



# UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire  
University College Cork, Ireland

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for potential applicants to the PgC/PgD/MSc Medical Imaging & Radiation Sciences (MIRS) Programme

### Do I need to have studied a specific prior Degree?

Yes, a suitable existing qualification is required i.e. in diagnostic radiography or radiation therapy (radiotherapy). There will be some exceptions to this, and it is recommended that you contact the Programme Director / Admission Team with specific enquiries ([mirt@ucc.ie](mailto:mirt@ucc.ie))

### Do I need to appropriate state / national registration in a particular profession?

Yes, a suitable professional / state registration is required, for example CORU registration within Ireland or HCPC within the UK. There will be some exceptions to this, and it is recommended that you contacted the Programme Director / Admission Team with specific enquiries ([mirt@ucc.ie](mailto:mirt@ucc.ie))

### What classification of prior Degree do I need?

As a guide, a 2:2 with honours in a Level 8 degree is the minimum. A high classification will mean that your application is likely to be more competitive. As with the type of degree, applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### Do I need a specific background?

Yes, the course is primarily intended for those working in either radiology or radiation therapy (radiotherapy).

### Is it competitive?

Yes, it is important that you pay attention to your application, complete all elements of it, make it an example of your best work. It is a good idea to have others read over your applications to ensure that it demonstrates clear motivations applicable to the Programme. Common issues with rejected applications include:-

- Too short, rushed, with insufficient detail to judge motivation.
- It is copied and pasted from another application and refers to another course.
- It has spelling mistakes and grammatical errors.
- It focusses on what you have done in the past not on your motivation to study MIRS (and specifically the individual pathway).
- It is unspecific, shows little knowledge of what the Programme entails.

### What can I do to improve my chances?

1. Get the best prior Degree classification you can.
2. Visit our website, understand the course structure and fees <https://www.ucc.ie/en/pcmirs/>
3. Watch our videos
4. Understand how your prior medical imaging and / or radiation therapy experience can help you on the MIRS Programme.
5. Consider what personal qualities do you think you need to progress on the MIRS Programme.
6. Consider why you want to be part of the UCC MIRS Programme.
7. Consider how will you apply what you have previously learned / work experience to the MIRS Programme.
8. Complete all aspects of the application form.

### Where do I apply?

You can apply for postgrad course through [www.UCC.ie/apply](http://www.UCC.ie/apply) Search for Code PCMIRS PGMIRS MCMIRS

### What is the selection process?

1. Apply from all year.
2. Shortlisting in on a rolling basis.
3. Places are offered based on the application form.
4. Begin late September / January

### What is the course structure?

It varies depending on the individual qualification, for example the Post-graduate Certificate in Medical Imaging & Radiation Sciences (MIRS) is one year in duration. The Diploma is 2 years and the Master's is between 3 and 4 years).

### What Pathways are currently available?

This is a new course at UCC and currently we are recruiting for the Computed Tomography pathway starting September 2024 and January 2025. We are also recruiting for the Management & Leadership pathway starting January 2025. Further Pathways will also be introduced over the next few years and details will be provided on the appropriate webpages.

### In terms of clinical experience / placement, what is expected?

You will be expected to have access to relevant clinical experience / an appropriate placement within your current employment. This will be determined during the application process, but it is for you to arrange relevant clinical experience not UCC. You will also be expected to have a clinical mentor within your current workplace, again this will be determined / discussed during the application process.

### What are the English language requirements?

English language requirements can be found here

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/study/comparison/english/postgraduate/>

### What are the fees?

PgCert - <https://www.ucc.ie/en/pcmirs/>

PgDip - <https://www.ucc.ie/en/pdmirs/v>

MSc - <https://www.ucc.ie/en/msmirs/>

Money Matters discussed here for UCC students.

<https://youtu.be/jjPDK7CUBzk>

It is also useful to look at the STUDENT FINANCE 101 Manual. Explore how you can fund your studies at one of Ireland's leading research universities.

[www.ucc.ie/pgfundingguide](http://www.ucc.ie/pgfundingguide)

### How is the course delivered?

The course is delivered entire asynchronously and fully online. This provides full international access without any visa constraints. It also allows study outside of any requirements to take time away from paid employment and will fit around commitments both inside and outside of work.

### Can I work continue to work during my studies?

Yes, you can. This is likely to be a requirement of admission to the Programme. This a part-time course and it is expected that you will continue to get relevant clinical experience in your relevant pathway area.

### What are my career prospects following completion of my course at UCC?

Gaining a post-registration qualification, such as a PgC/PgD/MSc in MIRS is likely to provide opportunities to progress your career. This could be as a senior radiographer or clinical specialist within your chosen pathway area. Such a qualification may also be useful in obtaining employment within academia or industry. The Programme Director would be happy to provide advice on this ([mirt@ucc.ie](mailto:mirt@ucc.ie)).