National College of Ireland

Student Life
Succeeding at your studies

January 2024

These slides are available on the NCI Support Article 'Getting Started as a new International Student'

Meet the International Support Team

National College of Ireland

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Student Life

Succeeding at your studies

Succeeding at your studies

Supports to help you succeed

Academic Calendar and key dates

Programme Cycle & Sequence

International Support

Q&A

Succeeding at your studies:

National College of Ireland

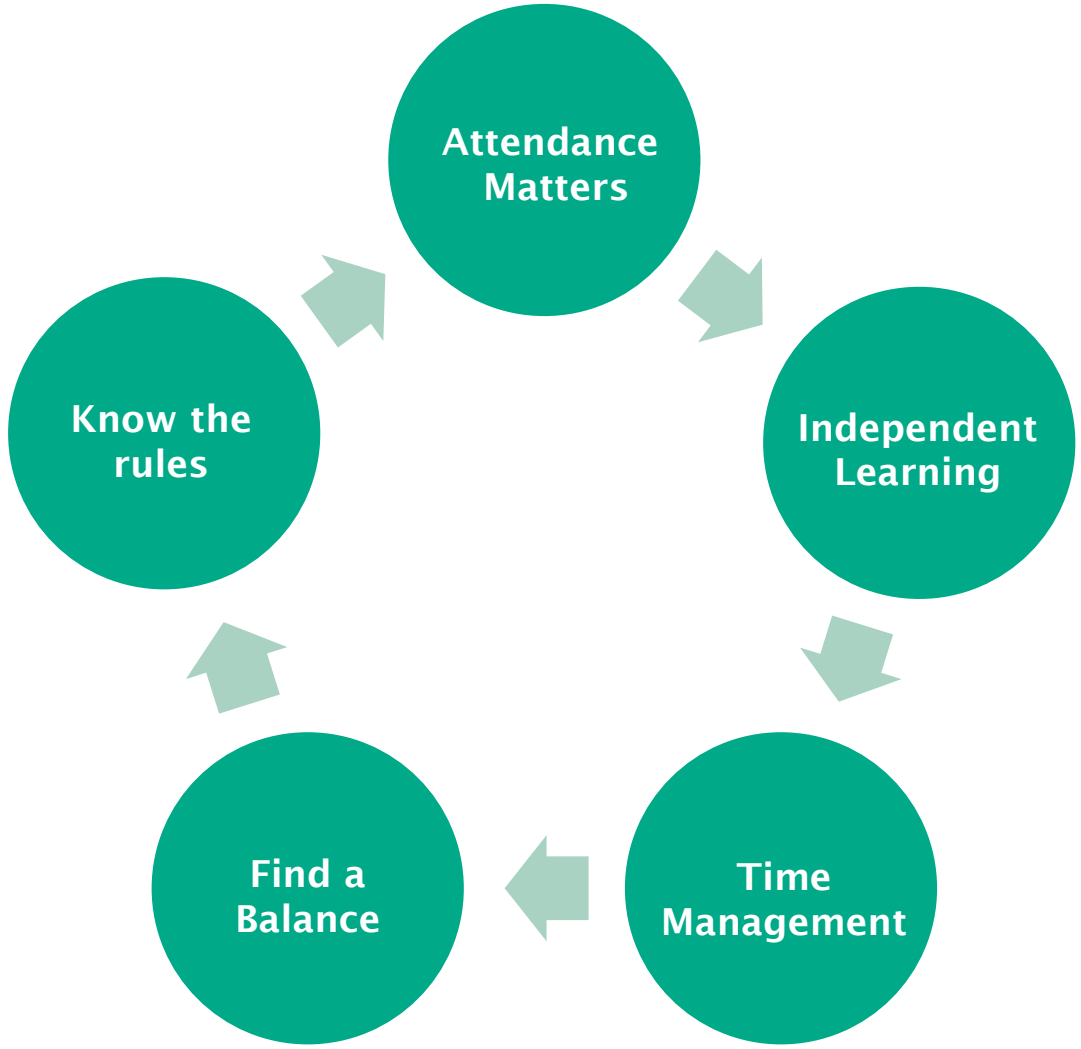
You are here today as you have already succeeded in your studies

Before we get started, take a minute to think about, what helped you succeed at your studies?

Succeeding at your studies:

National College of Ireland

From our experience, these are the key ingredients to help you succeed at your studies



Attendance Matters:

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Why?

