



Primary Teaching Ireland (Entry 2025)

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Careers Adviser

Careers & Employability Service



Becoming a Teacher in Ireland

Primary Teaching

- Postgraduate Courses
- Entry requirements
- Alternative entry requirement options
- How applications work
- How places awarded
- What you can do now to strengthen your application

Primary Teaching - Ireland

2 routes

Full-time / College-based course

- **Maynooth University (Froebel Dept.)**
- **Marino Institute of Education**
- **DCU (Drumcondra Campus)**
- **Mary Immaculate College Limerick**

Distance/On-line course

- **Hibernia College**

Both routes fully recognised by Teaching Council

Entry Requirements (2024)

Minimum 2.2 Honours degree

Leaving Certificate requirements

- **H4 (HC1/HC2)** in Irish
- **O4/H7 (OC1/OC2/HE)** in Maths
- **O4/H7 (OC1/OC2/HE)** in English

Honours Leaving Cert Irish?

- At least **H4** in honours Irish required
- What if I don't have this?
 - Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (Level B2) – Contact Maynooth University Centre for Irish Studies for details www.teg.ie
 - Re-sit Leaving Cert Honours Irish
 - Teacher Training in the U.K. *

Other LC alternative qualifications

Alternatives to a second-level qualification in Mathematics

- A merit grade (65-79%) or distinction grade (80-100%) obtained in QQI Level 5 Mathematics Course (5N 1833)
 - ✓ Colleges offering this course can be found by searching on www.qualifax.ie and through various Night course providers
 - ✓ <https://mallowcampus.ie/night-college/maths/>
- A Pass grade obtained in Mathematics in the Matriculation Examination (which existed up to 1992).

Full-time Course

- College based
 - Froebel Dept, Maynooth University,
 - Marino Institute of Education
 - DCU (formerly St. Patrick's College Drumcondra)
 - Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- 2 years
- Further details of entry requirements / course details on universities websites and on our Careers and Employability Service Information Sheets
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/useful-resources/information-sheets>

When can I apply?

- Full-time courses
 - Course usually starts in September
 - Application closing date April 7th 2025
 - Online Applications
- Hibernia Colleges
 - 2 intakes: September/April
 - See www.hiberniacollege.com for details of upcoming intakes

Primary Applications have 2 steps – Full Time Courses

(i) Irish Oral

- TEG B1 Oral Exam
- Must get at least 65% in this exam
- More details on TEG B1 here
<https://www.teg.ie/eolas-molta/teg-mgo.958.html>
- Can be useful to sit TEG B1 in 2nd year (you can then re-sit in final year if needed)

(ii) Course Application

- After getting 65% in TEG B1 you can apply for the course
- Applications usually close in March
- **You must have all your results by July in the year you wish to start the course – August repeats mean you can apply the next year**
- Applications are online
- **Closing Date – 7th April 2025**
- You can apply to multiple courses

Maynooth University

All information here <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/froebel-department-primary-and-early-childhood-education/professional-masters-education-primary-teaching>

Applications are now open!

Application procedure:

1. Fill out the online application form via [MU Apply](#) and pay the €80 non-refundable deposit.
2. Upload supporting documents (listed below)
 - a. Evidence of Primary Degree / Transcripts of Results (additional qualifications uploaded on MU apply also)
 - b. Complete the Additional specific online questionnaire.
 - c. Evidence of fulfilment of minimum requirements - verified Leaving Certificate transcripts.
 - d. TEG Certificate
 - e. A copy of a valid Passport Evidence of Primary Degree/Transcripts of Result

[2025 PMEd Entry Requirements : English](#) [2025 PMEd Riachtanais Iontrála : Gaeilge](#)

- Applications will remain open until **Monday, 7th of April 2025**.
- **TEG results must be uploaded to MU Apply by the application closing date.**
- **All other entry requirements must have been met and verified submissions uploaded to your account on [MU Apply](#) by Friday 11th July 2025.**

Interview / Open Day

As interviews are no longer required as part of the application process for the Professional Masters of Education (Primary Teaching) at the Froebel Department at Maynooth University. Instead, candidates are required to attend an Information Day on campus, on **a date to be confirmed**. Eligible candidates will be provided with additional detail via PAC in due course.

