

Cost of Living for International Students at Griffith College: What to Expect

Studying abroad is an exciting adventure, but managing your finances effectively is key to a stress-free experience. Whether you're moving to **Dublin, Cork, or Limerick** to study at **Griffith College**, it's important to understand the cost of living in Ireland and how to budget accordingly.

This guide will break down the average expenses you can expect as an international student, including **accommodation, transport, food, and social activities**.

Accommodation: Finding the Right Place to Live

Your biggest expense as a student will likely be accommodation. Griffith College offers **on-campus housing** at the **Griffith Halls of Residence (GHR)**, but many students also choose **off-campus accommodation** depending on availability and personal preference.

- **On-Campus Accommodation**

Griffith Halls of Residence provides student-friendly housing with modern facilities. Prices start at **€209 per week**, with further details available [here](#).

- **Off-Campus Accommodation**

If you prefer to live off-campus, rental costs will vary depending on location, amenities, and whether you share with housemates. Here's what you can expect:

- **Single room in a shared apartment:** €600 – €1,000 per month
- **Private studio apartment:** €1,200+ per month
- **Shared house (cost split among housemates):** €500 – €900 per month

Dublin's rental market is competitive, so it's advisable to **secure accommodation before arriving**. More details on off-campus options can be found [here](#).

Transport: Getting Around the City

Ireland has a reliable public transport system, and as a student, you can **save money with a Student Leap Card**—a discounted travel card for students.

- **Monthly transport costs:** €120 – €150
- **Annual estimate:** €1,440 – €1,350 (academic year)

The **Leap Card** provides discounted fares on **buses, trams (Luas), and trains** in Dublin and other cities. Registration costs **€5**, and you can top up the card based on your usage. For more details, visit [Leap Card](#) and watch [step by step guide](#) on how it works.

Food & Grocery Expenses

Your food budget will depend on whether you **cook at home or eat out** frequently. Shopping at budget-friendly supermarkets like **Lidl, Aldi, Tesco, and Dunnes Stores** will help keep costs down.

- **Monthly estimate:** €180 – €250
- **Yearly estimate:** €2,160 – €2,250

Cooking at home is significantly cheaper than eating out, where restaurant meals cost around **€10 – €20 per meal**. Many students find a balance by preparing meals at home and dining out occasionally.

Social Life & Entertainment

Studying in Ireland isn't just about academics—you'll want to enjoy your time here too. From weekend trips to live music events and student meetups, budgeting for social activities is important.

- **Monthly estimate:** €80 – €150
- **Yearly estimate:** €960 – €1,350

Many student events and cultural activities are free or discounted, so there are plenty of ways to **enjoy Irish life on a budget**.

Stationery & Books

Course materials and books can be expensive, but students can save money by **buying second-hand books or using online resources**.

- **Monthly estimate:** €100 – €150
- **Yearly estimate:** €1,200 – €1,350

Certain courses may require additional equipment, so check with your **Faculty** for specific book lists.

Total Estimated Cost of Living

Expense Category	Average Monthly Cost	Average Yearly Cost	Maximum Monthly Cost	Maximum Cost (9 months)
Accommodation	€600	€7,200	€1,000	€9,000
Transport	€120	€1,440	€150	€1,350
Food	€180	€2,160	€250	€2,250
Social Activities	€80	€960	€150	€1,350
Stationery & Books	€100	€1,200	€150	€1,350
Total	€1,080	€12,960	€1,700	€15,300

Budgeting Tips for International Students

- **Apply early for accommodation** to secure lower rent.
- **Use a Student Leap Card** for discounted transport fares.
- **Cook at home** to save money on food.
- **Take advantage of free student events** to explore Ireland on a budget.
- **Look for second-hand books** or digital resources instead of buying new textbooks.

Final Thoughts

Planning your finances before arriving in Ireland will help you make the most of your experience at Griffith College. By budgeting wisely and making use of student discounts, you can enjoy your studies and social life without unnecessary financial stress.

Whether you're living **on-campus or off-campus**, Dublin, Cork, and Limerick have plenty of affordable options to fit your budget. If you have any questions, Griffith College's **International Office** is always available to help.

Start preparing today—and we look forward to welcoming you to Griffith College!