1. Dey 2018 *"…findings suggest that **class attendance has a positive and significant effect** on standardized exam scores."*

2. NCI expect students **to engage with and attend all learning activities and events** associated with their course of study.

3. Immigration **expect students to attend classes and to progress** in their studies and to graduate as planned.

Graduate Advice

*"…connect with your professors, **be the part of the lecture, interact with everyone** and give support to others, it will enhance you, not only in your career but in person."*

*"Keep working hard and **focus on the classes as they are very important**."*

Resources

NCI Support Hub for Articles and NCI Policies & Procedures

- What is the attendance requirement?
- Policy on Learner Attendance and Engagement
- Student Support articles on attendance and engagement FAQ e.g. holidays
    - If planning trips / visits home, you should refer to the academic calendar.
    - NCI will not give permission to miss classes. If you decide to travel and miss class, it is at your own risk.

Independent Learning:

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Why?

- Every programme / module descriptor sets out the hours required for independent learning
- Nobody is going to chase you do it – you must be disciplined

Graduate Advice

"Read more, Research more."

*"To be a great student, **you need to be independent. You need to do your own research,** don't always ask lecturers to spoon feed you."*

"Study hard for one year, and enjoy the success for rest of the life."

What are the characteristics of an independent learner?

(Mynard and Sorflaten, 2003, p. 35)

Dependent learners	Independent learners
• rely heavily on the teacher	• are self-reliant
• cannot make decisions about their learning	• can make informed decisions about their learning
• do not know their own strengths and weaknesses	• are aware of their strengths and weaknesses
• do not connect classroom learning with the real world	• connect classroom learning with the real world
• think that the teacher is wholly responsible for their learning	• take responsibility for their own learning
• do not know the best way to learn something	• know about different strategies for learning

Resources

- Student Support –Academic Supports and Getting to Grips with tutor sessions 'Moodle Page'
- Silvercloud – a virtual platform designed to help your mental wellbeing and one of the programmes is about resilience

Time Management / Find Balance:

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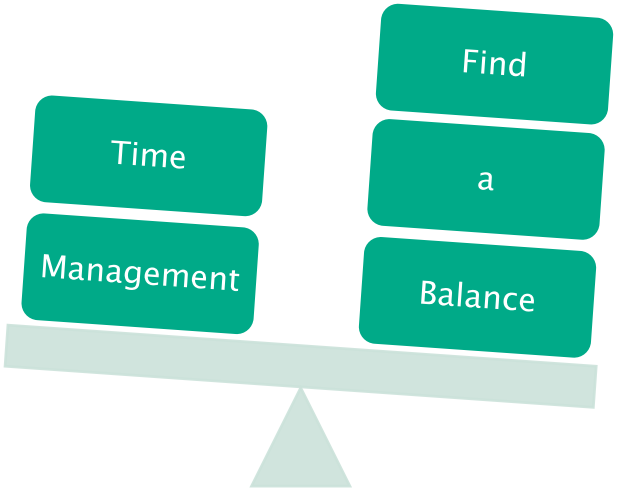

Graduate Advice

"to be focused from the beginning of each semester, rather then waiting for the assessments to start."

Time Management

- Keep on top of course work / reading / assessments. Study is your full-time job now!
- Don't let things build up or leave submissions to last minute
- Penalties for late submissions

Find a Balance

- Important to get a balance between, attending classes, study and work.
- For post graduate students in the first semester it is recommended to work max of 10 hours a week, or if possible not at all

Resources

- Student Support – 'Getting to Grips' drop in service work with a tutor, 1-2-1 or in small groups. See information on Moodle
- NCISU and Clubs & SOCs
- International Support Events – Website Noticeboard, Newsletters and Instgram @nci_int

Know the Rules:

Why?

- If you don't know the rules and you breech them **(un-intentionally or intentionally) – there are consequences!**
  - e.g. Missed deadlines, breach of exam rules or breach of academic integrity

What are the consequences?

- It depends on a range of different factors such as, if undergraduate or post-graduate student, if first time and the type of breach.
- Examples of some consequences are; reduced grade, or you may need to repeat, or you may be suspended for a year, or you may be expelled.

