



Ollscoil na hÉireann
National University of Ireland

Seanad Éireann Information for Voters (NUI Constituency)

INTRODUCTION

The legal basis for the University Seanad Éireann elections is Bunreacht na hÉireann, Article 18(4) and the relevant Act is the Seanad Electoral (University Members) Act, 1937. Under that Act, The National University Constituency elects three members of Senate, and Dublin University (Trinity) Constituency also elects three members of Senate. (The Constitution was amended in 1979 to allow for legislation whereby the University constituencies would include other third level institutions and the election would be "*...of so many members of Seanad Éireann as may be fixed by law in substitution for an equal number of the members to be elected...*" pursuant to Article 18(4)(1) - to date no further legislation has been enacted.)

For the convenience of voters an information pack for graduates of relevant documents is available for download which includes the following:

- Frequently asked questions
- List of Institutions in the NUI Seanad Éireann Constituency
- Graduate Registration/ Update Form (Irish and English versions)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 SEANAD ÉIREANN

What is Seanad Éireann?

Seanad Éireann is the Upper House of the Irish Legislature and is composed of sixty members. Three members are voted by the graduates of National University of Ireland and three by the graduates of University of Dublin (Trinity College). These are called the University Constituencies.

A Seanad Éireann election in the University Constituencies takes place within 90 days of the dissolution of Dáil Éireann, and is strictly a postal vote.

When does the Seanad Éireann election take place?

Seanad Elections take place within 90 days of the dissolution of Dáil Éireann, and is strictly a postal vote. Presuming that more than three candidates are nominated, ballot papers are issued to all registered graduates.

The current Seanad Éireann Register contains the names of 112,216 electors.

What institutions comprise the NUI constituency?

The Constituent Universities, Recognised Colleges and Colleges which were formerly Recognised Colleges (the latter only for the period when they were within the NUI federation). Please see Institutions in the NUI Seanad Éireann Constituency page.

Are all NUI graduates automatically eligible to vote in Seanad elections?

No. Graduates must be citizens of Ireland and must claim to be registered.

2 THE REGISTER

What is the Seanad Register?

The Seanad Éireann Register published on 1st June each year is a list of the names, addresses and qualifications of National University of Ireland (NUI) graduates, other than honorary graduates, who are citizens of Ireland and who have registered to vote in Seanad Éireann elections (NUI constituency).

Registration on the register is not automatic; graduates must claim to be registered.

How Can I Register?

Graduates must complete, sign and return a Registration Claim Form to NUI. The form can be downloaded from the National University of Ireland website:

www.nui.ie/elections/seanad-register.asp

Completed forms should be returned by post to:

National University of Ireland
Records Office
49 Merrion Square
Dublin 2 D02 V583
Ireland

Alternatively graduates can request a form by writing or emailing NUI. Forms can also be scanned, attached to an email and sent to: records@nui.ie

To ensure that you retain your vote, graduates should inform NUI of any changes of name and address..

Once the revised Register has been published, is it possible to amend an address?

Yes, a graduate may, at any time, ensure that his/her details are up-to-date by posting a completed Registration Claim / Graduate Update Form to NUI (address below),

National University of Ireland
Records Office
49 Merrion Square
Dublin 2 D02 V583
Ireland

or by emailing the following details to records@nui.ie

- full name (forename[s] and surname) at registration
- any other form of name used (e.g. Irish, single, married etc)
- date of birth
- NUI degree(s) and other NUI qualification(s)
- year(s) of conferring(s) and NUI institution(s) where conferred
- previous address (for identification purposes)
- current address

The death of a graduate may also be notified to NUI at any time either in writing or by email.

Are names ever removed from the Register?

Yes.

- on receipt of written request by a graduate to have his/her name removed
- on receipt of notification of the death of a graduate
- as provided by the Electoral (Amendment) Act 2001: '*after reasonable enquiry by the registration officer, whose address or the address to which the ballot paper is to be sent is unknown*'. (S. 56)

Please note that any graduate whose name is removed from the Seanad Register under this provision and who wishes to be listed as an elector again, must submit a Registration Claim Form in the prescribed manner.

What Register will be used for the Seanad Election?

Once the Dáil is dissolved, the Seanad Register in use at that time will be the Register used for the Seanad Election. If the date of dissolution occurs a short time before 1st June, the Registration Officer will consult with the Minister of Environment Heritage and Local Government as to whether the newly revised Register may be used.