Careers and
Employability Service

Maynooth University

All information here <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/froebel-department-primary-and-early-childhood-education/professional-masters-education-primary-teaching>

Apply at **MU Apply** -

<https://maynoothuniversityie.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fApply>

Application Guidance notes

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Professional%20Master%20of%20Education%20-%20Primary%20Guidance%20Notes.pdf>

Entry requirements

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Professional%20Master%20of%20Education%20%28Primary%20Teaching%29%20Entry%20Requirements%202025.pdf>

Application FAQs <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/FAQ%27s%20-%20Professional%20Master%20of%20Education%20-%20Primary%20%281%29.pdf>

Application Fee - €80

Application Listing

All EU/EEA/UK applicants for first year of undergraduate degree courses should apply via WWW.CAO.IE.

Taught Master / Postgraduate Application

Use this application form if you wish to study a Taught Master or Postgraduate Course

Start a new application

PME - Professional Master of Education (Primary Teaching)

Use this application form if you wish to apply for the PME - Professional Master of Education (Primary Teaching)

Start a new application

Research Application

Use this application form if you wish to study a Research Course

Start a new application

Undergraduate Application

Use this form if you wish to study an undergraduate programme as a NON EU applicant or for undergraduate programmes that are not listed on CAO.

Start a new application

PME - Professional Master of Education (Post-Primary Teaching)

<https://maynoothuniversity.ie/elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fApply>

Online Application

Select your Academic Year of Entry

Academic Year of Entry *

2025-26

Back

Submit

[Privacy Policy](#)

2025-26

[Review](#)

[Supplemental Items & Documents](#)

[Print](#)

[PME - Professional Master of Education \(Primary Teaching\)](#)

[Personal](#)

[Demographics](#)

[Academic Experience](#)

[Signature](#)

Academic Plans

Academic Programme *

Professional Masters of Education (Primary) - PME

Current Maynooth University student status *

Current MU Student

Maynooth University Student Number *

Save Application

Save & Continue

[Privacy Policy](#)

2025-26 - Professional Masters of Education (Primary)

[Review](#) [Supplemental Items & Documents](#)

PME - Professional Master of Education (Primary Teaching) **Personal** Demographics Academic Experience Signature

Name

Title *

Ms. ▼

First Name *

Enter your First Name exactly as it appears on your Passport or Birth Certificate

Natasha

Middle Name

Enter your Middle Name exactly as it appears on your Passport or Birth Certificate

Last Name (Family Name) *

Enter your Last Name (family name) exactly as it appears on your Passport or Birth Certificate

Marron

First Name - under which primary degree conferred

Last Name - under which primary degree conferred

Order Summary

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
PME Primary Application Fee	€80.00
Subtotal:	€80.00
Discount:	€0.00
Total:	€80.00

Enter a promo code:

[Privacy Policy](#)

After submitting your application – additional required documentation will be listed and can be submitted here

[Review](#) [Supplemental Items & Documents](#)

PME - Professional Master of Education (Primary Teaching) Personal Demographics Academic Experience **Signature**

Additional Question

How did you hear about Maynooth University *

Your Careers Office ▼

Certification

I have read and accept the Maynooth University policies relevant to my application. *

[More information on relevant policies](#)

Yes No

I certify that the information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge *

Yes No

Signature *

Natasha Marron

Signature Date *

17/02/2025

Dublin City University

All information here <https://www.dcu.ie/courses/postgraduate/institute-education/professional-master-education-primary-teaching>

Apply at **DCU Application Portal**

<https://dcuie2.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fApply>

Application Guidance notes

https://www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/inline-files/How%20to%20Apply_48.pdf and

<https://www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/inline-files/dc970-professional-master-of-education-primary-pmep-guidance-notes-2025-for-web.pdf>

DCU Points System

<https://www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/inline-files/dc970-points-scoring-system-2025-for-website.pdf>

Application FAQs

<https://www.dcu.ie/sites/default/files/inline-files/dc970-pmep-frequently-asked-questions-2025-for-web.pdf>

Application Fee - €60

Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

All information here <https://www.mic.ul.ie/faculty-of-education/programme/professional-master-of-education-primary-teaching?index=0>

Apply **MIC Application Portal**

https://apply.mic.ul.ie/WCFWebSite/OnlineServices/app_external.aspx?id=778000012597676

Application Fee €50

MIC Points System

<https://www.mic.ul.ie/sites/default/files/uploads/396/Updated%20Information%20regarding%20PME%20entry%20for%202025.docx>

Application FAQs

<https://www.mic.ul.ie/sites/default/files/uploads/396/FAQ%20regarding%20PME%20application%20process%202025.docx>

Closing date 7th April 2025 – 5pm

How are places awarded?

