

# Summer Scholars 2025



2 Week Academic Programme  
For Secondary School Students

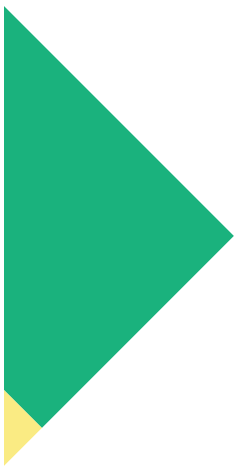
**Session 1:** 16 June - 27 June  
**Session 2:** 7 July - 18 July





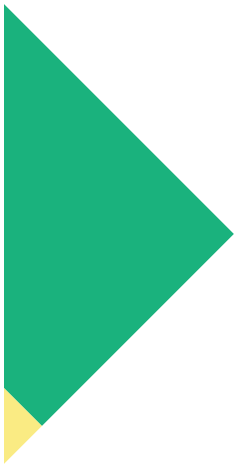
# Invitation to Participate

## in the 2025 Summer Scholars Programme



Since it was established by DCU over 30 years ago, the Centre for Talented Youth, Ireland (CTYI) has provided an inspiring space for thousands of gifted children and young people. The centre has played a crucial role in their personal and academic development, creating a safe and encouraging environment where they have been able to expand their horizons and challenge themselves in a positive way. CTYI is also a place where lifelong friends meet, bonded by their shared interests and talents.

Today, CTYI is the largest centre of its type in Europe, and remains the only such initiative on the island of Ireland. The success of the centre is thanks to the extraordinary work of the CTYI team. It is also due to the excellence of DCU teaching staff whose engagement with students continues to inspire - introducing participants to exciting new knowledge, skills and ideas. Furthermore CTYI has engaged in some groundbreaking research in gifted education with partners at Johns Hopkins University and William and Mary in the United States and numerous third level institutions across Europe.



The success of CTYI is very much underpinned by DCU values. The centre's work closely aligns with our University-wide commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. We believe that everyone should have access to an education that helps them to achieve their potential.

We are immensely proud of all that CTYI has achieved in its first three decades. Its work with children and young people has, without doubt, delivered on the DCU mission to 'transform lives and societies'. We look forward to the next thirty years.

**Prof Daire Keogh**  
DCU President

We are excited to host the 2025 Summer Scholars Programme back on the DCU Glasnevin Campus again this year. The courses on offer are exciting and challenging and will hopefully give students a glimpse of the third level academic experience. We can also offer a great out of class experience where students can make new friends and renew old acquaintances from previous years.

This is our 32nd year of CTYI courses and over the years we have seen the positive effect this programme has had on the lives of the students who participated. It is now the largest programme for high ability students in Europe. We have seen the changing profile of students over the last number of years and welcome twice exceptional students on the course as well as many students from socio-economic disadvantage. There should be no barriers to participate in this wonderful programme.

We really hope you can join us on DCU Glasnevin Campus for Summer Scholars 2025.

**Dr Colm O'Reilly**  
CTYI Director

# Application Information

**Full Fees**  
€600

**Application Fee**  
€300

**Balance of Fees**  
€300 (due before May 2nd)

Students wishing to apply for Financial Aid should contact [applications@ctyi.org](mailto:applications@ctyi.org) before sending their application. Financial Aid applications will require a minimum fee payment, which can be paid by Credit/Debit cards ONLY.

Balance of Fees forms will be posted with the Acceptance Packs in May.

Students will not be permitted to attend the Summer Programme until all fees have been paid.

## Avoid Delays in the Application Process

**Remember - First Come, First Served**

All course places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Applications will not be processed unless full information is provided. Please review your application carefully before posting it as an incomplete application will be returned by post.

The following items cause delay in the application process:

- **Missing Signatures** - Both the student's signature **and** parent or guardian's signature(s) are required on the application form
- **Fees Not Enclosed** - The initial application fee is required as part of the application for courses
- **Medical Form Not Enclosed** - The enclosed Medical Form must be included with your Application Form.

### **Please Note**

An online payment does not constitute an application on its own, and does not guarantee a place on any programme. You **MUST** complete and return your application form.

