



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

Packing List & Helpful Hints

Carry-On Luggage

- Passport and any other photo ID
- Health Insurance documents – should include a full explanation of benefits (your insurance card is usually not sufficient)
- Copy of UCD Offer Letter (available on SISweb account)
- Laptop, camera, and mobile phone AND chargers
- Adapter plugs for UK/Ireland (can be purchased in Dublin, but will be cheaper if purchased in advance)
- Medications (prescription AND over the counter) and doctor's prescriptions or notes
- Small change of clothes and essential toiletries, in case checked luggage is delayed
- Any cash you are travelling with, as well as credit/debit cards

Checked Luggage

- Light clothing you can layer
- Warmer clothing (sweater, sweatshirt, jacket)
- Weatherproof jacket and shoes
- Athletic clothes (sneakers, t-shirt, shorts, etc.)

Helpful Hints

- Clearly label your luggage with your full name and UCD's address, in the rare event that your luggage is misplaced:
Your Name
UCD Merville Reception
University College Dublin
Belfield
Dublin 4
Ireland
- Be sure to check your airline's baggage allowance, as oversized bags charges can be expensive. There are laundry facilities on campus, as well as a shop where you can purchase any essential items you may have forgotten
- Dublin weather is very mild, especially compared with the Midwest, with very little snow in the winter and very few extremely hot days in the summer. It rains frequently in Dublin, though typically only light showers with few thunderstorms. Rain coats and/or umbrellas are a daily necessity in Dublin. It is recommended to pack layers, as the weather frequently changes from chilly and wet in the morning to warm and sunny in the afternoon. Below is a table with the average high and low temperatures for Dublin for reference:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average High °C (°F)	8.8 (47.8)	8.9 (48)	10.7 (51.3)	12.4 (54.3)	15.2 (59.4)	18.0 (64.4)	20.2 (68.4)	19.6 (67.3)	17.3 (63.1)	14.0 (57.2)	11.0 (51.8)	9.3 (48.7)	13.8 (56.8)
Average Low °C (°F)	3.9 (39)	3.9 (39)	5.2 (41.4)	6.4 (43.5)	9.0 (48.2)	11.6 (52.9)	13.5 (56.3)	13.3 (55.9)	11.4 (52.5)	8.8 (47.8)	6.2 (43.2)	4.5 (40.1)	8.2 (46.8)

- If you are bringing a laptop or any other devices please remember Ireland uses different plugs and you will need an adaptor. A UK/Ireland adaptor will have three prongs.
 - Ireland also uses a different voltage than in North America. Outlets typically output 220 Volt in Ireland, compared with 110 Volt in North America.
 - Electronic equipment should list the acceptable voltage, either on the device itself or on the cable/adaptor. In most cases, laptops and cell phones work with 100-240 Volts, while devices like hair dryers will only work with 120 Volts
 - If you plan to travel to continental Europe, you'll need another plug adapter!
- Cell Phones:
 - You will likely want to have a working cell phone while in Ireland. You have multiple options in this regard
 - Use your US phone and US cell phone plan – this can be an expensive option, as Verizon and AT&T international service is very expensive, while T-Mobile does offer competitive international rates. Check with your mobile carrier to see that your phone and plan will work abroad. This is usually a good option for your first few days in Ireland until you can set up an Irish cell phone plan
 - Use your US phone on an Irish carrier – this will depend on your phone working in Ireland. Certain phones are not compatible with foreign cell networks. Also, many phones purchased through a carrier in the US are “locked”, meaning they will only work with that specific carrier. Check with your mobile carrier to see if your phone will work abroad. If it will, you can purchase a SIM card from an Irish carrier such as Vodafone, 3, or Meteor. Plans are typically month to month and start around €20
 - Purchase a phone in Ireland and use it with an Irish carrier – cell phones can be purchased starting at around €50
- If possible, bring any prescription medications you might need along with a copy of your prescription. It is advisable to fill prescriptions for an entire semester at your home pharmacy in advance.
- Make photocopies of your passport and carry it in a separate bag from your actual passport - if it gets lost, it is easier to replace with a photocopy available.
- Towels and bed sheets are best purchased once in Ireland as they can be bulky to pack
- Money matters - if you plan to use a credit card or ATM/Debit card, call your bank or credit card company to inform them of your international travel. Also, check if they have fees for international transactions. If you prefer to use cash, you may exchange US Dollars for Euros at the Airport or order Euros in advance from your local bank to bring with you, though this may incur a fee.
 - Full time students will need open a bank account after arriving in Dublin. There is an AIB Bank Branch on Campus near the International Office and a Bank of Ireland Branch across the street from campus.