This happened in 1997 and 2002, and in both cases permission was given to use the revised Register.

For the Seanad Éireann Election in 2020 only those graduates whose names are listed in the current NUI Seanad Éireann Register of Electors, as published on the 1st June 2019, are eligible to vote in the NUI constituency.

Who may purchase a Seanad Register?

Anyone may purchase the Seanad Register, either as a hard copy or on disc (subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Acts). The cost of the Register is calculated on a prescribed formula, and currently costs €169 in either format.

The Seanad Register may be used only for electoral purposes.

3 ELECTION

When will the election be held?

The Election will take place on 31 March 2020.

Timeline

For the Seanad Éireann Election 2020 (NUI Constituency) the relevant dates are as follows:

- the date of close of nominations, **Friday, 14 February 2020 at 12 midday**
- the date of issue (ie posting) of ballot papers, **Friday 28 February 2020**
- the date of the election (close of poll), **Tuesday 31 March 2020 at 11am**

The day and hour at which the poll in the university constituencies will close shall be Tuesday 31 March 2020 at 11am (votes must be returned by post)

How will I know who is going forward for election?

The names of the candidates will be posted on this website immediately after the close of nominations. Candidates' names and details will also, of course, be listed on the ballot paper.

Who can vote in the NUI constituency?

For the Seanad Éireann Election in 2020 only those graduates whose names are listed in the current NUI Seanad Éireann Register of Electors, as published on the 1st June 2019, are eligible to vote in the NUI constituency.

4 THE BALLOT PAPER

How and when will the ballot papers be sent to the electorate?

Ballot Papers are sent by **registered post** on the date set out in the Minister's Order.

Because of the size of the two university electorates - currently 112,216 for NUI, and approximately 54,000 for University of Dublin (Trinity College) - delivery of the registered post may take a number of days from the date of issue.

Delivery of ballot papers sent to addresses overseas depend on local postal services.

What will I receive?

Each graduate listed in the current register will receive an envelope by registered post containing:

- Ballot Paper
- Declaration of Identify Form/Instructions to Voter
- Small brown ballot paper envelope
- Large white self-addressed return envelope

The identify form must be signed by the voter and by a witness and returned with the **ballot paper**. **Failure to return both documents will deem the vote to be invalid.**

The **ballot paper** should be placed separately in the **small brown envelope marked Ballot Paper Envelope**.

The **small brown ballot paper envelope** (containing the ballot paper) and the signed **declaration of identify form** should then be placed in the **large white self-addressed return envelope** addressed to the Returning Officer and returned by post.

No stamp is required if posted within the Republic of Ireland.

The close of poll date will appear on the registered envelope and on top of the Ballot Paper.

How and when will the ballot papers be sent to the electorate?

Voting Papers are issued by registered post on the date set out in the Minister's Order. Because of the size of the two university electorates - currently over 112,216 for NUI, and approximately 65,000 for University of Dublin (Trinity College) - delivery of the registered post may take a number of days from the date of issue.

Delivery of ballot papers sent to addresses overseas may be slower, depending on the efficiency of the local postal service.

What happens if the elector is not at the address to sign for the registered post?

The post person should leave a docket letting the addressee know that the post can be collected from the Post Office; if uncollected after three days, the envelope will be returned to NUI.

On request, the ballot paper will be re-sent, again by registered post, provided the original envelope has been returned undelivered to NUI.

How will an elector know the date, time and place of the close of poll?

The date of the close of poll will appear on the label of the envelope sent to each elector and on the ballot paper itself. Agents of the candidates will be notified in writing of the time and place at which the count will take place. The information will also be available on the NUI website and Social Media pages.

Institutions in the NUI Seanad Éireann Constituency

The NUI Constituency comprises graduates of the following institutions who otherwise fulfil the requirements laid down in the Seanad Electoral (University Members) Acts, 1937 - 2015:

NUI Constituent Universities

University College Dublin - National University of Ireland, Dublin Coláiste na hOllscoile Baile Átha Cliath	(University College Dublin)
University College, Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh	(University College Cork)
National University of Ireland, Galway OÉ Gaillimh	(formerly University College Galway)
Maynooth University - National University of Ireland, Maynooth Ollscoil Mhá Nuad	(formerly St. Patrick's College Maynooth)

