



HPAT — IRELAND

Health Professions Admission Test – Ireland

Information booklet 2018

Registration Deadline – Saturday 20 January 2018 5.15pm GMT

Test date – Saturday 24 February 2018

www.hpat-ireland.acer.org/

Last updated: 04.12.2017

IMPORTANT: Please read the **LEGAL NOTICE** at the end of this Booklet.

This Booklet, including the Legal Notice will form part of the binding agreement between you and the Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ABN 19 004 398 145) (“**ACER**”) if you register to take the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test.

You should make sure that you understand fully and are familiar with the contents of this Booklet (including the Legal Notice) before you register for the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test.

HPAT – Ireland 2018 Timeline



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CONTACT US

HPAT – Ireland is developed and administered by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of a group of Irish Universities. ACER is an independent not-for-profit organisation.

All important information about HPAT – Ireland can be found in this Information Booklet and on the HPAT – Ireland website (<https://hpat-ireland.acer.org>). Due to the high volume of enquiries, the HPAT – Ireland Office will not answer emails if the information requested is already available on the HPAT – Ireland website or in this Information Booklet. For all other enquiries, please contact the HPAT – Ireland Office at ACER. Please always include your full name and HPAT – Ireland ID number.

Email is the preferred means of communication on matters concerning HPAT – Ireland and all communications from the HPAT – Ireland Office will be via email, unless otherwise agreed by ACER.

To ensure that your email provider does not flag important communication from the HPAT – Ireland Office as spam, please save the HPAT – Ireland email address (hpat-ireland@acer.org) to your list of safe senders.

The HPAT – Ireland Office will not answer queries relating to the content of the test. Please note personal responses to enquiries are not provided at ACER offices.

HPAT – IRELAND OFFICE

Email: hpat-ireland@acer.org

Email services are available:

Monday to Friday

All emails will generally be responded to within 24 hours.

Please note that response time may be longer in busy periods and after weekends or bank holidays.

Fax: +61 (0)3 9277 5757

Please address your fax to the HPAT – Ireland Office.

Mail: HPAT – Ireland Office at
ACER Private Bag 55
Camberwell VIC 3124
AUSTRALIA

Please note the HPAT – Ireland Office will not be held responsible for postal losses or delays.



The Health Professions Admission Test – Ireland (HPAT – Ireland)

The Health Professions Admission Test – Ireland (HPAT – Ireland) is developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research to assist with the selection of students into medicine and health professions degree programmes.

HPAT – Ireland is designed to assess logical reasoning and problem solving skills as well as non-verbal reasoning and the ability to understand the thoughts, behaviour and/or intentions of people. The test has a strong focus on general skills and personal abilities that have been identified as important for a competent health professional. HPAT – Ireland is designed to complement academic achievement; it does not test academic knowledge and it does not require special understanding of any academic discipline.

HPAT – Ireland is offered once a year only.

Participating universities

You will need an HPAT – Ireland score to apply for admission to any of the following courses:

- National University of Ireland Galway - Undergraduate Medicine
- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Undergraduate Medicine
- Trinity College Dublin - Undergraduate Medicine
- University College Cork - Undergraduate Medicine
- University College Dublin - Undergraduate Medicine
- University of Limerick - MSc Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification) and MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification)

For information about specific courses and admission requirements, please refer to the relevant university websites. Links are provided on the HPAT – Ireland website at <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org>.

Please note that international / non-EU students may be exempt from taking HPAT – Ireland. For further details contact the universities to which you intend to apply or refer to their websites. If you intend to apply to The University of Ulster, you should sit HPAT – Ulster. For more information please visit the HPAT – Ulster website at <https://hpat-ulster.acer.org/>.

Structure and content

The HPAT – Ireland test is a 2½ hour paper-based test consisting of three sections. Each section is separately timed and there are no rest breaks between sections. The questions are in multiple choice format with 4 or 5 response alternatives from which you are asked to choose the most appropriate. Each question has only one correct response. Questions in sections 1 and 2 are in written form (though some section 1 questions may present information in visual or tabular format). Section 3 questions are based entirely on visual material.

IMPORTANT NOTE: In addition to completing HPAT – Ireland, candidates applying to the MSc Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification) and the MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification) at the University of Limerick are required to sit a 1 hour Written English component.

HPAT – Ireland is divided into three sections designed to assess performance in the areas of:

- 1 Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving
- 2 Interpersonal Understanding
- 3 Non-Verbal Reasoning
- 4 Written English (UL applicants only)

The following table shows the structure of HPAT – Ireland by section and time.

	Number of questions	Time in minutes
Section 1	44	65
Section 2	36	45
Section 3	30	40
Written English (UL applicants only)	2	60

Section 1: Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving

Materials in this section are drawn from a wide variety of general sources and are based on a brief text and/or piece of information presented graphically. Questions assess your ability to comprehend, draw logical conclusions, reach solutions by identifying relevant facts, evaluate information, pinpoint additional or missing information, and generate and test plausible hypotheses.

Section 2: Interpersonal Understanding

Section 2 assesses the ability to understand and think about people. Questions are based on a scenario, dialogue or other text representing specific interpersonal situations. Most passages will have several questions. The questions assess your ability to identify, understand, and, where necessary, infer the thoughts, feelings, behaviour and/or intentions of the people represented in the situations.

Section 3: Non-Verbal Reasoning

Questions in this section may be of several kinds. All are based on patterns or sequences of shapes and are designed to assess your ability to reason in the abstract and solve problems in non-verbal contexts.

