Austria</b>	Hungary	Saint Lucia
Bahamas	Iceland	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines
Barbados	Israel	Samoa
Belgium	Italy	San Marino
Belize	<b>Japan</b>	Seychelles
Bolivia	Kiribati	Singapore
Botswana	Latvia	<b>Slovak Republic</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	Lesotho	Slovenia
Brunei	Liechtenstein	Solomon Islands
Bulgaria	Lithuania	South Africa
Canada	Luxembourg	South Korea
Chile	Macau (Special Admin. Region)	<b>Spain</b>
Costa Rica	Malawi	Swaziland
Croatia	Malaysia	Sweden
Cyprus	Maldives	<b>Switzerland</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	Malta	Taiwan
Denmark		Tonga
Dominica	Mexico	Trinidad & Tobago
El Salvador	Monaco	Tuvalu
Estonia	Nauru	United Kingdom & Colonies
Fiji	Netherlands	United States of America
<b>Finland</b>	New Zealand	Uruguay
<b>France</b>	Nicaragua	Vanuatu
Germany	Norway	Vatican City

### Countries whose citizens are not required to be in possession of a valid Irish visa

Andorra	Guatemala	<b>Poland</b>
Greece	Panama	Venezuela
Grenada	Paraguay	

- If you are not a citizen of one of the countries listed above, you will need a visa when you travel to Ireland.
- All citizens of non-EU countries, whether they require a visa or not, are subject to immigration control at the point of entry to Ireland.

### Further information

The list of countries whose citizens do not require a visa to enter Ireland is defined in the [Immigration Act 2004 \(Visas\) Order 2011 \(SI 146 of 2011\)](#). These are:

- Non-nationals who are holders of:
  - a valid Convention travel document issued by *Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, or Switzerland* and where the intended purpose of the travel to the State by the holder of such a travel document is solely for a visit of up to a maximum period of 3 months
  - a valid permanent residence card, or
  - a valid residence card;
- Non-nationals who are family members of a Union citizen and holders of a document called "Residence card of a family member of a Union citizen", as referred to in Article 10 of the Directive of 2004
- Nationals of a state or territorial entity specified in Schedule 1 (\*See list above)
- If you are coming to Ireland from another EU country as a dependant of an EU national, and you are not a citizen of the EEA or of one of the countries listed above, you will need a visa when you first travel to Ireland.
- **Visa Waiver Programme:** A *Holiday and other Short Stay Via Waiver Program* has been set up for 16 countries whose nationals currently require a visa to visit Ireland. This Program allows nationals of countries such as India, China, Bosnia, Herzegovina and the Russian Federation, **who have a short-term UK visa** to come to Ireland without the need for a separate Irish visa. The Programme will end on 31 October 2016.

### Visa application fees

Single-journey visa €60                      Multiple-journey visa €100

You must [apply for a visa online](#) unless you are resident in Ireland and applying for a re-entry visa

#### Further information from:

Visa Office  
Department of Justice and Equality  
Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service  
13-14 Burgh Quay  
Dublin 2  
Ireland

Homepage: <http://www.inis.gov.ie/>  
Email: [visamail@justice.ie](mailto:visamail@justice.ie)

## Student Visas

For those requiring visas (see above list of those not requiring visas), if you wish to study in Ireland for less than 3 months you should apply for a 'C study visa'. If your course lasts longer than 3 months, you should apply for a 'D study visa'.

If you require an entry visa for Ireland and would like to study here, you will need to present the following with your Visa Application:

- Copies of your educational qualifications.
- Letter of acceptance from a recognised school/college/university confirming that you have been accepted on a course of study. The course of study must be full time and have a minimum of 15 hours per week study time.
- Evidence that the fees have been paid in full.
- Evidence that you have sufficient funds to maintain yourself for at least the initial part of your stay.

Citizens of countries which are not a member of the European Economic Area (EEA) who are registered as full time students with the Garda National Immigration Bureau are permitted to work part-time (up to a maximum of 20 hours a week) to support themselves.

Generally speaking, the duration of a 'C study visa', is not extended once you have arrived in Ireland. Extensions will be granted in exceptional cases only. It's very important, therefore, to make sure you know the duration of your course before you apply for a visa.

## Tourist Visas

If you are a Visa-required national and you would like to visit Ireland for a short period (less than 3 months) on a Tourist Visa you should present the following documents with your visa application:

- A letter from a reference in Ireland inviting you to Ireland. This letter should include contact details for the reference, proposed dates for your stay and details of where you will be staying

*OR*

Confirmation of a hotel booking containing the dates of your proposed stay

- Evidence that you have sufficient funds to maintain yourself during your stay in Ireland. This should be in the form of a bank/building society statement or equivalent document.

*OR*

A Letter from your Reference in Ireland undertaking to support you financially during your stay in Ireland. The Reference may be requested to show that they have sufficient funds to do this (e.g. a bank statement).

- Evidence that you are obliged to return to your country of residence. This can take the form of a letter from your employer detailing when you are expected to return to work or a letter from a college specifying the date on which your course of study re-commences. If you do not work or study a letter from a person in authority may be sufficient.

Please note that the above documents **MUST** be presented with your application.

The Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, the Department of Foreign Affairs or any Irish Embassy or Consulate may ask for further documentation at any stage.