Other NUI Member Institutions – Ail Eile d'Ollscoil na hÉireann

NUI Recognised Colleges

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Coláiste Ríoga na Máinleá in Éirinn	Recognition granted, July 14th 1977
Institute of Public Administration An Foras Riaracháin	Recognition granted January 16th 2001 (First NUI conferring in 2003) (From September 2011-2018, a constituent College of UCD) Recognition re-established from September 2018

Colleges Linked With Constituent Universities - Coláistí Ceangailte Leis na Comh-Ollscoileanna

National College of Art and Design Dublin Coláiste Náisiúnta Ealáine is Deartha	Recognition granted July 1st 1996 (First NUI conferring in 2000)
Institute of Public Administration An Foras Riaracháin	Recognition granted January 16th 2001 Re-constituted as College of a Constituent University (UCD) from September 2011 to September 2018 Recognition re-established as recognised college of NUI from September 2018
Shannon College of Hotel Management Coláiste Ósta na Sionna (now a School in the College of Business, Public Policy and Law at NUI Galway)	Recognition granted November 9th 2000 (First NUI conferring in 2005)
St. Angela's College, Sligo Coláiste San Aingeal, Sligeach	Recognition granted, April 13th 1978 Re-constituted as College of a Constituent University (NUI, Galway) from 1 January 2006
Burren College of Art Coláiste Ealáine na Bóine	
Institute of Banking An Institiúid Baincéireachta	A Recognised College of University College Dublin

Institutions which were formerly NUI Recognised Colleges

Mary Immaculate College of Education, Limerick	Recognition granted, April 17th 1975 (College of Limerick University as of October 1994)
NIHE, Limerick	March 11th 1976 - December 15th 1977 (re-constituted as University of Limerick, by Act, 1989)
Our Lady of Mercy College, Carysfort	Recognition granted, April 17th 1975 – 1988
St. Patrick's College of Education, Drumcondra	Recognition granted, April 17th, 1975 (College of Dublin City University as of October 1995)
Thomond College of Education, Limerick	December 9th 1976 - December 15, 1977
St. Patrick's College Maynooth	February 23rd 1910 – June 1997
St. Angela's College of Education, Sligo	April 1978 – December 2005
Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy	Member Institution from September 1st t 2005 - 1st July 2015 (First NUI conferring in October 2006) (Last NUI conferring October 2016)
Uversity	Recognition granted September 1st 2013 (First NUI conferring, 18 November 2015) (Last NUI Conferring, 14 November 2017)

Seanad Éireann Registration

Claim/Graduate Record Update



Ollscoil na hÉireann
National University of Ireland
Records Office,
49 Merrion Square,
Dublin 2 D02 V583,
Ireland

Phone +353 1 439 2424
records@nui.ie
www.nui.ie @NUI MerrionSq

Inclusion on the Seanad Register does not happen automatically. All citizens of Ireland who have been conferred with an NUI degree (other than an honorary degree) and have attained the age of eighteen years are eligible to become electors in the NUI constituency but must claim to be registered. Full information may be found at www.nui.ie/elections

Please complete all sections.
Please write in block capitals.

Provide names exactly as on birth certificate, or as at college registration if different. If you are now registered in your maiden name, but wish to be registered in your married name, include a copy of your Marriage Certificate with this form.

If this is different from your permanent address.

This address is needed for identification purposes.

The NUI Seanad Éireann Register is published annually on 1 June.
For inclusion in this register your claim must be returned by 26 February.

Completed forms should be returned to:
National University of Ireland
Records Office
49 Merrion Square
Dublin 2

We wish to maintain accurate records, and therefore appreciate being informed of any pertinent amendments, e.g. change of address, notification of death of a graduate, etc.

If you have other NUI qualifications (eg diploma(s)) that you want listed on the register, please enter then here.

Data Protection

NUI processes all personal data transparently and lawfully.

The data collected on this form are being obtained by the National University of Ireland, for the purposes of maintaining the Seanad Éireann Electoral Registers for the National University Constituency.

Personal data will be processed by the National University of Ireland, in accordance with NUI's general Data Protection Policy, available at www.nui.ie

NUI is obliged, [S.56(b) Electoral (Amendment) Act, 2001], to publish and supply, on payment of a fee, a **separate Edited Register** of those electors who wish to have their names and addresses made available for 'a purpose other than an electoral or statutory purpose'.

Surname

First name(s)

Other form(s) of surname

Date of Birth

Are you a citizen of Ireland?

