INFO PACK 23/24

Welcoming our new International Students
INFO PACK
23- 24

WELCOME TO ATU SLIGO

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WELCOME TO ATLANTIC TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Fáilte!

I am delighted to welcome you to the inaugural prospectus of Atlantic Technological University (ATU).

We are very proud of our diverse range of programmes offered at our campus in Connemara, Donegal, Galway City, Mayo, Mountbellew, Sligo and St Angela’s. Between our campuses, we offer 600 academic programmes from pre-degree to doctoral level to a population of 23,500+ learners.

We offer a rich combination of academic and research excellence, quality of life and opportunity - all of which can be experienced in the beautiful west and north-west region of Ireland.

We deliver practice-oriented study, and research that seeks to address the major global challenges facing society.

If you join ATU family, we will welcome you and provide all the guidance and support you need to fulfil your potential.

We are dedicated to enabling sustainable economic, social and cultural development; connected to and serving our region and with a mindset that reached far beyond it.

The future is here.

Dr Orla Flynn
President of ATU
A very big welcome to all our international students. We are delighted to welcome you to ATU Sligo for the forthcoming 2023/24 academic year. For those of you who are returning to ATU Sligo, welcome back!

If you have any questions or need any assistance from the ATU Global team, please do not hesitate to contact us via email - international.sligo@atu.ie.

The ATU Global team is here to help you in whatever way we can. We will provide you with the necessary paperwork to support your application for a PPSN number, Irish Residence Permit (IRP) card (where required) and to open a bank account. Our Senior International Student Ambassadors are also available to provide pastoral care support to all the international student community at ATU Sligo. Together with our vibrant International Student Society and our pan-ATU community of International Student Ambassadors, they will also be arranging a calendar of cultural and social events throughout the year.

"There are no strangers here, just friends you haven't yet met." (WB Yeats)

Patrick Lynch
Director of Global Engagement
ATU Sligo
Securing the right accommodation can sometimes be a significant challenge for students. To ensure a positive experience, it’s imperative to make a well-informed decision that leads to a living situation that complements your lifestyle. ATUSSU are committed to guiding you through this process, offering as much support as needed. ATUSSU VP Wellbeing & Engagement James McGrath is the ATUSSU dedicated officer handling all accommodation related concerns. Contact support@atussu.ie. ATUSSU also operates a call-back service (+353719141887) Monday to Thursday 10:00 to 16:00. Available accommodation listings can also be viewed via the ATUSSU website.
We have compiled a checklist for your reference and convenience before you depart for Ireland. This is to ensure you are well-prepared for your new journey to Ireland. (This is not an exhaustive list; you might identify additional items which you deem necessary to prepare/pack.)

### Pre-departure checklist

#### IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

- [ ] Passport (with your valid entry visa if you require one)
- [ ] ATU Sligo Offer Letter
- [ ] Evidence of Guardianship Letter (under 18 years old)
- [ ] Flight Ticket
- [ ] Medical Insurance/EHIC
- [ ] Confirmation of your COVID-19 test results (if required)
- [ ] Confirmation of COVID-19 vaccination (if required, check if your vaccine is recognised in Ireland).
- [ ] Accommodation details (confirmation of booking or address you will be staying at when you arrive)
- [ ] Evidence of tuition fee paid, scholarship, or sponsorship
- [ ] Amount of cash (optional)
PART 2
ON ARRIVAL
ARRIVAL AT DUBLIN AIRPORT

Transport

When you arrive in Dublin, you have 2 options for travelling to Sligo: bus or train.

Students can also avail of the FREE airport collection private bus service from Dublin Airport to Sligo provided they arrive on either of the following dates: 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th September 2023. To book this service, students will need to complete the Booking Form.

There is direct bus from Dublin airport to Sligo Bus Station (Route 23). Some times go the whole way to ATU Sligo. Make sure to book if you wish to avail of this. This will take around 3.5 hours.

You can take the train from Connolly Station, Dublin to Mac Diarmada Station, Sligo. This will take just over 3 hours. Please note you will have to take a bus or taxi from Dublin Airport to Connolly Station.

Expressway

Irish Rail
AIRPORT COLLECTIONS

ATU offer free Airport Collections in order to take you from Dublin Airport directly to ATU Sligo and some of the surrounding accommodations.

Details:
- 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th September only
- You must book in advance. Please use the QR code below
- The Airport Collections are free of charge
- Only running from Dublin Airport
- If your flights change and you are still travelling on the above dates, you can fill out another form and let the International Office know (international.sligo@atu.ie)
- Pets can travel but must be in pet hold or cage for the entire journey
- Only the student may travel on the airport transfer. Family and friends will have to use alternative travel arrangements
- If you are travelling outside of these dates, you will have to make your own travel arrangements (See previous page)

Booking Form

[QR Code]
ARRIVAL IN SLIGO

Drop-off
While being transported from Dublin Airport, you will either be dropped off at the ATU Sligo main entrance or to your accommodation.

