



Ollscoil
Teicneolaíochta
an Atlantaigh

Atlantic
Technological
University

Welcoming our new
International Students

INFO PACK 24/25

Mayo Campus



ATU Global

Your Future is Here

INFO PACK

24/25

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**DR ORLA FLYNN,
PRESIDENT OF ATU**

WELCOME TO ATLANTIC TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Fáilte!

I am delighted to welcome you to Atlantic Technological University (ATU).

We are very proud of our diverse range of programs offered at our campus in Connemara, Donegal, Galway City, Mayo, Mountbellew, and Sligo. Between our campuses, we offer 600 academic programs from pre-degree to doctoral level to a population of 23,500+ learners.

We offer a rich combination of academic and research excellence, quality of life, and opportunity - all of which can be experienced in the beautiful west and north-west region of Ireland.

We deliver practice-oriented study and research that seeks to address the major global challenges facing society.

If you join the ATU family, we will welcome you and provide all the guidance and support you need to fulfill your potential.

We are dedicated to enabling sustainable economic, social, and cultural development; connected to and serving our region and with a mindset that reaches far beyond it.

The future is here.

Dr Orla Flynn
President of ATU



**JOHN JOE O'FARRELL,
ATU GALWAY-MAYO DIRECTOR
OF INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT**

Dear Student,

On behalf of all the staff in ATU and ATU Global, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you as you commence your studies here in Atlantic Technological University (Galway-Mayo). We are delighted that you have chosen to study here. International education gives you an opportunity to both study abroad and immerse yourself in a different culture.

Galway City you will find is a perfect location in which to spend either a semester or full year, cosmopolitan but yet not too large, friendly yet large enough to be able to maintain your own independence, and offering a wonderful backdrop of sea, lakes, wonderful countryside and a city steeped in culture and history.

Academically we want to challenge you, introduce you to new ideas and concepts, immeasurably improve your spoken English and see you return to your own country to tell your fellow students and lecturers how wonderful your experiences in ATU and Ireland have been. Many of you may also decide to remain in Ireland to work upon graduation, utilising the post-study stay back option provided by our Government. We have no doubt, that you will have a successful career, either in Ireland, at home, or wherever else in this globalised world that your career takes you.

You should note that ATU is now one of the largest universities in Ireland, with campuses spread across counties Sligo, Donegal, Mayo and Galway, all in the West and North West Regions of Ireland. ATU Global will be organising events throughout the year which will give you an opportunity to visit our other campuses and to meet all our international students, who are studying at our beautiful locations across the West and North West coastline.

During the course of the year, please feel free to contact ATU Global with any queries you may have. Elaine, Jorge, Noreen, Caio, the Senior ISA and I are here to help you.

Finally, I would encourage you to connect with us on [Facebook.com/ATUGlobalGalway](https://www.facebook.com/ATUGlobalGalway), Twitter or Instagram @atuglobalgalway so we can keep in touch throughout the year.

We wish you every success in the weeks and months ahead.

Your Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Joe O'Farrell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John Joe O'Farrell,
Director of International
Engagement (Galway-Mayo)
ATU Global





PART

1

PRE-DEPARTURE



ACCOMMODATION

We encourage students who have not yet secured accommodation in Mayo for the academic year ahead to do so as soon as possible.

Types of accommodation options for students include private rented accommodation, or student accommodation:

We advise you to act promptly if possible to ensure you have a room.

We also advise you to request to be included in the waiting list if the accommodation provider indicates no availability.

Mayo Student Accommodation

Hawthorn Village

Is a student accommodation apartments complex set within 25 minutes walk distance to Castlebar town and 30 minutes walk distance to ATU Mayo

To find out more information, please visit [HERE](#).

Phone Number:

+353 94 904 3900

Email:

hawthornvillagemayo@gmail.com



ACCOMMODATION

Private rented accommodation

Information about private accommodation options is available online from ATU's Students' Union on their [accommodation portal](#), if you have not yet booked.

Or you can try to find rooms, apartments and houses in private rentals accommodation on websites such as:

- [Daft.ie](#) (most popular)
- [Rent.ie](#)
- [MyHome.ie](#)

Please note that all accommodation is privately owned, and is not vetted or approved by ATU Global

Avoid Scams!!