Written English

The 2 essay tasks assess your ability to communicate effectively in writing. The first writing task deals with a more formal public affairs issue that invites argument and the second task is a less formal topic that invites more personal reflection. Each task is assessed by two independent markers on three criteria:

- Thought and content - The quality of what is said
- Structure and organisation - The quality of the structure and organisation developed to say something
- Expression, style and mechanics - The quality of the language used to organise and present what is said

Equity and fairness

HPAT – Ireland is developed to rigorous professional and technical standards. Test questions are designed and developed by a team of ACER writers, expert in their fields. All test questions must pass detailed panelling, trial testing, analysis and final review. The content, style, duration and sequencing of the tests are determined to ensure that the testing programme is relevant, fair, valid and reliable.

HPAT – Ireland test data are subjected to statistical analysis to check that each question has performed as required. Test questions in development are carefully scrutinised in an ongoing attempt to minimise gender, ethnic or religious bias, and to ensure that the test is culturally fair. The test may contain a small number of trial questions which may not contribute to candidate scores.

Use of Personal Information

Test results may be used by relevant authorities through ACER for purposes of research into the HPAT – Ireland programme. Candidates are assured that any use of registration and test records will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Personal information when used for research purposes will only be reported in a de-identified form.

By completing the HPAT – Ireland registration form you are indicating your acceptance of the processing of your personal and sensitive data for purposes connected to your HPAT – Ireland registration amongst other things. For further information only there is a privacy statement located on the HPAT registration website (hpat-ireland.acer.org/about-hpat-ireland/privacy-statement).

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Eligibility for HPAT – Ireland

HPAT – Ireland is available to any candidate who is applying to study a course for which HPAT – Ireland is a prerequisite, and who is capable of meeting the academic entry requirements set by the universities. Applicants must either be in their final year of school or have completed their Leaving Certificate prior to 2018. Please note that international / non-EU students may be exempt from taking HPAT – Ireland. For further details contact the universities to which you intend to apply or refer to their websites.

CAO application and CAO number

Before registering for HPAT – Ireland, all **MEDICINE** applicants must first get their CAO number. This number is required to complete your HPAT – Ireland registration successfully. To get a CAO number you need to apply online at www.cao.ie. Please note that if a paper application is submitted your CAO number will not be available in time to register for the HPAT – Ireland test.

Creating an online account

You must create an online account before you can register for HPAT – Ireland or purchase any preparation materials. To create an account you should follow the link on the HPAT – Ireland website and enter your details. When entering your account details you should ensure that your name and date of birth match **EXACTLY** the identification document that you will present on the test day. These details will also be printed on your Admission Ticket and Statement of Results. To change the name, date of birth or gender in your account, you need to email the HPAT – Ireland Office. To create your online account you must provide a valid email address which will be maintained during the registration, test and reporting cycle. Once an account has been activated it can be used for any future registrations.

Registering for HPAT – Ireland

The only way to register for HPAT – Ireland is online via the website <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/>. Before you complete this step you should watch the compulsory registration tutorial videos available at the HPAT- Ireland website.

To register you need an online account with a valid email address and a credit card. This email address will be used

for all communication from the HPAT – Ireland Office, including information on how to access your Admission Ticket and HPAT – Ireland results. Select HPAT – Ireland as the test that you wish to register for, fill in the online registration form and submit the payment.

Details entered in the registration form can be amended through your online account at any time.

Before completing your registration you will be asked to confirm that you have read this HPAT – Ireland 2018 Information Booklet and specifically the Legal Notice, and that you agree and accept the terms and conditions of participation in the HPAT – Ireland test and specifically the Legal Notice. A copy of the information contained in this declaration can be found on page 15.

Upon successful completion of the registration, a registration confirmation and payment receipt will be sent to your registered email address.

Please ensure that the spelling of your name and date of birth listed in your confirmation email matches the identification document that you will present on the test day. **The status of your registration can always be checked through your online account.**

Your Admission Ticket with details of your reporting time and test centre address will only be available two weeks before the test for security reasons. You will be notified by email when your Admission Ticket is available for download from your online account.

Registration date

Registrations for the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test open in early November 2017. Your online registration and payment must be completed by:

5:15pm GMT 20 January 2018

ACER reserves the right in its absolute discretion to refuse or cancel a registration in any circumstances where ACER considers the application for registration or the registration once completed is not bona fide, or the registration fee as applicable is not received in full and as cleared funds by the payment date above or the late registration date given below.

Late registration date

Late registrations will be accepted up to 5.15pm GMT 1 February 2018, upon payment of the late fee in

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addition to the registration fee. An exceptional late registration is available until 5.15pm GMT on 3 February 2018. The exceptional late registration is available only to candidates who have submitted their application to CAO by 5.00pm GMT on 1 February 2018.

No applications for registration will be accepted after 5.15pm GMT on 3 February 2018 under any circumstances.

Payment

The fee to sit HPAT – Ireland 2018 is €135. An additional fee of €25 applies for all UL applicants who are also required to complete the Written English component. A €70 late fee applies for registrations completed after 5.15pm GMT 20 January 2018 and before 5.15pm GMT 1 February 2018. An exceptional late fee of €105 in addition to the registration fee applies to registrations submitted after 5.15pm GMT 1 February 2017 until 5.15 GMT 3 February 2018.

Your registration fee includes a copy of the online *Practice Test* e-book. Payment must be submitted online by credit card (Mastercard, Visa Credit and Visa Debit).

You will receive a payment confirmation/tax invoice by email once the payment transaction is complete. The online payment option operates through ACER's e-commerce facility via the ACER website. Credit card details are not recorded or stored by ACER but are encrypted at point of capture and transmitted directly to the bank, without entering ACER information systems.