Resources

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity Blog, Library Resources, Avoiding Plagiarism Tutorial and Academic Skills Writing Guide

Exam Regulations

Examination Rules, What you can bring into the exam hall, use of English Translation Dictionary in exams etc…

NCI Policies & Procedures – Assessment e.g., section 4.7 for Submissions and section 4.7.1 for Late Submissions and Penalties and section 4.21 for Academic Impropriety and Code of Practice for Academic Honesty & Integrity

Some last words of wisdom from NCI Graduates!

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"I come from a different background with no idea about computer languages and I have scored honors by putting in some amount of effort.
If I can do this course successfully anybody can do it.
Keep up the good work study and enjoy the process and make more friends."

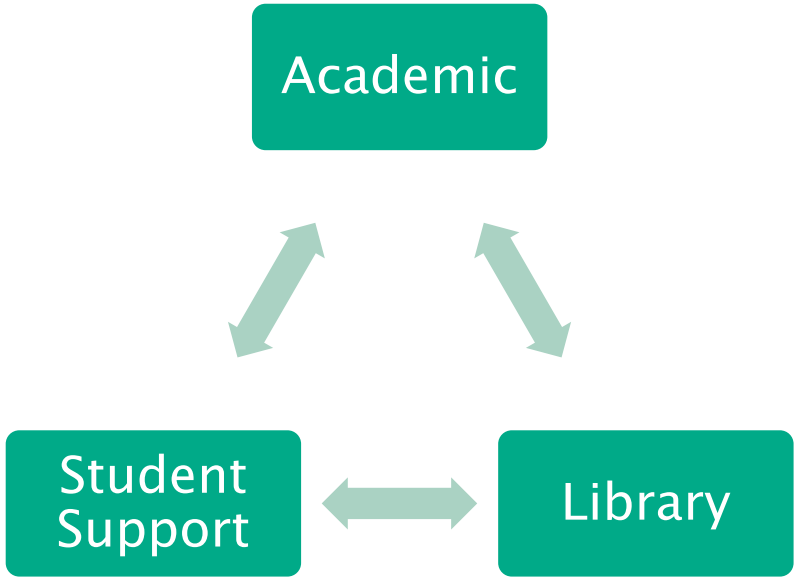
"Try to consistently improve yourself and keep your eyes on the prize"

"Study and enjoy your time in Ireland"

"Don't hesitate to look for support "

Supports to help you succeed:

National College of Ireland



Academic

- Lecturer / Lab Assistant
  - Attend all your classes / labs / tutorials
  - Engage with your lecturer / ask questions

Academic Operations

- Q: Do you know who your Programme Co-Ordinator is? Do you know how to contact them, if you have any queries about your programme?
- A: Check moodle and your emails (personal and student emails)

Library

- The library will be key to your success as a student.
- Have you visited the library in person or online?
- Q: Do you know who this is?
- A: Keith Brittle. You will get to meet him during the academic year and you and make an appointment with him for help with your research.

Student Support

- Academic Support – Learning Support Service (drop-in service to work with a tutor on core areas such as academic writing, reading, researching, studying, note-taking etc.) and Mathematics Support Service
- Computing Support - runs one-to-one and small group tutorials. The Computing Support Moodle page provides students with access to online revision classes and tutorials as well as a suite of video tutorials and workshop resources.

Supports to help you succeed:

National College of Ireland

Students Union - NCISU and Linktree with NCI Students Union

- Represent the Student Voice at highest level at College
- Recruit and train Class representative
- Clubs & Societies and run events during the academic year, such as Freshers Week and RAG Week

Career Service

- Award winning team that offers great support to students.
- Follow on Instagram for daily updates
- **Sign up for the NCI Careers & Vacancy newsletter**
- Find out who is your Careers Advisor. They will reach out to schedule information sessions and classes
- NCI Jobs Board: https://bit.ly/NCIJobsandPlacements
- Summer Internships & Placements (advertised on a variety of jobs boards) :

Health & Wellbeing

- Student Health – subsidised medical service with Hanover Medical. Subsidised consultation with Doctor for €15. Also, Support Hub Articles 'how to get help with medical, helpful information for international students'
- Counselling & Wellness Service –SilverCloud a digital mental wellbeing platform, Counselling Appointments (up to 6 sessions free) and Textline 50808.

Student Life

Succeeding at your studies

Succeeding at your studies

Supports to help you succeed

Academic Calendar and key dates

Programme Cycle & Sequence

International Support

Q&A

Academic Calendar:

National College of Ireland

Academic Calendar - Important dates during the academic year at National College of Ireland are listed here.