Don't forget to be cautious if a place to stay seems too perfect and try to verify the authenticity of the accommodation provider before completing a booking or providing any personal information. (i.g. Arranging a video call to see the accommodation before making any payments)

Please get in touch with us if you have any questions about accommodation.

We have compiled a checklist for your reference and convenience before you depart for Ireland. This is to ensure you are well-prepared for your new journey to Ireland. (This is not an exhaustive list; you might identify additional items which you deem necessary to prepare/pack.)

Pre-departure checklist

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Passport (with your valid entry visa if you require one) | <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation details (confirmation of booking or address you will be staying at when you arrive) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ATU Galway-Mayo Offer Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Amount of cash (optional) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of Guardianship Letter (for under 18 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of tuition fee paid, scholarship, or sponsorship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flight Ticket | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Medical Insurance</u> | |

More Information about important documents required can be found on [ATU International website](#).

*Note: Make sure to check with your doctor about any medical condition you might have before coming to Ireland.

PART

2

ON ARRIVAL

ARRIVAL AT DUBLIN AIRPORT

Transport from Dublin airport to Mayo- (Castlebar)

There will be **FREE** private bus collection from Dublin airport to **Galway** provided by ATU Global, but only on certain dates and times. You have the option to book temporary accommodation in Galway to attend all the inductions on the ATU Galway Campus before moving to Mayo (Castlebar).

Please see the airport collections pick-up dates and times to Galway below:

- **2nd September (Monday)**
departing at 2pm
- **6th September (Friday)**
departing at 4pm
- **9th September (Monday)**
departing at 4pm

**** Seats must be pre-booked by filling the form below:**
<https://forms.office.com/e/nMu5Lvy1vL>

For other arrival dates and times, students will need to book a direct public bus from Dublin Airport to ATU Mayo (Castlebar).

The bus schedule is available here.

Route 721 : (Around 4 hr)

Bus tickets can be purchased through the following link:

<https://www.citylink.ie/>





ARRIVAL IN MAYO

Drop-off

While being transported from Dublin Airport by public bus, you will be dropped off at Stephen Garvey Way Station, Castlebar (5 minutes walking to ATU MAYO Campus)

Getting A Taxi

Here, taxi is only one call away. Ring the number, state your pickup location and they will be there for you.

- **Gibbons Taxi** (087 244 0245)



A large, empty classroom with a stage and rows of desks. The room features a wooden stage with a small table and a projector screen. The ceiling is white with a grid pattern of recessed lights. The walls are a mix of wood paneling and light-colored walls. The floor is a light-colored tile with dark blue stripes.

PART

3

**START YOUR
STUDENT JOURNEY**



ACADEMIC JOURNEY

Semester 1: Key Dates

Activity	Date
Induction Week*	10 September - 13 September
Start of Semester 1	Monday, 16 September
Public Holiday	Monday, 28 October
Reading Week - no classes	29 October - 1 November
End of Semester 1	Friday, 20 December
University Closed	25 December - 1 January
Winter Exams	3 January - 15 January

*All inductions are mandatory

You can find the detail calendar by clicking [HERE](#).

GETTING A SIM

There are several mobile network providers in Ireland. They offer a range of different options and price plans.

Main SIM providers:

- [3 Mobile](#)
- [GoMo](#)
- [48](#)
- [Eir](#)
- [Vodafone](#)
- [Tesco Mobile](#)
- [Lyca Mobile](#)



Some providers offer special plans for students with competitive rates for calls and data

To compare the prices you can [CLICK HERE](#)

Types of SIM Cards:

- **Prepaid:** Pay-as-you-go per month (most common plan option).
- **Postpaid (Bill Pay):** Requires a monthly contract plan

Note

If your phone is locked in your country, make sure to unlock it before coming to Ireland so you can change your SIM freely.

Choose the right plan for you having in mind data, calls and text not only the price!





IRISH RESIDENCY PERMIT APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE (IRP CARD)

All non-EU students are required to get an IRP card while in Ireland. You must book your one IRP card appointment at Castlebar Garda Station (garda means Police).

Please note that you need to book your appointment by emailing castlebar.immigration@garda.ie with your full name, passport number, and the name of the university.

You must prepare all the following paper-documents before you attend your appointment:

- A letter from ATU Global confirming that you are fully registered for the Academic Year 2024/25. You can request the letter [HERE](#) using your ATU student account
- Passport
- Proof of your address in Ireland (Any utility bill or letter from landlord)
- Proof of medical insurance
- The fees for the IRP card is €300 payable during your appointment.

