SFI Centre for Research Training in Machine Learning Application Form

The Centre for Research Training in Machine Learning seeks applications from talented graduates with an interest in machine learning research to join the programme.
The applications will be evaluated through three stages selection process: 1-Application form 2-Technical assignment 3-Interview.

This year have two application tracks:
-- Technical Machine Learning track
-- Machine Learning in Society track

We expect to offer up to 30 places on the Technical Machine Learning track and up to 5 places on the Machine Learning in Society track.

The minimum requirements for entry into the programme under the Technical Machine Learning track are:
-- 2.1 grade (or equivalent) in an undergraduate or postgraduate degree in computer science, maths, engineering or similar technical discipline.
-- Strong programming ability.
-- Non-native English speakers require at least IELTS 6.5 (with at least 6 in all components) or equivalent.
-- Machine learning experience is desirable, but not mandatory.

The minimum requirements for entry into the programme under the Machine Learning in Society track are:
-- 2.1 grade (or equivalent) in an undergraduate or postgraduate degree in social science, digital humanities, or similar discipline.
-- Non-native English speakers require at least IELTS 6.5 (with at least 6 in all components) or equivalent.
-- Experience working on the societal impact of technology is desirable, but not mandatory.

To apply to the programme please complete this form.
*Required

1. Email address *

_____

Personal Details
Provide some details about yourself.

2. First name *

_____

3. Last name *

_____

4. Email address *

_____

5. Application Track *

Mark only one oval.

◯ Technical Machine Learning

◯ Machine Learning in Society

Bachelor's degree

Enter the details of your bachelor's degree (or equivalent). If you do not hold a bachelor's degree leave this section blank. If you have yet to complete this degree enter your expected graduation date and leave the final grade section blank.

6.   Bachelor's degree institution

_____

7.   Bachelor's degree graduation date

_____

Example: 7 January 2019

8.   Bachelor's degree full qualification type and name

_____

9.   Bachelor's degree final grade or grade point average

Please clearly describe the grading scheme that your grade is based on (for example the minimum and maximum values of the scale; e.g.: 9 on a scale of min:5 and max:10).

_____

10. **Bachelor's degree transcript upload**

Upload an official English language version of your bachelor's degree transcript document(s) in a single PDF file. Please also include a description of the grading scale used by your institution. Please name your file "Bachelors_Transcript_FN_LN.pdf" where you FN is replaced with your first name and LN is replaced with your last name.

Files submitted:

Master's degree

Enter the details of your master's degree (or equivalent). If you do not hold a master's degree leave this section blank. If you have yet to complete this degree enter your expected graduation date and leave the final grade section blank.

11. **Master's degree type**

Mark only one oval.

◯ Taught

◯ Research

12. **Master's degree institution**

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13. **Master's degree graduation date**

If you have not yet completed your master's degree please indicate your expected completion date.

_____

Example: 7 January 2019

14. **Master's degree full qualification type and name**

_____

15. **Master's degree final grade or grade point average**

Please clearly describe the grading scheme that your grade is based upon (for example the minimum and maximum values of the scale; e.g.: 9 on a scale of min:5 and max:10).

_____

16. **Master's degree transcript upload**

Upload an official English language version of your master's degree transcript document(s) in a single PDF file. Please also include a description of the grading scale used by your institution. Please name your file "Masters_Transcript_FN_LN.pdf" where you FN is replaced with your first name and LN is replaced with your last name.

Files submitted:

17. **Are you a native English speaker or have you achieved an IELTS test score of at least 6.5 (with at least 6 in all components), or a similar score in an equivalent test?** *

For illustration the list of UCD equivalent English qualifications is available here: https://www.ucd.ie/registry/admissions/elr.html

Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No

18. **English language certification upload**

If you are not a native English speaker please upload a copy of your official English language certification. Please name your file "English_Certificate_FN_LN.pdf" where you FN is replaced with your first name and LN is replaced with your last name.

