Access Service
Mature Applicants

IT Sligo. Inspired Learning. Winning Teams.

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A mature applicant is someone who is aged 23 or older on January 1st of the calendar year of application to third level education

Applying to Institute of Technology, Sligo as a Mature Applicant

Mature applicants, must apply to the Central Application Office (CAO), Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway on or before 1st February. Application forms can be obtained from the CAO or online at www.cao.ie. Applicants are subsequently interviewed by IT Sligo in April. The CAO also accepts 'late applications' before a May 1st closing date. A second round of interviews takes place in late summer in IT Sligo and late applicants are called for interview only if places remain unfilled on their chosen course. Late mature student applicants are advised to contact the Admissions Office on 071-9137323 with their CAO Number to ensure they are invited to the first round of mature student interviews.

Making the Transition to Full-time Studies at Institute of Technology, Sligo as a Mature Student

Returning to full-time studies can be a daunting task for many people as it may involve sacrifices in income and leisure time. Mature students are also more likely to have other responsibilities and commitments.

Experience in Institute of Technology, Sligo has been that mature students are highly focused and motivated in relation to their chosen course of study. They also have invaluable practical and life experience. Mature students as a group perform well in their studies and many achieve top of their class.

Mature Student Summer School – "A good start is half the work"

In order to allay some of the fears and anxieties experienced by many mature students, mature applicants who have been away from formal education for long periods are offered an opportunity to participate in the Mature Student Summer School. This free two week Summer School is offered as a support to the applicant rather than as a condition of offer and runs for the two weeks immediately prior to registration as a first year student in Institute of Technology Sligo. Students receive tuition in Maths, Computer Applications and Communication Skills and attend workshops related to the transition to full time education.

Students in previous years have found that the Summer School provided them with opportunities to confront any anxieties about returning to full-time education. They can also build up friendships and feel more confident joining classes at the beginning of term.

Other Supports

- Each year the Access Office produces a Financial Information Sheet for first year non-traditional students. It provides direction in relation to many of the financial queries that the Access Office receives from those considering a return to third level education. This information sheet is updated annually and is available from May each year.

- The Access Office has a list of childcare providers in Co. Sligo that are registered with the HSE, which is available from July each year.

- The Access Office meets with many mature students on an individual basis prior to and during their full-time studies at Institute of Technology, Sligo.

Useful Websites

www.itsligo.ie Institute of Technology, Sligo
www.cao.ie Central Applications Office
www.studentfinance.ie Student Finance
www.mabs.ie Money and Budgeting Advice Service (MABS)
www.maturestudents.ie Mature Students Ireland
www.citizensinformation.ie Citizens Information
www.sligochildcare.ie Sligo County Childcare Committee

Contact

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