Transport to your accommodation
After arrival, you can phone a taxi or book a taxi through FREENOW app to send you to your home address. We recommend to prepare €20 cash for the taxi as some taxis don't accept card payments. (a taxi ride will generally cost around €5 - €10 within the town)

You may phone the following taxi numbers when you arrive in Sligo:

- Emerald cabs (071) 914 8888
- Sligo Taxi Service (087) 916 6666
- Zero Cabs (071) 915 4555
- The 4's Taxis (071) 914 4444
PART 3
START YOUR STUDENT JOURNEY
## ACADEMIC JOURNEY

### Semester 1: Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Induction</td>
<td>13th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Induction</td>
<td>14/15th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1 Teaching Begins</td>
<td>18th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshers Week</td>
<td>25th - 29th September (tbc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public holiday (No Classes)</td>
<td>30th October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Week (No classes)</td>
<td>31st October - 3rd November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Semester 1 teaching</td>
<td>22nd December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Examinations</td>
<td>3rd - 15th January</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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You can find the detail calendar at [https://www.itsligo.ie/academic-calendar/](https://www.itsligo.ie/academic-calendar/)
International Induction will take place on September 13th. This is separate to the General Induction which will take place on Thursday and Friday, 14th and 15th September.

On the 14th September, Induction takes place for students studying courses in the Faculties of Science and Business and Social Science. On the 15th September, Induction takes place for students studying courses in the Faculty of Engineering and Design.

Follow this QR code for more information on General Induction as it comes in:
If you just can't wait to see what ATU Sligo looks like, you can take a virtual tour of the campus right now by following the QR code.

On International Induction Day, you will be given a tour of the campus by our knowledgeable student ambassadors. There will also be more tours over the first 5 weeks that can be booked online. Keep an eye on your emails for this
OPENING AN IRISH BANK ACCOUNT

You may need to open an Irish bank account when you are studying at ATU Sligo. There are different banking options available to you including traditional banks or digital banks.

To open a student bank account in Ireland, you will normally need the following documents:

- Proof of your identity
- Proof of your address in Ireland
- Proof that you are a registered student

There are many different options for opening a bank account in Sligo:

- AIB
- Bank of Ireland
- Permanent TSB
- Money Jar (Digital Bank)

For more information, see the guide attached with the QR Code:
IRISH RESIDENCY PERMIT APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE (IRP CARD)

All non-EU students are required to get an IRP card while in Ireland. You will be booking an IRP appointment at Sligo Garda Station (Garda means Police).

This appointment is booked via email. You will require the following documents when you attend your appointment:

- A letter from ATU showing that you are fully registered for the Academic Year 2023/24. We will provide this letter after you are registered at ATU Sligo.
- Passport
- Tuition Fee Receipt
- Proof of medical insurance that covers you for being in Ireland
- The fee for the IRP card is €300 payable during your appointment. They accept all major bank cards

If you did not require a visa to travel to Ireland, you will need to provide evidence of direct access to €4500 if you will be staying in Ireland for more than 6 months.

When you have arrived in Sligo you can email to book your IRP appointment. There is no need to email to book that prior to arrival.

All non-EU students once they have registered at ATU Sligo will need to email to book their IRP appointment at the local garda station. Students should email sligo.immigration@garda.ie to make an appointment. For 1st time IRP cards students should state their full name, their date of birth, nationality and phone contact details.

Address:

Sligo Garda Station,
Pearse Road,
Sligo,
Co. Sligo,
F91 E372.
ESSENTIAL PLACES TO KNOW IN SLIGO

ATU Sligo Campus
The place you call your new home! It is located just outside the main town centre. It is approximately within 5 minutes walking distance from most student accommodation.
**Address:** Ash Ln, Sligo, County Sligo, F91 YW50

Sligo Garda Station (Police Station)
This is where you will be going to register for your Irish Residence Permit (IRP)/Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) Card after you made your appointment through email.
**Address:** Pearse Rd, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo
**Tel:** (071) 915 7000

ATU St Angela's Campus
Arguments can be made that this campus has some of the best views of any college in Ireland. The College is founded on over 400 years of education tradition, and will be home to ATU's students of nursing, dietary and many other disciplines.
**Address:** Lough Gill, Clogherrevagh, Co. Sligo

Sligo University Hospital
In case you are not feeling well at any time of the year, the first point of contact should be the ATU Sligo Health Service. However, you will sometimes be referred to the hospital, or you should directly get to the hospital in an emergency.
**Address:** The Mall, Rathquarter, Sligo, F91 H684
**Tel:** (071) 917 1111
Sligo Bus/Train Station
If you need to travel to other counties, this is the main transport hub in Sligo. It provides bus services to Dublin, Galway, Derry, Mayo, Donegal and other places in Sligo.