Permanent address

Address to which ballot paper should be sent

Previous address

Phone

Email

Student Number (Please provide if known)

NUI degree(s) obtained

Degree title

Year conferred

Institution

Y Y Y Y

Y Y Y Y

Y Y Y Y

Other NUI qualifications

Qualification title

Year conferred

Institution

Y Y Y Y

Y Y Y Y

Y Y Y Y

I declare that the particulars given in this form are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and (if I am not already registered), I hereby claim to be registered as an elector for the constituency of the National University of Ireland.

I undertake to keep my details up to date and accurate by informing NUI of any change in my information.

Signature

Date of signature

D D

M M

Y Y Y Y

Do you also wish to be listed in the NUI Edited Register of Electors?

Yes No

This register may be used for 'a purpose other than an electoral or statutory purpose' including commercial purposes. [S.56(b) Electoral (Amendment) Act, 2001]

Foirm Éilimh Ag Lorg/Um Nuashonrúchán Taifead Chéimithe



Ollscoil na hÉireann
Oifig Taifead,
49 Cearnóg Mhuirfean,
BÁC 2, D02 V583, Éire

Fón +353 1 439 2424
Facs +353 1 439 2477
records@nui.ie
www.nui.ie

Is gá beart a dhéanamh chun a bheith in ann vótáil. Tá gach saoránach d'Éirinn agus a fuair céim, (seachas céim oinigh) in Ollscoil na hÉireann agus ag a mbeidh ocht mbliana déag slán, i dteideal a bheith cláraithe mar thoghthóir i dtoghadas Ollscoil na hÉireann ach clárú ar an liosta toghthóirí a éileamh. Tá gach eolas le fáil ar www.nui.ie/elections

Comhlánaigh gach cuid den fhoirm.
Scríobh i mbloclitriche le do thoil.

Tabhair d'ainm(neacha) díreach mar atá sé(siad) ar do theastas breithe nó mar atá sé(siad) cláraithe ar rollaí na hOllscoile. Má tá tú cláraithe anois faoi do ainm singil, ach go dteastaíonn uait bheith cláraithe faoi d'ainm pósta, ní foláir cóip de do theastas pósta a chur faoi iamh leis an bhfoirm seo.

Murab ionann.

Le haghaidh aitheantais.

Foilsítear Clár Seanad Éireann OÉ ar an 1 lá de Mheitheamh gach bliain.

Chun a bheith san áireamh, ní foláir an fhoirm chomhlánaithe a chur ar ais roimh an 26ú lá de mhí Feabhra.

Seol an fhoirm comhlánaithe chuig:

Ollscoil na hÉireann
Oifig Taifead
49 Cearnóg Mhuirfean
Baile Átha Cliath 2
D02 V583

Chun críocha Chlár na dToghthóirí a choiméad cruinn, cuir aon athrú in iúl don Oifigeach Clárachta, m.sh. athrú seolta, bás céimí etc.

Má tá cáilíochtaí OÉ eile agat (mar shampla dioplóma) gur mian leat a bheith liostaithe ar an gclár, cuir síos iad anseo.

Tá sé de dhualgas ar Ollscoil na hÉireann (Alt 56 (b) den Acht Toghcháin (Leasú) 2001) Clár Ath-Eagraithe ar leith a fhoilsiú agus a chur ar fáil, ach táille a íoc, de na toghthóirí sin gur mian leo go gcuirfí ar fáil a n-ainmeacha agus a seoltaí le haghaidh "gnó seachas gnó toghcháin nó gnó reachtúil" gnó tráchtála san áireamh.

Sloinne

Ainm(neacha)

Leagan sloinne eile a úsáidtear

Dáta breithe

An saoránach d'Éirinn tú?

Seoladh Baile

Luaigh an seoladh gur chuige is mian leat go gcuirfí an Páipéar Ballóide

Seanseoladh Baile

Fón

Ríomhphost

Uimhir mic léinn (Má tá sé ar eolas agat)

Céim(eanna) OÉ a bronnadh ort

Teideal céime

Bliain a bronnadh

Institiúid

Cailíochtaí OÉ eile

Teideal cáilíochta

Bliain a bronnadh

Institiúid

Sínú

Dáta sínithe

An mian leat a bheith cláraithe ar an gClár Seanad Éireann Ath-Eagraithe? Is mian Ní mian

Ceadaítear úsáid a bhaint as an gClár seo le haghaidh "gnó seachas, gnó toghcháin nó gnó reachtúil" gnó tráchtála san áireamh. [Alt 56(b) den Acht Toghcháin (Leasú) 2001]