Points system used by MU, DCU and Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

Points System

- Points are calculated based results from most recent completed year.
- If applying in final year your points are based on your results from the previous year (year abroad is not included)
- If applying after completing your degree, your points are calculated based on degree results.

More information on [MIC Points system here](#)

Additional points can be claimed for

- **Additional Qualifications** (to be eligible must be awarded by 1st March in year of application)
 - ✓ Undergraduate
 - ✓ Postgraduate
- Relevant **Paid/Unpaid Professional** Experience
 - ✓ Related to work with young people/education/your degree subject

Additional Points – Professional Experience?

Points are awarded in three categories, where experience is deemed relevant:

- **Full-time paid professional experience.**

One point is awarded per year of employment, up to a maximum of 5 points.

- **Part-time paid professional experience.**

One point is awarded per year of employment (min. 100 hours per year), up to a maximum of 2 points.

- **Sustained voluntary work with young people (e.g., weekly) in an organisational context.**

0.5 points is awarded per year of volunteering, up to a maximum of 2 points.

Marino Institute of Education

All information here

https://www.mie.ie/en/study_with_us/postgraduate_programmes/professional_master_of_education_primary/

Apply at **MIE Application Portal**

<https://appcentre.mie.ie/login>

Application Fee - €50

Application FAQs

<https://www.mie.ie/!2WV5IV>

21. What kind of questions are asked on the application form ?

In addition to providing personal information, entry requirements eligibility and previous employment information, you will be asked the following open ended questions;

- Why do you wish to apply for the course?
- Have you any work or other experience which might prove advantageous in pursuing the course?
- What attributes or characteristics do you feel you have which make you particularly suitable for this course?

Your answers to these questions must be no longer than 100 words. You will also get the opportunity to add any other information that you deem relevant to the application , for example, any talents or skills you have or awards/achievements that you have received.

22. When will the interviews take place?

The closing date for applications is 5.00pm, April 7th 2025. All applications will be checked to ensure that applicants meet the entry criteria. All those who satisfy the entry criteria will be invited to an interview. Interviews for MIE will take place, face-to-face on the May 2025 (to be confirmed)

How are places awarded?

Marino Institute of Education – Interview based

- View [Interview criteria here](#)
- Why people do not get places? Interview Performance / Knowledge of the teaching profession /
 - **Not sufficient research into teaching** –
 - **Spend time in a school if possible**
 - Classroom observation
 - Talking with teachers
 - Becoming familiar with curriculum and current issues

Hibernia College: Professional Master of Education

- 2 intakes per year – September and April
- 2 year course
- 24 weeks teaching practice (3 blocks)
- Contact Hibernia College for application form
- Application fee €95
- Personal statement important
- Interview
 - Must demonstrate awareness of teaching as a career
 - Classroom observation and other experience with young people important

What can you do now?

Irish

- **Practice your Irish**
- Not possible get a place on the full-time PME Primary course without 65% in TEG B1 Oral Exam
- Consider sitting the TEG exam in 2nd year so that you have it completed before final year
- Additional points awarded for higher marks in TEG exam
- Candidates who have passed higher levels of TEG (B2, C1 and C2) receive 10 additional marks.
- Hibernia PME offer alternative Irish Oral as part of their interview process

Exam	Grade	Extra No. of Marks Awarded
TEG B1 Irish Oral	65% to 79%	None
	80% to 89%	5
	90% to 100%	10
TEG B2/C1 Irish Oral	50% or over	10

Points

- Work as hard as possible in Second Year.
- The better your grades in your second-year exams, the better your chances of getting a place
- Experience working with young people to gain additional points

*Application procedure and/or use of interview in selection process may be subject to change in future years

Points for relevant Professional Experience

Up to five points may be awarded in recognition of full-time paid employment which is deemed relevant, and which can be verified. Points will normally be awarded on the basis of one point for year of relevant experience, up to the maximum of five points

Up to two additional points may be awarded in recognition of part-time paid employment which is deemed relevant, and which can be verified. Points will normally be awarded on the basis of one point for year of relevant experience, up to the maximum of two points

Applicants for the PME may have other relevant experience, independent of their academic programme(s), related to working with young people in a voluntary capacity. The experience must be over a sustained period and must be of a sufficiently high level to merit the allocation of additional points. In recognition of the value of these experiences, some additional points can be awarded. To claim additional points, you will normally need to provide a letter from an official of the organisation with whom you volunteered showing the start and end dates, your contribution in terms of time, and a description of the role.

