



<b>POLICY:</b>	Access Policy
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<b>FIRST DRAFT:</b>	
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<b>ADOPTED:</b>	
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<b>AMENDMENTS:</b>	
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<b>REVIEW:</b>	
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## General Statement

All policies, guidelines and protocols of Mary Immaculate College, will reflect the Colleges commitment to the promotion of equality and will be fully compliant with the provisions of prevailing equality legislation.

Mary Immaculate College is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education and to ensuring that students have as complete and equitable access to all facets of College life as can reasonably be provided. In keeping with the College Mission Statement, which 'strives to promote equity in society and to provide an environment where all have freedom and opportunity to achieve their full potential,' the College endeavors to achieve equity of access to higher education for students from under-represented groups in third level, including socio-economically disadvantaged students, students with a disability, mature students, and members of specific minority groups. These initiatives are consistent with the aims of the Higher Education Authority's National Officer for the Equity of Access to Higher Education. The College is committed to increasing its targets for increased participation for all groups and improving access activities is central to the College's overall institutional strategy and policy.

- 1 This policy derives from a philosophy of inclusion which is dedicated to providing necessary support services wherever possible.
- 2 Responsibility for the implementation of the College's access policy is communal and will be facilitated by the College's Access/Disability Officer who will liaise with the appropriate departments, staff and students of the College. It is within the remit of the Access/Disability Officer to provide and arrange for the provision of assistance and guidance to access services.
- 3 In providing for students from under-represented groups in third level, the College will have particular regard for the human dignity, freedom and independence of each individual and the importance of confidentiality.
- 4 The College will seek to publicise its services in targeted Disadvantaged areas and increase its involvement in community-

based initiatives in such areas. The College's prospectus and course brochures shall contain information on the application and entry Procedures on all direct entry access routes to the College.