

Fully Funded PhD School of Law PhD Scholarship 2025-26

The Opportunity

The School of Law at University College Cork invites applications for a PhD scholarship (fully funded plus €25,000 stipend, tenable for up to four years).

The closing date for applications is on or before **5p.m. (Irish time) Friday, 20 June 2025**.

The Scholarship is open to candidates commencing their full-time studies in September 2025 or currently in the first year of their full-time PhD studies at UCC.

Candidate requirements

Essential requirements:

- (1) EITHER a first class honours undergraduate degree (or equivalent), OR a high 2.1 honours degree (or equivalent) supplemented by outstanding subsequent academic or professional accomplishments; AND
- (2) EITHER a Master's degree OR extensive and relevant professional experience

Desirable:

Some experience of teaching, publication or other research-related activities.

Other requirements:

The scholarship is available for full-time PhD study only. The scholarship holder will normally be expected to reside in the Munster region and may have opportunities to teach or tutor while undertaking their PhD (which would be remunerated separately). It is not possible to combine this opportunity with full-time work elsewhere.

The School of Law particularly welcomes applications from groups that are underrepresented in doctoral study and/or their field of Law. The School has a strong commitment to diversity, inclusion and equity.

Potential applicants are very welcome to contact lawpostgrad@ucc.ie to discuss the requirements, particularly how your professional experience in the field might supplement your academic record, or any accessibility or other needs you might have.

Condition of appointment for those commencing their PhD studies for the first time in September 2025

In the case of a successful applicant commencing their full-time studies for the first time at UCC in September 2025, it is a condition of the award of funding that they apply for Research Ireland funding during their first year and, if successful, funding will then come from that alternative source. If unsuccessful in their application to Research Ireland, the School of Law will continue to fund the PhD.

Application Requirements

1. You must apply for admission to the PhD programme through [UCC's application system](#).
2. In parallel applicants must also complete a detailed and original research proposal, using the [School of Law, UCC PhD Scholarship Application 2025-26](#).

The proposal must contain the following:

- (a) Description of project, including aims and central research questions (up to 500 words)
 - (b) Methodology, including theoretical framework and investigative and analytical methods (up to 500 words)
 - (c) Relationship to existing literature and proposed contribution to knowledge in the field of study (up to 500 words)
 - (d) Outline research plan, including organisation and timeline of proposed work (up to 500 words)
 - (e) Statement of suitability of UCC School of Law to host your proposed research project (up to 250 words)
 - (f) Bibliography
 - (g) A personal statement detailing why you wish to undertake this particular research project (up to 500 words)
3. All applications must have secured the support of a potential supervisor or supervisors in the School of Law. Applicants will be required to confirm in the application form that they have been in contact with the prospective supervisor(s).
 4. A sample of academic writing (this could be a publication, a research paper from university studies, or a chapter of a dissertation or thesis) which must be submitted to lawpostgrad@ucc.ie.
 5. All applicants must submit a two-page CV providing biographical details, qualifications, relevant work experience, and any publications or teaching experience to lawpostgrad@ucc.ie.
 6. All applications must also be accompanied by two references (either two academic references or one academic and one employment-related reference) which must be submitted to lawpostgrad@ucc.ie.

All elements must be completed and submitted on or before **5pm (Irish time), Friday, 20th June 2025**.

Shortlisted candidates may be interviewed online.

Information on UCC and the School of Law

University College Cork is a comprehensive research-intensive public university in the south of Ireland. The institutional research agenda is centred around UCC Futures which is an ambitious programme of research prioritisation coupled with an innovative academic recruitment strategy across ten indicative areas of strategic importance that will build a foundation for economic, societal, and cultural resilience and prosperity.

The School is in the top 100 Law Schools in the world in the current QS rankings and has secured an Athena Swan bronze award. The School has national and international experts across the legal discipline and delivers the highest quality research with regularly published output in leading national and international academic journals, monographs and texts.

Much of the School's research is focused around its research centres and collaborative research networks and groups: [Research | University College Cork](#). UCC School of Law boasts one of Ireland's most successful graduate research programmes in Law. Students are provided with an unparalleled experience within a well-established and vibrant community of doctoral scholars, with easy access to experienced supervisors who are internationally recognised experts in their fields and a suite of tailored supports, facilities and activities.