Points are awarded in three categories:

- i. Full-time paid professional experience. If the experience is deemed relevant, one point is awarded per year of employment, up to a maximum of 5 points.
- ii. Part-time paid professional experience. If the experience is deemed relevant, one point is awarded per year of employment (min. 100 hours per year), up to a maximum of 2 points.
- iii. Sustained voluntary work with young people (e.g., weekly) in an organisational context. If the experience is deemed relevant, 1 point is awarded per year of volunteering, up to a maximum of 4 points.

Applicants may make a claim for points in any or all of these categories and may be awarded up to a maximum of 11 points in total.

Please note that:

1. Points cannot be awarded where the supporting information provided is ambiguous or incomplete.
2. The acceptance of points awarded for professional and voluntary experience is entirely at the discretion of the PAC PMEd team, representing the Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University.
3. Points are not awarded for teaching in a school while unqualified.

Points for Relevant Experience

- View all points criteria here
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/PMEd%20Froebel%20Department%20Points%20System%202024.pdf>

Examples of relevant professional experience

	Normally accepted for points purposes	Not accepted
In education	Full time teaching in a school in another country. Working as a full-time special needs assistant. Working as a full-time classroom assistant. Full-time teaching in a HE or FE institute or in a centre of education as designated by the Education Act 1998. Teaching in a post-primary school as a qualified teacher.	Working in a non-contact role in a school, such as school caretaker. Working as an unqualified substitute teacher in a school. Paid internship which contributed to an academic qualification.
In working with young people	Verified full-time employment as a sports coach. Verified full-time employment as a youth organiser. Verified full-time employment as a social worker. Verified full-time employment in an early childhood setting. Verified full-time employment as a tutor in the arts (e.g., music, drama, dance).	Working as a personal trainer. Paid internship which contributed to an academic qualification.
In voluntary work with young people	Verified sustained volunteering as a sports coach, arts tutor, youth leader, etc.	Childminding or babysitting.

Note:

Full time employment is taken to mean full-time hours. Continuous employment for at least 9 months is required to claim points for one year.

Part time can be considered if either

- (i) part time throughout the year (minimum 100 hours), or
- (ii) full time for a period of three months (e.g. summer employment).

Verification required for paid employment

- Letter from employer certifying the dates, nature of employment, and salary.
OR
- A completed employer reference form (Blank form available through PAC).

Note: tax records may be requested as further verification of employment.

Verification required for voluntary work

Letter on headed notepaper from an official of the organisation with whom you volunteered.

Types of Relevant Experience

- View all points criteria here
<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/PMEd%20Froebel%20Department%20Points%20System%202024.pdf>

What can you do now?

Prepare for interview* – school observation or talking to teachers...

Even if applying for courses without interview – observation will help you clarify if you would enjoy a classroom environment – gives you a good sense of what to expect

- Find out as much as you can about the primary curriculum
 - How are subjects taught at different levels throughout the school?
 - How are special educational needs supports provided in the schools?
 - How are phonics taught? What is Aistear?
 - Any recent/upcoming changes to the curriculum? ... Primary Languages curriculum? Well-being initiatives? Bi Cinnealta?
-
- Have a look at all of the courses.
 - Check that you meet the entry requirements
 - If you don't talk to us / identify how you can get the missing requirements – getting this sorted in 2nd year can remove stress in final year.

*Application procedure and use of interview in selection process may be subject to change in future years

What can you do now?

- Careers – Teaching **Pathways** – can help to move through all the information in an organized way – Pathways are available on Careers Connect
- Send your questions to Careers Advisers using **Ask us** in **Careers Connect**
- **Book an Appointment** to discuss your questions with a careers adviser – book in Careers Connect

The screenshot shows the 'Careers Service' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Queries, Events, Appointments, Jobs, Forms, and Pathways. Below this, the 'Careers Service' section features four main tiles: 'Ask Us' (with a red arrow pointing to the 'Ask Us' button), 'Pathways' (with a red arrow pointing to the tile), 'Appointments' (with a red arrow pointing to the 'Book now' button), and 'News'. A text box below these tiles says 'Use the tabs at the tops of the page to access'. To the right, there is a 'Upcoming bookings' section with a message 'You don't have any upcoming bookings,'. Below this are three tiles for 'Primary Teaching', 'Post-Primary Teaching', and 'Post Primary Teaching - Final Years - Get ready to apply'. At the bottom right, there are two more tiles: 'Build your CV' and 'Getting Started - Career Ideas'. A search bar labeled 'Search all Jobs' is at the bottom left. Red arrows highlight the 'Appointments' icon in the top navigation, the 'Ask Us' button, the 'Pathways' tile, the 'Book now' button, the 'Primary Teaching' tile, the 'Post-Primary Teaching' tile, and the 'Getting Started - Career Ideas' tile.

