



# Griffith College International Office

## COVID-19

### Immigration Information

***\*\*Please note that this notice is meant as a guide only\*\****

***Griffith College cannot take responsibility for the interpretation of any of the current information available***

Due to the on-going health emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, as of Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service (INIS) is now closed for in-person registration.

- This applies to the INIS office in Burgh Quay and registration/renewals at all local Garda stations.
- Appointments up to May 20<sup>th</sup> have been cancelled.
- INIS have published an emergency notice on their website which can be viewed here:  
<http://www.inis.gov.ie/>
- FAQs from INIS are available here:  
<http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/frequently-asked-questions-immigration-permission-covid-19-temporary-measures.pdf/Files/frequently-asked-questions-immigration-permission-covid-19-temporary-measures.pdf>

### **Key Information**

**Non-EU students who have a valid permission that is due to expire between March 20<sup>th</sup> and May 20<sup>th</sup> will have their permission automatically extended for two months.**

***Q: I came to Ireland in January/February 2020 and have not yet registered with INIS, so what happens to me?***

**A:** When you arrive in Ireland you get a “landing stamp”, which is your permission to remain in the State, and that permission is usually for a 90-day period. Under these new directives, that permission has automatically been extended for another two months and you can register with INIS when they re-open.

***Q: Can students with just a “landing stamp” take up part-time work in Ireland?***

**A:** No. This landing stamp does not give you permission to work in Ireland. When INIS re-opens and you get your Stamp 2 Student Permission you will then be permitted to take up part-time employment.

***Q: I have a valid IRP Card (Immigration Card)\* and was due to renew it soon – what happens to me? \*Valid means an IRP Card which has not expired before 20 March***

**A:** Your IRP Card has automatically been extended for another two months. You can register with INIS when they re-open.

**Q: If my IRP Card is valid and has been extended automatically until May 20<sup>th</sup>, can I still work part-time?**

**A:** Yes, if you have a valid permission you are still permitted to work part-time.

**Q: My IRP Card expired before 20 March 2020 because I could not get an appointment to re-register with INIS. What happens to me?**

**A:** This extension period does not apply to you. As the INIS/GNIB public offices are now closed, you must email INIS at [burghquayregoffice@justice.ie](mailto:burghquayregoffice@justice.ie) and they will have to examine your case on an individual basis.

**Q: I have recently completed my programme I want to apply for the Third Level Graduate Programme – Stamp 1G. What happens now and can I work full-time?**

**A:** You cannot work full-time.

- If your IRP Card **had not** expired by 20<sup>th</sup> March then your permission has been automatically extended and you can work part-time (up to 20 hours per week)
- If your IRP Card **had expired** by 20<sup>th</sup> March then you cannot work at all and you will have to email INIS at [burghquayregoffice@justice.ie](mailto:burghquayregoffice@justice.ie) for further advice in relation to your particular case.

**Q: What if I want to leave Ireland?**

**A:** If you plan to return to Ireland, you will need a valid IRP Card.

- If you have a valid IRP Card by the time you return to Ireland you will be able to enter Ireland as normal
- If you do not have a valid IRP Card by the time you return to Ireland
  - If you are a **Visa Required** student you will need apply for an entry visa from your home country
  - If you are a **non-Visa Required student** you will need a letter from the College to verify that you are a registered student



#### How to Prevent



**Wash**  
your hands well and often to avoid contamination



**Cover**  
your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard used tissue



**Avoid**  
touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands



**Clean**  
and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces