

Mission Statement

The Irish Wheelchair Association is a national organisation dedicated to the achievement of full social, economic and educational integration of people with disability as equal, independent and participative members of the community.



Supporting our work

You can support our work by becoming a volunteer, making a donation or remembering us in your will. With your generous support, we will continue to provide essential services. Thank you.

Contacts

National Mobility Centre

Irish Wheelchair Association,
Ballinagappa Road, Clane, Co Kildare
Tel 045 893 094 | Fax 045 989 678 | Email maats@iwa.ie

Regional Centres

Claddagh Court, College Road, Kilkenny
Tel 056 776 2775 | Fax 056 776 1921
Email kilkenny@iwa.ie

The Granary, Bessboro, Blackrock, Cork
Tel 021 435 0282 | Fax 021 435 0288
Email cork@iwa.ie

3-4 Liscarton Villas, Kells Road, Navan, Co Meath
Tel 046 907 2539 | Fax 046 907 2657
Email navan@iwa.ie

Cúl Árd, Wellpark, Galway
Tel 091 771 550 | Fax 091 771 549 | Email galway@iwa.ie

National Headquarters

Irish Wheelchair Association, Áras Chúchulainn
Blackheath Drive, Clontarf, Dublin 3
Tel 01 818 6400 | Fax 01 833 3873 | Email info@iwa.ie
www.iwa.ie

National Mobility Centre



For more information please visit:

www.iwa.ie

National Mobility Centre

The issue of mobility is central to the quality of life of people with physical disabilities.

The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) set up its National Mobility Centre in order to address the requirements of people with disabilities who wish to drive, or to be carried as passengers.

From the National Mobility Centre, based in Clane, Co Kildare, we provide a nationwide driving assessment and tuition service which allows people the opportunity to learn to drive for the first time, or to return to driving. In addition, we provide advice and information on a range of relevant issues including the VAT/VRT relief scheme, the Motorised Transport Grant, the scope of available adaptations/accessories and the issuing of Disabled Persons' Parking Permits.

Driving Assessment

Prior to receiving driving tuition, all applicants must be assessed to establish their suitability for driving and the most appropriate adaptations to use. Our occupational therapists and driving instructors are experienced in assessing people with a wide range of disabilities including spina bifida, cerebral palsy, stroke, MS, arthritis and amputees. Last year over 400 assessments were carried out at our centres in Clane, Clontarf, Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick, Manorcunningham, Mullingar and Navan.

Driving Tuition

IWA provides driving tuition in 14 centres throughout the country, with the programme and duration of tuition tailored to suit the person's individual needs. The team of specialist and experienced driving instructors provides over 5,000 lessons annually and boasts a very high driving test pass rate. The specially adapted automatic cars feature both left and right foot pedals, hand operated push/pull acceleration and braking, and multifunctional steering handles.

These modifications make driving possible for those with a very wide range of physical disabilities.

Tuition is provided in Carlow, Cashel, Dun Laoghaire, Tralee and Wexford, in addition to all the assessment centres listed above. We also offer intensive residential courses, based in our holiday centre in Cuisle, Co Roscommon, which are particularly helpful for those who are preparing for their test.



Some comments from users of the National Mobility Centre...



▶ **Shaun McManus**
Athlone

“ The range of possible car adaptations is incredible and they may not be as expensive as you think. The IWA Mobility Centre is a great starting point. ”



▶ **Janette Dolan**
Tullamore

“ My IWA driving instructor gave me wonderful support and helped me to see that it wasn't impossible for me to drive. I now have total independence. ”