Please note that your credit card statement may list ACER as the recipient, and a specific reference to HPAT – Ireland may not be mentioned. If you (as the person registered to sit the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test) or any other person wrongfully dispute the amount charged to the credit card provided to complete the registration, your registration may be cancelled, your results may be withheld or you may be blocked from taking further ACER administered tests.

Test centres

HPAT – Ireland will only be offered in the following locations:

- Cork
- Dublin
- Galway
- Sligo
- Waterford
- Limerick

The test is held on the same date at all test centres. When completing the registration form, select the city which is most convenient to you. Places are limited, so you are advised to register early. Please note that you will only be able to select your preferred test centre if places are still available.

You can change your preferred test centre online through your account up to 5.15pm GMT 3 February 2018, subject to availability. If a test centre change is required after this date, please email the HPAT – Ireland Office for advice. Please note you can only choose the city in which you prefer to take the test. If there is more than one venue in the selected city, you will be allocated automatically to one of the venues. Test venues cannot be chosen by candidates.

Applying for special testing conditions

If you have a disability or other health-related needs which might interfere with your ability to sit the test in the standard manner, you should apply for special testing conditions as soon as possible after registration. Please note if you require access to food, medication, medical equipment or other devices during testing time, due to a medical condition, you must submit a special testing conditions application. All requests are assessed on a case-by-case basis and all reasonable efforts will be made to provide appropriate testing conditions for your needs. **All requests must be submitted no later than 5.15pm GMT 3 February 2018. If you require special testing accommodations due to a condition that occurred after the application deadline, please contact the HPAT – Ireland Office for advice.**

To apply complete the following steps:

1. Create an online account and register for HPAT – Ireland (see page 4).
2. Once your registration is complete you can apply for special testing conditions through your online account. Please fill in the online form and give details about your condition and requested accommodations.
3. Attach the supporting documentation for your request for review. The supporting documentation provided must be from a registered health practitioner. The documentation must be no more than one year old for health-related needs or disabilities other than learning disabilities, and no more than three years old for learning disabilities.

Applicants with learning disabilities should submit a copy of an appropriate educational psychologist's report for consideration. If your report is more than three years old, it will still be accepted, as long as it is accompanied by a recent letter from a psychologist stating that the information in the report is still applicable to you as you are today.

The supporting documentation from your health practitioner must give a clear diagnosis and information on your condition, indicate the impact of your disability in testing settings and include a statement as to what accommodations your health practitioner feels are appropriate for you in testing settings. All supporting documentation must be typed on the medical practitioner's official letterhead and include the date and title, name, registration number, contact details, and signature of the medical practitioner.

4. Once your application is received, a confirmation email will be sent to your registered email address. The HPAT – Ireland Office will contact you if further documentation or information is required for the assessment of your request.
5. All applications will be processed after 3 February 2018 and you will be informed of the outcome shortly after. If approved, you will be able to view your approved accommodations through your online account and you will be required to bring a printout of this page with you on the test day.

All information regarding special testing conditions will be treated confidentially and will not be forwarded to the universities or admission authorities. Invigilators on the test day will be informed of the accommodations provided to you, but not of your condition. If you wish that invigilators be alerted of the nature of your condition, please indicate this in the application process.

Note: There is no possibility of special consideration being given to test results. In no circumstances will scores be adjusted to account for any perceived disadvantage.

Refund terms

PLEASE NOTE: To the fullest extent permitted at law, except as expressly provided herein, all moneys paid as part of a registration to sit the HPAT – Ireland test are non-refundable.

PLEASE NOTE: Registration fees for the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test will be refunded

up to 5.15pm GMT 1 February, with an administration charge of €45, unless a full refund is required by law. Requests must be submitted online through your account and a confirmation email will be sent to your registered email address if your request has been successfully submitted. Please note that access to any preparation materials included with the HPAT – Ireland 2018 registration will be withdrawn upon completion of the refund. The fee will be refunded to the credit card used for payment.

Admission Ticket

The Admission Ticket will tell you exactly where and at what time to report on the day of the test. It will also contain your personal details. This ticket is your permission to attend the test centre and a printout must be taken with you on the day. Admission Tickets presented on electronic devices will not be accepted. If you present without an Admission Ticket you will be refused entry.

Notification will be sent to your registered email address when **the Admission Ticket is available through your online account, approximately two weeks before the test date.** If your identification document details have not been entered in the registration form you will NOT be able to access your Admission Ticket.

Please check your Admission Ticket carefully and contact the HPAT – Ireland Office immediately if there are any errors. The details on your Admission Ticket must match the details on the identification document that you will use on the test day. Only your first and last names are required to match and it is not necessary for your other names (including middle names) to appear on the Admission Ticket. Your other names, if provided when you created your account, will however be printed on the Attendance Rolls given to the test centre supervisors so that they can be checked on the day, should there be any issues matching your Admission Ticket and your identification document.

Before you print the Admission Ticket, check that both sides of the print paper are blank; there should not be any marks on your Admission Ticket. Admission Tickets may be printed in black and white; you do not need to bring a colour printout. **Please fill in your identification document number and sign your Admission Ticket beforehand** and have it ready with you on the test day.

Do not write anything else on your Admission Ticket at any time before or during the test.

If you have issues accessing your Admission Ticket, you should contact the HPAT – Ireland Office by 20 February 2018. **Please do not leave this to the last minute.** Remember that you will only be able to download the Admission Ticket once you have entered your identification document details in the registration form.