- **Class Start and End Dates**
- Reading Week
- Dates No Classes Scheduled e.g. bank holidays
- Exam Dates

If planning to travel, you should refer to the academic calendar AND you can also check these NCI Support Hub Articles

1. Can I go on holiday during my programme?
2. What is the attendance requirement?
3. Attendance FAQ

Academic Calendar

Important dates during the academic year at National College of Ireland are listed here.

Please note that the academic calendar is subject to change. Please check this page regularly for updates regarding the upcoming terms.

Key Dates for the 2023/2024 Academic Year +

Semester 2: 2023/2024

Key Dates	From	To
Classes commence (including January 2024 new starters)	22/01/24	27/04/24
Reading week	16/03/24	22/03/24
No classes	16/03/24	16/03/24
Classes recommence	23/03/24	23/03/24
Easter Holidays	29/03/24	04/04/24
Classes recommence	05/04/24	05/04/24
Semester 2 exams	02/05/24	17/05/24
School of Computing 4th Year Full-Time Undergraduate Project Showcase	29/05/24	29/05/24

Semester 3: 2023/2024

Key Dates	From	To
Classes commence	20/05/24	10/08/24
Non-teaching day	01/06/24	01/06/24
Non-teaching day	03/06/24	03/06/24
Non-teaching day	03/08/24	03/08/24
Non-teaching day	05/08/24	05/08/24

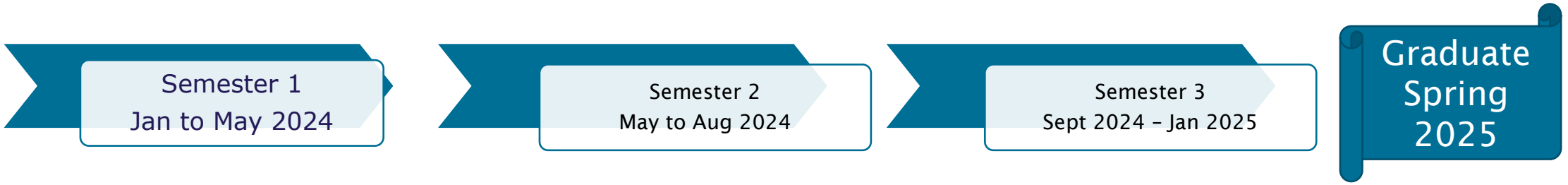
Key Dates and Academic Calendar:

National College of Ireland

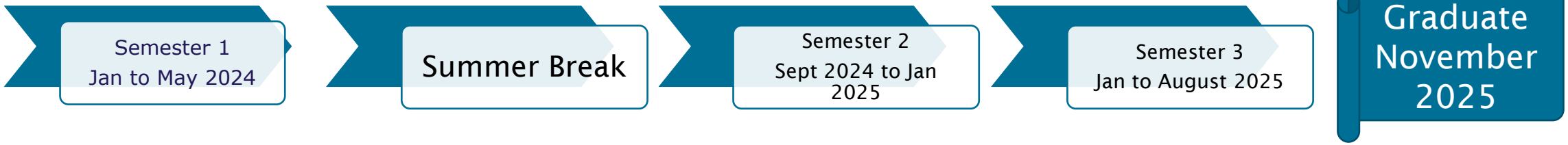
The Academic Calendar is published every **September until August** the following year.

- Once published it rarely changes however,
- As the calendar runs from September to August it can be confusing for students that start in January, so it is important to note the following.

School of Computing Programmes delivered over one year from January 2024 to January 2025 with graduation in Spring 2025



School of Business Programmes delivered over 20 months from January 2024 to August 2025 with graduation in November 2025.



Jan 2024 School of Computing Academic Calendar & Key Dates:

!! The exact dates for Semester 3 will be confirmed when the academic calendar is published for the academic year September 2024 to August 2025

National College of Ireland

	Semester 1 (S1)	Semester 2 (S2)	Semester 3 (S3)
Classes Commence	22 Jan 2024	20 May 2024	Sept 2024
Reading Week	16 – 22 March 2024	Non-teaching days 1 & 3 June and 3 & 5 August	End Oct / Early Nov
Easter	29 March – 4 April 2024		
Classes End	27 April 2024	14 August	Dec 2024
Exams	2 – 17 May 2024	August for S2 Exams	Jan 2025
Results	June 2024 for S1 Results	End Sept/Early Oct for S2 Results	Feb 2025 Final Results and earliest date to apply for Graduate Visa (1G)
Apply for Graduate (1G) visa			

