

WORKING HOLIDAY AUTHORIZATION

Your Chance to Live & Work in Ireland for up to 12 Months



WHAT IS THE WORKING HOLIDAY AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM?

The Working Holiday Authorization (WHA) Program is a joint initiative of the United States and Ireland which allows qualifying US and Irish citizens to travel and work in each other's countries for up to 12 months. It reflects not only the close historical and cultural links between our nations, but also the vibrancy of the modern transatlantic economic relationship.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

The WHA Program is open to any US citizen over the age of 18 who:

- Is currently in full-time post high school education which will ultimately lead to an Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's or Doctorate degree
- Has graduated from such a program within the past 12 months



HOW CAN I APPLY?

Eligible US citizens wishing to travel to Ireland under the terms of the Program may apply for a WHA directly through the Consulate General of Ireland. The application form and a list of required supporting documentation can be found at www.dfa.ie/boston. Applications may be submitted by mail or in person.



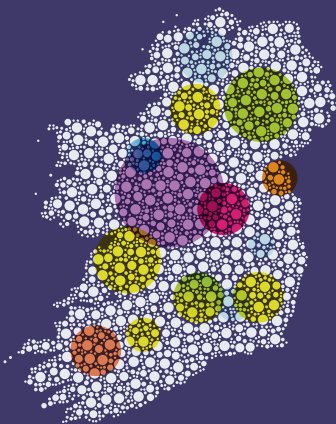
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Department of
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www.ireland.ie/en/usa/miami/

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Frequently Asked Questions



DO I NEED TO HAVE A JOB LINED UP BEFORE APPLYING?

No. It's not necessary to have confirmed employment in Ireland before applying for a WHA or before travelling to Ireland. Within 90 days after arrival in Ireland, you must register with the Garda Naturalization and Immigration Bureau (GNIB) or your nearest Garda Síochána District Headquarters Station. We recommend scheduling your appointment before entering Ireland.



ARE THERE LIMITATIONS TO THE TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT I CAN SECURE?

No. The WHA does not impose any restrictions on the type of work participants can engage in, as long as it is in line with Irish law.



FOR HOW LONG IS THE WHA VALID?

Once approved, the applicant will receive a WHA document from the Consulate which grants authorization to work and travel in Ireland for up to 12 months. This period starts on the date of the applicant's arrival in Ireland which, in turn, must be within six months of the date of issue on the WHA document. If the applicant does not use their WHA to enter Ireland within this six-month period, the authorization is considered void and the applicant must apply again if they still wish to participate in the program.



HOW IS "GRADUATION DATE" DEFINED?

Applicants are considered eligible for the WHA program if their application form and initial documentation are received by the Consulate within 12 months of the date of the conferral of their degree, or the date on their diploma, whichever is earlier.



WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FEE AND HOW SHOULD IT BE PAID?

The WHA application fee is currently \$339. The fee, plus an additional return postage of \$13 (for a total of \$352), is payable by money order, cashier's cheque or bank draft made out to the Consulate General of Ireland.



DO I NEED TO SUBMIT STAGE 1 AND STAGE 2 DOCUMENTS SEPARATELY?

Yes. If approved for Stage 1 you will be asked to submit Stage 2 documents separately.



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