

EQUAL ACCESS

TO HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ALL

WHAT IS THE **EQUAL ACCESS SURVEY**?

The Equal Access Survey is an annual, **voluntary** set of questions asked of first year full-time and part-time undergraduate students to Higher Education Authority (HEA)-funded institutions. The questions are asked as part of the registration process at the start of the academic year.

WHO CONDUCTS THE **EQUAL ACCESS SURVEY**?

The Equal Access Survey is conducted by your institution and data from the survey is returned to the HEA for analysis purposes¹.

WHY IS THE **EQUAL ACCESS SURVEY CONDUCTED**?

With information obtained from the Equal Access Survey, the HEA can **measure progress on national targets relating to equity of access to higher education and can develop the evidence base to inform policy in this area.**

WHAT INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

To help progress the goal of equal access to higher education for all, information is gathered on the **disability, ethnicity (including members of the Irish Traveller and Roma communities), lone parenthood status** and commute time of students to higher education².

IS COMPLETING THE **EQUAL ACCESS SURVEY MANDATORY**?

While all students are encouraged to complete the Equal Access Survey, it is **not mandatory**. However, answering the survey questions will help in developing a better understanding of the student population and their needs. Non-response may have implications for the amount of State funding allocated to your institution.



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The HEA promotes equality of access to higher education for people with disabilities, mature students who previously had not the opportunity to access higher education, those facing social and economic barriers and minority groups, including the Traveller and Roma communities. The HEA also administers the Fund for Students with Disabilities, the Student Assistance Fund, the Programme for Access to Higher Education and the Springboard+ initiative.

If you would like further information, please contact access@hea.ie

¹ Only aggregate anonymous data is published.

² The information gathered is protected by robust data protection policies in your institution and in the HEA, in full compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and data protection legislation, and subject to audit by the Data Protection Commission. Please see the HEA's Data Privacy Notice at https://hea.ie/about-us/data_protection/

COTHROIME ROCHTANA

AR AN ARD-OIDEACHAS DO CHÁCH

CÉARD IS SUIRBHÉ AR CHOTHROIME ROCHTANA ANN?

Is éard atá i gceist leis an Suirbhé ar Chothroime Rochtana ná sraith ceisteanna **deonacha** a chuirfear go bliantúil ar mhic léinn lánaimseartha sa chéad bhliain agus ar fhochéimithe nua páirtaimseartha ina hinstiúidí atá maoinithe ag an tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas. Cuirtear na ceisteanna mar chuid den phróiseas clárúcháin ag tús na bliana acadúla.

CÉ A DHÉANANN AN SUIRBHÉ AR CHOTHROIME ROCHTANA?

Déantar an Suirbhé ar Chothroime Rochtana i d'institiúid agus tugtar sonraí ón suirbhé don Údarás um Ard-Oideachas i gcomhair anailíse¹.

CÉN FÁTH A DHÉANTAR AN SUIRBHÉ AR CHOTHROIME ROCHTANA?

Agus eolas ón Suirbhé ar Chothroime Rochtana acu, **is féidir leis an Údarás um Ard-Oideachas spriocanna náisiúnta maidir le cothroime rochtana ar ardoideachas a thomhas agus an bonn fianaise a fheabhsú chun cur le polasaithe sa réimse seo.**

CÉN EOLAS A BHAILÍTEAR?

Chun dul chun cinn a dhéanamh ar an aidhm cothroime rochtana ar ardoideachas do chách, bailítear eolas maidir **le míchumas, eitneacht (ina measc baill de phobal Taistealaithe na hÉireann agus den phobal Romach), stádas tuismitheora aonair** agus cé chomh fada is a thógann an turas do mhic léinn ar an ard-oideachas².

AN BHFUIL AN SUIRBHÉ AR CHOTHROIME ROCHTANA ÉIGEANTACH?

Cé go spreagtar gach mac léinn uile chun an Suirbhé ar Chothroime Rochtana a líonadh, **níl sé éigeantach**. Is cabhair iad na freagraí, áfach, le tuiscint níos fearr ar na mic léinn agus ar na riachtanais atá acu a fhorbairt. Mura líontar an suirbhé d'fhéadfadh impleachtaí a bheith i gceist maidir leis an méid maoinithe a fhaigheann do choláiste ón Stát.



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Cuireann an UAO cothroime rochtana ar an ardoideachas chun cinn do dhaoine faoi mhíchumas, mic léinn lánfhasta nach raibh an deis acu riamh cheana an t-ardoideachas a rochtain, iad siúd ag tabhairt aghaidhe ar bhaic shóisialta agus eacnamaíocha, agus grúpaí mionlaigh, an Lucht Taistil agus Romach san áireamh. Reáchtáilann an tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas an Ciste do Mhic Léinn Faoi Mhíchumas, an Ciste Cúnaimh do Mhic Léinn, an Clár do Rochtain ar an Ard-Oideachas agus an tionscnamh Springboard+.

Má tá tuilleadh eolais uait, déan teagmháil, le do thoil, le access@hea.ie

¹ Ní fhoilsítear ach sonraí comhiomlána, gan ainm.

² Tá an t-eolas a bhailítear cosanta ag polasaithe daingne cosanta sonraí i d'institiúid agus san tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas, i lánchomhlíonadh leis an Rialachán Ginearálta maidir le Cosaint Sonraí (RGSC) agus le reachtaíocht maidir le cosaint sonraí, agus faoj réir iniúchta an Choimisinéir Cosanta Sonraí. Tabhair do d'aire le do thoil, Fógra an Údarás um Ard-Oideachas maidir le Príobháideachas Sonraí ar https://hea.ie/about-us/data_protection/