Graduation Ceremony Spring 2025

Jan 2024 School of Business Academic Calendar & Key Dates:

!! The exact dates for Semester 2 and 3 will be confirmed when the academic calendar is published for the academic year September 2024 to August 2025

National College of Ireland

	Semester 1 (S1)		Semester 2 (S2)		Semester 3 (S3)
Classes Commence	22 Jan 2024	SUMMER BREAK	Sept 2024		Jan 2025
Reading Week	16 – 22 March 2024		End Oct / Early Nov 2024		March 2025
Easter	29 March – 4 April 2024				Late April 2025
Classes End	27 April 2024		Dec 2024		End April 2025
Exams	2 – 17 May 2024		Jan 2025		August 2025
Results	June 2024 for S1 Results Aug 2024 for S1 Repeats		Feb 2025 for S2 Results	Apply for Graduate (1G) visa	Oct 2025 Final Results and earliest date to apply for Graduate Visa (1G)

Graduation Ceremony November 2025

Jan 2024 School of Computing Programme Cycle, Sequence & Timing:

National College of Ireland

- Students must follow the programme cycle, sequence & timing for their intake e.g.

Semester 1 Classes & May Exams (1st attempt) → Semester 2 Classes & Aug Exams (1st attempt) → Semester 3 Classes & Jan Exams (1st attempt) AND Sem 1 & 2 Jan 1st Repeat Sitting

- Students who don't attempt an assessment/exam are marked as NP (Not Present) = Fail

- Students who don't pass at the first attempt or the first repeat sitting **MUST register to repeat by attending for a new academic year**.
  - NCI requires students to repeat by attending as it gives students the best opportunity to succeed.
  - It only applies for subjects not passed.
  - Students must register to repeat by attending within the timelines, which is usually within a week of results being published.

Jan 2024 School of Business Programme Cycle, Sequence & Timing:

National College of Ireland

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Student Life

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- Succeeding at your studies
- Supports to help you succeed
- Academic Calendar and key dates
- Programme Cycle & Sequence

- International Support

- Q&A

International Student Support

National College of Ireland

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What students say:

"It has been a wonderful journey throughout and my experience here in Ireland and at NCI has been amazing! It would not have been easy without your help and support from day one, reaching our places and getting to know the college was easy because of the NCI International group and peer mentor support!"

The Education Awards 2021
WINNER
International Engagement Award

The Education Awards 2023
WINNER
International Engagement Award

Connect with International Support

National College of Ireland

Ways to get information and to connect with us:

NCI Support Hub

- Find the answer to your questions with the NCI Support Hub. You can search for answers using keywords.

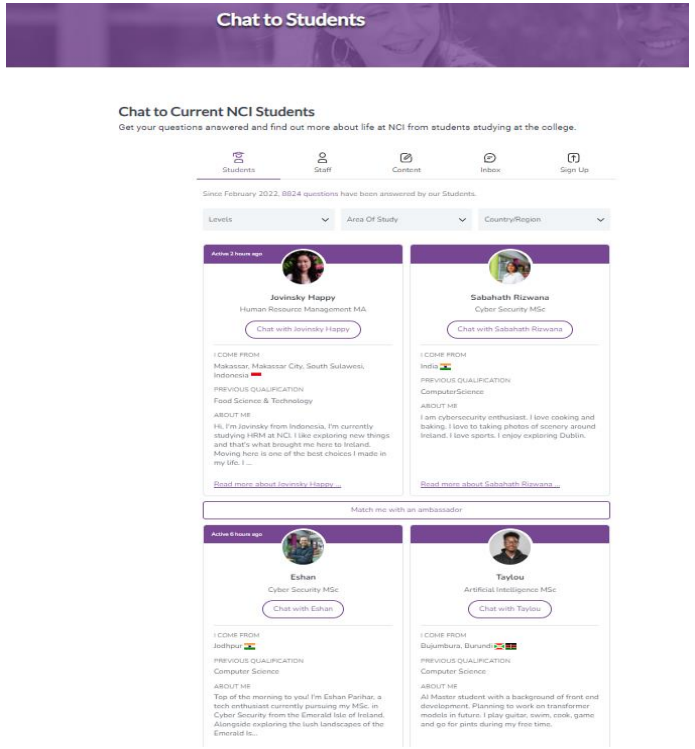
- If you can't find the answer to your question you can submit a request through the NCI Support Hub.