## Application and Fee Deadlines

**Financial Aid Deadline - Friday, 25th April 2025**

**Closing Date for Applications - Friday, 25th April 2025**

**Balance of Fees Deadline - Friday, 30th May 2025**



# Course Information

## Location

All Summer Scholars courses this year will take place on DCU Glasnevin Campus .

## Course Information

The Summer Scholars programme was developed to give students opportunities for greater challenge and stimulation than they would be used to at school. Drawn typically from a university curriculum, our courses are fast paced and cover material in more depth and at greater levels of complexity than is usual at post primary school. Students may also use this as an opportunity to trial run a university course that they may be considering in the future. Textbooks and hand-outs, where required, will be provided on the first day of class.

## Eligibility

This programme is open to all second level students aged 12-17 years, except those who will sit their Leaving Certificate in June 2025 (i.e. 1st - 5th years) All students attending should have been born after 1st August 2007. Please note applicants must have sufficient English proficiency as all courses are taught through English.

For enquiries about eligibility please email: [applications@ctyi.org](mailto:applications@ctyi.org)

## Course Structure

Students take one subject, which they study intensively for approximately 60 hours over the 2 weeks. Class sizes are small with 15-20 students. Overall, the student to staff ratio is approximately 5 to 1. Classes have an instructor and a teaching assistant. CTYI staff are chosen on the basis of mastery of the subject, enthusiasm and good communication skills.

## Course Choices

Students should think very carefully about their course choices, listing only those courses which they will accept if they do not receive their first choice. The more flexible students can be, the greater their chances of being assigned to a course. Students are assigned to courses on a first come, first served basis upon receiving your application.

## Course Allocation

Course assignment packs will be posted as soon as possible after the closing date to students who have been allocated places. Students who have not been offered places may choose to have their deposit returned or apply for any places in courses which have not been taken up. (Please note that refund requests must be made in writing). CTYI reserves the right to cancel or alter any course if, due to unforeseen circumstances the course cannot be run economically or efficiently.

Please only choose a course which you have not taken previously. Students cannot repeat courses, under any circumstances.

## Note to Returning Students

Enrollment is limited in many of the courses. It is very important for you to list alternatives and to apply in good time. Returning students should also note that this year's programme will instead be on the DCU Glasnevin Campus.



# 2025 Summer Courses

Session 1 16th June - 27th June	Session 2 7th July - 18th July
- Creative Writing - Engineering - Psychology	- Computer Science - Medicine - Zoology

## Computer Science

Instead of just a programming course, Computer Science introduces students to three major areas of the discipline: theory and algorithms, hardware systems, and software systems. In the theoretical side of the course, students learn about algorithms, Boolean algebra, binary mathematics, and theory of computation. While studying hardware systems, students will gain familiarity with the physical components of computers, digital logic, computer architecture, and computer networks. As students investigate software systems, they are introduced to elements of programming languages, compilers, computer graphics, and operating systems. Students will leave the course with a deep understanding of the how's and whys of computer science, and no programming experience is required!

## Creative Writing

This course is designed for young writers to improve their skills. The course will deal with various aspects of writing including short stories, novellas, and long narrative. A section of the course will be devoted to writing in verse, using metre and constructing poetry. We will look at the development of writing from the idea stage to the actual written word on the page. Works of established writers will be examined to help us with our craft.

The class will have a high practical element with groups of students forming their own writing workshops. Participants will be encouraged to submit extracts of work for evaluation, to read from their work, and to

participate in writing exercises in class, if they wish. The course is suitable for those with an interest in creative writing and who wish to learn new techniques to improve their work!

## Engineering

In reality, without engineers, the world would fall down around our ears. Yet, most of their work goes largely unnoticed. If we examine the world around us, practically everything man-made that we can see, an engineer has been involved in it. This course introduces the basics of the various fields of engineering. The class will work on developing the problem solving and communication skills that are essential for a career in Engineering. We are faced with basic needs in everyday life. It is these needs and providing for them that fuels the problems for which engineers must provide solutions in the most efficient, socially aware, aesthetic and cost effective manner. As the Engineering umbrella covers so many areas, this should prove to be a demanding, interesting, challenging and extremely enjoyable course.