Files submitted:

Further Track Record

Describe further details of your experience.

19. **Other education.** *

Please provide details of any additional educational achievements not detailed in the previous section (for example other degrees or qualifications). [Max 2000 characters]

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20. **Research achievements.** *

Please provide any additional information regarding your research achievements to date such as final year projects, publications, research awards, creation of data sets and databases, conference papers, patents, etc. [Max 2000 characters]

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21. **Technical skills & achievements.** *

Please describe your current level of proficiency in programming (e.g. C++, Java, Python, R), maths, and machine learning and provide evidence to support your assessment. Also provide information regarding your technical achievements to date such as significant systems built, contributions to open source projects, etc. [Max 2500 characters]

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22. **Work experience.** *

Please provide details of any relevant work experience, including voluntary work, to date which should include employers' names, job titles, nature of duties and responsibilities, as well as duration of employment. [Max 2000 characters]

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23. **ORCID ID**

Optionally include an ORCID ID to list publications.

_____

24. **Github repository**

Optionally include a link to a Github repository to show examples of coding projects.

_____

25. **Google Scholar page**

Optionally include a link to a Google Scholar page to list publications.

_____

Referees

Please provide details of two referees who we will contact should you progress to interview. Include name, institution, email address, phone number, and a short description of your relationship to the referee.

26. **Referee 1** *

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27. Referee 2 *

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Describe your motivations for joining the centre.

Personal Statement

28. Why do you want to pursue a PhD at the Centre for Research Training in Machine Learning? *

Describe your motivation for pursuing a PhD degree in machine learning and why you feel that the Centre for Research Training in Machine Learning, and Ireland, is the right place for you to do it. For example describe how your attributes - e.g. technical skills, research experience and excellent outputs, motivation, commitment, curiosity, communication skills - demonstrate your capability to be a good researcher. [Max 3000 characters]

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Describe your preference for themes and institutions within the centre.

Research Preferences

29. **Research theme preference.**

The centre has identified 9 key research themes that it will work on (further details of these can be found on the centre website ml-labs.ucd.ie).
Select below the top three themes in which you are most interested in working (1 indicates your highest preference, 2 the second preference, and 3 the third preference).

Tick all that apply.

	1	2	3
ML Fundamentals - ML for Sequential Data	☐	☐	☐
ML Fundamentals - DL for Computer Vision	☐	☐	☐
ML Fundamentals - Explainable ML	☐	☐	☐
ML Fundamentals - Human in the loop ML	☐	☐	☐
ML Fundamentals - ML in Recommender Systems	☐	☐	☐
ML Fundamentals - ML in Language	☐	☐	☐
ML In Society - Bias, Fairness, and Ethics in ML	☐	☐	☐
ML Practice - Data Architectures for ML	☐	☐	☐
ML Applications	☐	☐	☐

30. **Partner institution preference.** *

The centre is a collaboration between University College Dublin, Dublin City University, and Technological University Dublin. If you have a preference for working in one specific institution please select it here.

Mark only one oval.

○ Dublin City University

○ Technological University Dublin

○ University College Dublin

○ No Preference

31. **Research idea.**

While part of the centre programme will involve students co-creating research projects with academics and potential industry partners, we recognise that some applicants already have developed research ideas about which they are passionate about. If you have already identified a research idea please describe it here. If you have developed this idea with an academic associated with the centre, please name them here. [Max 2000 characters]

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Demographic Details

Please provide some details about yourself.

32. **How do you currently describe your gender identity?** *

To assist us in ensuring diversity among the student cohort, we request an indication of gender.

Mark only one oval.

- ( ) Female
- ( ) Non-binary
- ( ) Male
- ( ) Transgender
- ( ) Other
- ( ) Prefer not to say

33. **What is your nationality, i.e. your passport-issuing country?** *

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34. **In what country are you currently located?** *

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35. **How did you hear about the centre?** *

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Google Forms