Preparing for HPAT – Ireland

The purpose of HPAT – Ireland is to assess your abilities in a range of general skills. HPAT – Ireland measures skills acquired over a period of time, including the ability to reason, make logical deductions and form judgments. The test does not draw on any particular body of knowledge or curriculum. Wide and critical reading may provide helpful preparation for sections 1 and 2. There is little benefit to be gained from last-minute ‘cramming’. However, some familiarity with the question types typically presented in HPAT – Ireland is beneficial.

Please note: Neither the HPAT – Ireland Office nor the the universities that require HPAT – Ireland scores recommend or endorse any particular texts or preparation courses. Nor do they support any commercially available preparation courses or have any association with commercial courses. Thus the HPAT – Ireland Office is unable to comment on their relevance or usefulness. It is possible that some commercial preparation courses might provide misleading information or advice to candidates. Neither ACER nor the universities conduct HPAT – Ireland preparation courses.

HPAT – Ireland preparation materials

ACER produces the only official HPAT – Ireland preparation materials. There are currently two types of preparation materials available: five publications in the form of e-books and an automatic scoring service for Written English (for UL applicants only).

E-books

The publications are only available in the form of e-books; hard copies are not available.

The HPAT – Ireland registration fee is inclusive of the *Practice Test* with worked solutions. This practice booklet

normally retails at €22.00 but is provided to candidates as part of their registration at a reduced rate.

Practice Test, *Practice Test 2* and *Practice Test 3* are each equivalent to a full test and will take approximately 2 ½ hours to complete under exam conditions. *Additional Practice Questions* and *Additional Practice Questions 2* contain a collection of approximately 60 questions each that can also be used for additional practice. Answers are given to all questions in each e-book, and worked solutions are provided for *Practice Test* and *Practice Test 3*.

Though similar in format the e-books contain different selections of material and are designed to give examples of the types of questions asked in HPAT – Ireland and of the skills and knowledge tested.

The purchase of an e-book (including the *Practice Test* e-book provided as part of your registration) entitles you to:

- Make 2 hard copies of the e-book which will be imprinted with your name and identifying details.
- Unrestricted access to the e-book you have purchased for 12 months commencing on the date the e-book is made accessible to you for the sole purpose of reading the e-book.

HPAT – Ireland preparation videos will be available to all registered candidates through their online account, in the lead-up to the test date.

Automatic scoring for Written English (UL applicants only)

The automatic scoring service for Written English allows UL applicants to submit two essays addressing two specific tasks. The essays are then automatically scored and a percentile band and a score range are provided **on completion of both tasks**. Please note, detailed feedback and critiquing of your writing is not provided.

To enable automatic scoring several hundred responses to the tasks were marked using a criterion-referenced analytical marking guide. Responses were hand marked (double marked and adjudicated where necessary) using a marking guide. The scores were Rasch analysed and a measurement scale was calibrated. Finally, the scores were loaded to the automatic marking system to create a computer model that replicates manual scoring and can ‘mimic’ the way markers assign scores to the tasks.

The purchase of the automatic scoring service for Written English entitles you to:

- Provision of two essay tasks: one Task A and one Task B.
- Provision of a single Written English score range, for example (51–59), and percentile band. Please note that you will only be able to submit your responses once.
- Submit your completed essay tasks within 12 months from the date of purchase.

Purchasing preparation materials

In order to purchase any preparation materials you will need to create an account. This is not a registration for the HPAT – Ireland test. Please note that you cannot purchase these materials without an online account and you can purchase any of these materials without being registered for the HPAT – Ireland test. Any preparation materials you purchase will be accessible online as soon as your payment is successfully received.

All HPAT – Ireland preparation materials are copyright works and protected by copyright law both in Australia and outside Australia.

As a condition of purchasing any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials you will be required to complete a declaration expressly confirming your acceptance of the limited licence granted to you to access and use the specific HPAT – Ireland preparation materials.

For any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials purchased, You (being the individual in whose name the online account to purchase the materials has been opened, and no-one else) will be granted a limited licence to access and/or download and print up to 2 copies of the preparation materials in an unaltered form only for your personal non-commercial use. You are not permitted to otherwise copy or reproduce any preparation materials, in whole or in part, by any means whatsoever. Further, under no circumstances whatsoever can you distribute, make available, give or communicate the preparation materials (in whole or in part) to any other person under any arrangement howsoever described, whether or not for monetary consideration, and whether or not any copying or reproduction of the HPAT – Ireland preparation materials is involved. The limited licence granted runs, in respect of any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials, for a period of 12 months from the date of purchase (as evidenced by ACER's records).

Except as otherwise required by law, or as otherwise provided in this document, no refunds will be given for the purchase of any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials.

Please note that as the materials are accessible as soon as the payment is received, you agree that any cooling off period does not apply for any change of mind.

The limited licence granted to you in respect of any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials is subject only to any non-excludable rights or entitlements granted to you at law, including but not limited to the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) (as amended).

Test-taking strategy

Questions in the HPAT – Ireland test are in multiple choice format. It is advantageous for you to develop your own strategies for answering this type of question. Each test section is separately timed. You are advised to work steadily through each section. It is not advisable to spend too much time on any one question. Read through all the alternative answers to a question, even if you think the first one is correct, before marking your chosen response. If you think you know the answer to a question, mark it, even if you are not certain. Go on to the next question and come back later if you have time.

Please note the following:

All questions have the same value, therefore by attempting as many questions as possible you stand the best chance of maximising your score.

No marks are deducted for a wrong answer.

If you mark more than one answer to a question it will be considered wrong.

Answers should be marked directly onto the answer sheet, not in the test book. Answers marked in the test book will not be scored.

You may do rough work in the margins of your test book. Scrap paper is not allowed.

