

Offers

All offers of first year places at Institute of Technology, Sligo are made through the CAO, based on the applicants list of course preferences. Special consideration resulting from eligibility for Breaking the Mould, will be reflected in Round One offers, expected to be 21st August. The preparatory Summer School will commence at the beginning of September 2017.

Financial Information

The free tuition fees scheme of the Department of Education and Skills entitles EU students and some non EU citizens to free tuition on all full-time undergraduate programmes at Institute of Technology, Sligo. Breaking the Mould does not cover tuition fees and applicants must satisfy the Access Office at Institute of Technology, Sligo that they are eligible for free fees.

Breaking the Mould Access students are normally eligible for a Higher Education Grant. Information is available from www.studentfinance.ie and www.susi.ie.

Applications for a grant can be made on-line at www.grantsonline.ie

A student contribution fee set by the Minister for Education and Skills is payable annually. For 2017/18 academic year, this fee will be €3,000. If an applicant is eligible for a Higher Education Grant, the student contribution fee will also be paid by SUSI.

Final Word

Finally, we would like to offer a word of encouragement to prospective Breaking the Mould applicants as you learn about our institute and programmes of study. May you find satisfaction in your chosen programmes of studies and may we wish you every success in the future.

Contact

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The institute is not bound in any error in or omission from this leaflet.



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BREAKING THE MOULD ACCESS PROGRAMME 2017 Entry

Inspired
Learning.
Winning
Teams.

IT Sligo
An Institiúid Teicneolaíochta, Sligeach

Applicants commit
to participation
in the preparatory
Summer School

Breaking the Mould Access Programme offered by Institute of Technology, Sligo is designed for students who have the academic ability to benefit from and succeed in higher education but who are under-represented at third level due to a variety of social and economic reasons, including long-term unemployment, low family income or little or no family tradition of progression onto higher education.

The opportunity to participate in the Breaking the Mould Access Programme is available to students aged 22 years and under, attending a post primary school or educational centre within the BMW region, which encompasses counties Cavan, Donegal, Galway, Laois, Leitrim, Longford, Louth, Mayo, Monaghan, Offaly, Roscommon, Sligo and Westmeath.

What is Breaking the Mould?

Breaking the Mould will offer eligible students a place in their chosen course if they achieve:

- minimum entry requirements for that course (such as a mathematics requirement or two honours for a Level 8 programme) and
- within 10% of the points required for that course.

A free Summer School transition programme will be provided immediately prior to registration for participating students to ensure that they benefit fully from higher education.

A bursary will also be offered to eligible students who complete the summer school, to assist them with the costs associated with making the transition to third level studies. One to one mentoring will also be provided to participating students during their first year.

Who is Eligible to Apply for Breaking the Mould?

To be eligible for Breaking the Mould, applicants must be:

- An EU citizen by birth or naturalisation
- A non EU citizen with permission to remain in Ireland with a letter from the Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform, stating this
- Resident in Ireland or another EU country for three of the last five years
- Aged 22 years or under on 1st January 2017
- A first time CAO applicant who is a
 - first time Leaving Certificate student or
 - QQI Level 5 student who has previously undertaken the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme or
 - QQI Level 5 student who has never completed the Leaving Certificate.
- Family income must be dependent on social welfare or on a low income. In 2016 the income ceiling for eligible applicants was a family income of €30,500 for the year 2015. It is expected that for entry in 2017, the ceiling in relation to 2016 income will be the same as for last year.
- In cases of addiction, long term illness of a parent or sibling or any other circumstance within the family which reduces the income available or which discourages a student from progressing to third level studies must be confirmed by letter.

This must contain details validating the circumstances of the student and should be written by one of the following persons who must not be a relative: member of clergy, medical professional, practising lawyer, notary public/commissioner for oaths, peace commissioner, member of the Garda Síochána or school principal.

Applications

- Application for all first year places on courses at Institute of Technology, Sligo is made to the Central Applications Office (CAO), Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway, tel: +353 (0) 91 509800, website: www.cao.ie
- A separate Breaking the Mould Access Programme Application Form must be completed and returned directly to Institute of Technology, Sligo by **5.00pm, Wednesday 1st March 2017**.
- Applicants must submit financial documentation in support of their application by **5.00pm, Friday 31st March 2017**.
- A referee's report must be completed by the school and returned by 5.00pm, **Friday 21st April 2017**.
- The Institute of Technology, Sligo is not part of the HEAR programme and application forms must be completed. Forms are available from post-primary schools, educational centres, the Access Office IT Sligo or to download from www.itsligo.ie under student support services.
- Applicants are also asked on the application form to commit to a preparatory Summer school transition programme.

Entry Requirements

Minimum academic requirements for each course as outlined in the Institute's prospectus **are required** by Breaking the Mould applicants. For example, eligible Breaking the Mould applicants must achieve two honours in their Leaving Certificate for entry into a Level 8 programme.

