

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 2023 OR Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist OR Psychologist OR Neurologist OR Paediatrician.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2020 .
Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger’s Syndrome)	Evidence of Disability Form 2023 OR Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist OR Psychologist OR Neurologist OR Paediatrician.	No age limit.
Blind/Vision Impaired	Evidence of Disability Form 2023 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: 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 2023. (C) Applicants with a Cochlear Implant: Existing report confirming cochlear implant OR Evidence of Disability Form 2023 (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 2023 OR Existing report.	Occupational Therapist OR Neurologist OR Physiotherapist OR Paediatrician.	No age limit.
Mental Health Condition	Evidence of Disability Form 2023 OR Existing report.	Consultant Psychiatrist on specialist register.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2020 .
Neurological Condition (including Brain Injury and Epilepsy)	Evidence of Disability Form 2023 OR Existing report.	Neurologist OR Other relevant Consultant.	No age limit.
Physical Disability	Evidence of Disability Form 2023 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 2023 OR Existing report.	Relevant Consultant/ Specialist appropriate to the disability/condition.	Must be less than three years old i.e. dated after 1 February 2020 .
Speech and Language Communication Disorder	Evidence of Disability Form 2023 OR Existing report.	Speech and Language Therapist.	No age limit.
Dyslexia / Significant Literacy Difficulties Students may apply under ONE of the following categories: (A) Applicants who have a Psychological Assessment Report identifying Dyslexia (B) Applicants who have Significant Literacy Difficulties but do NOT have a Psychological Assessment Report identifying Dyslexia	(A) Applicants who have a Psychological Assessment Report identifying Dyslexia: Psychological Assessment Report (B) Applicants who have Significant Literacy Difficulties but do NOT have a Psychological Assessment Report identifying Dyslexia: Section D School Statement	(A) Psychologist (B) Special Educational Needs (SEN) Teacher and countersigned by Principal/Deputy Principal	No age limit.

Type of Disability	Appropriate documentation	Type of professional	Required age of report
Dyscalculia / Significant Numeracy Difficulties	Psychological Assessment Report	Psychologist	No age limit

***Important note for applicants with Dyslexia/ Significant Literacy Difficulties or Dyscalculia/ Significant Numeracy Difficulties**

A full **Psychological Assessment Report OR Section D School Statement** must be submitted for applicants with **Dyslexia/ Significant Literacy Difficulties**. In addition, applicants with **Dyslexia/ Significant Literacy Difficulties** must also have **two literacy attainment scores** at or below the 10th percentile (Standard Score of 81 or below) from testing carried out on or after **1 February 2021**.

A full **Psychological Assessment Report** must be submitted for applicants with **Dyscalculia/ Significant Numeracy Difficulties**. In addition, applicants with **Dyscalculia/ Significant Numeracy Difficulties** must have **one numeracy attainment score** at or below the 10th percentile (Standard Score of 81 or below) dated after **1 February 2021**.

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

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

Testing must have been carried out on or after **1 February 2021** and all applicants must submit an EIS completed by their school.

Important Instructions

- Send Section B Educational Impact Statement and Section C Evidence of Disability documents and where relevant Section D to the CAO, Tower House, Eglinton Street, Galway by **15 March 2023**.

CAO Helpdesk

You can contact the CAO Helpdesk with questions on completing a DARE application. The simplest way to contact the CAO is by clicking on the 'Contact Us' button at **www.cao.ie**. Alternatively, you can call the helpdesk at **091 509 800**.

DARE will only discuss details of your application with you or your parent(s)/guardian(s).