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UCD Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship

Terms and Conditions 2026

Aim

1. The aim of the UCD Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship is to attract applicants of the highest academic calibre to pursue a PhD in the UCD School of Politics and International Relations (SPIRe) and to provide them with the training, experience and mentorship necessary for their professional development.

Funding

2. The Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship comprises a fee remission of the scheduled fee of the programme to which the student is registered plus a tax-free annual stipend of €25,000, payable in twelve equal monthly instalments. The scholarship is open to EU and non-EU students. All students are liable for the Student Centre Levy. The scholarship starts in September 2026 and only full-time September-start applicants will be considered.

Eligibility

3. The scholarship is open to candidates for the following full-time PhD programmes under the remit of SPIRe, so long as the candidate's primary supervisor is based in SPIRe and the application is for a September 2026 start:
 - PhD Politics and International Relations
 - PhD Quantitative and Computational Social Science

Continuing students, students whose primary supervisor is outside SPIRe, or students transferring only part of their PhD studies to UCD, are not eligible to apply.

4. The student's primary supervisor must be based in the School of Politics and International Relations. Any deviations from this during the scholarship term will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and could potentially lead to a withdrawal of the scholarship.
5. The 'UCD Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship' cannot be combined with any other award.
6. The 'UCD Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship' cannot be combined with full-time employment.
7. Applications will be accepted from suitably qualified applicants regardless of nationality or residence. However, applicants must make their own visa/consular arrangements to ensure that they are eligible to reside in Ireland for the duration of their studies. Applicants are



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STRONGLY advised to make any visa application as early as possible as this process may be time consuming and failure to obtain a visa in time for the commencement of the academic year will likely necessitate cancellation of the scholarship award. Applicants must also demonstrate capacity to conduct research and to teach at graduate level in English.

8. Scholarships will be awarded only to those who are full-time students and who engage full-time in research during the period of the scholarship.

Duration

9. The scholarship will be awarded for up to four years, with annual progress reviews. Continuation of the scholarship is contingent on satisfactory progress, to be determined by the Selection Board. The scholarship will terminate on any student's withdrawal from their programme.
10. Should a student submit their thesis earlier than four years, the scholarship will continue to be paid, as long as the student fulfills their teaching commitments.

Requirements

11. Scholarship awardees must apply to the 2026 round of the Research Ireland Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship. The deadline for applications is not yet available but likely to be in October 2026. If successful, the Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship will be rescinded, on award of the Research Ireland scholarship. If the Research Ireland grant does not cover the full fee schedule, the school will pay the outstanding balance.
12. All students in receipt of a Honohan Doctoral Scholarship are expected to provide mentored tutorial teaching or teaching assistance, and associated duties. This will amount to up to 6 hours per week for each of the teaching trimesters. In general, this will include tutorial/teaching assistant/head tutor hours and any of the following: attendance at lectures relevant to the module(s) being taught; meetings with module coordinators; preparation of teaching materials; an 'office hour' for students at designated times during the trimester; updating a module's virtual learning.
13. Successful applicants must be present at UCD by the start of the academic year. Typically, Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship awardees must be present at UCD for the entirety of the two teaching terms, unless explicit consent from the PhD supervisor and the tutor coordinator has been provided. This provision aims to account for students completing fieldwork or other research-related work that precludes them from being present.
14. All Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship students are welcomed as part of the UCD SPIRe research community and, as such, are expected to participate fully in the scholarly life of the School, inclusive of research seminars, conferences and other scholarly events.
15. All Iseult Honohan Doctoral scholarship holders will be required to maintain a log of their professional development and submit a reflective professional learning journal, in combination with a general progress report on their research, at the conclusion of each academic year.



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16. Should an Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship holder be unable for any reason (including medical reasons) to pursue his/her studies in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of the Scholarship, he/she must inform the School (via his/her supervisor and the PhD Director) within two weeks of such a situation coming to his/her attention. However, given the basis on which scholarships are awarded, UCD reserves the right to withdraw, suspend, reallocate or seek reimbursement of all or part of the scholarship.
17. It is the responsibility of the Scholarship holder to inform the University of any change to the circumstances on which the award of the Scholarship was based. The Scholar must also take responsibility for updating their personal records including any change of address, telephone, or e-mail on the UCD Student Web system within two weeks of such a change.
18. Once scholarship awards are issued, students must indicate acceptance in writing within two weeks of the notification being distributed by the committee. It is the student's responsibility to formally accept the scholarship offer – a non-response will be considered as declining the offer. Offers will be conditional on verification of original transcripts.

Further terms

19. The Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship is held subject to these Terms and Conditions. If any of the above are breached by a scholarship holder, UCD SPIRe reserves the right to suspend or terminate the Scholarship and/or will require the Scholar to reimburse UCD SPIRe for such payments as have already been made.
20. Successful applicants may be required to sign a consent form under the Data Protection Act 1998 in relation to data records concerning their registration status and academic record as well as the handling of student and other data.
21. Scholarship holders must be available to assist in the promotion of graduate studies at UCD recruitment events and within associated activities at School, College and University levels.
22. All publicity, including public lectures, publications, print materials and press releases, television and radio advertisements, websites, film, video and audio recordings associated with or arising from the research undertaken by a Scholar while in receipt of a Scholarship must contain acknowledgment of funding received from the 'UCD Iseult Honohan Doctoral Scholarship'.
23. Honohan Doctoral Scholarship holders will be subject to the general regulations, policies and codes of practice of the university, and the specific regulations, policies and codes of practice governing graduate studies and research, as may be amended from time to time by the university.



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and International Relations**

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**Scoil na Polaitíochta agus Gnóthaí
Idirnáisiunta UCD**

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24. UCD School of Politics and International Relations reserves the right to revise the Terms and Conditions of this scheme at any time.
25. The Head of School reserves the right not to award a Honohan Doctoral Scholarship in any given year.