Appointments

Home / Book / Appointments

Current MU Students - We offer both In-Person and MS Teams appointments - Please select an appointment time below and click book.

MS Teams Appointments -

MU Current Students, ** Link to join the Teams Meeting will be in your Booking Confirmation email.

In-Person Appointments -

Your Appointment venue will be visible when booking and will also be listed in your Booking Confirmation email.

If you require a meeting to discuss Job Interview Preparation, please send us an [Interview Preparation Meeting request](#) by clicking "Queries" above.

Alumni users cannot book directly - please submit a Meeting request Query, indicating when you are available and we will book you in for an appointment

Additional appointments are added frequently so please check back to view latest availability.



MS Teams: One to One Careers Meeting

Meet with a careers adviser to discuss any of your career quest... [Find out more](#)

[View appointments](#) ▾



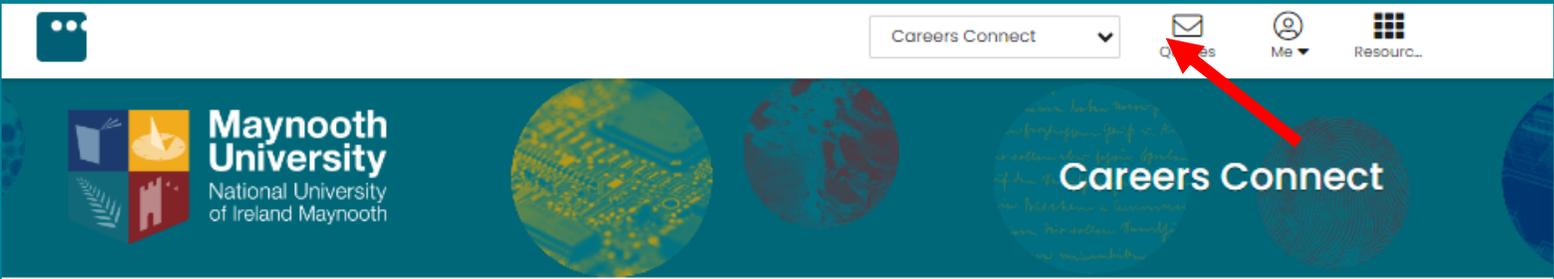
In-Person: One to One Careers Meeting

Meet with a careers adviser to discuss any of your career quest... [Find out more](#)

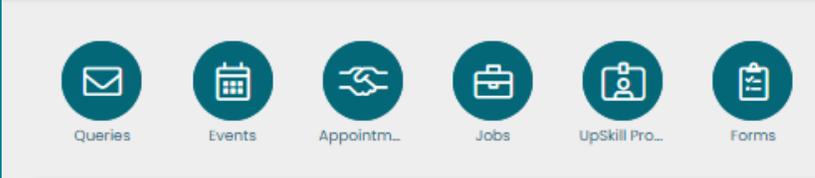
[View appointments](#) ▾

Book a meeting with
our careers advisers

Careers and
Employability Service



Search ▾ | Book ▾ | Skills | My Career Passport | Career Discovery



Use Ask Us to send questions in Careers Connect

A screenshot of the "Ask Us" query form. At the top right, a red arrow points to the "Ask Us" button in the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, a red arrow points to the "View my Queries" button. The main content area contains a text box with the following text: "Do you have a careers question or want to contact a careers adviser? Use the Query form below to get in touch with us. You will also find some useful information on our Useful Resources and FAQs pages. We aim to respond to your query within 1-2 working days, CV Review Queries may take longer/ During busy periods there may be a delay in our response." Below this is the "Query details" form. A red arrow points to the "Type of question" dropdown menu, another red arrow points to the "Subject" text input field, and a third red arrow points to the "Query details" text area. To the right of the form is a large QR code.

Careers and Employability Service

Send us your questions - <https://careers.mufutureconnect.maynoothuniversity.ie/leap/queries.html>



Any questions?

- Use **Careers Connect** to engage with us
 - Appointments
 - Teams Appointments
- or
- In-Person Appointments



- Send us your Questions - Click Ask us 



CAREERS CONNECT PORTAL



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA