

Important Notice

Student Visa Applications – Academic Year 2017/18

- **Completed Student Visa Applications** for the Academic Year 2017/18 (Sept/Oct 2017 intake) will be accepted from **Tuesday 18th April 2017** onwards.
- **Incomplete Visa applications** (missing key documents, information, etc.) **will not be accepted by VFS under my instruction and authority.** This office does not have the time or resources to deal with these applications and will not be doing so. Applicants must lodge a complete application only.
- **Offer letter** – Scanned PDF Copy from College to Student should be included
- **Education Results** – Original Certificate Class 12 Results and Undergraduate results (if applicable)
- **Student Questionnaire** – You must use the **February 2017** edition from our website www.irelandinindia.com. Applicants who fill out the wrong (older out of date) version OR who fail to fill the questionnaire out in a proper manner will be refused and will have major delays in their cases waiting for Appeals, etc.
- **Finances** – Applicant's should demonstrate that they have access to **€10,000** for the academic year. This can be made up of Bank Deposits, Education Bonds, Fixed Deposits, Student Loan, LIC's or similar type products. Large lodgements must be fully accounted for, and if due to asset sales, evidence of asset ownership and disposal must be supplied. Intangible and unverifiable type assets such as Gold and Cash in Hand are not considered for purposes of the finance assessment.
- **Bank Statements** – Owing to the possible effect of the demonetisation event in India, on personal finances, Bank Statements, where furnished as part of the finances, should commence from **1st November 2016**
- **Fees Paid** – Evidence of full fees paid OR a minimum of €6,000 fees paid and sufficient finances available to discharge the remainder in addition to the €10,000 living expenses for the year.
- **Police Certificate** – Cannot be more than **6 months** issued at time of lodgement of visa application
- **Health Insurance** – A Health insurance policy that will cover the student for hospitalisation, should they fall ill or get injured, whilst in Ireland, should be furnished.

- **English Language Results** – IELTS of **6.0** overall, of which no element of assessment was less than **5.5**. – Equivalent results for PTE, TOEFL and CAE also accepted. Test must have been sat within **2 years** of date visa application is lodged
- **Processing timelines** – Applications must be lodged at the VFS centre at least **6 weeks** prior to proposed dates of travel. Applicant's intending to avail of the **Approval in Principle (AIP)** scheme must lodge applications at least **7 weeks** before the proposed date of travel. Student Applications lodged 3 weeks or less prior to proposed date of travel will not be processed. If a student application is lodged late due to a delay in obtaining a key document, a full explanation of the circumstances of the delay should be furnished with the application.
- **Enquiries** – The Visa Office does not provide a telephone answering service. Please check our website www.irelandinindia.com for information, requirements, visa results and updates. Our website is updated twice weekly, **during the months of August and September 2017, it will be updated on a daily basis**. Our public enquiries mail is ndvi@dfa.ie. However, this address should only be contacted if ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. Most enquiries can be answered by reference to the website and information contained there. Enquires about updates on Visa applications that are within the processing guidelines on our website may not be responded to. For example, if we say that a 6 week processing limit applies, and you lodge your application and make an enquiry for an update after 2 weeks, none will be available, so there is no point in requesting any update in those circumstances.
- **Previous refusals:** - All previous visa refusals must be advised and copies of the refusal letters must be furnished with the application. – Undeclared refusals will lead to AN AUTOMATIC REFUSAL WITH NO RIGHT OF APPEAL AND A 5 YEAR BAN FROM APPLYING FOR AN IRISH VISA
- **Documents Authenticity** – The furnishing of false, unverifiable or bogus documentation will result in AN AUTOMATIC REFUSAL WITH NO RIGHT OF APPEAL AND A 5 YEAR BAN FROM APPLYING FOR AN IRISH VISA

I would ask the International Offices of all the Irish Colleges to bring this notice to the attention of their agents working in the field in India on their behalf, and ensure they fully understand the requirements contained therein.

Michael Stenson
Head of Visa Office
Embassy of Ireland
New Delhi

27th March 2017