For the Written English component (UL applicants) it is very important that the handwriting is clear and distinct. Candidates will disadvantage themselves if their writing is illegible.

Written English (UL applicants)

Good preparation for the Written English component is to attempt the sample essay prompts provided below. Candidates should try to complete the essays in

one hour under 'test conditions'. Once completed, it is often helpful to ask someone else to read the essays and to suggest improvements or alternative approaches to the prompts. (Note that it is not necessary to agree with the prompts). It can also be useful to put the essays aside for several days before re-reading them to look for ways to make improvements.

Candidates are often concerned about the expected length of the essays. Within reason, the quality of the writing is much more important than the length. Candidates only have 30 minutes to plan and write each essay, and the examiners do not have unrealistic expectations of what can be produced in that time.

The following questions will be considered in assessing the writing of candidates:

- What kinds of ideas has the candidate developed in response to the prompt?
- To what extent and how well has the candidate explored the ideas and issues in the prompt?
- Has the candidate developed a structured and organised piece of writing?
- Has the candidate written clearly and fluently?
- Is the language used by the candidate precise and appropriate?

Sample essay prompts:

1. Science and Technology have brought many benefits, but they have also brought problems that may eventually negate those benefits.
2. It is better to burn out than to rust out.

On the test day responses to the essay prompts are written directly into an answer booklet given to candidates. Working space is provided to plan the essays. Candidates should write neatly and legibly in pen. Pencils are not acceptable.

4 ON TEST DAY

Test date

The HPAT – Ireland 2017 test is held on **Saturday 24 February 2018**. This is the only opportunity to sit HPAT – Ireland in 2018.

Test centre and arrival time

You will be assigned to a test centre in your chosen city. The exact test centre address and arrival time will be printed on your Admission Ticket that will be available through your online account approximately two weeks before the test (see page 6). You must report to this centre at the time designated on your Admission Ticket. It is not necessary to arrive before the indicated arrival time. The test itself will start as soon as all pre-testing procedures are completed. If you report to the centre after all candidates have been seated in the testing room, you may not be admitted. **No latecomers can be admitted once the test has started.**

Timing and order of the test

The HPAT – Ireland test consists of 2 ½ hours testing time. In addition, pre-testing procedures will take some time to complete. Therefore, **it is not possible to guarantee start and finish times**. Care should be taken when making return travel arrangements to allow adequate time at the test centre. **You should anticipate being at the test centre for up to 4 ½ hours.**

In addition to completing HPAT – Ireland, candidates applying to the MSc Occupational Therapy (Professional Qualification) and the MSc Speech and Language Therapy (Professional Qualification) at the University of Limerick are required to sit a 1 hour Written English component and may be required to be at the test centre for up to 5.5 hours.

HPAT – Ireland is a high stakes test administered under secure test conditions. **You may not leave the test centre before the full testing time has elapsed.** Candidates leaving early will not receive their HPAT – Ireland scores. Once a candidate has departed the test centre it is not possible to re-enter and continue the test.

You may use the bathroom during testing time, but this will not be permitted in the last ten minutes of each section. No additional time will be granted for bathroom breaks.

Identification on the test day

On the day of the test you will be required to show one form of photo-bearing identification. **The only acceptable forms of ID are:**

- Current passport
- Current photo-bearing driver's licence (learner's permit, probationary or full licence)
- Current EU/EEA National Identity Card
- Certified letter of identification (details follow)

The photograph in your identification document must be recognisable as a likeness to you as you are on the day of the test. **No other form of identification will be accepted.**

If you do not possess a current passport, a EU/EEA National Identity Card or driver's licence you must obtain a certified letter of identification from your school or other educational institution. The letter must be on official letterhead and must contain your name; date of birth; a passport photo glued to the letter with institution stamp overlapping; signature and title of the official verifying the identification; and your signature. A sample letter of identification is provided on the HPAT – Ireland website and you are strongly advised to use this template to avoid any problems on the day.

If you do not have one of these forms of identification, please allow enough time to organise one before the test date as you will not be able to enter the test centre without an approved form of identification. Some of these identification documents can take approximately a month to obtain.

Documents that have expired, student cards and/or Garda cards will NOT be accepted under any circumstances. Photocopies of identity documents are also not acceptable forms of ID.

Your date of birth, first and last name in your identification document must match your Admission Ticket details.

If you do not present one of the above identification documents, together with your printed Admission Ticket, you will NOT be able to sit the HPAT – Ireland test and your registration fee will be forfeited.

What to bring on the test day

You need to bring the following with you on the test day:

- Your printed HPAT – Ireland 2018 Admission Ticket **filled in and signed** (Note: Admission Tickets presented on electronic devices will not be accepted)

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ON TEST DAY

- Acceptable current and photo-bearing identification document as specified on page 10
- Pencils (medium soft No. 2 or HB recommended)
- Pencil sharpener (optional)
- Eraser
- Blue or black pen (UL applicants only)
- A clear water bottle (no labels attached)

Clocks are provided in the test room. You may wear an **analogue** wristwatch, and any alarm or stopwatch features must be switched off.

These will be the only items allowed on your desk during the test.

Valuables such as wallets, keys and mobile phones may be placed under your desk during the test. Please note mobile phones must be **switched off** and placed face up under your desk. **They must not be worn on your body and must not be accessed during the test.**

You are advised to bring only essential items, as neither the test centre nor the HPAT – Ireland Office can be held responsible for the security of your belongings. There will be limited space to store your bags and you will not be allowed to access your bags until the end of the test.

Note: All other items, including but not limited to calculators, pagers, stopwatches, audio or recording devices of any kind, MP3 players, digital watches, Apple watches, fitbits, dictionaries, note paper, pencil cases, highlighters, and rulers are not permitted.

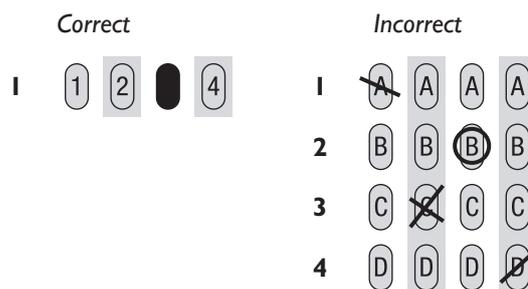
Access to food (including sweets and nuts), earplugs, medication or other medical equipment (e.g. support cushion) during the test will only be permitted due to a medical condition and can only be allowed if you have been granted special testing accommodations (see page 5).

It is recommended you have a good breakfast and take a snack to eat in the registration queue if you cannot wait until the end of the test.

Please note large spaces like test centres can be difficult to heat/cool. To avoid being too cold or too hot, it is recommended to wear layers, which will allow you to adjust your own comfort level.

Answer sheets

The HPAT – Ireland test is in multiple-choice format. You will mark your answers by filling in ovals on a machine-readable answer sheet. It is very important that you record your answers carefully. Record your answers by completely filling in the oval with pencil. If you decide to change an answer, erase it completely and mark the oval corresponding to your new choice. See example ovals below:



Mark your answers directly onto the HPAT – Ireland answer sheet and not in the test book. **Answers marked in the test book will not be scored.** Any rough work may be done in the margins of your test book. Scrap paper is not allowed. Do not write on your Admission Ticket.

UL applicants will complete the Written English component in the test booklet provided.

Test day issues

Should you wish to query a particular test question on the day of the test, you should alert the supervisor of your concern and submit a written note before you leave the test centre. Your query will be reviewed by the HPAT – Ireland Office and you will be notified of the outcome. Similarly, any complaints relating to the test venue or physical discomfort suffered should be reported **immediately** to the supervisor on the day so the issue can be addressed without delay.

Security

The HPAT – Ireland test is a high stakes test. Therefore ACER, in conjunction with the Irish medical schools, has established security procedures which will be strictly enforced at all times.

Misconduct

Misconduct (whether occurring prior to, during or after the HPAT) means any unacceptable conduct or any conduct that might result in unfairness or inaccurate results such as, without limitation:

- breach of any of the security arrangements for the HPAT – Ireland test
- impersonation
- attempting to remove a test book or answer sheet or part thereof, or any notes, from the test room
- failure to follow test supervisor’s instructions at all times
- giving or receiving assistance during the test
- creating a disturbance
- using prohibited aids (e.g. notes, scrap paper, calculator, mobile phone, audio/recording device etc.)
- writing, or marking your test paper or answer sheet after the instruction is given to stop writing
- writing on the Admission Ticket during the test
- copying another candidate’s work
- using the test questions, their content or information about them for purposes other than your sitting of HPAT – Ireland is prohibited. This includes: publishing the HPAT – Ireland questions or any of their content or information about them on the internet, any digital format or otherwise; and/or passing the HPAT – Ireland questions, any of their content or information about them to third parties
- the giving of false or misleading information at any stage in connection with your participation in the HPAT – Ireland test
- infringement of the “ACER” or “HPAT” trade marks. Trade Mark infringement includes performing any act which only a trade mark owner or a person authorised by the trade mark owner may do
- infringement of copyright. Copyright infringement includes: performing those rights or authorising the performance of those rights which are granted at law exclusively to the copyright owner. These rights include the exclusive right to reproduce the copyright work in a material form and to communicate that work to the public

- in any way breaching (as determined by ACER in its absolute discretion) any of the terms and conditions of (a) your registration to participate in the HPAT – Ireland test; or (b) your purchase of any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials
- infringement of any rights (including but not limited to intellectual property rights) whatsoever relating to or subsisting in the HPAT – Ireland test or any part or element of it, including but not limited to the concept, structure, administration or conduct of the HPAT – Ireland test, the HPAT – Ireland trade mark and any HPAT – Ireland preparation materials prepared or published ACER
- any act or omission by you which ACER, in its absolute discretion, renders you to be unfit to participate in any HPAT – Ireland test, whether or not you are registered to participate at the time of ACER’s determination

CONSEQUENCES for misconduct may include cancelling your registration to sit the HPAT – Ireland test without any refund, withholding of your HPAT – Ireland test results or disqualification from sitting any HPAT – Ireland test (whether it is the test for which you have registered or otherwise).

It is also possible that and you consent to the misconduct being referred to one or more educational institutions (whether or not it is the educational institution you are attending or have made application to attend).

YOU ARE PUT ON NOTICE that except as expressly provided at law, there is no right to challenge, appeal or seek review of any determination by ACER that misconduct has occurred or in relation to any consequences imposed by ACER for any misconduct. You should also be aware that your misconduct might also give rise to liability on your part to third parties, including your educational institution. ACER reserves the right to take legal action and claim any remedies available to them at law in respect of any incident of misconduct or where your conduct (whether or not it constitutes “misconduct”) infringes any of their rights.

HPAT – Ireland results

HPAT – Ireland results will be released to UL applicants and mature candidates (i.e. any candidates born or on before 1/1/1995) in mid to late April. All the other candidates will receive their results on 25 June 2018. You will be notified via email when results are available through your online account. You can only access your Statement of Results online and are advised to save and print a copy of the Statement of Results for your records. Statements of Results include your date of birth and name used at the time the HPAT – Ireland test was taken. Replacement Statements of Results will not be provided to accommodate a subsequent change of name.