Chat with an International Peer Mentor

- If you would like to contact a Peer Mentor, you can Chat with an International Peer Mentor to ask questions about life at NCI and Ireland.

International Support Team

- Schedule an Appointment - if you would like to speak to a member of the international office in person or on MS Teams, please submit a request in the NCI Support Hub with your full name, student number, nature of the request and your availability. The international team will be in touch with you with an appointment.



Please note: the International Office working hours are Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm. Please allow 48 working hours for a response.

Connect with International Support

Follow us on Social Media

@nci.int

@nci_int

@nci_int

Contacting International Support short video

See You Tube Video

NCI Support Hub

How to find the NCI Support Hub.

ncirl.ie/International
> International Student Support
> NCI Support Hub

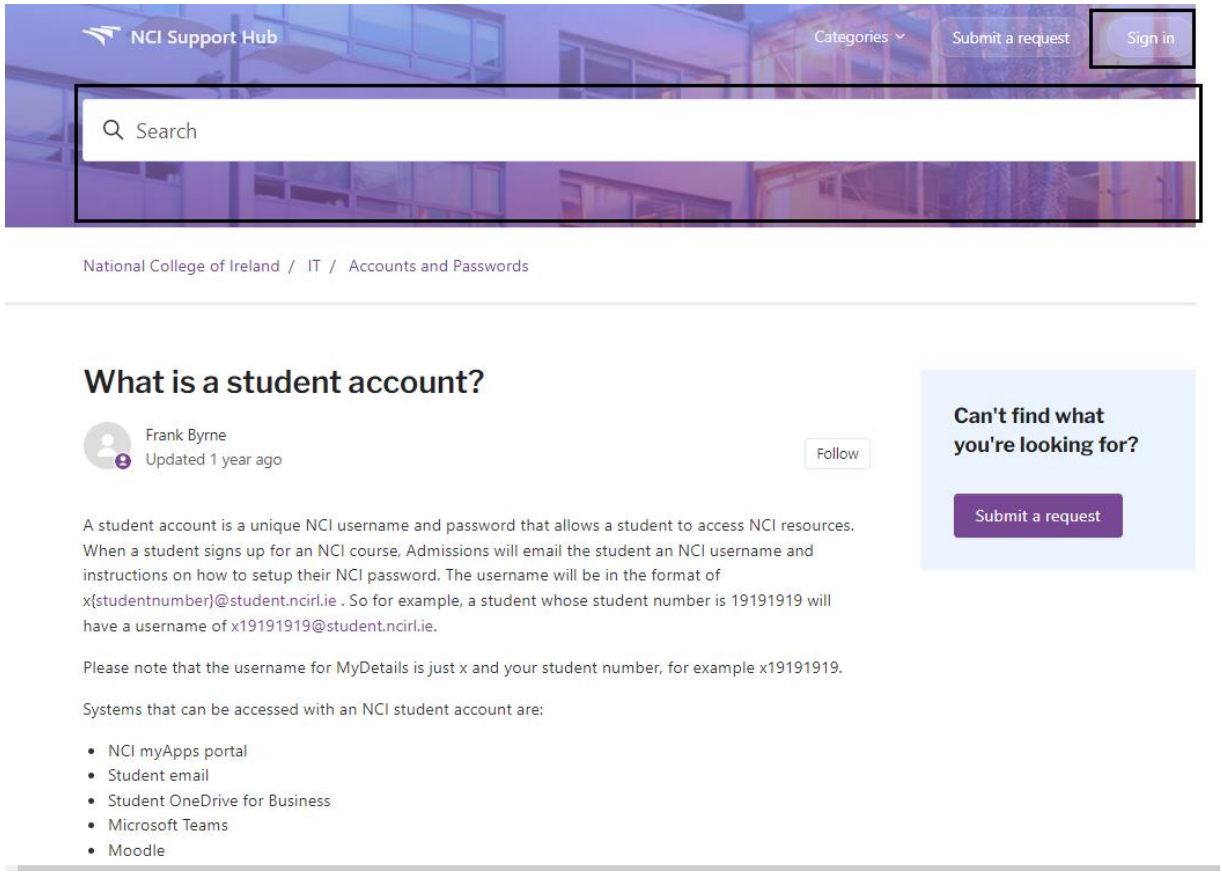
NCI Support Hub

National College of Ireland

1. Sign In with Student Account

Username = Student Email ID
x1234567@student.ncirl.ie

2. Ask questions: 'What is a student account'



Getting started at NCI

Getting Started with NCI's Online Services

Getting started as a new International Student

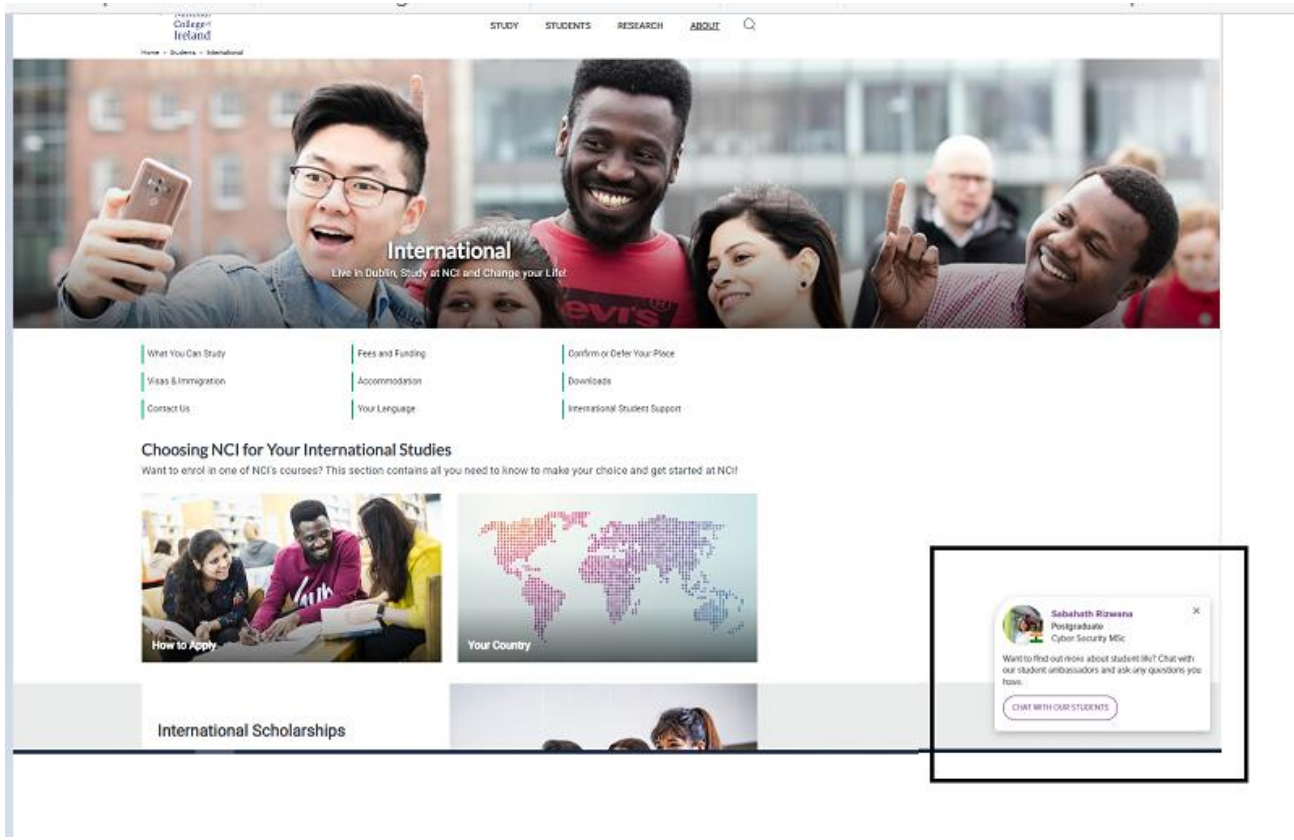
Chat to Students

How to find Chat to Students

ncirl.ie/International

- Pop Up Window Chat with our Students

- Chat with current NCI Students who are also International Peer Mentors
- Ask questions about Student Life at NCI and life in Ireland



Welcome Programme

How to find the Welcome Programme schedule?

ncirl.ie/International
> International Student Support
> Welcome Programme

- Check the schedule and join events
- Check Student email for newsletters and events during the semester

Student Life

Do you have any questions?

- Succeeding at your studies
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THANK YOU