## Medicine

Do you want to be a doctor in the future? If so, why not try this innovative taster course in medicine, which contains both theoretical and practical elements. Students will learn about health and illness with a focus on anatomy, the causes, prevention and possible cures and treatments of various diseases. The course will focus on problem based learning where these health practitioners of the future will be taught the basics of medicine using case studies, evidence from expert Speakers and advice from the



instructor. Debates and discussions will be carried out by the students on topics such as the value of alternative therapies, should blood and organ donation be compulsory, and will biotechnology be the way forward for medical treatments?

### **Psychology**

The aim of this introduction to Psychology is to encourage students to consider questions about the human mind, brain, and behaviour. Students will be stimulated to think critically and analytically as they review recent psychological research and engage with an empirical research project of their own design. Areas of Psychology which will be studied include personality, child development, social psychology, learning, research methods and the brain.

The course will be delivered in an interactive, dynamic group format intended to foster a questioning and evaluative stance in students. At the end of this module, students can expect to have a better knowledge of the scope of psychological enquiry as well as an appreciation of some of the methodological issues which span the field of psychological research today.

### **Zoology**

From microscopic investigation to the basics of veterinary medicine, Zoology covers principles of comparative animal anatomy, physiology, and genetics. This course begins with an overview of key concepts in zoology as students examine the characteristics of the animal cell and discuss heredity and issues of evolution, including natural selection. They then turn to taxonomy, as they study increasingly complex types of animals. As students' progress through the course, they research and discuss topics including animal behaviour, environmental adaptation, husbandry and domestication, and the human impact on animal life-including environmental degradation and species extinction. In lab work and in the field, students put science into practice: they learn to formulate research questions, gather and analyse data, and interpret results. On field trips to nearby zoos or veterinary facilities, students observe animals and meet with scientists to discuss current medical research and animal care.



# Student Life

This year, the Summer Scholars programme will take place on the **DCU Glasnevin Campus**.

## Getting to DCU Glasnevin Campus

DCU Glasnevin Campus is well served by public transport with several bus routes passing on Ballymun Road (4, 9, 11, 13, 155) on Collins Avenue (104, 220, 842, N4) and the direct to DCU bus, the 44.

Car Parking is available for visitors, though spaces can be limited. Please note access by car, and access to the car park is only through the Collins Avenue Entrance.

For more detailed campus information please go to: [dcu.ie/campus-maps](https://dcu.ie/campus-maps)

For details about car parking please go to: [dcu.ie/estates/information-parking-estates-office](https://dcu.ie/estates/information-parking-estates-office)

## Medical Services

Services provided on campus will be limited to first aid. Students may be referred by CTYI to other health care facilities e.g. private clinics, general medical practitioners or hospitals for conditions requiring additional diagnosis and care. In the event that a student needs to see a healthcare professional, we encourage parents to bring them. Where not possible, CTYI will make the necessary arrangements to take the student. Parents will be notified immediately in the event of a more serious illness or injury, or it is felt that the student should see a healthcare professional. Families are responsible for the costs of prescriptions and transport costs to and from medical centres and any health care beyond that provided free of charge on campus. Please note that these costs must be paid for immediately.

## Computing Facilities

There are computer facilities for those courses that require computers. There is no need for students to bring laptops or tablets to CTYI, however if they would like to they can. We recommend parents take out insurance on these items.

## What should I bring?

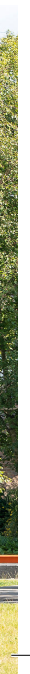
Specific information will be included in the Acceptance Pack that will be posted in May.

In general your child should bring warm, comfortable clothes for class, sports and other recreational activities. As the weather in Ireland is notoriously changeable, we suggest that students bring clothing which can be layered and also a warm, waterproof jacket or coat along with waterproof shoes for field trips and outings. They should also bring general class materials (paper, pens, pencils, notepads, calculators, etc.)

No water guns, bicycles, skateboards, large equipment (TV, etc.) or time consuming games such as video or computer games are permitted. Students may bring their mobile phone however their use is confined to times when students are not engaged in class or activities. CTYI highly recommends that parents take out insurance for these items. Rules concerning their use will be explained to students on their arrival to the programme.

## Advice to Parents

Some students approach their first experience at DCU Summer Scholars with a little trepidation. We would suggest that you try to encourage them to overcome these normal and natural apprehensions. However no matter how enthusiastic you may be about the programme, we do not recommend that you send very reluctant young people to Summer Scholars.



# Daily Schedule

Students are in class for four hours and forty five minutes each weekday. Class takes place between 10.00am to 3.30pm, with a short break around 11.00am, and 45 minutes for lunch.

10.00am	Class (includes a 15-min break)
12.30pm	Lunch
1.15pm	Class
3.30pm	Recreational Activities (optional, students may sign out at 3.30pm)
5.30pm	Sign Out

## Teaching Assistants

During the time they are not in class, students are supervised by their Teaching Assistants (TAs), and their time is highly structured. Each class has a dedicated Teaching Assistant. The TAs are usually university students, who are studying a similar discipline at university themselves. They are responsible for helping students in class as well as for leisure and sports activities and out of class supervision. In general, they help students adjust to life on the programme. They encourage a friendly and supportive atmosphere among the students and ensure that they observe the rules of the programme.

## Lunch

Students are supervised by the TAs during their break and lunch times. Students may bring a packed lunch. Students will have access to the Londis shop on campus to buy sandwiches, drinks etc.

## Recreational Activities

A varied programme of sport and recreation has been arranged in conjunction with the academic programme. The recreational activities are supervised by the TAs, with students choosing from a wide range of options, which could include team and individual sports, board games, discussion groups, drama, reading etc.

## Sign In and Sign Out

Students sign in at their classroom each morning, and sign out at the Site Office when they leave class at 3.30pm or after activities at 5.30pm.

There will be a designated person with whom students should sign out. Once signed in, students must not leave the campus at any time except with the expressed permission of the Director or senior staff member authorised for this purpose. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in immediate dismissal from the programme. Students off campus and unsupervised by a CTYI staff member are not covered by DCU insurance policy. We therefore accept no liability for them.





# Frequently Asked Questions

## **How many places are available on the Summer Scholars Programme?**

There are approximately 100 places available, 40 - 60 on each of the sessions.

## **When will I receive notification of acceptance for the course I applied for?**

You will receive notification of acceptance as soon as possible after the Application deadline, 25th April. Usually two to three weeks after the closing date for applications.

## **What if I withdraw from the programme before it begins?**

Refunds are not given to students who withdraw, unless in very exceptional circumstances. Requests for refunds must be given in writing to the CTYI Director and are given solely at his discretion.

## **What certifications are received at the end of the course?**

All students who complete a Summer Scholars course receive a certificate.

## **How are subjects chosen for the syllabus?**

Our principal aim is to choose subjects which are both interesting and challenging for the students. We try to find material that students would not usually have access to in school. Typically courses in this programme (for students 12-17 years) cover first year university material.

## **How much pocket money should my child bring?**

We suggest that parents give their child their normal amount of pocket money that they would have at home. Students may wish to buy lunch items on campus, or bring their own.

# Terms and Conditions

- Students who violate programme rules will be dismissed from the programme.
- Students may be asked to leave the programme if there is cause for concern around their welfare or health.
- No refunds will be made to students dismissed from the programme.
- Students and their families are liable for any damage they cause to university property.
- CTYI reserves the right to cancel or alter any course, if due to unforeseen circumstances the course cannot be run economically or efficiently.
- CTYI accepts no responsibility for items lost/stolen or damaged on the premises. We recommend students leave valuables at home.
- We do not return lost property so make sure when leaving that you bring everything with you.
- **Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.**
- Incomplete application forms will be returned by post.
- All payments and instalments must be paid on time, as shown on brochure. CTYI reserves the right to withdraw your application without refund if this condition is not followed.
- Fees are non-transferable.
- An online payment does not constitute an application on its own, and does not guarantee a place on any programme.

- You MUST complete and return your application form.
- Final course allocations are at the discretion of the CTYI Director, Dr Colm O'Reilly.