No hard copies of the Statement of Results will be sent to candidates.

Your results will also be provided to the Universities and the CAO for the purpose of selecting applicants into the programmes.

Under no circumstances will results be released over the telephone, by fax or by email. This is to protect candidate confidentiality.

The HPAT – Ireland Scores

You will receive a score for each of the three sections, together with an Overall HPAT – Ireland Score and an overall percentile rank to give you an indication of how well you performed against other HPAT – Ireland candidates.

The overall score is a weighted aggregate of the three section scores.

Each of the four HPAT – Ireland scores is expressed on a scale of 0 to 100. These are not percentage marks.

The overall HPAT – Ireland score is calculated using the following formula:

Overall Score =

$$[(2 \times \text{Section 1} + 2 \times \text{Section 2} + 1 \times \text{Section 3}) \div 5] \times 3$$

Please Note: The overall score is calculated to several decimal places and then rounded. The overall score is calculated before the rounding of section scores. It is not possible for candidates to replicate this process.

Candidates will not be provided with any additional information on scores or the scoring process. All

information remains the property of HPAT – Ireland and no right of inspection will be deemed to be vested in a candidate.

UL applicants will also receive an additional score for the Written English component. The Written English score is a separate score and is not used to calculate the overall score.

Withholding of results

You will only receive your HPAT – Ireland test scores if you have complied with the HPAT – Ireland test policies and procedures and these terms and conditions. Your scores may be withheld or cancelled if ACER learns, either on or after the test day, that you have violated the HPAT – Ireland test policies and procedures and these terms and conditions. Even if ACER cannot confirm your direct involvement in the breach of policies and procedures your HPAT – Ireland test scores may be withheld or cancelled if ACER has reason to question the validity of your scores or if ACER has reasonable basis for believing you may have been involved in a breach of these terms and conditions. Examples of when the validity of HPAT – Ireland test scores may be challenged are:

- intended or unintended exposure to HPAT – Ireland test content*
- contradictory performance on different parts of the HPAT – Ireland test
- abnormal answer patterns in the HPAT – Ireland test
- atypical performance over different HPAT – Ireland test sittings.

* If you attend a coaching course where you are exposed to questions that appear in the HPAT – Ireland test, you risk having your HPAT – Ireland test scores withheld.

Currency of results

HPAT – Ireland scores can be used for admission to a course ONLY in the same year in which the course is due to commence. For example, results from HPAT – Ireland 2018 can be used for courses beginning in 2018 but NOT 2019. Do not register for HPAT – Ireland 2018 unless you are planning to apply for a course commencing in 2018 AND you meet the eligibility criteria specified in the HPAT – Ireland 2018 Information Booklet.

Appeals and re-checks

Unless otherwise required by law or as expressly provided herein, ACER will not entertain any challenges of or requests or demands to review HPAT – Ireland test results or any determination by it that any misconduct has occurred or in relation to any consequences imposed by ACER following a determination that misconduct has occurred. Nor is it possible to give special consideration for impaired performance on the day of the test caused by illness or unexpected personal situations.

Any complaints relating to the test venue or physical discomfort suffered should be reported **immediately** to the supervisor on the day, and in writing to the HPAT – Ireland Office **within seven days of the test administration**.

You are advised that HPAT – Ireland results are released only after careful calculation and extensive checking, and errors in scoring are highly unlikely.

However, following receipt of the HPAT – Ireland Statement of Results, you may apply for a re-check of your answer sheet, if you believe an error may have been made. A re-check involves individual rescoring of the answer sheet. The resulting scores will then be compared with the original scores to check that there has been no error in calculating or collating marks.

Requests for re-checks for UL applicants and mature candidates must be made through the online account within one week from the release of results in mid to late April. Requests for re-checks for other candidates must be submitted through the online account by midnight GMT 6 July 2018. A fee of **€85** is payable for this service. Payment is by credit card only. In the unlikely case of a scoring error being found, the re-check fee will be refunded and you, the CAO and the universities will be notified.

All re-checks will be processed after the relevant deadline and you will **be notified of the outcome shortly after**.

NOTE: Re-checks for the Written English component are not offered.

IMPORTANT: Please read the **LEGAL NOTICE** at the end of HPAT – Ireland 2018 Information Booklet.

This Booklet, including the Legal Notice will form part of the binding agreement between You and the Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ABN 19 004 398 145) (“**ACER**”) if you register to take the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test.

You should make sure that you understand fully and are familiar with the contents of this Booklet (including the Legal Notice) before You submit Your registration for the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test.

When you submit your registration You **AGREE**:

- To the terms and conditions contained in the HPAT – Ireland 2018 Information Booklet applying to Your sitting of HPAT – Ireland 2018 and all matters consequent thereon;
- In the event of HPAT – Ireland 2018 being compromised or having to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond ACER’s control it may be necessary for You to re-sit HPAT – Ireland 2018 on a date and at a testing venue to be specified by ACER;
- That to sit HPAT – Ireland 2018 You are a bona fide prospective applicant to a course for which HPAT – Ireland is a prerequisite;
- You meet the requirements for eligibility set out in the HPAT – Ireland 2018 Information Booklet;
- Not to use or divulge to any third party information concerning the test questions in HPAT – Ireland 2018 for Your own or any third party’s personal or commercial gain;
- Not to post or publish any specific part or aspect of the content of HPAT – Ireland 2018. This includes publication on the internet, in any digital format or other format;
- That the information that You give in Your application for registration for HPAT – Ireland 2018 is true and correct. The giving of false or misleading information constitutes misconduct and may jeopardise Your chances of being admitted into any course for which HPAT – Ireland is a prerequisite;
- That You are the person whose name and address appears on this registration form.

