

Guide to providing evidence of your disability

This is a guide to help you identify what supporting documents are required as part of your DARE application. If your type of disability does not appear in the list below, please go to the “Providing evidence of your disability” section on www.accesscollege.ie or contact a member of the DARE Team for guidance.

Type of Disability	Appropriate documentation	Type of professional	Required age of report
Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)/ Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist OR Psychologist OR Neurologist OR Paediatrician.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2016.
Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger’s Syndrome)	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist OR Psychologist OR Neurologist OR Paediatrician.	No age limit.
Blind/ Vision Impaired	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Ophthalmologist OR Ophthalmic Surgeon.	No age limit.
Deaf/ Hard of Hearing: Students may apply under ONE of the following categories: (A) Applicants who have an audiogram (B) Applicants who attend a School for the Deaf (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant.	(A) Applicants who have an audiogram: (B) Applicants who attend a School for the Deaf: Letter confirming attendance from Principal of School for the Deaf OR Evidence of Disability Form 2019. (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant: Existing report confirming cochlear implant OR Evidence of Disability Form 2019 (DARE does not accept reports from high street retailers).	(A) Applicants who have an audiogram: Diagnostic/ Clinical Audiologist registered with the Irish Academy of Audiologists (IAA) or HSE Audiologist (B) School for the Deaf: Principal of School for the Deaf (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant: Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Consultant OR Cochlear Implant Programme Coordinator	No age limit.

Type of Disability	Appropriate documentation	Type of professional	Required age of report
Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD) – Dyspraxia	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report from: Occupational Therapist OR Neurologist OR Physiotherapist.	No age limit.
Mental Health Condition	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist on specialist register.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2016 .
Neurological Condition (including Brain Injury and Epilepsy)	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Neurologist OR Other relevant Consultant.	No age limit.
Physical Disability	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Orthopaedic Consultant OR Other relevant Consultant appropriate to the disability/condition.	No age limit.
Significant On-going Illness	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Relevant Consultant/ Specialist appropriate to the disability/condition.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2016 .
Speech and Language Communication Disorder	Evidence of Disability Form 2019 OR Existing report.	Speech and Language Therapist.	No age limit.
Specific Learning Difficulty (including Dyslexia and Dyscalculia)	Psychological Assessment Report	Psychologist	No age limit.

***Important note for applicants with specific learning difficulties.**

In addition to a Psychological Assessment Report of any age completed by a psychologist which clearly states a diagnosis of a specific learning difficulty (dyslexia/ dyscalculia), applicants with a specific learning difficulty **MUST** also have two literacy or two numeracy attainment scores at or below the 10th percentile (Standard Score of 81 or below) from testing carried out on or after **1 February 2017**.

These attainment scores can be from one (or a combination) of the following sources:

- 1) Scores from school-based attainment testing.
- 2) Scores from attainment tests carried out by a psychologist.

Attainment testing must have been carried out on or after 1 February 2017 and all applicants must submit an EIS completed by their school.