# Disclosure & WAM Programme

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#### WHAT WE DO Thead

Directly with Students & Graduates

# Accessing College

Info: Admissions Routes, How to Apply, Supports Available Through: Publications, Website, Telephone Helpline, Event: Annual College Fair

#### 3rd Level

Info: Getting Support,
Self Advocacy, Disclosure,
Preparing for Work
Through: Website,
Telephone Helpline,
Seminars

#### **Employment**

Info: Disclosure, Gaheadli Legislation, Preparing for Work

> Through: Work Placement Scheme, Publications, Website Events: Annual Careers Fair, Interview Prep Workshops

WAM Placement Scheme
Employer Events Networking
Training Needs Assessment

**Upskilling Guidance Counsellors** 

Contribution to Policy Formation

Staff Training Publications
Academic Conferences
CPD Resources Online Courses

LOBBYING

**CONTRIBUTION TO POLICY** 

LINK – EURO NETWORK

**RESEARCH – ANNUAL STATS** 

The Bigger

Behind the Scenes

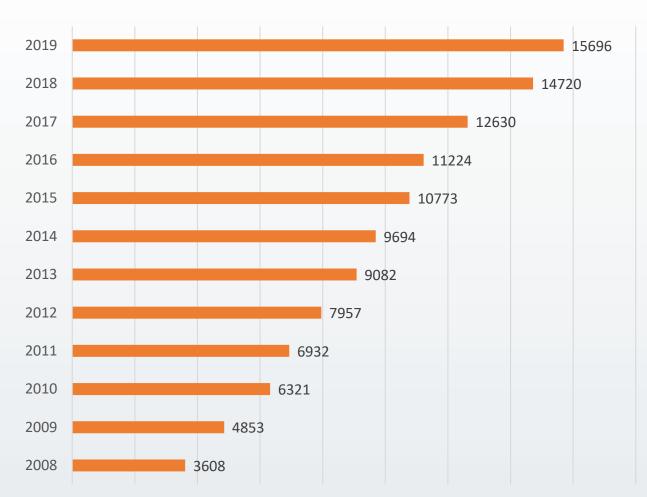




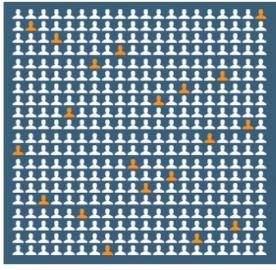




#### Number of Students with Disabilities



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#### 1 IN EVERY ROW

New AHEAD research has shown that students with disabilities now make up

#### OVER 5%

of the total student population in higher education in Ireland. In real terms, this means that in an average university lecture hall with 20 rows seating 400, there will be on average one student with a disability sitting in every row.





#### What is Disclosure?

 Informing someone about your disability, specific
 learning difficulty or mental health difficulty







#### Disclosure is not just a label...

**Understanding** 

• how you do something...

Knowing

• what **accommodations** work best for you and being able to talk about them...

Having

• A **POSITIVE ATTITUDE** encouraging others to get to know you, how you do things rather than what you are.



# What does the legislation say?

#### • Disability means:

- a) the total or partial absence of a person's bodily or mental functions, including the absence of a part of a person's body;
- b) the presence in the body of organisms causing, or likely to cause, chronic disease or illness;
- c) the malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of a person's body;
- d) a condition or malfunction which results in a person learning differently from a person without the condition or malfunction; or
- e) a condition, disease or illness which affects a person's thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgement or which results in disturbed behaviour."





# What does the legislation say?

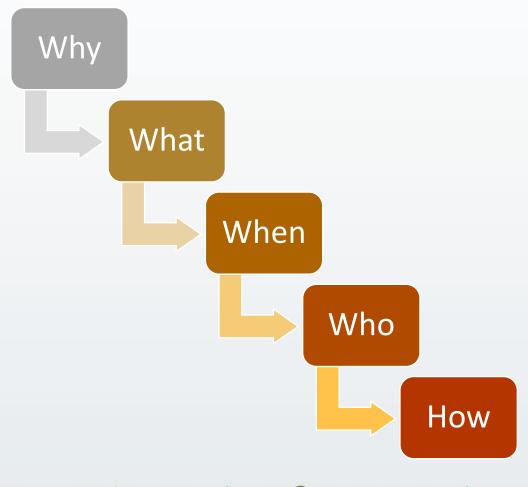
- Equal Status Act 2000
- Employment Equality Act 1998
  - Take appropriate measures unless the measures would impose a disproportionate burden when accessing or advancing in employment.
    - Adaptation of premises/equipment
    - Pattern of working time
    - Distribution of tasks
    - Provision of training







# An Action Plan for Disclosing







# Why disclose?





















# What will you disclose?

- If asking for something, it is necessary to give some background information
- Disclose **relevant** / **useful** information....
  - I have dyslexia and I need a piece of AT to enable me produce grammatically correct written work.
  - I have a mental health difficulty and I need more time off for medical appointments.
  - I have an ongoing illness which requires my workspace to be ergonomically set up.





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#### When to disclose?

- On the application form?
- Before the interview?
- At interview with the employer?
- When I get a job offer?
- At the medical?
- When I'm on the job?





#### Who should know?

- Only tell those who need to know....
  - Line Manager
  - HR Staff
  - Health & Safety Officer
  - Team or Colleagues







#### How to disclose?

- Entirely up to you!
- Follow up on verbal disclosure with a written record if you are seeking reasonable
  - accommodation





#### Remember...

- Your choice but think about consequences;
- Be specific. Every person is different.
- Not sure discuss your options!
- Prepare and practice. Think about what you want to say
- Be aware of supports
- Be aware of your strengths and skills!





### What is the WAM Programme?

6 months

**Fully Paid** 

What is a WAM Placement

Needs Assessment

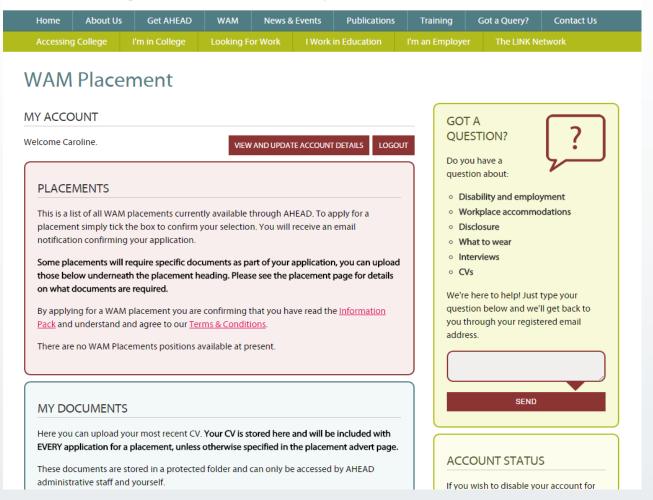
Mentoring







#### Association for Higher Education Access & Disability



To register:

ahead.ie/wamworks





#### **Current Opportunities**

Home » News & Events » WAM Opportunity: Diageo - Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator

Wednesday, 27th January 2021

To apply for any WAM Placements and to be informed of WAM opportunities as they arise, you must register on our <u>WAMWorks Database</u>.

Please note: you must have a disability, specific learning difficulty or mental health difficulty to register on our database and to apply for WAM placements. All our WAM placements are full time.

To get answers to some of the most common queries, read our WAM FAQ page.



A third level qualification. An Environmental, Health and Safety Technical or Science qualification would be desirable.

Closing Date: 12pm, Friday 12th February 2021

#### WAM Civil Service 2021:

- Live from next week
- Interviews
- Placements nationwide in a range of areas







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# Any questions?