## Refunds

Refunds are not given if a student withdraws from the programme having been offered a place on one of their course choices, with the exception of medical circumstances. In exceptional circumstances only, written requests for a refund of Application Fees received up to and including 30th May will be considered. No fee will be refunded after **30th May 2025**. All Application Fees include a non-refundable processing fee of €100.

Refunds will be provided where a course is cancelled. No refunds will be made to students dismissed from the programme.

## Policies

DCU's Child Protection Policy can be viewed at: [dcu.ie/policies/child-protection-dcu-policies-and-procedures](https://dcu.ie/policies/child-protection-dcu-policies-and-procedures)

Details of CTYI Data Protection, Anti-Bullying, Garda Vetting and Equality policies can be viewed at: [dcu.ie/ctyi/ctyi-policies](https://dcu.ie/ctyi/ctyi-policies)

## Application and Fee Deadlines

Financial Aid Deadline - Friday, 25th April 2025  
Closing Date for Applications - Friday, 25th April 2025  
Balance of Fees Deadline - Friday, 30th May 2025

# Discipline

CTYI's rules are for the safety and well-being of all students.

Students may be **immediately dismissed** from the course for any of the following reasons:\*

- Bullying, in person or via social media.
- Threatening or intimidating behaviour / language toward staff or students.
- Being off campus without specific authorisation.
- Being in restricted areas of the campus unaccompanied by a CTYI staff member.
- Violating or putting at risk the safety and well-being of any person.
- Possession or use of alcohol, drugs or a substance controlled by law during the summer programme.
- Taking a picture, video or audio recording of a staff member or student without their express permission.

Students may be **subject to dismissal** from the course for any of the following reasons (on a case by case basis):\*

- Punctuality (applicable to all aspects of the course)
- Stealing
- Vandalism
- Not attending satisfactorily to their academic work, including repeated absence from class
- Inappropriate behaviour on or off campus
- Using computing facilities for purposes other than assigned course work
- Remaining on campus after signing out, including any time after final sign out at 5.30pm

**\*Or for other reasons which in the opinion of the director are of a sufficiently serious nature to warrant dismissal.**

## In Addition

- Students may not contact a staff member on any social network unless the account is a registered CTYI one.
- Students should not interact with those who are not part of the programme during their time on campus.
- Students should not use mobile phones or tablet devices at unauthorised times i.e. during class/activities.

## Insurance

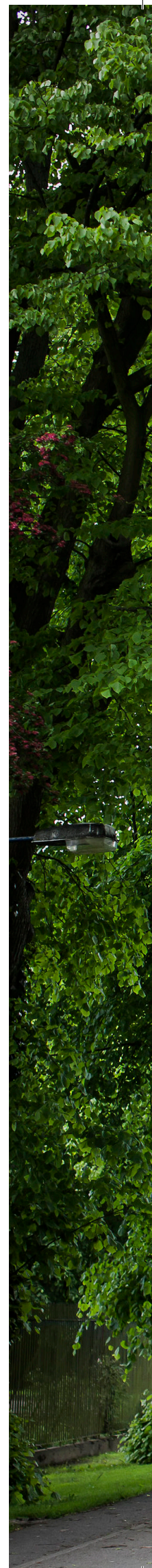
Students of CTYI are covered by Dublin City University's public liability insurance policy while in the care of CTYI. This cover does not extend to students who leave campus without permission or without a staff member in attendance.

