

Student Appeals || Student Guidelines

WHAT IS A STUDENT APPEAL?

Students are permitted to appeal certain decisions made by the University. **An appeal is a request for a formal review of a decision or sanction determined by a university body.**

The **Student Appeals Procedure** outlines the category of decisions that may be appealed, grounds for an appeal and the procedures that will be followed

WHAT DECISIONS CAN BE APPEALED?

Assessment Appeals:

- An appeal against the result of any assessment of students' academic work. An appeal against the result of a module can only be submitted against a final result, including an appeal against a component of a module.
- An appeal against the decision of the Academic Council Committee on Examinations on the award of a Research Master's Degree.
- An appeal against decisions on progression in and award of doctoral programmes. A student can appeal the decision of the Transfer Assessment Panel or the decision of the Academic Council Committee on Examinations on the award.

Student Conduct Appeals:

- An appeal against decisions made under the Student Discipline Procedure. Appeals may be made against decisions and/or any penalty applied under the Student Discipline Procedure.
- An appeal against decisions of School Plagiarism Committees.
- An appeal against decisions by UCD Residences in relation to breaches of the License to Reside.

Continuation, Progression and Standing Appeals:

- An appeal against decisions made by Governing Boards relating to:
 - Discontinuation of a student's registration under Continuation (Academic Regulation)
 - Fitness to Continue in Study
 - Student Fitness to Practise
- An appeal against decisions of the Ad Astra Academy to discontinue a scholarship.
- An appeal against decisions made by the Student Vetting Committee.
- An appeal against decisions made by the Risk Assessment Standing Committee.

PROCESS

1. Submit

Complete the Student Appeal Form, with all supporting evidence and submit it to:

Student.Appeals@ucd.ie

2. Review

Your appeal will be reviewed to make sure its permissible under the **Student Appeals Procedure**. You may be asked for more information.

3. Assessed

Your appeal will be assessed by the Student Appeals Committee. The Committee can decide to **uphold** your appeal or **not uphold** your appeal (reject).

4. Decision

The decision about your appeal will be emailed to you within **5 working days** of the meeting of the Student Appeals Committee.



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GROUNDS FOR APPEAL

Assessment Appeals

- **Procedural irregularity:** there is evidence that the procedures relating to a decision were not followed properly, which may have impacted on the decision.
- **Extenuating circumstances:** there were extenuating circumstances of which the relevant Governing Board was aware but had rejected, because the application was late and the Governing Board did not consider the reason why the application was late to be valid.

Student Conduct, Student Fitness to Practise, Fitness to Continue in Study

- **Procedural irregularity:** there is evidence that the procedures relating to a decision were not followed properly, which may have impacted on the decision.
- **New evidence:** information relevant to the decision, which for good reason was not available to the original decision-making body.
- **Disproportionate outcome or penalty:** the action or penalty applied was disproportionately severe with regard to the circumstances of the case (this ground for appeal may apply only to decisions made under the Student Discipline Procedure).

Continuation, Progression and Standing Appeals

- **Procedural irregularity:** there is evidence that the procedures relating to a decision were not followed properly, which may have impacted on the decision.
- **New evidence:** information relevant to the decision, which for good reason was not available to the original decision-making body.

BEFORE SUBMITTING A STUDENT APPEAL

CHECKLIST

Before submitting a Student Appeals Form please ensure that you have completed the following

- Read the Student Appeals Procedure to ensure that the decision you are appealing is in scope.
- Received a formal communication of the decision that you are seeking to appeal from the relevant decision-maker and that you have included a copy of that formal communication with your appeal.
- Completed all relevant sections of the Student Appeals Form.
- Included appropriate documentary evidence with your appeal.
- Checked that you are submitting the form within 10 working days from the after the decision was communicated to you. In exceptional circumstances late appeals may be considered, but you must submit evidence demonstrating why you were prevented from submitting on time.