

INSTITUTIONS IN THE NUI SEANAD ÉIREANN CONSTITUENCY

The NUI Constituency comprises graduates of the following institutions who otherwise fulfil the requirements laid down in the Seanad Electoral (University Members) Act, 1937:

NUI Constituent Universities

University College Dublin - National University of Ireland, Dublin	(University College Dublin)
University College, Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork	(University College Cork)
National University of Ireland, Galway	(formerly University College Galway)
National University of Ireland, Maynooth	(formerly St. Patrick's College Maynooth)

NUI Recognised Colleges

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland	Recognition granted, July 14th 1977
National College of Art and Design	Recognition granted July 1st 1996 (First NUI conferring in 2000)
Shannon College of Hotel Management	Recognition granted November 9th 2000 (First NUI conferring in 2005)
Institute of Public Administration	Recognition granted January 16th 2001 (First NUI conferring in 2003)
Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy	Recognition granted September 1st 2005 (First NUI conferring in October 2006)

College of a Constituent University

(College of NUI, Galway)

St. Angela's College, Sligo	Recognition granted, April 13th 1978 Re-constituted as College of a Constituent University (NUI, Galway) from 1 January 2006
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Institutions which were formerly NUI Recognised Colleges

Mary Immaculate College of Education, Limerick	Recognition granted, April 17th 1975 (College of Limerick University as of October 1994)
NIHE, Limerick	March 11th 1976 - December 15th 1977 (re-constituted as University of Limerick, by Act, 1989)
Our Lady of Mercy College, Carysfort	Recognition granted, April 17th 1975
St. Patrick's College of Education, Drumcondra	Recognition granted, April 17th, 1975 (College of Dublin City University as of October 1995)
Thomond College of Education, Limerick	December 9th 1976 - December 15, 1977
St. Patrick's College Maynooth	February 23rd 1910 - June 1997
St. Angela's College of Education, Sligo	April 1978 - December 2005

REGISTER OF ELECTORS

What Register of Electors will be in use in the NUI constituency for the April 2011 Seanad Éireann Election?

The Register published on the **1st June, 2010** will be in use.

Who can vote in the NUI constituency?

For the Seanad Éireann Election in April 2011 only those graduates whose names are listed in the current *NUI Seanad Éireann Register of Electors*, as published on the **1st June 2010**, are eligible to vote in the NUI constituency.

How can I check if I am on the current Register?

Copies of the NUI Seanad Éireann Electoral Register are available in the libraries of the institutions within the NUI ([see information pack](#)) and in the National Library of Ireland. The register is also available for examination in the reception of the NUI office at 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

If I add my name now will I be eligible to vote in this election?

No. If you apply for registration by the 26th February, 2011 your name will be added to the revised register that is due for publication on the 1st June, 2011 but you **will not be eligible** to vote in the April 2011 Election.

Can I update my address on the current register?

Yes, a graduate may ensure that his/her details are up-to-date by posting, [emailing](#) or faxing (+ 353 1 439 24 77) a completed *Registration/Update Form* ([see information pack](#)).

Last date for acceptance of changes of address for April 2011 Election:

Five working days before the close of poll

To prevent unnecessary distress to relatives NUI would appreciate being made aware of the deaths of NUI graduates.

Why am I not on the register?

The right to vote is not automatic; it must be claimed. Eligible graduates are required to complete a *registration/update form* ([see information pack](#)) and return it to the NUI office by the 26th February in any given year for inclusion in the revised register published on the 1st June of that year. It should only be necessary to register once unless, for one of the reasons given below, a name has been removed from the register.

Are names ever removed from the Register?

Yes, names are removed

- on receipt of written request by a graduate to have his/her name removed
- * on receipt of notification of the death of a graduate
- as provided by the Electoral (Amendment) Act 2001: 'after reasonable enquiry by the registration officer, whose address or the address to which the ballot paper is to be sent is unknown'. (S. 56)

A graduate whose name is removed from the Register and who wishes to be listed as an elector again, must submit a *Registration /Update Form* in the prescribed manner. Such graduates will not be eligible to vote in the April 2011 Election

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ELECTION

When will the election be held?

Wednesday 27 April, 2011, count will take place at the RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

Timeline

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government will issue an Order, within a week of the dissolution of the Dáil, establishing three dates:

- the date of close of nominations, usually approximately three weeks from the date of dissolution, **3 March, 2011**
- the date of issue (i.e. posting) of ballot papers, **21 March, 2011**
- the date of the election (close of poll), **27 April, 2011**

Once these dates have been established they will be published on the NUI website and in the national press.

How will I know who is going forward for election?

The names of the candidates will be posted on this website immediately after the close of nominations. Candidates' names and details will also, of course, be listed on the ballot paper.

BALLOT PAPER

How and when will the ballot papers be sent to the electorate?

Ballot Papers are sent by **registered post** on the date set out in the Minister's Order. Because of the size of the two university electorates - currently 97,734 for NUI, and approximately 54,000 for University of Dublin (Trinity College) - delivery of the registered post may take a number of days from the date of issue. Delivery of ballot papers sent to addresses overseas, depend on local postal service.

What will I receive?

Each graduate listed in the current register will receive an envelope by **registered post** containing:-

- Ballot Paper
- Declaration of Identify Form/Instructions to Voter
- two envelopes

The *identify form* must be **signed by the voter and by a witness and returned with the ballot paper**. **Failure to return both documents** will deem the vote to be invalid. The *ballot paper* should be placed separately in the small brown envelope marked *Ballot Paper Envelope*. The *brown envelope* (containing the ballot paper) and the signed *identify form* should then be placed in the large white envelope *addressed to the Returning Officer* and **returned by post**. No stamp is required if posted within the Republic of Ireland.

The **close of poll date** will appear on the registered envelope and on top of the Ballot Paper.

Last day for acceptance of completed ballot paper:

Up to 11:00 a.m. on the day of the close of poll

What happens if the elector is not at the address to sign for the registered post?

The postman will leave a docket informing the addressee that the post can

be collected from the Post Office; if uncollected after three days, the envelope will be returned to NUI. On request, the ballot paper will be re-sent, again by registered post, provided the original envelope has been returned undelivered to NUI. The ballot paper will be re-sent to the same address unless the elector requests a change of address using the *Registration/Update Form* ([see information pack](#)) This must be sent by post, fax or email. Preferably changes of address should be notified to NUI well in advance of the issue of ballot paper.

For any further information please contact the National University of Ireland.