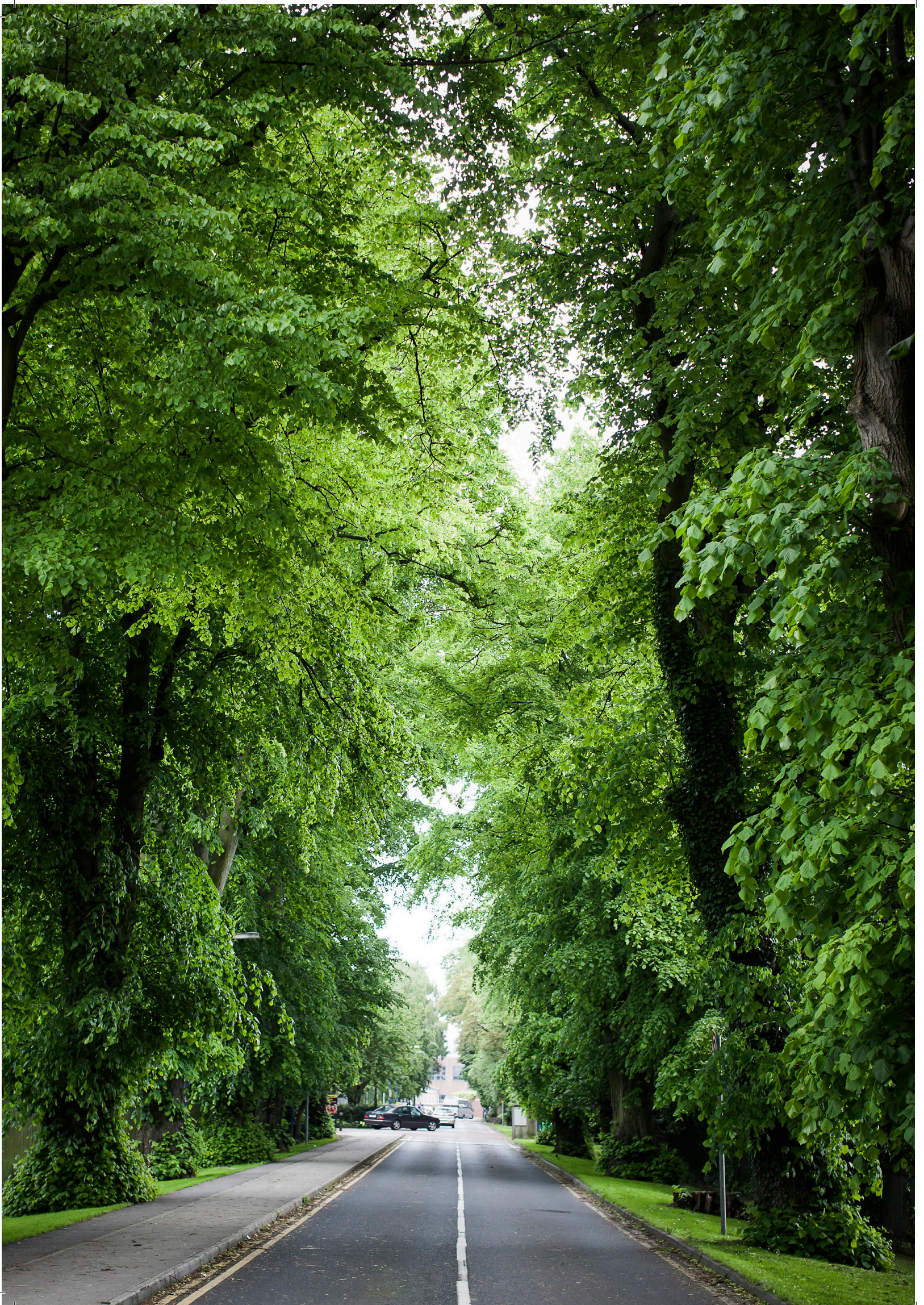
Previous CTYI students may not visit current students during the programme.

A student who has been dismissed from the programme will no longer be the responsibility of Dublin City University or of CTYI once their parent/guardian or a person nominated by them for that purpose has been notified of the impending dismissal and given reasonable time to make arrangements to receive the student. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that he or she or a substitute authorised to act on their behalf is contactable and available to receive the student in the event of dismissal. CTYI staff will assist in making travel arrangements for the dismissed student, and escort them to the airport or other departure point.

## Important to Note

Students who violate programme rules are subject to the disciplinary actions outlined above. No refunds will be made to students dismissed from the programme. Students and their families will be billed for any damage they cause.





# Contact Us

Student Applications  
[applications@ctyi.ie](mailto:applications@ctyi.ie)

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## Closing Date for Applications

Friday 25 April 2025

Post Applications to:  
Summer Scholars Programme  
CTY Ireland  
Dublin City University  
Dublin 9