- I confirm that I have read the HPAT – Ireland 2018 Information Booklet and specifically the Legal Notice and Privacy Statement.**
- I agree/accept the terms and conditions of participation in the HPAT – Ireland test and specifically the Legal Notice.**

1. By completing and submitting the registration form for the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test located at <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/> You are offering to enter into a legal agreement with the Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ABN 19 004 398 145) (ACER).
 2. The **TERMS AND CONDITIONS** which will apply to Your application for registration and to Your registration to participate in the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test are contained in this Booklet, including this Legal Notice. The Terms and Conditions cover, amongst other things, Your sitting the HPAT – Ireland test, payment of the registration fee, refunds of fees, access to HPAT – Ireland preparation materials and release of the HPAT – Ireland test results.
 3. Before lodging Your Registration, You should make sure You understand fully and are familiar with the contents of this Booklet, including this Legal Notice.
 4. You may have legal rights and guarantees under certain laws including the Australian Consumer Law (being Schedule 2 to the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth), as amended from time to time). If the publication of this Booklet or Your registration for or participation in the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test involves a supply of goods or services to a consumer within the meaning given in those laws, nothing contained in this Booklet excludes, restricts or modifies the application of any consumer guarantee provided in those laws, the exercise of any right or remedy in respect of, or the imposition of any liability for the failure to comply with any relevant guarantee.
 5. Subject to point 4:
 - a. The HPAT – Ireland test is a selection tool used by certain educational institutions and your results in respect of HPAT – Ireland may not be used or relied on for any other purpose;
 - b. To the maximum extent permissible by law (and for the avoidance of doubt, subject to any guarantees, rights, remedies or obligations which cannot be excluded, restricted or modified under certain laws including the Australian Consumer Law), ACER expressly, irrevocably and totally disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage whatsoever and howsoever arising in connection with or resulting from: Your participation (actual, potential, contemplated or cancelled for any reason whatsoever) in HPAT – Ireland; and Your test results, including, but not limited to, any representations made by ACER or its personnel (including agents, subcontractors and consultants) in respect of HPAT – Ireland and the accuracy of any information contained in this Booklet;
 - c. To the fullest extent permitted at law, You acknowledge and accept that the entire risk of Your participation in HPAT – Ireland is assumed by You and that ACER will have no liability whatsoever to You for any loss, harm, damage, cost or expense (including legal fees) or any direct, special, indirect, incidental, punitive or consequential loss or damage (including, without limitation, economic loss, loss of contract, profit, revenue, income, opportunity, goodwill, information, anticipated savings, business relationships, production or data) whatsoever and howsoever arising;
 - d. You acknowledge and accept that, to the fullest extent permitted at law, ACER gives NO WARRANTY or guarantee and makes no representation whatsoever that: registering for or sitting the HPAT – Ireland test will guarantee You or secure for You a placement with an educational institution; or that You will be provided with Your HPAT – Ireland results (other than in strict accord with this Agreement).
 6. To the fullest extent permitted at law, You release and fully indemnify ACER, its officers, employees and agents from and against all claims, liabilities, costs, demands and expenses whatsoever and howsoever arising from or in connection with:
 - a. Your registration for or participation (actual, potential, contemplated or cancelled) in the HPAT – Ireland test; or
 - b. Any breach by You of the terms and conditions of Your participation (actual, potential, contemplated or cancelled) in the HPAT – Ireland test.
- These releases and indemnities survive Your participation (actual, contemplated, potential or cancelled) in the HPAT – Ireland test and whether or not You are offered or accept a placement with any educational institution for any course whatsoever.

7. In the event that any law implies terms or guarantees into the offering or conduct of the HPAT – Ireland test which cannot be lawfully excluded, restricted or modified, such terms or guarantees will apply, save that the liability of ACER for breach of any such term or guarantee will, to the extent legally permitted, be limited to the refund of the price paid for any relevant goods or services.
8. ACER has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this Booklet. ACER reserves the right to alter or amend any detail contained in the Booklet in its absolute and unqualified discretion. Any alteration or amendment will take effect immediately upon publication of the alteration or amendment on <https://hpat-ireland.acer.org/>.
9. By completing and submitting the HPAT – Ireland registration form:
 - a. You confirm that You have read in its entirety and accept the contents of this Booklet, including the Legal Notice.
 - b. You confirm Your agreement with the terms and conditions contained in this Booklet.
 - c. You acknowledge that You have been entitled to obtain legal advice concerning any matter covered in this Booklet, whether or not You have in fact sought any legal advice.
 - d. You acknowledge and accept that this Booklet contains the entire agreement between You and ACER concerning Your participation in the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test and that no matter, information or representation not expressly contained in this Booklet has induced You or had any bearing on You to seek registration for the HPAT – Ireland 2018 test.
 - e. You accept and unconditionally undertake to strictly comply with the terms and conditions contained in this Booklet.
 - f. You acknowledge and accept that Your agreement with ACER will be governed by the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia.
 - g. You agree that Australian law will apply to, and that, these terms and conditions are subject to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of Australian Courts and any of the Courts of Appeal therefrom to determine any dispute (whether as to the interpretation of Your agreement with ACER, or any matter concerning performance or compliance of the agreement or otherwise) or to determine any claims brought or made against You by ACER or its authorised nominee.

**Any queries about HPAT – Ireland
should be directed to:**

hpat-ireland@acer.org

ACER

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