Address: 5 Lord Edward St, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo

An Post Sligo (Post Office)
Come here to send parcels, official documents, letters, or postcards etc. Check the website for more information https://www.anpost.com/.

Address: Lower Knox St, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo F91 R898

Johnston Court Shopping Centre
In here you can shop for a wide range of items, from grocery to pharmacy, sports goods, household items, clothes, food and drinks.

Address: O’Connell St, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo

Supermarkets

Tesco - British multinational retail chain
Address: Sligo Shopping Centre, 14 O’Connell St, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo

Dunnes Stores – Irish multinational retail chain.
Address 1: Cranmore Road, Sligo, Co. Sligo, F91 D92Y
Address 2: Wine St, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo, F91 ED71

Aldi – German family-owned discount supermarket chain.
Address: Cranmore Pl, Abbeyquarter South, Sligo, F91 YR27

Lidl – German global supermarket chain
Address 1: Finisklin Rd, Cartron, Sligo
Address 2: Cranmore Rd, Cleaveragh Demesne, Sligo

Sligo Spice Irish & Asian Supermarket
Address: Mclynn’s Terrace, Pearse Rd, Sligo

Pakiza Halal Food Ltd
Address: Millbrook House, John F Kennedy Parade, Riverside, Abbeyquarter North, Sligo, F91 DC4H
Ordering Food Online
In Sligo, the main online platform to order takeaway is JustEat.ie. You get to choose from a variety of food including Irish, Chinese, Malaysian, Indian, Italian and Mexican etc. Sligo also has a host of quality restaurants which you can dine in such as Julan Julan, Bistro Bianconi, Hooked and many more.

Ordering Grocery Online
Carrying shopping from the grocery stores can be challenging. There are a few handy websites where you can order grocery online from and most of them will deliver the goods to your doorstep with minimal charge.

- https://www.tesco.ie/
- https://www.dunnesstoresgrocery.com/sm/delivery/rsid/258/
- https://shop.supervalu.ie/sm/delivery/rsid/5550/

Getting a Taxi/Cab
Here, taxi is only one call away. Ring the number, state your pickup location and they will be there for you. There is a taxi rank on Quey St in town (opposite Lyons Café)

- Emerald cabs (071) 914 8888
- Sligo Taxi Service (087) 916 6666
- Zero Cabs (071) 915 4555
- The 4’s Taxis (071) 914 4444

Getting a SIM
You can get a Vodafone SIM card from the ATU Sligo International Office once you arrive in Sligo or on your bus transfer from Dublin Airport. It is optional for you to sign up for the plan as follows:

Set Up:
1. Pop your new Vodafone sim into your unlocked phone.
2. Text UNLIMITED to 50222 to avail of our Vodafone X student plan.

What do I get?
- Unlimited data (there is no cap on data, it’s truly unlimited)
- Unlimited any network texts
- 100 any network minutes & unlimited minutes from 3pm on Fridays until 11.59pm on Sundays
- Includes roaming across Europe
- More info available here

Cost:
The plan costs €20 for 28 days. To avail of the student offer, you will need to top up by €20 in one go. If you want to add more credit and do not want to reactivate/reset your offer, you will need to top up by €5, €10 or €15.
Contact us
If you have any queries or issues, please contact us:

International Office
Email: international.sligo@atu.ie

Declan Reidy - International Officer
Email: Declan.Reidy@atu.ie

Stephanie Aldridge - Erasmus Coordinator
Email: Stephanie.Aldridge@atu.ie

Other useful contact details

Student Union
Telephone: 071 914 1887
Email: support@atussu.ie

Health Service
Telephone: 071 930 5463
First Aid (emergency): 087 996 1873
Email: studenthealthservices.sligo@atu.ie

Counselling Service
Reception: 071 930 5463
Email: studentcounsellingservices.sligo@atu.ie

Disability Support
Email: disability.sligo@atu.ie

Admissions Office
Email: admissions.sligo@atu.ie

Examinations Office
Email: examinations.sligo@atu.ie

Follow us
Facebook: itsligointernatioanlsociety
Instagram: @atusligointernational
Twitter: @atusligo_global
@ATUSIntSoc
We can't wait to welcome you to ATU Sligo

See you soon!!