



Higher Education Access Route (HEAR)

Ireland

Case study overview

The **HEAR (Higher Education Access Route)** scheme was set-up to provide access for school leavers would not meet the entry requirements to enter higher education (based on points attained in the second level leaving certificate examinations) and extra college support where the school leavers come from a **socio-economically disadvantaged background**. Currently, a number of higher education institutions within Ireland are part of HEAR.

“The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) is a college and university admissions scheme which offers places on reduced points and extra college support to school leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.”

For the academic year 2015-2016 (Autumn 2015 entry), applicants must be under the age of 23 as of 1st January 2015 and have completed an Irish Leaving Certificate.

In order to be eligible for HEAR, the applicant must meet a range of financial, social and cultural indicators to be considered for a reduced points place and extra college support. The indicators considered are:

1. Income.
2. Medical/GP visit card.



3. Means tested social welfare.
4. Socio-economic group.
5. DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) school attendance.
6. Area profile.

For the indicators, indicator 1 (above) must be met and a correct combination of two other indicators, as set down by HEAR, are required to be met.

References

- [1] Higher Education Access Route (HEAR). ONLINE, available: <http://accesscollege.ie/hear/>
- [2] AccessCollege. ONLINE, available: <http://accesscollege.ie/>

Document information

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