Payment is accepted only via physic debit/credit card, which must be verified by Chip & Pin or signature. Please note that cash payments and tap your card are not accepted

- Bank Statement with evidence of €4,500. *only for students that did NOT need a visa to enter Ireland*

More Information about visa documents can be found [HERE](#)

OPEN AN IRISH BANK ACCOUNT

You need to open an Irish bank account when you are studying at ATU Mayo.

There are different banking options available to you:

- AIB (Allied Irish Banks)
- BOI (Bank of Ireland)
- Permanent TSB
- Revolut (Digital Bank)

The bank will require you to have the following with you when opening your account:

- IRP Card & Passport
- Proof of your address in Ireland (Any utility bill, rental agreement, or a letter from your landlord)
- Letter from ATU Galway-Mayo

Click [AIB](#) or [BOI](#) to look at the guide to set up a bank account.

[Revolut](#) is now a licensed Digital bank in Ireland with Irish IBAN.

While you are waiting for your IRP card, you may consider setting up an account with a digital bank such as:

- [N26](#)
- [Money Jar](#)
- [Wise](#)



ESSENTIAL PLACES TO KNOW IN MAYO

(The approximate time provided is measured from ATU MAYO main campus)



ATU Mayo Campus

The place you call your new home! It is approximately 10 minutes walking distance from the Galway Town.

Address: Westport Rd, Knockaphunta, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Castlebar Shopping Centre

Here you can shop for a wide range of items.

Address: New Antrim St, Knockthomas, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 VR92

Approx. walking time: 20 minutes

Allied Irish Bank (AIB)

The nearest AIB Bank from campus. It is located at the main street.

Address: Main St, Knockacroghery, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 12 minutes

Castlebar Garda Station (Police Station)

This is where you will be going to register for your Irish Residence Permit (IRP)/ Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) Card.

Address: The Mall, Curragh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 KC58



Stephen Gravey Way Castlebar

If you need to travel to other counties by bus, this is the bus station. It provides bus services to Dublin, Tuam, Athlone, etc.

Address: Knockacroghery, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 10 minutes

Castlebar Train Station

If you need to travel by train here is the Castlebar(Mayo) Train Station.

Address: Station Rd, Saleen, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 26 minutes

An Post Sligo (Post Office)

Come here to send parcels, official documents, letters, or postcards etc.

Address: 9 Hopkins Rd, Knockacroghery, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 12 minutes

Grocery Store List

- **Tesco - British multinational retail chain**

Address: Market St, Knockacroghery, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 10 mins

- **Dunnes Stores – Irish multinational retail chain**

Address: Hopkins Rd, Knockacroghery, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 12 minutes

- **Lidl – German global supermarket chain**

Address: Moneen Rd, Springfield, Gorteendrunagh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 26 minutes

- **Aldi – German family-owned discount supermarket chain**

Address: Lannagh Road Retail Park, Knockacroghery, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 15 minutes

- **Castlebar Halal Foods – Asian market**

Address: Rush St, Knockthomas, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Approx. walking time: 15 minutes

OTHER INFORMATION

Ordering Grocery Online

There are a few handy websites where you can order groceries online. Most of them will deliver the goods to your doorstep with minimal charge.

- [Dunnes Stores](#)
- [Tesco](#)

Ordering Food Online

In Mayo, you can use [JustEat](#) to order takeaway.

Young Adult or Student Leap Card

Get 50% off adult public transport fares with the Young Adult (19-25) or Student Leap Card

To Apply:

[Click here](#)

For more information about Leap Card [CLICK HERE!](#)



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[@atu.internationalsociety](#)

Contact us

If you have any queries or issues, please contact us:

ATU Global (International Office)

Email: international.galwaymayo@atu.ie

Gabriella Cardoso - Senior International Student Ambassador

Email: gabriella.cardoso@atu.ie

Lee Ren Yee - Senior International Student Ambassador

Email: leeren.yee@atu.ie

Health Service

Reception: +353 (0) 91 74 2228 / 087 9971574

Email: Studenthealthunit.galwaymayo@atu.ie

Counselling Service

Reception: +353 (0)91 74 2118

Email: counselling@atu.ie



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